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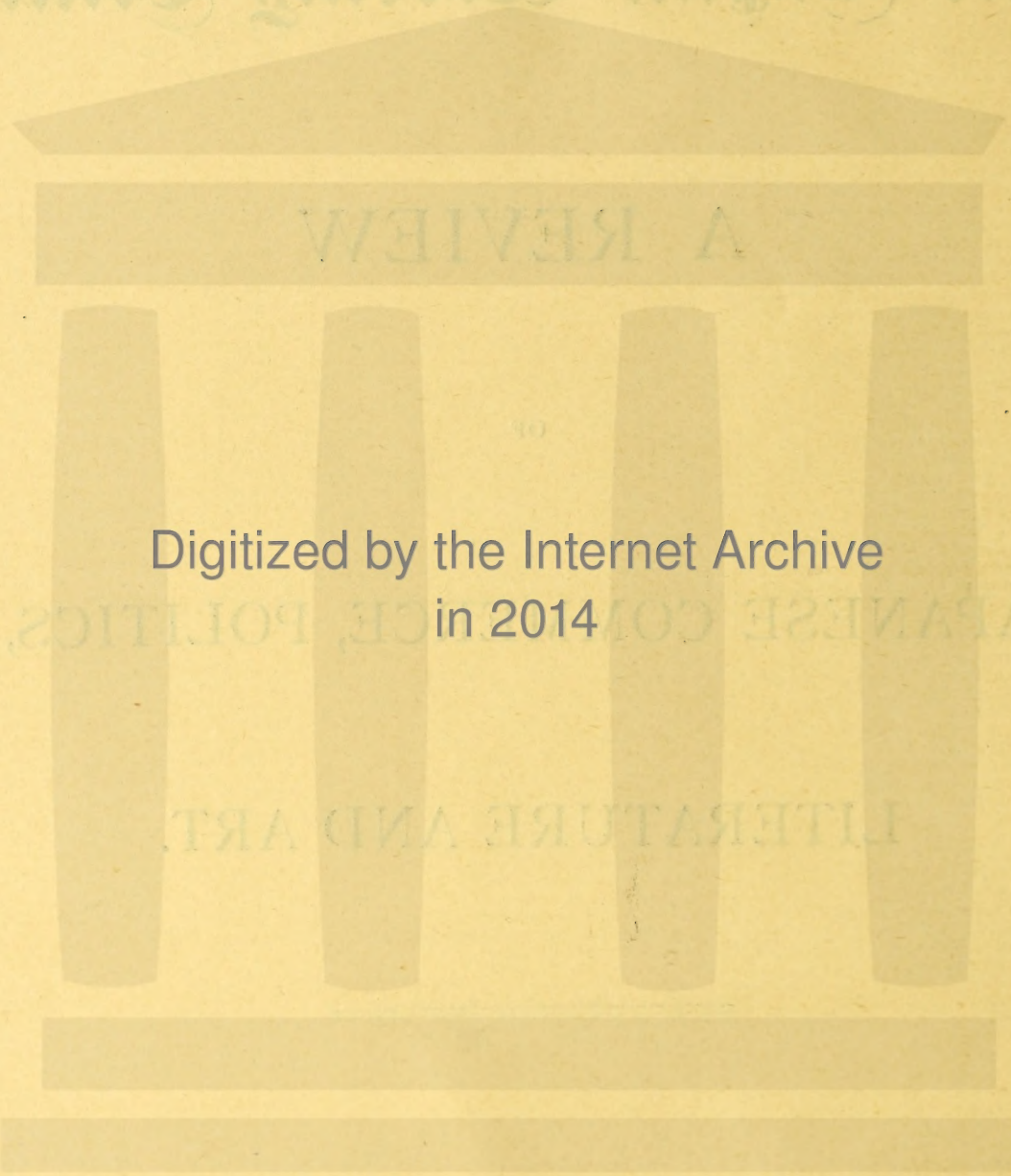

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL," must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 3rd, 1909.

BIRTH.

On June 26th, at No. 5, Yokohama, to Mr. and Mrs. IRVINE WILLIAMS, a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Hamilton airship was satisfactorily tested at Uyeno Park, Tokyo, on June 28.

BARON KOMURA, Minister for Foreign Affairs, who has been recuperating at his villa at Dzushi, returned to Tokyo on June 27.

EARLY on the morning of June 25th, a newspaper deliverer was struck by a goods train at a railway crossing near Hodogaya station, and was seriously injured.

ON the afternoon of June 27, when a train on the light railway from Atami was skirting the mountain-side at Homma, the engine was derailed and the carriages narrowly escaped being upset. There were no casualties beyond slight injuries to three persons.

A HAKODATE telegram, dated June 24, reports that fog has seriously interfered with the movement of shipping in and out of that port.

THE new General Post Office, erected on the site of Christ's Hospital, Newgate Street, E.C., will be ready for occupation early next year.

ON and after the 1st July the Railway Bureau will issue combination tickets to include the fare on the Kamakura-Enoshima Electric Railway.

ON March 31, the last day of the financial year, Great Britain's gross liabilities amounted to £754,121,309, the lowest figure since 1901.

A YONEZAWA despatch reports that on the night of June 27, the engine of a goods train was derailed at Akayu Station. No casualties are reported.

A MAN named Shirakawa Kikujiro, formerly a well-to-do tradesman dealing in toilet articles in Tokyo, has been arrested for having issued worthless cheques.

A CHIBA telephone message reports that at 10 a.m. on June 28 the Tone and Yedo Rivers were 8 and 10 feet, respectively, above their usual levels. They were still rising.

THE two new Dreadnoughts, for which orders have just been placed by the British Government, will be named the *Colossus* and the *Hercules*. They are the first pair of the "thirty per cent. better" ships.

ON the evening of June 28, Marquis Katsura celebrated the attainment of his sixtieth year, at his new residence at Mita. Among the guests were members of the cabinet and of the Privy Council and other friends.

ON June 27, Mr. Minakami, Mayor of Kobe, and formerly Superintendent of the Yokohama Customs, unexpectedly tendered his resignation through Mr. Kanda Hyoyemon, a member of the Municipal Council.

KUEICHOW is one of the provinces of China in which the anti-opium movement is making very slow progress, nearly all the provincial officials, including the newly appointed Judge, being confirmed users of the drug.

SEOUL papers of June 24th announce the suicide of a missionary, Mr. Cartwright, by hanging. The deceased, who had been conducting the services in the Chuach at Seoul for some time past, had previously laboured as a missionary in Japan with much zeal.

IT is reported that *yen* 58,800 being required to restore the Sammon of the Z joji at Shiba, the Tokyo Municipal Council decided on June 22 to make a grant of *yen* 10,000 towards the restoration fund, one-half to be paid during the present fiscal year and the remainder on completion of the work.

MR. J. PIERPONT Morgan has presented the Pope with a beautiful 30-h.p. motor car, upholstered in white velvet. Inside, in a little recess, there is a breviary with clasps of gold, and on the right-hand side is a massive gold medal, bearing a representation of St. Joseph, the Pope's patron saint.

IN an action tried recently in London, the Executors of the late Mr. C. J. Dickins sued Arthur J. Ellis, a well-known Bond Street dealer in antiques, for damages arising out of the fraudulent sale to the deceased of worthless china and curios. In one case over a thousand pounds had been charged for an article that could be bought for a few shillings a dozen. The jury awarded the plaintiffs £10,342, and the Judge ordered the exhibits and also the defendant's books to be impounded, with a view to a criminal prosecution of the defendant.

THE unveiling of the statue of Ii Kamon-no-Kami, which was to have taken place on the first day of the forthcoming Jubilee, has been postponed till July 11. This is only one of a remarkable sequence of interferences with the proposed erection of memorials to this illustrious man in Tokyo and Yokohama.

ON June 25, a small steamer belonging to the Asahi Steamship Company of Nagoya, called the *Shinyu Maru*, was struck on her port side by the *Onogawa Maru*, belonging to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, about 7 miles off the coast of Owashi, Ise province. The *Shinyu Maru* sank in three minutes, her passengers and crew being saved by the *Onogawa Maru*.

IN a paper on Railway Developments in China, read recently before the Society of Arts, Mr. Arthur John Barry gave it as his opinion that State Ownership was not only the best system for China, but the only possible system compatible with success, and he believed that railways in China could be made to pay perhaps better than anywhere else in the world.

ON the morning of June 28, when Count Tanaka, ex Minister of the Imperial Household, was on his way home in a carriage from a visit to Prince Ito, one of the horses became unmanageable and ran into the gate of the German Embassy, seriously damaging the carriage. The Count, slightly injured, rested for a short time at the Embassy, and then went home by rikisha.

DR. WICKHAM, of Paris, says *The Times*, delivered last week before the Royal Medical Society a lecture on the treatment of cancer by radium. He illustrated by means of lantern slides cases in which, by the use of a powerful apparatus for the direction upon them of radium rays, cancerous tissues had been destroyed or greatly reduced. These examples justified a belief that radium might be considered as a means of alleviating to a considerable extent certain cancerous diseases.

AN exhibition of the industries of Aichi and associated prefectures will be held at Nagoya in 1910. With the exception of machinery and patent exhibits, for which special halls will be erected, the exhibits of each of the associated prefectures will have a separate building. Those of non-associated prefectures will be brought together in a building to be called the Reference Museum. In view of the great industrial importance attained by Nagoya and the region of which it is the industrial centre, this exhibition should be exceedingly attractive and prove a great financial success.

A CHARTER for the creation of a university at Bristol was approved by the King in Council last month. The foundation of the University is largely due to the munificence of the Wills family (the great tobacco firm), Mr. H. O. Wills having contributed £100,000, Lord Winterstoke (formerly Sir W. H. Wills) £35,000, Sir Frederick Wills £10,000, Mr. E. Channing Wills £10,000, and other members of the family £6,000. Substantial contributions from other donors are also announced. The nucleus of an annual fund has been provided by the city corporation, who have pledged themselves to levy a penny rate for the benefit of the University. This alone will bring in £7,000 per annum.

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THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

Friday, June 25.

It appears that the Chinese authorities are by no means desirous of expediting the construction of the Mukden-Antung Railway. A conference is said to have taken place on the 24th inst. between Mr. Consul-General Koike and Viceroy Shih, on which occasion the latter presented a document containing many provisions to which the Consul-General could not possibly consent. These conditions show that the Chinese are still determine l to link together the questions of jurisdiction and of railway reconstruction, although they were understood to have agreed that these should be treated separately. Further conferences are to take place, but there is no immediate prospect of a settlement, and unless the Chinese mood undergoes a marked change, the work of rebuilding the line will have to be postponed until next year, for only four months of the present year can be said to be now available.

We may mention here, however, that the Viceroy is said to be showing himself placable enough with regard to the question of the Penhsifu Railway.

Saturday, June 26.

This troublesome question seems to be farther than ever from settlement. The Peking Government is said to have drafted a set of proposals which are wholly unacceptable to Japan and which leave no room whatever for compromise. Meanwhile Viceroy Shih has contented himself with transmitting this new draft, without making any attempt to modify it, and the case is aggravated by his own pending departure on a tour through northern Manchuria. This would completely interrupt the negotiations and would involve a delay such as to render it impossible that the construction of the line could be commenced during the current year. Mr. Consul-General Koike is said to have protested strongly against the Viceroy's departure, but his protest has had no effect and he has accordingly requested the Viceroy to appoint a representative who shall have full competence to discuss and decide the problem. The Consul-General is reported to have laid special stress upon the necessity of entrusting plenary powers to this representative, so as to avert a repetition of the fiasco which has crowned all previous negotiations, namely Peking's rejection of every agreement arrived at by the so-called plenipotentiaries of the two Powers.

All this does not at all bear out the recently circulated rumour that China had withdrawn her arbitration proposal and was desirous of recommencing the negotiations. In fact, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that a complete deadlock exists in Peking. Of course, without hearing the Chinese side it would be unfair to arrive at any hard and fast conclusion, but it looks as though they were deferring a separate settlement of any one question, their object being to utilize one set of concessions on their own part as a lever for obtaining another set from Japan.

Sunday, June 27.

This morning's telegrams do not show any improvement in the prospects of the Mukden-Antung Railway. On the 25th inst., Consul-General Koike had an interview with Viceroy Shih, and urged upon his Excellency in very strong terms the unpractible and untenable character of many of the conditions laid down in the Viceroy's recent note. The Viceroy is reported to have spoken very little at the interview. His Excellency left the duty of reply almost entirely in the hands of Governor Ting who, it is understood, will be charged with the conduct of the negotiations during the absence of the Viceroy on his northern tour, which commenced on the 26th inst. There is evidently a very hopeless feeling on the Japanese side. It is not thought that any plenipotentiary power has been entrusted to Governor Ting, or even that though his powers be plenary he will be at all disposed to exercise them in a favourable sense during the Viceroy's absence. Indeed, something very like an *impasse* seems to have been reached. The conditions now formulated by the Chinese touch Japan's right to reconstruct the railway at all, and suggest the idea that China's policy is to keep things permanently in *statu quo*. The *Asahi* writes in a strain which shows that the patience of some Japanese is well nigh exhausted, and that they advocate the immediate inception of the work of reconstruction without paying any deference to the vexatious obstacles which China is putting in the way, contrary to her treaty obligations. It is a pity that some more definite information is not procurable as to China's ideas, for without hearing her side of the case it is impossible to judge justly. The only information we have on this subject is furnished by the *Jiji Shimpo*, which explains that China not only insists on giving precedence to the questions of policing and jurisdiction, although she had previously accepted Japan's proposal for deferring these problems until after the reconstruction of the line had been arranged, but also insists that the Treaty of Peking did not contemplate anything like the conversion of the line into a permanent route with a widened gauge, the sole concession contemplated having been the repair of the line on its present temporary basis. If this be true, it results that China is prepared to dispute the basic meaning of the Treaty, and should that be her intention, Japan will have to choose one of two courses, namely, either to abandon all idea of converting the Railway into a serviceable road, or to go on with the work in spite of China's objections. Either alternative is sufficiently disquieting.

Monday, June 28.

Mr. Kurachi, Chief of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office, says:—"It is reported that we may take rough measures in the case of the Mukden-Antung Railway, but the report is erroneous. Unquestionably the answer which China has now given to us is very unsatisfactory, but if she reflects that we have by treaty a right to reconstruct the road; that the Korean-Manchurian Railway is to be made the chief means of communication between Asia and Europe, and further, that unless the work be speedily commenced, it will to be deferred for another year, there is certainly no reason why she should reject our application. Our Government will spare no pains in negotiating with China and inviting her to reconsider her decision, and we therefore expect that the problem will be satisfactorily solved."

Tuesday, June 29.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent telegraphs that as long ago as ten days he was informed of the pettifogging argument advanced by the Governor of Manchuria to the effect that although the Treaty provides for the improvement of the Mukden-Antung Railway, it does not provide for its reconstruction. The correspondent, however, finding this story quite incredible, refrained from wiring it at the time. But he is now informed that Viceroy Hsi actually takes that ground.

In spite of the comparatively placable language employed by Mr. Adachi, Chief of the Political Bureau in the Department of Foreign Affairs, which was reproduced in our columns yesterday, both the *Mainichi Dempo* and the *Chuo Shimbun* insist that it has been determined to assume a strong attitude towards the Chinese Government. This resolution is said to have been taken at a meeting held in the official residence of the Prime Minister on the 28th inst., and attended by Marquis Katsura, Count Komura, Baron Goto and Mr. Ishii. It was agreed that China's attempt to misconstrue the Treaty would not be tolerated, and that if she persisted any longer in vexatiously obstructing the construction of the Mukden-Antung Railway, she must be held responsible for all losses caused by the delay. The Railway being an essential link in the chain of communications between Asia and Europe, its reconstruction can not any longer be deferred, and the Japanese Representative in Peking must be instructed to invite the Chinese Government to withdraw the recent proposals; to agree that the questions of administration and construction shall be treated separately, and to consent to the immediate relaying of the line on the broad gauge. If China refuses to take this course, Japan will communicate the facts to the Governments of Great Britain, the United States, Germany, France, Russia and Italy, and will then proceed with the construction of the line.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent wires that on the 26th inst. Mr. Iijuin visited the private residence of Mr. Na Tung and in a very earnest and friendly manner discussed the relations between the two Empires, pointing out the advisability of speedily solving the problems which threaten to cause friction. Mr. Na replied courteously, but had nothing practical to suggest.

It may be mentioned here that there appears to be some prospect of solving the problem of the Kilin-Changchun Railway which has been hung up for so long.

Wednesday, June 30.

It is telegraphed from Peking that the Chinese Government, in consideration of representations made by Mr. Ijuin, wired to Mukden instructing Viceroy Hsi to abandon, or defer, his journey to North Manchuria. But the instruction came too late, as Hsi had already started. We do not know whether the telegram should be credited. The Peking Government must have known perfectly well that the Viceroy had left Mukden, or, at any rate, that the instruction could not reach Mukden in time to prevent his departure. To telegraph in these circumstances looks farcical, and we are disposed to doubt the truth of the story.

The *Mainichi Dempo* says that the decision adopted at the meeting of Ministers in the Premier's official residence on the 28th instant, was confirmed by a Cabinet conclave on the 29th. Our contemporary adds that, in consequence of this confirmation, a message was sent to Mr. Ijuin instructing him to adopt a strong policy in dealing with the railway problem. It is not anticipated, however, that recourse will have to be had to the extreme measure of proceeding with the reconstruction of the line without China's concurrence and cōoperation. The Japanese Government believes that, on fuller consideration, Peking will abandon its obstructive attitude.

The Political Committee of the Progressist Party waited on Mr. Ishii at the Foreign

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Office on the 29th instant and inquired as to the progress of the negotiations relating to the above problem. Mr. Ishii is said to have replied that, although from its nature the question of reconstructing the Mukden-Antung road did not seem to require reference to the Central Government, lying as it does entirely within the province of the local Viceroy, yet owing to the peculiar constitution of the Chinese polity, both the Waiwupu and the Viceroys had to be consulted. Instructions had accordingly been forwarded to Mr. Ijuin, but the Japanese Government believed that an amicable settlement would be reached eventually, though some delay might be entailed.

Turning to the Kilin Changchun Railway, Mr. Ijuin is quoted as having stated that the negotiations did not require any consultation with the Central Governments, and that, according to telegraphic news received on the 28th instant, the matters had been practically settled.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* makes an interesting point. It notes that in the instructions issued by the Japanese Government to the South-Manchuria Railway Company at the time of the latter's formation there was a distinct provision that all work of construction or reconstruction must be finished within 3 years from the date of the Company coming into existence. That period terminates in April of next year, and any further delay with reference to the Antung-Mukden Railway would render it impossible to carry out the instruction.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* writing editorally on this subject and noting that these obstructive tactics are employed by China at a time when one of her Imperial Princes is visiting Japan to return thanks for an act of courtesy performed towards the Chinese Court, arrives at the conclusion that ceremony and etiquette have much more importance in the eyes of the Middle Kingdom than the practical business of life and the genuinely smooth conduct of international relations.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has an article which leaves something to be desired in point of practicality. It compares the politics of the present Chinese Government to the customs which disgraced the days of Mencius, when no consideration was taken into account if it interfered with the promotion of one's own profit or position. With a Power opposing a resolute front to such Machiavelian policy the countries of the Occident would universally sympathise. Nothing therefore is needed except a genuinely stalwart attitude on Japan's part. Before assuming that attitude, however, she must recognise the danger that it entails, namely, the danger of a boycott. China has not yet paid the paltry sum due by her to the owners of the *Tatsu Maru*, yet she has succeeded in inflicting on Japanese merchants a loss of many millions of *yen*. It is here that the *Hochi* ceases to be practical. It declares that a contingency of that kind can be guarded against by previous combinations between Japanese and Chinese merchants. We fail to see how anything of the sort could be effective.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

It is impossible to view without concern the course that the relations between Japan and China seem to be taking. When China withdrew her proposal for carrying to an arbitration tribunal all the issues between herself and Japan, the public conceived a hope that she had developed an amicable mood, and that this act might be regarded as preluding the resumption of negotiations on a really practical and amicable basis. But the line taken with regard to the important question of the Mukden-Antung Railway upsets all these sanguine hopes, and we can not be surprised that leading Japanese newspapers discuss the situation in a disappointed and indignant strain. The *Mainichi Dempo* recalls the fact that before the arbitration proposal came upon the tapis, China had agreed to treat the questions of reconstruction and jurisdiction independently so that the latter might not impede the former. In thus agreeing she showed some disposition to consult Japan's convenience and to implement her treaty obligations. But she has now turned round and she not only insists that the two problems shall be treated together, but she also advances the extravagant argument that reconstruction of the line was never contemplated, the only idea being repair. She moreover alleges that while jurisdiction is provided for in the case of the main lines, there is no corresponding provision with regard to branch lines, and therefore the latter must be treated as though no convention existed. Such contentions may almost be described as wantonly obstructive and factitious. The *Mainichi Dempo* therefore concludes, as the *Asahi* and the *Jiji* have already concluded, that if Japan can not enlist Chinese cōoperation for the enjoyment of her treaty rights, she must take what is her due without further asking.

The *Jiji Shimpo* again reverts to this subject and speaks in even a stronger strain than it previously adopted. It laments that the arrival of a Chinese Imperial Prince in Tokyo and the exchange of civilities attending that event must bear a purely superficial character so long as such a number of troublesome problems lie in the background. China ought to recognise the debt that she owes to this country for fighting a terrible war which secured the integrity of the Middle Kingdom, but unfortunately she seems to have no practical cognisance of the claims of gratitude. It can not be said that in her dealings with her neighbour Japan has shown any want of good will. She withdrew her garrison from Pehchili; she did everything in her power to afford educational facilities to the Chinese; she took a conspicuously courteous step in connexion with the Imperial obsequies; she has offered to settle the complications with reference to Pratas Island, Chientao and the Fakumen Railway on lines which can not be described as other than extremely liberal, and from first to last she has laboured to promote neighbourly friendship. China, however, has not only failed to reciprocate, but also appears to have no adequate perception of the importance of her relations with Japan.

The *Hochi Shimbun* is equally emphatic in its utterances, but it dwells specially upon the point that the officials at the Foreign Office should endeavour to enlist public sympathy by greater frankness. At present it may be said that Japan is in a serious dilemma. If she peremptorily insists on the practical recognition of their treaty obligations by the Chinese, she will certainly provoke the adverse criticism of the world, and if she does not so insist, her treaty rights will become mere waste paper. To provide against the former contingency there is nothing for it but to take the public into full confidence. Unless this is done it may be fully expected that the people of China will assist their Government's rights recovery policy by recourse to a boycott, and thus the people of Japan will be the ultimate sufferers.

The *Chuo Shimbun* recounts various goings and comings between the Prime Minister, Prince Ito and the officials of the Foreign Office. It notes especially that in spite of his illness Count Komura has returned to Tokyo for the purpose of conferring with his brother-statesmen, and it expresses the belief that the topic of discussion is the manifestly unfriendly attitude assumed by the Viceroy of Manchuria.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* quotes an anonymous official of the Foreign Office as saying that the view originally entertained by Japanese statesmen was that this problem of the Antung-Mukden Railway might be treated with all deliberation, inasmuch as the longer China maintained her obdurate attitude, the more distant would be the time when she would acquire the right to buy up the Japanese railways in Manchuria. But subsequent reflection brought about a change in that Fabian policy. Baron Goto represented the importance of the railway as linking up the East Asian systems, and also dwelt upon the fact that a sum of 20 million *yen* had already been provided for the reconstruction of the line. It is therefore necessary that Japan should take the law into her own hands. The attitude of the Viceroy of Manchuria evinces a mood of deliberate obstructiveness, and if that attitude be endorsed by the Chinese Government, the only plan for Japan will be to commence the building of the line without further hesitation.

We refer our readers to a statement by Mr. Kurachi, published elsewhere in our columns.

THE APPENZELLER SUIT.

On June 22nd the Court of Cassation in Tokyo rejected the last appeal made by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha in the suit instituted by the heirs and assignees of the late H.G. Appenzeller, who claimed damages to the amount of 110,000 *yen* from the Company. The case was originally heard in the Kobe Local Court, when judgment was given for the plaintiff in the sum of 40,000 *yen*. The Company carried the case on appeal to the Osaka Appeal Court, which reversed the finding of the lower tribunal, and the plaintiffs then appealed to the Court of Cassation, which in turn reversed the judgment of the Osaka Court and confirmed that of the Kobe tribunal. Finally the Company applied to the Court of Cassation for a stay of proceedings, but this application was rejected on the 22nd instant. The Company, however, having failed to meet this demand on the part of the successful suitor, recourse was had to distraint, and a quantity of anchors, cables and such matters have been seized and will be put up for public sale. The total amount which the Company has to pay is 48,000 *yen*, including interest.

THE TUNGKWANG-SHAN PROBLEM.

The Anhui agitators seem quite bent upon opposing any amicable settlement of this troublesome problem. Sir John Lister Kaye is said to have drawn up a cōoperative scheme which is pervaded by a spirit of thorough fairness and friendliness, and his efforts are reported to have received the approval of the Peking authorities. But the Anhui folks will have everything or nothing. They seem determined to contrive the complete exclusion of the English concessionaires, and inasmuch as the Central Government appears powerless to coerce them, it is not easy to foresee what the outcome will be.

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CHINA.

Friday, June 25.

The Viceroy of the Shen-Kan Provinces, Mr. Sheng Yun, has been removed from office by an Imperial decree which charges him with obstructing the introduction of a constitutional system in China, in defiance of the rescripts issued by the late Emperor as well as the present Emperor. The decree says that Sheng's crime merits condign punishment, but that, in consideration of his previous services, he is merely removed from office. It is expected that Mr. Sheng, who, we may mention, is a native of Mongolia, will be succeeded in the Viceroyalty by Mr. Chang Keng, a Manchu, who is now Military Governor of Ili.

Mr. Liang, Minister of Foreign Affairs in Peking, is said to have been compelled by ill health to resign his post, and it is expected that his successor will be Mr. Tang Shaoi. Should the latter forecast be correct, the fact will have interesting collateral bearings, for it has long been predicted that Mr. Tang, on his return from Europe, would share the fate of his once powerful patron, Yuan Shihkai.

China's hands are gradually getting quite full of complications, and in every case the rights recovery spirit seems to be defiantly asserting itself. It was recently cabled from Peking that the Central Government had issued strict orders to the Governor of Honan in the sense that the boycott of the British Mining Syndicate must cease immediately. A representative of the Syndicate, who has just returned to the capital from the scene, reports, however, that this instruction has produced no effect and that the boycott is as vigorous as ever. Our readers will observe that this same Governor of Honan is the official who is chiefly responsible for the obstacles placed in the way of Japanese trade in that province.

Saturday, June 26.

A story comes from Shanghai that the students of the Railway School at Swatow have memorialized the local authorities in the sense that to employ Japanese engineers for the construction of the Chaochow-Swatow Railway is not serving any useful purpose, and that a commission of inquiry should be appointed forthwith. The Chinese Authorities, however, appear to have thought that the easier plan would be to dispense with the services of the Japanese almost *in toto*. Accordingly they have terminated the agreements of 28 out of 30 Japanese engineers and assistant engineers employed upon the line. This story requires to be taken with many grains of salt.

The appointment of the Military Governor of Ili, Mr. Chang Keng, to be Viceroy of Shen-Kang, has become an accomplished fact.

There has been formed in Ningpo a Chinese steamship company to ply between that place and Hankow. The Company has a capital of 60,000 *taels*, and it has purchased an old steamer called the *Kari Maru* from the Nisshin Kisen Kaisha.

The Viceroy of Liang-Kiang, Mr. Tuan Fang, has addressed to the Throne a very strong memorial with reference to the Army and Navy. He urges that these two organizations stand to each other in the proverbial relation of the two wheels of the cart, and that the north and the south of the Empire ought no longer to act as though they formed parts of separate States. Therefore he insists that no time should be lost in organizing the 36 Divisions which are to form the territorial army; that conferences should be at once held between the Departments of the Army and the Navy, on the one hand, and the Department of Railways, on the other, with the object of providing facile means of transportation throughout the length and breadth of the land; that the conscription system should be introduced after the Japanese model and should be put into immediate operation; that the graduates of the Military School should be despatched to the various provinces for the purpose of giving wide instruction; that gendarmes should be organized in the several provinces; and that no time should be lost in establishing naval schools. The memorial concludes by condemning the Minister of War, Mr. Tieh Liang, for his perfunctory methods of procedure.

A telegram from Peking to the *Kokumin Shimbun* confirms the news that Sir Robert Hart has applied for another year's leave of absence. The message adds that the Chinese authorities are very anxious for him to resume his duties as Inspector General, but the opinion among the foreign community in Peking is that he will not return to China.

Monday, June 28.

His Excellency Mr. Shih left Mukden on the 26th inst. to make a tour through the northern parts of Manchuria. He is expected to be absent from Mukden for about a month. It does not appear that his Excellency has made any effective arrangement for the conduct of negotiations during his absence with reference to the Mukden-Antung Railway. The news of his having appointed Governor Ting to confer with Mr. Consul-General Koike is not confirmed this morning, though at the same time it is not denied. An impression evidently gains ground that if the negotiations are to be carried to a working conclusion, they must be transferred to Peking, but that of course would entail great additional delay. Viceroy Shih is said to be adopting a policy the very reverse of that followed by his predecessor in so far as friendliness towards Japan is concerned. His demeanour suggests that he desires to place every possible obstacle in her way, and that he may be regarded as a powerful exponent of the rights-recovery doctrine. Considering the large material interests that Japan has in Manchuria, it is most unfortunate that the supreme power should be in the hands of an official animated by such feelings.

It is reported from Tientsin that Mr. Li Teh-shun, Superintendent of the northern section of the Tsin-Pu Railway, has been dismissed from office. This incident is said to be the outcome of the measures taken by him with regard to locating the terminus of that Railway in the German settlement of Tientsin. The proposed site of the terminus belongs to Captain Hanneken, whose name was very familiar during the China-Japan War. According to the information of a news agency whose report is published by the Tokyo journals, the location of the terminus at this point would attract thither a large part of the business of Tientsin city and would enormously enhance the market price of the land in the vicinity. The proper site for the terminus is said to be a point westward of the Japanese settlement, but rumour says that the Japanese residents are giving themselves very little concern about the matter. One would suppose from the tenor of the telegrams that some iniquitous intrigue was connected with the choice of site for the terminus, but probably the whole question turns on a difference of opinion.

On the 27th inst. at 9 a.m, the death took place of Mr. Yang Shih-Hsiang, Viceroy of Pehchili, who had for some days been lying insensible. Public opinion indicates as his probable successor Mr. Yuan Shu-Shun, now Governor of Shantung.

Tuesday, June 29.

Contrary to expectation, the viceroyalty of Pehchili, which has just been vacated by the death of its incumbent, Mr. Yang, has been given to the present Viceroy of the two Kiang, namely, his Excellency Tuan Fang. The viceroyalty of the two Kiang which is thus vacated has been given to his Excellency Chang Jen-chun, who is now Viceroy of the two Kuang, and to the latter post Mr. Yuan Shu-hsun, now Governor of Shantung, has been appointed as *locum tennens*, the governorship of Shantung being temporarily given to Mr. Sun Pao-chi, Vice-President of the Tsin-Pu Railway.

Some time ago it was rumoured that the Chinese Government had despaired of achieving its project in the case of the Fakumen Railway, and had consequently turned its attention to an alternative line running from Kinchow, near Shanhaikwan, to join the Trans-Asian Railway at some point in Mongolia. This rumour is now repeated by the *Chuo Shimbun*, which gives great emphasis to it, and we judge that China finds herself competely disappointed in her Fakumen scheme, which has merely had the effect of injuring her in the eyes of England and Japan. We should think that China would find it very hard to obtain money in England for the building of such a railway, though in truth any financial transaction whatever seems not impossible, in view of the present rivalry among Western Powers to become her creditor.

Prince Tsai Cheng arrived at Kyoto at 10 a.m. on the 28th inst. and is to spend two days in that city, so that he will not reach Tokyo until the 1st of July. He has been received with hearty demonstrations of welcome at many points *en route*.

The Junk Channel has finally been opened to navigation at Shanghai, and it is now hoped that the difficulties connected with the navigation of the river have been overcome, temporarily at all events.

Wednesday, June 30.

The removal of Mr. Tuan from the viceroyalty of the two Kiang to be Viceroy of the Metropolitan province is said to have caused much chagrin among those over whom he has hitherto presided. He enjoyed great popularity throughout the region of the two Kiang provinces as well as among the foreign communities there, and it is feared that his removal will prove a serious check to the military reforms which he had inaugurated.

AMERICA AND CHINA.

Telegrams to the *Asahi Shimbun* from New York say that President Taft has decided to send to China in the capacity of Commercial Attaché Mr. W. M O. Dawson, late Governor of West Virginia, and a noted man of business. This selection is held to indicate that the President attaches special importance to the commercial relations between his country and China. The Washington Cabinet is also said to be devoting much attention to the choice of officials for service in China, and that some one of proved ability will be nominated to the post of Consul General in Mukden, which was recently vacated by Mr. Straight. The same telegrams mention the fact that the *New York Herald* is to be in future represented by a special correspondent in Peking, but this can scarcely be called news.

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KOREA.

Friday, June 25.

Viscount Sone attended a Cabinet meeting in Seoul on the 24th inst. for the first time in his capacity of Resident-General. The telegraph says that he briefly announced his appointment, and that the Prime Minister in reply congratulated him on his promotion and added that he trusted that the country in its Progress towards reform would long benefit by the guidance of the new Resident-General. Viscount Sone then stated that the complete subjugation of the insurrection seemed to him to be the most important matter pressing for speedy settlement, and that in its immediate sequel stood the problem of extending railway communications. The members of the Cabinet are said to have fully endorsed these views.

The Viscount also summoned a meeting of the various Provincial Secretaries, and after having received from them reports as to the state of affairs in their various localities, his Excellency instructed to them push forward reforms, always, however, having due regard to the customs and traditions of the people.

Saturday, June 26.

It will be remembered that Viscount Sone at his first meeting with the members of the Korean Cabinet in his capacity of Resident-General, laid much stress upon the necessity of extending and improving the system of communications in Korea. It now appears that he has definitely proposed the construction of three new lines, namely, one from a point on the South Manchuria Railway to Mokpko; another from Pyongyang to Chinnampho, and a third from Seoul to Gensan. The last two lines are called respectively the Pyong-Nan and the Kyong-Won Railways. Viscount Sone recognises that Korea herself can not find funds for these works, and he therefore suggests that the construction should be undertaken by Japan, Korea devoting her strength to making roads which shall serve as feeders to the new lines. These proposals are said to have been heartily endorsed.

There is some trouble about Chinese labourers in the employment of a Japanese salt manufacturing firm at Koryang. Three hundred of the labourers have left their work and carried a complaint to the Chinese Consul-General in Seoul who appears to have made the question diplomatic. The Korean Government, however, is said to have replied that it can not accept any responsibility for the attitude of private firms towards their own employees. We gather that the Japanese firm implicated in this matter is working the salt fields in the interests of Chinese concessionaires.

It is stated that the concession held by Messrs. Collbran Bostwick and Company for the electric lighting of Seoul has been purchased for 1,700,000 *yen* by a syndicate of Japanese capitalists acting in conjunction with the Nik-kan Gas Company. The latter, it will be remembered, was founded by the Okura Company.

A heavy engagement was reported to have taken place on the 19th inst. at Ryong-Kwan in south Chhollado between a body of 130 insurgents, under the leadership of a man whose name is given as Chin Kaisan, and a mixed force of Japanese soldiers and gendarmes. Seventy-three of the insurgents were killed and a quantity of arms and ammunition was taken.

Prince Ito is to travel to Korea by the auxiliary cruiser *Manshu* and is to reach Chemulpo on the 4th proximo.

Sunday, June 27.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Seoul correspondent quotes Viscount Sone as saying that there will be no departure whatever from the policy pursued by Prince Ito, the only difference being that the time has now come for practical building upon the foundations laid by the Prince. As for the talked of change of Cabinet, whatever the future may contain, nothing of the kind is contemplated at present. With regard to railways, while their extension is a matter of great importance for developing the country's material resources, it must proceed *pari passu* with the making of ordinary roads. The surveys of the lines between Pyongyang and Chinampho and between a point on the Seoul-Fusan Railway and Mokpho have already been completed, and the survey of the Seoul-Gensan Railway will now be undertaken. The latter is a highly important line, and the Government would gladly entrust its construction to a private company, but the engineering difficulties are such that no private capitalists are likely to undertake the enterprise.

The Dai Han Kyokai has held a meeting in Seoul and has passed three resolutions. The first is that the abuse of a multiplicity of laws and regulations should be corrected; the second, that the number of Japanese officials employed in Korea should be reduced by one-half; and the third, that Korean policemen alone should be employed in the work of suppressing the insurrection. There was recently some talk of this Association abandoning its hostility to Japan and supporting the new Resident-General, but the above resolutions do not suggest any such change of front. One other resolution passed at the meeting is worthy of special notice: it was that whereas the former Resident General had made the Court and the Government the pivots of his administration, that place should be given to the people under the new regime.

There is said to be considerable commotion in Seoul at present in connexion with the operation of a new law which was enacted last April, and which laid down that all sums of public money embezzled by officials since the year 1897 must be forthwith returned to the Treasury. Embezzlement by officials in Korea has hitherto been regarded as nothing more than the levying of a toll upon State funds which pass through their hands. It has gone on from time immemorial, and the law of last April amounted to a declaration of immunity for all toll-takers of this nature during the interval between the founding of the Ming dynasty and the attainment of its 503rd year, which latter date fell in 1894. It may well be supposed that the great majority of the culprits during the past 11 years are not now in a position to disgorge, and rumour says that about 100 of them have been arrested on account of sums aggregating 300,000 *yen*. It is alleged that great consternation exists, as well it may, but we suspect that these outlines of the story require a good deal of filling in.

Wednesday, June 30.

Viscount Sone's assumption of the duties of Resident-General is apparently to be marked by increased resolution in dealing with the insurgents. They have been gradually driven from point to point by soldiers, gendarmes and policemen, until now their presence is felt in southern Chhollado only, and even there they are finding it necessary to take refuge in the numerous islands off the coast. It being somewhat difficult to reach them in these retreats without special means of water transport, the construction of over 20 shallow-draft gunboats has been commenced, and immediately on completion they will be employed to carry troops to the above islands for the final quelling of the insurrection.

The new Resident General has presented handsome gifts of Japanese works of art to the ex-Emperor of Korea and Lady Om.

It is stated that the new Central Bank of Korea will be ready to commence operations next spring, but the First Bank will still maintain its branches in Seoul, Fusan and two or three other places.

The Japanese whaling companies operating in Korean waters have formed a combination under the name of the Far Eastern Whaling Company (*Toyo Hogei Kaisha*).

THE YALU DISTURBANCE.

The latest intelligence does not go to show that a settlement of the timber felling complication in the upper reaches of the Yalu can be considered imminent. The Chinese wood men appear to think that they have solid grievances, though their way of asserting themselves tends to vitiate their cause. They have elected a committee of representatives to proceed to Peking for the purpose of submitting their case to the Central Government. Meanwhile a good deal of criticism is directed against the methods of the Lumber Company and there is talk of the resignation of the Manager and Director, Mr. Takagi. The Japanese Consul at Antung is reported to have instructed the various police stations to send detachments of constables to the scene of the outrage in order to protect Japanese life and property.

The detachment of Japanese troops sent to deal with the riotous woodmen in the upper reaches of the Yalu River, have returned to Antung. They report that the woodmen have all fled. An attempt was made to cut the telegraph at Tunghwang-chien, but fortunately it failed, though considerable damage was done. Men who have just returned from the scene of the disturbance, some 50 miles up-stream, report that all the timber-rafts have been floated down and that the rioters declare their intention of setting fire to the forests unless the Lumber Company changes its methods. There are Chinese troops at Tunghwa, but they stand by unconcerned. The Japanese have despatched a force of two officers and 26 armed constables to Maoerh-shan, which is the principal timber-producing mountain.

The *Asahi Shimbun* writes very strongly on this subject. It says that the idea of a combined enterprise by Chinese and Japanese was welcomed heartily at the outset, but events are proving the unpractical character of any such union. Originally the Chinese woodmen merely objected to the price paid for lumber, but they subsequently developed a degree of peremptoriness which strongly suggests that they are supported by the Chinese officials, whose aim is to render the joint enterprise impossible. Mr. Hashiguchi, the Japanese managing director, does not know how to manage the Chinese, whereas Mr. Hu, the Chinese director, is very popular with the Japanese, and has thereby forfeited the confidence of his own people. Altogether the writer in the *Asahi* is evidently disposed to take a very pessimistic view of the situation.

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GERMAN AND JAPANESE IN HONAN.

The *Japan Times* publishes a detailed statement as to the recent action taken by German firms in Hankow. It is a very damaging statement, for it indicates not only that the action taken by the Germans was frivolous, but also that the Chinese officials behaved in a manner which betrayed either great ignorance of, or great indifference to, treaty stipulations. According to the 6th article of the China-Japan Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, "Japanese subjects may travel for their pleasure, or for purposes of trade, to all parts of the interior of China, under passports issued by Japanese Consuls and countersigned by the Local Authorities"; and according to the 6th Article of the Shimonoseki Treaty "Japanese subjects, purchasing goods or produce in the interior of China, or transporting imported merchandise into the interior of China, shall have the right temporarily to rent or hire warehouses for the storage of articles so purchased or transported, without the payment of any taxes or exactions whatever." Under the provisions of these Treaties, two large Japanese firms, Messrs. Mitsui and the Nisshin Yanghang, sent Chinese into the interior to purchase goods, rented godowns for the temporary storage of these goods, and despatched Japanese subjects to superintend the operation. Thereupon the German Consul at Hankow, acting at the instigation of German merchants, preferred a complaint that the Japanese had opened branch-offices in the interior, which was contrary to treaty, and asked either that they should be restrained or that a similar privilege should be extended to German merchants. The Customs Taotai, on receipt of this complaint, seems to have adopted prohibitive measures forthwith, without consulting the Japanese Consul. He, however, informed the latter of his action and of the German protest, whereupon the Japanese Consul explained the facts and repudiated all breach of treaty. Here not the least strange feature of the affair presented itself. The German Consul is represented as having replied that "when a godown for the storage of goods and the place of purchase are united they form, in fact if not in name, a branch office." Evidently if that were admitted, the treaty provisions would at once become a dead letter. The Chinese Authorities, however, who can not be greatly blamed if they showed willingness to interpret the treaty in the narrowest possible sense, appear to have practically endorsed the German view, and a singular correspondence followed, the Japanese firms being all the while prevented from doing any business in the interior, and the Chinese endeavouring to establish some sort of shadowy relation between a godown temporarily hired and a hong. The matter is not yet ended, but we trust that the German side of the case will be published, for as things stand at present the Japanese have just cause for strong complaint, and very shortsighted obstruction has been offered to the cause of trading freedom.

On June 26 we referred at some length to the situation said to have been created in Honan by the action of the German Consul at Hankow in accusing Japanese merchants of a violation of treaty. Commenting upon our remarks, the *Japan Herald* alleges that we took the situation "as text for a violent denunciation of the German merchants." It seems a pity that such flagrant misrepresentations should be made. Our article did not contain, from first to last, so much as one sentence which resembled "a violent denunciation of German merchants." It is at once unfortunate and mischievous that the local German organ should inject into a simple commercial discussion an element of bitterness and slander. Apart from that incidental feature, however, we observe two singular points in our contemporary's article. The first is an allegation that German subjects "have not at present permission to travel even for commercial purposes in the interior of China." Is that conceivable? If the Germans labour under such a disadvantage, they have only themselves to blame. Their Treaty with China entitles them to most-favoured-nation treatment. Whatever conventional privileges the Japanese enjoy in China, are enjoyable equally by Germans. We are therefore unable to believe that the Germans, of all people in the world, allow themselves to be thus unlawfully discriminated against. The second is that our local German contemporary ignores—we are inclined to write "deliberately ignores"—the explicit treaty-right of Japanese subjects to hire warehouses in the interior of China for the purpose of storing commodities purchased there or transported thither. The Japanese appear to have exercised the right in Honan. If German merchants, by neglecting to follow the legitimate example of the Japanese, allowed themselves to be "always forestalled in their purchases," the fault lay with the German merchants alone. Is the *Japan Herald's* statement of the Germans' case to be considered exhaustive? We can not believe it, for, if so, they have no case at all, and we are very confident that they have, if only they could find an exponent.

AUTOGRAPH LETTER FROM THE EMPEROR OF KOREA TO PRINCE ITO.

The letter addressed by the Emperor of Korea to Prince Ito and handed to His Highness by the Korean Prince Imperial in Tokyo has been published in the Korean *Official Gazette*, and is thus translated by the *Seoul Press*:—

"We think that of late international relations are becoming more and more complicated year by year and international affairs occur more and more frequently day after day. Had Korea, with her weakened administration and decayed institutions, had to stand alone, it would have been hopeless for her to maintain her position. At such a time, obeying the august command of your great Sovereign, you accepted the appointment to the office of Resident-General, having many years' experience of statesmanship and the confidence of the world at your back. First you helped our Imperial father in his administration and then assisted Us in accomplishing the great work of restoration, besides taking in hand the tutelage of Our Crown Prince. You nourished the root of national prosperity, wisely judged the situation of the Powers in the East and West, and basing your decision on the principle of mutual benefit, firmly established the relationship of protectorate. You guided the reform and improvement of domestic administration and superintended the management of foreign affairs. Thanks to all this, the Government has gained in prestige, the national strength has grown, the peace and safety of the Imperial House have been secured, integrity of the country has been preserved and the people have come to enjoy happy and peaceful life. Not only have you strengthened the close and cordial relation between Japan and Korea, but you have preserved the blessing of peace in the Far East. Your great and meritorious services are recognised by the whole world. Now hearing that you have been relieved of your office, We cannot but regret it exceedingly. It is, however, fortunate that Deputy Resident-General Sone succeeds you. We the know that he will be of the same mind as you and will not disappoint the expectancy of the world. We earnestly hope and pray that you will enjoy long and prosperous life and see the ripening of the great work you have undertaken. We hereby specially command Our Crown Prince to take this autograph letter, to you, in which We express what We sincerely feel at heart

"Changtok Palace, Seoul, the Sixth Month of the Third Year of Lungheui."

SUGAR.

On June 24 the Sugar refinery at Onagi-gawa in the Fukagawa suburb of Tokyo began once more to show signs of life. This is the principal factory of the Dai Nippon Seito Kaisha, whose affairs have attracted so much unenviable notice of late. The Company has refineries at Dairi and in Osaka also, and from the chimneys of all the three simultaneously smoke began to rise on June 24. The factories were closed on the 11th of November 1908 and had therefore remained altogether inactive for more than 7 months, when they resumed work on June 24. During that interval their regular officers, totalling 130, together with many employees in the case of Tokyo alone, were kept on half pay, so that when the time came for re-lighting the furnaces everything was ready at a moment's notice. It is not publicly known what arrangement has been made as to the Company's large debt—some 4 millions of *yen*—to the Customs, but that a compromise has been effected is unquestionable. The Onagi-gawa refinery is now putting out 100 tons of sugar daily, which represents 1,680 bags, and its production is expected to reach 4,000 bags *per diem* ere long. Of course a long time must pass before the enterprise is in a position to pay any dividend, but it may at least be said to have once more become a going concern.

It has been recounted in these columns that smoke began to issue once more from the chimney of the Sugar Refinery at Onagigawa, on June 24. We now read that the President of the Company, Mr. Toyama, has applied to the Government for more liberal treatment in the manner of collecting taxes. It appears that the rule at present is to collect the consumption tax when the sugar is still in the raw condition, a practice which proves very hard on the refiners. Mr. Toyama petitions, therefore, that the tax shall not be collected until after the sugar has been refined and is on the point of going into use. There is as yet no knowledge what reply the Government will give, but the impression is that every legitimate effort will be made to help the Sugar Company out of its difficulties.

MR. CHIROL AND DR. MORRISON.

Telegrams from Peking say that a banquet was given by the Waiwupu on June 26 to Mr. Chirol and Dr. Morrison, among the guests being Sir John Jordan and several of the leading Chinese and foreign officials. The telegram adds that Mr. Chirol will probably give up his idea of returning overland to Europe. His health is not sufficiently re-established to take such a journey, and although he himself does not attach much importance to his illness, his medical advisers and his friends urge the advisability of his taking the over-sea route. It is expected therefore that he will return to Yokohama and take passage in one of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's new steamers.

A telegram from Peking dated the 29th ultimo says that Mr. Chirol was to start from Peking on his homeward journey on the 29th ultimo, and that he would embark in the *Santo* (Shantung) *Maru* for Japan. This confirms the previously received news that, acting on the advice of his physicians, Mr. Chirol has decided to travel westward by water instead of taking the overland route.

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THE STRIKE IN HAWAII.

Friday, June 25.

San Francisco has shown itself so untrustworthy in its intelligence about the strike in Hawaii that we hesitate to place credence in any stories emanating thence. On the 25th, for example, a telegram from that source to the *Mainichi Dempo* said that the 3000 labourers who had returned to work, did so merely for the purpose of obtaining money to continue the strike and that their intention is to quit work immediately after their funds have been replenished. The planters, on the other hand, are said to have announced that, in such an event, they will insist on the surrender by the Japanese of all their houses on the various plantations, which measure would deprive 7000 Japanese of shelter. This story seems to us very apocryphal.

Saturday, June 26.

Telegrams received from Mr. Consul-General Ueno on the evening of the 25th indicate that the men on strike are for the most part anxious to return to work, but their difficulty is that they are bound by the promise which they have made to their leaders. The Japanese storekeepers are doing everything in their power to bring about a settlement, but the planters resolutely refuse to make any concession in the matter of wages so long as the strike continues. It is added that the *Nippu Jiji* continues to write in a violent strain about the wrongs which it claims to have suffered at the hands of the judicial authorities, but nobody pays much attention to its lucubrations.

Sunday, June 27.

The news this morning confirms the above in the main. We gather that the men who have continued in employment are maintaining those that have gone on strike. The planters seem to be willing to grant an ultimate increase of wages, but they will not do so until the men return to their work, and the men, on their side, fear that if they return to their work without some definite promise, they may find themselves fooled after all. Meanwhile the strikers are behaving in a perfectly orderly and quiet manner.

Monday, June 28.

The *Asahi's* Honolulu correspondent sends a long account of an interview with the leader of the strike. The gist of the latter's statement is that the men are determined not to go back to work without some previous assurance that better terms will be given to them. There had been some disposition on the side of the clique by whom the strikers are supported to urge return to work, but this idea has been abandoned. It is entirely incorrect to say that the strike has been brought about by the instigation of irresponsible agitators. The true cause is that the men find it impossible to live on a wage of 18 dollars a month. Their strictly orderly behaviour since they went on strike ought to convince all observers that the movement is not an outcome of mere agitation. The situation has been greatly aggravated by the harsh measures which the authorities adopt in arresting Japanese subjects and seizing Japanese property.

Wednesday, June 30.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has lengthy telegrams from Hawaii, the gist of which is that both the planters and the Japanese labourers are maintaining a resolute attitude. Neither side shows at present any sign of yielding. It goes without saying that the strikers are dissatisfied with the action of Mr. Consul General Ueno. His neutral methods are naturally unsatisfactory to the labourers.

Questioned by the members of the Political Committee of the Progressist Party, who had an interview with him on the 29th instant, Mr. Ishii, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, is said to have explained that in accordance with explicit instructions sent from Tokyo, Mr. Consul General Ueno had forwarded a report which was regarded as absolutely trustworthy. This document showed that the men actually on strike now number only 2,500, and that there is a growing disposition on the part of planters and strikers alike to come to an understanding. The strikers are behaving in a perfectly law-abiding orderly manner, and therefore the functions of the Consul-General are limited to endeavouring to bring about an understanding, in which effort he has the assistance of the commercial bodies. There is therefore good ground for hoping that the situation will soon be resolved. The men ask for nothing more than an increase of wages from 18 dollars to 22 dollars per month. The rate of wages received by Japanese subjects on the Pacific slope is 50 dollars for a month of 25 days, but taking into consideration the difference in the cost of living, 22 dollars would be a fair equivalent in Hawaii. Concerning the question of illegal arrest and domiciliary searches, the matter is still *sub judice*, and therefore nothing definite can yet be stated as to whether the police were really provided with warrants, or whether the Japanese failed to require the production of such documents. At all events this is a question purely of individual rights, and it must be treated independently of the strike problem.

THE CHOYA KEIZAI KENKYU-KAI.

The Official and Private Economic Investigation Society held a meeting on June 25 at the Nihonbashi Club. There were present the Prime Minister and several other members of the Cabinet, on the Government's side, and practically all the leading bankers and business men, on the side of the people. This is the Association recently formed at the instance of Marquis Katsura for the purpose of discussing reforms of the business system. The first subject debated at the meeting on the 25th inst. was that of auditors of companies. Everyone appears to have recognised that the present system of auditors is defective. An auditor in Japan is chosen from among the directors of a company, which procedure amounts to selecting one of the most trusted officials of the company to superintend his equally trusted colleagues. That is evidently an anomaly, but the meeting did not appear to have conceived any precise plan of reform. Reference was made to the English system of chartered accountants, but the meeting did not seem to consider that programme immediately applicable to Japan's case. It was evidently thought that the most effective measure which could be immediately taken was to make the offices of auditor and director altogether independent. The Government officials present at the meeting promised that due steps should be taken to investigate the question.

Another problem raised at the meeting related to the expediency of organizing a more effective system for investigating the conditions of the foreign markets and determining what classes of Japanese products and manufactures are best adapted to foreign taste. The name of Mr. Kondo Rempei is specially associated with this proposal, and he appears to think that the most practical method would be to organize a permanent exhibition committee which would be charged with the duty of making such investigations alike in ordinary and extraordinary times.

Mr. Imai, an eminent sericulturist of Shinshu, replying to a question put to him in his expert capacity, said that the two classes of Japanese silk which found most favour with Japanese buyers were the *joetsu* (superfine) and the "extra." The latter was more in demand, and inasmuch as the various localities contributed independently to make up the required supply, considerable inequalities resulted, to correct which defect the only practical course was to deal with the evil at its origin, namely, the egg-cards.

The Minister for Agriculture and Commerce spoke on the subject of *habutaye*. He said that in consideration of numerous protests against excessive severity in the manner of conditioning *habutaye*, the methods of inspection had been materially changed in the sense of greater leniency, and the immediate result had been adulteration and other serious abuses, so that a heavy blow had been dealt to the trade, and unless drastic steps were taken to correct these abuses a valuable staple of export would be practically lost. He therefore exhorted the local officials to invest their examinations with every element of care and thoroughness.

Mr. Sonoda Kokichi, who has just returned from England, spoke of the excellent credit enjoyed by Japanese securities abroad and of the welcome given to this kind of investment in Great Britain. The purchase of the celebrated Holbein picture by a foreign country, and the transfer of some of the most valuable Thames lots of land to American hands suggested that England was ceasing to be the centre of the world's wealth. But she had enormous quantities of capital still, and the only point to be noted was that her people seemed to be developing a conservative tendency in that they preferred to invest their money in solid securities and to be content with the interest thus obtained rather than to sink large sums of capital in new undertakings. The speaker recommended that, with the object of enhancing the credit of Japanese State bonds, banks and other public institutions should be encouraged to invest their reserves in such securities.

INTERNATIONAL POSTAGE STAMPS.

At the International Post Convention in Rome it was decided that an international postage stamp should be introduced, the object being to enable people to enclose in a letter sent abroad the amount of stamps required for forwarding a reply. Prior to this innovation it would have been futile for a correspondent in France, for example, to enclose French stamps in a letter to London, for the English addressee could not use such stamps on a reply posted in the United Kingdom. But now, under the new arrangement, one may buy a stamp which will carry a letter through any post-office in England, Germany, France and many other countries. This system went into operation in October 1907. Japan is now following suit. She will have a *kokusai-yubin-kitte*, which may be purchased at any post-office for 12 *sen*, and will be valid for any country of the postal union. Such stamps have already been procurable for some time in Yokohama.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

Friday, June 25.

The perennial problem of the Tokyo Railway appears to be again likely to press for solution. One of two courses must evidently be taken; either the Authorities must allow a reasonable charge to be collected for a reasonable service, or the City must take over the lines and run them on the basis of a charity concern. The *Jiji Shimpo* alleges that the latter plan is likely to be adopted, minus the charitable element. Indeed our usually well informed contemporary affirms that the Municipal authorities are already making investigations, and adds that in view of the large debts owed by Osaka, Kyoto and Nagoya, the Government can have no hesitation in permitting Tokyo to augment its indebtedness by 50 or 60 million *yen*. The *Chuo Shimbun* gives an item of incidental news, namely, that the Directors of the Company, having taken legal advice, are determined to resist the City's claim to a share of the depreciation fund which the Company laid aside in each of its last half-yearly accounts. We have already alluded to this remarkable claim. It is founded on the theory that an enterprise can be conducted on sound lines without laying by any money to meet the wear and tear of its plant—a theory which assumes an almost ludicrous aspect in the case of such a business as that of electric railways, where the yearly loss by depreciation is enormous. Even though the City's claim were admitted, the sum accruing to it—one-third of everything over 7 per cent. of nett profit—would be a mere bagatelle, not exceeding some twenty or thirty thousand *yen*. But the principle is vital, and against the principle the Directors have determined to fight. Doubtless the Municipality could buy the property now at a comparatively low price, and doubtless it could easily raise the money abroad at 5 per cent. But no one doubts for a moment that the result would be very far from advantageous to the citizens. They would very soon find themselves paying a 6-*sen* fare at least, instead of the present 4-*sen*; and they would not have nearly so good a service. It appears to us that the wisest plan for the City is to wait quietly until the Railway comes into its hands 40 years hence gratis, and then to farm it out to a well organized company. At any rate the Government can scarcely be said to be acting justly while it refuses to sanction either of the only two possible alternatives. We may mention here that the Shanghai Tramway Company has just raised its fares to 12 cents first class and 8 cents second class for five or more sections.

Saturday, June 26.

The Tokyo Railway Company held its half-yearly general meeting in Tokyo on the 26th instant at 2 p.m. Nothing has to be specially recorded except that the accounts were passed without objection, and the meeting voted a dividend of 5.4 per cent.

Sunday, June 27.

In presenting the accounts and the report Baron Senge stated that a minute and exhaustive inquiry into the affairs of the Company had failed to indicate any irregularity whatever; that all the properties, &c., were in good order, and that the Company hoped to complete the extensions of its line by the year of the great Exhibition.

Tuesday, June 29.

Several Tokyo journals assert that negotiations are actually in progress for the purchase of the Tokyo Railway by the Municipality. The proposal is said to have come from the latter, but nothing is mentioned as to terms. There seems to be a quieter and more reasonable spirit pervading this question at present, but it is hard to tell when the agitators may raise their hands. No one can be in doubt any longer as to the necessity of an increased fare, and if the lines belonged to the Municipality, they might do as they pleased about the fare.

Wednesday, June 30.

It is alleged that the Aldermen of Tokyo have decided that the depreciation fund of one million *yen* laid aside every year by the Tokyo Railway Company must be regarded as profit, and must therefore become chargeable with the payment of a contribution to the Municipal Exchequer. The view taken by the Aldermen is that every reserve other than that fixed by law must be regarded as profit, so far as the tax leviable by the city is concerned. An order will therefore be issued by the Municipality to the Company, and it is expected that while complying with the order, the latter will carry the case before the administrative court.

THE NEW PARLIAMEMTARY BUILDINGS IN TOKYO.

It appears that the project of erecting new buildings for the accommodation of the Imperial Diet is at length about to enter the field of practical undertakings. Many years ago the Government acquired the tract of land in Nagatacho, bounded by the War Office on the north, the official residence of the Prime Minister on the south, the German Embassy on the west, and the Palace of Prince Arisugawa on the east. The purpose of this acquisition—an admirable investment, seeing that the land was then only a fourth of its present market-value—was to provide a site for new parliamentary buildings, but it was understood that the work of construction would be deferred in compliance with financial convenience. That condition is now understood to have been satisfied, and already steps are being taken to test the nature of the foundation. Two years ago, if we remember rightly, the Government despatched a Commission to Europe and America for the purpose of inspecting the various parliamentary edifices throughout the world, and drawing up a plan which should embody their best features while being adapted to Japan's needs. The Commission has now completed its labours, and the plan submitted by it is understood to have obtained preliminary approval. It provides for buildings measuring about one-third more than the present temporary structures, covering an area of 5,000 *tsubo* (4 acres) and having accommodation for 2,000 visitors, official and private. The whole cost is estimated at from 12 to 15 million *yen*, and it is proposed that the work shall be completely finished by 1917, the year of the Great Exhibition. Japanese papers say that as a handsome garden will be enclosed within the boundaries of the buildings, a total space of 80,000 *tsubo* (75 acres) will be recquired, and as the Government's present holding measures only 70,000 *tsubo*, an additional space of 10,000 *tsubo* must be acquired at an outlay of 100 *yen* per *tsubo*.

This means, of course, that the Tokyo Lawn Tennis Club will lose its beautiful ground. It was clearly understood that the Government, when it most generously granted the use of the ground gratis for tennis purposes, would resume possession of it so soon as the time came for building the new houses of parliament. Tokyo has now enjoyed the privilege for many years, and the loss of the court will be a most heavy blow.

It is very agreeable to learn that the Government finds itself in a position to spend 12 to 15 million *yen* on parliamentary buildings, but what about the Three Taxes? Will the people discriminate between the facts that whereas the abolition of a tax involves the immediate loss of so much revenue, a grant of 15 million *yen* spread over 8 years signifies less than 2 millions yearly?

VLADIVOSTOCK.

We read in the *Jiji Shimpo* that the number of Japanese settling in Vladivostock is constantly on the increase, but their relations with the Russian local authorities are not of the most satisfactory character. This is owing chiefly to the fact that extraordinarily strict precautions are taken to prevent anything like trespass within the fortified zone, and to apprehend everyone who seems to be in the remotest degree interested in military secrets. All things considered it is of course perfectly natural that the Russians should be very jealous in this matter, but the effect does not conduce to the promotion of pleasant intercourse, for not a few Japanese subjects have been landed in prison on charges of trespass or under suspicion of spying. Our contemporary says that the Japanese and Russian Governments are now debating some means of improving this state of affairs.

The curious enterprise recently undertaken at Vladivostock in the shape of wholesale forgeries of Japanese promissory notes, has ended, as might have been expected, in the refusal of the law courts to recognise the validity of any of the notes, and the distraints to which a number of Japanese firms had been subjected have been withdrawn. If the facts of this case have been accurately represented, it is one of the most curious frauds on record.

The party of Russian tourists now in Kobe are quoted as saying that if their tour be successful, it will be the prelude to a number of similar tours organized at various places throughout Siberia.

THE JAPANESE CONTRACTORS SYNDICATE.

From statements contained in Japanese journals it appears to be certain that a strong syndicate has been formed in Japan under the auspices of leading business men like Baron Shibusawa, Mr. Kondo Rempei and Mr. Okura Kihachiro, the object of the Syndicate being to supply from this country materials for the construction of the Chinese railways on whose account a foreign loan has just been contracted. The capital of the Syndicate is put at a million *yen*, and its work may be described as that of taking sub-contracts from the English, German and French Syndicates to supply such materials and such expert labour as Japan is in a specially favourable condition to provide.

According to the *Chuo Shimbun*, substantial progress has been made with the organization of what may be called the Contractors' Syndicate, having for its purpose the supply of railway materials for the Yeh-Han line. Our contemporary alleges that the Syndicate may now be said to have been formed, and that in a few days Marquis Katsura will invite some 40 of the promoters to a conference at his official residence.

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"THE COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL SUPREMACY."

This is decidedly a magazine not calculated to put one asleep. Two numbers have appeared now under the editorship of Mr. Mochizuki Kotaro, and if their contents are entertaining to some people, they must be decidedly disagreeable to others. Thus in an article headed "the ruin of our credit abroad (*taigaiteki shinyo no daraku*) the author observes that, though Japan has gone upon the stage of international competition, her domestic conditions show that she is still toiling in the microcosm of the days of her isolation (*nawo sakoku jidai no shōtenchi ni akuseku shite iru*). She is acting in opposition to the trend of the world. Often she fails to appreciate that she has come to have foreign relations. Add to this that society has become speculative and frivolous; that morality has disappeared, and that the country is disgraced by imprisonment for bribery, by bankruptcies and so farth. Since the war with Russia the nations have come to regard Japan with suspicious eyes. Certain foreign newspapers, if they see a weak point in her doings, parade it and proclaim it without the least reserve. While she is thus looked at askance, Japan has given fresh material to her critics by the recent Sugar Scandal. Nevertheless, this is but one of the evil products of the time. Society simply worships money. The right of participating in the Government has ended by becoming a mere object of virtu. The elections have grown more and more corrupt. The franchise is a curio which the electors seek to sell as dear as possible and the candidates endeavour to buy as cheap as possible. Thus those that have been returned at the elections become themselves objects of merchandise. The Diet suggests a departmental store where there is no question that can not be bartered for coin. This tendency grows more marked. Look at the examples furnished by the 25th session of the Diet. Apart from the Sugar Scandal there are such things as the subsidy to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Exchanges problem. Among the 300 members of the Lower House, how many are there who assemble to discuss these matters in a really earnest spirit? To look for honest debate in the Diet of to-day is akin to asking beasts to talk like men. The South-American service may be necessary for the development of the country, but the Diet's decision was followed by such revelations as to the internal condition of the Company which is to undertake the service that we are compelled to regard them as indications of the decease of political morality. The Bill provides for a subsidy of 600,000 *yen* to the Company, but our trade with South America, namely, Mexico, Peru and Chili does not aggregate more than 840,000 *yen* a year. To give a subsidy of 600,000 *yen* in aid of a commerce of 840,000, especially at a time when people are calling out for the abolition of the Three Taxes—surely that is matter demanding the most profound and careful investigation as to the relations between results and means? Stranger still is the fact that in the accounts of the Company published after the passage of the subsidy Bill there appears a loss of 817,000 *yen* for 1908, and that 639,000 *yen* of that amount is for expenses incurred in making investigations as to the South American line. Did the Company get a subsidy of 600,000 *yen* to compensate its loss of 639,000, or did it make an outlay of 639,000 *yen* to get an increase of 600,000? These events make it easy for people to divine the true condition of our grand Imperial Diet. Mr. Mochizuki concludes by recommending as remedial measures the establishment of chartered accountants; the extension of the franchise and the creating of a bureau to superintend companies.

In the same number Mr. Inouye Kakugoro makes a vehement attack on Baron Shibusawa, under the heading of "Baron Shibusawa who seems to lend his eaves to gamblers." We can not, he says, altogether approve of Baron Shibusawa's methods. He is at present giving the benefit of his title to over 40 companies. Can there be any practical reality about such an arrangement? Impossible. Not a few of the concerns with which his name was associated have failed. In a word, he has been lending his premises for the encouragement of gamblers. Men like Baron Shibusawa are antiques who merely take up room. They are images whose presence is very regrettable from the point of view of economic circles. The Baron is at once director of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and of its enemy in business, the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. In such conflicting positions how can he possibly discharge both duties faithfully? It is like riding with a foot on each of two horses simultaneously while one goes east, the other west.

In the second number of the same magazine Baron Shibusawa replies to Mr. Inouye. He does not, indeed, mention the latter by name, but there is no room for misapprehension. He recalls the circumstances of the early *Meiji* days. Holding a high position in the Government, he resigned it at the instance of statesmen like Prince Ito, Marquis Inouye and Count Okuma, who were unanimous in thinking that the country could not exist without tradal and industrial development. The Government had tried in various ways to encourage such development; had established commercial companies, industrial companies, exchange companies, colonization companies and shipping companies. All had failed. It was evident that the people must be more intimately connected with such enterprises. So he had stepped out of the ranks of officialdom to start the First Bank. That was in 1873. It may be said to have been the first genuine joint-stock affair in Japan. Failure nearly overtook it. People regarded it as a semi official exchange shop and would have no dealings with it. Nothing could save the situation except more strenuous and general efforts to popularize the system of joint stock enterprises. Baron Shibusawa had thus been compelled to stretch out his hand widely. There was virtually no choice. The results bear witness. By them he is content to be judged. Even Fudo-sama and Kwanon-sama lend their eaves to shelter beggars and gamblers as well as honest folks, but no just man thinks of associating Kwanon or Fudo with these evil characters. If he had to live his life over again, the Baron does not see how he could have acted differently. He is old now, however. He has played his part, and the time has come to sever his connexion with the 12—not forty-odd but twelve and only twelve—companies which still bear his name on their registers.

Mr. Mochizuki does not stop at the accusations preferred in the first article to which we have referred above. He writes another essay under the title of "the 25th Diet's profile; the conspiracy of politicians and tradesmen behind the scenes." In this analysis he unhesitatingly exposes the relations between drafts of law and stocks, between members of the Diet and dealers in shares, and altogether "The Commercial and Industrial Supremacy," though its name handicaps it somewhat, is a very startling production. We can not tell whether the editor has yielded to the common tendency of seeking effect by painting his picture in colours more lurid than the strict truth warrants, but if even a moiety of his story be accurate, his frankness is to be highly commended.

THE MARINE PRODUCTS COMPANY.

On June 24 the preliminary trial of Lieut.-General Baron Yenya and the other Directors of the Dai Nippon Marine Products Company was concluded and all were remanded for public trial, a *prima facie* case having been established. Great efforts have been made to withdraw the prosecution of Lieut. General Baron Yenya, but the proceedings had been carried too far, and whatever may be the ultimate result, he will now have to stand his trial in common with the rest of those implicated.

The finding of the preliminary Tribuna in the case of the Dai Nihon Marine Products Company has now been published. Frauds perpetrated by the six Directors, headed by Lieut.-General Yenya, and by three bank officials who appear to have acted in collusion with the Directors, aggregate the large sum of 1,933,000 *yen*. The charges which have been formulated against these directors are forgery and fraudulent dealing. They appear to have used the name of the Company upon cheques in the most reckless manner, and they also resorted to the device of forging pass-books which falsely represented the Company as having large deposits at three banks, where in reality it had no money whatever. The bank officials implicated in this nefarious business were Shigeki Iwao of the Imperial Bank, Asayama Shimpei of the Nakahara Bank and Kitamura Ippei of the Hundredth and Thirty Seventh Bank. These three men together with the six Directors have been remanded for public trial. It will be seen that the affair is only a degree less disgraceful than the Sugar fraud.

THE HIGH COMMERCIAL COLLEGE.

The students of the High Commercial College are reported to be again in a state of commotion. They contend that though a temporary settlement has been made, the basic problem of the College's ultimate fate remains unsolved, and until a solution has been found, they must not desist from agitating. We do not expect that they will obtain any sympathy in their present procedure. The *Shogyo Shimpo*, for example, which supported them strongly at the outset of the complication, now turns unequivocally against them. It justly points out that they had a right to agitate in the beginning, inasmuch as the conditions under which they had entered the College were about to be disturbed. They had entered in the belief that their ante-graduate course would be completed in a certain time, and they were suddenly threatened with a substantial extension of the number of years. All that is now a thing of the past, however. They have obtained official assurance that no change shall be made until the most junior student among them has had his opportunity of graduating under the old arrangement. If, now, they go outside that phase of the problem, and raise an agitation about the future of the College apart from their own career, they will be trespassing into the field of politics, and no one will fail to condemn them.

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CHIENTAO.

The precise information which the Japanese Government wisely placed at the disposal of Mr. Valentine Chirol on the occasion of his recent visit to Japan has done much to remove misunderstandings about the attitude of this country in its disputes with China. We observe, however, that the *North-China Daily News*, while fully admitting the value of the facts communicated to Mr. Chirol, repeats its dictum published last May, and once more says "China's proposals with regard to Chientao were outwardly fair, even to the point of generosity." At the time when our Shanghai contemporary published the original of this appreciation, we ventured to dissent from its verdict, and we may be pardoned now if we repeat what we said on that occasion. The *N.-C. Daily News* had said:—"No more generous compromise could well be imagined than the one that China proposes." Our comment was:—

> Truly we fail to appreciate the "generosity" of the alleged compromise. We fail even to appreciate that it is a compromise at all. Two main issues are at stake, as the Peking correspondent of *The Times* notes with his wonted perspicacity. There is the territorial question and there is the jurisdiction question. Korea, represented by Japan, claims that Chientao is Korean territory, not Chinese. That is the territorial question. Korea, represented by Japan, claims that the Korean settlers in Chientao, who outnumber the Chinese settlers by 5 to 1, are subject to Korean jurisdiction not to Chinese. That is the question of jurisdiction. There are no other counts save these two. What is China's attitude towards them? She asserts that the territory is her own and that the jurisdiction is her own. In short, she asserts her title to everything in dispute. How can that be called a compromise? The only shadow of concession made by her is that she is willing to open five or six international trade-marts. She adds, it is true, that she will recognise Japanese jurisdiction over Koreans who may subsequently settle at these newly opened marts or travel in the interior. But such a statement is absolutely superfluous, for Koreans thus settling or thus travelling are already placed by treaty under Japanese jurisdiction. Hence we arrive at the fact that the total of China's concessions is an engagement to open five or six places to international trade. Her claim of sovereignty is to be recognized; her claim of jurisdiction is to be recognized, and in return, she offers to take the step which experience has proved to be the best method of averting foreign aggression. That is what our Shanghai contemporary calls a "more than reasonable attitude"; and a "compromise" than which "none more generous could well be imagined." Speaking in all friendliness and frankness, we invite *N-China Daily News* to consider whether it would employ the same language of commendation were the situation reversed. Suppose that Japan, on behalf of Korea, were to insist that Korea's sovereign right of possession must be recognised; that Korea's sovereign right of jurisdiction must be recognised; that, in short, China must step out finally and fully; and that in consideration of such self-effacement Korea will do something quite irrelevant to the main dispute, namely, open a few marts to international trade—would such an attitude on the part of Japan and Korea be termed "more than reasonable" and would such an offer be called a compromise than which none more generous could well be imagined? We venture to assert most unequivocally that Japan and Korea would be more than willing to occupy the position which China so generously proposes for herself.

We refer to this matter because it is avowedly one of the most important issues at stake, and because we believe our Shanghai contemporary to be desirous of arriving at a really just decision.

It will be remembered that some time ago the new Viceroy of Manchuria memorialized the Throne in the sense that a sum of 600,000 *taels* ought to be appropriated for defensive works on the Chientao frontier, 300,000 to be provided by the Governor of Kilin and 300,000 by the Government in Peking. This memorial is said to have received Imperial sanction, and Peking has ordered that the customs at Dairen shall furnish 150,000 taels, the customs at Shanhaikwan 50,000 and the customs at Wuhu 100,000.

THE STATUE OF II KAMON-NO-KAMI.

Recently there was set up on Noge Hill in the Western suburb of Yokohama a statue of the celebrated Ii Kamon-no-kami, who, as chief minister of the Bakufu, signed the first treaty of Commerce and Navigation with a foreign country. It was proposed to unveil this statue on the 1st of July next, the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of the port. But at the 11th hour opposition developed itself among a small but influential section in official or semi-official circles in Tokyo. It was a case of history repeating itself. Several years ago, the idea of paying some special tribute to the memory of that great politician and patriot was earnestly mooted in the capital. But it found a bitter opponent in the person of Mr. Shinagawa Yajiro, then Minister of State for Home Affairs. Mr. Shinagawa argued that Ii had acted the part of a rebel, since he had signed the Treaty with the United States not only without Imperial sanction, but even in opposition to the wishes of the Emperor, so far as those wishes were known. The truth was, however, that Shinagawa had another cause of objection. He had been a pupil of the renowned Yoshida Shōin, whose head fell by order of Ii Kamon-no Kami on the occasion of the great struggle between Kyoto and Yedo. In that case Ii sacrificed all the promptings of mercy on the altar of political expediency, and the incident was destined not merely to cost him his own life in the end, but also to beget lasting hatred for his memory in the bosoms of some of his countrymen. Among the latter was Shinagawa Yajiro, and he found a powerful supporter in Major-General—now Field-Marshal Prince—Yamagata. On the other side were ranged, however, Mr.—afterwards Count—Mutsu Munemitsu and Mr. Shimada Saburo. These contended that that if Ii had been guilty of a technical departure from the routine of etiquette in signing the treaty without the Sovereign's sanction, he had acted in obedience to implacable necessity, and under the guidance of political sagacity which had proved of inestimable value to his country. The liberal view prevailed in the end, though no practical result ensued except the publication of Mr. Shimadzu Saburo's invaluable brochure, *Kaikoku Shimatsu*, to which General Yamagata wrote a preface, acknowledging in the frankest and fullest manner the error of his original views. That was in 1883, and the agitation of this year of grace, 1909, is based upon the same contention, namely, that Ii ignored his Sovereign, and that to unveil his statue on the 50th anniversary of Yokohama's opening would be tantamount to proclaiming, not only that Yokohama owed its existence to him, but that the foundations of the Settlement had been laid on an act of contumely towards the Throne. It is alleged that this opposition has for chief promoter an ex Minister of the Imperial Household. To foreigners in general it will seem, we think, somewhat far-fetched. Nevertheless, it has prevailed. The statue of Ii Kamon-no-Kami is not to be unveiled until the 11th of July. Even Hojo Tokimune consulted the Throne before he answered the Mongol Envoy, say the opposition. How much more, then, was a *Tairo* of the Bakufu bound to be punctilious.

A NEW BANK IN MANCHURIA.

There is a somewhat cryptic telegram from Peking saying that Viceroy Shih's proposal to establish a central bank in Manchuria has been rejected. The Viceroy's idea had been that the Treasury in Peking should put up 10 million *taels* for the capital of the Bank, and that if this were impossible, recourse should be had to a foreign loan. But the Peking authorities think that in the present state of embarrassed finances it would overtax the capacity of the provinces were they required to furnish such a sum, while as for a foreign loan, it is not suited to the circumstances. The better plan therefore will be to develop the branches of the Central Bank of China which already exist in Kilin, Mukden and Yingkow.

There is a rumour, for the truth of which we can not vouch, that the Japanese Government contemplates the establishment of a bank in Manchuria with a capital of 10 million *yen*. This project is said to have been long ago formulated by Baron Goto, but circumstances prevented him from carrying it out prior to his resignation of the presidency of the South Manchuria Railway. The idea was that the Bank should take a specialized form like that of the Industrial Bank in Japan. Subsequently British, French, German and American capitalists showed a disposition to invest capital in Manchurian enterprises, and the Chartered Bank was understood to be thinking of establishing note-issuing branches at Mukden and Tientsin. It is now alleged that this state of affairs has induced the Japanese Government to treat the question more earnestly, and it is believed that on the return of Mr. Katsuda from China steps will be immediately taken with a view to establishing the Manchurian Bank.

THE COX MISSION.

News has been received in Peking that at Lanchow in the province of Kansu on the 22nd ult. the inhabitants attacked the Cox Mission and killed an Indian in the escort, wounding one of the English members severely. This Mission set out some time ago with the full consent of the Peking Government for the purpose of conducting explorations in the provinces of Shansi, Shensi and Kansu.

We had heard nothing of the Cox Mission until news arrived on the 29th ultimo of the catastrophe which occurred to it on its travels through northwest China. It would now seem, however, that the expedition was planned originally by Mr. Clarke, President of the American Geographical Society, and that it set out last year for the purpose of conducting surveys in the west and north of the Eighteen Provinces. The party included seven British and German subjects and appears to have been under the leadership of Mr. Clarke himself, so that we are perplexed to account for the name "Cox" given in the original telegram. It need hardly be said that the expedition was duly authorised by the Chinese Government, as is shown by the fact that free use of all the Chinese telegraph lines had been granted. No particulars are given as to the cause of the fracas, but it is said to have occurred at Anting hsien in the province of Kansu on the 21st of June. As for the casualties they appear to have been correctly stated, namely, one man killed and one man wounded.

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ELECTRIC ENTERPRISE.

The long talked of amalgamation of the Companies now engaged in the manufacture or supply of electric apparatus in Tokyo seems likely to become an accomplished fact. The Companies involved are the General Electric of the United States, the Tokyo Denki and the Shibaura Seisakujo which belongs to the Mitsui Firm. The capital of the united concern is to be 4 million *yen*, to which the General Electric will contribute one million and all its patents, taking in return one-half of the total shares. The Tokyo Denki Company will put in four of its present shares to represent one share in the amalgamated concern, and on that basis will contribute 700,000 *yen* to the capital. As for the Shibaura Seisakujo, its contribution will be 1,530,000 *yen*, which represents the value of its property on its own assessment. Should the property be valued at a smaller sum by the experts of the amalgamated Company, the difference will be put up in ready money.

The *Hochi Shimbun* gives various particulars about the purchase of the properties of the Bi-Kan Company from Messrs. Colbran and Bostwick. This Bi-Kan (American Korean) Company has electric power for 40 miles of tram and 10,000 lights. Its projectors have hitherto held a high tone, insisting that they would not sell out for less than 2 million *yen*, but by the efforts of various intermediaries they have been induced to part with their property for 1,700,000. The Gas Company, which acquires these properties, thus adds electric trams and electric lighting to its original programme. Five hundred thousand *yen* out of the purchase money will go to pay a debt to an English capitalist, and the remainder will be paid by yearly installments of 100,000 *yen*. Further particulars are given, but they have no special interest for the general public. It will suffice to say that the principal projectors of the Gas Company are Baron Shibusawa and Mr. Okura Kihachiro.

FORMOSA.

The aborigines in Formosa seem to be showing signs of renewed activity. They are reported to have made a raid over the Shinshiku boundary and to have murdered twelve men and women, whose nationality is not stated but who were presumably Chinese. Moreover, a surveying party led by Mr. Engineer Noro was attacked by a large force of aborigines and had much difficulty in cutting its way out. One constable was missing, one was wounded and two Aiyu also were wounded.

News comes from Formosa that a party of 11 Japanese fishermen, who were carrying on their operations in the vicinity of Karenko, were attacked by a large force of aborigines. Two of the fishermen were decapitated: two killed and one severely wounded. The remaining six succeeded in effecting their escape.

THE WEAVERS.

On June 24 a meeting took place at the Nihonbashi Club between representatives of the Weavers Association and leading members of the six Chambers of Commerce of Tokyo, Osaka, Kyoto, Yokohama, Nagoya and Kobe. The weavers having been strongly urged by these various Chambers to cancel their resolve as to refraining from sending any goods to the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition, withdrew and held a general conference, the result of which was that, in deference to the recommendations of the Chambers, they decided to abandon their recalcitrant attitude. We always anticipated that this would be the result. The weavers may be said to have achieved their purpose for they have placed on record a very vehement protest against the tax on textile fabrics, whatever may be said as to the nature of their methods.

THE KEI-HIN RAILWAY.

The half yearly general meeting of the Kei-Hin Railway was held on June 26th, and a dividend of 6 per cent, was declared, but whether this account included the loss of 200,000 *yen* incurred on account of the failure of the Fujimoto Bank, we are unable to discover. A question was asked at the meeting with reference to this subject, but the President signified his desire to have the matter treated in secret session. By declaring a dividend of 6 per cent. the Directors could not carry forward more than 2,113 *yen*. Mr. R. J. Kirby was elected to serve on the Board of Directors, as representing Messrs. Sale and Frazar Ltd., through whose agency the Railway's loan was recently negotiated.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The much talked of union between the Japan Flour Company (Nihon Seifun Kaisha) and the Imperial Flour Company (Teikoku Seifun Kaisha) has been effected. The latter's paid up capital of 500,000 *yen* is to be regarded as 300,000 for the purposes of the amalgamation, and thus the capital of the united concern will stand at 1½ millions.

Our readers doubtless remember that a riot of considerable dimensions occurred recently in Saghalien as a result of a veto imposed by the Government on the use of the kind of net called *sashiami*. There are now 12,000 Japanese in Saghalien, and between one and two hundred Russians. They all derive their livelihood from fishing, and it is confidently affirmed that if the above veto remain in force these people will all have to leave the island. There is therefore a strong probability that the veto will be conditionally revoked, so soon as the result of Mr. Ichiki's visit to the island is known.

The Nippon Engyo Kaisha was established for the purpose of acting as a kind of middleman between the official salt monopolists and the consumers. Its business has not prospered, however, and according to present appearances its capital would be completely expended in a few years. It is therefore proposed to wind up the affairs of the concern and to restore to the shareholders the sum which now remains of the original capital. This sum is only 65,000 *yen*, out of twice that figure, but the Directors wisely think that half a loaf is better than no bread.

It is stated that according to the Military Authorities the newly introduced system of two years' service with the colours promises to give excellent results. No final judgment can yet be passed, as the *Kanyetsu tenko* (inspection of reservists) has been not held. But so far as can be estimated, the system promises well. Under the old arrangement recruits who showed exceptional proficiency used to be released from duty at the end of their second year of service; but the practice, though it acted as an incentive in the case of the successful conscripts, had a very demoralizing effect on those less fortunate. It made the latter discontented and averse to diligence, since, however hard they worked, they could not secure any reward. The new system gets rid of that injurious discrimination, and the result is that all the conscripts show a healthy and earnest disposition.

His Excellency the Russian Ambassador in Tokyo is said to have approached the Japanese Government with a suggestion that no time should be lost in settling the various questions outstanding between Russia and Japan, so as to remove every source of international friction. The Foreign Office in Tokyo is said to have greeted this suggestion with much satisfaction, and conferences will be immediately commenced.

On the morning of June 28th as Count Tanaka was returning in his carriage from a visit to Prince Ito at Reinanzaka, the horses of his carriage took fright and galloped at full speed into the gate of the German Embassy, where they fell, the carriage also being overturned. The Count was helped out of the carriage by Captain Lange and Count Montgelas. Fortunately he had not received any serious injury, and after a short rest at the Embassy he was able to return home in a carriage lent by Prince Shimazu, whose residence stands just opposite the German Embassy.

At the close of an able review of General Kuropatkin's book on the war, the London *Spectator* says:—

> At the present moment Russia is suffering from a bitter sense of national humiliation; but if she will only believe it, the history of the war contains much upon which she may reflect with legitimate pride. The hearts of her men are as stout as ever they were, and although her military organisation proved defective, the difficulties were immensely greater than they would be nearer home. At the end of six thousand miles of railway Russia met an enemy whose training and equipment were as perfect as human ingenuity could make them, and she may console herself for her defeat with the thought that she now possesses a large body of men whose experience, gained in the best possible school, may be used to provide that efficient leadership which in Manchuria was so conspicuously lacking.

Reports come from the provinces that the continuous rain of the last few days has caused some inundations and loss of property. Gumma and Tochigi prefectures seem to have suffered specially, and the Daiya River at Nikko has as usual been behaving in a boisterous manner. Continuous rain at this time of year is of course quite seasonable, and its effects upon the rice crop are excellent, but too much has its disadvantages. The rainy season, is supposed to terminate on the 11th of next month, so we must be prepared for several days more of dampness and unpleasantness.

Mr. Sonoda Kokichi is quoted as saying that engineers will soon arrive from England to make some further surveys of the projected water-power electric system, and that it is very probable that some modifications will be made in accordance with the views expressed by Japanese experts.

Rumour says that the Nagoya Electric Company is negotiating with the principal insurance companies of Tokyo for a loan of 5½ million *yen*, which is to bear interest at the rate of 7½ per cent.

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THE BUDGET—ITS SIGNIFICANCE AND ITS RECEPTION.

THE early days of May saw the British House of Commons in full debate on a Budget which has been hailed—in certain quarters—as the most democratic of modern times. The task which confronted the Chancellor of the Exchequer was undoubtedly of great magnitude. Not only had a deficit of sixteen millions to be accounted for, but fresh liabilities loomed ahead. In two directions further demands were foreshadowed on public funds. To one of these the opinion of the country had driven the Government: the other lay in their attempt to revive Radical enthusiasm by public largesse. We refer, of course, to the naval expenditure which, despite the signed protest of 144 members of their own party, the Government feels itself bound to provide: and to their ill-advised scheme of Old Age Pensions. As Mr. LLOYD GEORGE reminded the House, when making his introductory statement—even if the four "contingent" Deadnoughts were not laid down before April 1st, 1910, the cost of construction of the original four would be far greater next year than this, and if the four additional vessels were decided upon, "the naval bill would grow to gigantic dimensions." While firmly declining to follow the path of panic and "build against nightmares," the Chancellor admitted that for the Cabinet to ignore its responsibility in the matter of the defence of British shores against possible invasion would be "not Liberalism, but lunacy." On the other hand, the measures of what the Government is pleased to call "social reform" give promise of a Gargantuan appetite. The Budget has been welcomed by one of the leaders of the Socialist party on the ground that it will bring about an amelioration of the lot of the lower classes by the simple device of taking from the rich and giving to the poor. The experiment is a dangerous one, for the device, if simple, will prove increasingly expensive. The maw of Socialism, once gratified, will require vaster sops to fill it. It is only too evident that the figure of $162,102,000 for the estimated expenditure of the coming year—exceeding though it does by some 12 millions any previous total of the nation's outlay—can be no means be taken as representing the maximum for several years to come.

To meet this heavy deficit and increasing expenditure Mr. LLOYD GEORGE has proceeded upon not altogether unexpected lines. It was frankly announced, in fact, that he was in search of "hen-roosts" to despoil. Nevertheless his Budget proposals have roused a great tide of opposition. The inevitable fresh taxation has been so arranged as to fall upon a small and limited class of people. The well-to-do and middle classes are heavily mulcted in a series of taxes on incomes, land and legacies whose cumulative effect can not be described as other than oppressive. Other imposts bear a distinctly retaliatory character. It would be difficult, for example, to find even a Radical who would deny that the increased duties on liquors and on licenses have been framed with a view to plundering and punishing political opponents—a sweet measure of revenge for the killing of the Licensing Bill. Similarly, the increased Death duties and Land Value charges are clearly intended as chastisement for Conservative landlords, and may indicate that a Government of Socialistic sympathies has therein discovered a new and speedy method of getting "back to the land." The Chancellor has indeed been free with the "hen-roosts," but it would have been better for his spoliations to have been generally and impartially distributed than that they should bear the imprint of revenge, or that Ministers should lay themselves open to the charge of purchasing votes with money extorted from the pockets of their adversaries. Even in the Liberal party the Government's policy has provoked mutterings of discontent, while the series of eleven victories at bye-elections—of which the most recent have been most striking—show that the country is as little pleased as a section of the Government's own supporters. But the crux of the situation lies in the attitude of the Lords, for there is little doubt that the huge Ministerial majority in the Lower House will do its work in the end. Already misgivings are to be heard among the most ardent friends of this triumphantly Socialistic Budget, as to the fate which awaits it in the Gilded Chamber. One Radical organ, regarding the possibility that the Peers may force a dissolution by rejecting the Budget—a proceeding which, incidentally, it declares to be *ultra vires*—says that such action will compel not dissolution, but revolution. The veiled threat may provoke a smile; but it may safely be said that the forces of Conservatism, of ordered Imperialism in development and defence, will be ready for the issue, whatever it may be.

THE COMPLEMENTARY NOTE.

THE House-Tax Problem having been finally solved, so far as the Arbitral Tribunal is concerned, very little interest attaches to it any longer. But since one phase of the question was again brought upon the tapis by a recent writer calling himself "Observer," who seemed to be a German, and since he quoted the Aoki-Bieberstien Note in a novel sense, we thought it worth while to discuss that particular issue. The Note was confidently advanced by the Tokyo Government as proving conclusively that what the Japanese and the German signatories had in view was the land held under perpetual lease and nothing but the land. The writer referred to above, however, quoted the same Note in a precisely opposite sense; that is to say, he quoted it as proving that not the land alone, but also the houses standing on the land, were contemplated by the signatories. It has seldom happened that one and the same provision of a treaty has been construed in such a diametrically opposite sense. The incident is sufficiently curious to merit a little examination. Evidently so flagrant a collision of interpretations must be due to different translations. It is due to different translations—very different. The translation made by the Japanese Government for submission to the Arbitral Tribunal and accepted tacitly by that Tribunal was:—

> That since ownership in the lands in the foreign settlements, mentioned in Art. XVIII of the Treaty, remains in the Japanese State, the possessors thereof or the sucessors of their rights will not be required to pay *in respect of their lands* imposts or taxes of any kind whatever other than the stipulated rent.

On the other hand, the translation made by the writer referred to above was:—

> That in regard to the perpetual lease properties mentioned under Art. XVIII. of the Treaty, the ownership shall remain with the Japanese Government and the proprietors of, or the legal sucessors to, these properties shall *not* have to pay any imposts or taxes except the stipulated grounted-rents.

There are here two radical differences. One is that the words "in respect of their lands" appear in the Japanese Government's translation and are wholly omitted in "Observer's" translation. The other is that what the Japanese Government renders "land," "Observer" renders "property." As to the former point, "Observer" has been shown to be inaccurate. The German text—which he himself quoted—contains the words *für ihre grundstücke*, and these are not contained in his translation at all. So far he is clearly wrong. As to the second point, it admits of equally conclusive demonstruction. We do not insist upon the palpable fact that the expression "piece of ground" (*grundstücke*) requires a very liberal lexicon indeed to bear the construction "property in the form of land and house." Let us grant that it intended to convey such a signification. Then what follows? It follows that the ownership not only of the lands but also of the houses in the foreign settlements, is vested in the Japanese Government. "The ownership of the perpetual lease properties shall remain with the Japanese Government" are the words of "Observer's" translation. Now has any foreign resident ever admitted, or is any foreign resident prepared to admit, that the dwellings, warehouses and godowns erected in the settlements with foreign money are owned by the Japanese Government? The idea will be scouted. Yet that is what follows inevitably if "Observer's" version be accepted. If any further proof were needed, it is at hand. For what is the history of this particular clause of the Complementary Note? Why did the Japanese Government give such an assurance? It gave it, as the official records show, because the German Government was not satisfied with the terms of the British Treaty. The German Government thought that the British Treaty did not fully guarantee settlement lands against the imposition of municipal taxes. To that apprehension the Japanese Government replied:—"Municipal taxes on land in Japan are paid by the owners of the land, not by its lessees. The Japanese Government s the owner of the perpetual lease

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lands in the foreign settlements, and as the Japanese Government does not tax itself, therefore there is no reason to discuss the possibility of these settlement lands being made liable for municipal taxes." In short, this Complementary Note shows conclusively that what the German and the Japanese Governments had in mind when they negotiated the Treaty was land and land only, and it shows also that what the German Government believed the British Government to have had in mind was land and land only.

These are very simple facts. We adduce them in response to "Observer's" challenge.

ILL-CONSIDERED LEGISLATION.

HOW far such occurrences are the result of ill considered legislation and how far they may be explained on the ground that it is impossible to provide against every imaginable contingency, may be a matter of opinion; but it cannot be denied that we are never long without hearing of some judicial decision in the United States that in one way or another works hardship. The latest is the case of the daughter of ex-Vice-President FAIRBANKS, who sailed from San Francisco with her father and mother on their recent voyage to the Far East. Family reasons necessitated the lady's disembarkation at Honolulu and her immediate return to America; but by so doing she incurred a penalty of $200. It was held that her discontinuance of her voyage made Honolulu her objective point, and that inasmuch as she had arrived there in a foreign steamer without complying with certain legal formalities, she must pay the penalty. Notwithstanding the lawlessness that is so much in evidence, indications that America is an over-governed country—in other words, that it has too much law, or rather too many laws—have not escaped the attention of dispassionate critics. The law invoked in the case of Mr. FAIRBANKS'S daughter is one of the many that are intended to restrict undesirable immigration, and yet a special investigation under Congressional authority recently proved those very laws to have absolutely failed of their purpose. The extraordinary decision of an American court by which a Chinese restaurant proprietor was declared to be a labourer, apparently on the sole ground that he could not be called a merchant, is provoking the merriment of the whole world, and its echoes have just come back to us from India. Still more grotesque was the historic incident of the setting in motion of the contract labour law against the newly-imported rector of a New York church, whom it was seriously proposed to deport, on the ground that his engagement as rector was made before he left England! Fortunately for the reputation of the country, common sense overrode, in that particular instance, a strict construction of the statutes. That it did not do so in the case of Mr. FAIRBANKS'S daughter is amazing; indeed we are unwilling to believe that during the time that has elapsed since the decision was rendered, means have not been found of setting it aside.

THINKING IMPERIALLY.

"THIS," said Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN, in a recent letter to *The Times*, "is the day of Empires." It is fitting that so true a reminder should come from the man to whom we owe the fact—for fact it is—that the people of Britain, in the Narrow Seas and beyond, are "thinking imperially." It is fitting that the first great "Missionary of Empire," though at present removed from the stressful scene of political activity, should speak once more upon a theme with which he is eminently qualified to deal, and, by so speaking, crystallize the thoughts of his countrymen on the subject now foremost in their minds. As the great London journal says, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN "represents more than any other single figure, the policy of union and consolidation which is, and must remain, the central principle of Imperial statesmanship in the twentieth century." If we cast our eyes backwards over the history of the more recent developments in our national life, we are led to enquire—"when did the Imperial Idea—the idea of Imperial Consolidation—first take shape in the minds of the British people?" It was not on the occasion of Queen Victoria's Jubilee in 1887, when the variety and extent of the British possessions were brought home in a picturesque and ceremonial manner, to the inhabitants of the Mother Country; nor was it on the occasion of the more splendid celebration of a similar character held a decade later. The Imperial Idea took shape in the dark and critical days of the earlier part of the South African War. In the fierce throes of a danger common to all parts of the Empire alike, the ideal of Imperial Unity was born. Then, we believe for the first time, Imperial Sentiment was realized by British statesmen, and doubtless by others besides, for what it was—"a living force of incalculable moment in the political balance of the world." And Britons owe to two men more than to any other, the successful handling of a crisis which proved a blessing in disguise—Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, who had already raised to an importance and dignity before unknown his office of Secretary of State for the Colonies, and Sir ALFRED, now Lord, MILNER who fought out with OOM PAUL the preliminary war of words. These were the men who, regardless of misrepresentation and calumny, and foreseeing the immense issues for good or ill bound up in our South African policy, handled them as we would fain have all English statesmen handle such issues—justly and firmly, to the only logical end. We repeat that the Empire, as an Empire, was born in that hour of tribulation. Into that crisis it passed nebulous; out of it, it emerged concrete. The daughter States across the Seas took up their great inheritance, and the Mother Country awoke to the fact that her over-sea possessions were not costly and unwelcome dependences, not millstones, but nations.

Imperial Thought, which thus may be said to date from a decade back, has received of late a further impetus of a like character—an impetus supplied by danger from without. This time it is the heart of the Empire which has been threatened, as was, ten years ago, one of its most distant dependencies. And the result, while it has been the same, has been even more striking and significant. For the rallying of the Dominions across the Seas to the moral and material support of the Mother Country in this case carries with it the recognition not only of Imperial Community in peace and in war, but of the supreme fact that the security of the whole congeries of States, Dependencies and Protectorates rests upon Sea-Power alone. This is what students of Imperial Defence have been endeavouring, for a generation past, to teach the people of England and of the Empire. The lesson is now learnt and, it may be said, was learnt in a day—the day of the revelations in the Mother of Parliaments of Germany's unmistakeable ambitions. Australia and New Zealand, the most remote of the Dominions—and from their point of view the most exposed—have taken the lesson most earnestly to heart. Thinking Imperially has led to acting royally. As Mr. CHAMBERLAIN points out, in the case of New Zealand, with its population of little more then 1,000,000, the offer advanced by that Government of a Dreadnought to be at the service of the Imperial Navy amounts to an offer of £2 a head by each inhabitant. A similar contribution from each inhabitant of the British Isles would raise a sum of £80,000,000, which is two and a half times greater than the amount at present voted for the Navy Estimates. Such sacrifices—the fruits of thinking Imperially—are the daughter nations of the Empire prepared to make for the preservation of Imperial Unity. Similar happy results are visible all over the Empire. Is it too much to hope that, at the Imperial Conference to meet this month in London, the Statesmen of the Empire will place on a practical basis the great questions of Imperial Consolidation and Imperial Defence, forging out of so strong a sentiment as now exists a lasting and indissoluble bond?

THE YOKOHAMA LOAN.

Tokyo newspapers state that his Honour the Mayor of Yokohama has concluded the arrangements for a loan of £716,500, the proceeds to be applied to extending the waterworks. The Industrial Bank and Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. are understood to have competed for this loan, but the terms offered by the former were slightly more advantageous for the city than those offered by the latter. The Municipality will receive £94 net per £100 bond; the rate of interest is 5 per cent., the period of redemption 45 years and the whole of the money has to be taken over within 180 days. The commission totals 7/30 of 1 per cent., and is to be paid in three installments.

It is stated that the Yokohama loan was duly concluded on the 29th ultimo, the amount and the terms being as already stated in these columns.

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THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, June 25.

The downward movement which commenced on the 24th instant was continued on the 25th instant, though in the case of many shares the fall was slight. The heaviest sufferers were the Tanko, the shipping companies and the Stock Exchange. In other cases the depression varied from 80 *sen* to 10 *sen*.

Saturday, June 26.

The Exchange recovered on the 26th instant from the fit of depression under which it had laboured for several days. All prices moved up appreciably, with the exception of the Tanko shares, which, after exhibiting an upward tendency in the forenoon, dropped back again in the afternoon.

Monday, June 28.

Yesterday was only a half-day on the Tokyo Stock Exchange. The opening was brisk, especially for Tokyo Trams, which rose one point, and for shipping companies, which recovered somewhat from their previous depression. But when the Otaru Lumber Company's shares were reached, a complete change of tone took place and the bears had a palpable innings, Exchanges falling 2.30 points. Settling Day on the 28th is expected to pass off quietly.

Wednesday, June 30.

The 30th of June was a bad day on the Stock Exchange. All prices fell sharply in the forenoon session, and though there were some signs of recovery in the afternoon, they were very fitful. There is as yet no firmness of tone. We append the quotations for August delivery :—

	June 28th.	June 30th.	
Tanko Kisen	42 35	41.25	—1.10
Tokyo Railway	65.20	64 35	— .85
Kei-hin Railway	61.85	62 00	+ .15
Yusen Kaisha	80.80	79.55	—1.25
Toyo Kisen	17.70	17.25	— .45
Tokyo Gas	97.50	97.15	— .35
Tokyo Dento	93 25	93.25	.—
Fuji Gass Spinning	108 25	109 00	+ .75
Tokyo Spinning	51.20	50.80	— .40
Kanegafuchi Spinning	102.50	102.50	.—
Beer	76.05	75.05	—1.00
Sugar	—	—	.—
Hoden Oil	100 85	99.40	—1.45
Nippon Oil	101.70	100 95	— .75
Stock Exchange	160.00	156 95	—3.05

THE BOOKSHELF.

Sir Robert Hart, by JULIET BREDON. London, Hutchinson & Co.

THIS is a most entrancing book. Even though our interest were less keen in the illustrious man whose career it describes, the charm of the description would delight us. The authoress is Sir Robert's niece. Only from a near relative could the work have derived its intimate character. We are introduced to the great statesman, diplomatist and organizer at the age of 10 days, as he lies on his aunt's lap, and thereafter we are shown him in his school and college career, until, at the early age of 19, he is nominated for the consular service in China—nominated in pure recognition of the high scholastic honours he has won. To those that knew him in his later life when habits of profound thought had begotten a grave demeanour, it is strange news to learn that as a boy he was full of mischievous merriment and that something like a mere accident turned him to the studies which founded his greatness. This, however, is but one of many dramatic incidents in his life; so dramatic indeed that at one moment we seem to be confronted by a telepathic revelation; at another, by a striking demonstration of destiny. Of course the authoress does not attempt to follow Sir Robert's career in a historical sense. She justly says that it is yet too early to speak in detail of all the momentous scenes in which he occupied the central place. What she does is to introduce us to the man himself, resting for only a brief moment as each salient land-mark of his life is reached. Many a familiar name finds a place in the arena where he worked for 55 years—Sir John Bowring, Sir Harry Parkes, Horatio Nelson Lay, Sir Frederick Bruce, Sir Thomas Wade, Gordon, Li Hung chang, Prince Kung, Sherard Osborne, Burlingame, M. Patenotre, Sir Nicholas O'Conor and not a few others. It may be truly said that from 1859, when he resigned from the Consular Service to enter the Chinese Maritime Customs, until 1908, when he went home on leave for the second time in nearly 50 years, he never once ceased to deserve well of the Chinese Government. Perhaps his most signal service, as it certainly was the saddest, was rendered after the Boxer troubles. His niece tells us much that is vividly interesting about the events of the siege of the Legations, but strange to says she alludes only once, and that in the briefest manner, to "These from the Land of Sinim." Much we should have liked to hear how Sir Robert was affected by the unjust abuse to which that memorable book subjected him. He who knew the Chinese perfectly had the courage to say a true word in their behalf at a moment when their name stunk in the world's nostrils, and by critics that did not know the Chinese at all he was berated as an infatuated and unpatriotic sciolist. It was a profoundly sad incident and profoundly disgraceful to Western sagacity and toleration. We should have liked much to learn how Sir Robert felt about that miserable treatment. But his niece is silent. Is her silence to be taken as significant? Need we say that once or twice we find ourselves disposed to dissent from the gifted authoress's conclusions We can not agree with her that Sir Robert foresaw the defeat of China in the war with Japan, nor can we believe that at any time since the days of the East India Company's Factory at Canton there was ever any serious danger of the Chinese "trying to reform too fast by slavish imitation instead of slowly working out their own salvation." Sir Robert Hart, indeed, was a believer in slowness and sureness where national movements are concerned, but we have often thought that his views in that respect were somewhat objective and that he was patient *faute de mieux*. No country could have reformed faster "by slavish imitation" than Japan has done, yet Japan most indubitably has "worked out her own salvation" and retained all her national characteristics. In his heart of hearts we believe that Sir Robert's *festina lente* was the offspring of necessity rather than the child of choice. However that may be, his niece is to be deeply thanked for this admirable and sympathetic story of a man who well deserves to be called a maker of history.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

HAYATOMO SETO TIDAL OBSERVATION LIGHT-BUOY DRIFTED.

Notice is given by the Department of Communications that Hayatomo-seto Tidal Observation Lightbuoy on north side of Hayatomo seto, Shimonoseki Strait, has drifted about 3 cables eastward.

YOKOHAMA.

A man named Kase Tsunekichi, of Yamadacho Itchome, was arrested on June 24 for having practised medicine without license, and defrauded his patients out of certain sums of money.

Governor Sufu, who has been visiting his native province, returned on June 24.

On June 26, a manufacturer of fireworks named Narushima Takejiro was prosecuted by the Isezaki-cho Police for having secretly prepared to manufacture fireworks for the Jubilee celebration. All the materials were confiscated.

On the night of June 25, a letter carrier was drowned when going out in a sampan to trace two others who had carried telegrams addressed to the Commander of the *Galveston* and were late in return. The telegrams were safely delivered to the addressee.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended June 24th are as follows :—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases	—	3	3	3	—	—
Died	—	—	2	—	—	1
Other Districts—						
New cases	—	—	3	7	—	—
Died	—	3	1	2	—	—

On June 27, a woman, aged 37, died from plague at Aoki-machi, Kanagawa.

On June 28, a new case of plague was discovered at Noge-machi 3-chome. There have been 22 cases in all up to the present time.

Governor Sufu visited the Austrian cruiser *Kaiserin Elizabeth* on the morning of June 28, for the return of official courtesies.

THE CHINESE Y.M.C.A.

The Closing Exercises of the Chinese Y.M.C.A. Evening School were held in the Y.M.C.A. Hall, Kanda, on June 30th, under the Chairmanship of Rev. Mark Liu. In addition to the musical programme a scene from "Macbeth" was given, the full details being as under.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. Opening Hymn and Prayer .....Pastor Liu.
2. Piano Duet .....Mrs. & Miss Buncombe.
3. Part Song.....(Messrs. C. W. & E. T. Igleheart C. S. Davson, & H. H. Coates).
4. Remarks .....Chairman.
5. Piba Solo .....Shi Yu Ling.
6. Vocal Trio .....Messrs. Li, Kway and Elwin.
7. Violin & Piccolo Duet.....Messrs. Fong & Kway.
8. Song "Poor Old Joe".....Dji Chen Chinese Students.
9. Piano Duet .....Mrs. and Miss Buncombe.
10. Quartette .....(Messrs. C. W. & E. T. Igleheart C. S. Davison & H. H. Coates).
11. Testimonials.....Dr. P. Doesticks.

INTERVAL.

PART II.

Macbeth, Act. II, Scenes 1, 2 and 3.
Act. V. Scene 1.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

Macbeth, Banquo	Generals in the King's Army.	C. L. Mi. / S. C. Li.
Macduff, Lenox	Noblemen of Scotland.	T. A. Voong / C. C. Woo.
Doctor		M. Djong.
Porter		K. Y. Ma.
Lady Macbeth		S. O. Meone.
Gentlewoman		M. Li.

BASEBALL.

The game between the Keio University and the Y.C. & A.C. which was played in showery weather at the Recreation Ground on June 26 resulted in an easy win for the former, who proved themselves the better team on all points of the game. The score was as follows :—

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total.
Y.C. & A.C.	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3
Keio	2	1	0	5	1	0	0	1	0	10

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"YOKOHAMA."

A SONG OF JUBILEE.

[Composed by Surgeon-General Mori (Rintaro), Director of the Army-Surgeon Bureau, at the request of the Yokohama Municipal Council; rendered into English verse by E Bruce-Mitford. The song is being taught in the class-rooms of the preliminary and other schools in Yokohama in view of the coming Celebration.]

SHIKA.

Waga hinomoto wa shimaguni yo,
Asahi kaga yō umi ni
Tsuranari sobadatsu shimajima nareba,
Arayuru kuni yori fune koso kayoe.
Sareba minato no kadzu ōkaredo,
Kono Yokohama ni masaru arame ya.

Mukashi omoeba, tomaya no kemuri,
Chirari horari to taterishi tokoro;
Ima wa momo fune momo chifune tomaru
tokorozo. Miyo ya.

Hate naku sakaete yukuran miyo wo,
Kazaru takara mo irikuru minato.

An Island-Realm is fair Japan,
Whose countless isles in order run,
Studding the sea where radiant shines
The glory of the Rising Sun:
And to her deep-set shores from distant climes
Come laden ships, like spirits of the times.

Fifty years since, where now is reared
Her chiefest gate of golden leaves—
On marshy flats a village weird
Of lowly huts, 'neath whose rush eaves
The lights of evening faintly whisper'd sleep
To toilers probing secrets of the deep.

Away dim past! Now, 'thwart the plain
From hill to hill a city lies;
Now from thronged mart and tall exchange
The hum of wealth and commerce flies;
While anchored in the stone-girt harbour ride
Vessels untold, in foam-fleck'd, iron pride.

Chiefest of Nippon's ports, all hail!
Through thee has poured a priceless tide
To decorate the Imperial reign—
Treasures world-won, treasures world-wide:
To thee, whose voice from East to West doth sound,
And to thy growing Fortune be no bound!

E.B.M.

EXHIBITION OF HISTORICAL MATERIAL APPROPRIATE TO THE JUBILEE.

There are about 800 exhibits in the collection that has been brought together at the Jubilee Assembly Ground under the auspices of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce. The chief exhibitors are the Imperial Museum, the College of Science, the Yushu-kwan, the Department of Foreign Affairs, the Department of Communications, the Post Office Museum; the Raw Silk Examination Office in Kanagawa Kencho, Count Ii and Count Toda. The Exhibition was opened at 10 a.m. on June 28 by Mr. Ono, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce, and congratulatory addresses were delivered by Count Okuma and the Mayor, Mr. N. Mitsuhashi.

The exhibits are divided into two principal divisions; those illustrative of the period prior to the opening of the Port and those having reference to the last fifty years. Among the chief exhibits are:—

Picture of the landing of the Portuguese; exhibited by Mr. Saiki.

Pair of *Byobu* (folding screens) belonging to the same picture; exhibited by Mr Shiga.

Map of the World published in Amsterdam which had found its way to Japan in the Hoei period (200 years ago); exhibited by the Imperial Museum.

Chart on sheepskin; exhibited by the Imperial Museum.

Steam boiler brought by Commodore Perry; exhibited by the Imperial Museum.

Jinbaori (a coat worn over armour) and a saddle rug used by Sakuma Shozan; exhibited by Mr. Chikayama.

Oil-painting representing the night attack on the British Legation, Tojen-ji, Takanawa, Tokyo; exhibited by Mr. Chikayama.

Byobu with a picture of the landing of marines of five different countries; exhibited by Mr. Ishikawa.

Colours bestowed by the Emperor Komei on Shincho-gumi; exhibited by Mr. Ishikawa.

Sabre worn by Commodore Perry; exhibited by Mr. Kishimoto.

Photograph of a copy of the Kanagawa Treaty; exhibited by the Department of Foreign Affairs.

A notice prohibiting violence against foreigners, under pain of death—issued from Yokohama in the early days of Meiji.

Various colour prints, showing the restaurants and play rooms used by the foreigners in early post-Settlement days.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

London, June 4.

The "Season" is in full swing, and for the last three weeks or more the sun has been shining with a most unusual geniality upon an astonishingly gay, clean and smokeless London. The flower beds in the Park are prim and perfect, but brilliant; not as yet veiled in motor dust, or dashed by untimely showers. The moon daisies, lobelia and pink ivy-leafed geranium of the window boxes have not begun to droop, nor have the garlands faded from Paris hats, nor roses from debutantes' cheeks. Summer frocks are still in their first freshness, and an important section of the population is in a whirl of delightful anxiety regarding the fluctuations of the fashions. The modern arbiters of Elegance must needs have nimble wits and strong constitutions, for they are kept continually hard at work, and seldom fail from month to month to burst their surprises upon an eagerly expectant world.

The "Merry Widow" hat of gargantuan dimensions (the brim of which actually rested upon the shoulders of the wearer) has been succeeded by the "Extinguisher" and the "Beehive," both of which are so aptly named as to be able to dispense with further description.

In these last days, in order to be *chic*, it is no longer merely necessary to be *Directoire*, for two things have been confidently asserted. First, the *paniers* are undoubtedly coming, and at any moment may be literally upon us, and secondly, waists are beginning to come down. The latter statement causes some anxiety, as once upon the downward trend, it is impossible to predict how far waists will go. One or two creations have been launched reminiscent of Du Maurier, whilst an evening newspaper of some standing has been discussing the possible "Plantagenet Revival," in which waists will drop to somewhere below the hips.

These weighty matters have received attention in high places, and to some purpose. A week or two ago Mrs. Asquith gave a tea party. She gave it at No. 10, Downing Street, the official residence of her husband, the Prime Minister. There were gathered together some twenty to thirty ladies for the purpose of enjoying an exhibition of French frocks and frills displayed by a well known French *Costumier*. The tea party was doubtless a great success, but alas for "the fierce light that beats" about a Downing Street drawing room! The proceedings gave dire offence. A member of Parliament wrote a letter, more in sorrow than in anger, not so much, perhaps, deploring actual official encouragement of foreign, at the expense of British, trade, as the occasion given to the enemy to blaspheme. Hinting, not so much at lack of patriotism, as at great unseemliness.

The newspapers took up the matter with keen enthusiasm, and much journalistic capital was made. The incident, as may be readily believed, was peculiarly suitable for the purpose, containing, as it did, the germs of a political scandal, and touching, in a manner very dear to the British heart, the private life of celebrated persons. The whole thing was carried to an absurdity which may be illustrated by the following extract from a letter to the "*Western Morning News*" and quoted by *Punch*, "*And the high water mark of indignation is raised to its zenith when an official residence is used for a Frenchman's Show room.*"

The *Spectator* thus sums up the affair, "The ridiculous storm in a teacup which has been raised by a section of the Press over the fact that Mrs. Asquith asked a certain number of her friends to look at some Paris gowns in Downing Street has, we trust, received its quietus in a letter addressed by Mrs. Asquith to Mr. Richardson, M.P. In this letter Mrs. Asquith writes that there is no truth in the statement that there has been an exhibition and sale of foreign stuffs and clothes at 10, Downing Street. She goes on to say that she "received in her private rooms, at tea, some twenty to twenty-five of her personal friends, and a well-known French *Costumier*, whose models can be bought in any London shop, brought some specimens for the inspection of myself and my guests. It was a purely private occasion." We are no enemies of journalistic enterprise, and can tolerate it even when it takes what seems to us personally somewhat silly or trivial developments. When, however, that enterprise results in denunciations of the female members of the family of the Prime Minister, the limit of such enterprise appears to us to have been, not merely reached, but passed. We suppose Mrs. Asquith considered it to be absolutely necessary to write the letter she has written, but we cannot but regret the fact. We had rather have seen a precedent set in absolute reticence. The difficulty of denials even of untrue stories, or gross exaggerations, is that they breed other stories. Those who think, as most Englishmen do, that matters concerning the private lives of individuals ought not to be discussed in the newspapers in a hostile spirit, should, as far as possible, support that rule by refusing even to deny false stories."

All of which is perfectly true and just; yet this "storm in a tea cup" has a significance at the present juncture. The occasion of the agitation was trivial indeed, the agitation itself foolish and vulgar, and in the worst of taste. The discussions in the newspapers read like an anticipation of the journalistic silly season. Yet it is a truism that the lightest trifle, such as a straw, will show which way the wind blows. Therefore it is not an exaggeration to say that the public irritation about Mrs. Asquith's Paris frocks is an indication of a vague though wide-spread disquietude, an expression of the want of confidence of the mass of the uninitiated in the present Government. The various airship and balloon scares, apparently quite lacking in foundation, which have excited, mystified and amused people by turns, are manifestations of the same spirit. Englishmen do not sleep quite quietly in their beds (as notably recommended by Sir John Fisher) or aerial phantoms, dissolving dirigibles, manned by most elusive spies would not take the place of the giant (but comparatively innocuous) gooseberry, or the time honoured sea serpent. As a final example of how the wind blows, a little familiar incident which took place last week at Epsom is no less significant.

The King's horse *Minoru* won the Derby, after an extremely close race, amidst the cheers of a highly delighted populace. Afterwards, in the paddock, whilst the race was being discussed, and the horse admired, his Majesty felt himself touched upon the arm. On turning round he found himself addressed by an honest man of the people. "Now Sir," said this individual earnestly, "Go home and turn out that beastly Government of yours!"

Last week was eventful in the world of Sport, for not only was the Derby run, but at Oxford was the contest decided which confirmed the Christ Church boat in its proud position at the head of the river.

For eight days and more, youth and beauty disported themselves green upon the banks of the Isis, or confided themselves to its smooth waters in boats and punts and canoes by the hundred. The lovely weather favoured all manner of picnics, out-of-door dinners and moonlight excursions.

The thoroughfares were gay with muslin frocks, and wags carrying gay coloured cushions, but naturally the "Eights" formed the serious business of each day.

The races were rowed in three divisions at the hours of four, five and six in the afternoon. Owing to the narrowness of the river they were as usual,

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"bumping" races. The boats started in a given order, and in line. If a boat caught up, and touched the boat in front of it, that boat was said to have "made a bump," and accordingly the next day, took precedence upon the river.

College men and their guests watched the races from the various College barges moored along the river bank. Most solid and comfortable craft these, with chairs upon the decks, and elaborate arrangements for tea "below." However they were scorned by the genuinely enthusiastic undergraduates, who preferred to tear along the towing path attired in a picturesque costume of "Shorts," running shoes and an upper garment, in most cases boldly striped.

The runners shouted through megaphones, fired off pistols, and made a hideous din with specially constructed rattles, for the encouragement of their particular boats' crews. The miscellaneous crowd upon the bank cheered lustily as the boats shot by "House! House! (Christ Church) "Magdalen" or "Univ." The barges and the meadows round about took up the cry.

After the race "Bumps" were recorded upon race cards, incidents and chances discussed. Ladies descended from the barges to stroll about the pleasant paths of Christ Church meadows, where the chestnuts, the lilac, the laburnum and the may, both red and white, were in full bloom.

The grey spires of Oxford stood out against the pale blue sky, and often the air was shaken with the sweet sound of bells. After all, the Christ Church boat remained head of the river, and the "Cox," according to custom, flourished proudly with an enormous blue and white posy, causing the defeated Magdalen lilies to hang their diminished heads. Also, according to custom, all Christ Church men worth their salt, flung themselves into the river and swam across, to demonstrate their satisfaction before hastening to prepare themselves for the crowning Event of the week, the Bump Supper, and "Rag" to follow. The Bump Supper may be weighed down by many speeches, but the "Rag" is certain to be delightfully destructive, to include the burning of College furniture, and the breaking of windows.

Meanwhile Christ Church is at its best, as the light fades fast over its broad green meadows, and a thin mist from the river makes dim and beautiful the line of its buildings. Evening increases the glamour of Oxford tenfold. Tom Quad becomes wide and mysterious, empty, but for an occasional dark fleeting; silent, but for an echoing footfall now and again upon its cloisters' stones.

Peckwater Quad is full of flowers, for the window boxes have been freshly filled for *Eights Week*. The windows show a light here and there, and sounds of revelry are to be heard. A dinner party collecting in somebody's rooms, or a gramaphone. Once outside the gates, the "High" presents a scene of some animation. It seems full of bicycles, jingling hansoms and motors; of boys riding, boys running bare headed, with books under their arms, and hastily donned gowns. Near St. Mary's Church a proctor is prowling about maliciously. The shop windows are lighted up. There are bookshops with their seductive rows of volumes, some dressed in lovely calf or leather, some set open to afford a glimpse of the delights within. There are shop windows which mirror the undergraduate taste of the moment; which display green dressing gowns with purple spots, "Rose du Bari" and "nattier blue" socks and notably, as quite the latest thing, orange silk handkerchiefs, decorated with mauve elephants.

Beside Magdalen Bridge the willows dip into the slow moving water. From here may be seen one of the colleges for women students, St. Hilda's Hall. Very quiet, very self-contained, set in a beautiful old garden. The flower scents float across the water. A girl is sitting on the river wall, a large book upon her knee and her finger between the leaves. She wears glasses, and her hair is a little untidy. Women students take themselves too seriously. People pass continually to and fro upon the bridge, just as they did when Shelley was an undergraduate at Oxford. It was here that Shelley once met a woman with a two months' old baby in her arms. Shelley seized the child, much to the horror of the mother, who made sure that he intended to fling it over the parapet of the bridge, into the water. But Shelley gazed eagerly into the child's face. "Madam," he said at last "what can your baby tell us about a former existence?" "Good gracious, Sir," said the bewildered woman, "he can't talk at all, he's only two months old." "Oh," said Shelley, much disappointed, "and he needs must know so much," and he returned the baby to its mother.

Its Chancellor, Lord Curzon, has schemes for the reform of the university. Agitators of all kinds seize upon its imperfections, and hold its antiquated methods up to scorn. Budding labour members from Ruskin College go scowling through the streets, Rhodes Scholars and Women Students surprise its venerable halls. These things have not affected the charm of Oxford a whit. With its lawns and its grey stones, its gardens, its pomps and ceremonies, its black and scarlet gowns, its soft blue atmosphere and its sweet bells it continues to exercise its old unique fascination. As the admiring American visitor justly remarked. "Oxford is chock a block with refinement."

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg Tuesday, June 8, 1909.

The Duma was turned into a bear garden on Saturday, under circumstances which seriously raise the question whether the clergy are not out of their proper sphere as members of a representative assembly. The cause of the "disgraceful row which surpassed anything of the kind to be seen in any pothouse in the slums" (for the sufficient reason that the police would quickly nip in the bud any growing excitement in such places) was, as usual, the utter inability of the Rights to understand what is meant by "respect for the chair," and the immediate occasion was some unhappy expression in a speech by Bishop Eulogius on the religious strife in Poland. The Bishop used a vulgar proverb in reference to the alleged proselytism of the Roman Catholics, to the effect that "the cat knows very well whose dinner she has stolen," and the vice-president, Baron Meyendorf, mildly requested the Bishop to avoid provocative language. Bishop Eulogius is a pillar of the Rights, and they immediately raised a storm of abuse against the acting president, the language used getting so foul that the shorthand girls fled in dismay. The opposition, getting equally excited, hurled back epithets upon the unseemly conduct of the Rights The chair was entirely unsupported during the din, and the only thing left to be done was to bring the sitting to an end, which Baron Meyendorf did by leaving the chair. The row continued to increase and very nearly ended in fisticuffs: the public galleries were first cleared, then even the journalists were requested to vacate their places, and at last the lights were turned out: still the din grew in the semi darkness, and how it all ended no man clearly understands. The Duma sat on Sunday to make up for its bad conduct, and the President, M. Khomiakov, spoke impressively on the subject, but gave offence by avoiding any singling out either of individuals or parties in his general rebuke Signed protests against Khomiakov followed! The Rights issued a signed protest against any interference with a Bishop by a "German," or as they said during the row, by "a Lutheran polony," the fact being that Meyendorf is of the Russian Orthodox Faith Altogether the Duma behaved like a schoolboys' debating society, both during the unseemly row and in the childish protests made afterwards. The Rights, those "revolutionaries of the Right," as M. Khomiakov called them to the Emperor, are a mere handful in the Duma, and if the rest of the members had any respect for the chair could do little harm inside the walls of the Duma, whatever may be their power outside as leaders of the influentially supported Black Gang.

M. Lopukhin's appeal against the verdict of 5 years' penal servitude in exile to Siberia, passed against him by a specially constituted court, has been upheld by the Court of Cassation, which reduced the sentence to one of "exile to residence in Siberia" with the consequences entailed thereby, but passed a resolution to submit the whole case to the Emperor. This shuffling off of responsibility upon the unfortunate monarch is a regrettable relic of the old régime, but in the present case it is supposed to mean an appeal for mercy. The consequence of the sentence now confirmed are that M. Lopukhin ceases to have any of the rights of a man except the right to breathe the air of Siberia and remain alive as best he can. His wife will share his exile, but she has the right in law to divorce him; he is no longer a "noble;" he can never again hold any municipal or other public office: nor even have a vote for the smallest of local affairs: his signature is worthless, he can never again become trustee, arbitrator, witness to legal documents, or even a schoolmaster—he no longer belongs to the body politic of Russia in any other capacity than as an individual who breathes and eats and presumably sleeps. If the Emperor "pardons" him, he will not go into exile, but his disabilities will remain in full force: to reinstate him in the place of even the humblest of Russians the Emperor must give an "act of oblivion" which has not been done before except to prominent members of the Black Gang.

There is a growing feeling—information on such points as the future movements of the Emperor is unobtainable from official circles in Russia—that there will be no visit to England this year. It is believed that the Emperor will leave England till next year when also the prolonged voyage in the Mediterranean is to be taken. Various reasons are given for this. One is the growing dissatisfaction in influential circles with the practical working of the Anglo-Russian Convention, which the Powers of Germanism have never failed to attempt to undermine from the outset. Much is made of the utterances of the British Press on the subject of the proposed visit to England. It is remarked that while certain organs exhaust themselves in extravagant articles against the Emperor of Russia, those which should naturally serve as a counter blast to these utterances remain obstinately silent; moreover all the abuse of Russia comes from one or other, or several, of the parties which put the present British Government in power. Under ordinary circumstances, Russians believe the Conservative Press of England would not be backward in exposing or contradicting the other side, and their silence is therefore taken for a consent qualified only by considerations which have nothing to do with their feelings toward Russia. Another mistake is being made in the loudly trumpeted visit to London of some members of the Duma. *Mutatis mutandis*, it is every whit as absurd to suppose that rough places may be smoothed by a friendly reception of some members of the Duma in England as it was of Nicholas I. to suppose that war might be averted by giving audience to representative Quakers half a century ago. The Emperor will probably postpone his visit to England: in any case it is useless to speak of any programme until after the interview with the Kaiser in Finnish waters.

The Neva ship-building yards have launched two steel vessels of the ice breaker type, specially constructed to explore the Arctic coasts of northern Russia. These are the first ships of steel which will test the possibility of wintering amid the arctic ice.

The magnificent network of canals which connects St. Petersburg with the Volga, the work of past ages, is to be brought up to date by extensive dredging operations. The present depth to the main canal is adapted only for vessels drawing five feet of water: when the dredging is completed vessels drawing seven feet will be able to ply between the Volga and the Baltic. A special fleet of tugs has been ordered for this service. Of the sixty steam-tugs ordered, a large proportion go to the Yarrow Shipbuilding Co., while the rest of the order is distributed among Sweden, Holland and Germany.

Vitriol throwing is not a common crime in Russia, but a singular case occurred here two days ago. The wife of a Russian Major-General lay in wait for the wife of a noted merchant and destroyed the sight of one eye besides ruining one side of her rival's face. She also did

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considerable injury to her own beauty in the handling of the stuff. There was a still more regrettable case last year on the Nevsky, where an abandoned mistress met a bride as the newly-married pair left the Polish Church and took her revenge with fiendish cruelty.

The best of the magnificent decorations of the square and houses on the occasion of the unveiling of the Monument to Alexander III. were cleverly stolen after the ceremony by a couple of men who represented themselves to be in the service of the contractor. When the latter came next morning to remove his materials he found only bare poles and wooden framework!

A great sturgeon (*Acipenser huso*) taken in the Caspian last week weighed a ton and a half and yielded over three and a half hundredweight of caviare, worth on the spot about two hundred pounds sterling.

The cholera has shown a sudden recrudescence of an alarming nature in St. Petersburg. After ten days without a new case, and when only two cases were left in hospital, suddenly came a score of cases, some deaths, and now the number in hospital is again twenty.

St. Petersburg, Thursday, June 10.

The all-engrossing subject of the day is the interpellation so long awaited on the doings of the Black Gang, whose representatives in the Duma are the "revolutionaries of the Right," the best known names being Purishkevich, the Duma's privileged "buffoon," Zamislovsky, the Secretary of the Duma, who distinguished himself by using his official position to draw pay as member during the Christmas recess when this was irregular, and Markov, the hero of the funny duel with the late member Pergament. These leaders are supported by the Right, and the majority of the Moderate Rights, both of which parties consider themselves the upholders of order and that ultra-loyal attitude to the throne which finds expression in such curious ways and at such inopportune times both in the Duma and outside it.

The Black Gang has been an eyesore to all patriotic Russians for at least three years past. It was called into existence during the unhappy war with Japan, when the nation, unknowing what the war was about, showed a marked absence of sympathy with the authorities. In order to secure some popular shouting in favour of the war, men were hired at so much a head and unlimited vodka to parade the streets and shout as ordered, the results being told to the Emperor as outbursts of spontaneous loyalty. These processions were led by police officials in mufti, and of course quickly distinguished themselves by acts of hooliganism (the word hooliganism was lifted bodily from English to describe their proceedings in the streets). When the "revolution" began, the police continued their relations with these "hooligans," who were encouraged to "smash the students and all the *intelligentia*." They arose by means of the political police into quite an important body, not by their numbers, which are believed never to have exceeded a few thousands among the many millions of Russians, but by the high protection they always enjoyed. Whenever they had contrived to bring off an exceptionally atrocious piece of work, a pogrom or an assassination, their leaders sent round to a hundred centres all over Russia the text of a "loyal" telegram to the Emperor, which was then, by order, wired to St. Petersburg, and immediately brought under the Imperial notice. In the then condition of affairs such a move generally sufficed to save the backers of criminal deeds and the perpetrators themselves, from the punishment assigned to their acts by the law of the land. It grew to be thought an impossibility that any judge should dare to bring to justice for murder or subornation of murder any member of the Black Gang at the moment when the society had just received the Imperial thanks for some speciously "loyal" address. That time has gone by, and the Duma has passed, on the motion of the Constitutional Democrats ("Cadets"), an interpellation to the Minister of Justice, referring specially to the assassinations of the member of the first Duma, Herzenstein, in Finland, and the member of the second Duma, Jollos, in Moscow, not to mention countless other charges of a hardly less heinous kind. The interpellation comes at the fag end of the session, and the Minister of Justice will not reply for some months to come in the ordinary course of things.

The moderates in the Duma and in the press are disposed to reprehend the raising of this question of the Black Gang at the present juncture. But the powerful chiefs of this organisation, who have influence enough to stop the ordinary process of law and paralyse all efforts to bring assassins to justice, always take advantage of the Duma recess to wake their following to new life and it is feared that the Black Gang may gain a new lease of life if not scotched before the Duma rises.

Now that the country has spoken out plainly upon the question, it is unlikely that the real leaders will be too conspicuously active for a while, though, of course, it is too much to hope that all the evidence produced by the Duma in support of their interpellation will make any real difference in the course of justice. The Finnish Courts have been unable for three years past to get the Russian police to deliver up the assassins to the law, in the case of Herzenstein, and as to the murder of Jollos, the assassin fled abroad after murdering the agent provocateur who induced him, by false information and threats, to kill an innocent member of the Duma because he was a Jew.

It would be useless to reproduce the powerful speeches made by the opposition in the Duma on this occasion: suffice it to say that it was declared that the old regime had been reduced to maintaining itself in power by suborning assassination on the one hand, and manipulating bogus plots through Azeff and others of his kind, on the other hand. The fact that so much was said, and so frankly, is a most promising sign of the times. It is by throwing light into dark places, even if the light be sometimes a little highly coloured, that the Duma is doing its best work: legislation for the realization of reforms so far only accepted in principle as a goal to work towards some happy day, will follow later on—perhaps in the fourth, fifth, maybe only in the tenth Duma.

Among the reforms in the Russian Army is the order just issued that Artillery will no longer carry the useless sword, but be armed with the cavalry rifle or revolver according to rank, the N.C.O.'s bearing the former and the privates the latter weapon, while both alike will also carry the curved dagger peculiar to the Caucasus auxiliaries. The Horse-Artillery, however, will still carry swords, but of the ordinary cavalry pattern.

The criticism on the unfortunate monument to the late Emperor grows daily: so far as I can discover the sculptor's attempt to produce an effect of massivity has not been appreciated in any circles, and I hear that there was some outspoken disapproval expressed in very august circles on the way home again after the ceremony of unveiling. The artist has caused to be published a sketch of his design for the immediate surroundings of the statue, which show that it was intended to be placed on about an acre of ground of a gradually sloping shape, and of considerable height. But even the sketch fails to disguise the solid properties of either horse or rider. Is Russia going to pay for the loss of the autocracy by a decline in the arts, which, history has always proved, flourish best under the patronage of irresponsible power, whether that of a despot or of a Church?

Besides the suddenly increased number of cholera cases, it turns out that there are a still greater number of persons brought to the hospitals every day with suspicious symptoms, and these persons do not necessarily appear in the returns. There are now 34 cholera cases in hospital and the deaths are increasing. The already closed special hospital barracks have been in some cases reopened, an evident sign that worse is anticipated. The outbreak is attributed to the river population who, with the opening of navigation, swarm upon the Neva, living in circumstances which are indescribable, and entirely untouched by any sanitary laws in practice. Measures are being taken to bring this irresponsible population under some sort of supervision, but no official measures in the world can prevent the river-folk from drinking the undiluted and unfiltered Neva water, which they themselves assist to poison.

The Russo-English Chamber of Commerce has organised yet another department, that of Agriculture, which will deal specially with all the manifold questions arising out of the growing of bread-stuffs and—an even more complicated matter—the trading in grain.

Two St. Petersburg newspapers have been fined thirty pounds sterling a piece for making reference to the forthcoming journey abroad of the Emperor. It is officially allowed that there will be a visit to England, but doubts still exist regarding the visit to Italy this year.

The "Catholikos" of the Armenians is at present in St. Petersburg, his visit being connected, it is believed, with recent events in Turkey and Asia Minor.

St. Petersburg, Saturday, June 12, 1909.

The Imperial Press Conference in London receives the warm approval of Russia, which sees in the union of Greater Britain the most important factor in the world's history to-day for the peace of the future. "If England," says the *Novoe Vremia*, "notwithstanding the vacillation in her colonial policy of the past has risen to that height of power at which which she stands to-day, are we not right to ask ourselves what radiant future awaits her now that she is drawing tighter the ties of blood and friendship with all those millions of Englishmen who are scattered here and there about the globe, but always in compact masses, patriots and Englishmen? England has always been a powerful factor in international politics: her present policy will make her stronger than ever before."

The telling speeches uttered by leaders of thought at the Conference have been reproduced at considerable length in Russia, and their tone is welcomed, for Russia looks forward hopefully to the dawn of a firm alliance with the great sea-power.

It is a little difficult to see precisely why a few members of the Duma should make a visit to London just now, but the invitation sent by a group of Members of Parliament has been pressed most perseveringly and some of Russia's leading public men have been unable to withstand the pressure put upon them. The visit is approved, more or less, in all quarters, once the matter was raised, but serious doubts are still felt about the advisability of projecting any such visit until there should be more apparent justification for it. It must, however, be quite clearly understood from the outset that there is nothing whatever official about the visit: the Duma has nothing whatever to do with it, and all who go will do so only in a private capacity. The President of the Duma, Mr. Khomiakov, long held out against going on this visit but other leaders made their going conditional upon his own, and it having been duly ascertained that there would be no objection in the highest spheres, and that everything would be done to prevent the visit assuming anything like an official aspect, Mr. Khomiakov gave way. If any good is to come of the visit, from the Russian point of view, English well-wishers would be wise to avoid any references to the internal state of Russia or the strife of parties. The Russian visitors have solemnly agreed together to eschew politics altogether and travel as private citizens. It is to be hoped they will not be too much pressed to leave the path of safety while in free-spoken England.

The Duma finished with the Budget finally last night, when the estimates for the current year 1909 were done with. By reducing here and there, the anticipated deficit of sixteen millions sterling has been brought down to thirteen and a half millions sterling, and an intimation has been made that in future the Budget Committee of the Duma will look much closely than on this occasion into certain curious items under such headings as "conditional votes."

Ominous reports are coming in from various agricutural centres as to the harvest prospects. I understand that in the bulk the harvest is not expected to be a bad one, but from certain not unimportant grain growing regions the news is

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unpromising. Owing to the very late spring, crops which at this time should be six inches or more above ground are not yet even visible, and in some cases have undoubtedly perished altogether owing to unseasonable frosts after the disappearance of the snow. Russia is so vast, and her grain-growing regions so widely dispersed that it is unsafe to generalise even from the worst news, but for the population of the affected regions the question is a serious one, owing to inadequate traffic facilities all over Russia.

The recrudescence of cholera in Petersburg has shown that practically nothing has been done by the municipality to better the sanitation of the city. The water-supply is still drawn direct from the Neva, in some cases the intake is down stream from the outflow of the sewage, and in no case is the attempt at filtration anything more than an unscientific pretence. Moreover, now that it has become necessary to expend large quantities of water on laying the dust in the streets, a considerable proportion of unfiltered Neva-water is deliberately poured through the mains which are supposed to supply filtered water. The river and the numerous canals are covered with barges and boats, each with a little population of its own living entirely on the water. Around the main intake of the water-supply a large number of barges have a prescriptive right to stand at anchor, and they are enforcing it against all the laws of sanitary caution or even ordinary common sense. But perhaps the most extraordinary detail that has come to light is the fact that several of the cholera-hospitals discharge their refuse unsterilised direct into the common drains, and so into the Neva! One such has been closed by the municipality when it was proved to them that the drains of the hospital were simply carrying the deadly vibriors broadcast. Yet the deaths for the past ten days do not exceed three *per diem*, though it is noticeable that the recoveries are decreasing, and a new category of "suspects" has been introduced into the returns. The hot weather is upon us and St. Petersburg is feeling uncomfortable once more.

Interesting archaeological discoveries have been made in the Russian Far East. Sixty miles above Nikolaevsk on the Amur River, exist considerable remains of an ancient Chinese town of importance which tradition says was destroyed by the Manchus in the sixteenth century. Old coins, pottery and bronze vessels are continually turned up, and an attempt is to be made by a local archaeological society to thoroughly investigate the site. It is not impossible that Chinese towns destroyed so long ago may contain treasures of learning for the Western world, part of the booty of those ancient hordes that overran the civilisation of the West and carried away so much of its spoils without understanding their value.

Heavy storms of rain have occurred in several parts of central Russia, causing much damage. Moscow city was several feet under water for some hours in the lower levels, and tramways and electric lighting were temporarily stopped. In some cases the pressure of water was so great as to force in the plate-glass shop-fronts. Atmospherically the current year, in Russia at any rate, appears to be abnormal, and, as usual, the common people are already noting the meaning of these "signs and wonders": the prevalent interpretation is that another "hunger-year" is at hand.

Among the new taxes imposed with the assent of the Duma is one on tobacco—the lower qualities pay now much more in proportion to the impost on the higher qualities—and on cigarette papers. The last is a peculiarly vexatious tax, as it compels the dealer to stick a revenue stamp band upon every packet of papers, the result being an increase of twenty-five per cent. to the buyer. It is rumoured that the Ministry of Commerce contemplates raising the duties on agricultural machinery, or imposing duties where these have recently been remitted. The opinion of influential agricultural societies has been strongly expressed against any such change in the price of the most necessary implements of labour to all Russia.

A supplement to the next number of the R.N. will deal with the forthcoming visit to England of noteworthy Russians. For this number the President of the Duma, M. Khomiakov, has kindly promised to give a special signed interview dealing with the results of the past Session of the Duma and the general situation of constitutionalism in Russia after eighteen months' parliamentary work.

COST OF EDUCATION AND COST OF WAR.

When the Turkish soldiers in Asia Minor sack and burn the schools, we are all horrified at their sad lack of civilization, but a French writer comes forward to remind us just at this time that the so-called civilized nations are robbing the schools to support their soldiers, which comes to about the same thing. If a man spent five times as much for guns as for his children's schooling he would be considered a lunatic or a desperado, yet it appears that is precisely what the Powers of Europe are doing. The Paris review, *Mon Dimanche*, says:

"France spends about five times as much on her Army as she does on the intellectual training of her children. Germany gives to educational purposes one-third of the amount she devotes to military purposes. In Austria and Russia the proportion between school and caserne expenditure is as two to nine. Italy spends upon her Army nine times as much as she devotes to public education. Belgium is exemplary in that her military and education budget stand as eight to four. The only exception to this rule of oriority in military expenditure is Switzerland, which devotes twice as much to the education of her children as she lays out on the purchase of powder and shot and the pay of her defenders."
—*Literary Digest.*

VANCOUVER AND SEATTLE.

THEIR RESPECTIVE MERITS AS PORTS.

Discussing the respective merits of Vancouver and Seattle for big ocean going vessels, Mr. J. J. Hill remarked to the representative of a Seattle paper that "Vancouver possesses many advantages under the British flag which American ships do not enjoy. Nevertheless the terminal of the Great Northern steamers will not be at Vancouver. How could the *Minnesota*, for example, run up False Creek, Vancouver? And even if it did, how could it get out of it? We are making big improvements at Vancouver, but what advantages these terminals give us remain for the future to determine, not for to day. It is traffic that places a value on such properties, not a mere announcement. We are seriously handicapped on account of the competition resulting from labour with which we cannot compete, yet I believe that Seattle will remain the home port of the *Minnesota*. Of course, we would like to see heavier transpacific shipments than we enjoy at present, for our heaviest shipments are cotton, which does not offer a continuous haul, rather coming in brief season, which requires special, not regular traffic."

THE WONDERS OF DENTISTRY.

According to a Chicago despatch to the San Francisco *Chronicle*, the child with poor teeth will become the murderer, burglar or detective of the future.

"The embryo criminal may be changed into a preacher or great civic teacher by a simple dental operation. The teeth of children charged with crime should be examined by an expert, and if found defective they should be put in first-class order by the State."

So declared Dr. Henry J. Jaulusz, a dentist of Pittsburg, now in Chicago for the purpose of studying the teeth of youthful offenders at Bridewell and the deficient children of schools. Dr. Jaulusz says he can look at the teeth of a child and tell instantly what his criminal tendencies are, if any exist. He further makes this remarkable declaration:—

After numerous tests I am convinced that it is more important to look after a child's teeth than to send him to Sunday-school or a reformatory.

Controversalists on the subject of Sunday school entertainment will doubtless take note of the worthy doctor's concluding dictum.

THE S.S. "MINNESOTA."

BREAKS A PROPELLER BUT KEEPS SCHEDULE TIME.

When the Great Northern Steamship Company's big liner *Minnesota*, Capt. Charles Austin, steamed into her berth at Smith Cove wharf, at an early hour yesterday morning, says the Seattle *Post* of June 6th, she had completed her eighteenth round trip voyage between Seattle and the Orient, and a passage that will be recalled in marine circles as one of the memorable incidents of Pacific marine history. Covering 1,700 miles, or nearly one-half the distance from Yokohama, Japan, with but a single propeller, the vessel was brought in less than three hours behind her schedule, and with a large and happy passenger list. Confirming wireless messages that had preceded the steamer's arrival, the damage that it was feared might result in some delay consisted alone of the broken port tail shaft. The big propeller was supported from the after rail by big anchor cables, showing how great was the obstacle against which the vessel had to contend. Marine Superintendent Lacey had not completed plans for docking the ship for repairs, owing to inability to secure a definite date for the use of the government dock at the navy yard, Puget sound. It it expected that such plans will soon be arranged and the work completed to permit the *Minnesota's* sailing on her regular schedule dale, June 19 No explanation of the breaking of the tailshaft could be given yesterday, nor will one be attempted until the steamer has been dry docked and an examination made. Persons familiar with the obstacles overcome by Capt. Austin and his engineers in bringing the liner in approximately on time consider the accomplishment most remarkable. The break occurred at 4.40 o'clock on the morning of May 29, seven days out from Yokohama, and a speed had been maintained that promised to bring the *Minnesota* into port two days ahead of her schedule. So quickly was the situation handled by the engine room officers that the engines were cut off from the useless propeller shaft and the big screw made fast with chains before any of the passengers were aware that an accident had happened. Officers of the *Minnesota* describe the voyage, outside the accident to the machinery, as one of the most satisfactory in the history of the big liner.

YACHTING.

The usual races of the Yokohama Yacht Club were held on June 26, though not under very favourable conditions of wind or weather. The light south-easterly breeze which prevailed in the earlier part of the day failed as the afternoon wore on, and rain fell more or less continuously from three o'clock onwards.

Five of the larger vessels sailed over the Widow Buoy course of 9 4 miles, *Mary* winning easily from *Maid Marion*, *Naniwa* and *Asagao* a long way behind. *Cygnet* gave up quite early in the race.

Eight 22-raters—*Edna*, *Pele*, *Winsome*, *Sunbeam*, *Valkyrien*, *Elsa*, *Windspiel* and *Kathleen*—sailed over the Mandarin Bluff Lightship Course of 5 9 miles. *Winsome* kept the lead from start to finish, *Elsa* and *Pele* finishing second and third.

As many as twelve of the Lark Class started, but only half of the number finished—No. 7, sailed by Mr. N. Brockhurst, first; No. 12, second; No 14, third.

THE O.S.K. OBJECTS TO PAY.

On June 29, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha appealed for the setting aside of an execution levied on certain of its property under a judgment obtained against it by Mr. E. Appenzeller and four others, residing at Lancaster, Pa., U.S.A. It appears that the parties named sued the O.S.K. for compensation for the death of their father, who was drowned in June, 1902, when the *Kumagawa Maru* collided with the *Kiso Maru*. After three trials, in the local court, the Court of Appeal, and the Supreme Court, judgment was finally rendered in favour of the plaintiffs, who were awarded *yen* 40,000 damages. Certain movable property of the O.S.K. was thereupon attached and the object of the present suit is to nullify such attachment.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

ADMIRAL LAMBTON AND THE NAVAL AGITATION.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The honour of the Admiral approved by the King to command the British Fleet in the China Seas cannot be a matter of indifference to His Most Gracious Majesty's loyal subjects residing in the Far East. Therefore I trust you will be able to find space to publish the subjoined Memorandum, which I have felt it my duty to issue.

Your obedient servant,
H. LAMBTON.

Memorandum.

To the Commodore, the respective Captains, and all concerned on the China Station.

I have the honour to draw the attention of the Captains, Officers and Ships' Companies to the following question and answer in the House of Commons on May 11th, which enabled the Admiralty to accede promptly, justly, and honourably to my telegraphic request of May 7th that my honour should be publicly vindicated:—

"Mr. Brooke (L., Tower Hamlets, Bow and Bromley) asked the First Lord of the Admiralty whether, having regard to the statements alleged to have been quoted from a private letter of three years ago to the First Sea Lord, the Admiralty have ever regarded Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton as an agitator in the Naval Service."

"Mr. McKenna replied that the Admiralty have never regarded Admiral Lambton as an agitator. His record is most distinguished, and the high appreciation in which his services, both in peace and war, have been held by successive Boards is shown by his rapid advancement and long succession of important appointments. No statement in the private letter can be reasonably interpreted as an allegation that Admiral Lambton was an agitator."

The *Times* newspaper reported Sir George Armstrong's speech concerning Capital Bacon's letter to Sir John Fisher containing the offensive phrase I objected to, viz:—"Service agitation headed by Lord Charles Beresford and Admiral Lambton," and also published Mr. McKenna's explanations in the House of Commons on the subject, but for reasons best known to itself, although the matter is of great interest to all those who cherish respect for the time honoured traditions of the Navy, has ommitted the above vindication of myself by the Admiralty.

This unfortunate omission on the part of the *Times*, to which journal many people trust for their Parliamentary Intelligence, necessitates my issuing this Memorandum, which is to remain on the notice board of each vessel in the China Fleet for one week after receipt on board.

Hedworth Lambton,
Vice-Admiral and Commander-in-Chief.

"King Alfred," at Wei-hai-wei,
19th June, 1909.

EDUCATIONAL ESTABLISHMENTS IN YOKOHAMA.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The subject of secular education for the youth of Yokohama having now been broached by Mr. Clarence Griffin in his offensive tirade on the Roman Catholic Mission, I should like to comment further.

"The lack of good secular educational facilities has led to people being forced to place their children in a school conducted by the Roman Catholic Mission, the children being confided to their care, often with the expressed stipulation that no *anti-Christian* influences shall be exercised over them." This *anti-Christian* influence has been shown to be a myth of an over-imaginative brain, and might well be buried in oblivion, but for the fact of this same Sunday School gentleman's own conduct at the time of the proposed plans for the building of the new Union Church. All may not know what I mean or refer to, but those that do will recollect the very un-Christian-like spirit, and the consequent bad example to the children of this Community, displayed by him on that occasion, culminating in his wishing to resign his post as a Sunday School teacher. It would have been well for Mr. Griffin to have opened his Bible before throwing stones at the Roman Catholic Mission and read over that passage where the Pharisees of old wishing to have Mary Magdalene stoned, Jesus said unto them: "Let him that is without sin cast the first stone."

Walking over the Bluff one is struck by the imposing and substantial structures at No. 178, 212 and elsewhere in the vicinity (No. 34 is offered for sale as nothing doing,) which are said to be devoted to the education of youth. These are very large establishments, they have their quota of teachers—missionaries to be sure—but are they teachers in the true sense of the word? Mr. Griffin says, they are not, and children cannot be sent to them to be educated. What then are these large buildings used for and what are so many missionaries of both sexes housed for? It would be interesting to know, perhaps as Mr. Ballagh says—it would be "a marvel" of revelations. What are all these missionaries doing? It is a well-known and accepted fact that a great many (not all) of the missionaries out in these parts are out here simply because it is the "softest job" they could find, and not because they have the qualifications for the work that they pretend to undertake. They are far and away better off out here than they would or could ever be at home. They are well housed, well fed, have their retinue of servants, and many other things that members of their congregation have to sweat hard day after day to try and have. They are solely following the teaching of Christ in their own fashion. "Leave all things and follow me." They leave all things they don't relish, and do not follow the spirit of the Bible. If they did, would they accumulate the wealth they do? Would Mr. Ballagh be as wealthy as he is reputed to be? Would he own so much land and so many houses on the Bluff and elsewhere? Might not the Japanese Government be asked to take away his perpetual leases because he is not fulfilling the duties of a real missionary? Is this following the teaching of Christ, "Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth where the rust and moth doth corrupt." Would the missionaries have the wherewithal to pass the summer months up in the health resorts of Japan, to say nothing of the money expended on trips home, if they were true followers of Christ, teaching the faithful both by word and example? Is this leaving all to follow the Master? In one sense it is. They leave their flock behind to swelter in the burning heat of the summer, they leave the sick and poor and needy to care for themselves, they even "leave the dead to bury the dead," as it has been known on more than one occasion that a member of their flock has died and it has been found necessary to send up into the pleasure resorts of Japan to fetch the missionary down to attend the last sacred rites. Why should these dolce-far-niente followers of Christ leave the heat of the town and bask in the freshness of the mountains and seaside? What is the strenuous nature of their work that calls for such respite and relaxation? Perhaps they will answer me from the Bible while sitting on a mountain at Karuizawa or elsewhere, "Lord, it is good for us to be here, let us build three tabernacles." Is this showing a Christian spirit, deserting their Churches and their God for their own enjoyment and pastime? Do the Roman Catholic missionaries rest in this fashion? Have not these missionaries six days in the week to rest, to say nothing of the sacred seventh, as Mr. Ballagh styles it, without fleeing from the town as from the pest. Truly again in the words of Mr. Ballagh, it is "a marvel." Mr. Ballagh says he was "stirred." It looks as if stirring were necessary in the atmosphere in which he moves.

But I am straying from my subject, secular educational establishments in Yokohama. Might not the Board of Missions at home send out a real live inspector to look over these parts and see for themselves how well housed, fed and cared for these *poor* missionaries are? to see the extreme poverty in which they live! to see the struggling missions that are so much in need of funds to help build churches and schools! to see the so-called uneducated heathen being educated by parties whose own education is so sadly lacking, whose knowledge of their own language and grammar leaves so much to be desired. Perhaps then the Board of Missions would utilise all this wasted money in paying the salaries of able teachers, who would by their untiring zeal and devotion show cause why they required such large establishments, to accommodate the children who would flock to them to be educated in a thorough up-to-date manner, as only now the Roman Catholic Mission is acknowledged to be doing. The Roman Catholic Mission too has large and fine buildings and properties, but the money received is devoted to these same institutions and not to private hoarding by any of the individual members of the Mission.

Yours faithfully, G. CLIFFORD HADDEN.

MR. CLARENCE GRIFFIN'S LETTER *RE* THE SUNDAY ENTERTAINMENT AT THE ROMAN CATHOLIC SCHOOL.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—

"Alas! for the rarity
Of Christian charity
Under the sun!"

sang poor Tom Hood in the first half of the 19th century, and truly his words appear to fit as well utterances of some in the first half of the 20th!

We are all aware that if the votaries of the Roman Catholic religion conform to, and perform, their religious duties on Sunday morning according to the tenets of their Church, they are free to devote the rest of the day to innocent amusement.

Therefore the parents of children attending their schools are fully cognisant of this, and are consequently under no obligation to make use of a Roman Catholic educational institution to suit their own convenience, if they disapprove of their rules and practices; far less have they any right to dictate to, or threaten them with "*open hostility*," an expression I quote from Mr. C. Griffin's letter, the whole tone of which is not only highly unbecoming to him as an individual member of the community, but totally at variance with the creed of a true Christian, no matter of what denomination.

I am not a Roman Catholic, nor have I any child at their schools, but I witnessed their first entertainment, and in the performance of innocent little children and sweet young girls, I saw and heard nothing which might not be said or done on a Sunday as well as on a Monday. Indeed, it was more edifying than many sermons worshippers are condemned to endure from the pulpit *nolens volens*. One item especially, sung in lisping tones by very young children entitled *Watching for Pa* evoked such a genuine encore from the adults present as proved it had gone straight to their hearts, which is more than can be said of many of the perfunctory hymns of an ordinary Church service.

The well known author and lecturer, Max O'Rell, relates in one of his books an anecdote which appears to fit the subject admirably, and apologising for its length, I recommend it to the attention of Mr. Clarence Griffin.

Max O'Rell had been lecturing on the Scotch in a New Zealand town, and after the lecture was retiring to bed at his hotel, when the card of a Presbyterian minister was brought to him, with an urgent request for an immediate interview. He was admitted with an apology for the lecturer's undress. I will continue the story in the author's own words. "There is nothing the matter with your dress," said my visitor; "this is not an affair of the body, but of the soul. I have come to pray for you: allow me to kneel!" I was taken a little by surprise, and felt a trifle discountenanced, but I quickly regained composure. "Why, certainly"—I said, "with the greatest pleasure, if it can make you happy."

He knelt, put his elbows on the bed, buried his head in his hands, and began,—

"Lord, this man whom thou seeest near me is not a sinful man; he is suffering from the evil of the century; he has not been touched by Thy grace; he is a stranger, come from a country where religion is turned into ridicule. Grant that his travels through our godly lands may bring him into the narrow way that leads to everlasting life." The prayer, most of which I spare you, lasted at least ten minutes.

When he had finished, my visitor rose and held out his hand. I shook it.

"And now" said I, "allow me to pray for you in my turn." He signified consent by a movement of his head.

I did not go on my knees, but with all the fervour that is in me, I said.

"Lord, this man whom Thou seest beside me is not a sinful man. Have mercy upon him, for he is a Pharisee who doubts not for a moment, without knowing me, that he is better than I. Thou who hast sent in vain Thy Son on earth to cast out the Pharisees, let Thy grace descend upon this one; *teach him that the foremost Christian virtue is charity* (the italics are mine) and that the greatest charity is that which teaches us that we are no better than our brethren. This man is blinded by pride; convince him, open his eyes, pity him and forgive him, even as I also forgive him. Amen."

I looked at my good Presbyterian. He was rooted to the floor, amazement written on his face. I once more took his hand and shook it. "And now," said I, "we are quits. Goodnight." He went away somewhat abashed, pocketing the mild reproof as modestly as he could." . . .

Perhaps Mr. Clarence Griffin may require something stronger that the above.

If so, I recommend him to take a volume of Hood's Poems, and read therein the "Ode to Rae Wilson," which was addressed to such a "Christian" as he evidently is; and that he may profit by its perusal is the fervent wish of

Yours, etc.,
A CHRISTIAN WITHOUT A CREED.
June 23rd.

A DISCLAIMER FROM DR. MORRISON.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I ask leave to correct some of the misstatements regarding me which have been pulished by a certain section of the Japanese press on the

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occasion of my recent visit to Japan. Delay in writing is due to my having neglected to read the papers while on my journey. It is only since I returned to Peking that I have realised the extent of the misrepresentation to which I have been subjected.

Interviews have been published with me which are fictitous. Statements have been attributed to me which I never thought of uttering.

I am represented to have assured the Premier, the Marquis Katsura, that I disclaimed responsibility for certain messages sent to *The Times* from Peking regarding the Fakumen Railway and Japanese policy in Manchuria. The story is an invention. I disclaimed and disclaim no such responsibility.

It is true that on the 26th January I left Peking to be present in Shanghai during the sitting of the Opium Commission and that I was absent until the 6th of March: it is true that in my absence two messages were sent to *The Times* from Peking The longer and more important of these messages made no reference to the Fakumen Railway; the other, which dealt with Russian action in Manchuria, contained an allusion to "the steady refusal of Japan to permit China to extend her own railway system for the development of the rich regions of Mongolia and Manchuria west of the Liao River.' Both these messages were statements of fact, they were sent by my friend and colleague and I accept full responsibility for them.

I had the privilege of an interview with Count Okuma and I found him, as on previous occasions, one of the most courtly and sympathetic of men. The story of his lecturing me upon my ignorance is a fabrication.

I remain, Yours sincerely,

G. E. MORRISON.

Peking, June 17th, 1909.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

OPPOSITION TO THE BUDGET.

London, June 24.

The agitation with reference to the Budget continues unabated. A crowded non-partisan meeting has been held in the City. Mr. L. Rothschild presided, and among the prominent financiers present were Lord Avebury, Viscount Goschen, and Sir Felix Schuster, Bt. Resolutions protesting against the Government proposals were adopted.

In response to an urgent whip, 250 Liberal members of Parliament have held a Conference on the subject of the Budget, Mr. Haldane, Secretary of State for War, in the chair. An advisory committee was formed to further the passing of the Budget, and to conduct a campaign in its favour among the constituencies.

ITALY AND THE TRIPLICE.

STATEMENT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER.

Rome.—In the course of a debate in the Chamber, on the foreign estimates, Signor Tittoni contradicted as premature reports as to the renewal of the Triplice. He said the allies were animated by mutual confidence, but as to anticipating a renewal of the alliance, the question had not yet been dreamt of.

GERMAN FINANCIAL DEADLOCK.

London, June 25.

The Reichstag has rejected by 195 votes to 187 the Death Duties Bill which was the main plank of the Government's financial proposals.

[The above Bill had already been rejected, even after modification, by the Finance Committee of the Reichstag.—ED. *J.M.*]

SIR ROBERT HART.

Sir E. Grey, in reply to Mr. William Redmond, said "I understand that Sir Robert Hart has applied to China for a year's extension of leave and I have therefore no intimation to give regarding the appointment of his successor."

BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

Five new Privy Councillors have been appointed, including the Premier of Cape Colony, Mr. J. X. Merriman. Twelve new baronetcies have been created and over thirty knighthoods. The last mentioned include Mr. H. Beerbohm Tree and Mr. A. W. Pinero.

Later.

The Grand Cross of the Order of St. Michael and St. George has been conferred on Sir John Anderson, Governor of the Straits Settlements since 1904.

[Sir John received his C. M. G. in 1898 and his K. C. M. G. in 1901.—ED. *J.M.*]

The Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath, Military—has been bestowed on Sir Bindon Blood, Sir George Luck, Sir Alfred Gaselee, Sir John French and Sir G. O'Moore Creagh, V.C.

Civil.—Sir Ernest Cassel.

The following were made Companions of the order of St. Michael and St. George: Mr. Henry Conway Belfield, British Resident at Selangor, Federated Malay States; Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, Assistant Judge of H.M. Supreme Court for China and Korea at Shanghai, and Judge of H.M. High Court at Wei-hai wei; Mr. W. R. D. Beckett, H.B.M. Consul at Bangkok, Siam.

A Knight Commandership of the Bath (Civil) has been bestowed upon Sir John Jordan, H.B.M. Minister Plenipotentiary to to Peking.

SEDITIOUS GREEKS.

Later.

Constantinople.—Shevket Pasha has been interviewed by Reuter. He warns the Greeks in Turkey of the danger of the game they are playing. The Government has learned that they are importing large quantities of rifles for seditious purposes.

THE COMMONWEALTH.

LORD KITCHENER IN DEMAND.

Later.

The Commonwealth Government has intimated to the Imperial Government that it desires to obtain Lord Kitchener's services to advise concerning the organization of the Australian forces.

BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

London, June 26.

To the list of Birthday Honours the following remain to be added:—

Mr. R. S Paget, lately H.B.M.'s Minister to Siam, Knight-Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George; Chief Rabbi Adler, Commander of the Victorian Order. Mr. L. C. Hopkins, lately Consul-General at Tientsin, receives the Imperial Service Order.

OPIUM DENS IN NORTH BORNEO.

In reply to a question in the House it was stated that the Government has no cognizance of the report that the North Borneo Government asked for tenders for farming out opium dens and gambling houses. Certainly nothing of the kind had been sanctioned. It was difficult, to decide how far the Imperial Government had power to prevent such licensing in North Borneo.

THE IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCE.

The Imperial Press Conference has resumed its sittings. The Chairman announced that the Pacific Cable Company had agreed to reduce its press rate from Vancouver to Australia and New Zealand by one-half, provided the latter Governments were prepared to make concessions on their part.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FOR THE EMPIRE.

Later.

Signor Marconi, speaking at the Conference, intimated that by next August he was prepared to establish wireless telegraphy stations connecting all parts of the Empire and involving greatly reduced rates.

A NOTE OF GRAVITY.

June 27.

At the final meeting of the Press Conference, Lord Charles Beresford declared that the gravity which dominated the speeches of the statesmen at the Conference was due to the knowledge that the nation was unprepared. The colonial offers of Dreadnoughts amounted to the severest condemnation of the failure of the Imperial Authorities to provide for contingencies.

THE KING RECEIVES MEMBERS OF THE DUMA.

The King, receiving members of the Duma at Buckingham Palace, said that he followed the proceedings of the Duma with the deepest interest and that he hoped to revisit Russia at any early date.

THE FINANCIAL CRISIS IN GERMANY.

The Reichstag has adopted the tea and coffee duties.

Prince Buelow has gone to Kiel to report to the Kaiser on the political situation

An inspired statement declares that Buelow will neither resign nor dissolve the Reichstag, but will pursue a waiting policy. The *Koelnische Zeitung* describes the situation as shameful and humiliating to the Empire. The press generally demands an appeal to the country against a Conservative and Central dictatorship.

PRINCE BUELOW'S RESIGNATION.

DEFERRED BY THE KAISER.

London, June 28.

It is semi-officially admitted that Prince Buelow has asked the Kaiser to be allowed to resign. The Kaiser, however, refused to accept the resignation until Buelow's financial and labour reform schemes have evolved some positive result acceptable to the Federal Government. An inspired statement has been issued to the effect that Buelow is determined to resign immediately on the passing of his financial reform proposals.

RUSSIAN AND SWEDISH ROYALTIES.

Later.

The Tsar and Tsarina are at Stockholm. They exchanged cordial toasts with the King, emphasizing the ties of friendliness and of good relations existing between the two countries.

TRAGEDY AT STOCKHOLM.

A workman at Stockholm killed with a revolver General Beekman, of the coast artillery, and then committed suicide.

CHINA AND THE U.S.

London, June 28.

Washington.—China has yielded to the United States demand for recognition in awarding the Hankow-Szchuan loan.

"FRANCO ITALIAN BROTHERHOOD IN ARMS."

CELEBRATION OF SOLFERINO.

Paris.—The battle of Solferino was celebrated at the Sorbonne yesterday. General Picquart, who presided as representative of the Government, recalled the "unbreakable Franco-Italian brotherhood in arms." He was convinced that the future would not separate France and Italy who were sisters by race and genius.

(Solferino was one of the Emperor Napoleon III.'s victories over the Austrians in Northern Italy in the war of 1859.—ED. *J.M.*)

WELLMAN POLAR EXPEDITION.

ANOTHER SERIOUS SETBACK.

London, June 29.

Mr. Walter Wellman's balloon shed in

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Spitzbergen has been blown down in a gale. A start in 1909 is doubtful.

[This is the third year that an accident has prevented a fair trial of Mr. Wellman's plan for reaching the Pole.—ED *J.M.*]

THE STRIKE AT MARSEILLES.

The strike of naval reservists at Marseilles has terminated, and the running of the mail boats has been resumed

THE CRETAN QUESTION.

STRAINED RELATIONS BETWEEN TURKEY AND GREECE.

London, June 29.

Telegrams from Salonika say that the Turks are actively making military preparations for new eventualities in Crete. The reserves are mobilizing. The Greek troops on the frontier have been ordered to avoid collision with the Turks. The Grand Vizier interviewed at Constantinople said that no possible sum of money could buy Crete from Turkey.

THE STATE OF THE HOME FLEET.

RESULT OF THE ENQUIRY.

London, June 29.

The *Daily Mail* understands that the finding of the investigation committee appointed by the Government to enquire into the preparedness of the Home Fleet entirely justifies the Admiralty.

[The question arose out of a statement made by Lord C. Beresford on April 23rd, and the matter was referred to a sub-council of the Imperial Defence Committee, with the result above stated. —ED. *J.M.*]

It is doubtful whether the report will be published.

PRINCE BUELOW.

It is expected in Berlin that Prince Buelow will resign within a fortnight.

THE PORTE'S WARNING TO THE POWERS.

London, June 30.

The Porte has instructed its ambassadors to inform the Powers that it has never ceased to protest against the concessions made to the Cretans under existing arrangements. It warns the Powers that it will be unable to accept any proposals recognizing Greece as having even an indirect interest in Cretan affairs.

THE LABOURITES AND THE TSAR.

PROTEST FROM M. HOMIAKOFF.

Later.

M. Homiakoff, President of the Duma and leader of the members of that body now visiting England, has publicly protested against the English Labourites' offensive denunciations of the visit of the Tsar to England. He expresses the hope that they do not represent the opinion of the English people.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE "TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

CAPITAL IN ARMS AGAINST THE BUDGET.

London, June 24.

A great meeting of representative city men, the Hon. Lionel Rothschild presiding, has condemned the Government's land taxation proposals as vicious, and has adopted a resolution to the effect that the proposed heavy Budget charges on capital and income would discourage enterprise and thrift and injure commerce. *The Times* charges the Government with endeavouring to provide machinery for an unlimited confiscation of private property.

NEW ELECTORAL LAW IN PERSIA.

London, June 25.

Teheran.—The Shah has signed a new electoral law, which will be promulgated on Friday next.

GREAT BRITAIN AND RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg.—The speeches of Premier Asquith and Ex-Premier Balfour sympathizing with the progress of Russia, which were delivered in the House of Commons on the occasion of the reception to the Russian Representatives, have caused profound gratification to the Russian people and have greatly impressed them with the depth and sincerity of British sympathy.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

Japanese and Chinese bonds are rather firmer.

GASMEN'S STRIKE AT RIO DE JANEIRO.

London, June 26.

Rio de Janeiro.—The men employed at the gasworks in this city went on strike on Wednesday last and are still idle. As a consequence, the whole city is in complete darkness.

SCAVENGERS' STRIKE AT KIEL.

Berlin.—The Scavengers at Kiel have refused to work, thus endangering public sanitation. Volunteers called out have been attacked by the strikers. Several have been wounded on both sides, there being fighting with revolvers and knives.

JAPAN AND AMERICA.

THE "GENTLEMAN'S AGREEMENT."

London, June 28.

New York.—Baron Takahira will shortly visit Tokyo with reference to the negotiations for the revision of the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation (1894). The "gentleman's agreement" by which Japan undertook to prohibit the immigration of labourers has been so faithfully carried out that the United States cannot object to granting the Japanese request for the elimination of the clause empowering the American Authorities to regulate the immigration of labourers. Since July 1908 only 2,650 Japanese, none of whom were labourers, entered the United States, while no less than 6,000 returned.

UNREST IN PERSIA.

London, June 28.

Teheran.—The British and Russian representatives have warned the Nationalist leader that his march on Teheran imperils the Nationalist cause, since the Shah has definitely re-established the Constitution. In consequence of disorders, the new governors of meshed has resigned.

PRINCE BUELOW'S RESIGNATION.

Berlin.—The Emperor's refusal to accept Prince Buelow's resignation until some financial reform acceptable to the federal government has been attained, frees the Chancellor from all suggestion that he is fighting primarily for his own hand. It lessons the personal humiliation involved in his negotiations with the Conservatives, but at the same time it clearly indicates that the Chancellor's retention of office will be only temporary.

London, June 29.

Berlin.—Despite assurances of the Imperial confidence, the chancellor announces his irrevocable determination to retire immediately the financial reforms have passed the Reichstag, because of the rejection of the Inheritance Tax. The *Times* says this is the first time in the history of Germany that the resignation of a Chancellor has been openly attributed to parliamentary defeat. The majority, however, have made it impossible for Prince Buelow to remain in office, unless he submits to their terms.

PROPOSED RUSSIAN EXHIBITION IN LONDON.

St. Petersburg.—The proposed Russian exhibition in London in 1911 is regarded as the soundest method of advancing commercial and political union and mutual trade.

INDIAN COUNCILS BILL.

PROBABLE REMOVAL OF MOHAMMEDAN OBJECTIONS.

Simla.—Daily conferences are taking place between a committee of the vice-regal council and influential Mohammedans, and it is believed that a satisfactory settlement of electoral and other questions connected with the reform scheme will shortly be arrived at.

REVOLUTIONARIES MARCHING ON TEHERAN.

London, June 30.

Teheran.—The revolutionary Bakhtiari tribesmen, accompanied by 2,000 Persians, are marching on Teheran. A panicky feeling prevails at court.

TURKEY UNPROVOCATIVE BUT FIRM.

Constantinople. — Notwithstanding the menacing language of the Greek newspapers with reference to the Cretan question, no Turkish military preparations are being carried out on the frontier, although the Government is determined to maintain its suzerainty over Crete.

"NEUE FREIE PRESSE" ON PRINCE BUELOW.

Vienna.—The *Neue Freie Presse*, hitherto a zealous suppporter of Prince Buelow, has changed its attitude and now it outspokenly criticizes the Chancellor, expatiates on his limitations and declares that his place would be easy to fill.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE)

AMERICAN COAL DUTY.

On the 23rd instant the United States Senate expunged the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives providing that if any country admitted American coal duty free, such country's coal should be similarly admitted to the United States. The Senate adopted a uniform tariff rate of 16 cents per ton. This rate is 7 cents cheaper than the existing rate as well as than the rate proposed by the House of Representatives.

SINGAPORE-JOHORE RAILWAY.

The Singapore-Johore Railway is to be opened on July 1st. This will complete the railway communication between Singapore and Penang.

U.S. TAXATION PROBLEMS.

The Corporation Bill presented to the Senate at the instance of the President of the United States provides that companies registered as juridical persons or associations formed for purposes of profit shall be taxed to the extent of 2 per cent. of their nett gains, but the tax shall not be collected in the case of companies whose nett profits do not exceed $5,000 annually. The tax indicated in this Bill is leviable upon companies registered as juridical persons under foreign law, in so far as concerns profits derived from capital invested in the United States or its possessions. Japanese companies will therefore be gravely affected. The Government expects to collect a revenue of 25 millions of dollars from the tax.

The debate in the Senate on the Tariff will commence on the 29th instant. The question of increasing the tax on tea will be brought up, but there is probably no cause for uneasiness.

THE TEA TAX IN THE SENATE.

(New York, from Mr. Consul Mizuno.)

On the 28th ultimo in Committee of the Whole in the United States Senate, Mr. Tillman, introducer of the amended Bill for

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imposing a duty of 10 *sen* on tea, spoke strongly in support of the measure on the ground that at would protect the tea industry of South Carolina. He found two or three supporters, but he finally asked that the decision should be deferred. On the 29th ultimo the Bill was rejected by 55 to 18 votes.

The principal supporters of a tax on tea are influenced by considerations of revenue solely, and as, apart from customs dues, a certain source of revenue can be found by taxing juridical persons and successions (already passed by the Lower Chamber), it may be considered that there is no fear of any tax being imposed on tea.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

TITTONI ON THE TRIPLICE.

Berlin, June 24.

Sign. Tittoni, the Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the Chamber, said that the Triple Alliance was unshakably strong, but that the time had not yet come for opening negotiations as to its renewal.

PERSIA MAKES A DEMAND.

The Persian Government has demanded from the Governments of Great Britain and Russia, that the Russian troops in Persia be withdrawn as soon as possible.

ISWOLSKI ACCOMPANIES TSAR.

Berlin, June 24.

M. Iswolski, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, accompanies the Tsar on his round trip at the Skaer Islands and also on his coming visit to Sweden.

EXPLOSION AT PITTSBURG, U.S.

An explosion has taken place at Pittsburg, by which the lives of 70 workmen are endangered.

GERMANY AND TAXATION.

The Reichstag has passed a Bill providing for a tax on increased value of property.

REJECTION OF DEATH DUTIES BILL.

Berlin, June 25.

The much debated Death-Duties Bill has at last been definitely rejected by the Reichstag by a majority of a few votes.

The political consequences of the result will neither be the dissolution of the Reichstag, nor the immediate resignation of Prince Buelow, who, on the contrary, is firmly resolved to fight to the last until the third hearing of the Bill, in order to prevent the passing of the harmful substituted taxes.

CRETE.

Sir Edward Grey, the British Minister for Foreign Affairs, announces that the troops of the four Protective Powers will be withdrawn at the same time from Crete and that this action with be carried out before July 27th.

DISCORD IN THE BELGIAN ROYAL FAMILY.

Berlin, June 26.

King Leopold of Belgium has declared himself willing to reconcile himself with his second daughter, Princess Stephanie, the former Crown Princess of Austria, later Countess Lonyay, but not with his first daughter, Princess Louise, the divorced Princess Philippe of Sachsen Koburg and Gotha.

A HOLY WAR.

A report from Teheran says that the excitement aroused by Russian interference with the new Bank projects is growing and that a holy war against all foreigners is being preached.

PRINCE BUELOW AND THE REICHSTAG.

Prince Buelow has left Berlin to meet the Kaiser at Kiel and to report to him the situation, after having communicated to the Conservatives that the taxes, which have been substituted by their party and by the Centre, viz., the tax on shares at the Exchange, mill consumption tax and coal export duty, are unacceptable to the Government.

The Reichstag has passed the new duties on Coffee and Tea as further substituted taxes, after which the sittings were adjourned until Wednesday.

THE CHANCELLOR'S RESIGNATION.

Berlin, June 27.

Prince Buelow has demanded from the Kaiser the immediate acceptance of his resignation. The Kaiser, however, has refused to accept Prince Buelow's resignation until the conclusion of the Government's policy for the Financial Reform of the Empire. The Chancellor, on the pressing desire of the Kaiser, has declared himself willing to remain in office until the achievement of the Finance Reform. He will make a last attempt to prohibit the passing of the taxes, which he characterizes as ruinous to commerce and industry, and to attain the passing of taxes which are acceptable to the Bundesrath. After having finished this work he will resign, the reason being that he has been deserted by the Conservatives, by which the carrying out of a liberal policy has been made impossible. By the express wish of the Kaiser he will not shrink from this last task in the interests of the country. His decision to resign is, however, definite. No conjectures as to his successor are yet made. If the majority of the Reichstag passes the Finance Reform Bill in a form which is unacceptable to the Government, the dissolution of the Reichstag may be possible. The conference between the Kaiser and Prince Buelow lasted for three hours and passed in a very cordial manner. The universal feeling in Germany is very earnest.

CHOLERA AT ST. PETERSBURG.

Berlin, June 28.

750 cases of cholera have been notified at St. Petersburg during the last four weeks, of which 211 ended fatally.

THE TSAR IN STOCKHOLM.

Very cordial toasts have been exchanged at the banquet given to the Tsar on the occasion of his visit to Stockholm. The Tsar, replying to the toast of the King of Sweden, said that he would always have it at heart to develop the already close relations between Russia and Sweden.

General Beekmann, of the Swedish Coast Artillery, has been shot by a workman at Stockholm, who killed himself after his deed.

RACING.

The Hamburg Derby has been won by "Arnfried," of the Graditz Stables, and the Grand Prix de Paris by Rothschild's "Verdun." President Fallières, returning from the race-course, was insulted by the crowd.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to June 10th *ex* Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on June 28th.

GERMANY.

Berlin, June 29.

The Kaiser will go on his usual trip during the summer.

Arthur Fitger, the well-known artist and poet, and Herr von Halle, Privy Councillor in the German Ministry of Finance, are dead.

TURKEY AND CRETE.

The Sublime Porte has been informed officially of the withdrawal of the troops of the Protective Powers from Crete.

PERSIAN NATIONALISM.

The Bakhtiari Clan in Persia intends to proclaim a new Shah of Persia. The movement of the Nationalists is steadily growing.

KING EDWARD.

King Edward will go to Marienbad on August 15.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun")

THE PROPOSED WINE TAX IN GERMANY.

London, June 24.

Paris.—French dealers in wine and spirits are urging the Government to negotiate with Germany with a view to inducing that country to abandon the proposed wine tax. It is said that in the event of Germany adopting such a tax, France will seek some means of retaliation.

THE URYUS VISITING FRIENDS.

New York, June 25.

Baron and Baroness Uryu have spent the last few days in visiting friends. They will leave for Europe on the 17th proximo.

HEAT WAVE AT NEW YORK.

On June 24 at 3 p.m. the thermometer stood at 97° F. Many persons are suffering from the intense heat.

THE JAPANESE ON THE UPPER YALU.

Antung, June 27.

On June 27, a force of 26 police was despatched to the upper region of the Yalu River for the protection of the Japanese.

RECESS OF THE DUMA.

Vladivostock, June 27.

The Upper House of the Duma will be closed from June 25 to October 23.

THE RUSSIAN TOURIST PARTY.

ITS WELCOME APPRECIATED.

The fact that the first party of Russian tourists have received everywhere in Japan so hearty a welcome has become known, and the second group numbering over one hundred will leave shortly.

A BLIND HERO.

A pathetic incident occurred at the inspection by King Edward, at Buckingham Palace, of the Gentlemen-at-Arms. A strikingly handsome officer in the prime of life was led into the ranks by a comrade. This was Captain Ernest Towse, who is totally blind, having lost his sight in the Boer War while performing a gallant action which won for him the Victoria Cross. His affliction has been hard to bear, as his career was assured before the disaster owing to his conspicuous bravery at Magersfontein. But for the loss of his sight Captain Towse would have commanded a battalion of the "gay" and gallant Gordons.

At Magersfontein the Captain was recommended for his devotion in assisting the late Colonel Dowman when mortally wounded. He supported the Colonel in the front of the firing line amid a hail of bullets; then he tried to carry the wounded man on his back into safety, but finding this impossible, he protected him under fire till the stretcher-bearers arrived. In a subsequent action Captain Towse and twelve men kept 150 Boers at bay. The Boers got within forty yards and called on the little British force to surrender. Captain Towse ordered his Gordons to fix bayonets and charge. With a wild cheer they rushed at the enemy and swept them away, thus avenging Magersfontein. "God help the Boers," exclaimed a Tommy; "our Jocks are into 'em with the bay'nit!" But alas for the valiant leader of this desperate onslaught; he was wounded in both eyes and permanently lost his sight.

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YOKOHAMA'S JUBILEE.

A BRILLIANTLY SUCCESSFUL CELEBRATION.

Thursday, July 1.

He would have been a bold prophet who, in view of the long succession of rainy days to which we have of late been subjected, had ventured to predict for Yokohama's Jubilee Celebration a day of brilliant sunshine. Yet such it was, to the great relief of each of the City's decorators—and that covers, we may say, the entire population. Indeed, the city was alive with flags, fluttering in a cool, heat-banishing breeze. For the thousands of celebrators who poured in from the country and from the Capital, and for the thousands of the sons of Yokohama who were busy from morn till eve with their city's praise, the conditions were ideal. Season and sun and wind smiled together on Yokohama's Jubilee.

The two great streets which in a special sense may be said to make common ground for Foreigners and Japanese alike—where the former Settlement merges by degrees into the purely Japanese portion of the City—were from an early hour the centre of celebrant activity. So great was the throng by which, in particular, Benten-dori was filled, that it became necessary to close that gay if narrow thoroughfare to vehicles of all descriptions. Here and in Honcho-dori not only were the decorations most elaborate, but these two avenues were made the scene of numerous side-shows, quaint and merry—of mummers, dancers, conjurers, with players of "Tales of Old Japan." In prominent places, too, were hung scenic representations of Yokohama at various stages of its history, or of leading events in its career—not omitting, of course, the prime incident indissolubly connected with the name of Commodore Perry. Everywhere the crowds contained a sprinkling of foreigners, to whom these presentations afforded the additional attraction of novelty, and everywhere the greatest good humour prevailed.

It was at noon, and with a luncheon—served with due elaboration in one of the new Customs Pavilions—that the official portion of the Celebration commenced, and this gave place, at 2.30 p.m., to the Ceremony proper, with its accompaniment of speeches appropriate to the great occasion. So vast was the open Hall set apart for this function and so destitute of the least pretension to acoustic properties, that the words of the speakers reached only the merest fraction either of those in the auditorium or those on the platform. Still, the speeches were delivered—of that there can be no doubt; and our columns bear testimony to the spirit of cordial congratulation they breathed from first to last.

The Ceremony proper ended, there followed a series of entertainments—geisha dances, Daimyo processions, and the like—till, with the shades of evening, the city burst into illumination. The Celebration was now in the hands of the Citizens, and well did they effect its consummation. While the streets glowed with thousands of lights, as well as the glare and flicker of torchlight processions, the sky seemed ablaze with the spark-showers and coloured fires of a magnificent pyrotechnic display. About 9 o'clock fell a few drops of rain, but they mattered not, and far into the night was drawn the celebration of Yokohama's Semi Centennial Day.

[*A full account of the proceedings will appear in our next issue.*]

EXCURSION TRAINS TO NIKKO AND BOSHU.

From about the middle of July until the end of August, the Railway Bureau will run an excursion train from Uyeno to Nikko every Saturday and Sunday, and will make a reduction of 20 per cent. on tickets issued to points on the coast of Boshu till the end of September.

The time-table and fares are as follow:—

Leave Uyeno,	Arrive Nikko,
7.05 a.m.	10.55 a.m.
Leave Nikko,	Arrive Uyeno,
4.05 p.m.	7.50 p.m.

2nd class:—*yen* 2.41 (including transit duty).
3rd „ :— „ 1.39 („ „ „).

(Available for 3 days)

Leave Ryogoku,	Arrive Ohara,
7.30 a.m.	1.20 p.m.
Leave Ohara,	Arrive Ryogoku,
5.10 p.m.	8.15 p.m.

2nd class:—*yen* 1.70 (including transit duty)
3rd „ :—*yen* 1.03 („ „ „)

CIGARETTE-SMOKING IN THE BRITISH ARMY.

An exceedingly grave indictment of cigarette-smoking in the Army has been made by Lieut.-Gen. Sir W. G. Knox. Sir William points out that the Army Medical Department has embodied in its report an emphatic pronouncement against cigarette smoking, stating that the proportion of soldiers in the United Kingdom becoming inefficient owing to cardiac affections is double that in any foreign army. And as regards the effect of the practice on officers he declares that he knows of more than one "regrettable incident" in the Boer war which was the result of loss of nerve, brought on, in his opinion, by over-indulgence. Sir William feels so strongly on the subject that he advocates that in an officer's confidential report should be inserted the question: "Is he an intemperate cigarette smoker?" And as for the rank and file, he quotes the words of the Report of the Army Medical Department for 1907: "Average British recruits are on enlistment the youngest and in the poorest physical condition of those in any civilized army. Moreover, they are nearly all confirmed cigarette smokers."

SARTORIAL ECCENTRICITIES.

Four or five years ago the relatives of a certain Herr Szmeny applied to the courts at Vienna to have him adjudged a lunatic, their chief allegation being that he wore "queer clothes." The Court, says Mr. Taylor Edwards, writing in New York *Tribune*, refused the application; but evinced the keenest interest in the evidence, wherefrom it appeared that Szmeny, when on his country estate, invariably clad himself in a leather suit, provided with immense scales, in imitation of the slowest of animals, the tortoise.

Szmeny, however, was not the only individual in Austria-Hungary who ever commanded public attention by reason of sartorial eccentricities. A prominent society man of Buda Pesth had various suits made of material so designed and coloured as to match the different papers on the walls of his big house. For instance, it is said, his dressing gown, adorned with sun-flowers, was an exact reproduction of the paper in his dressing room. Then his smoking jacket showed an oriental design corresponding with the Eastern decorations of his smoking room, and he had many lounging suits of white and gold, pink and red and so on.

Against this freakishness of attire may be set the fad of a Pole of Warsaw, a banker of some prominence, who had his overcoat lined with patchwork made from the garments of famous men. This lining, the owner contended, contained pieces from the military cloak of the first Napoleon, a bit of a waistcoat worn by Byron, a section of a necktie belonging to Disraeli, several bits of the blanket used by von Moltke during the Franco-Prussian War, together with other sartorial relics of celebrated persons now dead.

An eccentric man in Lisbon imposed an odd system of dress upon his unfortunate servants. These domestics, he insisted, should each represent a particular flower. Accordingly, there was presented the ludicrous sight of servants whose outer garments were embroidered with violets, roses, lilies of the valley, &c. The master himself chose carnations for his emblem. For many years one of the queer characters of Montmartre, in Paris, was an old man, generally reputed to be very wealthy, who took his constitutional garbed in brightly printed cotton, of the kind generally used in France for women's blouses. This old chap's name was Pere Gréville; and he had a mania for pockets. He always had at least six on the front of his funny cotton jacket, and sticking out of each pocket might be seen a bundle of grimy papers. Gréville never wore a hat, but carried an umbrella over his head in all kinds of weather.

In Russia one of the Court officials nursed a strange notion with reference to his overcoats. He spent years in the invention of a reversible garment of that character. When he had finally attained his desire, he was the most pleased man in St. Petersburg. In winter he made a practice of entering a friend's house clad in beaver, and of leaving dressed in reindeer skin. He once boasted that his overcoats were so devised that he could attend a wedding and a funeral in the same garment.

Greeks in Athens had a notion not long ago that it would be good form to revive the ancient classical dress. Accordingly, they organised a society for the encouragement of the project, it being stipulated that every member must go about in Grecian robes, wearing sandals instead of shoes. A wealthy Silesian landowner, with bizarre notions of dress, got into trouble with the police authorities in Berlin not long ago. His failing was gold lace. So far did he carry out his sartorial ideas that he became the observed of all observers. Such a crowd assembled in the streets of the German capital on the occasion of the Silesian's last visit that the police promptly arrested him for a violation of the municipal ordinances.

"The accused's clothing," states the police report, "which was made of blue serge, was completely covered with gold lace and braid, and even his shoes were thus decorated. The accused's brother explained his conduct on the ground of eccentricity, stating that the accused possessed no fewer that one hundred and fifty suits of clothes, all embroidered with gold in various designs."

Some interesting facts were disclosed with reference to the weakness of a Roumanian in the matter of clothes when he found himself in the bankruptcy court. It transpired that in the course of four years he had managed to expend two hundred thousand dollars in striving to gratify his longings for fine feathers. A specimen suit was produced in court. The buttons were set with diamonds, and in one of the cuffs was sewed a watch. Seams were hidden by rows of pearls, and in other ways this genius managed to achieve a novel effect in his general make-up. The evidence also showed that he possessed a pair of shoes made of glass, which he always wore when at home, and of which he was inordinately proud."

This natty dresser was not in a class by himself, however, for authentic accounts show that one Signor Abraggia, a contractor in a town of Southern Italy, ran him a close second when dazzling effects are considered. Abraggia's clothes carried mirrors. They had looking-glass buttons and were inlaid with medallions of the same material. When Abraggia took his stroll in the sunshine, his appearance was too much for folks with weak eyes. He was blinding. As one

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narrator put it, "It was impossible to stand with one's back to the sun and look at him."

Among the first cabin passengers who arrived in New York on an Atlantic liner a few years ago was a woman whose sole costume consisted of a ball dress. She carried no baggage, aside from four carboys of mineral water and a bucket, which were necessary, she confided to all, for her ablutions. She had rendered herself agreeable to everybody during the voyage; and all admitted that, if her silk and lace ball dress was somewhat bad form in the morning, it was quite appropriate in the evening when, in the saloon, she pleased the company with song and dance. This passenger was certified to by the physicians as a monomaniac, and was accordingly deported to the place whence she came.

THE ATTACK ON LIEUT. BELLAIRS.

QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE.

Not since the publication of Lord Charles Beresford's letter with reference to the coal supplies at Malta, says a Service paper, has the country been provided with a sensation like that produced by the revelation of certain letters written by Capt. Reginald Bacon to Sir John Fisher three years ago. At that time Capt. Bacon had recently relinquished the position of Naval Assistant to the First Sea Lord, an appointment in which he had, in the course of his duties, been brought necessarily into the closest association with his chief in elaborating and co-ordinating the various changes which were then being carried out. Capt. Bacon left the Admiralty, but remained in more or less formal communication with his chief. It is now known that he did, as a matter of fact, write some letters to the First Sea Lord which were evidently intended for the guidance of this officer and for the members of the Board. In one of these letters Capt. Bacon referred to Mr. Bellairs in an uncomplimentary manner. Unfortunately they were not edited, as is usually the case, before being printed for the guidance of the Board. There was, of course, no idea at the time that they would ever become public. All this occurred two years before Mr. McKenna was at the Admiralty, and he might have sheltered himself behind this fact, but instead of taking advantage of it, he has investigated the circumstances, on his own behalf, though he had nothing to do with it, and on behalf of Sir John Fisher, he has expressed regret that before printing the letters the reference to Mr. Bellairs and his service career was not deleted.

The whole incident is a most unfortunate one, and not the least regrettable fact is that widespread publicity should have been given to a communication which was intended by the writer to be private. Mr. Bellairs, at the time the letter was written, was on the retired list, and there was, therefore, no question of injuring his professional prospects, while his past is familiar to everyone in the fleet. His association with the Navy opened brilliantly when he took five first class certificates and obtained special promotion to lieutenant. When eventually he retired owing to defective eyesight after eighteen years in the service, he left behind him a record of which he has reason to be proud. There are many officers with brilliant records who have probably been the subject of uncomplimentary remarks in private letters, but, fortunately those confidences do not see the light. We have often felt compelled to disagree with many things which Mr. Bellairs has said and done, and, without minimizing the extenuating circumstances, we cannot help regretting that this communication should have been printed in an unedited form. Captain Bacon may not have intended any harm; he may be innocent of the insinuations made against him by members of Parliament. As his lips are sealed, it would be fair to credit him with having committed an error of judgment only. But the publication of fragments of Captain Bacon's letters have led naval officers to ask themselves whether others have been secretly prejudicing them in the eyes of superiors by statements that are wholly false. Has a system of espionage been introduced in the Navy? The outcome of questions in Parliament is to rouse suspicions which never existed in the service before. Esprit de corps will be undermined unless there is an assurance that the conveyance of private communications from the ship to the Admiralty about brother officers is to be absolutely forbidden in the future.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On and after July 1, the Railway Bureau will issue combination tickets available on the Bazan line in Korea.

The petition for the bailing of the defendants in the Sugar case was finally rejected by the court on June 29. Sentence will be pronounced on July 3.

From July 1 till September 30, train and electric car combination tickets to Yumoto, Hakone, will be issued at a reduced rate at Shimbashi, Shinagawa, Yokohama and Hiranuma.

The Railway Bureau dismissed 171 lower-class officials and 106 other employés on June 23rd, and at the same time made several changes in the positions of officials of higher grade.

For the convenience of passengers going to mount Fuji and various summer resorts, the express trains leaving Shimbashi at 3.40 p.m. and Kobe at 9 p.m. will from July 1 to Sept. 30 stop at Gotemba Station.

Prince and Princess Kuni, who are staying at the Hague, expect to visit England early in this month and to stay there during July and August. Whether their Highnesses will make a tour through America, is as yet unknown.

A decrease of about 20 per cent. in the number of convictions in the Hongkong police court in 1908, as compared with 1907, seems to be accounted for only on the presumption that the Colony is becoming more law-abiding.

The admonition, "Thou shall not steal," has been put up in the street cars of the Third Avenue Line, New York City. Whether the people using that particular line have shown a more than ordinary propensity for the violation of the eighth Commandment is not stated.

Among the passengers who sailed on the *Mongolia* on June 27 were the Hon Thomas J. O'Brien, U.S. Ambassador to Tokyo; the Hon. Charles Denby, late U.S. Consul-General at Shanghai, and Mrs. Denby, and the Hon. and Mrs. W. R. Castle, of Honolulu.

Early on the morning of June 24, an express train from Shimonoseki on arriving at Hodzumi Station collided with a goods train which was behind time. One waggon was upset and three others were derailed. No casualties were reported, but the express was delayed two hours.

Deputy Station-master Matsuda of Kamakura Station, who was responsible for the collision at Ogigayatsu in February last, has been sentenced to six months' major imprisonment. This is the first instance of the application of the new criminal law to cases of this kind.

Early on the morning of June 29, the Russian sightseers arrived at Shimbashi, where they were welcomed by over 300 students of the Tokyo Middle School and a large gathering of the general public. The visitors were divided into two parties, one of which proceeded to the Fusokwan at Kobiki cho, and the other to the Russian Church at Surugadai.

The unveiling of the monument erected on Iseyama took place at 10 a.m. on June 27, as previously announced. At the stated hour, Governor Sufu, Vice-Admiral Kamimura, the representative of the Minister of War, the Mayor of Yokohama, and other distinguished persons entered the hall of ceremony, where Mr. Maruta, Vice-President of the Yokohama Soldier-Encouragement Society, read a report relating to the erection of the monument, and a priest performed the customary religious rite. Governor Sufu then took his stand in front of the monument, while the national air, "Kimigayo," was played. Speeches by the Governor and others brought the proceedings to a close.

Rev. E. W. Thwing and his family are expected in Yokohama by the steamer *China* about July 4th. The International Reform Bureau have appointed him as their Secretary for Japan and China. He will deliver addresses in this country and will spend a part of the summer at Karuizawa.

A complete revolution in naval gunnery will, it is said, be the result of Admiral Sir Percy Scott's recent invention of a device for more accurately directing a warship's fire. Calculations based presumably upon average target practice, and not upon the high percentage of hits so frequently credited to individual ships, show that a ship's hitting power will be increased by 50 to 75 per cent by the new "director."

It is stated that the Japanese Military authorities will forward to the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition a model of the famous Kumamoto Castle in Kyushu. The model measures 30 feet in height, and covers 90 *tsubo*. Inside the model will be exhibited arms of various description used in Japan in olden days as well as in the expedition to Formosa, the Civil War in Kyushu, the Japan-China War, and the late Russo-Japanese War.

Cricket is becoming increasingly popular among the natives of Northern India, and while Ranji, to give the Jam Sahib of Nawanagar his pet name on English cricket fields, is not likely to lose his well-earned popularity, he may soon have to divide the laurels with some other compatriot. In recent matches reported in the *Bombay Gazette*, there was much good scoring, two innings of the Cutch Club including an individual century, a score of 68, and eight other double figure innings.

The Advance-Manager of the Bandmann Opera Company, Mr. J. F. Younge, informs us that he will arrive by the P. & O. steamer *Malta* to make the necessary arrangements for their forthcoming season in Yokohama. The Company, which follows by the *Sardinia* is the largest that has as yet visited the East, and include 22 juvenile performers for the ballet. After a season at Kobe, lasting from about the 12th to the 15th of July, the Company will proceed to Yokohama. Further particulars will be announced in due course.

French is slowly gaining upon Flemish as the language of the Belgian people. Recently published statistics show that at the last census 2,573,805 spoke only French and 2,744,271 only Flemish, the former, although still slightly the smaller number, showing an increase of 289,733 and the latter an increase of 277,734. The number of persons speaking both languages, 801,587, shows an increase of 100,590 during the ten years that have elapsed since the preceding census. The number speaking only German is 28,314, a decrease of about 4,000 during the decade.

The negotiations between Mayor Mitsuhashi and the Industrial Bank in connection with the proposed loan of 716,500 pounds sterling for the enlargement of the Yokohama waterworks have been concluded. The provisional contract agreed upon is as follows:—The bonds are to be issued at 94; the entire amount is to be paid within 180 days of the signing of the contract; the rate of interest is to be 5 per cent. per annum; the principal is to be redeemed within a period of 45 years, and the commission to be paid (in three installments) amounts to seven-thirtieths of one per cent.

A formal invitation from America to Great Britain to participate in a naval review to be held in San Francisco next October to celebrate the rebuilding of the city after the fire of April, 1906, has been presented by Ambassador Reid. The question is one for consideration by the Cabinet, and it probably will be several days before an answer is received. There is, however, much likelihood of acceptance, as there is a strong movement in England at the present

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time for showing the flag, particularly in the Pacific. Mr. C. C. Moore of San Francisco, who is at present in London to arrange these matters, has formed a small committee of Californians to assist him. This committee will go to all the capitals of Europe and present similar invitations.

SIR ERNEST M. SATOW, who was British Minister to Tokyo 1895-1900 and to Peking 1900-06, and whose profound researches into the early development of Shinto have contributed so largely to the world's knowledge of that ancient religion, has on several recent occasions borne emphatic testimony to the value of missions. Speaking at a meeting of the Church of England Mission to Korea, Sir Ernest dealt especially with the contention that missions are unnecessary. He said "I hear a good many people maintaining the opinion that for Orientals such religions as they already have are quite good enough, and that we should not upset their ancient traditions by conveying to them what we believe is a good religion for ourselves. I think this is a pernicious doctrine and people should lose no opportunity of standing up for missionaries and missions"

IT was through one of his earlier works—probably "Richard Feverel"—that Meredith gained the acquaintance of Carlyle. An anecdote, which the London *Telegraph* has every reason to believe authentic, relates how the young man ventured, as most literary aspirants did in those days, to present a copy of his work to the Sage. He called shortly afterwards to hear what its reception had been. "After five minutes," Mrs. Carlyle informed him, "Carlyle just said Bah! and threw it down on the floor; but he's taken it up again, and he says there's something in it". Thus encouraged George Meredith was further invited to spend an evening with Carlyle. For hours the Sage discoursed without a break upon the Eternal Verities, or what not. Now and again his victim, never a taciturn person, ventured to put in a remark, but it went absolutely unregarded. Finally he was dismissed with, "Mr. Meredith, you're a poor talker, but I'm thinking that as a writer you may make a name."

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The price of raw cotton remains firm. Yarns are quiet, and home prices are against business here. The prospect as to mousselines, Victoria Lawns, and Prints is improving, but the quotations remain practically unaltered. There is almost no change in Woollens.

RAW COTTON. PER PICUL.

American Middling	35 00 to 36 35
Egyptian	46.25 to 49 70
Indian Broach	30.00 to 31.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	28 50 to 29.00

COTTON YARN PER BALE

Nos. 2/60, Gassed	270.00 to 285.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	340 00 to 365.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.00 to 8.50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 in. Common to Medium	Y.4.50 to 6.00
Grey Shirtings—9lb, Good to Best	
Grey Shirtings—46-48 yds. 44-45 in. Ordinary to Medium	4 60 to 6.00
Grey Shirtings—46-48 yds. 44-45 in. Good to Best	6.10 to 7.50
Grey Cambrics—46-48 yds. 45 inches	6.90 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.10 to 3.60
Cotton Italians and Satteens—32 in.	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Italians and Satteens—36-40 in.	0.30 to 0 45
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch. PER PIECE.	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2 50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	11.00 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.95 to 1.50
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.85 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.50 to .65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 36-40 in.	0.40 to 0.55
Mousseline de Laine,—120-130 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.20 to 0.28
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.28 to 0 32
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.00
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.70 to 0.80
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.71
" " 2 " "	0.58 to 0.64
" " " 3 " "	0.46 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.34 to 0.39
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Business is still being done on a small scale.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3 65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
d. Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7 00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet.

Chester	Y.3.73 to 3 91
Victory	3.51 to 3.69
Nonpareil	— to 4.41
Borneo and Sumatra	2.90 to 2 95
Hokuyetsu	3.30 to 3 70
Nippon	3.33 to 3.73
Ogura	3.5 to 3.70
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No large transactions have been done, but there is a tendency to an advance in quotations.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
White Java and Penang	9 90 to 10.50
White Refined (German)	15 50 to 18 90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. There have been some pretty fair transactions in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200 00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280 00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	.05
Artificial "Kenshin"	.00

FLOUR.

There has been no business done although the quotations are rather low.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	11 65
Flag	"	11.55
Royal	"	11 25
Trophy	"	11.25
Red Seal	4 sacks	11.25
Lion	"	12 35
Portland	"	11.35
Premier	"	11.25

Japanese:—

Rising Sun	6	*kwamme*	2 80
Takasago	6	"	2 78
Fuji	6	"	2.80
Pine	6	"	2.80

WHEAT.

No transactions are reported and quotations are nominal.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.60 — 5.70
Red " " "	5.50 — 5.60
Blue Stem	5.85 — 6 00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is dull. There will be no transactions for the time being, on account of the Yokohama Jubilee celebration.

On June 30th stocks were: filatures 12365 bales. Re-reels, 307 bales; Kakeda, 38 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	—
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	—
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	—
Filature—No. 1, Coarse	950
Filature—No. 1½, Fine	600
Filature—No. 1½, 10-12den.	1,000
Filature—No. 1-1½, Coarse	910 Nominal.
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-13 den	905
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	—
Re-reel—No. 2	—
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman hop No. 1	—
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

June	Present delivery.	June delivery.	July delivery.	August delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
25th	939	886	924	939
26th	931	881	—	931
27th	—	—	—	—
28th	931	880	920	931
29th	927	—	918	928
30th	—	—	—	—
July 1st	—	—	—	—

WASTE SILK.

The market lacks activity. There has been but little business done.

On June 30th stocks were: Noshi, 2,669 bales Kibiso, 5,169 bales; and Sundry, 1,541 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Best	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	75 to 85
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	65 to 75
Kibiso—Filatures, Extra	117 to 122
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	107 to 112
Kibiso—Filatures, Second	95 to 105
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is quiet and no important transactions have taken place.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.55	8 45	8.45	8.55	8.50
27″	8.50	8.25	8.15	8.25	8.25
36″	8.55	8.35	8.10	8.05	8 05

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.25	8.20	8.10	7.75
27″	8.20	7.95	7.90	7.80
36″	8.20	7.95	7.80	7.70

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.60	8.10	8.80	9.50
22½	8.00	8.70	9.80	10.70
27	—	10.60	11.50	13.00
36	—	—	14.40	15 90

COPPER.

The quotation has advanced a little since last week and the market is firm.

According to a London telegram of June 30th, the quotation was £59.15.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47 00—50.00
Ore	" 28.50—32.00

TEA.

The market is firm. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to June 30th, the sales amounted to 5,699,400 kin. The stock on Wednesday aggregated 238,600 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	47 — 49
Finest	43 — 45
Fine	40 — 42
Good Medium	36 — 37
Medium	34 — 35
Good Common	32 — 33
Common	30 — 31

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The quotations are advancing.

Delivery.	Yen.
July	128.00
August	127.50
September	127.30

RICE.

Quotations continue to decline and there is no activity on the market.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	980,637
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	151,727

Delivery.	Closing Price.
July	14.12
August	14 49
September	14.65

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RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

	(Tokyo.) per *koku.*
Superior	Yen 14.70
Medium	13.70
Common	12.70
Average	13.70

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
July	13.92	July	13.95
August	14.29	August	14.24
September	14.29	September	14.30

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama July 2

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower, China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates unaltered, closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0½
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{7}{8}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/0$\frac{15}{16}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	87*
— Private 10 days, sight do	85*
Shanghai—Bank sight	86*
— Private 10 days' sight	87½*
India—Bank sight	153¾
— Private 30 days' sight	155¾
America—Bank sight	49$\frac{7}{8}$
— Private 30 days' sight	50½
— Private 4 months' sight	51$\frac{1}{16}$ @ ⅜
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	213
Bar Silver (London)	23$\frac{7}{8}$

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota 1	Su	July 4
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Shinano Maru 2	Su.	July 4
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of India	W	July 7
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Iyo Maru	Th.	July 8
Hongkong	P. M.	Korea	Sa	July 10
Europe	N. D. L.	Kliest	Su	July 11
America	P. M.	Manchuria	Su	July 11
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Tu	July 13
Europe	M. M.	Ernest Simons	W.	July 13
Hongkong	B. L.	Oceano	F.	July 16
America	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	Sa.	July 17
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu	July 20
Tacoma	B. L.	Aymeric	W	July 21

1 Left Seattle on the 23rd ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 22nd ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.		Date
Portland	P. & A.	Henrik Ibsen	Sa.	July 3
Europe	N. D. L.	York	Sa	July 3
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakuai Maru	Su	July 4
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	Tu	July 6
Hongkong	G. N.	Minnesota	W.	July 7
Europe	N. Y. K.	Kawachi Maru	W	July 7
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of India	Th.	July 8
Europe	M. M.	Armand Behic	Sa	July 10
America	P. M.	Korea	Su.	July 11
Hongkong	P. M.	Manchuria	M.	July 12
Hongkong	N. Y. K.	Ceylon Maru	M	July 12
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Tu	July 13
Tacoma	B. L.	Oceano	Sa	July 17
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	M.	July 19
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W	July 21
Hongkong	B. L.	Aymeric	Th	July 22
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa	July 24
Tacoma	B & S.	Titan	Su	July 25
America	C. R.	A'ral Fouichon	F.	Aug 20.

FUKUSHIMA & Co.,

Tokyo, July 2nd, 1909.

Bonds and Stocks.	Face Value.	Paid Up.	Dividend Per Annum.	Dividend Payable.	Average Quotations	Remarks
Bonds and Debentures.	Yen	Yen	Per cent		Yen.	
EXCHEQUER BONDS 2nd	100	100	5	March—September	100.50	
EXCHEQUER BONDS 3rd	100	100	5	March—September	99.50	
NEW IMPERIAL BONDS ISSUED 1906	100	100	5	June—December	90.80	
CONSOLIDATION LOAN BONDS (SEIRI)	100	100	5	June—December	90.90	
WAR LOAN BONDS (GUNJI)	100	100	5	June—December	90.90	
5% IMPERIAL LOAN BONDS (GOBURI)	100	100	5	June—December	91.10	
RAILWAY BONDS (Ko-Gobu)	100	100	5	June—December	90.25	
NEW EXCHEQUER BONDS (Otsu-goburi, Mark Ih)	100	100	5	March—September	96.30	
Tobacco Monopoly Bonds (Mark あ=B)	100	100	5	June—December	97.70	
Tobacco Monopoly Bonds (Mark ほ=E)	100	100	5	June—December	96.70	
Tobacco Monopoly Bonds (Mark ち=H)	100	100	5	June—December	93.20	
Yokohama Water Works Bonds	100	100	6	June—December	93.40	
Yokohama City Work Bonds	100	100	6	March—September	98.00	
Osaka Harbour Construction Bonds	100	100	6	June—December	97.50	
Kawasaki Shipbuilding Yard's Debentures	100	100	6	June—December	92.50	
Osaka Steam Ship Co.'s Debentures	100	100	6	June—December	90.50	
Banks						
Nippon Ginko (Bank of Japan)	200	200	12	February—August	632.00	
Kogyo Ginko (First class)	50	50	8	June—December	73.10	
„ (Second class)	50	37.50	8	June—December	55.20	
„ (First new, issued in London)	50	50	8	June—December	71.30	
YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK	100	100	12	February—August	226.50	
Taiwan Ginko (Bank of Formosa)	100	100	10	February—August	170.00	
Railway & Electric Tramway Co.'s						
Hokuetsu Railway Co.	50	50	6	June—December	46.00	
Kwansai Railway Co.	50	50	6	March—September	57.30	
Kyush Railway Co. New	50	45	9.4	June—December	79.00	
Hokkaido Tanko Steamship Co.	50	50	14	June—December	40.80	
„ (New Issue)	50	25	14	May—November	18.80	
Tokio Railway Co.	50	50	5.4	May—November	62.80	
„ New	50	25	5.4	March—September	31.50	
Sobu Railway Co.	50	50	15	June—December	98.20	
„ „ (Fifth New)	50	45	15	June—December	88.20	
KEIHIN ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO.	50	50	6	May—November	68.80	
YOKOHAMA ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO.	50	50	6	May—November	41.50	
Hanshin Electric Tramway Co.	50	50	12½	April—October	117.00	
„ „ (New Issue)	50	12.50	12½	April—October	48.00	
Electric Light and Gas Co.'s.						
TOKYO ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.	50	50	12	May—November	91.50	
„ „ New	50	30	12	May—November	62.60	
YOKOHAMA ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.	50	50	18	May—November	87.00	
„ „ New	50	30	18	May—November	58.00	
Osaka Electric Light Co.	50	50	12	May—November	126.50	
Kobe Electric Light Co.	50	50	13	June—December	93.00	
Ujigawa Electric Co.	50	12½	5	March—September	9.10	
TOKYO GAS CO.	50	50	13	June—December	95.70	
„ New, 2nd Issue	50	17.50	13	June—December	50.00	
Osaka Gas Co.	50	50	9.5	June—December	97.50	
Steamship and Dockyard Co.'s.						
Japan Mail Steam Ship Co. (N.Y.K.K.)	50	50	10	April—October	78.00	
Oriental Steam Ship Co. (T.K.K.K.)	50	50	no.	February—August	17.00	
Osaka Steamship Co. (Osaka Shosen K.K.)	25	25	6	June—December	17.60	
YOKOHAMA DOCK CO.	50	33	12	May—November	56.50	
Uraga Dock Co.	50	50	no.	June—December	12.00	
Kawasaki Ship Building Yard	50	50	8	May—November	50.50	
Spinning and Weaving Co.'s.						
KANEGAFUCHI COTTON SPINNING CO.	50	50	16	June—December	100.00	
„ „ „ News	50	12½	16	June—December	39.00	
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Co.	50	50	5	June—December	49.70	
FUJI GASIAN COTTON SPINNING CO.	50	50	18	June—December	106.50	
Imperial Hemp Weaving Co.	50	50	12	June—December	68.50	
„ „ New	50	25	12	June—December	34.30	
Nisshin Spinning Co.	50	12.50	5	May—November	13.10	
Exchange.						
TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE	50	50	15.2	May—November	153.00	
Tokyo Rice and Merchandise Exchange	50	50	16	May—November	102.0	
Osaka Stock Exchange	50	50	10	May—November	124.50	
Osaka Rice Exchange	50	50	12	June—December	88.00	
Brewery Co.'s.						
DAI NIPPON BEER BREWERY CO.	50	50	15	June—December	73.50	
„ „ „ New		12½	15	June—December	22.00	
Japan Beer Brewery Co. (Kirin)	50	50	6	June—December	46.50	
Godown Companies.						
YOKOHAMA CHUO GODOWN CO., LTD.	50	50	12	June—December	53.50	
Yokohama Boeki Godown Co., Ltd.	20	20	14	June—December	30.50	
Fire Insurance Co.'s.						
Tokyo Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	50	12½	no.	May	16.70	
YOKOHAMA FIRE & TRANS. INS. CO. LTD.	50	12½	16	June	23.00	
Meiji Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	50	50	20	March	318.00	
Oil Co.'s.						
Hoden Oil Co.	50	50	30	March—September	97.70	
Nippon Oil Co.	50	50	24	June—December	99.50	
Sugar Manufacturing Co.'s.						
Dai-Nippon Sugar Refinery Co.	50	50	no.	April—October	18.20	
„ „ „ New	50	20	no.	April—October	5.20	
Taiwan Sugar Manufacturing Co.	50	50	10	June	78.50	
„ „ „ New	50	25	10	June	40.00	
Ensuikow Sugar Manufacturing Co.	50	15	20	June	32.50	

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LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

D'Entrecasteaux, French cruiser, 8,723, Captain Thibault, 25th June,—Kobe.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 25th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, T. Tibballs, 25th June.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kamo Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,284, F. L. Sommer, 25th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Siam, Danish steamer, 2,489, Cortsen, 25th June,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Teucer, British steamer steamer, 5,805, G. W. Parkinson, 26th June,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports.—General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, H. Petersen, 26th June,—Otaru.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8 700, Henry E. Morton, 26th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kushibiki, 27th June,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 27th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, Shimidzu, 27th June, Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 27th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kotick, Russian steamer, 684, M. Bitte, 27th June,—Petropaviovsk, General.—Smith Baker & Co

Yorck, German steamer, 5,133, J. Randermann, 28th June,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Monmouth, British cruiser, 7,800, Ed. K. Fletcher, 28th June.—Wei-hai-wei via Nagasaki.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3,953, S. Robinson, 28th June,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1 804, I. Goto, 29th June,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Japan, British steamer, 3.806, Olifant, 29th June,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 29th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Persia, Austrian steamer, 3.842, P. Giurgevich, 30th June,—Fiume and Trieste via ports, General.—Heller Bros.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Jno. Rafferty, 30th June,—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Dakotah, British Tank steamer, 2,593 W. A. Ross, 30th June,—Hongkong, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, F. Combes, 30th June,—Kobe,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kasha.

Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Earnest Bent, 30th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 30th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Armand Behic, French steamer, 2,819, Lafont, 30th Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Choshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, T. Yasunaga, 30th June,—Dairen General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Iki, Japanese Coast Defence ship, 9,700, Capt. S. Tsukiyama, 30th June,—Yokosuka.

DEPARTURES.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Y. Nomura, 25th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benledj, British steamer, 2,509, Alex. Webster, 26th June,—Vladivostock, Cenera,—Cornes & Co.

Kumano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,147, M. Winckler, 26th June.—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Han Sang, Korean steamer, 796, J. S. Gundersen, 26th June,—Osaka, General.—Japanese.

Tourane, French steamer, 2,338, Lancelin, 26th June, —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer. 2 060, F. A. Fegen, 27th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Ogawa, 27th June,—Takao, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Arakawa, 27th June,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Brasilia, German steamer, 4,235, Jaeger, 27th June,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General,—C. Illies & Co.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8,700, Henry E. Morton, 27th June,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Teucer, British steamer, 5,805, G. W. Parkinson, 27th June,—Puget Sound ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Siam, Danish steamer, 2,489, Cortsen, 28th June,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 28th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, K. Sato, 28th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, T. Tibballs, 28th June,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kushibiki, 28th June,—Yokkaichi, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3.953, S. Robinson, 28th June,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C.P.R. Co.

Deucalion, British steamer, 4.476, J. Ripenhausen, 29th June,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Simla, British steamer, 3,828, G. D. Goldsmith, 29th June,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 29th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, Shimidzu, 30th June,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3.789, K. Homma, 30th June,—Muroran, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Japan, British steamer, 3,806, Olifant, 30th June,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Mongolia* from Hongkong via ports:—Miss C. M. Beech, Mr. S. Bosman and servant, Mrs. S. Bosman S. children and servant, Mrs. T. S. Van Buren and maid, Mr. F. Dietig, Mr. C. Embriger, Mr. J. Shilley, Mrs. L. X. Thomas, Mrs. H. J. Whitley, Lady Woo and 2 servants. Mr. Y. Tomoro and Mr. W. A. Wilson. For Honolulu:—Mr. Loo Pun and Mr. Tong Yick Hin. For San Francisco:—Mr. L. St. Amart, Mr. D. G. Beebe, Mr. A. E. Chandler, Mr. W. C. Cram, Mrs. W. C. Cram and infant, Master Wm. Cram, Miss B. F. Dawson, Mr. A. de Tremont, Mr. W. H. Friebel, Mr. S. F. Gaches, Mr. R. H. Harrell, Mrs. R. H. Harrell and infant, Miss Harrell, Mr. J. T. Hayes, Mr. J. H. Hendrick, Mrs. J. H. Hendrich, Mrs. M. Jackson, Mr. J. R. Jamieson, Dr. Kelly, Miss J. E Kibbe, Mr. K. Levenson, Mr. H. M. Tuska, Miss S E. Levenson, Mr. G. Lerolle, Mrs. D. F. Maloney, Mr. E. E. Megget, Mr. F. E. Meigs, Mrs. F. E. Meigs Master Barle Meigs, Rev. E. H. Miller, Mrs. E. H. Miller, Mrs. Eliz. Miller, Major L. E. Jones, Mrs. Myrtle Nygren, Mr. L. Parkinson, Mrs. L. Parkinson, Dr. Wm. Quinn, Miss C. E Reid, Mr. N. W. Smith, Miss S. S. Soull, Mrs. H. Shimer, Miss O. Shimer, Mr. G. Soulie, Capt. von Koch, Mr. E. A. Wakefield, Mr. M. E. Wakefield, Mrs. J. E. White, Miss White, Rev. H. K. Wright and infant, Mr. C. S. Chow, Mr. Chan Sok Him, Mr. Chang Chung, Mr. Jay Kue, Miss Hoo Chuen Sen, Mr. Hoo Chuen Sen, Mr. Fong Poi, Mrs. Fong Poi, Mrs. Fong Shee and daughter, Mr. H. E. Met Hung Chun, Mrs. Met Hung Chun, Mrs. Met Hung Chun, 4 children and 2 servants, Mr. Tong Wai, Mr. Wong Ohl Chuck, Mr. Wong Wook, Miss Wong Sun and Mrs. Yee Shee in cabin.

Per American steamer *Siberia*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. J. F. Abbott, Prof. Giuseppe Belei, Mr. Harold Bixby, Miss Josephine Cadoux, Mr. J. V. Coffey, Mr. Jeremiah Caffey, Mr. Wm. Cauzelman, Mr. Elliot Dixon, Mr. Paul C. Jaehne, Dr. Bernard Martin, Mrs. B. Martin, Mr. Leonard Martin, Mr. M. Mascareuas, Dr. Antoins Bonora, Mrs. A. Bonora, Miss Renie Bonora, Mr. Chas. W. Slack, Mrs. W. Slack, Miss Ruth Slack, Miss Edith Slack, Mr. Geo. Whitelaw, Mr. D. L. Oleson, Mr. E. F. O'Reilly, Mr. B F. Dake, Mrs. Myra E. Myers, Mr. Alex. Clark and Miss Annie L. Miller. For Kobe:—Mr. W. E. Dickenson. For Nagasaki:—Mr. Alexander Denbigh. For Shanghai:—Mr. James L. Cowen, Mr. Philip Tong and Mr. E. W. Carmichael. For Hongkong:—Mr. J. F. Bard, Mr. C. M. Boud, Mr. A. R Braue, Mr. Chan Sing Nam, Mrs. J. H. Churchill, Mr. Geo. F. Curtis, Miss Grace Day, Mrs. Edw. Dudley, Mr. Percy G. Dwyre, Mr. E. C. Finley, Mr. John Fawler, U S. Consul, Mr. H. B. Fawler, Mrs. H. B. Fawler, Mr. Wm. F. Hugger, Mr. Jose H. Jalandoni, Miss Laura Johnson, Miss Leslie G. Klepinger, Mr. M. C. Lauritzen, Mrs. M. C. Lauritzen, Mr. Jose S. Lopez, Mr. Emilis Mapa, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Peabody, Mrs. C. A. Spofford, Miss Barbava Spofford, Dr. and Mrs. L. C. Mendel, Miss Irene Mendel and Miss Anna Doulin, in cabin

Per British steamer *Monteagle* from Vancouver B.C.:—Mr. A. Atter, Mrs. A. Atter, Mr. John Atter, Mr. Robt. H. Barton, Mr. Melville Barton, Mr Wm. H. Burns, Mr. J. Bradle, Miss M. Cox, Rev. Dr. Desparte, Mr. A. M. Knapp, Miss Lenfesty, Mr. S. McKee, Mrs. F. C. Minor, Miss C. Minor, Mr. F. W. Richardson, Mr. Walter Steed, Mr. C. Streckewald, Mr. F. T. Williams, Mrs. E. T. Williams and Master Williams in cabin; 34 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Tourane* for Marseilles via ports:—Melle Otah, Mr. W. S. Gaskell, Mr. W. Marr, Mr. C. Crowther, Mr. Revert, Mr. Mahe and 1 boy, Mr. le Dr. Diodoro Sanchez, Mr. Joseph, Rodolph Mad. Vve E. Castaing and Mr. Ubran in cabin.

Per American steamer *Mongolia* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Lt. St. Amart, Mrs. L. Baird, Mr. D. G. Beebe, Mr and Mrs. E. de Beniczky, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Benton, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Breeman, Mr. D. M. Brigham, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Brown, Mrs. Jennie Brown, Mr. Louis Brownlow, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Cassidy, Miss R. G. Cassidy, Master E. Cassidy, Mr. and Mrs. W. R. Castle, Miss B. Castle, Mr. Chan Sok Him, Mr. Chang Chung, Mr. A. E. Chandler, Mr Chochen S. Chow, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Cram and infant, Master W. Cram, Mr. H. B. Curran, Miss Bessie Dawson, Hon. and Mrs. Chas. Denby, 3 children and maid, Mr. W. Dening, Mrs.

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P. F. Dunne and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. S. Arlent Edwards, Mr. and Mrs. F. T. Eldridge, Mr. O. W. Erbsloh, Mr. B. de Selignac Fenelon, Mr. and Mrs. Fong Poy, Mr. W. H. Friebel, Mr. S. F. Gaches, Mr. W. K. Glen, Mr. B. Guggenheim, Lt. and Mrs. R. H. Harrell and 2 children, Mr. J. T. Hayes, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hendrick, Miss Hoo Chuen Sen, Mr. Geo. Hume, Miss H. Huntley, Mrs. S. E. Hurlbut, Mr. and Mrs. G. Innes and infant, Master B. Innes, Mrs. J. M. Jackson, Mr. J. R. Jameson, Mr. Jay, Mr. J. Kanaki, Dr. W. Kelly, Miss L. E. Kibee, Mrs. M. W. King, Mr. T. Kitajima, Capt. Von Koch, Mr. G. Lerolle, Mr. E. Levenson, Miss S. E. Levenson, Mr. Loo Pun, Mr. E. Machin, Mrs. D. T. Maloney, Miss S. Manning, Mr. T. D. McKay, Miss E. G. McEwen, Mr. E. E. Megge', H.E. Meh Hung Chun, Mrs. Meh Hung Chun, 4 children and 2 servants' Mr. & Mrs. F. E. Meigs & son, Mrs. L. W. Messer, Mrs. E. Miller, Rev. E. H. Miller, Miss Leon Hoon, Mr. J. E. Moss, Mrs. J. E. Moss, Mr. G. S. Moss, Mr. John Nickerson, Mrs. John Nygren, Hon. T. J. O'Brien, Mr. L. U. Parkinson, Mr. L. U. Parkins, Mrs. L. U. Parkinson, Mr. James H. Paterson, Dr. Wm. Quinn, Miss C. E. Reid, Miss C E. Reid, Miss M. J. Reid, Mrs. John Reilly, Mr. John Reilly, Jr., Mrs. John Reilly, Jr., Miss Grace Robertson, Col. O. Rowe, Miss Elsa Schaefer, Mr. J. J. Scott, Mr. F. C. Scott, Miss M. Scott, Miss S. S. Scull Mrs. D. R. Sessions and child, Mrs. H. Shimer and daughter, Dr. H. Sieber, Mr. E. W. Smith, Mr. G. Soulie, Mr. K. Tanabe, Mrs. Tong Shee. Mr. Tong Wai, Mr. Tong Yick Hen, Mr. A. de Tremont, Mr. H. M. Tuska, Mr. E. A. Wakefield, Mr. M. E Wakefield, Miss H. Wallace and maid, Mr. T. Wallace. Mr. F. Weddingen, Miss Annie E. Wheeler, Mrs. J. E. White, Mrs. Earl Wilcox, Miss M. D. Wingate, Mr. and Mrs. Wong Chi Chuck. Miss Wong Sun, Mr. Wong Wok, Rev. H. K. Wright Mrs. H. K. Wright and infant, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Sib via* for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. E. Dickenson, Mr. A. Denbigh, Mr. James L. Cowan, Mr. Philip Tong, Mr. J. E. Barr, Mr. Chas. M. Bond, Mr. A. R. Brane, Mr. Chan Sing Nam, Mrs. J. H. Churchill, Mr. Ceo. F. Curtis, Miss Grace Day, Mrs. Edw. Dudley, Mr. P. G. Dwyre, Mr. E. C. Finley, Miss Anna Denlin, Mr. S. D. Hepburn, Mrs. S. D. Hepburn, Mr. John Fowler, U.S. Consul, Mr. H. B. Fowler, Mrs H. B. Fowler, Mrs. Wm. F. Hugger, Miss Laura Johnson, Mr. L. G. Klepinger, Mr. M. C. Lauritzen, M. C. Lauritzen, Mr. E. Mapa, Mr. E. J. Peabody, Mrs. E. J. Peabody, Dr. L. C. Mendel, Mrs. L. C. Mendel, Miss Irene Mendel and Lady Woo and 2 servant in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Tourane*:—

	Raw.				Waste.			
	Marseilles Option.	Lyon.	Moscow.	Milan.	France.	Italy.	Trieste.	Peignes.
Hara Yushutsuten	130	—	30	—	—	—	—	—
Siber Wolf & Co.	70	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	70	—	—	—	18	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	44	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	21	—	—	—	42	—	—	—
L. Mottet	21	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	20	—	—	—	35	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	—	66	—	67	—	—	—	—
do	—	—	30 (St. Etienne)				—	—
Pila & Co.	—	30	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett, Bent & Co.	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co.	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co.	—	7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	150	—	—
Total	386	128	60	77	101	150	—	—

Silk shippers by *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C., on the 24th June:—

	Bales.
Nabholz & Co.	85
Vivanti Bros.	78
F. Strahler & Co.	50
Siber, Wolff & Co.	20
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	15
L. Mottet	8
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	110
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	88
Hara Yushutsuten	70
Total	504

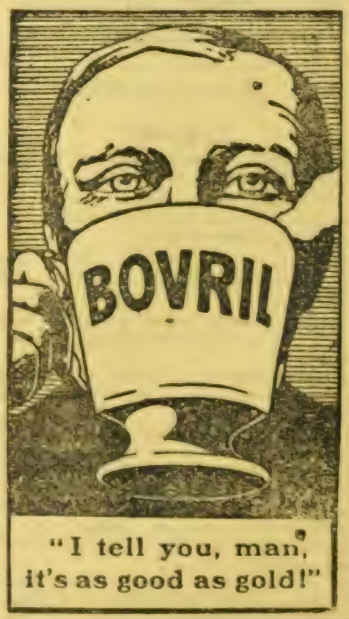
Silk shippers by *Tosa Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., on the 23rd June:—

	Bales.
Nabholz & Co.	50
Vivanti Bros.	49
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	27
F. Strahler & Co.	10
Kuto Gomei Kaisha	117
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	75
Hara Yushutsuten	35
Total	363

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

STEAMERS.

NAME.	FROM.	REPORTED	
Andalusia	Rotterdam	Passed Canal	June 12
Aragonia	New York	Left	June 1
Armand Behic	Marseilles	Left Kobe	June 29
Atsuta Maru	London	Left	June 26
Awa Maru	London	Left H'kong	June 25
Bedouin	London	Passed Canal	May 10
Bencleuch	Middlesbro	Left	May 29
Benlarig	London	Passed Canal	June 7
Benvorlich	London	Left H'kong	June 24
Bombay Maru	Bombay	Left	June 25
Caledonien	Marseilles	Passed Canal	June 14
Car'thenshire	Middlesbro	Left	May 29
Carnarvonshire	London	Passed Canal	June 3
Ceylon Maru	Seattle	Left	June 22
China	San F'cisco	Left Honolulu	June 24
Chiyo Maru	San F'cisco	Leaves	June 29
Dortmund	Hamburg	Left	June 10
Eastern	Sydney	Left H'kong	June 29
E. of India	Vancouver	Left	June 24
Ernest Simons	Marseilles	Left	June 20
Glenavon	Middlesbro	Left	May 29
Glenearn	London	Passed Canal	May 31
Glenesk	London	Left S'hai	June 20
Henrik Ibsen	Hongkong	Left	June 18
Hitachi Maru	London	Left	June 26
Hudson	New York	Passed Canal	Apr. 15
Inaba Maru	London	Passed Canal	June 25
Indrawadi	New York	Passed Canal	May 31
Jason	Liverpool	Passed Canal	June 10
Kanegawa M.	London	Leaves	July 10
Karonga	New York	Left	June 20
Kazembe	New York	At Kobe	June 24
Kleist	Bremen	Left Colombo	June 20
Korea	Hongkong	Leaves	June 29
Kouangsi	Marseilles	Passed Canal	May 27
Madura	Hamburg	Left	May 2
Malta	London	Left Kobe	June 30
Manchuria	San F'cisco	Left	June 24
Matoppo	New York	At S'hai	June 18
Minnesota	Seattle	Left	June 23
Mishima Maru	London	Left N'saki	June 23
Miyazaki Maru	London	Leaves	July 17
Orestes	Liverpool	Passed Canal	May 27
Pakling	London	At S'hai	June 17
Patroclus	London	At H'kong	June 20
Persia	Trieste	Left S'hai	June 26
P. Ludwig	Hamburg	Left Naples	June 18
P. Sigismund	Sydney	Left H'kong	June 26
Prometheus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	June 3



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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 10TH, 1909.

DEATH.

KARL 2ND, aged nine and one half years, youngest son of Dr. and Mrs. SCHWARTZ of Sendai, died on the morning of June 30, of meningitis, after a distressing illness of six weeks.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ON July 5, several landslides occurred at Yokosuka. A bungalow was damaged, but no casualties are reported.

ON July 3, a branch post office at Shibuya-cho, Tokyo, was destroyed by fire. No mail matter or official records were lost.

THE Rev. James H. Pettee, D.D., resident in Japan for 30 years (well known as the Okayama Orphanage friend), is leaving for a well earned vacation by the *Shinano Maru*, accompanied by his wife and daughter.

LANDSLIDE have occurred in Yokohama—at Nishino-yato and in Motomachi 1-chome—the latter causing damage to an untenanted house.

THE donor of the £40,000 which saved Holbein's Duchess of Milan to England is said to be a lady, but her identity has so far been unrevealed.

AT Yunohira, on the summit of Mount Asama, Nagano prefecture, a post office will be open from July 11 to September 30, for ordinary mail matter and parcel post.

A CABINET Council was held on July 6. In addition to the Ministers, the Chief Secretary of the Cabinet and the Superintendent-General of Police attended the council as usual.

ON the 6th instant, a goods train approaching Hodogaya from the west at an unusually high rate of speed struck a porter, who was about to cross the line. The man's injuries are said to be serious.

A NAGASAKI despatch states that the adoption of Miike as the future coaling station of U.S. transports, in lieu of Nagasaki, is due to the fact that a saving of fifty *sen* a ton is effected by the change.

A KYOTO STATION porter, named Takahashi Kamekichi, and three others were arrested on July 5. It is alleged that they have stolen various articles of luggage, etc, deposited at the Kyoto Station.

A SENDAI telegram states that on June 30, the Zaimoku Rock at Oh ra-mura, Karita gori, gave way, blocking the road leading to Uzen province. Fortunately there were no casualties reported.

A WHOLLY unforeseen result of the motor car mania has been the decline of Hyde Park as a place of fashionable resort, motor cars being excluded at hours at which the Park has always been most frequented.

A NAGASAKI telegram received by the *Tokyo Asahi* quotes a Sydney despatch stating that a Japanese named Matsumoto Shunzo has been driven out of the Commonwealth on suspicion of being a military spy.

THE board of directors of the Imperial Hotel Company have closed the Metropole Hotel at Tsukiji, Tokyo, for the time being. The General Manager of the Company, with four foreign employes, was dismissed on July 1.

ON the 3rd instant, the Sugata River, in Tochigi Prefecture, overflowed its embankments, doing considerable damage to the adjoining paddy fields and other plantations. Floods are also reported from Shizuoka Prefecture.

A YOKOSUKA despatch says that a Japanese lighter, laden with soy, struck on a reef off the Kwannenji Point, in Kadzusa province, on July 3. The cargo was lost, but the vessel itself was uninjured, and the crew were saved.

A NAGOYA despatch reports that the post-master and four other officials of the Nishiomachi Post Office were arrested on July 5. It is alleged that the first-named has misappropriated public money and that the others have stolen postal orders.

BARON SHIBUSAWA, returning to Tokyo in his motor-car from a visit to Prince Ito on the evening of July 1, accidentally knocked down an old man, as he passed through the little town of Oiso. The motor-car was thrown into a paddy field, probably through the efforts of the chauffeur to avoid running over the man; but the Baron sprang out nimbly, and the car having been replaced on the road by the villagers, he resumed his journey to Tokyo, after presenting the old man, who was not seriously injured, with a sum of money.

IN Kyushu, the railway line between Sakamoto and Shiraishi has been damaged in various places owing to the long-continued rain and the traffic is maintained only by changing cars.

ON July 6, fire broke out in one of the blocks of houses near the Ikuharubetsu Coal Mine, Ishikari, Hokkaido. Two blocks containing 40 dwellings occupied by colliers were destroyed before the fire was put out, and a child was burnt to death.

ON July 2, when one of the Russian tourist parties visited the Hibiya Middle School, the "Hurrah" they exchanged with the students reached the ears of the Emperor, who is said to have been greatly pleased at such a demonstration of cordiality.

ON July 6, a man in Kure bought a 12-*in* shell in a secondhand shop and when he was removing the rust from it with a chisel, the shell suddenly exploded. The man, and a girl standing by, were seriously injured and the ceiling of the house was demolished.

IT is reported in the Japanese papers that a Captain belonging to the 14th Battalion of the Transport Corps, stationed at Utsunomiya, will be committed for trial by court-martial in a day or two on a charge of having accepted a bribe from an army contractor.

A CHIBA TELEPHONE MESSAGE reports that on July 2, a 15-centimetre shell, a trophy of the Russo-Japanese war that has been exhibited at the Ohara Agricultural School suddenly exploded. One of the students was struck by a fragment of the shell, and lost the sight of both eyes.

THE building permits granted in 104 cities of the United States in the month of May aggregated $94,599,004, an expenditure larger by 11.2 per cent. than has ever before been authorized in a single month. For the first five months of the year the total amount for which permits were granted was $370,758,043, an increase of no less than 73 per cent. over the corresponding period in 1908. This would certainly seem to indicate the revival of confidence.

THE Imperial Household Department has purchased of Mr. Ichinoi Sobei, of Kyoto, two umbrellas, for the use of the Empress. They are made of pure white silk with a butterfly pattern specially reproduced by Mr. Nawa, an entomologist in Gifu Prefecture. The butterflies are reproduced with wonderful accuracy and artistic skill, even the dust adhering to the wings being beautifully and delicately copied on both the inner and outer sides of the umbrellas.

THROUGH numerous appliances have from time to time been contrived for the purpose of superseding the familiar type of lifebelt, the latter still retains its popularity. Yet it possesses well-known disadvantages. A new device has now been evolved by an inventor of Antwerp. The belt comprises two buoyant cushions, which are designed to fit upon the chest and the upper part of the back respectively, connected by straps passing over the shoulders. The cushions are held firmly in the requisite positions by a belt, which passes round the waist, and fastens with a buckle. In this manner the wearer's head is kept well above water, and there is no possibility of his equilibrium being upset. This lifebelt weighs from six and a half to seven pounds, and can be put on or taken off in a few seconds. It has been submitted to severe trials in the water off Antwerp and other European harbours, and is said to have fully demonstrated its efficiency.

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KOREA.

Thursday, July 1.

The Japanese officials serving as Vice-Ministers in Korea are reported to have held a meeting with reference to the continued poaching by Chinese fishermen in the north-eastern waters of Korea, but as to the decision adopted at the meeting nothing is said.

Friday, July 2.

From Seoul comes news which tends to confirm the recently circulated report that the Party known as the Dai Han Kyokai has decided to exchange its anti-Japanese policy for a pro-Japanese. Mr. Kwon, leader of the Party, is said to have presented to Mr Ichizuka, for submission to the Resident-General, a memorial containing three propositions; first, that Japan and Korea should be united so as to form one household; secondly, that economic reforms should be vigorously undertaken, especially the provision of communications and the encouragement of productive industry: and thirdly, that the system of education should be abandoned. The same memorial is said to have been presented to the Prime Minister, and the Dai Han Kyokai are credited with willingness to amend it in any manner suggested by the Residency-General.

Nothing is stated as to the position to be hereafter occupied by the Il Chin-hoi or as to the reasons which have militated against continuous patronage of that Association. It has been for some time evident, however, that the Resident-General no longer attached paramount importance to the support of the Il Ching-hoi, and rumour affirmed very confidently that the sum of 200,000 *yen* recently granted as compensation for injuries suffered by members of the Party at the hands of the insurgents was in part a solatium. The Dai Han Kyokai are understood to have much greater potentialities than the Il Ching-hoi.

It is stated that Mr. Pak Yongho is growing tired of his exile on Quelpart Island and that he is endeavouring to curry favour with the new Resident-General in the hope of being recalled to Seoul to take a high official position.

It is expected that Prince Ito will arrive at Seoul on the 6th inst.; that on the 7th he will be received in farewell audience by the Emperor; that on the 8th a banquet will be given in his honour in the Palace; that on the 9th he will lay the corner stone of the new Central Bank of Korea, and that on the 11th he will be entertained by General Baron Okubo. The *Kokumin* says that pictorial post cards will be issued to commemorate Prince Ito's career in Korea.

Mr. Yi Keun-thaik left Seoul for Japan on the 30th ultimo, nominally to recuperate his health. Rightly or wrongly, this politician has acquired the reputation of being the arch-plotter of Korea.

According to the *Asahi Shimbun*, one of the most prominent features of the policy pursued by the new Residency-General will be road making. This useful work appears to be planned on quite an extensive scale.

Saturday, July 3.

It was recently stated that the remnants of the insurgents were infesting the southern parts of Chhollado and that by taking refuge on the islands near the coast of that province they were able to elude capture. But the latest report mentions the provinces of Pyong-an and Hwang-hai as their present *locale*. At all events it seems certain that they have added piracy to their other exploits,' and that a special class of war-vessel is to be immediately constructed for getting at them. Accounts differ as to whether 16 or 24 of these vessels are to be built, but it appears certain that an order for at least eight has been placed with the Mihara Building Yard in Osaka; that the vessels are to be furnished with oil engines; that they will be specially adapted for manœuvring in shallow waters, and that they are to cost 40,000 *yen* These ships will also be utilized for checking the poaching operations now carried on by Chinese in the waters of north-western Korea.

The Il Chinghoi are said to have broken up their local organizations, and to have resolved that they will limit themselves in future to one yearly meeting in Seoul.

Sunday, July 4.

It has been decided to build a jetty at Gensan, having a width of 24 yards and a length of 300. The work will cost 300,000 *yen* and the main part will be completed by the close of this year.

It was originally supposed that Prince Ito would travel to Seoul *viâ* Chemulpo, but it now appears that he is to land at Masampo and take the train thence for the capital, which he will reach on the 5th inst.

The programme that his Highness will follow while in Seoul is said to be this:—Audience with the Emperor on the 6th inst.; banquet at the Residency General on the 7th inst; garden party given by the Korean Ministers at the Emperor's command on the 8th; audience with the ex-Emperor and banquet at the latter's Palace on the 9th, and in the evening a banquet given by the Directors of the Eastern Colonization Company; garden party given by the retiring and incoming Residents General on the 10th; garden party given by the First Bank and banquet by the officer commanding the troops on the 11th, and a garden party given by the Japanese residents on the 12th.

The *Mainichi Dempo* has a telegram from its Seoul correspondent who quotes General Okubo as saying in effect that he intends to adopt most vigorous measures for stamping out the remnants of the insurrection. He speaks of the trouble having increased by 5 per cent, but on what basis this calculation is made the correspondent does not state. Baron Okubo seems to imply that his drastic programme did not meet with the entire approval of Prince Ito. He alludes with enthusiasm to the plan for building shallow-draught gunboats to push home the campaign against the Island refuges of the insurgents off the coast of Chinollado

Our readers will remember that one of the leading Japanese newspapers recently criticised the proposed establishment of a Central Bank in Korea on the ground that the contemplated programme would involve restoring to Korea a large measure of financial independence. It would now seem that this apprehension was chimerical. The Bank is to be established by Japanese subjects, and though its organisation will be under the provisions of Japanese law, no changes will be permitted subsequently without the consent of the Japanese Government. Thus the Bank will be practically under Japanese control.

Monday, July 5.

The Seoul correspondent of the *Hochi Shimbun* says that everyone in Korea expected some new departure in the sequel of the change of Residents General, and that the expectation seems likely to be fulfilled. Profound caution was a salient characteristic of Prince Ito's administration. He did nothing without considering its probable and possible consequences from every point of view. Viscount Sone seems disposed to go ahead without quite so much reflection. His programme of extensive railway construction is attracting great attention. If carried to completion, it will involve an expenditure of from 40 to 50 million *yen*. People are asking why this sweeping reform in the matter of communications has been thus suddenly inaugurated, and the answer is thought to be found in the impression produced on Viscount Sone by his recent trip through the provinces. He found on that occasion so many indications of the grinding poverty of the Korean people, that he became convinced of the necessity of adopting some strong and speedy measures for their relief. Railway building is evidently the most efficacious procedure, for it not only gives employment to the needy elements of the population but also serves as a potent developer of the country's resources.

With reference to the insurrection we take the following from the *Seoul Press*:—

A report concerning the state of the insurrection in the interior says that order is gradually being restored in Kyongki and Whanghai provinces, while the insurgents infesting Whachon, Hoiyang, Pyongkang and Yichon districts in Kangwon-do and Ampyon district in Hamkyong-do have lately somewhat increased in number, due to the insurgents who have joined them after making good their escape from Ya-gju and Pochon districts in Kyongki-do. Another report says that the insurgents who have their headquarters at Pongwha, Naisong and Sunheung districts, in North Kyongsang-do, and southern districts of Kangwon-do and Chonla-do are still quite active and the gendarmes outposts in those districts have lately been reinforced, about 40 stations having been newly established.

Tuesday, July 6.

Prince Ito arrived at Masampho early on the morning of the 5th instant by the auxiliary cruiser *Manshu Maru*. He received a great welcome, all the school-children parading and greeting him with cheers and waving of flags, fire-works being discharged and the ships in port dressed. His Highness was met by an Imperial Delegate and by the Prime Minister, who, together with several other high officials, proceeded to the ship before the Prince landed. His Highness took the 9.30 a.m train for Seoul and reached that place at 7 p.m., where a number of important personages and a guard of honour were waiting at the station to greet him. The Chamberlain who went to Masampho was the bearer of an Imperial message couched in warm terms. On the evening of the 5th the Prince gave a banquet to the principal Japanese military and naval officers in the Peninsula. The Imperial Envoy was present also.

Arrangements have been nearly completed for establishing the Central Bank of Korea. There have been several Cabinet councils to consider the question, and it is expected that the statutes, consisting of 50 articles, will be published on the 25th inst. The capital is to be 10 million *yen*, as already announced; the shareholders will be limited to Japanese and Korean subjects and there will be a Korean Government's guarantee of 6 per cent. interest on the paid-up capital. It is intended that the Bank shall ultimately be established under the laws of the two Empires, as is the case with the Eastern Colonization Company, but since the necessity of obtaining the Diet's consent will entail some delay, the idea is to proceed at once under Korean law. Evidently all the power of control and direction will be in Japanese hands; the provisions of Japanese

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Commercial Law will be applied in so far as they relate to joint stock companies, and no changes of the Statutes will be permitted without the consent of the Japanese Government. Meanwhile steps are being taken for the transfer of the functions hitherto discharged by the First Bank.

In connexion with this First Bank, we read that its nett profits for the half year just ended were 383,000 *yen*, being 30,000 more than the figure for the previous term.

With regard to the insurrection, the present forecast is that, by recourse to the shallow-draught gun-boats now under construction, peace and good order will be fully restored in the course of a year and a half. The gunboats—or, at least, some of them—are to serve for another purpose also: they are to be fish-carriers. It appears that some 600 or 700 Japanese fishing boats frequent Korean waters every year. In the neighbourhood of Quelpart, Kusan and Masan alone 500 find employment. But they are unable, for the most part, to reap the fruits of their industry owing to want of means for conveying their catch to market. Thus fish costing only 2 *sen* at the place of capture, can not be sold for less than 10 *sen* at Fusan, and great quantities have to be thrown away owing to the impossibility of getting them to any of the consuming centres. Therefore the idea is to utilize a portion of the new gun boats for that purpose. There are said to be various other plans for the development of the country's resources, but they seem to still lack precision. Among other projects we find one for placing a majority of the mining industries in official hands.

The *Asahi Shimbun* says that since the monopoly of *jinsen* passed out of the hands of the Mitsui Firm 2 years ago and was put up to open tender, the Korean Government has received 60 *yen* per catty instead of 25. The tenderers have been Chinese from Shanghai. It is not to be supposed, however, that the great difference of price is due entirely to greed on the part of the Japanese firm. The main reason has been short crops. Thus the Korean Government has obtained a higher rate, but not a larger total, on the whole.

Wednesday, July 7.

At the banquet given by him on the 5th inst. in Seoul to high officials of Korea and China, Prince Ito made an important speech. He said that he had accepted the office of Resident-General with the express prevision that he did not expect to accomplish more than the leading of Korea to the threshold of her new life, and now, at the conclusion of his three and a half years in that capacity, he did not claim to have achieved anything more. Viscount Sone, the new Resident-General, was in perfect accord with him as to the proper course to be pursued with regard to Korea, and therefore he, the speaker, trusted that the Viscount would receive in the discharge of his difficult duties whatever measure of cōoperation and sympathy had been extended to himself. The guiding principle of his policy in Korea had been to convert the two neighbouring Empires into one household, and he wished to point particularly to the fact that in the gracious Rescript granted to him by the Emperor of Korea his Majesty had used the words "community of interests existing between the two countries." He was in a position to affirm that a similar principle actuated the Emperor of Japan, for in a long audience granted to him on the eve of his departure from Tokyo his Majesty had distinctly intimated that such was his purpose, and had commissioned him to direct his energies to its accomplishment.

On the 6th inst. his Highness accompanied by the new Resident-General had audience of the Emperor of Korea, and after reporting his retirement from the office of Resident-General and formally introducing his successor, he was asked by his Majesty several questions about the Prince Imperial now residing in Japan, and about matters relating to domestic administration as well as to the Imperial Household. His Majesty then handed to the Prince a rescript couched in most courteous and complimentary terms. It set out by alluding to the autograph letter which his Majesty had caused to be conveyed to Prince Ito in Tokyo by the hand of the Prince Imperial. It then went on say that although Korea was indebted primarily to the gracious good-will of the Emperor of Japan for having been carried into the paths of progress during recent years, her profound thanks must be given to Prince Ito, through whose sincerity and sagacity this work had been directly achieved. That the Emperor of Japan, in consideration of Prince Ito's age, was unwilling to consent to his continued tenure of an office which kept him at a distance from Tokyo, was a sentiment with which the Korean Sovereign must sympathise, however much he regretted the separation which it entailed. He earnestly hoped, however, that Prince Ito would continue to direct the studies and watch over the career of the Prince Imperial in Tokyo, and that he would return to Seoul from time to time to assist the Korean Government with his counsels.

The Prince then had audience of the Empress and subsequently lunched with the Emperor. He afterwards visited Lady Om, and reported to her the condition of the Prince Imperial in Tokyo. It need hardly be said that there was an interchange of handsome presents to mark the occasion.

From an account of the Annual conference of the Methodist Mission in Korea, given by the *Seoul Press*, we extract the following:—

The reports from all over Korea showed great gain in membership and most encouraging gain in self-support. The total contributions by the Koreans amounted to 63,000 *yen*. The full membership numbers 6,251, the probationers 17,002, the total attendance 23,243, the seekers 20,571, making the grand total of nearly 50 thousand who are affiliated with the Church.

The appointments of the foreign missionaries were about the same as last year, but several changes were made among the Korean members of the Conference.

Bishop Harris presided with his usual skill and suavity and the meetings, in all respects, have been very good.

The day before they left, the Hon. Mr. and Mrs. Fairbanks were entertained by the Japanese residents in an excursion on the river, which they enjoyed very much.

Thursday, July 8.

It is stated that Prince Ito will remain in Seoul until the 14th inst. On the evening of the 9th he is to be banquetted by the ex-Emperor, and the telegraph says that when he leaves Seoul he will be accompanied to the South Gate of the city by the reigning Emperor.

On the 7th inst. Prince Ito invited to the Residency-General the Prime Minister and several other high Korean officials, and explained to them at considerable length the circumstances connected with his retirement from office. His Highness also conveyed to the ex-Emperor photographs of the Prince Imperial now studying in Tokyo and letters from him to his parents.

According to statistics compiled by the police in Korea, the number of foreigners now residing in that country are Chinese 6705; Americans 318; British 152; French 84; German 30; Russian 10; Greek 11; Italian 4; Belgian 3, and Norwegian 5, making a total of 7322. The number of Japanese is not included in this category, but, roughly speaking, they total 180,000.

THE TANKO COMPANY.

A great deal of attention has been directed of late to the affairs of the Tanko S.S. Company, whose shares, from having been one of the most favourite investments in the market, have rapidly fallen to a point lower in proportion than even that held by the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's. Various reasons have been assigned for this debacle, but the principal is that owing to the very depressed state of the coal market, large quantities of that staple—rumour puts the amount at half a million tons—are piled up at the mouth of the pits and can not find an outlet. In these circumstances a dividend of 6 per cent. is spoken of as a maximum figure, and there being no prospect of an improvement in the market, next term's outlook is considered gloomy. A representative of the *Jiji Shimpo* has interviewed Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, President of the Company, and has learned from him that the question of dividend was discussed recently at a Directors' meeting, but no definite decision was reached. Mr. Inouye's view was to pay a dividend of 6 per cent., which would leave 50,000 *yen* to carry over to next account. To this there would be added 100,000 *yen* accruing from interest on bonds and other sources, together with 130,000 *yen* carried over from last term. Thus the total brought forward would be 280,000 *yen*. Moreover, 300 workmen and officials were to be dismised by June, and the colliery hands had agreed to work one hour longer daily without any increase of pay. Thus the outlook was very bright for next term. The other Directors, however, were disposed to think that, in the circumstances, such a large sum need not be carried over. They advised that it should be reduced by 100,000 *yen* so as to pay a dividend of 7 per cent. But Mr. Inouye held that to apply to paying a dividend on coal the proceeds of transactions not connected with coal would not be sound finance. The point will have to be determined before the general meeting of shareholders on August 1st, but the probable result will be a dividend of 6½ per cent.

THE NIK-KAN GAS COMPANY.

A meeting of the projectors of this Company was held on the 2nd inst. in the Bankers' Club under the presidency of Baron Shibusawa. The Baron made an explanatory address, in which he said that the project had the approval of the Residency General inasmuch as it tended to promote the development of Japanese enterprise in the Korean Peninsula. The original idea had been to buy up the electric tramway also, but for the present they thought it better to confine themselves to acquiring the property of the Bei-Kan Electric Light Company, inasmuch as electric light competes direct with gas. He considered it safe to promise that the enterprise would yield a return of 6 or 7 per cent. almost immediately, and that in the course of four or five years its nett profits would be 10 per cent. It was announced that a general meeting of the shareholders would be held on the 19th or 20th inst. and that the first call of 12.50 *yen* per share would be made in August.

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CHINA.

Thursday, July 1.

Conferences are going on in Peking with reference to the draf ing of regulations supplementing the convention recently signed by Russia and China for the administration of Harbin. It is said that the Chinese negotiators have proposed the complete opening of the Sungari River, but the idea is that this question will not be settled for some time.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* quotes a Japanese who has just returned from Antung as painting a rather gloomy picture of the Yalu Lumber Company's prospects. It is a somewhat lengthy story, but the gist of it may be very briefly summed up, namely, that the relations between the Company's agents and the Chinese wood-cutters are bad. The latter seem to have formed a wrong conception of the Company's purpose, and to be under the impression that their own industry is seriously threatened. The Company has reverted to the old system of lending money to the wood-cutters on the security of their logs, but this has been done on too small a scale to produce any considerable effect. Meanwhile the rafts floated down the river are exceptionally few in number, and it begins to be plain that the Company, so far from making money this season, will be fortunate if it covers its outlays. It appears to us (*Japan Mail*) that the Chinese shareholders in the Company and their representatives among its officials can not be really earnest in wishing to secure its success. If they were, they could easily remove these misunderstandings.

The death is announced of Mr. Wu, Governor of Honan. This is the official who was largely concerned in the recent attempt to interfere with trading operations by Japanese in the interior of the province.

We may here mention that the trouble in Honan about the alleged establishment of stores by Japanese subjects outside treaty limits seems to have ended entirely in favour of the Japanese. Chinese official opposition is said to have been withdrawn and it has been clearly recognised that no violation of the Treaty took place. If this be correct, the German merchants who complained to their Consul who endorsed their complaint are placed in a very equivocal situation, and it is strange that they do not take some step to vindicate their action.

It appears that the abundance of rain which has fallen in the Yangtsze valley in the sequel of the recent drought has produced rather serious floods. Thus it has become impossible to navigate the river between Suchow and Hanchow, and the steamers of the Nisshin S.S. Company are tied up for the moment.

There is talk of an insurrection having its origin in the Lanchow district of Pehchili. The local authorities telegraph that the insurgents threaten to invade Tientsin and that no time should be lost in despatching a military force to the scene.

Friday, July 2.

The discussions about the Kilin-Changchun Railway are said to have been brought to a conclusion, and nothing is now needed except the approval of the Central Government. According to the *Asahi*, the Japanese have yielded on one important point, namely, that the money lent by Japan as China's share of the capital shall be lodged in the Specie Bank at a fair rate of interest. It will be remembered that the Bank was not disposed originally to pay any interest.

Hongkong is the provenance of a rumour that the Chinese are about to organise a boycott against the Pacific Mail S.S. Company, because the latter does not allow them to enter by its front gate but requires them to go round by the rear. Exactly where this discrimination is exercised the telegraph does not say, but we presume that it is at Hongkong.

There is some talk of Mr. Tuan Fang being nominated a member of the Grand Council in Peking instead of proceeding to take up his new office as Viceroy of Pehchili. In that event Mr. Na Tung is expected to become Viceroy of the Metropolitan Province.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent wires that there is profound surprise in that city at the extraordinarily unreasoning nature of China's demands in connexion with the Mukden-Antung Railway. It is considered that her objections about the reconstruction of the line have no sincerity, but are designed simply to give weight to her demand that the administration of the railway zones and the policing of the proposed line shall be placed in her hands. There is a belief that the author of this policy is Mr. Liang, Head of the Railway Bureau.

Saturday, July 3.

It is stated that Mr. Tang Shaoi is desirous of obtaining the post of Governor of Honan, whose incumbent died recently.

Mr. Li Chia-chu, who is now residing in Japan for the purpose of investigating parliamentary institutions, is said to have addressed to the Throne a memorial urging that responsible cabinets are even more necessary in China than in Japan. This memorial has been published in the Peking *Official Gazette*.

Several Tokyo papers, evidently inspired by a news agency, state that the application put in by American capitalists for a share in financing the Szchuan-Hankow Railway, was so late in the field that its success is more than problematical. According to this story the floating of the loan on the London market may be expected to take place very shortly.

The above is an interesting item of news as it stands, but Reuter had already told us that the American capitalists did not insist upon a share in that particular railway, and that their application had reference rather to future contingencies.

Monday, July 5

Mr. Hsu, the late Viceroy of Manchuria, is said to have memorialized the Throne urging that the Kilin-Changchun Railway should be made a private enterprise, and that every possible step should be taken to recover the South Manchuria Railway. With regard to this, rumour says that the attempt made by the Governor of Kilin, Mr. Chen, to enlist the cōoperation of the business men of South China in the development of Manchuria, had for chief motive the consummation of this project concerning the Kilin-Changchun road. Of course it is perfectly natural that China should strongly desire to recover the South Manchuria Railway as soon as possible, and that she should also wish to avoid any fresh additions to the net-work of lines which is gradually being spread over her Empire under conditions not at all conducive to her integrity. But the programme to be pursued in the case of the Changchun-Kilin line is definitely fixed by treaty, and his Excellency, Mr. Hsu's, recommendation can not have any practical effect unless Japan agrees to forego her conventional rights. We are bound to say that China's method of procedure is not calculated to enlist Japan's sympathy. With regard to this new aspect of the Kilin-Changchun Railway question, rumour adds that an American capitalist is at the back of the ex-Viceroy's suggestion.

Mr. Straight's arrival in Mukden as a representative of the new American Syndicate is spoken of as imminent. It is said that he carries strong letters of recommendation to the leading merchants and residents of Manchuria from Mr. Tang Shaoi, former Governor of Mukden.

There is as yet no news indicating any approach to a solution of the Mukden-Antung Railway project. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has an article on the subject purporting to embody the views of a high Japanese official. He attributes to the Cabinet a very strong attitude, inspired by the military party among the Elder Statesmen, but this part of our contemporary's intelligence must be received with caution. The Chinese Government is alleged to be steadily maintaining its ground. It insists that the rights acquired by Japan under the Peking Treaty do not exceed the adoption of such measures as shall render the line fit for carrying goods, and it totally denies the right to increase the gauge or to effect other improvements. It is impossible for any practical man to interpret the Peking Treaty in this narrow sense, nor can we for a moment suppose that China seriously expects Japan to agree to such an interpretation.

Tuesday, July 6.

A telegram from Tiehling to the *Mainichi Dempo* says that many Chinese in that region are talking of war between China and Japan.

The Cantonese residents of Peking are reported to have held a meeting and passed a resolution that they will never consent to any impairment of China's sovereignty in connexion with either the Macao Boundary Question or the affair of Pratas Island. This action is regarded as very potential.

Wednesday, July 7.

From Hupeh comes news of a disastrous inundation caused by the continuous rains of the past few weeks. The Yangtsz shows a rise of 42 ft., and several villages have been partially swamped. It is feared that unless the climatic conditions change quickly the inundation will assume calamitous dimensions.

Mr. Tieh Liang, Minister of War, is said to have taken a step which has had the effect of increasing the disfavour caused by recent impeachments on the part of censors. Resuming his duties after a period of sick leave, he memorialized the Throne asking for a change of office. The Prince Regent is said to have taken this application in very bad part. His Highness declared that although it is strictly within the rights of an official to resign his office, he has no business whatever to ask for transfer to another post. The Prince Regent refused therefore to receive Mr. Tieh in audience and it is thought that the Minister will soon find his position intolerable.

The *Chuo Shimbun* alleges that in spite of attempts made by the Japanese Representative in Peking and by the Consul General in Mukden, the Chinese Government maintains strict silence with regard to pending problems, and thus neither of these two officials has been able to obtain any materials for telegraphing to his country. The *Chuo* goes on to describe various steps which the Japanese Government is taking in the circumstances, and

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alleges that the 13th or 14th inst. will see the opening of really active negotiations.

The same journal speaks in a very pessimistic strain about even the prospects of the Kilin-Changchun line. It says that although an agreement has been practically concluded between Mr. Kunisawa, Vice-President of the South Manchuria Railway, on the Japanese side, and Mr. Lu, the Chinese Commissioner, no confidence can yet be felt. The Japanese authorities, as a matter of course, endorse the terms agreed upon by their representative, but the terms agreed upon by the Chinese Commissioner are tolerably certain to encounter opposition either at the hands of the Viceroy of Manchuria or the Central Government in Peking. Thus the agreement reached between the two Commissioners is more than likely to prove futile after all.

Thursday, July 8.

The news is confirmed that Mr. Tieh Liang, Minister of War, will be unable to retain that post. The proximate cause of his discomfiture is that his views as to the organization of the Imperial Guards do not coincide with those of the Prince Regent.

Mr. Tang Shaoi arrived at Peking on the 7th at 1 p.m. He was met at the station by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and by the Spanish Minister, as Doyen of the Corps Diplomatique.

Viceroy Chen Kweilung has issued a proclamation at Hankow vetoing the export of rice in view of the recent appreciation of that cereal.

The telegraph says that a strong anti-Japanese feeling has arisen in the Swatow region, and that 42 Japanese subjects, hitherto employed on the Swatow-Chiaochow Railway have withdrawn to Tamsui in Formosa. No reason whatever is assigned for this state of affairs.

The negotiations with regard to the Kilin-Changchun Railway have been suspended; owing to the illness of Mr. Lu, the Chinese Commissioner.

The Hunghutsz in the neighbourhood of Itung-chow are said to be giving much trouble. Their animosity has been accentuated by an act which they regard as treachery on the part of the Commander of the force sent from Kilin to deal with them. That officer, by means of specious promises, induced the Hunghutsz leader, Chang, to surrender, and then put him to death. The natural consequence is that all the bandits who had previously made act of submission and been enrolled in the Chinese forces, have absconded, fearing for themselves the fate which overtook Chang.

LOCAL DEBTS.

Amended figures have been published with regard to the debts of the Communes and the interest they are paying on them. The totals are :—

	Yen.
Debts bearing interest at 6.6 per cent. or over, but less than 7.1 per cent.....	23,649,653
Debts bearing interest at 7.1 per cent. or over, but less than 7.6 per cent.....	12,939,809
Debts bearing interest at 7.6 per cent. or over	10,824,183

The prefectures which carry 800,000 *yen* or upwards of these costly burdens are :—

	Yen.
Miyagi Prefecture	1,159,326
Fukushima „	1,153,534
Kumamoto „	923,816
Saitama „	921,438
Tochigi „	816,604

These are the debts which the Industrial Bank is engaged in converting to a reasonable basis.

PRATAS ISLAND.

The *Kazama Maru* has just returned to Taihoku from Pratas Island. She reports that the agents of Mr. Nishizawa are working diligently there in apparent ignorance of any international complication, and that 140 men are steadily employed. The *Kazama* carried a cargo of 1280 tons of phosphate, 315 bales of marine products and 150 parcels of shells.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the sum sunk by Mr. Nishizawa in the attempt to develop Pratas Island's resources aggregates half a million *yen*, and that the net profits hitherto have not exceeded 10,000. It appears to us that the former figure must be an exaggeration. The same journal states that the departure of the international appraisement commission is delayed by a dispute as to whether the commissioners shall proceed in a Japanese warship or in a Chinese.

Mr. Wei, the Commissioner appointed by the Chinese authorities to proceed to Pratas Island for the purpose of valuing the work done there by Mr. Nishizawa, is expected to set out on his journey in a few days. He will travel in a Chinese war vessel, but whether he will be accompanied by the Japanese Commissioner, Mr. Consul-General Segawa, or whether the latter will travel independently, is not yet known.

Japanese journals now write in a somewhat pessmistic strain about this question. They appear to think that, so far from recognising any claim on the part of a Japanese subject to compensation for an enterprise undertaken by him on the Island, the converse is the course suggested by China's conception of justice, inasmuch as the Island being Chinese property, its invasion by Japanese subjects and their exploitation of its resources without the consent of its owners should be regarded as exposing them to a penalty rather than as entitling them to compensation. Thus the problem will revert to its originally difficult condition. This forecast is not easy to comprehend. It refuses to be reconciled with the fact that China has agreed to despatch a valuation commissioner. Are we to suppose that this commissioner's orders are to collect information for preferring a claim against Japan? That is scarcely conceivable, especially in view of the fact that he is to confer with Consul-General Segawa in preparing his estimate. It looks to us as though the basis of a compromise had been satisfactorily arranged, namely, that in consideration of Japan recognising China's title of ownership, China should recognise Mr. Nishizawa's right to some compensation.

The Japanese subject—his name is not given—who recently returned from Pratas Island to Keelung in Formosa by the S.S. *Kasama Maru*, is quoted as saying that on the 1st of March last a Chinese warship made its appearance off the Island. An officer landed, accompanied by an Englishman and one or two sailors, and on being asked what their business was, replied that they had no special business but had merely called at the place *en route* for Manila. Ten days later, however, the same vessel returned accompanied by another, and on this occasion a larger party landed, including three foreigners. They put various questions to Mr. Asanuma, the principal Japanese on the Island. These questions and his answers are quoted *verbatim*. They first asked who was the director of the enterprise, and where had permission been obtained for engaging in it. To this Mr. Asanuma replied that the head office of the projector was in Japan; that a branch office existed at Keelung in Formosa, where the Director might be found, and where all necessary information could be obtained; and that the people on the Island were mere employees who possessed no knowledge about the origin of the undertaking. The Chinese then inquired whether permission had been obtained from either the Chinese Government or the Japanese Government, but it was answered again that such questions were beyond the ken of the men on the Island, who knew nothing except that a party of engineers had been sent by the Governor-General of Formosa to the Island on a tour of inspection in June of 1908. Asked to whom they believed the Island to belong, the Japanese said that they had no idea on the subject nor any concern with such questions, but that work had been commenced in August 1907, though preparations had been in progress for five or six years previously. The Chinese officer then asked what had become of the shrine which originally stood on the Island; had it been removed by the Japanese? Mr. Asanuma said that he had never seen any such shrine, and that consequently he had no cognisance of its removal. After a few more unimportant questions the Chinese returned to their ship. On the following day they made a cursory survey of the Island and the foreigners who were in the party took some photographs. Before the sailing of the *Kasama Maru* there were 150 Japanese and 40 Chinese from Formosa working on the Island. They were all well off, being in possession of sums varying from 600 to 300 *yen*. Forty of the Japanese returned to Formosa by the *Kasama*, so that there are now only 110 remaining.

The anonymous Japanese from whom the above information was obtained speaks in very high terms of the capabilities of the Island. He says that 180,000 *yen* worth of phosphate can easily be obtained every year, and that there are quantities of shell serviceable for button-making.

THE NEW HOUSES OF THE DIET.

We read in the *Chuo Shimbun* that the plans drawn up by the Committee of the Lower House contemplate sweeping changes in the Nagatacho locality for the construction of the new Houses of the Diet. Briefly speaking, the accommodation provided by the present Chambers is to be doubled in every respect, and this will entail the erection of buildings covering an area of fully five acres. Consequently the vacant space at present available will not by any means suffice. It will be necessary to take in the ground now occupied by the residences of the Prime Minister and the Minister of State for Finance, as well as the precincts of the Chinese Legation. Whether Marquis Nabeshima's mansion also is involved we can not clearly discover, but it appears to be projected that a lake of considerable magnitude should be dug between the site of the Houses and the beautifully wooded hill of Sanno, and that this lake should be spanned by an iron bridge. Should such a programme be carried out, the whole character of the district would be altered, but we have no doubt that the ingenuity of Japanese landscape-gardeners could achieve something very charming. It is to be observed, however, that this project has not yet received the approval of either the Upper House or the Government.

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THE TAXATION OF EARNINGS.

Considerable interest attaches to the question, which promises soon to agitate Tokyo, namely whether the Municipality is entitled to tax the fund of one million *yen* put aside every year by the Tokyo Railway Company under the name of *genson tempo kin*. We ourselves were originally under the impression that the object of this annual appropriation was to form a reserve sufficient to compensate the shareholders when the time comes for handing over the Railway without payment to the City. Subsequently we learned that this interpretation was erroneous. The appropriation has some connexion with the ultimate surrender of the Railway, but it is not a connexion in any sense favourable to the Company. The charter requires that the property shall be handed over gratis to the City after the lapse of 50 years from the date of commencing operations. Now the Company estimates that 50 years represent the maximum life of such a property, and that unless constant repairs and renewals are effected, the lines, rolling stock, power-houses and so forth, which are to pass into the City's hands at the close, would be a veritable lot of rubbish. The Directors do not think that their duty to the City would be discharged by such recklessness. They purpose transferring a system of lines in good order from every point of view when the time comes for transfer. It will be recognised, therefore, that this *genson tempo-kin* is purely a maintenance fund. As a general rule, companies pay for their maintenance out of their reserves; but the reserves of the Tokyo Railway Company—350,000 *yen* yearly—have to be kept for a special purpose, namely, to recoup the shareholders when the property is taken over by the city. The idea of regarding a maintenance fund—*i.e.* a depreciation fund—as so much nett profit must sound strange in the ears of ordinary business men; but such an idea is entertained by the Aldermen of the city of Tokyo. The City, which gives its streets for the use of the Company's lines, does not become entitled to any compensation until the Company's nett profits are sufficient to pay a dividend of 7 per cent. Then, and not till then, the Municipality has to receive one-third of the surplus. The drafters of the charter obviously imagined that the company would be allowed to earn a dividend substantially higher than 7 per cent. Since, however, the Government, in deference to a little group of socialist agitators, will not allow the Company to charge a fair fare for a fair service, the dividend barely exceeds 5 per cent. and the City, getting nothing at all, wants to levy upon the maintenance fund, though the ultimate object of that fund is to keep the City's future property in working order. It is quite a comical situation, and it speaks very ill for the Administration's sense of justice and for the Aldermen's conception of business methods. The Aldermen ought to be the first to welcome and encourage the integrity of the Directors and shareholders in keeping the property in good repair. They ought to recognise, too, that there is an automatically applicable remedy for any excessive appropriation to the maintenance fund, since if it be found too large, the surplus would go to pay dividend and the City would then get its share.

Since the above was in type the Tokyo Municipality has decided to call upon the Tokyo Railway Company to pay over a sum of 26,086 *yen*, on the ground that the sum set aside by the Company as a maintenance fund must properly be regarded as profit. There are some minor points of account, but the cardinal question hinges upon the maintenance fund. Doubtless the Company will pay over this money under protest, and then institute proceedings for its recovery. The Municipality must evidently have some special views on the subject, for it is impossible to suppose that they commit themselves to the general principle of regarding a maintenance fund as net profit. It is alleged that before taking this step the Municipality consulted the Chief of the Railway Board, and obtained from him an expression of opinion unfavourable to the Company's contention. If that be so, the question will ultimately have to be decided by the Administrative Court. What perplexes us in this matter is that the Municipality does not appear to recognise the legality of laying aside any maintenance fund whatever. If the contention was that the Company's appropriation of this account exceeded the actual necessities of the case, we could understand the line taken by the aldermen, but when it comes to altogether denying the propriety of a maintenance fund, one is considerably perplexed.

Tokyo papers state the case very clearly as between the Tokyo Railway Company and the Municipality. It is laid down in the Company's charter that a sum not exceeding 10 per cent. of the nett profits having been laid aside as a reserve, the remainder shall be allotted to dividend, and if such dividend exceed 7 per cent., one third of the excess shall go to the Municipality. The point to be determined then is what constitutes nett profits. The Company strenuously denies that its earnings can be regarded as nett profit until due allowance has been made for depreciation of property. The Municipality with equal confidence deny that depreciation has anything to do with nett profits. That is the case, as stated by Tokyo journals. With regard to the obvious objection that the Municipality failed to raise this question last year, the answer given is that even though the depreciation fund had not been set aside last year, the dividend would not have exceeded 7 per cent, and therefore the Municipality was not practically interested. For our own part we believe that the Municipality must have some other warrant for its action, inasmuch as we have never yet heard of any sound enterprise which failed to set aside some portion of its earnings as a depreciation fund, or which regarded those earnings as nett profit before such provision had been made.

PERU AND ORIENTAL LABOUR.

Some days ago the telegraph informed us that a riot had taken place at Lima, the native labourers having attacked stores kept by Chinese subjects. It was found necessary to call out the troops, and this anti-Chinese feeling was ultimately placated by the enactment of a law to the effect that in future no Chinese subject should be allowed to enter Peru unless he was in possession of a sum of at least 5000 *yen*. It appears that this legislation has caused much uneasiness among the Japanese labourers also. There are about 200 of these already in Peru, having been carried thither under the auspices of the Meiji Shokumin Kaisha, and the despatch of 500 more at an early date was projected by the Morioka Imin Kaisha. But it is feared that the latter influx might have the effect of exciting hostility towards the Japanese and inspiring exclusive legislation. The Morioka Company is therefore said to be reconsidering its programme.

HOKKAIDO AND SAGHALIEN.

Mr. Ichiki, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, has returned from his trip to the north. He seems to have been much impressed by the evidences of progress witnessed in Hokkaido. The island is booming. There are already 675,000 acres under cultivation, about one-tenth of which area is under rice. The latter figure, however, is not sufficient. Assuming that one adult requires 1 *koku* of rice yearly, it is obvious that a production of 1,300,000 *koku* can not support the present population. Quantities of beans, hemp and match-stems are also produced, and the lumber industry and paper-making have been commenced and promise very well. The herring fishery is, of course, one of the principal supports of the people. It used to yield from 1,200,000 to 1,300,000 *koku* of fish yearly, but of late the catch has averaged 1½ million *koku*. This season, however, the take has been bad, and will probably fall below the average. It is becoming more and more evident that the fishermen will have to supplement their trade by agriculture.

In Saghalien Mr. Ichiki did not find such favourable conditions by any means. There are about 400 farmers' houses, and each household has an allotment of 17½ acres, whereas the correponding figure in Hokkaido is 12½. The chief crops are barley, oats and beans. The forests are very large. They stand just as they have stood for hundreds of years, and forest fires are not uncommon. The timber in Saghalien is inferior to that in Hokkaido, the climate being colder, but there is no doubt that a great future lies before the lumber industry. Mr. Ichiki has much to say about the question of netting, which recently caused a riot. He alleges that the use of the *sashi-ami* has been forbidden ever since the days of the Russian occupation, and that, if permitted, the practice would devastate the breeding grounds. In order not to embarrass the petty fishermen, permission was given for the use of the *tate-ami* by guilds, and that plan worked well so long as the fishermen could supplement it by poaching. But when poaching was checked, the legitimate catch made with the *tate-ami* did not suffice, and then trouble arose.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

We read in the *Shogyo Shimpo* that the Directors of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have not yet decided the difficult question whether the Company will come under the new system of subventions or adhere to the old. The points to be considered in choosing between these alternatives were very clearly set forth in the President's speech, of which we recently published a full translation. If the Company elect to remain under the old system, it will continue in receipt of subsidies up to the year 1914, and will receive altogether 2 million *yen* more than the sum that would accrue to it during the same interval under the new system. On the other hand, it would cease altogether to be eligible for subventions after 1914, inasmuch as the law requires that a final choice shall be made between the two systems before the end of the current fiscal year, and does not sanction the act of passing from the old to the new at a later date. Unless therefore the Company can be sure of being in a position to dispense with all subsidies four or five years hence, it must decide to come into the new system before next March. The *Shogyo* appears to think that the latter course will ultimately be adopted

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PRINCE TSAI CHENG.

Prince Tsai Cheng arrived at Shimbashi on the 1st inst. His Highness was met at the station by Prince Higashi Fushimi, Marquis Nabeshima, Mr. Chamberlain Ito and other officials. He proceeded to the Shiba Detached Palace in company with Prince Higashi Fushimi and escorted by a guard of honour.

In connexion with the arrival of the Prince, the *Shogyo Shimpo* adds its voice to those of other Tokyo journals which urge that China should carry to her diplomatic conferences with Japan something of the sincerity which she shows in her deference to forms of etiquette. The *Shogyo* acknowledges that, where fair ground for discussion exists, Japan should be willing to listen attentively to all arguments put forward by a *vis à vis*; but, where questions admit of no controversy, to prostitute their solution to idle talk is at once frivolous and vexatious.

The Chinese Imperial Envoy was received in audience by the Emperor and Empress of Japan on the 2nd inst. at 11 a.m. Subsequently his Highness was entertained at luncheon in the Homei-den.

On the evening of the 5th instant the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs gave a banquet in the Official residence at the Foreign Office in honour of Prince Tsai-Chen. Count Komura, in proposing the health of his Imperial Guest, said that the Japanese people, official and private, were deeply thankful for the Prince's coming. The connexion between Japan and China, both political and economical, was of the closest character. Therefore their mutual friendship should always be warm. Moreover, the functions devolving on them as guardians of the East-Asian situation necessitated sincere amity. It was thus the earnest wish of all classes in Japan to promote good relations with their neighbour, and they were devoting all their strength to the task. It had been their desire to give to their illustrious visitor a really hearty welcome, but to their great regret the Prince, being in mourning, had declined all public demonstrations. They hoped to have another opportunity of giving expression to their sincere feelings.

The Prince, in replying, alluded to his long acquaintance with Count Komura and expressed the pleasure it gave him to find in his mission an opportunity of renewing that friendship. He felt especially grateful in that the Count had prepared such an entertainment in spite of his own illness. It was unnecessary to speak of the excellent relations existing between the two countries. Ever since his landing at Bakan he had received a most hearty welcome from high and low alike, and it had been impossible for him to avail himself of all the bounteous hospitalities extended to him. He raised his glass praying for the everlasting welfare of the Emperor of Japan and for the unlimited success of Count Komura.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

It appears certain that Mr. Ozaki Yukio is about to rejoin the ranks of the *Seiyukai*, if he has not already done so, and that he will be followed by five members of the Boshin Club, namely, Professor Tomizu and Messrs. Inouye Toshiwo, Yoneda Minoura, Kohashi Eitaro and Iwashita Seishu. The Boshin Club, as most of our readers probably know, is the Association of business men which came into existence on the eve of the last general elections.

The significance of this incident lies in the fact that it seems to indicate abandonment of Mr. Ozaki Yukio's long entertained and recently promoted project for the formation of two great political parties, each capable of administering the Company's affairs and each competent to serve as a check upon the other. Towards the close of the Diet's last session, when the great fracas occurred between the two sections of the Progressist Party, and when there was general talk of fusing into one compact whole the various segments of the Opposition, Mr. Ozaki was recognised as an active promoter of the movement. But he now appears to have recognised its impossibility, and to be disposed to substitute the expedient of one overwhelmingly strong party which shall command a sweeping majority in the Lower House and devote its dominant strength to correcting all abuses. Undoubtedly one omnipotent party is not the ideal form of a constitutional polity, but it is certainly a great deal better than a welter of disputing factions. Mr. Ozaki will be endorsed by all careful onlookers when he says that no tangible difference of opinion separates the various sections in the Lower House at present, and that they are divided merely by personal jealousies and undefinable sentiment.

Last April some excitement was caused in political circles by the intelligence that Viscount Hotta, leader of the *Kenkyu kai*, had been removed from that position, much as Mr. Inukai Ki had been removed from the leadership of the Progressist Party. Viscount Hotta's fault was interpreted by the general public to be that he had established relations with the *Seiyu-kai*, and had thus offended the Conservative section of the *Kenkyu-kai* under the leadership of Viscount Mishima. Viscount Hotta naturally demanded a precise explanation of the reasons for his dismissal, but he has failed to obtain any satisfaction, and now, on the eve of an election to fill a vacancy in the House of Peers, he has issued a manifesto which makes it quite clear that he intends to throw in his lot with the supporters of the *Seiyu-kai* in the Upper Chamber. He speaks emphatically of the Constitution as contemplating cooperation between the two Houses of the Diet for legislative purposes, and he affirms that that object is defeated when the Upper Chamber allows itself to be betrayed into opposing the Lower in deference to the prejudices of a political clique. This of course means a final break between the Viscount and the *Kenkyu-kai*, and it is expected to prelude the withdrawal of several members from the latter into the new section which Viscount Hotta will now lead. The number of these seceders is estimated at 20, but their defection will only partially impair the strength of the Conservative element in the Upper House. It will still have a majority of about 70.

THE JAPANESE ARMY.

The *Hochi Shimbun* gives some interesting particulars about the strength of the Japanese Army. The figures may or may not be accurate, but we presume that they are a tolerably close approximation. Everybody is acquainted with the general fact that the Japanese Army now consists of 19 Divisions, but little or no information has hitherto been procurable about troops supernumary to the above. Our Tokyo contemporary now tells us that these additional troops comprise three brigades of field artillery, four brigades of cavalry, two brigades and nine battalions of heavy artillery, one brigade of communications troops and three battalions of mountain artillery. With regard to the cavalry, two brigades have still to be embodied, the barracks for their reception not being yet finished. This, however, is a matter of a few days. It is further stated that the establishment of the cavalry is five battalions to one regiment and two regiments to one brigade. Turning now to the question of the number of troops actually under arms, in other words the number of men serving with the colours, the *Hochi* gives the following figures, but does not claim absolute accuracy for them since they are in every case somewhat below the reality.

Infantry	129,960
Cavalry	14,500
Artillery	11,270
Engineers	10,400
Commissariat	9,240
Heavy Artillery	5,600
Mountain ,,	1,620
Communications troops	2,000
Total	184,590

With regard to this total we may observe *en passant* that as the number of men eligible for conscription every year is 450,000, it would seem that about 40 per cent. of the whole are taken for service.

Turning now to the interesting question of the strength of the Japanese Army on a war footing, the *Hochi* puts it at 1,214,000, exclusive of 10,000 troops serving in Formosa; 15,000 officers and non-commissioned officers serving with the colours, and a very large number of officers and non-commissioned officers whose names are borne on the reserves. We may here recall the facts that when Japan entered the lists against China in 1894 the number of men serving with the colours was 60,000. This was increased to between eighty and ninety thousand in the first post bellum reorganization, and now the number is about doubled in the sequel of the recent war.

RAILWAYS IN MANCHURIA.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* confirms the intelligence that an agreement has been reached with regard to the financing of the Mukden-Hsinmintun and Changchun-Kilin Railways. The negotiation has been carried on by Mr. Tanaka, a managing director of the South Manchuria Railway, on the Japan side, and a Mr. Lu on the Chinese side. The agreement as to the Mukden-Hsinmintun line is that Japan lends a sum of 320,000 *yen* at 5 per cent. interest and 93 per bond, the period of redemption being 18 years. In the case of the Changchun-Kilin line the sum lent by Japan is 2,150,000 *yen* and the period of repayment is 20 years, the other terms being the same. It will be observed from these figures that Japan is furnishing money to China for these particular lines at rates of interest identical with those granted to the Middle Kingdom by European States. Our readers will remember that the final difficulty encountered by the negotiators in this case was the question of interest on the portions of the loans lodged in the Specie Bank. At the outset, that Bank refused to give any interest, as it could not profitably deal with large sums which might be withdrawn at any moment. But this objection was finally withdrawn, and the Bank has now agreed to give its current rates. Its Tientsin branch will handle the funds of the Hsinmintun-Mukden line, and its branches at Dairen and Yingkow will handle those of the Changchun-Kilin road.

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HAWAII.

There appears to have been no special communication from Mr. Consul-General Ueno in Honolulu for some days. The *Nippon* quotes a person said to be well versed in Hawaiian affairs as saying that there had been several instances of strikes on a petty scale in Hawaii prior to the present one, but none had lasted more than ten days or a fortnight This latest case, however, is much more serious. The strikers enjoy wide sympathy among their fellow countrymen, and already a sum of 10,000 *yen* has been contributed for their support. So long as they can procure food enough to keep body and soul together, they are not likely to give in. Meanwhile the planters are suffering heavy loss, and though several of them are doubtless disposed to acceed to the demands of the strikers, they are bound to each other by a compact which every one hesitates to be the first to violate. The efforts made by the Tradesmen Association to effect a compromise are valueless, since their self-interested motive is clearly perceived.

Advices, apparently official, have been received in Tokyo with reference to the strike in Hawaii. They represent the strikers —not even excepting the workmen on the two plantations where the greatest obstinacy has hitherto been shown—as desirous at heart to return to their work, but as prevented from doing so by the pressure of the agitators and by an exaggerated conception of their duty to one another. The planters are not unwilling to grant better terms to their Japanese employees, but they feel that to do this in the face of direct menace would inaugurate a most pernicious system, and would virtually subject the great sugar industry of Hawaii to the machinations of irresponsible agitators. Mr. Consul-General Ueno is strenuously endeavouring to terminate the deadlock, and is advising the planters to give some substantial mark of approval in the case of the hands who abstained from striking or who have returned to their work. Altogether the situation seems to be tending to an amicable settlement.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a telegram from Honolulu which represents the planters as strenuously endeavouring to put an end to the strike. One incident related is that three Japanese, having been employed by the planters to persuade the men to return to their work, were remonstrated with by three representatives of the strikers, and in the sequel the latter three men were charged by the planters with resorting to violence in illegal restraint of trade and industry. A judicial order has also been obtained vetoing the journalistic publication of any matter designed to incite continuance of the strike or to dissuade the strikers from returning to work.

We may refer in this context to a statement made apparently by the *China Gazette*, and quoted by the *Japan Herald* with such prominence as to suggest approval, to the effect that "it has been reserved for the American Government to learn what an overwhelming population of lawless Japanese labourers means, and perhaps yet to reap the whirl-wind." It would be difficult to concoct a greater libel than that involved in describing the Japanese in Hawaii as a population of lawless labourers. The public is prepared for anything whatever in the columns of the *China Gazette*, but it seems to us that the German organ of Yokohama might be better employed than in giving publicity to such lying scandals.

JAPAN'S FINANCES.

At the close of 1906, when Japan came to make out the accounts of her war with Russia, she found that she had incurred a total expenditure of 1,700 million *yen* in round numbers. By that amount her national debt was increased. She then determined to lay aside every year a sum of at least 110 million *yen* for the service of the debt. That did not mean, of course, that redemptions aggregating 110 millions were to be made annually. These 110 millions were for the service of the debt; in other words, they were for the purpose of paying interest as well as principal. The portion applicable to redemption would be from 30 to 37 millions yearly, and the loan would thus be completely paid off in about 30 years. That was the programme when Marquis Katsura came into office. But very soon he announced the Treasury's intention of increasing the redemption fund to 50 millions. That is to say, he added some 16 millions to the money available for paying off the debt; and evidently, if the increase were permanent, the whole indebtedness would be wiped off in about 20 years instead of 30, as originally planned. Still better things, however, are said to be contemplated. The sum actually devoted to the sinking fund during last fiscal year was 50,800,000 *yen*, and since the interest on that amount will go to augment the redemption fund during the current year, the amount paid off from that source will be 53,340,000 *yen*. To this it is proposed to add another 10 millions obtained from the national growth of the State's income, for the experience of last year makes it plain that such growth may be confidently expected, the actual development of the ordinary revenue having reached a sum of over 30 millions. It is further expected that from 1912 onwards the yield from the customs duties will swell from 38 millions to 53, unless Japan manages her negotiations for tariff revision clumsily. Altogether the outlook is good, and it can not be wondered at that the market price of Japanese stocks has steadily appreciated abroad, especially when we remember that the interest on these bonds has been freed from the duty of paying income-tax, and that the bonds themselves are accepted as security by the Bank of Japan at their face value. The next problem to be taken in hand is the conversion of the foreign loans bearing more than 4 per cent. interest, namely, the loan of 30 millions sterling floated in London and New York at 4½ per cent. in March 1905; and the 4½ per cent. loan of the same amount floated in London, New York and Berlin in July 1905. The former loan is to be unredeemed until the 14th of February 1910, and to be thereafter paid off by the 15th of February, 1915; and the corresponding dates in the case of the latter loan are the 9th of July 1910 and the 10th of July 1925. The present time seems favourable for operations of conversion, and the *Asahi Shimbun* thinks that they will be undertaken. It might also be supposed that in view of an expanding revenue the Cabinet would be disposed to proceed to the abolition of the three objectionable taxes, namely,

The Salt Monopoly, which yields	13 million *yen*.
The tax on Textiles	20 „
The tax on Communications	3 „

But it is apparently thought that as these taxes—or at any rate the first two of them —are not theoretically defective, they will be continued, and the available funds will be devoted to increasing the salaries of officials from the present total of 60 millions to 78 millions—*i.e.* by 30 per cent.—and the allowances for travelling expenses from 1 million to 1½ millions.

AN APPRECIATION OF CHINA.

A well-known journalist Mr. Ishikawa Yasujiro, formerly editor of the *Mainichi Shimbun* has just returned from a visit to China where he collected some interesting information. The *Keizai Zasshi* quotes him as saying that in order to be as well furnished as Japan, proportionately, with means of communication China must have 60,000 miles of railway, or about ten times the mileage now in operation in Japan, whereas she has only 3,000. Inasmuch, however, as foreign capitalists are competing keenly to obtain railway concessions and are evidently willing to invest large sums in this kind of enterprise, China will be probably well supplied before many years have passed. Mr. Ishikawa found that wherever he went in China Japanese subjects constituted a large element of the foreign population. Thus at Tientsin there are 1,800 Japanese; at Peking 800; at Hankow 1,500; and at Shanghai 7,000. If they are conspicuous by their numbers, however, they are also conspicuous by their comparative poverty. Thus in Shanghai, although out of a total foreign population of 14,500 the Japanese aggregate 7,000, there are only 100 among them who pay rates qualifying them to vote at the election of members of the Municipal Council. It results that Japan is wholly unrepresented on that body. As for capital invested by Japanese, there also the figures are discouraging. The principal enterprises with which they are concerned are not numerous. In the Tara iron mine they have about 3 million *yen*. This money is to be repaid with ore taken from the mine during 30 years, 5 or 6 of which have already passed. Again in the Hanyang Foundry the Specie Bank has 2 millions and the Mitsui Firm one million, but as 300,000 of the latter sum has been paid back, the amount actually outstanding is only 2,700,000. In the Ping-Hsiang colliery the Okura Company has sunk 1,200,000 *yen*, and altogether including Shanghai, Hankow and other tradal centres, Japanese investments in China probably aggregate 20 million *yen*. Contrasting these figures with the fact that France and England are about to invest from 30 to 40 million *yen* in the Yeh-Han and other railways in the Yangtsz valley, it is evident that Japan cannot hope to take her due share of Chinese commerce without sinking much larger sums of capital.

NATIONAL DEBTS.

According to the latest official returns the national debts stood as follow at the close of June :—

	Yen.
Original Total	2,654,751,165
Paid off	101,548,579
Still due	2,553,202,586

Dividing the above between foreign and domestic debts, the figures are :—

Domestic Debts.	Yen.
Original Total	1,489,048,965
Paid off	101,547,017
Still due	1,387,501,948

Foreign Debts.	Yen.
Original Total	1,165,702,200
Paid off	1,562
Still due	1,165,700,638

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FORMOSA.

General Viscount Sakuma, Governor-General of Formosa, is now in Tokyo. He has been interviewed by a representative of a news agency, and he appears to have spoken with much satisfaction of the success that has attended the operations against the aborigines of late. Owing to their inability to support the pressure of the Aiyu advance, no less than 4000 of the aborigines surrendered on the 9th of June last, and their leaders, numbering 150, were subsequently invited by the Governor-General to his residence, entertained there at a banquet, and dismissed with handsome presents. A considerable tract of land was assigned to these aborigines for their support, but as the locality did not please them, it was subsequently changed at their request. The children of aborigines who have surrendered are receiving education at Japanese elementary schools, or at institutions connected with the Aiyu lines in the case of districts far removed from the regular schools. About 1,500 of these children are now receiving instruction. The Viscount says that steps are being taken to provide for a Formosa section in next year's Anglo-Japanese Exhibition. The purpose in forming the exhibits will be to show the progress made by Japanese administration in the Island and thus to afford the foreign public an opportunity of judging whether or not the Japanese people are possessed of colonizing ability. The population of Formosa is about 3 millions, but it includes only 70,000 Japanese, which is a far smaller number than that of the Japanese in Korea. It is essential that steps should be taken to increase the settlers, and in order to promote that result provision for a special colonization bureau will be made in the next budget. The new water-works at Taipeh—which we may remark *en passant* seems to be now invariably called "Taihoku"—have been completed, the supply being estimated on a basis of 150,000 inhabitants. The General remarks that the development of the fishing industry has been comparatively neglected in Formosa. The Pescadores may be said to look out from among a mob of fishes, and indeed the whole west coast of the Island has enormous piscine wealth. Steps ought to be taken to turn these riches to account. Speaking of the Ari san forest, on account of which the Diet refused to make any development-grant last session, Viscount Sakuma says that it is a property of enormous value. Recently it was inspected by two Japanese experts as well as by Professor Hoffman of the Agricultural College. The latter declared that he had no hesitation in pronouncing Ari-san to be the most extensive and the richest forest known to exist anywhere in the world. Steps are now being taken to provide the hitherto inaccessible eastern coast with proper means of communication. A survey has been completed for a railway between Taito and Karenko, and there can not be any doubt that when this railway is built, it will have a powerful influence on the agricultural development of the region. Referring to sugar, the Governor General is quoted as denying flatly that any discrimination whatever is exercised in imposing customs dues. The production of sugar is increasing enormously. It may be said to double itself yearly. The next returns will probably show 250 million catties, and the day is not far distant when the figure of 500 millions will be reached.

THE SUGAR SCANDAL.

The Sugar-Scandal case came to an end on the 3rd instant, so far as concerned the charges of abuse of office preferred against members and ex members of the Diet. Some surprise has been caused by the judgment of the Court. It will be remembered that in consideration of their frank confession of guilt and in consideration of their penitent demeanour, four of the accused, notably Mr. Yokoi Tokio, were recommended by the public procurator for special treatment: in other words, he advised that they should be sentenced to 6 months' deferred imprisonment, which would have amounted to virtually releasing them with a caution. The Court ignored this recommendation in the cases of Mr. Yokoi and Mr. Ezaki, but, on the other hand, extended it to five besides the other two—namely, Nakamura and Imata—whom the Procurator had indicated. For the rest the sentences varied from 10 months' to 3 months' major imprisonment, one of the accused being acquitted altogether. The following is the list:—

SENTENCED TO 10 MONTHS' MAJOR IMPRISONMENT

Matsuura Gohei, Hasegawa Toyokichi, Yokota Torahiko, Usui Tetsuo and Nishimura Shintaro.

SENTENCED TO 8 MONTHS' MAJOR IMPRISONMENT.

Ogino Yoshizo, Sawada Yasushi and Imata Kamataro.

SENTENCED TO 5 MONTHS' MAJOR IMPRISONMENT.

Kuribara Ryoichi, Morimoto Shun, Yokoi Tokio, Muramatsu Aizo and Ezaki Reiji.

SENTENCED TO 4 MONTHS' MAJOR IMPRISONMENT.

Sato Torajiro, Okuno Ichijiro, Shimazu Ryochi, Kanzaki Tozo, Yasuda Kun, Tamura Koremasa and Kimura Hambei.

SENTENCED TO 3 MONTHS' MAJOR IMPRISONMENT.

Ozawa Aijiro, Sekino Denjiro and Nakamura Chushichi.

With regard to refunding the money received as bribes, the Court seems to have been unable to fix the exact individual responsibility except in 4 cases. For the rest, the duty of re-payment was imposed on groups of from 2 to 5 of the culprits. The actual figures were as follow:—

Amounts to be refunded. Yen.	Persons to make the refund.
5,500	Matsuura Gohei
2,0 0	Kuribara Ryoichi
20,000	Usui Tetsuo
	COLLECTIVELY.
1,650	Shimazu Ryoichi, Sawada Yasushi, Matsuura Gohei
3,000	Hasegawa Toyokichi, Sato Torajiro, Ozawa Aijiro, Sawada Yasushi, Matsuura Gohei
18,150	Sawada Yasushi, Matsuura Gohei
700	Kanzaki Tozo, Nishimura Shintaro
400	Tamura Koremasa, Nishimura Shintaro
400	Sekino Denjiro, Nishimura Shintaro
8,300	Nishimura Shintaro
1,500	Yokoi Tokio, Sawada Yasushi, Matsuura Gohei
2,5 0	Muramatsu Aizo, Sawada Yasushi, Matsuura Gohei
1,400	Ogino Yoshizo, Sawada Yasushi, Matsuura Gohei
800	Okuno Ichijiro, Sawada Yasushi, Matsuura Gohei

The 7 men whose sentences were deferred for 3 years were Morimoto Shun, Okuno Ichijiro, Shimazu Ryochi, Kimura Hambei, Sekino Denjiro, Nakamura Chushichi and Imata Kamataro. Further, Hasegawa Toyokichi and Kawashima Kameo were acquitted of the charge of receiving their expenses as candidates for election, but as Hasegawa was convicted on another count, the only one of the accused who escaped scot free was Kawashima Kameo. Finally the following were released on bail in one surely of 100 *yen* for the period pending appeal, namely, Yokoi Tokio, Muramatsu Aizo, Kanzaki Tozo, Yasuda Kun, Okuno Ichijiro, Shimazu Ryochi and Sekino Denjiro.

It appears that the majority of the men found guilty of bribery and corruption by the Tokyo Local Court have signified their intention of appealing. The Public Procurator has also appealed, but his appeal is against the judgment of the Court, not for lack of severity, but for failure to accept the Procurator's plea for clemency in the case of Messrs. Yokoi and Eizaki. The Public Procurator has also appealed against the acquittal of Kawashima, on whose guilt he insists. This appeal for clemency, coming from a public procurator, is said to be unique in Japan.

THE IMPERIAL AND METROPOLE HOTELS.

Some excited interest was caused in Tokyo on the 30th of June when it became known that the Directors of the Imperial Hotel Company had abruptly dismissed the foreign managers of that establishment as well as of the Hotel Metropole (which is the property of the same Company) and that in the case of the latter hotel the whole of the Japanese staff had been dismissed and the guests asked to find other quarters. The affair, however, is understood to have no cause other than mere economy. Finding that the staff of the Hotel Metropole far exceeded the number of either actual or immediately prospective guests, and that a reduction of expenses was essential with regard to both institutions, the Directors resolved to take a drastic step. That the Hotel Metropole will be opened again so soon as the expedient reorganizations are effected, is confidently stated, but it seems to be resolved that foreign management will be dispensed with. We are sorry. Possibly the Japanese have learned to run foreign hotels. Fujiya is an illustration. But we can not forget that, up to the present, Fujiya has stood in a class entirely apart, nor can we imagine the converse, namely, foreigners running a Japanese inn successfully.

THE KAISER.

The Kaiser, if we may trust a telegram published by the *Hochi Shimbun* with much pomp and circumstance, has again provided for the nations something to talk about. He is said to have stated, when lunching on board a French (?) yacht, the *Arian*, that Europe has everything to dread from Asia, and that the countries of the West should lay aside their mutual quarrels in order to unite against the common foe. In these circumstances His Majesty declared himself most anxious to preserve the peace of Europe.

Considering that England is allied with the Power which stands at the head of Asiatic nations, we doubt whether this latest utterance of the German Emperor will be very heartily received in Great Britain. And indeed, we doubt whether it is intended to be so received, for it is difficult for any student of the times to believe that the Emperor of Germany is a friend of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. But did his Majesty say anything of the kind?

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THE RAILWAY BOARD.

Some startling revelations have been made by the Minister of Communications at an interview with the leaders of the conservative section of the Progressist Party, who called upon Baron Goto to obtain information about a subject recently much discussed, namely, the unexpectedly small dimensions of the nett profits accruing from the Government's Railways. The gist of Baron Goto's statement may be summed up by saying that the accounts have not hitherto been trustworthy. The appropriations demanded by each of the Sections were not duly transmitted to them. The habit was to keep a portion in the hands of the Minister of the Department, and to pay it out subsequently in case of urgent necessity, applying any surplus to travelling expenses and miscellaneous outlays. This betrayed the Sections into a habit of applying for more than they really wanted, and, in order that their demands might not seem extravagant, they estimated the net profits on a proportionately generous scale. Moreover, great abuses of favouritism were developed by this system. Equally deceptive was the method used in purchasing materials. Great quantities were bought all at once and stored away for future use, so that their deterioration ultimately represented a serious loss. The loss on this accoun tin 1907 was 4 million *yen*. In short, there was no genuine relation between the estimates and the reality. Baron Goto, from the time of taking office, had determined to correct these abuses, but unfortunately illness had prevented him from taking part in the compilation of the last Budget, He is now, however, actively and resolutely engaged in placing things on a trustworthy basis, and he is determined that the results of actual railway work shall be plainly shown in the published accounts.

MUNICIPAL LOANS.

The Kyoto city's loan of 45 million *francs* having been duly taken up by a French Syndicate, was advertised in Paris on the 1st inst., and subscriptions are to be received for the first half of the loan on the 15th and 16th inst., and for the second half at the close of this month.

The Kyoto loan of 45 million francs, the equivalent of 17½ million *yen*, was announced on the 30th of June and issued on the 1st of July. It proved an eminent success. Placed upon the market at 99, it is said to have been subscribed several times over in the course of the day, Berlin taking a considerable block. The Kyoto Municipality is to receive 93 per bond, and the loan is to be re-paid in 20 years after lying unredeemed for 10. The notable feature of this transaction is that it has been concluded without any official intervention, the Mitsui Bank and two great French banks having managed the matter entirely without reference to either Government.

It is stated that the preliminary arrangements for the Yokohama loan of 7 million *yen* to extend the water works have been nearly completed by the Industrial Bank, and the loan will be placed upon the market in a few days. The issue price is expected to be 98 and the City's net receipt will be 93. The loan carries interest at the rate of 5 per cent.

On the 2nd instant the Home Department granted the application of the Yokohama Municipality to raise a foreign loan of £716,500, the issue price to be 98, and the sum received by the Municipality 94. The debt will be unredeemed for 15 years and will be thereafter paid off in 30 years. The issuing banks are the Industrial, Parr's and the Hongkong and Shanghai, the brokers being Messrs. Panmure and Gordon. There are the usual commissions.

THE KEI-HIN RAILWAY.

There has been a strike among the employees at the power station of the Kei-Hin Electric Railway. On the 3rd instant about 36 men left their work, and the cars had to stop running at 9.40 p.m. The causes of the trouble are said to be discontent because the new Board of Directors struck out the bonus usually given to the men and resentment against the new manager, Mr. Moriya, who not only dismissed a number of hands, but is also said to have behaved in an overbearing manner.

The disturbance among the employees of the Kei-Hin Railway has been allayed by an assurance from the President, Mr. Miura, that the recent dismissals are final and will not be succeeded by any others. This assurance was given at an entertainment provided for the remaining employees in the Meguro villa of Viscount Aoki, who is the elder brother of Mr. Miura.

The troubles of the Kei-Hin Railway Company are not yet at an end, it would seem. The entertainment given to the employees on the 6th inst. had a placating effect, but on the occasion of a similar proceeding on the following day to the remaining employees there appears to have been a want of tact, and some of the men, having subsequently fortified themselves with alcohol, raided the Company's office and wreaked their wrath on unoffending furniture. It is alleged by one Tokyo journal that the so-called reforms made by the new Managing-Director have resulted in the discharge of competent motor-men and the substitution of tyros, the consequence being that traffic by the tram has fallen off materially.

THE TSOCHENG AFFAIR.

A bald statement was published some time ago to the effect that a Japanese subject had been murdered at Tsocheng in Kwangtung province. Details have now been received. They show that the catastrophe resulted from a cause which has produced many outrages already in China. Rumours had been diligently spread throughout the district to the effect that children were to be buried alive in connexion with railway construction and that foreigners were coming to kidnap them with that object. Shortly after this pernicious story had been circulated, a Japanese subject arrived upon the scene. He was duly furnished with a passport, but for some unexplained reason the provincial authorities seem to have failed to give notice of his coming. Almost immediately after his arrival a mob began to collect, and realizing his danger he took refuge in the house of a Chinese family. But the inmates raised a cry that he had come to seize their children, and they fled from the house pell-mell. The unfortunate visitor then saw that his only chance was speedy flight, and in order to divert the attention of his pursuers he scattered bank notes along the road, but the Chinese paid no attention to this attraction. They followed him ruthlessly, caught him up and murdered him.

LANDS IN RUSSIAN AND JAPANESE TENURE IN MANCHURIA.

Mr. Asakawa, to whom the public already owes so much valuable information about the history of Russo-Japanese relations, has just published in the *Yale Review* an interesting comparative statement of the areas of the "Railway Zones" held by Russia and Japan respectively in Manchuria. We quote:—

Railway Land in Manchuria. Through the courtesy of the South Manchuria Railway Company, the following information regarding the extent of railway land in Manchuria has been obtained. It is hoped that the publication of this data will make the matter of the "railway zone" in Manchuria and the many important problems connected therewith at least more intelligible than they have been hitherto.

From the carefully detailed tables of figures especially prepared and placed at my disposal by the Company, I have been enabled to make the following computations:—

The entire land belonging to the Easte n Chinese Railway, over which Russia exercises administrative powers, covers an area of 328,720 acres, or 513 63 square miles. Around Harbin alone, the "zone" extends over 12,000 dessiatines, which is equal to 32,397 acres, or 50.62 square miles.

If one adds 20 square miles to this last area, the sum will be equivalent to the total extent of the land belonging to the South Manchuria Railway, which is at p.esent under Japan's co trol. The exac area is 70 54 square miles, or 45,156 acres. Of this, about 7.5 per cent., or 5.36 square miles (3,429 acres), have been acquired by Japan from Chinese land-owners during and after the recent war with Russia, the rest—about 65 square miles—having been handed over by Russia in accordance with the Treaty of Portsmouth.

The following table will show the distribution of the land along the railway in Russian control:—

	acres.	square miles.
In Heilung Province, depots	124,970	
" " other lands...	71,328	
" " along the rail.	9,983	
	206,281	=322 31
In Kirin Province, depots	84,967	
" " along the rail ...	5,075	
	90,042	=14 .70
At Harbin, 12,000 dessiatines	32,397	= 50.62
Total	328,720	=513.63

It will be observed that whereas Russia's Zones cover 513 square miles, the area of Japan's aggregates only 70 miles.

THE SHIZUOKA POLICE.

On the 3rd instant judgment was delivered by the Shizu ka Local Court in the case of the policemen and others charged with aiding and abetting pick pockets. Eighteen constables, pick-pockets and receivers of stolen goods were convicted, and sentenced to terms of imprisonment varying from 16 to 8 years.

Meanwhile the dimensions of the Akasaka apprehensions and seizures are growing. No less than 550 persons are said to have visited the police-office for the purpose of identifying their property among the heaps of ownerless articles, and in 50 cases the identifications were successful. It would seem that the old time system of organized thieving still exists. There are duly chosen head-men who levy toll from all their followers, and there is a regular programme for assisting professional thieves who have been apprehended and cast into prison. Often the police purposely refrain from laying hands on a headman in consideration of his helping them to recover important documents or other property. We find in the *Keizai Zasshi* an interesting addition to the argot of the craft. Thus pick-pockets who frequent trams and railways are called *hakoshi*; those that work in the ordinary way in the streets are called *jizukai*; those that make a habit of exploring the contents of sleeves (*tamoto*) are dubbed *bota*; those that have to do with girdles are known as *muneate-hazushi*, and those that cut holes in satchels are called *tagedashi*.

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YOKOHAMA'S JUBILEE.

Tokyo newspapers in their issues of the 1st inst. devote a great deal of space to the Yokohama Jubilee. Many interviews are published, and many photographs of more or less distinguished persons, as Baron Sufu, Mr. Mitsuhashi, Count Higashi, Mr. Shimada Saburo, Mr. Oye Taku, Mr. Hara Zenzaburo, Mr. Mogi Sobei, Mr. Ono Kokei, Mr. Kimura Riemon and Mr. Soda Kinsaku. Among foreigners the photographs published are those of Mr. Alexander Clark, Mr. J. P. Mollison and Captain Brinkley. To Mr. Clark belongs indubitably the honour of being the oldest resident. He arrived in Yokohama in 1861, when he was only 13 years old, and he has been but once to England during his long sojourn of 49 years. The *Jiji*, in publishing an interesting interview with him, says that it quotes his own words, and if so he must be a very accomplished speaker of Japanese. A long and most interesting interview with Mr. Mollison appears in the *Asahi Shimbun*. Various other interviews with Japanese gentlemen are given, and all of them dwell upon the extraordinary progress that Yokohama has made during the 50 years of its existence. It need scarcely be said that while congratulating the place upon its remarkable past, the Japanese journals wish it an equally successful future, but we observe that they all abstain from any prediction. It goes without saying that pictures of Commodore Perry, Mr. Townsend Harris and General Palmer, the designer of the water works and the harbour works, appear in the columns of more than one paper; but by a strange oversight the portrait of Sir Harry Parkes is not given, though Yokohama owes far more to him than to any other foreigner, alive or dead, and attaches to his memory a degree of reverence and affection that is absolutely without parallel.

THE HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY.

According to the *Asahi Shimbun* there has been an important change in the organization of this Company. The Kobe Syndicate, by which the project was originated, is no longer supported by Messrs. Panmure, Gordon & Co, the latter having come to the conclusion that English capitalists are not disposed to invest their money in new enterprises but that they prefer to place it in solid securities. This, however, has not impaired the prospects of the Company. It has been taken up by another great capitalist, whose name is given as Mr. Sparing, and the idea now is to register the Company as a juridical person under English law, and to place the shares in the world's market instead of in the British market only. This consummation is to depend, however, upon the result of further investigations made by engineering experts who will very soon arrive in Japan. The English capitalist who has now come into the affair is said to be ready to furnish 20 or 30 million *yen* at any moment.

On the 7th inst., we learn from Japanese newspapers, a meeting took place at the Prime Minister's residence of the principal projectors of the Hydro-Electric Power Company. After hearing Mr. Sonoda's report of the results of his visit to England, they decided to telegraph to England that they awaited the arrival in Japan of a British engineering expert and a representative of the British capitalists. This action is regarded as tantamount to a declaration that the project will certainly be carried out.

THE TOKYO-NARITA ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

A meeting of the projectors of the Tokyo-Narita Electric Railway was held on the 30th ultimo, and the Company may now be said to have almost become a practical reality. The details of this enterprise were given by us in a recent number. Baron Matsudaira appears to be the chief projector, and the prospects of the Company ought to be good, though some exception might possibly be taken to its first board of directors.

The *Asahi Shimbun*, however, quotes an anonymous railway expert as throwing much cold water on the above project. He considers that, in spite of the projectors' assurances, the bridging of the Tone River at Ichikawa will cost a great deal more than is estimated; he also considers that, as all experience has hitherto showed, the operating expenses will be more than 50 per cent. of the gross earnings, whereas the projectors estimate them at something over 30 per cent., and finally he considers that 30 passengers per car is an excessive estimate. The projectors, on the contrary, are confident that a net profit of 10 per cent. will be realized, but we are inclined to think that the forecast of the *Asahi Shimbun's* informant will suffice to deter subscribers.

MR. CHIROL.

The Peking correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* has interviewed Mr. Chirol in that city, and sends to the Tokyo journal an interesting epitome of Mr. Chirol's views. It appears that Mr. Chirol has been greatly struck by the striking changes which have taken place in China during the period of 8 years since his last visit to Peking. To say nothing of the fact that it is possible now to travel by railway, he was particularly impressed by the greatly altered methods of police administration, for whereas such a thing as a constable had never been visible in the old days, these guardians of the law are now to be seen everywhere, controlling the traffic, directing the people, and preserving law and order. Another striking change is that whereas formerly access to prominent officials was almost impossible, they are now easily approached, and do not even hesitate to meet strangers in social converse.

Mr. Chirol left Yokohama on the 6th instant, by the steamer *Shinano Maru* of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. On his way from Bakan by train he was approached by several newspaper correspondents, but in every case he declined to be interviewed, being fatigued by his long journey. He is due in London about the 6th or 7th of August.

THE YALU TIMBER QUESTION.

Saturday, July 3.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce at Antung is reported to have attempted to mediate between the Yalu Lumber Company and the Chinese woodmen, but the essay proved unsuccessful, and on the 1st inst. no sale of timber whatever took place. Meanwhile it is said to have been ascertained that transit duty has been levied unlawfully at various places along the Yalu on the timber rafts as they were floated down. This statement needs explanation, for it can not be supposed that the Lumber Company has been tamely submitting to such impositions, and, as we understand the matter, the rafts pass into the possession of the Company so soon as they are floated.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The last ten days of June saw a marked diminution in the import of rice and raw cotton and though there was an increase in wool, kerosene, bean-cake and beans, a large export of silk turned the balance in favour of exports by over one million *yen*. The actual figures for the final ten days of June are as follow :—

	Yen.
Exports	10,599,000
Imports	9,469,000
Excess of exports	1,130,000

The figures for the total trade from the 1st of January to the 30th of June were as follow :—

	Yen.	Comparison with 1908.
Exports	185,054,000	+14,754,000
Imports	213,560,000	—37,308,000
Excess of Imports	28,506,000	

The records for the first halves of the past 7 years are as follow :—

	Exports.	Imports.	Excess of Imports.
	Yen.	Yen.	Yen.
1909	185,054,000	213,560,000	28,506,000
1908	169,975,000	250,562,000	80,587,000
1907	190,950,000	265,263,000	68,313,000
1906	176,670,000	223,049,000	46,378,000
1905	142,767,000	286,462,000	143,694,000
1904	137,465,000	182,634,000	45,169,000
1903	125,918,000	166,248,000	40,130,000

These figures are commented on in a most optimistic strain by the *Shogyo Shimpo*, which journal predicts that the whole year's trade will certainly show a surplus of exports to the extent of 20 millions.

THE TOKYO ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

The Tokyo Municipality is said to be discussing the propriety of collecting a larger sum from the Tokyo Electric Light Company. At present the Municipality gets a fixed amount per post, and the result is that the City receives 37,000 *yen* annually. The idea now is to exchange the present system for a levy of 2½ per cent. on the Company's net profits. That would produce for the City a revenue of 57,000.

It is denied that there is any immediate intention of raising a loan of 10 million *yen* to meet the cost of obtaining water-power from the Katsura River for the uses of the Tokyo Electric Light Company. The Company is in no hurry. It can call up money on its new shares in case of necessity, and it is therefore resolved to wait for a thoroughly favourable market.

THE HONGWANJI SALE.

The second sale of the Higashi Hongwanji art treasures produced a total sum of 250,000 *yen*, in round numbers. The highest bid for any one article was 12,000 *yen*, paid by Baron Iwasaki for a triptych of large landscape pictures by Okyo. A third sale of 700 objects was announced for the 4th instant. It is interesting to note that this Temple, which has now offered for sale some 3,000 precious heirlooms, used to be commonly spoken of as possessing no art treasures whatever.

The third sale of the Higashi Hongwanji treasures evidently included objects of minor value, for it produced a sum of only 50,000 *yen*. The results of the three sales were as follow :—

	Yen.
First sale	287,000
Second „	225,000
Third „	50,000
Total	562,000

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BARON TAKAHIRA.

It might have been anticipated that Baron Takahira's summons to Tokyo would be construed in certain quarters as a mandate of recall. The Foreign Office in Tokyo, however, is quoted as denying that there is any intention of removing him from Washington, and that his presence in Tokyo is solely for the purpose of consulting with reference to the pending revision of the treaty between Japan and the United States. The problem of revision has special importance, for while the desire of each Power is to remain on the best possible terms with the other, the emigration question constitutes a perpetual source of dangerous friction, and it is the urgent duty of the statesmen of the two countries to devise some method of permanently exorcising this phantom. We may mention that telegrams received by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* and the *Yamato Shimbun* represent the American people as very averse to the recall of Baron Takahira and as desirous that he should return to his post in Washington as soon as possible.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It is observed by Tokyo newspapers that on the 30th ultimo Queensland ceased to have treaty relations with Japan. She duly adhered to the Treaty of Commerce between Great Britain and Japan concluded in 1894, but in consequence of her inclusion in the Commonwealth it became necessary for her to give notice of the termination of her adherence. The term of this notice expired on the 30th of June, and Japanese subjects residing in Queensland are now assumed to be entitled to the treatment extended by the Commonwealth to all Japanese subjects.

The Akasaka police appear to have made a great haul. A few days ago they succeeded in laying hands on a man named Ginji, who is said to be the head of the Tokyo pickpockets, and his arrest was followed by that of quite a number of his accomplices. Quantities of stolen goods were recovered from the pawn shops, and quite a ceremony is taking place for the purpose of identifying the owners of the stolen articles. The whole affair has created an exceptional sensation in Tokyo.

Silver has again fallen below 24d., after of long period of improvement. The impression in financial quarters is that it will rise again to 24d. or over, but that the latter price will not be maintained, as the white metal is becoming more and more discredited.

Count Mutsu, now Secretary of Embassy, has been promoted to be Councillor of Embassy. Mr. Ochiai has been similarly promoted. Other minor promotions also are announced.

It is announced that Mr. Hayashi Kunizo, a well known silk-reeler of Suwa in Shinshu, has become bankrupt. The firm is said to owe half a million *yen* to Mr. Ono of Yokohama, and its difficulties have been greatly accentuated by family dissensions about a question of succession. No statement of assets and liabilities has yet been made.

It is stated that the leading Chinese merchants of Osaka and Kobe are planning to form a guild to which men of substance will alone be admitted. This movement has its origin in the fact that a considerable number of Chinese subjects are doing business in the above two settlements without any means adequate to the obligation they incur. The result is frequent failures which tend to injure the development and prevent the smooth progress of trade between China and Japan. It is proposed to eliminate these adventurers from the new Guild, so that membership of the latter shall constitute in itself a guarantee of solidity.

It is stated that two new veins of copper have been discovered in the immediate vicinity of the Besshi mines. These deposits are said to be extremely rich.

The authorities have cancelled the licence of the Yamato Fire Insurance Company. This concern fell into serious trouble in the sequel of the Hakodate fire, and has never been able to emerge from the difficulties into which it was thrown by that catastrophe.

On Saturday the leading business-men of Tokyo, headed by Barons Matsuo and Shibusawa and Messrs. Masuda Ko, Kon Io Rempei, Okura Kihachiro, Sonoda Kokichi, and Soyeda Juichi, gave a luncheon party at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo by way of farewell to Mr. Zumoto, who goes to New York to establish a Japanese news agency. Among the guests were several journalists, as Messrs. Tokutomi, Ikebe, Chikami, Ooka Ikuzo, Minoura K., Tsuchiya S., Kennedy and Capt. Brinkley. Baron Shibusawa proposed Mr. Zumoto's health and spoke in a highly appreciative strain of the work he is about to undertake in New York, and Mr. Zumoto, in reply, explained at some length the various arrangements he proposes to make for disseminating information.

At 5h. 52m. 42s. on the morning of the 3rd instant Tokyo was visited by a sharp shock of earthquake. It was accompanied by a rumbling and it lasted for more than a minute, but it did not develop destructive force. The official seismograph showed a displacement of 32 m.m., and the direction of motion was from north to south, rather than from east to west. According to expert opinion, the centre of disturbance was about 42 miles from Tokyo near the coast of Kazusa, and the probable cause was a landslide or some similar phenomenon at the bottom of the sea. The force did not exceed one-fourth of that developed on the occasion of the great earthquake on June 8th, 1894. The Tokyo Seismologists are quoted as saying that the occurrence of a number of small shocks is shown by the records to indicate freedom from anything destructive. The year of greatest frequency was 1896, when 216 shocks were registered, all of minor dimensions. On the other hand, 1900 was a minimum year with only 76 shocks. Hence the two comparatively severe phenomena of this year are in natural order.

There is talk of abolishing the present Foreign Language School in Tokyo as an independent institution, and converting it into a sectional college of the Imperial University. This is precisely analogous to the programme recently adopted in the case of the High Commercial School, and we anticipate that a similar chorus of disapproval will be heard, though as yet nothing has been said.

The Kanegafuchi Spinning Company is said to have made a great success during the term just ended. It is in a position to carry forward 736,000 *yen* in addition to paying a dividend of 14 per cent. It does not follow that this may be taken as an earnest of similar good fortune in the future. The main reason for the success obtained by the spinning companies during the first half of the current year is that they found themselves with large stocks of yarns in the face of a rapidly appreciating raw-cotton market. They will henceforth, however, have to lay in their material at greatly enhanced prices.

The threatened boycott of the Pacific Mail S.S. Company in Hongkong has been averted by timely action on the part of the Agents. It will be remembered that this trouble had its origin in a placard said to have been displayed at the door of the Company's Office, directing that all Chinese having business at the office should use the back entrance. This placard naturally offended the Chinese highly, but it seems to have been the work solely of the Chinese employees at the Office without reference to the American Staff. The placard has been removed, and the above facts have been explained, with the result that the idea of a boycott has been abandoned.

It is stated that the project for establishing a company to supply Japanese materials and expert labour for the purposes of railway construction in the Yangtsz valley has practically matured. The name of the Company is to be Kyori Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha (Mutual Profit Public Works Joint Stock Company), and a meeting of the principal projectors is to be held at the Prime Minister's residence on the 8th inst. It is further stated that Count Komura will soon hold a conference with the projectors, who therefore appear to have the full sympathy of the Japanese Government.

The Sugar Refining Company appears to have encountered a fresh obstacle at the very outset of its resuscitated career. It has no money to pay its taxes. A sum of 70,000 *yen* became due on account of business tax and income tax on the 1st of June, but the Company has not yet succeeded in collecting funds to meet the obligation. What step will ultimately be taken is a matter of conjecture.

The ceremony of unveiling the statue of Ii Kamon-no-kami is fixed for the 11th inst. There is still some talk about the propriety of the celebration, but it does not seem to amount to much.

It is stated confidently that the sum allotted by the Treasury next year for the redemption of national debts will be 60 million *yen*, as it was this year.

There are somewhat vague telegrams this morning with reference to the recent execution of six Chinese subjects in the United States. The Chinese Representative, Mr. Wu Ting Fang, is said to be apprehensive that the incident will lead to riotous consequences and has recommended the New-York police to be on their guard. Thus far the telegrams are sufficiently comprehensible, but they then proceed to speak of the actions and interactions of the Highbinders and other Chinese coteries in the American city and we confess inability to arrive at any clear understanding of this part of the news.

The Tokyo Municipality has formally applied to the Government to provide one half of the cost of supplying the city with a proper drainage system, the total outlay on which account is estimated at 34 million *yen*.

On the 6th inst. the Chiyoda Savings Bank was declared bankrupt by the Tokyo Local Court on the petition of a creditor

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whose claim amounted to only 511 *yen*. The claims put in hitherto aggregate only 1600 *yen*, but doubtless there are many still to follow.

The first party of Russian tourists left Tsuruga on the 6th inst. for Vladivostock. They certainly were most mercilessly treated by the weather during their sojourn in Japan, but nevertheless the impression produced upon them by Japanese hospitality and by the beauties of the country seems to have been very vivid. They were earnest in their expressions of thanks, and they declared that they would not fail to show their gratitude in a practical form should any party of Japanese students visit Vladivostock.

Any occurrence that is more or less out of the ordinary course of events is sure to be followed by an abundant crop of what our American cousins call "Fool Questions." The recent purchase of Holbein's famous portrait of the Duchess of Milan was a case in point, and *Punch* humorously sums up the questions it provoked by asking, "How many British working men would the sum of £72,000 provide with a pound a week for a period of one week?"

Tokyo journals state that the Fuji Paper Manufacturing Company has arranged to borrow a sum of 3 million *yen* from the Industrial Bank, one half to be applied to extending the factories, and the remainder to paying off a debt due to the Chartered Bank. This second half will not be required until August 1910.

TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Thursday, July 1.

The forenoon session on the 1st inst. was particularly spiritless and showed a sharp decline of prices all round. In the afternoon, however, something of a revival took place though it left prices generally at a lower point than that at which they had stood on the 30th ultimo.

Friday, July 2.

The 2nd instant saw a certain measure of activity in the forenoon, but this changed into great dulness in the afternoon. Something is evidently hanging over the market. It is believed to be an apprehension caused by the state of Japan's relations with China.

Saturday, July 3.

The Stock Exchange showed a little briskness on the 3rd inst., but there was nothing sufficiently marked to be worthy of notice.

Tuesday, July 6.

Very little business was transacted on the Tokyo Stock Exchange on the 6th instant, but the disposition to sell, which has been prevalent of late, seemed to have been checked. On the whole it would appear as though bottom had been reached.

Wednesday, July 7.

The forenoon of the 7th saw a brisk upward movement in all shares, but when State securities were reached, they showed a fall of 1 *yen*, and this produced a generally depressing effect, so that closing prices were considerably lower than the highest quotations of the day.

Thursday, July 8.

The continued rain, which inspires fears for the rice-crop, produced a feeling of depression on the Stock Exchange yesterday forenoon, and virtually all quotations fell. In the afternoon, however, news came that Osaka was firm, and this intelligence caused a slight reaction. In the end, however, the closing prices showed a slight decline nearly all round. The Tokyo Railway was an exception, there being no sellers. We append the quotations for September delivery:—

	July 7th.		July 8th.		
Tanko Kisen	43.35	...	43.35	...	.—
Tokyo Railway	64.10	...	64.65	... +	.55
Kei-Hin Railway	63 90	...	63.50	... —	.40
Yusen Kaisha	79.85	...	79 85	...	.—
Toyo Kisen	17.10	...	17.20	... —	.10
Tokyo Gas	99.80	...	—	...	.—
Tokyo Dento	—	...	94.00	...	.—
Fuji Gas Spinning	109.45	...	108.60	... —	.85
Tokyo Spinning	50.25	...	50.30	... +	.05
Kanegafuchi Spinning	102.45	...	101.65	... —	.80
Beer	76.75	...	76.40	... —	.35
Sugar	—	...	—	...	.—
Hoden (Takarada) Oil	100.30	...	100.10	... —	.20
Nippon Oil	101.15	...	—	...	.—
Stock Exchange	159.10	...	158.95	... —	.15

JAPANESE EMIGRATION.

We take the following from the *Kokumin Shimbun*:—

There is no question as to whether Japan is strictly observing the emigration arrangements with America and Canada. Such strict enforcement of the arrangements will be continued by Japan and it seems to dispense with the necessity of the immigration clause in the commercial treaty between America and Japan which, like treaties with other Powers, is to be revised before long. Below are reliable figures concerning Japanese emigrants to America, Hawaii and Canada:—

JAPANESE PASSENGERS TO AMERICA.

	Labourers. Non-Labourers. Total.			Labourers. Non-labourers. Total.			Increase or decrease.
	1908.			1909.			
January	119	294	413	52	56	108	—305
February	148	321	469	64	51	115	—354
March	157	383	340	52	115	165	—375
April	259	368	627	66	122	188	—439
May	225	201	426	65	77	142	—284
TO HAWAII.							
January	699	22	721	76	22	98	—625
February	576	25	601	62	4	66	—535
March	320	22	342	72	22	94	—248
April	439	15	454	61	14	75	—379
May	553	12	565	124	37	135	—408
TO CANADA.							
January	97	53	150	14	7	21	—129
February	140	56	176	11	4	15	—121
March	74	33	107	31	21	52	— 50
April	146	38	188	41	17	58	—130
May	89	26	115	31	7	38	— 77

JAPANESE PASSENGERS RETURNED FROM AMERICA.

	1908	1909	Increase or decrease.
January	442	295	—197
February	528	213	—315
March	325	377	+ 52
April	372	253	—119
May	326	381	+ 55
FROM HAWAII.			
January	301	30	—241
February	291	118	—173
March	264	189	— 75
April	311	209	— 43
May	465	521	+ 56
FROM CANADA.			
January	19	21	+ 2
February	18	15	— 3
March	4	52	+ 48
April	5	37	+ 32
May	8	38	+ 30

As may be seen from the above and other figures, Japanese emigrants returning from America and Hawaii are greatly less than those going there in 1908 and during the first five months of 1909.

POETRY.

SPERO MELIORA.

Cloud shadow flitting, flitting;
Unrest of wind-kissed sea;
Music passed, yet thrilling;
Flower perfume's memory:—
Waft me from incarnate Thought
To free Infinity.

N. G. M.

KAMAKURA.

We take the following from the *Shanghai Mercury*:—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "SHANGHAI MERCURY."

SIR,—In the April number of "Social Shanghai," published to-day, I find, under the heading of "Kamakura," a very interesting illustrated article, which I think deserves careful perusal from those who contemplate a summer holiday. There is no doubt that the majority of the residents of Shanghai live what may be properly called the strenuous life. Seeing, therefore, that we are entitled to be called a busy, hard-working community, it is incumbent on every one to take a certain amount of rest and recreation. Regular abstention from labour, either mental or physical, is absolutely necessary for the maintenance of even a fair amount of health. It is only fair to say, that men as a rule do not take enough of rest. By rest, I include entire change of air and scene, and complete absence from business. These are the only means at our disposal for overcoming the worry and depression which are the inseparable companions of the overworked man of business. To my mind, there is nothing more bracing to the nervous system than sea air, and nothing more invigorating to a broken-down constitution than judicious sea-bathing. These are both found in perfection in Kamakura. The sea-bathing is delightful in every respect, and probably unsurpassed in any part of the world. I well remember my first visit to Kamakura, in 1869, during the time of the two-sworded men. Forty years have passed since then, but I never can forget how much I was impressed by the quiet beauty of the lovely character of the surroundings. My subsequent residence in Japan, and repeated visits to Kamakura have only confirmed the favourable opinion which I then formed. I have great pleasure, therefore, in endorsing as far as I can the article in "Social Shanghai."

If ample observation and careful research entitle me to an authoritative opinion, I should say, most emphatically, that Kamakura is second to no other place in Japan to-day, as a first class health resort.

It is unnecessary to add that the charming Kamakura Kaihin-in Hotel, recently rebuilt, and thoroughly furnished throughout, is replete with every convenience for the comfort of guests.

I am, etc.,
ROBERT J. SLOAN,
153, Bubbling Well Road.

Shanghai, June 23rd, 1909.

THE PERAMBULATING PIERROTS AT KAMAKURA.

The fine weather on Saturday enabled the entertainment of the "Perambulating Pierrots" at Kamakura to be held in the garden of the Kaihin-in, to the great delectation of the week-end visitors. All the items were enthusiastically received, especially those by Capt. and Mrs. Beasley, who represented the Hongkong talent among the "Pierrots."

The programme was as follows:—

PART I.

1.—Chorus ..... "Who Did?" ..... Scott Gatty
Mr. Windett.

2.—Song ..... "Never go to Sea on a Friday" ..... Motley
Mr. Cooper.

3.—Comic Song... "The Runaway Motor Car" ..... Thomas
Mr. Aslet.

4.—Banjo Solo ..... Selected ..... ———
Capt. Beasley.

5.—Song ..... "Villya" ..... ———
Mrs. Beasley.

6.—Song ..... "The Bandolero" ..... Leslie Stuart
Mr. W. H. Lewis.

7.—Comic Duet ... "Great Scott" ..... H. Montague
Messrs. Aslet and Windett.

PART II.

1.—Banjo Solo ..... Selected ..... ———
Capt. Beasley.

2.—Comic Song... "I'am afraid to go home in the dark" ..... V. Alstyne
Mr. Windett.

3.—Song ..... "Troopin" ..... P. C. C.
Mr. Colman.

4.—Duet ..... "Awake" ..... Pellessier
Messrs. Lewis and Cooper.

5.—Comic Song ..... "Sneezing" ..... Seldon
Mr. Aslet.

6.—Chorus ..... "Good-night" ..... Scott Gatty
The Company.

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THE BUDGET—BELOW THE SURFACE.

WE have already alluded in these columns to the general character of the Budget which was recently presented to the House of Commons and which now, in the definite form of a Finance Bill, is being subjected to keen debate in the Mother of Parliaments. There are, however, several features of the "Great Democratic Budget" on which it would be well to lay emphasis, in view of the large issues involved. The Finance Bill of 1909 may yet lead directly to a General Election; it may yet prove the rock upon which the Radical Government now in power will rush to destruction, and in contemplating the somewhat tortuous course now followed by the Ship of State with Radicalism—not to say, Socialism—at the helm, what, one might well ask, are the "breakers ahead"?

In the first place, it may fairly be claimed that Mr. LLOYD GEORGE, in attempting to deal with an admittedly difficult situation, has made the mistake of framing a distinctly provocative Budget. To take one instance only—the new proposed Land Taxes, which are placed first in the Finance Bill and occupy more than one-third of the entire text, are estimated to give a total yield of a paltry half-million sterling. No one preten ls—least of all, the Chancellor of the Exchequer himself—that this money is wanted. The various new taxation proposals embodied in this "Democratic" Budget are expected to produce, at the end of the financial year, a huge surplus of from eight to ten millions. What is to be done with this handsome profit, it is not difficult to guess—and we shall revert to the interesting question later; but, in the meanwhile, we may fitly enquire—why this impost on Land Values, with its insignificant proceeds? The answer which that most moderate of reviews, the *Spectator*, gives to the query is to the effect that the new Land Taxes—and, in fact, the Finance Bill generally—represent "a deliberate attempt on the part of the present Government to introduce the theories of Mr. HENRY GEORGE in place of the principles which all civilized nations have hitherto accepted":—

> By placing these taxes in the forefront of the Finance Bill Mr. Lloyd George has notified to Parliament that before all things his Budget is a fighting Budget. All the soft talk in which he has indulged of late, all his recent protestations that his only desire is to raise the necessary revenue from those who can best afford to pay, mean nothing. The Finance Bill is primarily intended to give effect to the Henry Georgeite superstition—which has eaten so deeply into the Liberal Party—that the private ownership of land is a sin against the community, and that national prosperity can only be secured by confiscating as rapidly as possible the whole value of all the land which is privately owned. Those who believe that the private ownership of land has been in the past one of the most potent causes of the advancement of mankind will gladly accept the challenge.

But, as we pointed out in a previous article, the Budget of 1909 is not merely a provocative, but a retaliatory, measure. Before its introduction Mr. ASQUITH and Mr. LLOYD GEORGE boasted that they would use it as a means of punishing the licensed trade: after its general principles had become known, Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL and Mr. RUNCIMAN declared that the threat had been made good. Now, quite apart from the desirability and expediency, or otherwise, of raising funds out of the pockets of brewers and publicans, all claim to virtue in legislation is discounted by the betrayal of such a spirit. It may even be doubted whether the most extreme type of Nonconformist Conscience—in its inner consciousness—could really feel satisfaction in the alleged promotion of temperance by legislation of an avowedly vindictive character. Nor can the Government's policy *vis a vis* "the trade" be said to be devoid of inconsistency. For instance, there is the proposal to increase the duty on home-made spirit by 3s. 9d. per gallon. The annual yield to the Treasury thus derived is estimated by the Chancellor of the Exchequer at £1,600,000; but the distillers, through the inevitable enhancement in price, would benefit to the extent of £4,000,000. In other words, a Government which prides itself on the observance of such Free-trade axioms as that "no tax is justified unless it goes almost intact to the State without laying an appreciable burden on the consumer," and which announces its intention of making the licensed victuallers "feel sorry" that the House of Lords rejected the Licensing Bill, endows the distillers of whisky with a lump sum of £4,000,000! Similarly, the Prime Minister assures us in one breath that the brewers can well afford to pay an extra duty on beer, and, in another, that the brewers have no grievance because they can easily get the extra charge out of their customers. Can it be the policy of this Democratic Government to persuade the country that the brewery companies will suffer no real injury and then, when their proposals have become law, to interdict an increase in the retail price of the commodity? Though it is difficult to imagine that even a Government with a clear majority of 250 votes would embark upon so suicidal a course of treachery, how else are their contradictory arguments to be explained?

The essence of the whole matter is that the Budget of 1909 is not, as one of the leading Reviews expresses it, "a *bonâ-fide* provision for the levying of the annual revenue." It bears a distinctly non-financial character. Under cover of being a normal measure of Supply it is a political manœuvre of the most palpable description. The tenure of the present Government is by no means so secure as it seems: there are signs of waning popular confidence, signs that its reign is drawing to an ignoble end. Therefore to stave off, or to provide for, the evil day, was drawn up the Development Grant Bill, whose introduction Mr. LLOYD GEORGE has deemed it advisable to postpone. This "rankly unconstitutional" measure, the corollary of a "triumphantly Socialistic Budget," was to provide for the disposal of the huge anticipated surplus to the best advantage of the Radical party. This time next year—were the dreaded appeal to the country inevitable and imminent—the vast bribe would work wonders with a vacillating electorate. But there are many indications that, if the Government persists with the Finance Bill in its entirely, the appeal to the country will not be so long delayed. Admitting — which we do not admit—that the Upper Chamber has no right to reject or even to amend a Budget, the present financial proposals of the Government, as we have shown, are so much more than mere financial proposals that, should the House of Lords reject them, their action will, we believe, be heartily endorsed by the country. While there is just a possibility that a revolt on the part of the Moderate Liberals, to the number of 70 or 80, may compel the Government to strip the Budget of those of its features which savour of political trickery, yet it is more than probable that the closure guillotine, worked by a complaisant majority, will force the Finance Bill through. Then, indeed, will the issue be joined, and it will remain for the Peers to prove that they are not, in the words of Lord CHELMSFORD, "Ciphers in the Constitution." As for "the most democratic Budget of modern times," should it enter unshorn into the Gilded Chamber, and were it gifted with speech as the mouthpiece of the Liberal party, it might well say, in the words of the dying Bourbon, "*Après moi le déluge!*"

A CONTRAST.

WE are not surprised to find that a close observer like the editor of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* sees a striking contrast between the markedly amicable language of Prince TSAI CHENG and the attitude of the Government he represents. It is of course the business of an envoy charged with such a mission as that entrusted to the Prince to act and speak with perfect courtesy, But there is a palpable difference between the language of conventional politeness and that of sincere friendship. The Chinese Prince unquestionably used words which belong to the latter category, and it is not surprising that Japanese publicists should find difficulty in reconciling his expressions with the demeanour of the Peking statesmen. It is impossible to ignore the fact that China is not treating Japan in anything like an amicable manner at present. In truth, if things continue in their present groove, the relations of the two Powers must soon become strained. It is not to be supposed that China alone is in fault. Many of the Japanese subjects who visited Manchuria in the train of the victorious army or in the immediate sequel of the war behaved in a manner not at all calculated to placate the Chinese, and even now Japanese immigration is characterized by features which can not commend it to the people of Manchuria. But the Peking Government's attitude goes considerably be-

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yond any feeling of resentment which these circumstances might have engendered. Chinese statesmen are acting with plainly unfriendly obstructiveness in all their negotiations with this country, and are even disposed to ignore the explicit provisions of their treaties. Such a state of affairs can not be prolonged indefinitely without grave mischief to the relations between the two countries.

In this context we may refer to a controversy between the *Japan Times* and the *Japan Chronicle*. The latter journal, as might have been confidently predicted, traverses the former's version of Art. VI. of the Peking Treaty of 1905. We do not propose to enter into the rights or wrongs of this controversy here, further than to say that in our opinion the words of the article, namely, *kwabutsu unpan yo ni aratameru*, plainly signify, "to convert into a goods-carrying line," which expression can not possibly be construed in any sense other than the change of the present narrow-gauge military road into an ordinary commercial railway. There is, however, one point to which we may direct attention as illustrating the singular disposition shown by some critics to twist everything in Japan's disfavour. The *Japan Chronicle* appears to challenge the correctness of the *Japan Times* views on the ground that in its *resumé* of the contents of the Treaty the latter journal omitted the provision that the work of conversion is to be completed within two years, exclusive of twelve months required for the repatriation of the troops. The *Japan Times* placably remarks that the omission of this clause does not vitiate its argument. We should think not, indeed. On the contrary, the clause as it stands strongly confirms the Japanese view. For how can it be supposed that the negotiators of the Treaty were thinking of mere every-day "improvement," when they fixed a maximum period of two years for the completion of the contemplated work over a railway only 70 miles in length? From first to last no straightforward critic, as it seems to us, can construe the Treaty in any sense except as conferring on Japan the right to convert the military line between Antung and Mukden into a permanent track having the gauge and potentialities of an ordinary commercial railway, such as those existing in other parts of Manchuria.

"GRUNDSTUCK."

A GERMAN writer in the *Japan Herald* —such at least appears to be his nationality—has been kind enough to enter into a long explanation of the word *Grundstuck*. The exact sense in which the word was used by the framers of the German-Japanese Revised Treaty is a matter of considerable interest. Did the German negotiators employ the term in the sense of land only, or did they employ it in the sense of "land together with all structures standing on it?" There are two methods of arriving at a conclusion. One is by reference to German law; the other, by reference to the context in which the word occurs in the Treaty. The former does not greatly help us, for, according to the writer in the *Japan Herald*, the German Civil Code uses *grundstuck* on one page in the sense of "land pure and simple," and on the next page as "land and structures thereon." We must therefore have recourse to the context, and there we at once find ourselves on firmer ground. In the first place, the writer in our local contemporary admits frankly that the original treaty use of *grundstuck* was in the sense of land alone, since nothing but land then existed in the settlements. Are we then to suppose that German experts, when they came to revise the Treaty, used the same word *grundstuck* in a greatly extended sense, without any reference whatever to the change and without any intimation of it to their Japanese colleagues? In the second place, the term in question is not unqualified. It is defined as the *grundstuck* held under perpetual lease. Now the writer in the *Japan Herald* himself declares that the perpetual leases were leases of land only, since land alone existed when they were drafted. When and how then did they become leases of houses? In the third place, the Settlement Clause of the German Treaty contains a stipulation that the *grundstuck* might hereafter be freely sold by its possessor to Japanese and foreigners without seeking the consent of Consular or Japanese Authorities, as had hitherto been done. But the only property whose transfer had previously required such consent was land, and it is therefore certain that the *grundstuck* referred to in this stipulation signified land, and land alone. In the fourth place, the German negotiators, having asked for some clear assurance that the *grundstuck* would not be liable to municipal taxes, were informed by the Japanese Authorities that "all land-taxes, municipal equally with Imperial, are paid by the actual owners of land; hence, as the Japanese Government is owner of all land in the foreign settlements, the leaseholder can not be called upon to pay such taxes." Here there can not be the smallest doubt that the *grundstuck* in question was land and land only.

Such are the reasons on which we base our interpretation of the word *grundstuck* as employed in the Revised German-Japanese Treaty. They remain wholly undisturbed by the arguments of the writer in the *Japan Herald*. As for his charges that the *Japan Daily Mail* "indulges in open slander against the German Government," and uses "slanderous innuendoes," we may be pardoned for ignoring such silliness.

THE BOOKSHELF.

Règlement sur le Service en Campagne Japonais; by le COLONEL CORVISART. Berger-Levrault and Cie, Paris.

M. LE BARON CORVISART was for some years Military Attaché to the Embassy of the French Republic in Tokyo. He followed the Japanese armies in the Manchurian campaign, and, as a distinguished soldier, he took a keen interest in all the phases of that wonderful war. He has now given evidence of his interest by publishing a French translation of the *Règlement du 14 Octobre 1907 sur le Service en Campagne dans l'Armée Japonaise*. When we speak of a "règlement," the idea suggested is that of a comparatively small insignificant document, but in this case the very opposite is the truth, for the Standing Order in question runs to 320 pages in Mr. Corvisart's translation. It comprises, indeed, the whole system of field service adopted in the Japanese Army, and as it was promulgated in 1907, it must be taken as embodying the teachings and experiences of the war. We have never seen the original: naturally it is not in the hands of the public. But the translation is said to be made literally from the Japanese text, and therefore the work can be thoroughly relied on for accuracy. It must have immense interest for all military men. Colonel Corvisart says in his preface:— "The new standing Order perpetuates the teachings of the Manchurian campaign, collected, considered and applied by the conquerors themselves. The translator has laid himself out to follow faithfully and very closely the Japanese text, so as to preserve the originality of the document. Notes furnish explanatory indications wherever that has seemed necessary." There are a number of tables which greatly enhance the value of the book. It can not be doubted that Baron Corvisart has rendered a great service to his profession by the publication of this book, and we offer him hearty congratulations.

INDEPENDENCE DAY.

The 133rd Anniversary of the Declaration of American Independence was celebrated by the American residents of Yokohama on the 5th instant, the 4th falling on Sunday.

Notwithstanding the steady downpour of rain, the customary reception at the American Consulate-General was well attended. In fact, it would seem as if Japanese goodwill had called out an even larger attendance of Government officials and other notabilities than usual. The reception was attended by H.E. Baron Sufu, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture; Mr. N. Mitsuhashi, Mayor of Yokohama, the Judges of the various Courts, the Prefectural and Municipal officers, the President of the Yokohama Specie Bank, and many others.

The Consular body was well represented, and the American cruiser in the harbour furnished its quota of officers.

The Yacht races in the afternoon were carried out, under most unfavourable conditions, with the following results:—

Yachts over 22 rating, distance 14 25 miles: order of arrival, 1. *Mary*; 2. *Maid Marion*; 3. *Asagao*. Mr. Strong's *Asagao* took the prize, a cup presented by the American Ambassador, on a time allowance of 43 minutes.

In the 22 raters race, Mr. Potts' *Edna* came in first, winning the American Residents' Cup, followed by the *Elsa*.

The Lark Class race was won by No. 7, sailed by Mr. N. Brockhurst, who took the Cup presented by American Residents for that event.

The usual American dinner was held in the evening at the Grand Hotel, and was largely attended. A special dinner, followed by dancing, was given at the Oriental Palace Hotel, the music being furnished by the famous Toyama Band.

The display of fireworks was postponed until the evening of the 6th, when it was witnessed by an enormous crowd of people. In view of threatening weather—a little rain, in fact, did fall—matters were expedited, so that all was over shortly after 9 o'clock.

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YOKOHAMA'S JUBILEE.

THE MEMORIAL HALL: INAUGURAL CEREMONY.

The first official function—the laying of the foundation stone of the Jubilee Memorial Hall—took place shortly after 10 a.m., on July 1, to the accompaniment of a full Shinto ritual, in the presence of the Mayor, the members of the Committee, and a few guests. On the conclusion of the religious ceremony, the Committee repaired to the station to meet the guests from Tokyo.

THE CEREMONY IN THE CUSTOMS COMPOUND.

It was a few minutes after 2.30 when the Mayor, Mr. N. Mitsuhashi, accompanied by the principal speakers, by representatives of the Diplomatic and Consular services and by a few of the guests, took his seat on the platform erected in the central portion of one of the huge Pavilions of the Customs Compound. The proceedings opened with the playing of the National Hymn by the massed bands, and the singing of the Municipal Song by some 200 children who had been drawn up or either side of the open space fronting the platform. The Mayor then delivered the opening speech, which was as follows:—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—It is a great honour to our gathering to-day that guests, both foreign and Japanese, attend the Jubilee Celebration of the Yokohama Port Opening. It is fifty years since this port was opened as a trading post with foreign countries, when Yokohama was only a thinly-populated fishing-village on the Eastern waters, where reeds and grasses grew thick. The state of things rapidly changed and, every facility being afforded, a large number of people were attracted to the port from the inland districts, as well as from distant foreign countries. The number of houses increased, and the levelling of ground and the filling in of marshes and of a portion of the bay, largely increased the available building land. Month by month and year by year, improvements have been adopted, until now the number of houses is about 70,000 and the population close upon 400,000. In the meantime, the harbour accommodation has been enlarged, and the number of ships entering and leaving the harbour has steadily increased. According to the latest returns, the foreign trade of the port has reached the large sum of *yen* 350,000,000, which makes Yokohama one of the most important ports in the Far East. Considering that it is only half a century since the port was opened, the rapid progress it has made may well strike the world with astonishment. When we look back, the event we are commemorating to-day seems to belong to another age.

It is clear that the wonderful development that has been made in so short time is due in part to the cordial friendship of foreign Powers; but, at the same time, the exertions of the Yokohama townspeople have in no less degree contributed towards this great achievement. We, however, turning our attention to the large commercial cities of Europe and America, realize that there still remain many things not yet perfected in our town, which is the entrance gate of the Imperial Capital, besides being an important Oriental port. We, the townspeople, should not rest satisfied with what has so far been attained, but, exerting ourselves with still greater effort, should make Yokohama one of the greatest sea ports in the world, to the glory of our country and in pursuance of the Imperial plan since the establishment of our Empire. By so doing we may retain, perhaps, one ten-thousandth part of the Imperial favours we have received. It is an object worthy to be sought, and to be bequeathed to posterity.

In commemoration of the fiftieth year of the opening of the port, we propose to erect the Yokohama Kwaikwan, or Memorial Hall, in which to hold public gatherings, and the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of that building has just been performed. Henceforth we must devote our energies to the development of Yokohama, continuing to devise new plans and enterprises, and to adopt measures for promoting the prosperity of the town. The celebration of this brilliant Memorial Day, which is honoured with the attendance of your Excellencies and Gentlemen, is not only an honour to the town, but will also, we believe, assist, in no small degree, the progress of the Empire.—(Applause).

Marquis KATSURA's address, read in his unavoidable absence by his secretary, Mr. Sakata, was as follows:—

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate you, Gentlemen, on the celebration of the Yokohama Port-Opening Jubilee, which takes place to-day. It seems to me that the probable reason why a poor village of former days has become a flourishing city and seaport within 50 years is that it is the gate of the Imperial Capital, situated in the focus of communication. Its geographical position is highly advantageous, and its facilities for commerce have kept pace with the progress of the world as well as with the increasing prosperity of our own country. But the hard toil and diligent labour of the people of Yokohama, who have endeavoured to do their utmost in carrying out the great idea of development both in public and in private, have contributed towards the effect in large measure. I believe it can be confidently expected that your indomitable perseverance will make the development of this port still more conspicuous, until it shall become one of the greatest ports in the world. On this occasion, I wish to associate with the progress of Yokohama the general prosperity of the country, and I pray for the promotion of both.—(Applause).

H. E. Monsieur GÉRARD, the Ambassador of France, then made the following speech:—Excellences, Monsieur le Président, Mesdames, Messieurs, La date dont nous célébrons aujourd'hui l'anniversaire est inscrite au Livre d'Or de l'Extrême-Orient et de l'Histoire.

L'ancien hameau de pêcheurs qui ne comptait en 1859 que quelques cabanes, et qui, en cinquante ans, est devenu l'un des grands ports du Pacifique et de l'Univers, a vu s' accomplir l'un des évènements les plus mémorables du Siècle dernier: l'ouverture d'un pays appelé à prendre si rapidement sa place parmi les grandes Puissances de ce monde, et à être, par l'échange des produits et des idées, par le contact des civilisations, le lien entre le mystérieux Orient et l'Occident.

Vous avez, Monsieur le Président et Maire, célébré en termes éloquents la prodigieuse croissance de ce port dont le commerce extérieur s'est, en 1908, élevé au chiffre de 350 millions de *yen*, et dont l'avenir peut, à bon droit, paraître illimité.

D'autres voix diront qu'elle est, dans ces efforts et dans ces résultats, la part de la nation vigoureuse pour qui la révolution de Meiji a été, sous la haute direction du Souverain et d'une élite, en même temps que le réveil à la vie du dehors, une œuvre de restauration intérieure, de renaissance, de retour à sa vocation et à son génie.

Qu'il me soit permis, au nom du corps diplomatique dont j'ai l'honneur d'être en ce moment l'organe, de marquer ici combien, en s'associant dans la personne de leurs représentants et par la présence de quelques-uns de leurs navires, à la célébration de ce jour, les Puissances étrangères se félicitent qu'il leur ait été donné, grâce aux relations établiés alors entre elles et le Japon, de concourir à la prosperité du vieil Empire et du jeune port qui fête son cinquantenaire.

Le "Memorial Hall," dont la première pierre a été posée ce matin, consacrera, avec le souvenir de cette cérémonie et de ceux, nationaux ou étrangers, qui ont joué un rôle dans les évènements du demi-siècle écoulé,—la pensée de paix, d'harmonie internationale sous les auspices de laquelle le Japon, en s'ouvrant au commerce du monde, a répondu à l'appel de ses propres destinées.

Nos voeux, notre confiant espoir sont, aujourd'hui comme il y a cinquante ans, que ce même esprit continue à inspirer nos communes relations et à assurer, dans un lointain avenir, avec le développment du commerce universel, le développement du commerce universel le progrès ininterrompu de la civilisation et de l'humanité.

The speech delivered by H. E. Baron SUFU, Governor of Kanagawa Prefecture, was as follows:—

I am sure that none of us present can doubt that our Yokohama is an important place when we see the harbour full of large vessels coming and going, and realize the magnitude of its commerce both in Japanese and foreign goods. As we look back, this port was formerly a poor deserted village, which, with the changing world, has grown up by degrees, so that at length we see fine buildings from the sea-shore to the tops of the hills surrounding the town, and the streets crowded with vehicles. This prosperity owes much to the Imperial foresight in the first establishment of the Empire, and to the friendship of foreign countries, which is growing in intimacy year by year. It is my firm belief that this port will become more and more prosperous in future.—(Applause).

Mr. J. C. HALL, I.S.O., British Consul-General, then said:—Mr. Mayor, Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, In this celebration of the happy results of half a century's foreign trade, the foreign consuls whose main duties are connected with the trade and shipping of the port, desire to add their note to the general chorus of congratulations. None know better than they do that the advantages of trade can never be all on the one side, none perceive more clearly the indispensability of an enterprising mercantile class between the tillers of the soil and the manufacturers of goods, on the one hand, and the general body of consumers of all classes, on the other. This sound view of the necessity and the bilateral beneficence of foreign trade was grasped with especial firmness of conviction by the first foreign consul who ever resided in this country, the American, Townsend Harris. His opportunities for preaching the gospel of foreign trade were unique. And no man could have made better use of them than he did during his two years' lonely residence at Shimoda and his occasional visits to Yedo. His name should ever be associated with that of Commodore Perry in the minds of Japanese merchants; even as his memory is cherished with pride by foreign consuls of all nationalities stationed in this country. Right worthy was he of the honour which his Government conferred on him in appointing him its first resident diplomatic representative. And no Englishman living here is likely to forget that their first national representatives in Japan, Sir Rutherford Alcock and Sir Harry Parkes, were men of consular experience. Both had an important part to play in Yokohama's early history; and the impartial verdict of posterity will be that they acquitted themseives with credit to their country and with benefit to Japan. As my memories of Yokohama extend over more than forty years, I may perhaps be forgiven for indulging in this reminiscence. It is, however, in the name and on behalf of my colleagues of the Consular body that I am permitted to speak to-day; and we unanimously desire to express in no merely conventional or complimentary phrases, our profound appreciation of the courtesy, consideration and kindness which we have always received at the hands of the local authorities and officials with whom we are brought into contact. In the next place, I must express our good wishes for the welfare of the port, and our confidence in its future prosperity. For my own part, speaking with the careful observation requisite in the preparation of annual consular trade reports, I affirm without fear of contradiction that Yokohama grew and prospered greatly during the thirty years of free trade regime which it enjoyed under the old 5 per cent. Import Tariff of 1866. Whether it was in consequence of that Tariff, or as some may possibly suppose, in spite of it, is a controversial point on which I am not now at liberty to touch. But trade is a living thing, and accomodates itself to all conditions, and its benefits are not merely of the material kind: for commerce never has been and never can be carried on without a concurrent interchange of the amenities of social life. The exchange of commodities furnishes opportunities for the intercommunication of the mental, moral and spiritual products of all countries and climes. It does more: it habituates men to think of pacific industry as a possible alternative to war for the organized collective activity of man. In short, it is the chief agency in that great movement which, amid all the dim of war's alarms, we see going on around us to-day, even as it has been

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going on throughout recorded time, the growing incorporation of Humanity.

The future task which lies before the merchants of Japan is therefore not less noble than that which has been performed by her soldiers in the past. Let us hope that the City of Yokohama will often have occasion to celebrate many a centenary of its opening to the trade and commerce of the world.

As a somewhat more durable token of the sentiments which I have so inadequately endeavoured to put into words, my colleagues of the Consular body beg the acceptance, Mr. Mayor, by yourself and the Municipal Council of Yokohama, of this piece of plate, fashioned by a Japanese artist, with a commemorative foreign inscription. (Applause).

The gift consisted of an elaborately chased silver bowl bearing the following inscription:—"Le Corps Consulaire à la Ville de Yokohama en Souvenir du Cinquantième Anniversaire de l'Ouverture du Port. I. VII. MCMIX."

Mr. MITSUHASHI having accepted the memento and made a suitable reply,

Baron SHIBUSAWA then spoke as follows:—

On this 1st day of July in the 42nd year of Meiji, the ceremony in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the opening of the port of Yokohama is being celebrated. This may be called an unprecedented, a magnificent occasion. Being honoured with an invitation to this ceremony, I cannot repress the feelings arising within me, as I offer you my hearty congratulations.

Looking back fifty years, it is difficult to realize that this place was merely a fishing-village. The proposal of opening the port having once been decided upon, the lower hills were cleared away and many parts of the sea were filled in, so as to provide the town that was to be with a suitable site. In course of time, a large number of business houses were built in regular order, and many vessels were seen in the harbour. Foreign trade increased, and Yokohama became one of the large ports of the Far East. This has not only contributed to the happiness of the town, but has also been in harmony with the general trend of the commerce of the world. The opening of the port was first suggested by the United States of America, and it brought about a change in the policy adopted since the era of *Kwan-ei*. In the meantime, the Imperial Restoration took place, and thenceforward the production of the whole country has much increased and capital has increased in proportion. The annual amount of imports and exports has increased year by year, until the present prosperity has been attained. This, of course, has been effected by hard toil, but it must also be admitted that the same was ordained by the grace of Heaven; otherwise it would have been impossible to have made such rapid progress. We who are engaged in business and are in close relationship with Yokohama feel happy above all others in this celebration to-day. While we have to offer thanks to the various Governments of Europe and America for having taken the lead in the expansion of our commerce, we ought to remember that our own countrymen have endeavoured directly and indirectly to promote the same end by increasing production, and they have thus contributed in no small degree the development of the State. On this magnificent occasion, I cannot fully express my feelings as I offer you my hearty congratulation. (Applause).

Mr. ONO, Chairman of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, having read a short address of congratulation, Mr. H. V. HENSON, Chairman of the Foreign Board of Trade, said:—Your Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, His Worship the Mayor, our worthy Chairman, having spoken for all sections of the community in his welcome to the guests who have honoured our city on the fiftieth anniversary of its establishment, it is unnecessary for me to do more, on behalf of foreign residents, than most heartily endorse his remarks, particularly those in which he expresses the gratification experienced by all of us at the spectacle of the Empire's leading statesmen and the representatives of Treaty Powers assembled here to-day to participate in our Celebration.

But, with your permission, I will say a few words on the unique character of the development of this city of Yokohama, which, from a hamlet of a hundred cottages, has grown in the short space of two generations to be one of the important trading centres of the world. In 1859 forty-four foreigners took up their residence here; to-day there are something like 9,000 living in what we are proud to consider one of the great marts as well as one of the most attractive cities in the Far East. Selected as a convenient spot for conducting the foreign trade of Central Japan, situated in what was then a backwater of the main stream of the country's commerce, resorted to by a few adventurous spirits for the purpose of opening up trade relations, Yokohama was never deserted by its good Genius, who, early in its history knew how to exact the full measure of allegiance from residents of all nationalities. Keen, hard-headed men of business were brought under the spell, and from the first served their city right faithfully, many who had come to trade remaining to make the place their permanent home, while others settled within its hospitable boundaries who merely reached these shores as inquiring sightseers. All experienced the charm exercised by this erstwhile swampy fishing village, and in their several ways contributed to the astonishing progress which has been manifested in the last fifty years, the result of which this Celebration to-day bears witness. The development of Yokohama has proceeded in uninterrupted prosperity side by side with the increase of trade conducted on highly competitive lines but under conditions calculated to secure the best results from that international coöperation which constitutes the special feature of the city's rise.

As in the past we have assisted at the progress of Yokohama, so in the future it is our ambition to aid in such ways as may be within our power in the continued prosperity and expansion of our city of which all residents, irrespective of nationality, are so justly proud. (Applause).

Following these more formal proceedings came several *geisha* dances and similar entertainments, after which refreshments were served, the visitors gradually leaving the Customs Compound from 4 o'clock, to witness the festivities in the streets.

DECORATIONS AND PROCESSIONS.

The decorations and illuminations of the hotels, banks, shipping offices and other places of business in Yamashita-cho were on a more extensive scale than has been witnessed for many years; indeed it is doubtful if they were ever before so general and so effective.

Many shop fronts in Honcho-dori, Benten-dori and other Japanese business thoroughfares were beautifully decorated with effigies of historical characters or with *byobu*, *kakemono*, and other works of art. At many important points temporary stages were erected and *kagura* was performed at intervals throughout the day.

The illumination of the men-of-war in the harbour, while less impressive than that of the American fleet in October last, gained considerably in effectiveness from the fact that four of the five ships were inside the breakwater, and not a mile and a half away, as was the case with the U. S. battleships.

A feature of the illuminations was the colossal representation of the new Municipal Crest, measuring some 40 feet by 28, displayed from the Hundred Steps, and outlined in brilliantly coloured lights.

In Honcho Itchome, there was displayed a wooden signboard showing the place where the Memorial Hall will be erected. Near by were a *Hoko-dashi*, decorated with a statue of *Tenshokodaijin* and a figure of *Benkei* made of porcelain ware, carrying a pole at the two ends of which were a bell and a lantern, with the badge of the town. This illustrates allegorically an old Japanese proverb, *Chochin ni Tsurigane*, which means a lopsided match.

In Honcho Nichome, a miniature garden, representing Hommoku Point, Kamon Hill and Yokohama village of 50 years ago, was exhibited.

Both sides of Benten-dori were adorned with wisteria-trellis work and the customary lanterns, and there were few shops that failed to make an attractive display of works of art, ancient or modern.

Probably nothing else interested foreign visitors quite so much as the huge *dashi*, drawn by oxen and by gaily-clad men and boys, which paraded the streets during the afternoon. In one of the most effective was a party of quaintly attired *geisha*.

A large number of *geisha*, uniformly dressed, drew a *dashi*, decorated with the doll of *momotaro*, the *geisha* singing a *kiyari* song as they marched. They were followed by a number of their servants, disguised as peasants, monkeys, dogs, etc. This novel spectacle passed through Onoye-cho, Sakai-cho and Honcho-dori to the Customs compound.

The Daimyo procession consisted of about 200 men, among whom were many experienced spear-bearers and bearers of lacquered boxes. While they were marching through the streets the spear-bearers gave illustration of how the spears were delivered and received in feudal times.

The small Daimyo procession formed of men from Yokkaichi, Ise province, who brought with them their own costumes, etc., attracted crowds of spectators.

Whether the police were held in reserve at the various stations, to meet emergencies, is not stated; but the regulation of the traffic at night left much to be desired. At 7.30, when Benten-dori was a surging mass of people, not all so sober or so good-humoured as a Japanese crowd usually is, several rickshas forced their way through without interference. Indeed there was only one policeman in evidence in the whole length of that important, but narrow, thoroughfare, which was more densely crowded than any other street in the city.

In Aioicho, the representatives of that street held a ceremony on the original site of Sanomo, in front of the "detached deity" of the Iseyama Daijingu. After the rite, they paid a visit to the Daijingu and the Itsukushima shrine, where they made an offering of *yen* 4,000.

The *shishigashira* procession was led by two coolies clad in white ceremonial dress and carrying a large drum. These were followed by senior *geisha* in *tekomai* costume. Then came *Sarudahiko*, with two attendants holding up large branches of *sakaki*, and after these came a pair of large *shishigashira*, each weighing 8 *kwamme*. On the heads of the *shishigashira*, the two Chinese characters *Bo Yeki* (trade) were inscribed. About 100 firemen came next, singing a *kiyari* song, and these were followed by a large number of the public in various disguises.

The Tailors of Yokohama had a very creditable procession all to themselves. They were about a thousand strong, and were all clad in white coats and red trousers, each man carrying a small national flag and a lantern. In the front of each of the four divisions, a pair of *Takahari* lanterns were carried by two men. These were followed by the Commander and the band.

A MEMORIAL NUMBER.

A pleasant souvenir of the Jubilee Celebration has been furnished by a local journal, the *Japan Gazette* in the shape of a special Semi-Centennial Number. This includes over 70 pages of letter press, filled for the most part with reminiscences of old residents, contributed by themselves, and enlivened with a number of photographic and other illustrations. Unfortunately for the interest of a large part of the contents, the reminiscences have to a considerable extent been given us before in the shape of papers at the local Literary Society, etc., but it is an advantage to have them collated in a convenient form. From the historical point of view the list of Foreign Consuls and representative officials forms a valuable feature of the book—for such it might almost be called; and the panoramic views of Yokohama in 1870 and at the present time are admirably executed. Altogether, this semi-centennial number forms an agreeable memento of a great occasion, and reflects great credit on the enterprise of our contemporary.

The Russian tourists now in Tokyo visited the Yokohama Jubilee celebration on the evening of

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July 2 and apparently greatly enjoyed the strange sights they witnessed.

The visitors to Yokohama during the first three days of the Jubilee Celebration numbered about 200,000.

Up to July 2, 24,003 persons visited the Historical Exhibition in the Customs Compound. The diplomatic documents that formed so interesting a feature of the Exhibition were taken every night to the Yokohama Specie Bank and deposited in the safe.

On the second night of the Celebration, a large number of Naniwa-cho people formed a *Hyakusho Gyoretsu*, or Farmers' Procession. They presented a very striking appearance in their straw rain-coats and broad-brimmed hats.

On July 4, a policeman who was on duty at Isezakicho-dori knocked down a number of innocent passers-by in his-ill-judged efforts to keep the traffic under control. Several of the people thus roughly used were injured.

Owing to continuous rain on July 5, the only places where any indications of the Jubilee could be seen were the buildings devoted to theatrical and cinematograph performances.

The following contributions have been added to the fund for the Memorial Hall :—

	Yen.
The Mitsui Busan Kaisha, Yokohama Branch	5,000
Mr. Matsushita Kijiro	1,000
„ Tanaka Shigeru	1,000
„ Sato Masagoro	1,000
„ Yoshida Toyokichi	1,000
„ Watanabe Sadajiro	1,000
„ Hara Rokuro	1,000
„ Nomura Yozo	1,000
„ Shiohara Matataku	500
„ Torii Tokubei	500
Messrs. Chikae Goshi Kaisha	500
Mr. Tomoda Kahei	500
Messrs. Kuwabara Shoten	500
Mr. Oseki Sadajiro	500
„ Shimohara Yoshio	100
Messrs. Imai Shoten	100
Mr. Hayashi Kenji	100
„ Hodota Takichi	100
„ Miyashita Kinjiro	100
The Tosa Paper Factory, Yokohama Branch	100
Mr. Tanaka Tomejiro	100
„ Takahashi Yasomatsu	100
„ Fukuda Seitaro	100
„ Sato Tanosuke	100
„ Ishikawa Taketaro	100
„ Satsuma Jihei	100
„ Ikegami Eijiro	50
„ Kakimura Kyuzo	50

The sum-total is *yen* 213,700.

ACADEMIC CLIQUISM AND EXCLUSIVENESS IN JAPANESE OFFICIALDOM.

A long article on the above subject appears in the June number of the *Taiyō* written by Mr. Yamaji Aizan, which contains much useful information on the ways of Japanese officialdom. It is true to say that in some Departments Japan's official stage is supplied with actors almost exclusively by the Imperial Universities. From the point of view of the University professors and the graduate this is no doubt highly gratifying. These two institutions are engaged in the work of manufacturing statesmen. That the men they produce taken as a body are superior to those educated elsewhere seems to be the general opinion among Japanese publicists. The High Schools are undoubtedly attended by most of the finest students Japan possesses and these men pass from the High Schools to the Universities, where for three or four years they listen to the lectures of Japan's first class experts on special subjects. It is well known all over the country that official appointments are invariably given to the brightest of the University graduates. This attracts talented students to the High Schools. The system now in operation for supplying the ranks of officialdom from the Imperial University began in 1885. It was one of the reforms inaugurated by Prince Itō. Prior to that official sugar plums were given by men in power to their relations and friends, without regard to qualifications. The result of this was that the public offices were full of thoroughly incompetent men, many of whom administered affairs in a most perfunctory or careless manner. They were without education, lacking in intelligence and with no ambition to improve themselves. They were no better, Mr. Yamaji tells us, than the quacks with which the country abounded at that time. When Prince Itō insisted on the possession of certain fixed qualifications in every official, when they all had to be educated up to a given standard, he rendered merit supreme and stamped out favouritism of every kind. But the practice of confining official appointments to graduates of the Tōkyō Imperial University has been stoutly opposed by certain Statesmen from time to time on the ground that thoroughly competent men who have graduated elsewhere are available and that it is unfair to leave them out in the cold. So it happened 13 years ago that when the Matsukata—Okuma Cabinet was formed it was resolved to throw open officialdom to the general public to a certain extent. Two years later a Political Party Ministry came into power and they at once set to work to carry out the new policy. The members of political parties were given official posts in various offices in State Departments and the provinces. There were people who welcomed the change as calculated to impart new life to the official world. But more discerning people regarded the new experiment with extreme misgiving. To them it seemed that to allow officialdom to be dominated by party politics meant endless changes of officials every time a Party went out of power. This actually took place even in the Department of Justice. The abuses connected with the new system of official appointments were so numerous that a strong reaction set in against it, resulting in the issue of two Ordinances entitled *Kwanri Ninyōrei* and *Kwanri Bungenrei*, which rendered the trespassing on official domains of poorly qualified office seekers next to impossible. This step practically amounted to reversion to Prince Ito's method of selecting officials. Though it is an improvement on allowing appointments to depend on the personal feelings of the men in power or on political party considerations, it can not be said to reach the highest ideal, as it is absurd to suppose that the Universities are the only places where the faculties that go to make efficient administrators can be developed. The official world to-day is too full of one type of men. The University education does not allow of wide diversity in the character and accomplishments of the graduates. Men educated elsewhere are better fitted for certain Government posts than the graduates of the two Imperial Universities. So that some relaxation of the stringent rules observed in the choice of officials seems to be called for. But the feeling in high quarters against granting liberty to high officials to make their own choice of employees seems to be very strong. If this were done, things would gradually work back to the state they were in prior to 1885, say those who are in the best position to know. But there are other ways of throwing open Government service to the general public. Some Departments have tried the holding of examinations for outside applicants for office with results that are considered highly satisfactory. Having given a general account of the way in which officials are chosen in Japan Mr. Yamaji proceeds to deal with every State Department separately, and here is the substance of his review of the situation of affairs in all the public offices.

I. *The Home Department.*—In this office the University graduates control everything. No Minister can do anything against them. This Mr. Hara Kei, an extremely capable administrator, discovered soon after his appointment by Marquis Saionji. Instead of the Minister using the under officials to carry out his policy, the under officials of this Department employ the Minister to further their plans. The officials who do not hail from one of the Imperial Universities are few in number and utterly powerless to exercise control over the administration of affairs. The influence of the University graduates, is extending to the provinces, where the new Prefects are found to be University men. Outsiders are gradually being weeded out all over the country. They are described as in a helpless predicament (*Koyō rakujitsu wo sasaeru nomi.*) The Home Department is practically solely in the hands of University men. It is true that the head of the Police Bureau in the Home Office, Mr. Arimatsu, is not a University man, but a graduate of the Doitsu Kyōkai Gakkō, who was appointed to his present post by Baron Hirata. But his actions are largely controlled by the University officials. One of the most powerful men in the Home Office is the jurist, Dr. R. Mizuno. Few appointments are made without consulting him. In many ways he wields more power than any Minister has ever enjoyed. When the late Count Kodama was acting as minister of the Home Department for a short time, he expressed his astonishment at the power of the University men, remarking that "in that Department for the first time he had seen officers who seemed to be real officers." The year 1895 was rendered memorable in the annals of the Tōkyō Imperial University by the number of talented men who graduated in that year. Most of these graduates subsequently found their way to the Home Office. It is hardly necessary to point out that despite certain benefits derived from the pre-eminence of the University graduates in this Department, it is attended with serious abuses. The Party uses its power arbitrarily. Graduates of private schools who enter the Department are not promoted as rapidly as their talents deserve, if they are promoted at all; while University graduates are often placed in high positions with a total disregard to qualifications for the posts filled. Many young men who have nothing more than the theoretical knowledge gained from books, who are ignorant of the world and quite unfit to hold high responsible positions, are promoted solely on account of the college degrees they hold. The academic cliquism which is so powerful in this Department is in many respects the enemy of business efficiency. Academic training is not of itself an adequate preparation for the administration of affairs. Students fresh from college are in their knowledge of the world mere children. However great their talents, years of practice alone can qualify them to control the business of State Department or Provincial Offices. As things are to-day in the Home Department a University education stands for more than long experience in the performance of official work. The consequences are of course bad. Much of the mal-administration complained of throughout the country is to be traced to this source. If the University faction that now controls the Department wish to retain the power they now possess, they will have to give up their excessive cliquism, their habit of clubbing together against outsiders (**黨同伐異**, *Tōdō batsui*); their reluctance to appreciate the fine qualities of the men who have entered the Department without graduating at either of the Imperial Universities.

II. *The Foreign Office.* There is quite as much cliquism in the Foreign as in the Home Department. But it is of a different kind. The University Graduates, though very powerful, do not occupy such a prominent position in this Office as they do in the Home Office. There is a party of diplomats in the Office who have inherited the traditions of the officials who founded the Department. They strongly object to the entrance of outsiders, and consequently the tenure of positions in the Department by outsiders has always been short. Messrs. Ōishi Masami, Hoshi Tōru, Yano Fumio, and Inagaki Manjirō are cases in point.* There is one man in the Foreign Office who is a graduate of a private school, the Aoyama Gakuin, if we are not mistaken, Mr. Honda Kumatarō, who occupies a high office in the Department. He passed the Civil Service Examination (*Bunkwan Shiken*) some years ago. His promotion has been by no means rapid. His influence is great to-day owing to the fact that he enjoys the confidence of the present Foreign Minister. The preference of the Department for University Graduates is very marked and it is no easy thing for outsiders to enter it.

III. *The Department of Finance.* This Office differs essentially from the Home Office, in that it holds mere academic knowledge in light esteem compared with practical knowledge. It has always made a point of training its junior officials very carefully and of promoting them solely on the ground of efficiency. It has none of the strong

* They are described as *tabi-garasu*, travelling crows by Mr. Yamaji.

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cliquism of the two Departments named above. It prides itself on the efficiency of its officials and this efficiency has been recognized throughout officialdom so that it is said that officials ranking only as *Sōnin* belonging to the Finance Department are no whit inferior to the *Chokunin* of other Departments. This Office has a way of holding on to its employees and it encourages officers to work hard for promotion. Baron Sakatani began his career in the Department as a petty officer and worked himself up to the top of the tree. There are two other officials in the Department, Messrs. Wakatsuki and Mizumachi, who may yet follow in the footsteps of Baron Sakatani. The Department of Finance is conducted in a most business-like fashion and is at present free from many of the abuses that characterize Japanese Officialdom. The great aim of the Department is to train and to make full use of experts only. Against outsiders it has no strong prejudices because they are outsiders, but it doubts the advisability of entrusting positions of responsibility to comparative novices at the work of the Department from whatever quarter they may come. But it is reported that even in this Department the influence of the University men is rapidly growing, so that it is to be feared this office will not escape from the evil consequences of the narrow-minded exclusiveness which prevails to a greater or less extent in all the Departments.

IV. *The Department of Communications.*—In no Department of State until quite recently have high officials had such difficult positions to occupy as in this Office. For many years the Railway Engineers connected with this Department formed a kind of *Imperium in Imperio* and insisted on having everything their own way. Their arbitrariness and exclusiveness knew no bounds, the whole Department was controlled by them. They all hailed from the Shimbashi Railway Bureau. They were in many ways a rough set (*Dokata kishitsu moshikuba shokunin kishitsu to shō subeki isshu no haigwai-teki kishitsu*) who showed a united front to outsiders. The Railway Bureau has now been severed from the Department of Communications, but the Department is still largely subject to the control of its engineers. The present Vice-Minister, Mr. Nakanokoji Ren, however, wields considerable power in the Department and is a very capable all-round man (*kuchi mo hatchō, te mo hatchō no hito*). He belongs to no clique of any kind and yet has held the position of Vice-Minister since the beginning of 1906.

V. *The Department of Agriculture and Commerce.*—This Department is remarkably free from the dominance of any one set of officials One of the reasons of this is the constant changes that take place in the Office. Old officers are comparatively rare and are never absolutely sure of being retained. The new men of course know nothing of the affairs of the Department and so it follows that the Office is largely run by subordinate officials (*iwayuru hanninkwan Seiji*). This is certainly to be deprecated. In this Department with each change of Ministers the heads of Bureaux and of Sections or Sub-bureaux (課, *kwa*) have hitherto been changed. This practice is a great obstacle to efficient administration. Notwithstanding all the abuses that are the result of its prevailing academic cliquism, the business of the Home Office is carried on better than that of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, owing to the presence of veteran officials who are acquainted with the past history of the Department. There are in the Home Office men like Mr. Ōtani, the Head of the Accounts Sub-Department, who has held office for more than 20 years and witnessed endless changes in the organization of the Department without suffering in any way therefrom.

VI. *The Department of Education.*—None of the Departments is so entirely subject to the influence of the Tōkyō Imperial University as this one. Among all the Ministers that have tried to break loose from University trammels, Viscount Mori Arinori was the only one who succeeded in doing so. During his short tenure of Office the Mombūshō was independent. Since then Minister after Minister has struggled in vain against the University clique within the Department. In name the University is only the brother-in-law of the Department of Education and therefore ought to be subordinate to the head of the house as the *Kojūto* is in all well appointed Japanese families, but in reality the family is run by the brother-in-law. There was a time when what is known as the *Akamon* (Red Gate) influence was to a certain extent neutralized by the power of the graduates of the High Normal School known as the Mei kei-ha in educational circles, but today this latter party has no voice in the settlement of affairs. Within the Department of Education the University faction is supreme. Mr. Kubota resigned because his scheme of educational reform did not please the University. Mr. Makino was clever enough to perceive that his only chance of success was in avoiding a conflict with the University, so he tried his best to humour the academic clique in every way possible. Among the University graduates who in recent years have wielded enormous power in the Department Mr. Sawayanagi and Dr. Uyeda Mannen are the chief.

Both of them are qualified to become Ministers and may yet be appointed. Mr. Sawayanagi is out of office and out of health at present, but his retirement is considered to be only temporary.

It will be seen from the above how very powerful are the academic cliques in all the Departments. If they continue to dominate the whole official world, it is quite certain that sooner or later the graduates of the principal private schools will combine against them. There is a Chinese proverb which says "Humility conduces to profit." It would be wise for the University clique to lessen the pressure they bring to bear on officialdom before they provoke overwhelming opposition.

W.D.

KOBE NOTES

The columns of the Kobe foreign press have recently been burdened with correspondence and editorial comment on the subject of road mending. Some of our citizens appear to have taken to heart an impression that the Japanese do not understand how to make roads If so, it is certainly not for want of advice. The point of complaint is that after the foreigners have undertaken to disabuse the minds of the municipal authorities on this subject, the streets continue to be made in the same old way. The morning editor is deeply concerned over the fact that, not only are the Kobe streets repaired contrary to his advice, but the authorities have caused to be constructed a fire-bell tower protruding on the street, contrary to his convictions on this important subject. By actual measurement with his own hand he finds it occupies a third of the width of the highway. The fact is overlooked, however, that the fire-warning structure tried to locate in two other places in the vicinity and was moved on the protest of citizens, who objected to such close protection. And, moreover, there is some room for doubt as to whether after all the Japanese method of street-repairing is not the most appropriate to the circumstances. The street running at right angles to Sannomiya road, just below the new five-bell tower, is as fine a one as is to be found anywhere; yet it was made in the same way that is now being complained of in the case of Sannomiya road. The most unreasonable of all complaints is that against a road being in a semi-impassible condition during the process of repair. It is doubtless hard on the noble youths who work with exertion to walk up the hill after their duties are faithfully performed, but it cannot be helped. It is certainly remarkable that the Japanese should be expected to take account of this sort of remonstrance. One wonders what would happen if the Japanese in San Francisco undertook to dictate to the city officials as to the proper way for Americans to mend streets. Dangerous holes or obstructions in the streets are a reasonable ground of criticism; but methods, and the science of street making, had better be left to the proper authorities.

At the last meeting of the Kobe Chamber of Commerce there was another heated discussion over the action to be taken on the "memorial" which the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade sent to the Canadian Government in reference to the commercial morality of Japanese merchants. Some of the members appeared to be in favour of sending a counter memorial; others thought a formal declaration from the Kobe offenders, denying the intention of any reflection on Japanese merchants, would be sufficient. But as the Kobe memorial to the Canadian Government was freely circulated in the Canadian press, it seems natural that an offset to its alleged objectionable portions should find a circulation equally public. The fairest way out of the difficulty might be for the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade to send a formal letter to the Canadian Government and the press denying any intention of reflecting on the Japanese, and giving the Canadian public an open assurance that the Japanese merchant was to be considered fully as reliable as the foreign. Presumably Kobe would not wish to include itself in the category of those who neither give nor accept apology. In justice to the circumstances one might ask what the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade would do, had a similar memorial been sent by the Japanese Chamber of Commerce to the Canadians about foreign merchants in Japan. Whatever action the hypothesis suggests as just and proper, would be all the more in order in a case where the offenders are the guests of those offended. On the whole the Japanese have shown a most admirable spirit. Instead of denouncing those who were alleged to have reflected on them, and driving them out of the community, after the manner of some, the members of the Japanese Chamber of Commerce have simply tried to put the matter right with fairness to all concerned, attributing the objectionable language of the "Memorial" to awkwardness of composition rather than to wilful intent to injure. A public admission of this view of the incident on the part of the foreigners is all that many of the Japanese appear now to require. But we had thought that a letter published by the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade some time ago, was tantamount to this. Perhaps the Kobe Chamber of Commerce only wants a more formal statement.

"OMEGA."

SERIOUS LOSS TO NAGASAKI.

Announcing the discontinuance of the call of U.S. Army Transports at Nagasaki, where they have hitherto coaled, the *Nagasaki Press* writes as follows.—"According to information just received from an authoritative source, the monthly influx of American dollars into Nagasaki, via the United States Transports, has been cut off by a new arrangement being instituted whereby the transports will in future obtain their coal at Miike and will not call at Nagasaki. The *Dix*, we understand, will inaugurate the new system, coaling at the new station on her next trip through these waters, in August, and, although it is not definitely fixed, it may be regarded as a certainty that her successors will likewise follow her example.

"This, upon consideration, is a very serious blow to this port and will divert the many thousands—nay, millions—of American dollars that have hitherto been flowing into the tills in Nagasaki, to the little port to the south of us, but which may be able to appreciate it as well, if not better, than Nagasaki. It will tend to develop the new port and may be looked upon as a windfall in that direction.

"There is one benefit and, we think, the only one, to be derived from the change, *viz*: a clearance of the many Creek-side "dives" and their undesirable connections from this port. An eyesore and living stigma on the Japanese and foreign community alike, they have looked to the periodical call of the transports for their existence in the past. We would suggest that the authorities in Miike start with a clean sheet, and keep it clean, putting their foot down upon all attempts to build up a disreputable standard on the lines existing in Nagasaki.

"We learn, also, that the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha has obtained a contract for the supply of 60,000 tons of coal to the American troops in Manila during the fiscal year commencing July 1st."

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, June 15, 1909.

Special Interview with M. Nicholas Khomiakov, President of the Duma:—

M. Khomiakov has passed thirty-five years of life in the public service and had attained the rank entitling him to be addressed as "His Excellency" before the Duma came into being, but he prefers now as ever, to be known as the "Squire of Lipetsk," his charming estate in the Province of Smolensk. To the Russian ear the name Khomiakov has much the same ring as the historic surnames Cecil, Harcourt, Verney, Neville to the Englishman, and for the same reasons, service through many generations to the sovereign of their country. In the last generation a Khomiakov, after the usual period of military service in which he won high rank during the wars in which he took part, developed a poetic genius that added a new lustre to the name and enriched Russian literature with some of the greatest productions of their kind. From this Khomiakov, his father, the President of the third Duma, doubtless derives his happy gift of expression, which in his native language may be best described as 'racy of the soil,' but is not lost in any other of the three European languages, all of which H. Khomiakov, like most of the best "nobles" of Russia, speakes familiarly. Unlike too many of his equals is M. Khomiakov in another respect: he has the instincts of the landed proprietor as we understand them in England: by choice he lives on his estate and administers it with an intimate knowledge of all details that is unfortunately by no means so common among the "nobles" of Russia as in the same class elsewhere in the world. Whether as head of a department of the Government or latterly, as President of Russia's first successful experiment in parliaments, M. Khomiakov's heart is with the lands he holds in trust from his forefathers, and has never yearned for the commoner ambitions of his class, distinctions at the Imperial Court and the interminable antechambering idle life such ambitions involve, to the ruin of the class which should be the backbone of every well-regulated kingdom. Yet the President of the Duma, or rather M. Khomiakov as President of the Duma, is unmistakably very high in favour with his Sovereign. There is as yet no established etiquette regulating the relations of the Sovereign and the Presidents of the legislative Chambers, but M. Khomiakov has secured, thanks to his personal charm, the prestige of many precedents: whenever it seems good to the President of the Duma to report progress to the Emperor of All the Russias, he requests an audience, and it is granted with a celerity that is eloquent of much in a land where the sovereign is hedged round with innumerable walls of Byzantine etiquette. And the audience is always a prolonged one, only once, I believe, under the hour, and of late generally much longer. In this transition period between the old regime and the new the Emperor of Russia, one of the most conscientious of sovereigns in his fulfilment of his duties, is a sadly overdriven man, yet he finds time to hold M. Khomiakov in converse for as much as an hour and a half at a time, at intervals which are becoming shorter and shorter as the Duma progresses on its hopeful way.

To my request to give the readers of the RN. a little statement of the position now attained in Russia by constitutional ideas and practice, M. Khomiakov responded as follows:—

"The Duma is sometimes a little misunderstood in countries where constitutional rule has become the habit of generations and centuries. *We are not the Government of Russia.* The idea of ruling by the votes of the people's representatives, though it partially existed in Russia in early times, has been in abeyance for many centuries. Therefore the Duma, before it can fulfil the task that is set before it, has much to do in training the nation. I believe the Duma is doing its most useful work at the present moment in educating, training, the nation,—and the nation, in our case, is a very complex entity indeed. If you would seek a fair parallel to the true meaning of 'All the Russias' I do not know that you could find it anywhere in the world outside your own Empire. If you can imagine an English Duma representing, more or less fully, all the races over whom the flag of England flies, you would still have to add to that idea, in order properly to appreciate some of the difficulties we have to deal with, the important fact that not a boy or girl in their teens, to say nothing of adults, has ever lived under or known any other form of government than that of absolute power delegated in an endless chain from the throne to the village elder. We have therefore first and foremost to educate the nation. The third Duma is constantly taunted with truckling to authority: that is quite a wrong view of what is being done. The shortlived predecessors of the third Duma also set out to educate the nation, but they began at the wrong end, with results that did not make for that stability which must be the end and aim of all good government. We have set before us another task, and I am satisfied that we are successfully accomplishing it. We have continued to exist for over eighteen months, and the Government of Russia, which is quite outside the Duma, is growing accustomed to us, has found it possible to work with us, to admit us to deeper and deeper insight into the complicated machinery of a government that has existed for centuries and must necessarily accommodate itself slowly to an altogether new set of conditions. There is something always very fascinating to a mob in the absolute power of autocracy and it is perhaps more difficult for Russians than for other nations to understand why the Emperor does not 'with a stroke of the pen' abolish this or that, establish that and the other—in the good old way. But that way is not the way of constitutionalism, which is very slow and not at all showy in its processes. We have not made all the Russian blacks white in a couple of sessions, and if we had succeeded in doing so nothing is more certain than that every white would very soon become a black again!

I think the progress we have made in the last session is satisfactory. I do not mean that the Duma has suddenly set right a great many of the wrongs that are always so easy to find in any country; we have not the power to do that. But our debates have very frankly, perhaps too frankly, disclosed the existence of things which should not exist in a well-regulated community, and all men are thinking over what has been said. That, I take it, is the true essence of constitutional government, after all. It is having its effect in a marked way already. I do not know whether you have noticed the change of tone that has come over the extreme Rights, the party that I once called the "revolutionaries of the Right" (i.e. the Black Gang). I am inclined to date the change from the moment when the Emperor granted an audience to one of their leading members. Since that time they have undergone a certain evolution, and are interested in such questions as economic improvement of the nation, where formerly they busied themselves with the superfluous task of defending the autocracy in the name of the Emperor and in defiance, actually, of the expressed wishes of His Majesty. They are now subsiding into a much more useful sphere of activity and there is much promise in that change.

I am perfectly satisfied myself that the Emperor is entirely in favour of our Constitution. I cannot, of course, tell you what His Majesty has said to me on the subject, but I think you must see, everyone must see, that the Head of the State in Russia, in all that concerns his own actions, is a constitutional monarch. It remains for us to slowly and surely build up to the example set us by the Emperor. Men's natures are not changed by a 'stroke of the pen,' and our chief task is to develop constitutional ideas in natures that have never known anything else in practice but the principles of absolutism. It takes time, but it will not take us centuries, nor even, I believe, generations, for we are a people readily receptive of new ideas. The danger is lest we go too fast and fail to retain sufficient hold upon what we win. Meantime the government of Russia must go on, the daily needs must be met in the old ways, wherever the process of development that we are promoting has not yet gone far enough to ensure due compliance with the methods of the new ideas. Remember again that the Duma represents as many nationalities as are to be found within your own wide Empire; even our newspapers appear in forty odd different languages, and only our children under five years of age are beginning life in the new way, the rest of us, and especially all those who have been engaged all their lives in one or other branch of the government of Russia, of All the Russias, must come to the best compromise we can with our habits of thought and action, moving slowly and cautiously that we may avoid a new upheaval. It is not volcanic action that gives the power to move our steam-engines, nor do sudden changes in the State make for real progress. We want, and I believe we are already beginning to get, the slow monotonous action of daylight everywhere to store up for us the energy that shall make our progress lasting."

St. Petersburg, June 17, 1909.

The Duma stands prorogued by Imperial ukase to the tenth day of October, O.S. (Oct. 23), 1909.

Eleven members of the Duma and the Upper House leave St. Petersburg together to-morrow direct for London, where they will be joined by others who have already left, making up the total number of Russian visitors of distinction to England to eighteen. Their number should have been twenty, that having been thought here sufficient to adequately represent the soundest opinions now prevalent in Russia and not over burden the generous hospitality of England on this first visit of its kind. Several intending visitors, however, have been prevented at the last moment from joining the party by domestic bereavements or sickness. The name of heaviest calibre is that of Prince Peter Trubetsky, the head of the great Trubetsky family that has played so important a part in Russian history for hundreds of years past. The Prince has been abroad for some little time, whither a fear that some little affection of the throat might be cancer took him in haste on the mistaken diagnosis of the Russian doctors. His younger brother, the late Prince Sergius Trubetsky, was the first elected Rector of a Russian University, that of Moscow, the oldest in the Empire. Another brother, Prince Eugene, promises to fill the place left vacant by the sudden death of Prince Sergius, while a third brother, Prince Gregory, is a well-known diplomat who is expected to return to office as Russian representative in one of the Balkan States. In 1825 a Trubetsky was at the head of the "Decembrists," who in those early days attempted to secure a Constitution for Russia. He, and many another of the ancient nobility of Russia, was sent to the mines in Siberia, the less noble conspirators being promptly executed. The story of the Princess Trubetsky who followed her husband and shared his exile, is one of the most pathetic in Russia's troubled history. Prince Peter Trubetsky is the leader of the Centre in the Upper House.

Another member of the Upper House, M. Michael Stakhovich, made his name ring round all Russia a few years ago when, as Marshal of the Nobility for the Province of Orel, he dared to speak out what all decent Russians thought about the tyrannical methods of the Orthodox Church in enforcing their old-world rights and persecuting cruelly all sectaries whom the ancient laws delivered into their hands. He is a leading speaker in the Upper House in the cause of reform.

Of the members of the Duma, the most interesting personality is that of the President, M. Khomiakov, son of the poet and godson of the "Russian Dickens," Gogol. After the remarkable utterances with which M. Khomiakov kindly favoured the RN. in its last number, his main characteristics will be sufficiently known to our readers. The President will be accompanied by, I believe, his younger daughter, and both of them speak English with perfect familiarity. M. Guchkov is the leader of the predominating party in the Duma, the Octobrists, whose policy is to accustom the real rulers of Russia to working hand in hand with a constitutional assembly until such time as all fear of a reactionary upheaval shall have passed away. To this policy all minor objects are ruthlessly sacrificed. For those who fail to understand the real meaning of this necessary policy, it has the disadvantage of

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appearing very often mere truckling to authority, and the political opponents of the Octobrists never cease to accuse them of "lackeying" the Government. But M. Guchkov calmly bides his time, perfectly content to "keep the Duma alive" and certain that time will do the rest in the quietest and best way. M. Guchkov is an "Old Believer" by faith, and a younger brother of his is the able Lord Mayor of Moscow, both being trained business men—bankers by profession. M. Maklakov is a Moscow barrister, an eloquent speaker either at the Bar or in the House, and gifted with a broad common-sense that has made him stand slightly apart from the party he belongs to, the Constitutional Democrats or "Cadets" He has taken up the task begun and almost completed by the eminent jurist, and President of the First Duma, Professor Muromtseg, of drafting the rules of procedure and other regulations of the Duma economy. Count Vladimir Bobrinsky, who was several years at school in Edinburgh, speaks English like an Englishman. He is the leader of the Moderate Rights, and an eloquent speaker given to flights of dithyrambic oratory which has a rousing effect upon a great part of the Duma. M. Zvegintsev is another member to whom English is as familiar as his native language. Both the latter are large landed proprietors. M. Lerche is a specialist in finance. Prof. Miljukov is already well known outside Russia: he has long been the "brain" of the "Cadets," but is thought by many to have led them too far to the "left" (*i.e.*, towards unconstitutional methods of gaining ends), forgetting that Russia is not sufficiently advanced in general knowledge to keep pace with his ideas which are based upon a sound scholarship and wide reading. The representative of the Poles in the Duma is M de Montville, while the Mussulmans are sending M. Maksudov.

The importance of this visit cannot be over-estimated. It is being taken with the full approval of the Emperor of Russia and of the Russian Foreign Office Politics will be carefully barred, but it is feared that the restriction in this respect may not be equally observed by all the members in free-spoken England. "Economic interests" are supposed to be the nearest approach to public affairs that the members consider themselves free to talk about in England, but the main outcome of the visit will doubtless be that phase of emotion known as a "union of hearts," for which the Russian members come fully predisposed. And behind these eighteen Russian representatives are scores, probably over a hundred, similarly minded members who for various reasons are unable to undertake the journey to England, especially at the close of a long and arduous session. Behind the hundred in the two Houses it is safe to say that myriads of Russians outside the two Houses look with eyes of respectful affection to the ancient institutions of Old England, and regard our country as the model for their own future progress in political liberties.

There are now over a hundred cholera patients in hospital in St. Petersburg and the number of cases is rapidly increasing day by day.

For the whole of this week the St. Petersburg tramways have been on strike, to the inexpressible inconvenience of all the inhabitants. The cause of the strike is the one familiar to tramway management all over the world and known as "split duty": the men are required to do a spell of four hours "on," have then four hours "off," and again four hours "on" duty. Thus a man is practically employed twelve hours but gets pay for only eight hours. The usual Russian methods of dealing with a strike are being sternly enforced. Some four thousand employees are concerned and most of these are being discharged: over a hundred are known to have been arrested by the police, and it is said the discharged hands will be refused passports and sent off "par étape" to their village homes. Meanwhile such trams as are running are driven by amateurs, students of technical schools, engine-fitters, even policemen in uniform hurriedly given some little instruction. The public is enraged with the municipality and the strikers are stubborn.

The keels of four Russian Dreadnoughts were laid yesterday at two Government yards on the Neva. The ceremony, contrary to past usage, was quiet and unostentatious: everything was evidently ordered to look as little showy and as businesslike as possible—a happy augury.

According to official figures of the summonses taken out in the past twelvemonth on the State railways against passengers travelling without ticket, it is shown that about 400 persons every day travel without ticket and are summoned for it. But how many more evade punishment?

LOCAL CRICKET.

On the afternoon of July 3 a well-contested match was played on the Recreation Ground between the Y.C. & A.C. and an eleven composed of officers and men of the British cruiser *Monmouth*, resulting in a victory for the former by 39 runs. Perhaps the most notable feature of the match was the excellent cricket displayed by the *Monmouth's* chaplain, the Rev. W. H. Maundrell, who made the highest score for his side, 45, and took eight of the Yokohama wickets for 68 runs.

The following is the full score:—

Y. C. & A. C.

N. Buckle, c. Manley, b. Maundrell	26
E. L. Squire, c. Sargent, b. Maundrell	21
L. M. Whyte, b. Bedwell	1
H. C. Gregory, b. Maundrell	1
P. E. Bousfield, b. Maundrell	55
B. C. Foster, b. Maundrell	1
A. J. Cornes, b. Maundrell	37
H. T. Hume, c. Hodder, b. Maundrell	6
V. A. Hearne, not out	19
W. E Gooch, b. Bedwell	3
W. A. Morris, b. Maundrell	3
Extras	9
Total	182

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Bedwell	66	72	2	2
Maundrell	101	68	1	8
Manley	24	21	0	0
Churcher	12	12	0	0

"MONMOUTH."

Cornish, c. and b. Foster	8
Sargent, b. Gooch	13
Lieut. Bedwell, c Bousfield, b. Gregory	22
Rev. W. H. Maundrell, b. Gregory	45
Manley, b. Foster	15
Taylorson, b. Squire	7
Churcher, c. Gooch, b. Squire	13
Mr. Phillips, b. Foster	0
Mr. Hodder, c. and b. Squire	1
Johnstone, b. Squire	0
Mr. Cunningham, not out	1
Extras	18
Total	143

Bowling Analysis.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Gooch	66	22	2	1
Foster	96	44	1	3
Bousfield	18	23	0	0
Squire	38	17	1	3
Gregory	54	19	2	2

YOKOHAMA.

At 5.55 a.m. on July 3, a severe shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama, the vibration being first horizontal and then vertical. It lasted for 4 minutes 54 seconds. Other slight shocks took place at 9.26 a.m. on July 3 and 6.13 a.m. on July 4.

The contract for the Yokohama city loan has been concluded, on the terms previously announced. The Industrial Bank will offer the bonds in London to-day.

On July 3, two new cases of plague were discovered; one at Hanasaki-cho 7-chome and the other at Kasumi-cho 1-chome. The former case has already ended fatally. The latter is under treatment at the Manchi Hospital.

The 26th case of plague was discovered at Ishikawa-cho 5 chome on the 4th instant.

The Secretary, for Japan and China, of the International Reform Bureau, Rev. E. W. Thwing, arrived in Yokohama with his family on the 5th. He comes from Hawaii, where he has taken active interest in the many Japanese at work on the Sugar plantations there. He will remain in Japan for a month or so, and then go on to China and take up work in Peking.

On the night of the 3rd instant, when an electric car was slowly passing Takashima-cho 9-chome, a drunken man stepped on to the car and remained on the platform in spite of the conductor's warning. A few moments later he fell off, sustaining serious injuries.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended July 1st are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	4	3	1	—	4
Died	—	—	1	—	—	2
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	1	1	3	—	—
Died	—	1	1	1	—	—

A sixteen-year old boy at Nishitobe-cho suddenly died from hydrophobia on July 6. During April last, he was bitten by a dog on his right foot. He received prompt medical attendance, and it was supposed that all danger of fatal results had passed.

On July 7, a sampan *sendo* discovered a purse containing some 20 dollars in U.S. gold, which was left in his boat by one of the mates of the steamer *China*. The boatman gave it back to the owner, and was rewarded, but by no means too liberally.

At 0.59 a.m. on July 8, a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. It lasted for 2 minutes 32 seconds.

On July 1, a case of typhus was discovered on board the coast defence ship *Iki*, and since then the epidemic has spread so rapidly that there are now some 50 of the crew suffering from the disease.

LLOYD'S TWENTIETH CENTURY SERIES.

JAPAN TO BE INCLUDED.

As will be seen by a glance at our advertisement columns, the enterprising publishers of the well known "20th Century Series" of reference books, which has met with so flattering a reception in other parts of the world, have decided to add Japan to the list of their publications. An office has been opened in Yokohama and the necessary arrangements for the work on Japan are proceeding actively. The book, like its predecessors, will not be the work of any particular man, but will consist of contributions from many distinguished writers. In the previously issued volumes, special articles on every subject of interest have been written *by the highest authorities on the spot*, and a similar plan is to be followed in Japan. The advantage of books compiled on this principle over books compiled by "birds of passage," globe-trotters, and the like—whose knowledge of a country can at the best be only superficial—is too obvious to be insisted upon. The Company's previous publications on Western Australia, Natal, Orange River Colony, Ceylon, British Malaya, Hongkong, Shanghai, China and Siam have been received as welcome additions to the works of reference on those countries. To all concerned in the trade, commerce, industries and life of any country thus exhaustively dealt with, they cannot fail to be of the deepest interest. These monumental works are copiously illustrated and are printed on fine art paper, so as to obtain the best results from the hundreds of photographic blocks used.

LOCAL YACHTING.

The yachting on July 3 took place under highly favourable conditions. Four boats of the Mosquito Club sailed over the prescribed course, the *Sunbeam* coming in first, followed, two minutes later, by the *Edna*. Twelve larks started, No. 7 being the first in, No. 11 second, and No. 15 third.

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THE CHINESE STUDENTS IN JAPAN AND THE WORK OF THE CHINESE YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION.

These are times of great movements in the Orient, and are also times of great opportunities. I am sure, writes the Secretary of the Chinese Y.M.C.A., that we all must be impressed with the national spirit manifested here in Japan, and also the growth of this national life and national self consciousness in the Chinese people and the Chinese Empire. China has changed more in the last five years perhaps than any other nation in the world has ever done in twenty-five years. Marvellous material changes are now taking place in China, such as only those who have been eye-witnesses can appreciate There are to-day about 5,000 miles of railway in China already completed and another 5,000 miles already projected. The telegraph wires are forming a network throughout that great Empire. There are 3,000 modern post offices throughout China, and others being opened at the rate of one a day. Modern factories are springing up all over the country. Great political, economic, social and educational agitations, changes and progress, which five years ago were almost unbelievable, are now taking place. At one stroke of the pen, the late Empress-Dowager put away for ever the ancient competitive examination system, which had its sway over China for these thousands of years, and in its place have been substituted modern institutions of learning. There are literally scores of these modern institutions of learning being established in each province of China. China to-day has probably fifty millions of young people of school age. From this, it will be seen that she will soon become the greatest student nation of the world. She has always been a nation of students. All classes of people throughout China look to the students for leading and guidance, and this will be even more true of the modern student class of China. What has been her object in setting up this system of modern education? China is awakening, in fact is awake, and it is that she wishes to learn the secret of the modern industrial, commercial, naval and military power of the West. All these are signs of genuine awakening, and I am sure we all welcome them, but with them come many dangers. Unless Christianity is pushed with great vigour throughout China at once and continued, we shall be confronted with a flood-tide of materialism such as the world has never seen, and which we shall be unable to withstand.

There will be reproduced in China during the next few years on a colossal scale what has taken place in Japan during the past quarter of a century. We see this awakening spirit manifested in a very striking way in the large numbers of Chinese students who are going abroad for modern education and training. An increasing number of students are being sent to different Western nations, but they have come to Japan by the thousands. Five years ago there were less than 100 Chinese students in Japan, to-day there are more than 5,000 here. There has never been in the world's history such an emigration of students from one nation to another. These students have come here in order to learn the secret of Japan's progress and power. These thousands of Chinese students have broken away from their homes and environments, from the old traditions and customs and superstitions, and are here in great armies in the centre of Tokyo, one of the greatest cities of the Orient. They are living amidst most dangerous conditions, tending both to extreme radicalism and also immorality. All the restraining ties and customs of the old homes are now severed. Here they are strangers in a strange land, speaking a foreign tongue. Their social intercourse with the Japanese is very limited. Moreover, the Japanese were not ready to receive such a large number of students from another nation, and as a result many of the Chinese students have been housed in poor dormitories and anything but decent boarding houses.

It was in the midst of this situation that the Young Men's Christian Association of China was requested by all the Missions in China, and also by the Young Men's Christian Association of Japan, and by other leaders of China and Japan, to organize work in behalf of these thousands of Chinese students in Japan. The Christian force in Japan could not possibly undertake this work, as a knowledge of both Chinese language and customs was necessary. This work has now been carried on for almost three years One thousand missionaries of all denominations in China, at the great Centenary Conference in Shanghai year before last, united in an appeal to the Young Men's Christian Association to organize and carry through a thorough, comprehensive and efficient campaign on behalf of these students in Japan, and they agreed to release such of their number as needed to come over to Tokyo and work under the direction of the Young Men's Christian Association in behalf of these students. Various missions of China have released some of their best workers to co-operate in this work. In addition to these foreign helpers, there is a staff of Chinese, secretaries and teachers, making in all a total of more than twenty men. The educational classes taught by these Christian men have had a daily attendance of more than 200. Popular lectures are conducted on various subjects. There are provided reading rooms, class rooms, libraries, Bible class and social rooms in three different sections of the city. The workers come into personal touch and contact daily with scores of these leaders from every section of the Chinese. Near these centres are also athletic grounds for the benefit of these students. The work here has received the endorsement of both the Chinese and Japanese officials and leading educators.

The tremendous importance of this work will be seen when we remember that, just as in Japan a few years ago, it is this first generation of Chinese students to receive a modern education who will be the men to hold the important positions in the new, reformed government throughout China, and who will also be the leading teachers and professors of the new system of education, and the men to hold the important positions of trust and responsibility in the new life of the great Chinese Empire. As said above, there are to-day 5,000 Chinese students in Tokyo, representing every province of China. One year ago there were almost double this number. But while the number has decreased, the quality and standard of the students has remained almost stationary. There are many reasons for the decrease in numbers. Many who came to Tokyo at first were not real students, but came because it was popular to come to Japan. Others came for "short term courses." Still others came for political purposes. Now very strict examinations are held both in China and Japan. Every student coming to Japan must first pass these examinations. These restrictions have shut out the incompetent students. All "short term" schools have, therefore, disappeared. The Japanese government schools and the large private schools, like Waseda University, will not now admit Chinese students unless they enroll for a term of four or more years. This at once shows the stability of the Chinese students now in Japan. The revolutionary class, so strong at one time, are now not so much in evidence. The Chinese students now here mean business. They have come to complete their courses and they are doing so. During the past year many honours in the various schools have been won by the Chinese students. It is significant that most of these honours have been won by members and students of the Chinese Young Men's Christian Association.

How long this army of 5,000 Chinese students will remain in Tokyo is difficult to say. There are many facts which indicate that they may remain here for a number of years yet. A few days ago the Chinese Minister said the Chinese Government was still supporting 2500 students here, and that there were no indications or reasons for decreasing this number in the near future. The Chinese Imperial Government itself has decided to send at least 200 new students to Japan each year for the next five years. There were on September 1, 2,396 Chinese students in Tokyo at Government expense. This number has somewhat increased since that date. The following table of statistics shows the numbers and the source of the support of both the Collegiate and Military students in Tokyo at Government expense:—

Province.	Collegiate.	Military.	Total.
Fungtien	78	45	123
Kirin	6	0	6
Chihli	97	2	99
Kiangkin	146	34	180
Kiangsu	18	0	18
Anhuei	27	8	35
Shantung	92	0	92
Shansi	98	16	114
Honan	59	24	83
Shensi	36	7	43
Fukien	89	4	93
Chekiang	160	19	179
Kiangsi	207	0	207
Hupeh	286	102	388
Hupeh R.R. Co.	40	0	40
Hunan	250	63	313
Schechuan	85	9	94
Kwangtung	52	35	87
Kwangsi	27	0	27
Yunnan	56	27	83
Kweichow	36	0	36
Peking	29	0	29
Peking Univ.	27	0	27
Grand Totals	2001	395	2396

In addition to the Government students there are about 2500 students studying in Tokyo at private expense. These private students also represent every section of China,—North, South, East, West and Central.

Our field is 5,000 young men away from home, hailing from every province of China. These men are alert, clever, enthusiastic, open minded and susceptible to any and all influences, good or bad. If we remember that every part of China is represented by these students and that they are to return as leaders in their respective localities, it will be evident that to influence these men is to reach a larger constituency than they themselves. One can readily see that the literati with the prestige learning gives them in the eyes of their fellow countrymen, and the superior position they have attained as educators of the young, can and do guide opinion in their respective districts. In every sphere above the mere material the Chinese scholar is King in his own community. Many of these students in Tokyo are sons of landed gentry, a class very powerful for good or evil in their native places. Others are sons of officials and merchants and members of the literati. About one half of the 5,000 Chinese students of Tokyo, as shown above, are supported by the provincial governments, and are selected by competitive examinations. Some are sent by city or village guilds. Others are supported by groups of friends, relatives or parents. The position of each is gained either by family influence or by the competitive test. Every one, therefore, is a picked man, selected on account of ability or social influence.

The homes in China, however, from which these students are drawn are not easily accessible to ordinary Missionary influence. As a rule these families are too proud and exclusive to associate with the Missionary or his converts. Hence they know but little about essential Christianity. What little some of them do know is inadequate to give them appreciative views of Christian values. The rankest prejudice characterizes many of them. Wrong conceptions, founded upon ignorance, and buttressed by prejudice, inordinate pride and lofty contempt, make approaches to them almost impossible. But God works in many ways, and wise men take advantage of heaven-sent opportunities. The younger brothers and sons of these very families are being driven out of their exclusiveness by the march of events. They have by leaving their homes made it possible to divest themselves of their conservatism. The new environment in which they find themselves is vibrant with fresh ideas. They have discovered a new world, and the adjustment, social and mental, to the new conditions is imperative, and almost revolutionary. One student described his experience as similar to being dropped from one planet to another. From every province of China a stream of young life has poured in to Japan. Far off Kansu, several months by road and river, has sent her quota. From the mountainous regions of the North and the plains of Honan; from erstwhile closed Hunan and the turbulent Liangkwang (Canton and Kwansi); as

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far as the steppes bordering upon Mongolia; from every point of the compass, the river of eager youth has flowed Japan-wards.

It is a striking fact that although these students come from every section of China, here in Tokyo they use a common tongue. The Mandarin-speaking Missionary can therefore get into touch with them at once. These men are here to learn. The proud contempt of foreigners has been largely laid aside, and they approach us as humble students. In order to get into close contact with the men, we have organized classes for the teaching of English. Over two hundred men are now enrolled in these classes. The class room brings us into touch with them, and from the class room to our home is but a step. Here we meet the men in social intercourse, and find it comparatively easy to cultivate intimate relations. Then we have all the agencies of the Association, Bible Classes, lectures and addresses, the game and reading rooms, all of which offer opportunities of getting to know the men. To crown all is the Student Church. More than one hundred of the present number of students in Tokyo are baptized Christians. These students upon their return to China will become leaders. Some will be officials, most will be the educators of the next generation of Celestials.

There is at the present time a deeper and more genuine interest in Christianity among the students than at any previous time. Many incidents and illustrations might be mentioned showing how this interest is manifesting itself. One of the associates, Mr. Elwin, told me recently of a young man who won first honours in a Provincial examination in China, where there were 500 competitors. After a few months of contact with Christians in Japan, he wrote Mr. Elwin as follows: "I am reading God's Holy Book every day and believing it." His case is typical of many when he said that at first he thought that knowledge was all that was needed in this life, but now "I know knowledge is not so vitally necessary as an undefinable something which I am seeking for heart safety and rest."

Another student upon expressing his earnest desire to have his young bride in South China attend some Christian school, was asked "Why did you not arrange this before leaving China?" "Oh" he said "I was not interested in the subject then." "What, then, has changed you?" He replied, "The universal love of Christ."

One of our foreign staff, Mr. Elwin, in charge of a Summer school for Chinese students, up in the mountains, writes as follows: "Only one of the men was known to me personally before. Nearly all have bought New Testaments. We are friends. One at least had never come in contact with Christianity before. In Canton, with missionaries about, no influence penetrated into his exclusive school. Here I do not have to go to him but he comes to me. He is becoming deeply interested in the Scriptures we read daily. Two others have come to the stage of asking how to study the Bible."

The Educational work of the Association has been styled by one of our staff as "The drag-net which brings the students over into the line of contact" The men come here thirsting for knowledge and although there are some who succumb to the allurements of the social world, the large majority are diligent and hard working. The Educational Department of our work also opens the way for the communication of ethical and spiritual thought. Mr. Miller, one of our staff in the Waseda Department, reports: "Within the last few months I have had ample opportunity of imparting wholesome instruction. Many of the students are taking commercial courses, and from one of the text-books I have been able to show that the principles of commercial morality were of greater importance than the mere acquisition of wealth. Others study politics and from the history of Modern Europe it was my duty to point out the danger of mob-rule and wild revolutionary ideas. It is well known that here there is a party with strong revolutionary tendencies The most brilliant member of it has more than once said to me that before China can obtain any liberal measures of reform there must be a great sacrifice of life; in other words, he considers rebellion an indispensable factor to the regeneration of China. This student is now a member of my History class, and I believe has been almost won over to the opinion that a bloodless revolution is much more desirable, for in the end it will bring speedier and more permanent results. As a goodly number hope to enter the Civil Administration of their Country, I have from Pres. Roosevelt's famous speech, "The Man with the Muck Rake," tried to instill into their minds the principles of civic honour and purity. It will be a happy day for China when peculation is made impossible. Before the great crisis of conversion can come, we know there must first be an awakening in the realm of thought. We are now, I am happy to say, in the midst of it. The motions of the mind are coming into touch with the Divine. In our Bible Class and personal work we are besieged with questions and these are not presented in a captious manner. The students have come to feel that the claims of Christianity, though bold and comprehensive, are yet reasonable, and many of them are seeking a resting place for the exercise of faith. The Christian ship is, I may say, being overhauled and the defects of our Historical Ecclesiasticism with all the weakness of spurious profession are being revealed."

One man a few days ago called upon Mr. Miller at ten o'clock at night to enquire into the meaning of baptism. This young man is a member of one of the well-known families of China. He has been attending the Bible Class and now is seeking light on this sacred rite.

"My heart has frequently been stirred to the depths" reports Rev. G. L. Davis, the Associate Pastor of the Chinese Student Church of Tokyo, "as I have seen the sons of prominent officials go forward and before an audience of their fellow students openly confess their Saviour and receive baptism as an outward sign of their allegiance to Jesus Christ, when formerly in their home towns in China they would have thought they must apologise for being seen in a Christian Chapel."

A young man from Shansi, whose father was a member of the Hanlin Yuan in Peking for fifteen years, and afterwards Literary Chancellor of the province of Chihli, has become a Christian. While in China, his father would never allow him to go inside a Chapel, although he lived for more than ten years almost opposite the gate of the American Board Mission in Peking.

Already the new leaven is working. A Chinese writing in a recent issue of the *Westminster Review* says of these men after returning from their studies abroad, "Fairly educated, and having had proper training, the students return from Japan to establish private schools everywhere at their own expense. The work is disinterestedly carried on. Many teachers sacrifice their own fortunes in their enterprise. But they are gaining ground by degrees, especially in normal schools and Kindergartens. The anti-opium and anti-footbinding movements would not have been so general but for the energetic preaching both by tongue and pen of the students returned from Japan. The doctrine in favour of the emancipation of women is spreading daily, and before long the education of the other sex will receive equal attention." The writer of the article goes on to show how the literature of China is becoming reshaped by the new learning. Thousands of new words are being incorporated into the body of the national vocabulary. "New expressions, new constructions of sentences" are making a revolution in the Chinese Literary world. A new activity has laid hold of the pens of ready and able writers, and ideas alive, pulsating with vitality, are being given forth without cessation. The student body is the mainspring of the movement in China, in fact *is* the movement.

It requires very little imagination to grasp the bearing of the Association work among these men in its relation to the regeneration of China and to Mission work in particular. Every member of the Student Church is a centre of Christian influence. Each of the two hundred members of the Young Men's Christian Association represents, if not an active pro-Christian at least one less opponent. The Rev. E. C. Cooper, of Hunan, writes very encouragingly of one of the Church members who has returned to China: "The man is witnessing bravely for Christ in a heathen home, and two of his younger brothers are now boarders in the Mission school at Yung Chow." But our influence is not limited to the circle of men actually gathered into the Church or Association. We are daily in contact with those who are in the outside ring and we venture to say that their attitude towards Christianity is very different now from what it was before they left China. They mingle freely with us and the old contempt seems to have disappeared. One who was in a hospital and visited by one of our staff is almost at a loss to show his appreciation, and even the parents of some of them are anxious that they should call on us. We are often advised of the arrival of new men and asked to look after them. When one remembers the comparative ease with which vice can be indulged in Tokyo, the value of our social work can be readily granted.

There has never been in the history of the Church such an opportunity as the situation in Tokyo affords. We are at the fountain of China's new life. True, there are many difficulties inherent in the situation. Prejudice does not in every case yield at the first touch. Anti-foreignism is in many minds a necessary element of patriotism. Distorted ideas of Christianity require tactful patience to straighten out. But the ideas of the Gospel have entered and are working in the minds of many. Enquiries such as how to relate acceptance of Christianity to the practice of ancestral worship manifest a degree of progress in the minds of the men putting the questions. God has placed us here at the very time when the fermenting mind must need our positive teaching. The value of this work is to be seen in the fact that men who in China would be widely scattered and difficult of access are gathered together in easily accessible groups. The plasticity of these youthful minds renders them susceptible to impressions, and the ideas now implanted will modify their whole thought-life and thus in some measure determine their future attitude to questions of paramount importance. To many the time of their sojourn in Tokyo may prove to be the finest chance in their lives for hearing the Gospel and observing its fruits in the life and home of their teachers. No man can see the best and not yearn for it. A vision of the Maker is bound to permanently impress the soul. As far as capacity goes they are equal to any similar body of students in the world. Their power of application is tremendous. Six or eight hours of lectures each day with from two to four hours of English class work in the evening is by no means uncommon. When one remembers that most of the lectures are given in Japanese, and that in spite of this, the Chinese students often get ahead of the Japanese working in the same classes, one can see that they are strenuous. The same energy if applied to the regeneration of their country will, if moulded and guided by Christian principles, soon bring a new China into being.

When the Association was first organized in Tokyo there was little interest in the religious work. The students were willing to attend the socials, lectures, and popular addresses, but when a Bible Class or a religious meeting was mentioned, they at once shook their heads. From what has already been mentioned above, it will be seen that there is a deep and growing interest in the religious work. Last Sunday nearly 50 young men took part in the Communion Service at the Chinese Student Church, and 136 men were enrolled in the different Association Bible classes. The Bible Classes of the Association are the training grounds for the Student Church. Evangelistic Bible Classes are being held in the two principal student centres of the city each Sunday evening. Last year the Bible Classes were conducted in Chinese, Chinese-English and English only. During the past six months practically all the Bible Classes have been conducted in Chinese. The reason for this may be seen in the statement of one of the students himself who said: "Formerly I came more for the English language; now I want to know more about the Bible and I can understand it better in my own language." Last Sunday evening there were forty young men in one evangelistic Bible Class. Many of these forty men heard the Gospel then for the first time. During the last few months a short

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Gospel service, for fifteen minutes, has been conducted each evening at each Department for the students in the Association evening classes. It is encouraging to see the interest in Christianity being manifested by these men who before coming to Tokyo never attended a religious service.

The Student Church has a strong Chinese Pastor, the Rev. Mark Liu, of Tientsin. Most of the members are now giving one-tenth of their income to the Church, which makes the Student Church practically self-supporting. This is a most encouraging fact and must have a great reflective influence.

The Chinese students are great readers. They are not only seeking all the knowledge they can get through the medium of their own language, but are reading books in other languages, especially Japanese, English, French and German. The Association Reading Rooms are supplied with many of the leading newspapers and magazines, published in Chinese, Japanese and English. The Association is greatly indebted to the Hon. Mrs. Gordon, of Tokyo, through whose generosity and influence more than 2,000 volumes of well-selected books have been added to the Library. This Library has been named "The Anglo-Chinese Library of the Chinese Young Men's Christian Association." Many of the Chinese members and other friends are making contributions toward this Library.

I believe there has never before in the world's history been given an equal opportunity for influencing a really great nation in every phase of her life and existence,

STATISTICS OF CHINESE STUDENTS STUDYING IN TOKYO, 1909.

Name of School.	Gov't or Private.	No. Enrolled.
1 Kobun Gakuin	Private...	280
2 Keigakudo	,, ...	200
3 Iwakura Tetsudo Gakko	,, ...	166
4 Tohingakudo	,, ...	45
5 Toa Tetsudo Gakko	,, ...	148
6 Toyo Daigaku	,, ...	4
7 Waseda University	,, ...	820
8 Shinbu Gakko	,, ...	180
9 Seijo Middle School	,, ...	250
10 Keio Gijuku	,, ...	13
11 Hosei Daigaku	,, ...	300
12 Tokyo Higher Technical School	Gov't...	129
13 Imperial University	,, ...	58
14 Higher Normal School	,, ...	63
15 First High School	,, ...	60
16 Tokyo Higher Commercial School	,, ...	60
17 Chuo Daigaku	Private..	105
18 Dobun Shoin	,, ...	150
19 Nihon Daigaku	,, ...	10
20 Meiji Daigaku	,, ...	700
21 Koto Shihan Fuzoku Chugaku	Gov't...	1
22 Tokyo School of Foreign Languages	,, ...	8
23 Seisoku English School	Private.,	300
24 Shisei Gakko	,, ...	44
25 Seisoku Yobiko	,, ...	80
Students Studying in Military Schools and in other Schools and with private teachers (Estimated)		1,000
Grand Total		5,174

THE GYMKHANA.

The Yokohama Gymkhana, twice postponed on account of the weather, finally took place on the afternoon of Saturday, July 3. The indications in the early part of the day were not entirely favourable, but the management were averse to a third postponement, and fortunately the weather turned out everything that could be desired. There was a large attendance, including many ladies.

The results of the different events were as follow:—

No. 1. TENT PEGGING.—Three points for a carry. Two for a carry under 20 yards. One for a touch. Three for speed. Prize (presented by Mr. S. Isaacs) was a silver tray with silver-mounted whiskey glasses.

The winner of this event was Lieutenant Byrne of the Hongkong Garrison, whose work was greatly admired.

No. 2. For China Ponies that have not won a race on the N.R.C. Course during 1908 and 1909. 5 Furlongs. Weight as per scale, with 7lbs. added. Jockeys who have not won more than two races, 5lbs. allowance.

The field got away well, and kept well together, until Mr. A. J. Easton pushed to the front and won an excellent race by a length. The prize was a silver tea-caddy.

No. 3. 3/4 Mile. For Horses and Ponies. Each rider to be started separately and to cover the distance as nearly as possible in the given time of 2.08 sec. No stop or other watches to be carried.

The 18 riders started at intervals of one minute, and the race was won by Mr. M. Stitt in 2 m. 8 s. the exact time prescribed in the conditions of the race. The prize was a silver-mounted clothes-brush.

No. 4. CIGAR RACE.—The riders to be in Fancy Costume. Start about 20 yards from the Winning Post, ride to the Winning Post, dismount and take a cigar from a Committee-man, light it, remount, and ride round a post placed about 150 yards off. First in with cigar alight to be the winner.

Mr. M. Stitt, in Japanese dress, won the first prize, a silver mounted whisk. The second prize, which was for the best costume, was awarded to Mr. Elliot, who, dressed as a ballet-dancer, excited great amusement.

No. 5. LADIES' NOMINATION.—Competitors must start dismounted from a given point on the race course, mount and ride to nominator carrying cotton thread. Dismount and thread a needle held by nominator. Receive from nominator threaded needle, mount and ride to winning post.

This interesting event was won by Mr. Bent and Miss Moss. The prize was a silver cream jug.

No. 6. Putting Potatoes in bucket after catching them from a lady if gentleman rider, and from a gentleman if a lady is riding. To be at the gallop. Two runs.

This event was won by Lieut. Byrne and Miss Strome. The prize was a silver card tray.

No. 7. BEEF STAKE.—Half-Mile Handicap for Horses and Ponies. The rider to stand 168 lbs.

The Rev. W. P. G. Field won this event, and the handsome silver cocktail-shaker that constituted the prize.

No. 8. HURDLE RACE.—For China Ponies, weight as per scale with 7 lbs. added. 3¾ Mile.

This was won by Mr. M. Zahn. The prize was a set of silver-mounted hairbrushes, presented by Mr. A. J. Easton.

No. 9. HURDLE RACE.—For Horses. ¾ Mile. Catch weights 150 lbs.

The final event was won by Mr. Hermann, who led from the start. The prize was a silver ice-dish.

SHINTO SHRINES.

During the year preceding the issue in 1906 of an edict authorising the amalgamation of shrines, there were over 192,000 shrines in Japan. Afterwards the number decreased to a little over 152,000.

Of late, about 2,000 shrines have effected amalgamation in Miya prefecture alone.

The total number of shrines in 1907 and 1908 was as follows:—

	1907.	1908.
Jingu	1	1
Kwanpei Taisha	43	43
Kwanpei Chusha	26	26
Kwanpei Shosha	3	3
Special Kwanpei Sha	23	23
Kokuhei Chusha	49	49
Kokuhei Shosha	26	26
Fu Ken Sha	280	280
Go Sha	3,463	3,465(?)
Son Sha	51,053	4,924
No rank	121,474	108,978

The number of priests is:—

Kwanpei Taisha	79
Kwanpei Chusha	90
Kwanpei Shosha	10
Special Kwanpei Sha	75
Kokuhei Chusha	165
Kokuhei Shosha	65
Fu Ken Sha	923
Go Sha	3,608
Son Sha	8,608
No rank	1,161

ST. JOSEPH'S COLLEGE.

The Eighth Annual Commencement Exercises of St. Joseph's College were held at Van Schaick Hall on the 8th instant. The programme was a very attractive one, and not only the friends of the pupils, but a large number of the general public, gathered at the place of meeting. The various numbers, especially the several pretty plays and the music, were loudly applauded, and the Director, Herr Stoltz, is to be congratulated on the eclat with which the occasion passed off. The proceedings terminated with the usual distribution of prizes.

NOTES FROM CHINA.

H. E. Yu Shih-mei, the Chinese Commissioner who has been abroad to study the constitution of Germany, has submitted a memorial in which he accuses the members of the Commission of Constitutional Reform of being mostly Revolutionists, and severely expatiates on the evil of establishing the proposed Deliberative Provincial Assemblies.

Viceroy Tuan Fang has ordered palings to be erected round the Ming Tombs at Nanking, to preserve them from further acts of vandalism. An inscription in Chinese, English, French, Italian, Russian, and German appeals to visitors to abstain from injuring or defacing these ancient monuments.

Professor Giles is compiling a new edition of his Chinese-English Dictionary, the first part of which is to be published this month. The complete work will consist of about 1,800 pages and will be a strictly new edition, containing some 20,000 new entries and correcting all mistakes occurring in the edition of 1892. The advance subscription price is £5. 5s.

The American colony at Shanghai, including the Consulate-General, celebrated Independence Day on July 3. It is to be presumed that there were local reasons for such a departure from the invariable American custom of celebrating on the following day a national holiday falling on a Sunday.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

CHINA SEA STORM REPEATING SIGNAL STATIONS DISCONTINUED.

Notice is hereby given that the system of Storm Repeating Signals from Light-stations inaugurated in 1907 not having proved a success, it has been decided, in consultation with Sicawei Observatory, to discontinue it.

The local Storm-warning Stations at Ningpo, Chinhai, Wenchow, and Sharp Peak, which use the Storm Repeating Code, will be continued for the benefit of native shipping.

HAYATOMO-SETO TIDAL OBSERVATION LIGHTBUOY REMOORED.

Notice is hereby given that Hayatomo-seto Tidal Observation Lightbuoy on the north side of Hyatomo-seto, Shimonoseki Strait, drifted from its moorings (see Notification No. 586 of Department of Communications, June 1909), has been remoored in its position.

KAWARA-ZU BUOY AND OKINO-SU BUOY TO BE CHANGED.

Notice is hereby given that Kawara-zu Buoy on the south side of Kawara-zu, Southwest of Hiroshima, Shiaku-seto, Inland Sea, and Okino-su Buoy on the north side of Okino-su, southeast of Hiroshima, will shortly be changed into a light-buoy each.

Further notice will be given when the change has been effected.

NANKING LIBRARY.

In the beautiful valley at the foot of Tsing Liang Shan, Viceroy Tuan Fang is erecting a handsome library building to store the collection of Chinese books which he purchased from Chekiang Province last year. This is one of the finest collections of Chinese books in existence, and the building which is being erected will be a fitting home for it. It is modelled after a noted Peking building and the workmen have been brought from Peking. The main building is 150 feet in length and about 40 feet in depth and is two storied. At the rear is another building of equal length but rather narrower. These two buildings are connected by covered passageways. The buildings follow the old style of Chinese architecture and have strong wooden pillars, so that, although the building may be substantial and handsome it will not, unfortunately, be fireproof. At present there is a large number of small Chinese buildings between the Library and the street, but these are to be cleared away and a handsome entrance provided.—*Shanghai Times.*

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"MARRIAGE CUSTOMS IN JAPAN."

We have received from the author, Mr. G. Watanabe, a copy of the above interesting little work. The book, which consists of close on 50 pages, begins with an account of the wedding of the Crown Prince and Princess in Tokyo on May 10th 1900 (taken from the columns of this journal), and proceeds to describe, in a clear and entertaining style, the various customs of courtship, betrothal, bridal processions, and nupital ceremonies, curious and quant, which have prevailed in this country from time immemorial. Most of these obtain, as may be supposed, in the remoter country districts, such as the Isles of Izu, but they are nevertheless of interest both to the general reader and to the sociologist. Mr. Watanabe is to be congratulated on his quite unusual command of English..

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE MONTHLY RELIGIOUS SUMMARIES.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I am sorry that I have been delayed until now in replying to Mr. Dening's elaborate article in the *Weekly Mail* of June 12. The article is the ablest piece of defense that I have seen from Mr. Dening. It is, however, disfigured by many of those unfortunate expressions which are so characteristic of his controversial letters. He applies several choice expressions to me and attempts to disparage the moral character of missionaries and goes out of his way to take a fling at the wives of missionaries. Mr. Dening should realize that in the first place such things are not argument. And he should realize also that they give to his controversial letters the tone of a fishwife rather than that of a gentleman. I am sorry to say this about Mr. Dening, but I can not carry on a controversy with him w thout plainly stating my mind on this particular point.

In regard to Dr. Takagi, there are two questions which should be kept separate. The first is in regard to the fairness of the summaries of Dr. Takagi's articles. The second is in regard to the repeated declarations of Mr. Dening concerning Dr. Takagi's heterodoxy.

In regard to the first question, I have not attempted to give my own judgment. Instead, I gave the opinion of Dr. Takagi himself that the summaries were misrepresentations of his articles. I also stated that Dr. Takagi is an English scholar and ought to know. Therefore the question is simply an issue between Mr. Dening and Dr. Takagi.

Mr. Dening attempts to prove that he is right by giving a long list of disconnected passages from Dr. Takagi's speech before the Y.M.C.A. as reported in the Kaitakusha. But the whole tenor of a sentence or a paragraph so often depends upon the context and one part of a speech is so often modified by what is said before or after that nothing can be proved by a list of disconnected passages. The only possible way to come to an independent judgment is to read the entire original speech and then to decide whether the summary is a fair representation of the speech as a whole. The charge which Captain Okada has recently made, which Mr. Dening does not seem to be able to comprehend, is along this same line, namely, that Mr. Dening's summary was not a fair representation of his article as a whole. If Mr. Dening attempts to summarize an article at all, he has no right to summarize the part which pleases his fancy, if that partial summary gives a false representation of the article as a whole.

In regard to the second question, I did give my own judgment and I stand by it now. Mr. Dening repeatedly declared in the *Mail* that Dr. Takagi is heterodox. That term has an old-fashioned flavour, but it is Mr. Dening's own choice of a word. The main purpose of my former letter was to show that Mr. Dening was wrong, and to show that I gave Dr. Takagi's own statement of his theological belief. In his elaborate article Mr. Dening does not refer to this statement. But it plainly shows that Dr. Takagi is in agreement with orthodox Christian belief. It plainly shows that Mr. Dening has come to a wrong conclusion in regard to Dr. Takagi's belief.

In his last article there is an illustration of a false conclusion reached by Mr. Dening. He says, "the doctrines concerning original sin, the universal corruption of mankind, the incarnation and the atonement are no essential part of Christianity at all and were not taught by Christ himself according to Dr. Takagi." This does not represent Dr. Takagi's thought at all, I am glad to say. Dr. Takagi holds emphatically in his belief that the incarnation and the atonement are essential parts of Christianity and that the belief in them is to be traced back to the mind of Christ. His thought in the speech quoted by Mr. Dening was that there have been theories and special doctrines of the incarnation and the atonement in the Christian Church which need not be accepted to-day and some of which may even seem absurd to us. That is a very simple proposition which every Christian scholar would accept. In regard to the value of the apologetic method pursued by Dr. Takagi in this particular speech there may be difference of opinion. It is a point in which I myself do not agree with Dr. Takagi at all. But, at the same time, the thought of Dr. Takagi in the speech properly understood is certainly not heretical. Mr. Dening has not understood the real thought of the speech.

Aside from the case of Dr. Takagi, there are several points in Mr. Dening's article to which I must refer briefly. In my former letter I said that Mr. Dening's standard of orthodoxy seemed to be an absolute uniformity of belief in every detail of Christian thought, and I characterized his use of such a standard in judging all the theological scholarship of to-day as artificial and childish. Mr. Dening objects to this characterization and says that his idea of orthodoxy is that of "the Roman Catholics, the Greek Church Christians, and all the orthodox Protestant Sects." I admit that Mr. Dening's idea of orthodoxy is the ideal of the Greek Church and more or less that of the Roman Catholic Church. From the standpoint of those Churches that ideal or standard of orthodoxy is a proper and dignified thing. But I insist that for Mr. Dening, an agnostic himself, to go ranging as he does through the Protestant theological scholarship of to-day and to judge it with the Greek or Roman Catholic idea of orthodoxy is an artificial and childish procedure. It is artificial because there is, Mr. Dening to the contrary, actually no such standard of orthodoxy among the Protestant Churches. And it is childish because it gets nowhere. Before Mr. Dening goes on to judge and classify any more of the Protestant theological literature of to-day, let him make the Protestant distinction between fundamental Christian belief and the realm of secondary belief in which there is liberty of thought.

Mr. Dening again makes a great deal of the profound ignorance of the missionaries in regard to the actual religious thought of the Japanese Christians. When Mr. Dening was a missionary himself he may have been as ignorant as he pictures other missionaries to be. I do not know. But I assure him that all missionaries are not in that blissful state. Does he imagine that a missionary in my position, for instance, who is constantly teaching classes of Japanese young men in which there is perfect liberty of speech, does not hear every last little whim of religious thought in Japan to-day? The attention of the missionaries is constantly fixed upon the religious thought and life of Japan. That is their one business in life. They know that there is a strong tendency to Unitarianism among many Japanese Christians and they know how easily and to what an extent the naturalistic conception of the Christian religion has found a home in the Japanese mind and they know other things even more alarming than these. But alongside these things, they know what your readers could never find out from Mr. Dening's summaries of Japanese religious thought, that among Japanese protestant Christians there is an amount of loyalty to fundamental Christian belief and a reality and depth of Christian experience which are sufficient to save the Japanese Churches from the very real dangers of the destructive religious thought of the day. The missionaries are optimistic, but it is not because they are living and doing their work in a fool's paradise.

Mr. Dening again mis-states the criticisms made against his Summaries. He tries to make it appear that the missionaries object to the Summaries because they find in them example of Japanese radical thought. There is a great deal of such thought in the current Japanese religious press and it should certainly have its proper place in the Summaries. They would be one-sided and incomplete without it. Some of your readers have objected because, as far as the Protestant part of current Japanese religious literature is concerned, the negative and destructive and sensational element is constantly over emphasized in the Summaries. But, as I said in my former letter, knowing Mr. Dening's own belief and temperament this is a fault in the Summaries which is natural and to be expected. The objection which I myself have made is the repetition in the Summaries of Mr. Dening's own radical and agnostic opinions. Mr. Dening calls for an instance of this fault. You might as well call for an instance of dampness in the air in these rainy season days. But if Mr. Dening will turn to his summary of two books by Messrs. Schiller and Aoki in the *Weekly Mail* for April 3, he will find a glaring instance where in the body of the summary he himself takes sides with the radical and naturalistic conception of the Christian religion and gives his own partisan views at length.

Supposing we had in the *Japan Mail* from month to month a summary of the European and American political press and the writer of the summary should be a radical Socialist. I imagine that many of your non-missionary readers would object to the Socialistic bias such summaries would naturally take on. And if year after year the writer should persist in adding to the summaries his own Socialistic comments I am quite sure your readers would become as tired of such a mixture of summaries and personal opinion as some of us are in the case of Mr. Dening.

Mr. Dening quotes the following sentence from my former letter: "The Christian belief of Christian people transfigures their total life, their cosmical, their moral, their social, their spiritual life," He assumes that this sentence shows that I put myself "on a higher moral pedestal than is occupied by an agnostic." And he goes on to disparage the moral character of missionaries in general and the character of the wives of missionaries. Of course the sentence does not mean what Mr. Dening makes it mean. Mr. Dening should use more penetration in understanding the thought of other people before indulging in such offensive criticism. The sentence means that the Christian belief of Christian people transfigures their total view of life, cosmical, moral, social, and spiritual, as I had just been showing. I do not write letters to the papers to exalt my own moral life. It would be an easy thing to show the great influence of the Christian religion upon the moral life of the world. But in presenting such an argument I would not presume to present my own life as an example, unless it were to confess to what a moral depth my life would fall were it not for my Christian experience.

Sincerely yours, ARTHUR D. BERRY.

June 28, 1909.

AN OMISSION IN DOING HONOURS.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In the report of the proceedings at the Jubilee celebration on the 1st inst. amongst the speeches I fail to notice anything being said about the Yokohama Breakwater, and it seems to me that such a boon to shipping should have had a recognition at that time. The creation of the Breakwater was entirely due to His Excellency Count Okuma, who on learning that a scheme was afoot by Mr. Oki Morikata, the then Governor of Yokohama, and his local friends to make a small Harbour abreast of the native town of Yokohama but some distance from the foreign settlement, took great interest in the matter and came down to Yokohama for the special purpose of making a personal inspection of the said plans as well as of the proposal for substituting a Breakwater. Count Okuma took a launch and with Mr. Oki Morikata went over the surroundings and within a very short time requested Mr. Morikata to have General Palmer propose plans for the Breakwater, in lieu of the Harbour plans he had previously made. The present Mayor Mr. Mitsuhashi, will vouch for this, and I think a word of thanks should have been extended to Count Okuma for his action in this matter, as well as that in many others connected with the foreign trade of Yokohama, especially during the period that he was Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Yours truly, TOM. THOMAS.

[We heartily endorse the remarks of Mr. Thomas. Count Okuma's name should always be remembered as that of one of Yokohama's greatest benefactors.—Ed. *J.M.*]

MR. DENING AND THE ODIOUS COMPARISON.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In Mr. Walter Dening's recent article regarding the orthodoxy of Dr. Takagi, he closed his paper with some assertions about the comparative moral conduct of agnostics and Christians. To myself and many others, Mr. Dening's assertions gave the keenest pain. All of us, Christian, agnostic and secularian, admire the minute research, the trenchant pen and the cleverness of Mr. Dening. He is a doughty foeman, with a sharp steel. For one, it is with feelings of the deepest regret that I see Mr. Dening use his splendid abilities in such attacks as marked the latter part of his article in regard to Dr. Takagi.

No one will question Mr. Dening's right to oppose Christianity on matters of fact and science, if his sincere beliefs compel him to do so. While utterly opposed to him, I have read his summaries and articles with much intellectual stimulus. It does seem to me, however, that his attack on the moral conduct of Christians *in general* was beneath the dignity of his manhood and the calibre of his intellectuality. If he had said, "The conduct of some, or many, Christians was no better than the conduct of some other religionists or of some agnostics," it would not have been so offensive a statement; for all regret that the conduct of many Christians is by no means blameless. For one thing, wolves creep into the flock;

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and for another, the Christian Church is not a body of perfected saints; but a school of men and women striving after purity and righteousness and holiness, with many fallings that pain the Christian himself and give opportunity for such assertions as Mr. Dening's.

Let me call attention to some things about Mr. Dening's assertion. It is the odious comparison. If he replies that the weapon was used against himself, I reply that such method is unworthy of either Christian or agnostic. Simple manliness usually taboos the comparison odious. Second, the statement is of the nature of gratuitous assumption. Mr. Dening says it is his experience. With equal authority and experience, one might make exactly the opposite statement. Therefore, third, the statement is unscientific and unproveable. And Mr. Dening swears by science. Knowing Mr. Dening's cleverness, I will not say that he purposely made a statement that is unproveable one way or the other, and therefore put his opponents at a disadvantage. An opponent must almost resort to like assertion, to the comparison odious. There is one line of scientific and unanswerable facts, however, and I would like to call attention to it. It is the argument of statistics.

Let me first illustrate. Bishop McCabe was once reading on the train a newspaper which gave an account of a meeting of Robert Ingersoll and fellow-thinkers. Ingersoll said in his opening address, "The Christian Churches are dying all over the land. Christianity is struck with death." Bishop McCabe alighted at the first opportunity, and sent Ingersoll the following telegram: "Praise God from Whom all blessings flow. We are building a church a day, and propose to make it two." Statistics show that the Methodist Church, in its world-wide work, has nearly, if not quite, attained to Bishop McCabe's ideal. I have kept watch of the statistics of the denominations for a number of years. I have personally seen no statistical evidence of death or even decay in any other Christian denomination; but, on the contrary advance everywhere, and remarkable advance. Take a single illustration from the June Homiletic Review as to Protestantism. "The missionaries in 1895 numbered 11,765, in 1900 there were 16,218, in 1905 there were 17,839, in 1907 these had increased to 18 499, and now there are 19.875.....In addition, there are 4.999 ordained natives, and 98.955 native helpers. The total force in the field today is reckoned at 118,921. In 1895, it was only 66,833.....The total number of native church members added last year in all fields by all denominations was 164.674, or over 500 a day, and an average of about eight converts for each missionary on the field." To support this work, intelligent scholars and scientists, hardheaded business men, and horny-handed sons of toil contributed a very large sum of money. "Three presidents of the great Republic have publicly and fervently commended the cause of Missions." In my own denomination, the income for missions has increased from $929,000 in 1907 to $1,482,000 in 1909.

If it is objected that the above statistics are unreliable, I recommend a study of the United States Census report. As to the money figures, they are certified and audited by public accountants.

Is it at all reasonable to suppose that educated men, men as scientific as any outside of Christianity, and business men, and hard-handed working-men, should so believe in and support an institution that is false, unscientific, *and that produces no better than the average of moral conduct?*

That is not said in any spirit of boasting. I have not an atom of that in my nature. I merely inquire, "Are not such facts as scientific as any of the theories of Huxley, or Spencer, or Haeckel, men whose names agnosticism holds in such admiration?

Yours Sincerely, WEA.

"THE BUDGET—ITS SIGNIFICANCE AND ITS RECEPTION"

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In your excellent editorial of June 26th on "The Budget—Its Significance and its Reception" you speak of the proposed new taxation as having "been arranged so as to fall on a small and limited class of people." In the next sentence you speak of the "well-to-do and middle classes" as being the ones on whom these taxes will fall oppressively. Surely, Sir, the "well-to-do and middle classes in England cannot be spoken of as a "small and limited class." Moreover, on what class or classes should increased taxes be levied, if such taxes are "inevitable,"—on the poverty-stricken and lower classes?

Will you kindly pardon my temerity if I further ask why the increased duties on liquors and licenses should be regarded as vindictive? It may be said in reply that Mr. Lloyd-George jocularly said that the Government was looking for "hen roosts" to despoil. But what does that mean more than that some additional revenue would have to be raised to meet the increasing expenditures? It was well known that some new taxes would have to be levied. Or it might be said as you have tersely put it, "a measure of sweet revenge for the killing of the Licensing Bill." But as compared with some Western countries the duties on beer, ale, and spirituous liquors in England are remarkably low, so what more likely place to put increased taxes than on those articles or trades where it was admittedly low, since increased taxation was inevitable?

The Brewers and those having capital invested in the liquor traffic uttered loud protests that the 3d. per barrel which was imposed on beer was "plundering" the trade and that it would be ruinous, etc. The estimated increase from this source was considerably less than half a million sterling. But the Brewers forthwith raised the price of beer half a penny per pint or an annual increase of £18,000,000 sterling or more than thirty-six times the amount the Brewers were asked to contribute toward the increased cost of Government in England. Thus two things are very clearly shown:—First how quickly the incidence of a new tax is adjusted, or readjusted rather. In this case it apparently will not be paid by the class or trade on which it was levied, but by the consumer. Second; how hollow and hypocritical are some of the protests against the new taxes. The Brewers, as well as the Bankers and Merchants and even ourselves, can be loyal and shout for the Flag so long as we are not asked to pay for the "Dreadnoughts." The trade in strong drink was not suffering from the hard times in England and evidently there was no danger from a small increase in the price of beer or the Brewers would not have risked "ruin" by a much greater increase than would reimburse them for the added tax, so the question naturally arises would not the Government be justified in taking the other three dozen fat pullets which the Brewers have shown to be on their "roost"?

A Colonial-born Briton, my knowledge of economic and social conditions and life in England has been derived from reading, converse with English people and some vacations spent in England. Studying things as they are, I have been led to admire and respect the "forces of Conservatism" which have so largely contributed to England's prosperity and stability, and I have been led to feel that intelligent patriots cannot but view with alarm the alliance between the great Conservative Party in England and the liquor traffic,—or at least the sympathy that is shown in the ranks of this party for the traffic, and to hope that the leaders of this party will be relieved from the responsibilities of office until they get aroused to the enormous effect the drinking habits of the working classes have on their thrift, purchasing power, happiness and morality. Nothing would more quickly brighten the dark clouds that hang over England's industrial horizon than an unqualified avowal by the leaders of the Conservative Party of their purpose to suppress the traffic in beer and alcoholic beverages as an economic and industrial necessity; or a voluntary abstinence movement among the working classes of England.

Appreciation of your illuminating articles on English politics has prompted me to offer the above criticism in a most friendly spirit.

Yours faithfully, BRITON.

July 6th, 1909.

[We cordially agree with much of what our correspondent says. It is not against the levying of a tax on intoxicating liquors, in principle, that we protest, but against the manner and spirit of its levying. But we refer "Briton" to a second article, in the columns of this issue, for further elucidation of the questions involved.—Ed. *J.M.*]

BUDDHISM AND CHRISTIANITY.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—When I read, in the last Religious Summary, the quotation from Dr. Tetsujiro Inoue, "What Buddhism and Christianity have to do now is to preach morality," I recalled these lines of Browning that I had read, with a new appreciation, the day before:

"What is the point where himself lays stress?
Does the precept run, "Believe in good,
In justice, truth, now understood
For the first time?"—or, "Believe in me
Who lived and died, yet essentially
Am Lord of Life? Whoever can take
The same to his heart, and for mere love's sake
Conceive of the love, that man obtains
A new truth; no conviction gains
Of an old one only, made intense
By a fresh appeal to his faded sense."

"The "Lord of Life!" If one can believe that, what worlds of difference the belief makes!

Tokyo. B. CHAPPELL.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service.)

FLOATING DOCKS FOR DREADNOUGHTS.

London, July 1.

Mr. McKenna, First Lord of the Admiralty, stated in the Commons that it has been decided to construct two floating docks for Dreadnoughts. They are intended primarily for the East Coast, but can be sent anywhere, according to contingencies.

THE MEDITERRANEAN FLEET AND THE MANŒUVRES.

Later.

Sir E. Grey, replying to a question in the House, said that the Admiralty and the Foreign Office had fully discussed the advisability of withdrawing the greater portion of the Mediterranean fleet for the naval manœuvres which are to take place off the coast of Scotland. There was nothing in the political situation in the Mediterranean to make it necessary to alter the arrangements.

BRITISH FINANCE.

The Commons have agreed to Clause 1 of the Finance Bill after the application of the closure amid the protests of the Opposition.

The revenue returns for the last quarter show an increase of £1,382,065.

THE BRITISH ARMY.

GRATIFYING REPORT OF THE INSPECTOR-GENERAL.

London, June 30.

An Army Memorandum, issued by General Sir John D. P. French, Inspector-General of the Forces, reports the Field Army to be in a high state of efficiency and well prepared to take the field at the shortest notice. There are now 10,157 officers and 264,515 men liable for foreign service, as compared with 7,463 officers and 185,823 men in December, 1905.

THE U.S. TARIFF BILL.

PROPOSED TEA DUTY DEFEATED.

Washington.—The Senate has rejected the amendment to the Tariff Bill imposing a duty of ten cents per pound on tea. The amendment was solely in the interest of a few teagrowers in South Carolina.

LORD CHARLES'S RECOMMENDATIONS.

URGES AN ADDITIONAL EXPENDITURE OF AT LEAST £55,000,000 BY 1914.

London, July 1.

Lord Charles Beresford, speaking in the City, said he was compelled to be reticent regarding the past, pending the findings of the committee; but he urged an addition to the existing programme of construction by 1914 of ten Dreadnoughts, sixty cruisers, and fifty-two destroyers, at a cost of fifty-five or sixty million pounds.

THE STRIKE AT MARSEILLES.

The Marseilles shipping strike has been renewed, owing to the refusal of the shipowners to discharge their scratch crews. The Government has appointed an arbitrator, who will endeavour to settle the dispute.

NAVAL RESERVISTS RESUME WORK.

July 2.

The naval reservists employed by the Messageries Maritimes Company have decided to resume work, the Company having acceded to their terms.

HANKOW-SZECHUAN LOAN.

AMERICAN BANKERS GET ONE FOURTH.

Washington.—It is stated that it will be officially announced in a few days that American bankers get one-quarter of the

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Hankow-Szechuan loan. Great Britain has acquiesced in the arrangement.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS KUNI IN LONDON.

Prince and Princess Kuni have arrived in London. They were welcomed by a representative of the King and by Ambassador and Madam Kato.

INDIAN STUDENT ASSASSINATES SIR W. H. CURZON WYLLIE IN LONDON.

London, July 2.

At the Imperial Institute last night an Indian student shot and killed Colonel Sir W. H. Curzon Wyllie and a Shanghai Parsee doctor named Cawas Lalcaca. The student accosted Sir William as he descended the staircase and fired four shots at his head in rapid succession, holding the muzzle close to his face. The fifth shot struck him as he fell, and the sixth struck the Parsee Lalcaca, who expired shortly after his removal to the hospital. Bystanders seized the assassin, who wrested his hand free and placed the revolver at his head, but being empty it clicked harmlessly. Lady Curzon Wyllie, hearing the shots, came upstairs from the cloakroom, but did not recognize the form lying on the floor, the shots having so disfigured it. She knelt down and then an eye-witness saw horror leap into her eyes. Quietly she said "It's my husband. Why wasn't I with him?"

July 3.

The Hindu assassin is Madan Lal, of Dhinagri. He has been brought up at the Police Court and remanded for a week. His demeanour was perfectly callous. When asked if he had anything to say, he shook his head; but explained that he had shot Lalcaca unintentionally. Seeing him advance, he fired in self defence.

The assassination is the greatest sensation in London since the Phœnix Park murders in Dublin in 1882. An intimate acquaintance of the assassin, relating the story of his life in the *Daily Chronicle*, says that prior to the committal of the crime, Madan Lal spent two hours at Westbourne Grove, talking with extremists.

[Here the telegram becomes unintelligible.—Ed. *J.M.*]

The writer of the article in the *Chronicle* is satisfied that there was a deliberate plot, and he warns the public that unless the police adopt stringent measures, there will be further outrages.

Later.

Dr. Buchanan, an eyewitness, says that Lalcaca was talking with Sir William Wyllie just previous to the assassination, and he thinks he must have noticed the actions of the assassin and thrust himself before Wyllie.

COLLAPSE OF DOCK AT NEWPORT.

The trench connection of a huge dock in course of construction at Newport, Wales, has collapsed, entombing fifty navvies. It is feared that thirty have perished.

TO TAX CORPORATION PROFITS.

U.S SENATE AGREES TO RESOLUTION.

London, July 4.

Washington.—The Senate has adopted by 45 to 31 the resolution to tax the profits of Corporations.

SHORTAGE IN COTTON CROP.

PANIC IN NEW YORK

There is a panic on the New York Cotton Exchange as a result of the publication of the Government report indicating a hitherto unexpected deficiency in the cotton crop, due in some districts to a wet season and in others to drought. It is not expected that the yield will exceed twelve million bales.

THIRD TEST MATCH.

Australia has won the third Test match by 126.

THE SITUATION IN PERSIA.

London, July 5.

A Russian circular to the Powers declares that, in view of the failure of the Anglo-Russian measures to bring about reforms in Persia, and to prevent the advance of the Revolutionaries to Teheran, the Russian Government has decided that, while adhering to the principle of internal non-intervention, it will send some troops from Baku to Enzeli for the protection of Russians and other foreigners, but will not at present advance beyond Kazvin. Any further advance will depend upon the course of events.

THE UNITED STATES TARIFF.

TEA AND COFFEE DUTY FREE.

The U.S. Senate has deleted the proposed tea and coffee duties from the revised tariff.

TO GUARD LORD MORLEY.

Special precautions are being taken to guard Viscount Morley, Secretary of State for India, and the chief officials of the India Office.

SOUTH AFRICAN FEDERATION.

General Botha is now *en route* to England to open negotiations with the Chartered Company for the inclusion of Southern Rhodesia in the United South Africa. The Transvaal will compensate the Company. A Bulawayo paper mentions £20,000,000 as the figure.

THE ZEPPELIN AT METZ

The balloon Zeppelin II. has arrived at Metz, where it will be stationed permanently.

CITY OF YOKOHAMA LOAN.

London, July 6.

The City of Yokohama 5 per cent. loan for £716,500 sterling has been issued at 98.

THE NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

HOSTILE FLEETS EFFECT JUNCTION.

The result of a smart ruse in the Naval Manœuvres led to a successful junction of the hostile fleets, stationed at the outset in the North Sea and off Oban, in the face of much stronger fleets at Berehaven (s.w. Ireland) and Kirkwall (Orkney Is.).

THE INDIAN STUDENT OUTRAGE.

INQUEST ON THE VICTIMS.

An inquest has been held upon the bodies of Sir W. H. Curzon Wyllie and the Parsee Lalcaca, the victims of the recent outrage in London, and a verdict of Wilful Murder was returned. The murderer was absent.

THE CONGO.

AN EXPERIMENTAL PROVINCE.

Later.

It is stated in Brussels that the Belgian Minister of Commerce, who is touring in the Congo, proposes to invest a province experimentally with freedom of commerce and labour, on the lines desired by the British Government.

INTERNATIONAL POLO.

CUP WON BY AMERICAN TEAM.

London, July 6.

America has won the International Polo Cup at Hurlingham, beating England by 8 to 2.

THE FINANCE BILL.

AN ALL NIGHT SITTING.

Mr. Lloyd George, refusing to permit an adjournment of the debate on the Finance Bill this morning, said that, at the present rate of progress, it would take three years to pass the bill. The debate continued all night.

THE FOURTH OF JULY BANQUET.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

London, July 7.

At the Fourth of July banquet in London, Mr. Whitelaw Reid, replying to the toast of "The American Ambassador," cordially referred to Japan, "now as always the friend of America."

Mr. Kato, the Japanese Ambassador, replying on behalf of the guests, said that when Japan wanted help or advice it had always been given ungrudgingly and promptly by America. The wise methods of their rulers and the common sense of both peoples had completely nipped in the bud the efforts of a small party of mischief-makers.

THE RUSSIAN ADVANCE IN PERSIA.

Later.

In the House of Lords, Lord Crewe, replying to Lord Lamington, said that the Russian advance on Teheran was only contemplated should it be necessary to protect Europeans.

NEW JUNIOR LORD.

In the House of Commons, Mr. O. Partington has been appointed Junior Lord of the Treasury. This involves a bye-election.

[Mr. Oswald Partington has been Liberal member for the High Peak Division of Derbyshire since 1900. His majority at the last election was 796, on a poll of 11,000.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

AN ADMIRAL'S BRILLIANT FEAT.

SPEED OF THE DREADNOUGHTS.

On the conclusion of the Naval Manœuvres, the newspapers speak eloquently of the brilliant manœuvre by Admiral Jerram, who slipped through the Straits of Dover in a fog and effected a junction with the rest of the hostile fleet in the Atlantic.

A prominent feature of the operations was the absence of breakdowns. The speed of the Dreadnoughts actually delayed the final battle, as they were obliged to slacken their pace to wait for the slower battleships before the general attack could be made.

THE YOKOHAMA LOAN.

The Yokohama loan has been covered ten times.

KING AND QUEEN IN LANCASHIRE.

KING ADDRESSES TERRITORIALS ON NATIONAL DEFENCES.

London, July 7.

Their Majesties, the King and Queen, have just concluded a three days' visit to Lancashire. After a review of Territorials, the King expressed the hope that no occasion would arise for their services in actual warfare, but he added that readiness for defence was the strongest safeguard for peace.

[The opening of the new Royal Infirmary at Manchester was the occasion of their Majesties' visit to the County Palatine.—Ed. *J.M.*]

LORD KITCHENER AND THE AUSTRALIAN FORCES.

Reuter learns that the War Office has informed the Commonwealth Government that it has no objection to the latter securing the services of Lord Kitchener for the organization of the Australian forces. Lord Kitchener's decision is not yet known.

THE ADDITIONAL DREADNOUGHTS.

Later.

Mr. J. B. Lonsdale inquired in the House of Commons whether the Government had yet exercised its power to order gun mountings and armaments for additional Dreadnoughts. Mr. McKenna answered that it had not.

[The above telegram, as received, was almost unintelligible, but we give what we believe to be its purport.—Ed *J.M.*]

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S BIRTHDAY.

WORLD WIDE CONGRATULATIONS.

There has been world-wide congratulation on the birthday of Mr. Chamberlain to day.

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Great meetings of congratulation were organized both in London and the Provinces.

[Mr. Chamberlain was born in 1836, and is consequently 73 years of age.—ED. *J.M.*]

ITALIAN SHIP-SUBSIDY BILL.

VIOLENT SCENE IN THE HOUSE OF DEPUTIES.

Later.

Italy is greatly agitated over the Government's ship subsidy bill. There has been an extraordinary scene in the Italian Chamber. Signor Colajinni shouted out that those who were responsible for the measure ought to be prosecuted. Signor Schanzer, Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, forcibly struck Signor Colajinni, but was restrained from making further onslaught. Signor Colajinni's clothing was partially torn off in the struggle. The sitting was suspended amid uproar.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE "TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

THE ADVANCE ON TEHERAN.

RUSSIAN CONCENTRATION.

London, July 1.

St. Petersburg.—In consequence of the threatened advance on Teheran by Bakhtiaris and Nationalists, the Russian Government has ordered a considerable force to assemble at Baku, in case an attempt should be made upon the city. The British Government has been informed of this concentration.

JAPANESE STOCKS IN LONDON.

On the Stock Exchange Japanese stocks generally are dull, but there have been some sales of Osaka bonds.

CLIMAX APPROACHING IN PERSIA.

SHAH'S ARMY TO OPPOSE REVOLUTIONARIES.

Teheran.—The successful defence of the city against the Revolutionaries depends entirely upon the Russian officers. Without them, the troops would be valueless. The position of the officers is not an enviable one, as the Russian Government disclaims all responsibility for their actions. The loyalty of some of the men in the Persian Cossack brigade is doubtful. The Shah himself does not support the officers. When they asked for an extra regiment, he sent them thirty men. Nevertheless, it is understood that the officers intend to take the field in defence of the Shah, who has gathered together a total of 5,000 troops.

BRITISH NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

THREE GREAT FLEETS OF 370 SHIPS.

Three great British fleets, aggregating 370 ships, are now engaged in manœuvres, largely on the east and northeast coasts.

BATTLE IN MOROCCO.

London, July 2.

Fez.—An indecisive battle has been fought between the forces of the Sultan and those of the Pretender. Fourteen important tribesmen fighting on the side of the Sultan have been captured and beheaded. The Sultan's troops are disheartened.

RUSSIAN AUTHORITY IN NORTH MANCHURIA.

OBJECTION MADE BY THE U.S.

London, July 3.

New York.—The U.S. Department of State has informed the Chinese Government that it intends to object to the Russo-Japanese agreement as to the control of municipalities in the railway zone in north Manchuria. It is understood that China grants the Russian railway representatives power to veto the actions of the International Board formed to reorganize the municipalities. America fears that this dangerous precedent might lead Japan to demand similar rights in South Manchuria. It is stated that the British Government is of the same opinion.

THE SITUATION IN PERSIA.

GROWING FEELING AGAINST FOREIGN INTERFERENCE.

London, July 2.

Teheran.—Constitutionalists at Kozvin announce that they are coming to punish certain ministers who are responsible for the presence of foreign troops in Persia, and they warn the representatives of the Powers that the responsibility for any complications that may arise will rest with the Power interfering.

THE CORRUPT ELEMENT IN NEW YORK.

New York, July 2.

New York.—The removal of the Police Commissioner by the Mayor is generally regarded as a sacrifice to Tammany.

THE BECKMAN MURDER.

London, July 2.

Stockholm.—The police discoveries indicate that the recent murder of General Beckman was connected with a proposal to bar the murderer on the part of the Russian anarchists. The murderer thought the anarchists had abandoned him, and he shot General Beckman in a fit of rage.

PREMIER SPEAKS ON QUESTION OF ARMAMENTS.

London, July 3.

The Prime Minister, addressing the Liberals of Southport, said nobody had more reason to desire disarmament and a cessation of the miserable competition in armaments than the present Government, but that Great Britain could not afford to lose command of the sea.

RUSSIAN MOVEMENTS IN PERSIA.

London, July 5.

St Petersburg.—A long communiqué from the Russian Government to the Powers explains the reasons for the despatch of 1,800 troops from Baku to Enzeli, and thence to Kazvin, in readiness to protect the lives and property of foreigners. The circular expressly reaffirms the settled policy of Russia to act in conformity with the agreement with England, and not to interfere in the internal affairs of Persia. The present movement is based, the circular states, upon the continued advance of the revolutionaries, and the belief that the Persian Cossacks cannot successfully resist them.

THE GERMAN FINANCIAL CRISIS.

London, July 5.

Berlin.—The negotiations between the Chancellor's emissaries and the Reichstag majority are proceeding. Concessions have been made on both sides.

FIGHTING IN PERSIA.

Teheran.—The first encounter has taken place between the Royalists and the Nationalists at Shahabad. The former are reported to have been successful.

THE INTEGRITY OF CHINA.

St. Petersburg.—Commenting on the Chinese Special Mission, the *Novoe Vremya* declares that Russia must strictly adhere to the policy of the Western Powers interested in maintaining the integrity of China.

A NEW AUSTRIAN RAILWAY.

London, July 6.

Vienna.—The Emperor has opened a new railway from Spittal to Gastein, which pierces the Hohe Tauern Alps and opens a new line of communication between central and north western Europe and the Adriatic.

[The mountains pierced by the new line separate the two provinces of Carinthia and Salzburg, in which respectively the above mentioned towns are situated. Whereas all but one of the previously existing railways in the Western part of Austria, following the valleys of the Alps, run east and west, the new line runs nearly north and south.—ED. *J.M.*]

DISTRACTED PERSIA.

London, July 6.

Teheran.—The Nationalists demand the dismissal of the Cabinet and of the new Ministers selected by the political clubs, the disarmament of the Shah's irregulars and the retirement of all Russian troops.

It is understood that the Legations will reply, though some of the demands are unreasonable and cannot be presented to the Shah.

FRENCH MINISTER ON TARIFF REFORM.

Paris.—The Minister of Commerce has stated in the Chamber that Tariff Revision must be prudent and circumspect. The French and British markets are the complement of each other. Either country would be making an unpardonable blunder if it placed fiscal obstacles in the way of the development of economic relations.

THE FINANCE BILL DEBATE.

"THE TIMES" ON MINISTERIAL TYRANNY.

London, July 7.

The House of Commons continues to hold greatly protracted debates on the Finance Bill. The closure is being repeatedly enforced, the Government employing their enormous mechanical majority to override every objection.

The Times declares that the Chancellor of the Exchequer does not attempt to meet arguments, and charges the Government with practising a demoralizing tyranny.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

Japanese securities are generally higher. The Yokohama Loan issue has been well received The list of application is closed.

GERMAN AERIAL NAVY LEAGUE.

Berlin.—An "Aerial Navy League" has been definitely organized. There are already 10,000 members.

ITALIAN SHIP-SUBSIDY BILL.

SERIOUS RIOTS AT PALERMO.

London, July 8.

Rome.—The debate on the ship-subsidy bill is characterized by continued attacks on the measure. The ministry is charged by the Socialists with accepting bribes. Discontent prevails in all the large seaports. Palermo is almost at the stage of revolt. The troops and police have suffered terrible provocation and been assailed with volleys of stones, but they have exhibited wonderful self-restraint and have refrained from firing.

("DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST" SERVICE TO THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

CHOLERA INCREASING.

Berlin, June 30.

Cholera is reported to be steadily increasing at St. Petersburg.

Unfavourable reports as to the situation in Persia are continuing from St. Petersburg, by which the maintenance of the Russian occupation is said to be justified.

POLITICAL CHANGES.

Berlin, June 30.

The Kaiser will not start for his usual Northern trip before the question of the change in the post of Chancellor has been settled. There is no prospect of a dissolution of the Reichstag except in the case that the new majority of the Reichstag on the occasion of the third reading of the Finance Reform Bill passes resolutions which are unacceptable to the governments of the Confederate States and lead to open conflict between the Reichstag and the Government.

FRENCH MERCHANT MARINE.

The Chamber of Deputies is discussing the States Treaty of the Messageries Maritimes

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with the Ministry of Finance. The Minister for Finance, speaking as to this subject, stated that the French merchant marine did not take the expected rise in spite of the above Treaty and urged that another basis must be created. He recommends a return to the former system of a subvention, which is applicable to all classes of ships and is subjected to the control of the Government.

GERMANY AND THE FAKUMEN QUESTION.

Berlin, July 1.

The *Koelnische Zeitung*, writing semi-officially as to the South Manchurian and Fakumen Railways question, objects to the statements of the *Taeglich Rundschkau*, a Berlin paper, that the attitude taken by Japan in the above question, is contestable. The *Koelnische Zeitung* states on the contrary that the Railway by virtue of the Portsmouth Treaty is the property of Japan and that the latter is fully empowered to exercise special rights in the railway zone.

THE REICHSTAG.

The Reichstag has passed, on the second reading, the proposals of the Conservative and the Centre with regard to indirect taxes. Before the third reading, which will take place next week, Prince Buelow will give a conclusive speech.

THE ALLEGED INDISCRETIONS OF THE KAISER.

Berlin, July 2.

The report, which has also been telegraphed to Japan by the correspondent of the *Hochi*, and according to which the Kaiser is said to have discussed the Far Eastern question with some French guests on the occasion of the Regatta at Kiel, is an absolute invention. Even the French reports, on which this rumour is understood to be based, do not contain a single reference to such expressions of the Kaiser as are spread by this new rumour, the reason being that the statements were never uttered.—*Le Matin*, however, quotes in a sensational way the words which the Kaiser was said to have uttered to a Frenchman at Kiel in the year 1906, but which had also been denied afterwards. It is evident after all that the new affair has been fabricated with wilful malice and mischief-making tendencies in a certain quarter.

The Reichstag has passed the new tax on beer.

TO THE POLE BY AIRSHIP.

Count Zeppelin and Professor Hergesell, under protection of the Kaiser, have started a new enterprise for exploring the Arctic regions by help of an airship.

THE CRETAN QUESTION.

The Protective Powers have given promise to the Greek Government to open negotiations as to the Cretan question as soon as possible.

MORE RUSSIAN TROOPS FOR PERSIA.

Russia is preparing a further despatch of troops to Persia with regard to the existing anarchy.

ROYAL VISITS POSTPONED.

The Sultan has adjourned the trip to Saloniki, which had been arranged, and the King of Greece has cancelled his visit to Paris.

The Sublime Porte, with supposed agreement of Russia, will transfer the construction of the railway between Trebizond and Erzerum to a British Company.

Members of the Turkish Parliament will pay visits to London and Paris, perhaps also to Berlin and Vienna.

AUSTRIA.

Berlin, July 3.

The Hohe Tauern Railway (Middle Alps) is being opened on July 5th. This railway is of the highest importance to the commerce of Trieste. The Austrian Lloyd is building new steamers for its service to East Asia.

TURKEY.

The Turkish Government is regarding the further development of the Cretan question in a quieter manner. A Turkish stationary ship will be sent to Crete.

The Turkish Government is taking strong measures for suppressing the Greek bands now swarming in Macedonia. The warlike preparations against Greece are still continued by Turkey.

PERSIA.

Martial law has been declared at Teheran in Persia.

Berlin, July 4.

The Russian Government declares that Russian troops will be sent as far as Kazwin (80 miles west of Teheran) for the protection of the foreign interests, but that those troops will be withdrawn as soon as possible.

Berlin, July 5.

The Russian Cossack troops in Persia are keeping the field against the revolutionaries in the hope of speedy reinforcements. England is also ready to land troops in Persia.

GERMANY.

Berlin, July 3.

A compromise between the Government and the majority of the Reichstag will be effected as to Finance Reforms, this compromise being already fixed in its essential points. The Reichstag will conclude its session on July 9th. The tax on tobacco has been passed.

Berlin, July 4.

The Reichstag has rejected the tax on perfumes, but accepted the tax on alcoholic spirits.

The Zeppelin-Hergesell Arctic expedition will have for its chief purpose the exploration of the Arctic regions, a Zeppelin airship being used for surveying work.

Berlin, July 5.

The Ministers for Finance of the various Confederated States are arriving at Berlin for the conclusion of the Finance Reform Bill.

Measures are being taken in Germany and France against the danger of cholera, which is spreading from St. Petersburg.

A Zeppelin airship has arrived at Metz.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to June 20th *ex* Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on July 4th.

GERMANY.

Berlin, July 6.

The Kaiser and King of Sweden were present at the inauguration of the new ferry boat service between Sassnitz (Ruegen) and Traelleburg (South coast of Sweden).

Prince Buelow has refused to be interviewed as to the situation and has expressed his decision to keep strict political silence after his resignation.

The Ministers of the Confederate States are discussing the compromise with the majority of the Reichstag as to the new proposal of taxes on property.

UNITED STATES.

It is reported from Washington that Mr. Takahira, the Japanese Ambassador, has left for home.

FRANCE.

A despatch from Paris says that the Minister for the Colonies will pay a visit to the King of Cambodia.

GERMANY.

Berlin, July 7.

The compromise between the Confederate States Government and the majority of the Reichstag as to the Finance Reform Bill has been concluded. As a new tax, an impost on stocks has been added. Prince Buelow has given a farewell banquet to the Bundesrat. After his resignation he will go first to Norderney, afterwards to Flottbeck, his country seat in Holstein, where he will take up permanent residence. During the winter, however, he will live at Rome. The offer of a Reichstag mandate has been refused by him.

Herr Hammann, Privy Councillor and Chief of the Press Bureau in the Foreign Office at Berlin, who had been charged by Professor Bruno Schmitz, the well-known Berlin architect and builder of many monuments, with having committed perjury in his divorce-suit, has been fully cleared from all suspicion.

The *Koelnische Zeitung* in an article on the resignation of Prince Ito from his post as Resident-General of Korea, emphasizes his great work on behalf of Japan, Korea and all foreign residents in Korea during his term of office.

RUSSIA.

The Tsar has received at Peterhof a special Embassy from China, which presented to him precious gifts from the Prince Regent.

SWEDEN.

The Kaiser and King of Sweden, speaking on the occasion of the inauguration of the ferry boat service between Sassnitz and Traelleburg, laid great stress upon the unshakable friendship between their two countries.

ZANZIBAR.

Slavery has been fully extinguished in Zanzibar.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

THE U.S. TARIFF BILL.

THE PROPOSED TEA DUTY.

New York, June 30.

On June 30, the amendment providing for a 10-cent duty on manufactured tea was rejected by the Senate committee. The indications are that manufactured tea will be entirely exempt from duty.

PRINCE NASHIMOTO'S VISIT TO MANCHURIA.

Dalny, July 5.

Prince Nashimoto is expected to arrive at Harbin, Mukden and Dalny on the 9th, 11th and 15th or 16th instant, respectively.

PRINCE ITO IN KOREA.

Seoul, July 5.

Early this morning Prince Ito arrived at Masampho, where he received a cordial welcome. He reached the capital at 7 p.m. To-morrow he is to be received in audience by the Emperor.

POSTAL AFFAIRS IN CHINA.

Shanghai, July 5.

The Imperial Department of Communications is reported to have again resolved to assume entire control of postal affairs, which have hitherto been under the jurisdiction of the Customs.

[This is evidently in pursuance of the Rights Recovery policy, the Customs being under international supervision.—Ed. *J.M.*]

TOURISTS MURDERED IN CHINA.

Shanghai, July 5.

It is rumoured that a British tourist and an Indian have been murdered at Antei, in Kansu.

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GIRL A MARTYR TO TERRIBLE ECZEMA

Began with Teething and Lasted Twelve Years—Tried Every Imaginable Treatment to No Effect—Head and Body a Mass of Humour—Almost Mad with the Torture.

CURED IN THREE WEEKS BY ONE SET OF CUTICURA

"My daughter, now thirteen years of age, had been a martyr to eczema on her body and head ever since cutting her teeth. We had a doctor off and on for the first five years and have been trying different chemists from time to time, using many ointments, but to no effect. We tried everything imaginable and only kept hoping that she would outgrowit. At last, after suffering for twelve years, her body and head were a mass of sores and she was almost mad with it. Then I sent for a set of Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, and Cuticura Resolvent Pills. After ten days' use of the Cuticura Remedies she began to get better. In three weeks there was not a vestige of eczema left. She only took one vial of the Cuticura Pills and we have some of the Soap and Ointment still. Mrs. C. Brasier, High St., Godstone, Surrey, Aug. 8 and 12, 1907."

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

AWFUL ITCHING

Torturing, Disfiguring Humours Instantly Relieved by Cuticura.

Even a single gentle application of Cuticura, the great Skin Cure, preceded by a warm bath with Cuticura Soap and followed, when necessary, by mild doses of Cuticura Resolvent Pills, affords instant relief, permits rest and sleep, and points to a speedy cure of the agonizing itching and burning of the skin, as in eczema; the frightful scaling, as in psoriasis; the loss of hair and crusting of scalp, as in scalled head, and the awful suffering of infants and children, as in tetter, or salt rheum.

Cuticura Remedies are sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Capetown, etc.; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market for raw cotton remains inactive. As to Yarns and Cott n Piece goods the market is quiet and home prices are against business here. There is almost no business done in Woollens.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	36.50 to 37.50
Egyptian	47.25 to 50.70
Indian Broach	31.00 to 31.50
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	29.00 to 30.00

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	270.00 to 285.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 365.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.00 to 8.50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 in. Common to Medium	Y.4.50 to 6.00
Grey Shirtings—9lb, Good to Best	
Grey Shirtings—46-48 yds. 44-45 in. Ordinary to Medium	4.60 to 6.00
Grey Shirtings—46-48 yds. 44-45 in. Good to Best	6.10 to 7.50
Grey Cambrics—46-48 yds. 45 inches	6.90 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.10 to 3.60
Cotton Italians and Satteens—32 in.	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Italians and Satteens—36-40 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	11.00 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.95 to 1.50
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.85 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.50 to .65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 36-40 in.	0.40 to 0.55
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.20 to 0.28
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.28 to 0.32
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.00
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.70 to 0.80
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.71
" " 2 " "	0.58 to 0.64
" " 3 " "	0.46 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.34 to 0.39
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

A little business has been done in Bars and Sheets.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
d. Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet.

Chester	Y.3.73 to 3.90
Victory	3.51 to 3.67
Nonpareil	— to 4.40
Borneo and Sumatra	2.90 to 2.94
Hokuyetsu	3.30 to 3.70
Nippon	3.33 to 3.73
Ogura	3.5 to 3.70
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

A little business has been done in Hongkong Refined.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Prown China	—
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. There have been some pretty fair transactions in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.05
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.00

FLOUR.

There is little business doing and reliable quotations are difficult to obtain.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	13.00
Flag	"	12.90
Royal	"	12.60
Trophy	"	12.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	12.60
Lion	"	13.70
Portland	"	12.70
Premier	"	12.60
Japanese:—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.70
Takasago	6 "	2.68
Fuji	6 "	2.70
Pine	6 "	2.70

WHEAT.

No transactions are reported and quotations are little more than nominal.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	6.60 — 6.70
Red " "	6.50 — 6.60
Blue Stem	6.85 — 7.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The quotations are nominal. A small business has been done.

On July 8th stocks were: filatures 7884 bales Re-reels, 200 bales; Kakeda, 36 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	—
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	—
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	—
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	950
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,005
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	960
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	910
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	—
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	—
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

July	Present delivery. *yen.*	July delivery. *yen.*	August delivery. *yen.*	September delivery. *yen.*
2nd	—	—	—	—
3rd	935	913	922	933
4th	—	—	—	—
5th	935	911	—	935
6th	932	—	918	933
7th	933	905	914	933
8th	928	898	—	927

WASTE SILK.

The market is very quiet. There has been but little business done.

On July 8th stocks were: Noshi, 1,222 bales Kibiso, 1,966 bales; and Sundry, 619 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	93 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	65 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	117 to 122
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	107 to 112
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	95 to 105
Kereel—Fair	— to —
Kereel—Best	— to —
Kereel—Good	— to —
Kereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is still weak and no important transactions have taken place.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.55	8.45	8.45	8.55	8.50
27"	8.50	8.25	8.15	8.15	8.25
36"	8.55	8.35	8.10	8.05	8.05

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.25	8.25	8.15	7.85
27"	8.15	7.95	7.95	7.80
36"	8.15	7.95	7.85	7.75

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.60	8.10	8.80	9.50
22½	8.00	8.70	9.80	10.70
27	—	10.60	11.50	13.00
36	—	—	14.40	15.90

COPPER.

The quotation has fallen since last week and the market shows a tendency to slacken.

According to a London telegram of July 7th, the quotation was £57.10.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 28.50—32.00

TEA.

The second crop has made its appearance, but showing the same faults as the first. The market prices have gone down a little. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to July 8th, the sales amounted to 6,160,400 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 190,400 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	36 — 38
Good Medium	34 — 35
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The quotation shows a tendency to decline.

Delivery.	Yen.
July	127.85
August	127.05
September	127.05

RICE.

Owing to bad weather, the market is firm, though the quotation is liable to fluctuate.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	1,014,312
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	148,892

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Delivery.	Closing Price.
July	13.79
August	14 16
September	14 38

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*.
Superior	Yen 14 70
Medium	13.70
Common	12 70
Average	13.70

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
July	13.57	July	13.48
August	13 92	August	13.87
September	14.10	September	14.07

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama July 8

London silver ⅛ lower and China sterling quotations 1/16 @ ⅛ lower have caused a corresponding advance in local rates on China.

London—Bank T.T	2/0½
— — Bills on demand	2/0 9/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞
— — 6 months' sight	2/0 15/16
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	85½*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83½*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87½*
— Private 10 days' sight	89*
India—Bank sight	153¼
— Private 30 days' sight	155¼
America—Bank sight	49⅞
— Private 30 days' sight	50½
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅛ @ ¼
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	213
Bar Silver (London)	23½

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer		Date
Hongkong	P. M.	Korea	Sa	July 10
Europe	N. D. L.	Kliest	Su	July 11
America	P. M.	Manchuria	Su	July 11
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Tu	July 13
Europe	M M.	Ernest Simons	Tu.	July 13
Hongkong	B. L.	Oceano	F	July 16
America	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru 1	Sa	July 17
Hongkong	T K K.	Nippon Maru	Tu	July 20
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Tango Maru	Tu.	July 20
Tacoma	B L	Aymeric	W	July 21
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru	Th.	July 22
Vancouver	C P. R.	Em. of Japan	W	July 28

1 Left San Francisco on the 29th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer		Date
Europe	M M.	Armand Behic	Sa	July 10
America	P. M.	Korea	Su	July 11
Shanghai	N Y. K.	Chikuzen Maru	Su	July 11
Hongkong	P. M.	Manchuria	M.	July 12
Hongkong	N. Y. K.	Ceylon Maru	M	July 12
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Tu	July 13
Europe	N Y. K.	Kamo Maru	W	July 14
Europe	N D. L.	Kliest	Sa	July 17
Tacoma	B L	Oceano	Sa	July 17
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	M.	July 19
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W	July 21
Seattle	N Y K.	Tango Maru	W	July 21
Hongkong	B L	Aymeric	Th	July 22
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa	July 24
Tacoma	B & S.	Titan	Su	July 25
America	C. R.	A'ral Fourichon	F	Aug 20
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	W	July 28
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	Th	Aug 19

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, G. C. Hurry, 1st July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ningchow, British steamer, 5 725, H. L Allen, 1st July,—Tacoma and Victoria, Mails and General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Prinz Sigismund, German steamer, 1,844, D. Lenz, 2nd July,—Melbourne via por s, Mails and General —H. Ahrens & Co , Nachf.

Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian steamer, 2,960, Standwitz 2nd July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Peleus, British steamer, 4 800, W. T. Hannah, 2nd July, — Vladivostock, General. — Butterfield & Swire.

Sambia, German steamer, 3,001, Muller, 2nd July,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, Asakawa, 2nd July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 2nd July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,551, E. Murai, 2nd July,—Otaru, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konan Maru. Japanese steamer, 858, Aihatsu, 2nd Juth,—Wakamatsu, Iron.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Euplectela, British tank steamer, 2,507, T. Powell, 3rd July,—Singapore via Awomori, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tjikini, Dutch steamer, 3 014, H. Koops, 3rd July,—Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Benvoirlich, British steamer, 2,164, Calley, 3rd July,—London via ports, General,—Cornes & Co.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 3,063, Yarwood, 3rd July,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 3rd July.—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 3rd July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matoppo, British steamer, 3,420, W. H. Dormand, 4th July,—New York via ports, General.—Sale & Frazar.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3 960, K. Kawara, 4th July,—Hon kong via ports, Mails & General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Numantia, German steamer, 2,806, Feldtmann, 4th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General,—C. Illies & Co.

Dunbar, British steamer, 2,410, Martin, 5th july,—Sfax, Phosphate.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Mishima Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,271, A. E. Moses, Antwerp and London via ports, General. Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 5th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Keelung Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,669, Yamamoto, 5th July,—Tairen, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 3,186, D. E. Friele, 5th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Minnesota, American steamer, 13,323, Chas. Austin, 7th July,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—G. N. S.S. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Y. Nomura, 7th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham, 8th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,912, A. Keith 8th, July,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, Tsuda, 8th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Dakotah, British tank steamer, 2,593, W. A. Ross, 30th June,—San Francisco, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 1st July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 1st July,—Shanghai via por s, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, E. Combes, 2nd July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Ernest Bent, 2nd July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, G. C. Hurry, 3rd July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Sigismund, German steamer, 1,844, Lenz, 3rd July,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails aad General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian steamer, 2,960, Standwitz, 3rd July,—Portland, Or., Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Glenesk, British steamer, 2,275, Jno. Rafferty, 3rd July,—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Persia, Austrian steamer, 3,842, P. Giurgevich, 3rd July,—Trieste and Fiume via ports, General.—Heller Bros.

Yorck, German steamer, 5,133, J. Randermann, 3rd July, Bremen and Hamburg via ports,—Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf,

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, Asakawa, 4th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 4th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 4th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Otaru Maru, Japanese steamer, 973, 4th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ningchow, British steamer, 5,725, H. L. Allen, 4th July,—Marseilles, Havre and Liverpool via ports, General —Butterfield & Swire.

Sambia, German steamer, 3,011, Mueller, 4th July, Moji,—General.—C, Illies & Co.

Peleus, British steamer, 4,800, W. T. Hannah, 4th July,—Genoa, Marseilles and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield and Swire.

Euplectela, British steamer, 2,507, P. Powell, 5th July,—Singapore.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Benvorlich, British steamer, 2,164, Calley, 5th July,—Moji.—Cornes & Co.

Iki, Japanese coast defence ship, 9,700, Capt. S. Tsukiyama, 6th July,—Yokosuka.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 6th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tjikini, Dutch steamer, 3,014, H. Koops, 6th July,—Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,960, K. Kawara, 6th July,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. Wada, 6th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Segura, British steamer, 3,000, Richard Hayes, 6th July,—Londod and Continent via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, H. Peterson, 7th July,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 3,186, D. E. Friele, 7th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Myrmidon, British steamer, 3,063, Yarwood, 8th July,—Saigon.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 8th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham, 8th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *China* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. C. Cabeldu, Mrs. A. Cabeldu, Miss M. J. Coursen, Mr. Wm. Dunlop, Miss Marie Durst, Mr. Edmund Eggli, Mr. E. A. Kilbourne, Mrs. E. A. Kilbourne. Mr. Edwin Kilbourne, Miss Esther L. Kilbourne, Miss L. A Little, Mr. I. Omura, Mr. Chas. A. Raymond, Mrs. Chas. A. Raymond, Mr. T. Saiki, Mr. H. A. Sommer, Mrs. H. A. Sommer, Mrs. L. M, Wilson, Miss Mary Petter, Rev. E. W. Twing, wife and 2 children and maid, Miss Maud Kinney, Miss Minnie Chipman, Mr. E. W. Coffin, Miss Alice Smith and Miss Pearl Wills. For Kobe:—Mr. B. Faklanoff and Mr. B. W. Waters, Jr. For Shanghai:—Mr. Chwang Yu Hu, Miss Ray Lewis, Mr. Jas. B. Leavell, Mrs. Jas. B. Leavell and infant, Miss Mabel Richardson, Mr. A. N. Sheldon, Mr. Fred Summers, Mr. B. P. Yung and Mr. P. McLean. For Hongkong:—Miss Bacon, Mrs. P. Bennett, Miss Mabel Chubb, Mr. Chas. H. Corley, Miss M. I. Danuth, Miss T. Doran, Mr. R. E. Glicksberg, Mr. C. H. Goebel, Miss L. Hardeman, Mr. Alva J. Hill, Mrs. Alva J. Hill, Miss M. G. Hobson, Miss Virginia Jameson, Miss Lois Jameson, Miss E. A. Kinne, Miss M. S. Koch, Mr. W. S. McKaig, Miss Hazel McGraw, Miss Peter H. McNellis, Miss Inez McQuiddy, Miss M Murrin, Miss Phoebe Pierce, Mr. S. Allen Presby, Mrs. W. O. Pruitt and infant, Mrs. B. Seal, Mr. Robert Sherman, Mr. Geo. H. Swift, Mrs. Geo. H. Swift, Miss Henrietta Wade, Miss Mary M. Cooke, Mr. F. Dubois, Mrs. Z. L. Heintzen and Mr. B. Markham in cabin.

Per American steamer *Minnesota* from Seattle, Wash.:—Mrs. G. H. Ball, Mr. G. G. Ball, Miss W. K. Miller, Miss E. Cornish, Mr. I. Kita, Miss M. Ball, Miss B. Fenton, Mr. R. de Lobel, Mr. T. Watanabe, Mr. J. F. Lee and Mr. T. Age. For Kobe:—Mr. W. B. Harrison and Mrs. W. B. Harrison. For Shanghai:—Mrs. W. J. Cox, Mr. C. K. Johnson, Miss M. B. Naylor and Mr. L. Dyson. For Manila:—Mr. F. J. Dollinger, Mr. S. B. Brashear, Mr. H M. Pitt, Mrs. Pitt and 3 children, Mr. J A. Tiffany, Mr. G. E. Carrothers, Mr. W. E. Crowe, Mrs. S. Moreland and 2 children, Mr. W. E. Stribling, Mr. H. E. Carmichael, Mr, R. A. Shope, Lieut. A. Stilling, U.S.A., Mr. P. Sindigo, Mr. A. Ramoro, Mr. S. Dinoso, Mr. R, Licup, Dr. A. C. Gatton, Mr. H. G. Cox, Mr. R. Walworth, Mrs. H Schotswell and child, Mr. W. A. Kerr, Mr. J. Serratt' Mr. H. W. Deen, Mrs. R. O. Monn, Mr. C. E'

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McAdam, Mr. G. R. Wilson, Mr. R. W. Boughton, Mr. E. P. Sheehan, Mr. F. O. Freemyer, Mr. R. R. Faison, Mr. J. R. Haynes, Mr. J. A. Latham, Mr. J. Teodoro, Mr. Maceda, Mr. R. J. Martines, Mr. M M. Datu, Mrs. A. C. Garton, Mr. L. Hinman, Mrs. R. Walworth and Mrs. E. S. Schefield and child. For Hongkong :—Mr. J. W. Dorris, Mrs. Dorris, Miss Ruth Dorris, Miss Roma Dorris, Miss I. K. Greenlee, Miss B. Kilgour, Miss Ch. Ober, Mrs. W. O'Brien, Miss O. Powles, Mr. A. M. Stevenson, Dr. S. D. Hopkins, Miss D. Annar, Miss J. G. Hope, Miss H. McCauley, Miss R. Rudberg, Miss E. S. Yule, Mr. N. Niehong, Mr. S. Dang, Mrs. J. O. Middleton, Mrs. M. J. Powles, Mr. W. Wallace, Mrs. W. Wallace and E. Wallace in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India* from Vancouver, B.C. :—Commander F. Acton, Mrs. J. C. Boyes, Miss A. B. Berber, Mr. R. R. Horne, Rev. Louie Hugh, Mr. K. Inouye, Mr. A. A. Kramer, Mrs. A. A. Kramer, Mr. H. F. Lawson, Mr. Lobenstein, Mrs. Lobenstein, Miss Lobenstein, Miss C. F. Noel, Mr. R. Onishi, Mr. Reigo Sana, Mr. R. P. Sheldon, Mr. G. A. Sun, Mr. L. A. Susdorff, Mr. J. A. St. Julien, Mr. E. E. White and Miss Bangs in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai :—Mr. and Mrs. Theo. L. Barret, Mr. and Mrs. F. Lewis, Mr. F. W. Franks, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Lamprey, Mr. W. D. Little, Mr. W. M. Dempster, Mr. A. Gese n cabin and 70 Chine se passengers.

Per Japanese steamer *Tenyo Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Capt. J. W. Barness, U.S.A., Miss C. M. Beach, Mr. H. N. S. Boerma, Mr. Robert S. Browne, Mr. A. Oanepa, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Cole, Mrs. W. C. Corning, Miss O. Corning, Miss Bertha Clauson, Mrs. W. J. Cuthbert, Mr. C. da Pra, Mr. R. H. Dickeson, Mr. A. Dierig, Mr. A. K. Doe, Mrs. iL. B. Doe, Miss D. Doe, Miss A. Doe, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Eager, Commander E. Fujiwara, Mr. Allan L. Green, Mrs. L. E. Gurley, Miss Gurley, Mr. Geo. V. Hayes, Capt. S. Hentzelman, U.S.A., Mr. S. Ida, Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Jones, Mrs. C. S. Jones, Admiral Jewell, U.S.N., Mrs. Jewell, Mr. Geo. D. Latimer, Lieut.-Col. John A. Lejeune, Mrs. John A. Lejeune, Miss E. M. Lejeune, Miss L. T. Lejeune, Miss E. D. Lejeune, Rev. and Mrs. D. W. Marshall and 2 children, Mr. A. Messinger, Mr. J. Miller, Rev. D. B. S. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Morse, Major L. H. Mosses, U.S.A., Miss E. M. Mosses, Mr. K. Negishi, Mr. H. Nose, Mrs. C. Payne, child and native servant, Mr. Oliver H. Perkins, Mrs. J. D. Perkins, Major W. G. Powell, U.S.A., Mrs. W. G. Powell, Mr. F. Rehse, Minister W. W. Rockhill, Mrs. W. W. Rockhill, Mr. T. Rushmore, Mrs. T. Rushmore, Mr. F. H. Sheets, Mrs. F. H. Sheets, Mr. J. Shimano, Mr. T. Shiraki, Mr. C. F. Smith, Mr. W. I. Smith, Miss M. Stow, Mrs. K Suwa, Mr. G. Takishi, Mr. M. Tamai, Mr. H. Toebelmann, Mr. Albert von Bachruch, Baron G. von Ruexleben, Rev. R. A. Walke Miss Maud Wheeler, Mr. S. Yamawaki and Mr. S. Yasuda.—in cabin.

Per German steamer *Yorck* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports :—Mr. Heinrich Maerz and amah, Mr. and Mrs. F. Wolff, Mr. F. B. Abenheim and servant, Mr. G. Roeper, Mr. H. Treichler, Mr. Lehmann, Mr. A. Huttman, Mrs. M. Maerz and children and amah, Mr. A. Rosenfeld, Mr. E. B. Bruce, Mr. Paul Schimmelbusch, Mrs. R. Dunne, Hans Gerhardt, Mr. W. A. de Havilland, Mr. Hans Gerhardt, Mr. F. Pawell, Mr. P. F. Kum, Mr. and Mrs. Patell, Miss S. Buettner, Mr. F. E. Dolittle, Mr. Mr. Rob Cha naye, Mr. F. Homuth, Mr. K. Yan, Mr. H. W. Yan, Mr. S. S. Oh, Mr. Loo Hien Yee, Mr. Loo Buck Yee, Mr. Loo Quen Lun, M. Chian Bon Yun, Mr. W. S. Ran, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Yip and children, Mr. C. F. Hoh, Mr. Pong Sone, Mr. Wong Ming Tong, Mrs. Wong Ming Tong, 1 boy and 1 girl, Mr. Ro Men, Mr. Wong Mu, Mr. M. H. Wong, Mr. B. Y. Soh, Mr. B. C. Chang, Mr. Young Bing Hing, Mrs. Smith's amah, Mr. Lai Cheun Lin, Mr. Young Lok, Mr. Chan Yok Dick, Mr. and Mrs. Dine Yi, Ga and children, Mr. Go Tze Tsum, Mrs. So Sok Yank, Mrs. Cham Tze Yon, Mrs. Fong Hing Chu, Mr. So Bing Lum and Mr. Mahmood Khan in cabin.

Per American steamer *China* for Hongkong via ports :—Mr. B. Baklanoff, Mr. Chwang Yu Hu, Miss Ray Lewis, Mr. Jas. B. Leavell, Mrs. Jas. B. Leavell and infant, Miss Bacon, Mrs. P. Bennett, Miss Mabel Chubb, Mr. Chas. H. Corley, Miss M. I. Danuth, Miss T. Doran, Mr. B. E. Glicksberg, Mr. C. H. Goebel, Miss L. Hardeman, Mr. Alva J. Hill, Mrs. Alva J. Hill, Miss M G. Hobson, Miss Virginia Jameson, Miss Lois Jameson, Miss Edna Jameson, Miss E. A. Kinne, Miss Hary M. Cooke, Mr. F. Dubois, Mr. Jose Lopez, Mr. J. Keegan, Mr. H. J. Rosencrantz, Mr. B. W. Waters, Jr., Miss Mabel Richardson, Mr. A. N. Sheldon, Mr. Fred Summers, Mr. B. P. Yung, Mr. P. McLean, Miss M. S. Koch, Mr. W. S. McKaig, Miss Hazel McGraw, Mr. Peter H. McNellis, Miss Inez McQuiddy, Miss M. Murrin, Miss Phoebe Pierco, Mr. S. Allen Presby, Mrs W. O. Pruitt and infant, Mrs. B. Seal, Mr. Robert Sherman, Mr. Geo H. Swift, Mrs. Geo. H. Swift, Miss H. Wade, Mrs. Z. L. Heintzen, Mr. B. Markham, Mr. Thos. J. Barkley, Mrs. Thos. J. Barkley and Mr. W. S. Barkley, in cabin.

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SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai :—

	Raw Silk. France.		Waste Silk. France.		Triestes.		Prigaes France.
L. Mottet	27	.....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Jewett & Bent	20	.....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Jardine Matheson & Co.	52	.....	2	.....	—	.....	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	20	.....	—	.....	—	.....	17
Hara Yushitsuten	15	.....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Varenne & Co.	10	.....	—	.....	—	.....	—
Bavier & Co.	—	.....	40	.....	—	.....	—
	144		42		—		17

Per British steamer *Simla* for London and Antwerp via ports :—

	WASTE SILK			
	England	France	Italy	Bombay.
Cl. Eymard	—	212	—	—
Total	—	212	—	—

Per German steamer *Yorck* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports :—

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	General Option.	Lyon.	Marseilles	Milan	Italy.	Marseilles	Trieste.	Manchester
Siber Wolf & Co.	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	175	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	226	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

Silk shippers by *Shimano Maru*, for Seattle, on the 6th June :—

	Bales.
China & Japan Trading Co.	115
F. Strahlen & Co.	55
Siber, Wolff & Co.	20
Vivanti Bros.	20
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	154
Kuhn Gomel Kaisha	30
Total	414

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 17TH, 1909.

DEATH.

MARY BRYANT DANIELS, of the American Board Mission, died at her home in Osaka on July 8th.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

FURTHER landslides have occurred near Akeshima Railway Station, delaying the traffic.

A MARATHON race, at Hull, last month, resulted in the death of a well-known local athlete.

THE death is announced of Miss Mary Bryant Daniels, of the American Mission at Osaka, on the 8th inst.

MRS. BETHELL, widow of the late Mr. E. T. Bethell, will, says the *Seoul Press*, shortly leave Korea for home.

THIS year the summer fête at Ryogoku, Tokyo, will be held on the 7th proximo, or, in the event of rain, on the 8th.

ON July 12, the Tokyo Appeal Court quashed a sentence of penal servitude for life which had been imposed upon an incendiary by the Nagano Local Court, and the defendant was declared to be "not guilty."

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD, the British Ambassador to Japan, is expected to arrive in Tokyo from England about the 15th prox.

ON July 10, four waggons of a goods train were derailed at Takahama, through the carelessness of a pointsman. No casualties are reported.

OWING to the recent long-continued rain, some 300 dwelling houses on the outskirts of Asakusa-ku in Tokyo have been flooded to their floors.

W. D. HAYWOOD, the socialist lecturer, was arrested twice in Seattle last month for violating the state anti cigarette law, which went into effect on June 9.

ON the 10th instant a girl of ten committed suicide by lying down in front of an approaching train and being run over at Kanasugi Hama-cho, Shiba, Tokyo.

IT is reported that a fine being the only punishment Mr. Sudzuki, ex-Mayor of Yokosuka, is liable to, the people of that town have commenced canvassing for his re-election.

THE Chinese Government is understood to be carefully examining the terms of the treaties under which Port Arthur, Kiaochow, and Weihaiwei were leased to foreign Powers.

IN a quarrel over a woman, M. Marikawa and Y. Namakura, two Japanese, fought a desperate pistol duel at Visalia, last month. Quarreling gave place to shooting at each other with the result that both were killed.

A YONEZAWA telegram says that on July 12 some 40 feet of the Itaya Tunnel of the Imperial railway collapsed, owing to the recent long-continued rain. Communication was interrupted for several hours.

ON July 10, fire broke out at a lumber factory in Iwanisawa, Hokkaido. Three buildings of the factory and one ordinary dwelling house were destroyed before the fire was extinguished. The damage is estimated at *yen* 30,000.

THE so-called Fuji Season has now commenced. It is most convenient for visitors from Tokyo and Yokohama to go up by the track from Subashiri which is about 5 miles from Gotemba. It takes about 6 hours to reach Subashiri from Tokyo by train and tramcar.

A CERTAIN Judge Dugro, of New York, has ruled that wrongful imprisonment in the case of a negro is less humiliating than it would be in the case of a white man. Dangerous utterances are more regrettable in the case of a judge than in the case of a less exalted individual.

ON the 12th instant, Captain Sato, belonging to the Fourteenth Battlion of the Transport Corps of the Fourteenth Division, stationed at Utsunomiya, was committed for trial by Court Martial. It is alleged that he has received from the Fuji-gumi bribes amounting in all to nearly *yen* 1,000.

ON July 10, when a goods train from Yokogawa was passing through the tunnel near Karuizawa, three trainmen, two of whom were stokers, became insensible. The intense heat is given as the cause, but whether it was heat or gas, defective ventilation was undoubtedly responsible for it.

IN the matches played on July 5, 6 and 7: Lancashire beat Surrey at Manchester by an innings and 185; Yorkshire defeated Notts at Bradford by four wickets; Kent beat Worcestershire at Worcester by an innings and 33 runs; Northamptonshire defeated Hampshire at Northampton by one wicket. The matches between Warwickshire and the Australians at Birmingham, and Oxford University and Cambridge University at Lord's, were drawn; and that between Sussex and Leicestershire at Brighton was abandoned.

Two blind men in Shidzuoka prefecture have organized a party of blind Fuji-climbers who are expected to assemble at Gotemba Station on July 18. The applicants already number over twenty.

THE largest bullock in the world has been sent by a stockbreeder in Southern Alberta to the Alaska-Yukon-Pacific Exhibition at Seattle. Although only three years old, this animal stands six feet high, is eleven feet two inches long, and measures eight feet eight inches round the girth, and six feet on the hips. The owner has refused £800 for the animal.

IT is reported that Mr. Horiya Sajiro, M.P., and 187 others, who live in Kamakura and Dzushi and go to their respective offices in Tokyo or Yokohama every day, have presented a petition to the Railway Bureau, complaining of the inconvenience of the present time table. Mr. Toyotaka, Station-master of Kamakura, is said to have helped them in no small measure.

AN Osaka telegram received by the *Tokyo Asahi* reports that on July 7 and 8, the books of several sugar dealers at Semba, Osaka, were inspected by revenue officials. It is said that a quantity of sugar amounting to some 20,000,000 *kin* has been found to have escaped taxation in that one district of the city. The total amount of consumption tax and fine to be imposed will come to about *yen* 3,000,000.

ON the way from Queensferry to the English Channel, the Home Fleet carried out an eight hours full-power trial. Of the Portsmouth ships, the cruiser *Invincible* was the first to reach Spithead, where she anchored at 6.30 on Wednesday morning. Her fastest run was close on 28 knots, and she did 27 knots for five or six hours. The *Drake* steamed at an average of 24.5 knots—a knot and a half in advance of her contract speed.

LAST month an official of the Nagasaki Revenue Administration Bureau named Tsuzaki Kiichi, (39) was charged with obtaining by threats a sum of *yen* 1,000 from Mr. Otsubo Kotaro, a saké dealer, who was alleged to have illegally sold large quantities of saké, thus evading taxes to a big amount. The preliminary examination at the Osaka Chiho Saibansho ended on Saturday, when the accused official was convicted and committed for public trial.

LATE on the night of June 11, a police-inspector named Kagami Goro, who belongs to the Hongo Police Station, Tokyo, was suddenly summoned to the Metropolitan-Police Board, and was at once arrested. The *Asahi* says that though the particulars cannot be published before the conclusion of the preliminary examination, the police-inspector is said to have illegally protected certain gamblers and also to have accepted a bribe in connection with the establishment of a rikisha station.

THE *Keijo Shimbun*, a Japanese paper published in Seoul, which has not been quite friendly to the Residency-General, publishes an editorial expressing a hope that a bronze statue will be erected in the Korean capital in honour of Prince Ito. The paper remarks that though it used to oppose His Excellency's policy it has never doubted the sincerity of his purpose. Japan may justly be proud of Prince Ito, who acted with uprightness and scrupulous honesty during his tenure of the office of Resident-General and has set an excellent example both to Japanese and Koreans.

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KOREA.

Friday, July 9.

On the afternoon of the 8th inst., the Korean Prime Minister, acting under instructions from the Emperor, gave a garden party at the Old Palace in honour of Prince Ito and Viscount Sone. There were 1800 persons present and the arrangements seem to have been on a most lavish scale. The Prime Minister delivered an address, the gist of which has been transmitted to Tokyo by telegraph. He characterized Prince Ito as the greatest civil official in Japan, and as the "eyes and ears" of the Far East. It was well understood that the Emperor of Japan liked to have Prince Ito always at his side for purposes of consultation, yet his Majesty had allowed the Prince to absent himself for nearly four years from Tokyo in the interests of the Korean nation. The whole world recognised how great had been the Prince's achievements in the cause of progress since he undertook the management of Korean affairs. The Korean Emperor's rescript explicitly recognised Prince Ito's eminent services, and he, the speaker, found no words to supplement his Majesty's sincere applause. He was confident that he represented the hearty sentiment of the whole Korean nation when he said that Korea's gratitude to Prince Ito would be perpetual, and that the Prince's departure from Seoul was profoundly regretted. They had, however, the consolation of knowing that the Prince was returning to his place beside the Throne of Japan, whence his influence would always be exercised in behalf of the peace of the East, and they could be assured that he would watch over Korean interests as earnestly as ever. They had also to remember with thankfulness that the Prince would continue to act as Grand Tutor to the Prince Imperial in Tokyo, and that he would be succeeded at the Residency-General by an official well versed in Korean affairs and prepared to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor. He called upon them to drink the healths of the outgoing and incoming Residents-General.

What replies were made by Prince Ito and Viscount Sone the telegram does not say.

The Emperor has announced his intention of paying a farewell visit in person at the Residency-General on the 10th inst. This will be the first example in Korean history of a Sovereign paying a formal visit outside the precincts of the Palace.

Prince Ito seems to have considered it necessary before leaving Seoul to dispel all confusion as to the responsibilities and functions of the Residency-General. When entertaining, on the 7th inst., the officials of that office, he pointed out that although the Resident-General receives his commission direct from his Sovereign, his administrative policy must be in accord with the wishes of the Japanese Government. In short the Prince made it clear that there is to be no such thing as administering Korean affairs without due reference to the Cabinet in Tokyo.

The Korean Finance Department has issued statistics showing that the total sum of public money seized by the insurgents in Korea during the past year was 34,500 *yen* approximately, and that these robberies had been attended by the deaths of 36 officials, the wounding of 178 and the intimidation or other maltreatment of 68.

According to the *Shogyo Shimpo* domestic trade in Korea is in a very disheartening condition. The custom hitherto has been for Korean tradesmen to obtain goods from the Chinese on the security of three months' bills, but owing to vigorous incursions made by Japanese importers into this domain, the Chinese are gradually withdrawing from the scene, and are calling up their dues, the result being that in Seoul alone some 40 Korean tradesmen have had to close their doors.

Saturday, July 10.

At the Imperially ordered party given by the Prime Minister of Korea on the 8th inst. in honour of Prince Ito, the replies made by the Prince and by Viscount Sone to the remarks of the Premier reported on the 9th inst. in these columns are now made known by the telegraph. Prince Ito said that the first duty dictated by humanity is to assist those who are distressed or are in danger. It was to discharge that duty that he had been appointed by the Emperor of Japan to the Residency-General in Korea nearly four years ago. Whether any success had attended his efforts, the public must be left to judge, but he could at least affirm that he had worked with all sincerity. While he could not possibly claim to have shown any conspicuous merit, he thought that he might perhaps be credited with having avoided any marked failure, and for that result he was indebted to the readiness with which the Emperor of Korea and the high officials of the Korean Government had accepted his advice.

The *Asahi's* correspondent, in wiring this speech, adds that the Prince seemed much fatigued and spoke in a voice so low as to be scarcely audible. Viscount Sone, on the other hand, was full of energy. He set out by saying that to part with Prince Ito was to him as though a pupil should be separated from his master or a child from his parents. He had hesitated greatly to accept the office of Resident-General, since it entailed the loss of the invaluable counsels of his eminent predecessor; but these scruples had been partly overcome by the thought that communications are now easy and that contant recourse might always be had to the advice of the Prince. The guiding principle of his own conduct as Resident-General would be to assist the Korean nation to assimilate modern civilization and to achieve a prosperous condition. He would above all things avoid idle display and confine himself to aiming at practical results.

At his farewell audience with the ex-Emperor, on the 9th inst., Prince Ito was addressed in exceedingly warm terms by his Majesty, who said that having entrusted the welfare of the Prince Imperial to Prince Ito, he felt entire confidence in the fullest discharge of that trust. He had the highest possible appreciation of the great work that Prince Ito had accomplished for Korea, and to mark his sense of the Prince's achievements, as well as to show his own desire to enjoy constant opportunities of meeting the illustrious statesman, he proposed to build for Prince Ito's use a special villa near Seoul. Prince Ito emphatically declined this honour, and declared that he neither expected nor wished to receive anything, however insignificant, at his Majesty's hands.

We may here add that the *Hochi Shimbun's* correspondent attributes the ex-Emperor's villa project and Prince Ito's emphasis in declining it to a renewal of the old intrigues on the deposed Sovereign's part and a clear perception of their trend on the Prince's part. His Majesty wishes to retain, in appearance at all events, the closest possible relations with the Prince, but the latter is naturally unresponsive to his desire.

The entertainment then resolved itself into the pastime known in Japan as *goin:* that is to say, Prince Ito wrote the first line of a couplet; Mori Kainan, the celebrated Japanese poet, who may be said to live with Prince Ito, wrote the second; Viscount Sone the third, and the Prime Minister the fourth. Prince Ito commenced by saying that when a bounteous rain falls it enriches and blesses the soil; Mr. Mori continued by writing that the soft dew descending upon the Palace had nurtured a beautiful flower: Viscount Sone's line purported that Korea and Japan were one blossom without distinction of rain or dew; and the Prime Minister concluded the couplet by writing that the two countries welcomed the genial spring with a common feeling of joy.

On his way to the above banquet, Prince Ito repaired to the Primary School in Seoul and addressed some valuable advice to about 3,000 students assembled there to greet him.

Sunday, July 11.

On the 10th inst. the Emperor of Korea repaired to Prince Ito's house to pay a farewell visit. His Majesty intimated that it had been his intention to accompany Prince Ito to the railway station at the time of the latter's departure from Seoul, but in consideration of the probability that the station would be greatly crowded, the Emperor had decided to pay this visit to the Prince's residence in lieu of going to the railway. He entrusted to Prince Ito's care some silk reeled by the Empress, and some barley reaped by the hand of the Emperor himself, with a request that they should be presented to the Emperor and Empress of Japan.

On the afternoon of the same day the retiring Resident-General and his successor gave a large party to Japanese and Koreans. The whole space from the Residency-General to the military headquarters was enclosed for the purposes of the entertainment. A great number of special amusements were provided, and among the temporary buildings erected for the occasion were an automatic telephone office and a place for selling commemoration pictorial post-cards. Judging from the telegraphed accounts the affair seems to have been very brilliant.

If the telegrams be trustworthy, the Emperor of Korea expressed a desire to present a sum of 100,000 *yen* to Prince Ito, and also endorsed the ex-Emperor's proposal that a villa should be built at any place in Korea selected by the Prince so that he and the Princess might be tempted to pay frequent visits to Korea in the future. Prince Ito has emphatically refused these offers. Apparently the only gift which his Highness has consented to receive from the Imperial Family is a pair of gold flower-vases, which the Emperor handed to him on the occasion of his Majesty's visit on the 9th inst.

Prince Ito is to return *viâ* Chemulpo. He will leave Seoul on the 13th inst.; be the guest of his countrymen at Chemulpo that night, and embark on the 14th in the *Manshu Maru* for his final return to Japan.

We take the following from the *Seoul Daily News*:—

According to the authorities of the Civil Engineering Bureau in the Home Office, repairs and improvements to highways between Pyongyang and Chinnampo (nearly 35 miles), Chonju and Kunsan (30 miles), Mokpo and Kwangju (nearly 57 miles) and Taiku and Yonil (65 miles) will cost 1,500,000 *yen* altogether. The works on all these roads are now in progress. The road between Chonju and Kunsan, North Chonla province, is expected to be finished in September next. The cost, amounting to 1,000,000 *yen*, for the construction of roads between Suwon and Lichon, Kongju and Sochyongli, Chinju and Masan, Whangju and the railway station of the same name, and Anju and Lyongpyon, South Pyongan, has been defrayed from the appropriations

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for the suppression of insurgents. These roads are to be completely finished toward the end of next year.

The following is a table showing the progress of work on the above-mentioned roads :—

Road.	Breadth. Length.	Finished.	Unfinished.
	Ken.	*Ri.*	*Ri.*	*Ri.*
Pyongyang-Chinnampo..	3.9	13.18	5 16	2 16
Chonju-Kunsan	3.9	11.24	11.20	.02
Mokpo-Kwangju	3.3	22.05	14.14	1.03
Taiku-Yonil	3 3	25.10	11.32	—
Suwon-Lichon	2 8	12 08	2.10	1.07
Kongju-Sochyongli (?) ...	2.8	9.06	4.17	.02
Chinju-Masan	2.8	16.00	2.30	1.20
Whangju-Whangju station.....	2.8	0.28	.08	.13
Anju-Lyongpyon	2.8	7.15	—	2.04
Total	—	118.06	53 13	8.31

Besides the above, the roads between Haiju and Longtang-po (about 4 miles) and Machon-tong and Sin Wiju (nearly a mile) have been completed.

Tuesday, July 13.

There are persistent rumours of a change of Cabinet in Seoul. Nothing is related as to the cause of Mr. Yi Wanyong's expected resignation, but it would appear that he is not desirous of quitting office, for he is said to have moved the Emperor to bring the matter to the notice of Prince Ito and to inquire what step the latter would recommend. Prince Ito is reported to have declined to give any advice, and to have counselled his Majesty to refer to the new Resident-General. It would seem that the situation centres upon Mr. Pak Cheson, who is expected to be the new Minister President. Mr. Pak is remembered as the statesman who held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs at the time of the conclusion of the celebrated Convention of November 1905. He incurred great unpopularity among his conservative countrymen for his action on that occasion, but the public acquitted him long ago. He is at present Minister of Home Affairs.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* supplements the above news by saying that the change of Cabinet will involve the abolition of the Department of Education and the Military Bureau. The Korean military establishment is now limited to a small force, not exceeding 1,000 men, of Imperial Guards, but whether it is in contemplation to disband these we do not learn from the telegrams.

Another subject about which numerous telegrams have reached Tokyo is the alleged conclusion of a new convention between Japan and Korea. Some correspondents describe this Convention as embodying merely the conditions agreed upon with reference to the establishment of a Central Bank, but others suggest that it includes arrangements connected with the abolition of the Department of Education and the Military Bureau. If this latter analysis be correct, the inference is that Japan is to take over the direct control of all educational and military affairs in the Peninsula.

At a banquet given by General Okubo on the 11th inst. to Prince Ito the latter alluded to a subject which has from time to time afforded matter of controversy, namely, the power delegated to the Resident-General in the matter of employing the military. The Prince said that if his administration had been marked by some unquiet incidents, he owed it to the hearty cöoperation of the military that he had been able to deal successfully with these crises. As a general rule the power of the sword remained, and should remain, entirely in the hands of the Sovereign, but there were occasions on which a departure from this rule became essential in the interests of the nation, and the Emperor of Japan, recognising that fact, had delegated exceptional authority to the Resident General. Nothing gave him greater satisfaction than to reflect that in spite of his special situation, perfect accord had always existed between the Japanese military and civil officials in Korea. Collisions between the military authority and the civil authority were happily unknown in modern Japan, but they were not completely absent from the history of other countries, and they were especially likely to occur in the case of a protectorate like Korea. Now that he had himself resigned the position of Resident-General, be ventured to express a hope that the military officers would cöoperate as loyally and heartily with the civil officials of the new Residency General as they had done during his own time.

Viscount Sone, speaking on the same occasion, said that he and General Okubo had been on terms of close intimacy for nearly 40 years. They were students together in Europe, and now that they found themselves side by side once more, he was quite confident that there would be no concealment or reservations between them and that they would join hands heartily for the conduct of the work entrusted to them.

The garden party given by the Japanese residents of Seoul in honour of Prince Ito on the 12th inst. was greatly marred by rain, and not more than 700 persons assembled. Prince Ito's speech is very briefly telegraphed. He appears to have said that although he was about to return to Japan and would henceforth have duties to perform in his own country, he would never lose sight of the welfare of Korea and of his countrymen in Korea, nor ever fail in his efforts to promote their best interests. He strongly urged that all should eschew petty quarrels and pragmatic disputes, and should aim at really friendly cöoperation.

Wednesday, July 14.

It is now denied that there is any intention of abolishing the Department of Education in Korea. The changes really contemplated are the abolition of the Department of Justice and of the Military Department. With regard to the former it was Prince Ito's policy from the first to give to Korea the blessing of good law well administered, and with that object sweeping reforms were effected in the Judiciary. Experience proved, however, that many years would be required before the laws of the country and their administrators could be brought to a satisfactory state. In these circumstances Prince Ito is said to have determined that the only course was to reorganise the Judiciary with Japanese officials, and to extend to Korea the operation of Japan's laws. The change of Resident-Generals has been made the occasion of this reform. Correspondents of Japanese newspapers say that this will involve the abolition of the Korean Department of Justice. It will certainly involve the surrender of Korea's judicial powers to Japan. As for the Military Department, it has come to be a mere empty form. To maintain such an office for the sake of one battalion of guards is extravagant. It does not appear that the Guards themselves are to be disbanded : they will be attached to the Chamberlains Bureau.

It would seem that the talk of a Cabinet change had its origin in these doings. The Prime Minister, Mr. Yi, is said to have been taken aback by such radical proposals, and to have shown a disposition to resign his office rather than endorse them. Finding, however, that the Residency-General's resolve was irrevocable, his Excellency and his colleagues are said to have agreed, and it is expected that the only changes in the Cabinet will be the disappearance of the portfolios of Justice and of War. There is evidently some apprehension lest this step in the case of the Guards should bring with it some trouble similar to that which resulted from the disbanding of the army. At all events stringent measures have been adopted to prevent any recourse to violence and to maintain good order.

There are differences of opinion as to the time when these reforms will be carried out. Thus the *Chuo Shimbun's* correspondent alleges that the Agreement was signed on the 12th inst. by Viscount Sone and Mr. Yi, and that it immediately received Imperial sanction. It is said to have consisted of two articles. The first provides for the abolition of the War Department and the establishment of a Bureau of Household Guards (Shuei-fu), to be presided over by an Imperial chamberlain. The second converts the Korean tribunals of justice into branches of the Japanese law courts. The *Hochi* confirms this news, but says that the Agreement will not become operative until the close of the year.

In the *Mainichi Dempo's* telegrams we read that the agreement with regard to the establishment of the Central Bank consists of five articles. The first provides simply that a central bank shall be established. The second that it shall have note-issuing power. The third that its staff shall consist entirely of Japanese subjects. The fourth that the shares held by the Korean Government shall not carry a right to dividend. The fifth that a part of the reserves shall consist of notes of the Bank of Japan and a part of Japanese negotiable securities. The *Jiji Shimpo* expands this intelligence by saying that the capital of the Bank is to be 10 million *yen* in 100,000 shares of 100 *yen* each ; that the Korean Government is to hold 30,000 of these shares, the remaining 70,000 to be offered to the Japanese and Korean public ; and that the Bank's operations are to be conducted in accordance with the provisions of Japanese law. The legal limit of note issue is to be 20 million *yen*, and the Bank will hold a silver reserve equal to one fourth of that amount. One half of all the nett profits above 12 per cent. is to be handed over to the Korean Government. On the other hand, the Korean Goverment guarantees 6 per cent. interest on the paid up capital, and consequently it receives no dividend on its own 30,000 shares unless the profits exceed that per-centage. Apparently the Japanese Government, in other words the Residency General, is to lend to the Bank at the outset 1,200,000 *yen*, which will carry no interest and will lie unredeemed for five years, to be thereafter redeemed in five more.

It will be observed that the functions of Government in Korea have now been largely transferred to Japan. The Military Power, the Communications, the Police System, the Judiciary, the Finance and the Foreign Affairs are all included in this category.

Thursday, July 15.

Advices from Seoul seem to indicate that the important administrative changes now in progress in Korea are being consummated without disturbance. Great precautions were evidently taken by the police and the gendarmes to provide against any disturbance, but it would appear that these precautions, though prudent, were not necessary. The transfer of judicial power to Japan is said to be regarded by the Koreans as a proper measure. Probably their experience of the degree of protection accorded to life and property by their own laws and by their own judicial officials had prepared them to welcome the change now introduced. The attitude of the

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Guards, however, towards the question of the abolition of the War Office still suggests some uncasiness. From the point of view of practical utilfty the War Office ought to have been abolished long ago, for such a Department of State is an evident superfluity when its work is limited to supervising one battlion of troops and a score or so of officers and military cadets.

The *Dai Han Mai-Il Shimpo* is reported to have construed the reform as abolition of the sovereign power of the Korean State; a blunder which might have been expected from such a source but which is none the less inexcusable.

The *Mainichi Dempo's* correspondent wires that the Koreans regard the abolition of the War Office as a natural sequel to the disbanding of the Army, and they are disposed to welcome the judicial change as preluding the removal of consular jurisdiction. Still they can not avoid the reflexion that this gradual lopping off of the limbs of the Korean Administration may end in leaving nothing but an inanimate trunk.

It is expected that some little time must elapse before giving effect to the new arrangement with regard to the Judiciary. Those who have followed Korean affairs with any attention are aware that Japan's policy towards Korea has been to limit her exercise of power to officials of the second class. She has appointed Vice-Ministers of Departments, Secretaries of local Governors and assistant judicial officials. She now departs from this surbordinate role in the matter of the Bench, whose occupants she undertakes to nominate *in toto*. The Korean Judiciary will henceforth consist partly of Koreans and partly of Japanese, but both alike will receive their commissions from the Japanese Government. They will administer Korean law which will be codified for the purpose as quickly as possible, and in the meanwhile they will be guided, we presume, by general legal principles and by the laws of Korea so far as any exist. It is evident, however, that the work of constituting the new Bench will require some time, and therefore the agreement for abolishing the Judicial Department will not be published immediately. The *Kokumin Shimbun* says that the Department of Justice will be replaced by a Judicial Bureau in the Residency General, and that the first chief of that Bureau will be Mr. Kuratomi, now Vice Minister of Justice.

Japan will disperse the expense of the new Judicial Bureau, which means an outlay of about half a million *yen* annually.

It would appear that the talk of a Cabinet crisis has ceased to be heard. The rumour had its origin in a combined scheme by the Tai Han Kyokai and the followers of Mr. Yi Keunthaik, who thought that they saw an opportunity to contrive a change of Ministry to their own advantage. This project has, however, failed. As for the Il Ching-hoi, they are said to have been acquainted beforehand of what was in progress and they consequently showed no excitement.

Prince Ito left Seoul on the 14th inst. amid most expressive demonstration. He was accompanied to the station by practically all the high personages in the capital; salutes were fired; arches were erected bearing the legend "Grand Tutor to the Prince Imperial" and the streets were thronged with crowds of spectators. His Highness' programme was to spend the night of the 14th and the day of the 15th in Chemulpo, and to embark in the *Manshu* at 10 o'clock on the night of the 15th. Viscount Sone was to have accompanied the Prince to Chemulpo but he was prevented by illness

On the evening before his departure from Seoul Prince Ito was entertained by the Elder Statesmen of Korea. In responding to the toast of his health he is said to have stated that if he himself was Grand Tutor to the Prince Imperial, his country, Japan, must be regarded as grand tutor to its neighbour Korea. It was essential therefore that actualities should be substituted for appearances and that they should devote themselves to attaining practical results rather than to enunciating academical precepts.

An interesting incident is reported in connexion with Prince Ito's departure. A party of some 70 Korean ladies proceeded from Seoul to Chemulpo for the purpose of inspecting the *Manshu*. The sea was too rough to allow of their visiting the ship, and they would have returned *re infecta* had not special orders come from the Palace that, as the Crown Prince himself, previous to his departure for Japan, had visited the ship by which Prince Ito was to travel, every effort must be made to enable these ladies to reach the *Manshu*. The feat was accomplished in the evening when the sea had become comparatively calm.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a disquieting telegram saying that the province of Pyong-an is honey-combed with anti-Japanese feeling nurtured in the missionary schools, of which there are no less than 549 throughout the province.

HAWAII.

Friday, July 9.

A very pessimistic message comes to the *Chuo Shimbun* from New York. It represents the Secretary of State as saying that the strikers in Hawaii have now been clearly shown to have a regular organisation and to be acting under the orders of fully recognised leaders. In these circumstances to listen to their demands would be to recognise the existence of an *imperium in imperio*, and to expose the sugar industry of Hawaii to grave peril. The planters will therefore be compelled to abandon the employment of Japanese altogether and to fall back upon Portuguese, who have never shown themselves similarly recalcitrant. It is thought that this utterance of the Secretary of State will tend to greatly embitter the situation in Hawaii, and to impair the prospects of a compromise which had just begun to be imminent.

Saturday, July 10.

It is very difficult to form any clear idea of the state of affairs in Hawaii from the telegrams that reach Tokyo. Each and every message is obviously tinged with the views of its sender. The *Asahi's* correspondent wires that there is no prospect of a speedy settlement. Several of the planters are suffering such heavy losses that they would gladly pay increased wages to get the workmen back, and not a few of the workmen are anxious and even willing to resume work. But the planters are bound by the solemn contract into which all of them, numbering 54, have entered; and the Japanese are equally restrained by a sense of faith towards their comrades. This correspondent has had an interview with Mr. Freer, the Governor; but the latter, while greatly lamenting the state of affairs, expressed the opinion that time alone could furnish a remedy. Meanwhile the Japanese are not insensible to the fact that their own future is involved in not allowing the sugar plantations to be hopelessly injured.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that, according to telegrams received in Yokohama, the workmen who unconditionally returned to their duties on two plantations received only their habitual stipend on pay day; and this fact being interpreted as a proof that the specious assurances given by Consul-General Ueno are baseless, the men have been inspired with a fresh determination not to surrender. The recepient of this telegram is said to be a foreign firm in Yokohama.

Sunday, July 11.

A long telegram this morning (11th inst.) to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that an injunction has been issued by the local Chief Justice vetoing any language or any act calculated to promote the strike or to prevent the resumption of work by the strikers. This injunction is addressed to 33 Japanese, including the editor of the *Nippu Jiji*, who are supposed to be the leaders of the strike. The injunction says that any violation of its vetoes will be treated as contempt of court, an offence with regard to which the court has summary jurisdiction, no appeal being allowed. This injunction has been issued on the supposition that if the leading agitators were silent the strikers would return to their work unconditionally, but our contemporary's telegram denies that anything of the kind is to be anticipated. It alleges that the strikers are quite determined not to return to their work without an explicit promise as to increased wages. The telegram further states that, as sugar is practically the sole industry of Hawaii, the sugar planters control every class of society in the island; and so great is their influence that no American barrister could be found to defend the Japanese accused of conspiracy. Had not an English barrister consented to take up the case, the Japanese must have remained without legal assistance. This barrister is quoted as saying that had the arrests and domiciliary visits made in Hawaii without a warrant taken place in England, a grave question of violation of private rights would have arisen. The *Asahi's* correspondent further states that Mr. Consul-General Ueno is treating the whole affair in a very nonchalant manner, and that the Consulate-General has not been represented at any of the judicial proceedings hitherto held. We (*Japan Mail*) imagine that Mr. Consul-General Ueno has learned by this time that the justice administered by American courts of law does not required to be watched.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* quotes an anonymous Foreign Office official as throwing many doubts on the authenticity of the recently received telegram to the effect that the planters of Hawaii were determined to substitute Japanese labour for Portuguese on all the plantations. A little calculation soon discloses the extreme improbability of any such measure. The Portuguese, unlike the Japanese, will not emigrate without their families. On the lowest calculation, therefore, passage must be provided for three persons in order to obtain one labourer. That means an immediate outlay of 250 dollars. Then, on arriving in Hawaii, each labourer has to receive a house costing 700 dollars and an acre of land, both of which become his property after three years; and, in addition, he expects to receive at least 22 dollars a month salary. On the other hand, the Japanese are asking for nothing more than that their pay shall be raised from 18 dollars to 22. As for white labour, in the ordinary sense of the term, it is quite out of the question, since the lowest price paid would have to be three or four dollars daily.

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Thursday, July 15.

The *Chuo Shimbun* publishes what purports to be the gist of a telegram received at the Foreign Office in Tokyo. According to this intelligence Mr. Consul-General Ueno's attempts to effect an arrangement between the strikers and the planters have failed. The planters say that to increase the wages of the Japanese labourers by one dollar daily would mean a total additional outlay of a million dollars yearly. They can not therefore consent, at all events so long as the strike continues. If the men return to their work, it is not impossible that their plea may be taken into consideration. Mr. Ueno in vain pointed out that both sides were suffering severely from the continuance of the strike. The planters proved obdurate and the negotiations came to an end. In publishing this news the *Chuo* hints that the stubborn attitude of the planters may possibly result in extending the strike to the 30,000 Japanese workmen who are still engaged on the plantations.

CHINA.

Friday, July 9.

Mr. Tang Shaoi was received in audience by the Prince Regent on the 8th inst., and he then reported the results of his mission to Europe and America, as well as his retirement from the office of Governor of Mukden. It is thought that Mr. Tang will be appointed to the post of either Head of the Taxation Board or Treaty Commissioner.

Sunday, July 11.

It is stated (*Asahi Shimbun's* telegrams) that on the 9th inst. a meeting of the foreign Representatives was held in Peking, when it was unanimously decided that the Chinese Government should be asked to provide a proper water supply for the Legation quarter in that city; to sanction the extension of the Shanghai Settlement, and to devote a further sum of 8 million taels to the dredging of the Hwangpo. The Shanghai Settlement question has been under discussion for three years, and the foreign Representatives are now pressing that extension should be definitely sanctioned in a northerly direction, so as to include all the area already built upon by foreigners.

We read in the *Yorodzu Choho* that the 13th or 14th is the probable date for the departure of the valuation commissioners from Canton for Pratas Island. The Chinese having decided to send their commissioner in a warship, the Japanese assigned the *Otowa* (river gun-boat) for the purpose, and she proceeded to Canton, so that everything was in readiness for departure by the 11th inst., as far as the Japanese were concerned. The Chinese warship, however, was not expected to reach Canton till about the 12th inst., and therefore the two vessels will probably leave the river on about the 13th.

Tuesday, July 13.

A report comes from Shanghai that there has been a serious fracas in the Hamyong province of Korea between 140 Chinese subjects and several hundreds of Koreans. The Chinese are said to have been roughly handled, but no details are given as to casualties or causes. The matter is now under official investigation.

Wednesday, July 14.

The *Chuo Shimbun* has an alarmist paragraph which says that the Chinese Government has returned a very uncompromising reply to Japan's latest proposals with regard to the Mukden-Antung line, the post office question and the Kilin-Changchun line. As to the Mukden-Antung road, Peking's answer is said to be that it will concede the construction of the railway provided that the Japanese surrender administrative rights within its zone. With regard to the post office problem, China says that she will agree if Japan consents to remove all her post offices from Chinese dominions. And with regard to the Kilin-Changchun line, China's hands appear to be tied by the representations of her own capitalists.

Meanwhile the Foreign Affairs Committee of the conservative section of the Progressists have had an interview with Mr. Isshi and have been informed by him, according to Tokyo papers, that Mr. Lu, Commissioner for the Kilin-Changchun Railway, has obtained 10 days' sick leave; that although Viceroy Hsi has left Mukden for the north, active measures have been taken for conducting the negotiations in Peking, and that the Japanese Government is determined to exhaust all the resources of diplomacy, and expects that a satisfactory agreement will be shortly reached.

Thursday, July 15.

The *Mainichi Dempo's* Peking correspondent wires an altogether incredible piece of news to the effect that the United States Government has informed the British Government that if a British bank signs the agreement with regard to furnishing railway capital to China, Great Britain will be regarded as responsible. We quote this telegram for the purpose of adding that it is not to be believed for a moment.

Nothing has recently been heard of the Honan mining complication, but a telegram now received by the *Kokumin* from Peking says that the Government has approved of the removal of Governor Chang, who signed the original agreement with the British Syndicate. This certainly does not suggest that an amicable settlement of the question is in sight.

It is stated that the Chinese Government recently carried out its intention of declaring the Sungari River open to general navigation and that this permission was to become operative from the 1st of July. The telegraph adds that the Russian Minister in Peking has lodged a protest against this measure as contrary to the Treaty of Aigun, and that he will open negotiations on the subject so soon as he returns from the hills. It is true that the Aigun Treaty provides that navigation on the rivers marking the frontier of the two Empires, namely, the Ussuri River and the Amur River, was to be allowed only to vessels of China and Russia. That was in 1858, however, and in 1905, by the Portsmouth Treaty, Russia definitely abandoned all special privileges enjoyed by her in Manchuria. We do not see therefore that this latest act of the Chinese Government is open to any valid objection on Russia's part.

It is stated that Sir Robert Hart's application for extension of leave has been granted by the Chinese Government, and that his return to the East is therefore indefinitely postponed.

It was recently stated that Mr. Consul-General Segawa, Japanese appraiser in the Pratas Island affair, was to proceed to the Island by the cruiser *Otowa*, but it now appears that the *Akashi* is to be substituted. She will be accompanied by the gunboat *Uji*. The Chinese appraiser will travel by a cruiser flying his country's flag.

THE CHINESE ARMY AND NAVY.

Mr. Tuan Fang, the new Viceroy of Pehchili, has addressed to the Throne a memorial showing that he is a warm advocate of speedily organising a powerful and efficient army for the Chinese Empire. He makes eight suggestions. The first is that no time should be lost in providing a strong navy. The second that steps should be taken to abolish the mischievous distinction hitherto existing between north and south China, and to inculcate the principle that where the national welfare and safety are concerned local distinctions should receive no consideration whatever. The third recommendation is that the 36 divisions of the projected army, namely, three divisions for each province, should be organised without loss of time. The fourth, that graduates of the various military schools should be distributed through the provinces for purposes of instruction. The fifth, that all possible expedition should be employed in constructing railways, not merely for commercial but also for strategical purposes. The sixth that a conscription system similar to that prevailing in Japan should be inaugurated. The seventh, that a gendarmerie should be organised for service in the various provinces. The eighth has reference to a naval college, but the telegram is not explicit.

It is of course highly significant that this question should be taken up so vigorously by a statesman like Tuan Fang. The new Viceroy of Pehchili has acquired immense influence during the past few years. He is coming to be regarded in his own country no less than abroad as a second Li Hung Chang or Yuan Shihkai, and his post in the Metropolitan Province gives him exceptional influence. The only difficulty is that in the present state of China's Exchequer the programme he proposes is beyond her capacity. That she will one day possess an army and navy commensurate with her territorial magnitude we can not doubt. But to raise the necessary funds the people must be persuaded of the necessity of the sacrifice, and that conviction seems to be still confined to the minority.

FERTILIZERS.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a detailed note with reference to the great increase in the use of fertilizers in Japan during recent years. The leading place is still occupied by what may be euphoniously termed farmyard-manure, which represents 60 million *yen* yearly, and another 100 millions are spent upon fish manure, oil cake and rice husks. But the great development has been in what are commonly called artificial fertilizers. Thus sulphate of ammonia, which in the year 1900 was imported to the amount of only 200,000 *yen*, has now reached to 9 millions, or 1/14 of the total production of this chemical throughout the world. In the case of phosphates the import in 1897 was 100,000 *yen*, and it is now 5 millions, which is 1/30 of the world's supply. Bean cake has also come to be imported as a fertilizer to the extent of 22 millions annually, and if we add to this the 20 millions which will probably soon be reached in the case of artificial fertilizers, we shall have a total of over 40 millions of imported manures, and the quantity of all kinds used throughout the whole country will aggregate 200 millions. It appears that the greatest falling off is in fish manure which is now used to the extent of only 1¼ millions annually.

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THE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY.

A very complicated situation appears to have arisen in connexion with the Anglo-Japanese Hydro-Electric Power scheme. Those who have followed the utterances of the Tokyo press on this subject will have recognised that the project of the above Company encountered perplexing opposition in more than one quarter, and that the Company's existence seemed to be threatened from time to time by the latent forces arrayed against it. The mystery is now partially unravelled. It appears that another project of even larger dimensions has been on the tapis for the past two years, and that its supporters have been working assiduously to discredit the Oi-gawa programme. This rival project is designed to utilize the Kinu-gawa as the source of water-supply, and it is said to have the backing of a powerful English Syndicate represented by Mr. A. Wendell Jackson, who paid a visit to Japan last year and who is now again in Tokyo. Mr. Jackson appears to have a rare faculty for avoiding needless publicity. He managed to invest with complete secrecy both his purpose and the manner of its prosecution when he was here in 1908, and only now has the fact become known that the capitalists he represents are willing to find all the necessary money up to 20 million *yen*, and to reckon as Japan's share of the capital the water-power rights which she brings to the enterprise. These rights would be assessed at 3,600,000 *yen*, so that in effect the Japanese shareholders would acquire stock to that extent without actually subscribing a *yen*.. We are taking these particulars from the *Asahi Shimbun* which has always been hostile to the Anglo-Japanese Hydro-Electric Power Company, and we do not at all vouch for the accuracy of the details. It is stated that from an engineering point of view the Kinu-gawa project has marked advantages over the Oi gawa. In the first place, the source of supply in the case of the Oi would be 120 miles from Tokyo, and in that of the Kinu only 80; and in the second, the Oi gawa reservoir would require an embankment 300ft. high whereas that of the Kinu gawa would reach only 80ft. at its highest point. Moreover other rival projects also are on the tapis, namely, those of the Katsura-gawa and Agatsumatsu-kawa, both of which have influential supporters. All are eagerly soliciting the patronage of the Tokyo Railway Company, which was originally pledged to take 15,000 horse power from the Oi-gawa projectors, provided that they could supply it by a certain date. That agreement has been cancelled by lapse of time, and the Railway Company is said to have sent experts to report upon the relative merits of the rival schemes. The names of several influential men are mentioned in connexion with the different programmes, but it seems unnecessary to enter into these details until something more definite is ascertained.

On the other hand, no reference whatever is made to this competition by either the *Jiji Shimpo* or the *Mainichi Dempo*. Both of these journals report that on the 7th instant a meeting was held at the Prime Minister's residence, and was attended by Marquises Inouye and Matsukata. Mr. Sonoda then reported that Messrs. Sparing and Co. had announced their readiness to put up the whole capital, and it was definitely agreed at the meeting that a telegram should be sent accepting the above proposal. We apprehend that in these circumstances the Kinu-gawa project is not likely to succeed. In consequence of this information sent from Tokyo, representatives of the British Syndicate will arrive in Japan next month for purposes of investigation.

Japanese papers continue to write at considerable length about the competition between the four companies interested in supplying Tokyo with hydro-electric power. There is, however, nothing to be added to what we have already written on this subject. The four rivers, Oi, Kinu, Katsura and Angatsuma, all have their warm supporters, and it is apparent that these supporters are not always particularly scrupulous in their methods of popularizing their cause. Since all have the same purpose, namely, to supply water power to Tokyo, it is evidently of the highest importance to determine their relative merits before sinking a large sum of capital in any one of them. But of course this obvious precaution was duly taken by the wide awake Englishmen and Japanese who are connected with the Oi-gawa project. They spent a very considerable sum on the work of examination and survey alone, and since they employed the services of such eminent experts as Messrs. Howells and Schuyler, most people will be quite content to trust the wisdom of their selection.

The competition among the various companies which are seeking to develop their schemes for supplying Tokyo with water power seems to be very keen. The four rivals are all directing their attention to the Tokyo Railway Company, which needs 15,000 horse power to run its lines. But the relations between the Tokyo Railway Company and the Oi-gawa Syndicate have been very intimate from the first, and it is now stated that Mr. Asano, the principal projector of the Kinugawa scheme, is endeavouring, *faute de mieux*, to make a contract for supplying water power to the four spinning companies. These four would take altogether 10,000 horse power, and inasmuch as the Tokyo Electric Light Company has its own supply of water power, it is evident that the Tokyo Railway Company and the spinning companies constitute the principal customers for the other water-power syndicates. Mr. Asano is said to be working strenuously through Mr. Hibiya Heizaimon, who wields great influence with the spinning companies, but Mr. Hibiya points out that the mechanical adjustments necessary for using waterpower would cost the four Spinning Companies a total sum of 700,000 *yen*. If the Kinugawa projectors are willing to indemnify the companies for this outlay, the matter becomes easy.

Meanwhile the Anglo Japanese Hydro-Electric Power Syndicate are said to be pursuing their way calmly and confidently. They have received a favourable answer to their telegram inviting the English capitalists to send experts, and they appear to have little apprehension on the score of competition.

A JAPANESE BANK IN MANCHURIA.

We read in the *Hochi Shimbun* that the Japanese merchants in Dairen are endeavouring to obtain the establishment of a large bank in Manchuria, but we can not discover that any very valid reasons are advanced in support of this project. The story told is that as foreigners do not enjoy the right of land ownership in Manchuria, the only form of tenure possible to them being an inconclusive kind of lease, the possession of land has proved a very untrustworthy security, and the Specie Bank has been hit more than once by lending money on the strength of such rights. Hence the Bank now refuses all transactions of the kind, and limits itself to financing the operations of ordinary commerce. The Government, it is said, endeavoured to induce the Industrial Bank to step into the vacancy thus created, but this attempt not having proved successful, the business men of Dairen are now agitating in favour of a special bank. Investigations are at present being made by Mr. Katsura, Head of the Economic Bureau in the Finance Department, who was to leave Shanghai for Tokyo on the 11th inst; and it is expected that his report will settle the matter one way or the other. What perplexes us is that, if the Specie Bank has already been deterred by expensive experiments from engaging in this business, and if the Industrial Bank declines to be persuaded to undertake it, one can not see that there is much in it for any other bank.

Mr. Katsuda, head of the *Rizai-kyoku* in the Department of Finance, has just returned from a tour in Manchuria whither he went specially to investigate the advisability of establishing a large Central Bank in Manchuria. He reports that there are two parties with regard to this question. One set of business men maintain that there is no opening for such a bank, inasmuch as the conditions relating to land tenure are so unsatisfactory that this important form of real property can not be taken as security for loans. According to the view of these people, the banking facilities already provided are sufficient. The other party hold that although the Chinese excel the Japanese in minor operations of trade, the situation is reversed when big transactions are in question. Hence if genuine encouragement is to be given to the exercise of Japanese business faculty, a large central bank is essential. The former party appear to be the more numerous, and we judge from Mr. Katsuda's statements that the project of a central bank is likely to be abandoned.

Referring to Mr. Katsuda, we may here add that he speaks of the rights-recovery fever as showing no tendency whatever to diminish. At the same time he observes that it is not directed specially against the Japanese, all foreign nationalities alike being included. He further recounts that there is very keen competition for the privilege of supplying materials for the new Chinese railways. Thus in the case of the Tsin-Pu line no less than 28 tenders were put in for supplying sleepers, and it is noteworthy that among the tenders Chinese subjects were found for the first time.

THE FAKUMEN RAILWAY QUESTION.

We read in the *Nippon Shimbun* that Japan's proposals about the Fakumen question are these:—First, she suggests that if it be desired to bring Fakumen into the railway system, the thing should be accomplished by China building a road to that place from some point on the South Manchuria Railway; second, that if the above plan does not suit China, the Japanese Government should construct a road from the South Manchuria line to Fakumen, and carry it thence northward. It will be observed that this intelligence is merely a repetition of the news sent recently by Mr. Chirol to *The Times*.

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THE SUGAR SCANDAL.

The investigations of the preliminary tribunal in the case of the Directors and Auditors of the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company have now been concluded, and the eight men have been duly committed for trial. With regard to the President, Mr. Sakawa, the court finds that his offence was limited to using bribes, but the other Directors are arraigned upon very grave charges. Thus Messrs. Isomura, Akiyama, Takatsu, Ito, Fukukawa, Tsunegawa and Endo are all accused of forging private seals, forging and using private documents, fraud and embezzlement.

On receipt of the above finding of the Preliminary Court, at 7 a.m. on the 11th instant, Mr. Sakawa quietly watched for an opportunity when the members of his household were not attending, made his way into the room of his *jinrikisha* drawer, and shot himself with a pistol, applying the muzzle to the front of his forehead. Death was instantaneous. Mr. Sakawa was formerly Head of *Rizai Kyoku* in the Finance Department. He resigned that position to become President of the Sugar Company.

A correction must be made of the news published in Tokyo on the 11th inst. as to the nature of the crimes with regard to which the Preliminary Tribunal had found a *prima facie* case against the Directors and Auditors of the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company. The actual finding was as follows:—The President, Mr. Sakawa, was remanded for trial on a charge of forging documents and misappropriation of funds; Mr. Yendo, one of the managing Directors, on a charge of forgery; and the remaining six Directors and Auditors, namely, Messrs. Isomura, Akiyama, Takatsu, Ito, Tsunegawa and Fukukawa are arraigned on charges of forgery, misappropriation and bribery and corruption. The facts related are that in May, 1908, when the business of making up the returns for the half-yearly meeting had to be undertaken, Mr. Yendo, whose chief duty was connected with the accounts, informed Mr. Isomura that the total profit available for purposes of dividend did not exceed 103,265 *yen*. To this Mr. Isomura replied that closer scrutiny would doubtless lead to the discovery of other funds, and that in any circumstances a dividend of 15 per cent. must be declared. On considering how this might be effected, the conclusion reached was that the most facile direction in which to undertake manipulation would be that of customs duties. The Company owed no less than 6,378,328 *yen* on this account, and it was decided to assume that 850,000 *yen* of that total had been actually paid, so that a corresponding sum would become available for purposes of dividend. In this fraud Mr. Isomura was the chief actor. The second count involves Messrs. Sakawa, Isomura, Akiyama, Takatsu and Ito. These five were engaged in the scheme to bribe members of the Diet in the 1906-7 session, in order to procure the passage of the bill providing for a rebate of duties on raw sugar. A sum of 121,300 *yen* was employed for this purpose, and the accounts were manipulated so as to represent the money as having been spent on conducting the Company's industry in Formosa. This constitutes the offence of forging documents. The third count involves the whole of the Directors and Auditors with the exception of Messrs. Sakawa and Yendo. The charge is that, foreseeing a strong probability of an increased consumption tax on sugar, the Directors and Auditors came to the conclusion that the interests of the country would be best consulted by the establishment of a Government monopoly and the transfer of the whole of the property to the State. A meeting was held on the 23rd of December, 1907, to discuss means of effecting this change, and it was then determined to approach leading members of the *Seiyu-kai* and the *Daido* Club in order to procure the introduction of a monopoly bill in the Diet's 24th session (1907-8). For this purpose a sum of 40,000 *yen* was employed and recourse was again had to the device of manipulating the accounts so as to convert expenditure into income. In the next charge the names of Messrs. Sakawa, Isomura, Akiyama, Takatsu and Ito are concerned. The accusation is that, having come to the conclusion that it would be to the advantage of the Company to be as largely represented as possible in the Lower House, they resolved to employ a sum of 62,200 *yen* in the general election of 1908. Out of this money 500 *yen* was given to assist Mr. Kawashima Kameo and 1000 to Mr. Hasegawa Toyokichi, while the whole of the remainder was employed to secure the return of Messrs. Isomura and Akiyama. In order to obtain this money the accounts were again manipulated so as to show that a sum really due to the Osaka branch office had been paid. In the next count the whole eight Directors and Auditors are concerned except Messrs. Tsunegawa and Yendo. The charge is that after a consultation among themselves, and under pretence of benefiting the Company, they expended a sum of 502,006 *yen* on the purchase of 210,515 shares of the Toyo Seito Kaisha. Their idea was to bring about the purchase of the latter company by the Dai Nihon Seito Kaisha, in which event the shares of the Toyo Seito Kaisha, which had never yet been able to pay a dividend, would necessarily acquire a vicarious value. The final charge concerns the whole eight men except Messrs. Sakawa and Yendo. This is an interesting manœuvre. It appears that the Company was in the habit of lending its spare funds on the security of its own shares. Thus it would lend 80 *yen* against a fully paid up share of 50 *yen*, and it would lend 20 *yen* against a share on which 12.50 *yen* had been paid up. The interest charged upon these loans was 7 per cent., and it was payable half-yearly after the distribution of the Company's dividends. Consequently so long as the dividend amounted to 15 or 20 per cent there was obviously a certain and very substantial gain for any one borrowing money on such terms. The total amount of the Company's funds which these six Directors manipulated in this manner was 964,650 *yen*. The charge of fraud in connexion with the purchase of the Dairi Refinery was rejected as non-proven.

A great deal of sympathy appears to be felt with Mr. Sakawa. It is universally thought that he was not actually privy to any of the above frauds, and that his fault did not extend beyond trusting his Directors too implicitly. Everything goes to indicate that he had long made up his mind to commit suicide if he was remanded for public trial. He is said to have assembled his family some time ago and to have solemnly warned them against the danger of associating with evil companions. Rumour alleges that he has left a long testament. He graduated from the Agricultural College in 1883 and subsequently became a teacher of that College, and an expert in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, where he rose to be the head of the Agricultural Bureau. This post he was induced to give up in 1907 for the purpose of becoming President of the Sugar Company. He held the degree of *hakase* and was looked upon as above all things a man of science. Baron Shibusawa is quoted as saying that Prof. Sakawa had again and again signified a desire to resign the presidency of the Company, and had again and again expressed the conviction that the Directors were corrupt, and that the Company's affairs could not be placed upon a sound basis. He was, however, induced to remain in consideration of the fact that having resigned his official appointment, it would be altogether premature to reverse the arrangement within the short period of a year and a half.

The late President of the Sugar Company certainly took the most efficacious method of enlisting the sympathy of his countrymen and establishing his own innocence when he decided to commit suicide. It is a universal habit to credit the utterances of men on the eve of death, and the public will doubtless extend that confidence to Dr. Sakawa's last testament. He will be acquitted of anything worse than want of sufficient strength of mind to deal with a most difficult situation. Wisdom that follows the event is very easy to exercise, yet we can not refrain from saying that if any real doubts were entertained as to the integrity of the Directors of the Sugar Company, it was at least futile and even cruel to place a stranger in the president's seat, thus condemning him to deal single-handed with a complicated situation and with a number of men who knew every turn and twist of the game and were perfectly unscrupulous in their manner of playing it. The task proved too much for Dr. Sakawa. He had not strength of mind sufficient to insist on full explanations, and although he evidently felt much uneasiness, he allowed himself to drift with the tide of dishonesty. His advice to his children as he looked back from the edge of the grave was most pathetic. It is probable that his death will have a most excellent effect upon the commercial morality of the time. It appeals to the best instincts of the Japanese, and will greatly help to remind them that in the old times their forefathers preferred the grave to the company of disgrace. Several papers comment on the occurrence, and their unanimous voice is one of approval of the manly tone of Dr. Sakawa's testament, in which he blames nobody but himself and recognises his own responsibility for the whole of his misfortunes.

The one unsightly feature of the incident is furnished by a Tokyo newspaper which practically taunts General Yenya for want of courage to do as Dr. Sakawa has done.

It goes without saying that Baron Shibusawa finds some detractors in connexion with this lamentable affair. He is blamed for neither allowing Dr. Sakawa to resign nor for helping him to unravel the situation caused by the chicanery of the Sugar Company's Directors. Baron Shibusawa doubtless takes the natural view that every man is master of his own actions, and that if one finds oneself in contact with crime, there can be no excuse for failing to denounce or for perfunctorily winking at its continuance. If once it became an acknowledged doctrine that men could evade their responsibilities and avoid censure by taking their own lives, the true creed of manliness would be materially vitiated.

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MANCHURIA.

A telegram from Dairen announces that the operation of relieving the railway guards has been completed and that the reliefs have arrived by three vessels. The numbers carried away by each vessel are given, and we observe that the total is 3627, which may be assumed as an approximation to the strength of the Japanese railway guards in Manchuria.

Yesterday's news stated that Mr. Lu, Chinese Commissioner for the Kilin-Changchun Railway, had been attacked by illness, and that in consequence the negotiations with regard to this line had been broken off. This morning a telegram comes to the *Jiji Shimpo* saying that Lu's illness is diplomatic, that he has returned to Peking without any intimation of his departure, and that his action constitutes a new proof of China's unwillingness to arrive at an understanding with Japan. The *Chuo*, on the other hand, has a cablegram saying that Mr. Lu's illness is not only genuine but also incurable, and that his return to Peking was more or less a necessity. We ourselves are inclined to credit the latter version, for on the whole the Chinese have not shown any conspicuous reluctance to come to an agreement about this particular question.

It appears according to the telegrams that the Directors of the South Manchuria Railway have decided to abolish all collateral carrying companies and to organise a direct transport service for the purpose of feeding the Railway. Nothing has hitherto been heard on this subject, but we presume that there exist in Manchuria organisations of the nature of the Tsuun Kaisha in Japan, which carry goods to and from their destinations on either side of the Railway. These are now to be replaced by a service under the direct control of the Railway authorities, and compensation to the extent of 360,000 *yen* is to be given to the old carriers.

Viceroy Hsi Liang arrived at Harbin on the 11th inst. and set out the next day for Tsitsihar. According to his present programme his return journey will be over the same route, and he will find some important questions awaiting solution when he returns to Harbin. Evidently he is in no hurry to reopen the negotiations with Japan.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* Peking correspondent sends an interesting telegram about the railway projects of the Chinese Government. Some time ago we were told that, recognising the impossibility of the Hsinmintun-Fakumen line, China had decided to substitute a road starting from Kinchow in the neighbourhood of Shankaikwan to Tsitsihar *viâ* Yaonan. But apprehending that this also would be a "parallel" line, she is now thinking of taking for starting point Tungchow on the Peking-Tientsin line. From thence a road could be carried over the Great Wall to Jehol and thence to Tsitsihar *viâ* Yunan. Our contemporary's correspondent justly observes that such a railway could not possibly be considered to have any commercial prospects, and that funds to construct it would be very difficult to find.

THE YALU LUMBER TROUBLE.

The 16 Japanese constables who were sent to the upper reaches of the Yalu River to protect Japanese life and property are to be recalled to Antung, and it is stated that an agreement of 16 articles has been come to between Mr. Consul Okabe and Mr. Chin, Taotai of Antung. Since, however, this agreement has to do with the question of profit derived from the industry, it will require the endorsement of the Chinese lumber-men working in the forests. As for the wood-cutters, they do not appear to have been at all pacified. Fresh intelligence comes of riotous discontent on their part, and the Taotai of Antung has sent commissioners to inquire into the facts.

The complications connected with the Yalu Lumber Industry appear to be amicably settled. The points at issue were, first, the price to be paid for timber to the wood-men; and secondly, the price at which this timber was to be sold to the middlemen. An agreement on both points having been arrived at between the Taotai of Antung and Mr. Consul Okabe, its provisions were submitted to the wood-men and the middlemen, both of whom endorsed it. It was expected that this arrangement would go into operation from the 11th inst.

Our readers will remember that news was received a few days ago to the effect that the Yalu Lumber trouble had been satisfactorily adjusted. They will also have observed that hitherto the whole blame for the complication has been placed on the shoulders of the Chinese. There is now reason to think, however, not only that the trouble is still unsettled but also that it owes its origin to the Japanese themselves. That is what we gather from information collected by the *Asahi Shimbun* in official quarters. The main fact appears to be that the functions of middlemen have hitherto been discharged entirely by the Chinese, and that in order to insure the smooth working of the enterprise, it has been thought advisable to leave this system in operation for the present without any change. The Japanese, however, are anxious to get the lucrative work of the middlemen into their own hands, in part at any rate if not altogether, and they are agitating to achieve that end. But the authorities were prepared for such a *denouement*. By and by, of course, some change in this system may be effected, but for the present it is thought advisable to adhere to the old custom.

MR. MIZUMACHI.

Mr. Mizumachi, formerly Japanese Financial Commissioner in London, has just returned to Japan. He is quoted as saying that Japanese State securities are in high favour abroad. The Government's policy of refraining from further debts, appropriating large sums for the redemption of existing debts, and reducing expenditures on account of armaments has met with whole-hearted approval in the West. If Japanese securities have fluctuated of late it has been entirely owing to a question of coupons. On the other hand, Mr. Mizumachi emphatically disapproves of the custom now prevailing in Japan, namely, having free recourse to foreign loans for municipal purposes. He says that European municipalities seldom go abroad to borrow money, and that when they do they get it at 3½ per cent., whereas Japanese municipalities are willing to pay 5 per cent. for bonds on which they receive only 92 or 93 *yen*. Moreover the sums in question are quite petty, and such a system is distinctly injurious to Japan's credit.

Referring to the prospects of conversion Mr. Mizumachi says that London is about filled up with Japanese securities, but that there is still room in Paris.

THE QUESTIONS BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN.

There are two very conflicting accounts this morning with reference to China's attitude towards the questions pending between herself and Japan. One account is sent by the *Jiji's* Peking correspondent. It says that the Chinese Government has at last fully awaked to the pressing nature of the problems under discussion with its neighbour, and has decided to send to Tokyo a special commissioner armed with plenipotentiary power to effect a settlement, which commissioner is said to be Mr. Tang Shaoi. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, however, writes in a very different strain. It says, in effect, that the conduct of Mr. Lu with regard to the Kilin-Changchun Railway problem illustrates the Chinese mood. The matter remaining to be settled in connexion with that railway is a mere bagatelle, namely, the nature of the currency which shall be used in depositing the earnings of the Railway with the Specie Bank. Yet, instead of adjusting this one paltry subject, Mr. Lu has suddenly taken his departure for Peking on the ground of sickness, and the whole of the negotiations are again hung up. If so small a question is not adjusted by the Chinese negotiators, it is plain that their attitude towards the very much larger problem of the Mukden-Antung Railway can not be expected to show much sincerity.

According to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the Japanese Government has decided that it is futile to continue local negotiations which are subject to be interrupted at any moment by such incidents as the sudden departure of a Viceroy on a tour of inspection or the sudden illness of a Plenipotentiary. Henceforward, therefore, Peking will be made the site of the discussions.

ANOTHER CASE OF BRIBERY AND CORRUPTION.

Another case of bribery and corruption is to come up for public trial immediately in Osaka. The accused person is a well known politician of the *Seiyu kai*, Mr. Tachikawa Umpei, who acted as Chairman of the Petitions Committee in the Lower House of the Diet last session. The charge is simple. According to Japanese law, if an urban or a rural commune desires to have a slaughter-house of its own, instead of entrusting this business to a private company, the said commune is entitled to order the closure of any private slaughter-house that may be in existence at the place in question, without giving any compensation, but merely on the expiration of a reasonably long notice. Under the provisions of this law four companies last year became apprehensive that they would be compelled to abandon their business. They were the *Tojo Kabushiki Kaisha* of Osaka; the corresponding company in Kyoto; the Japanese Cattle Company (*Nippon Kachiku Kaisha*), and the Slaughter-House Law Improvement League (*Tojo-ho Kaisei Domei Kaisha*). These four institutions accordingly prepared a petition and presented it to the Lower House of the Diet, accompanying it with a sum of 2,000 *yen*, which was handed to the Chairman of the Petitions Committee, Mr. Tachikawa. A promise was at the same time made to him that, if the Committee recommended the petition for the House's approval, a further sum of 2000 *yen* would be given. The Preliminary Court has found that evidence establishing the truth of this story is forthcoming, and Mr. Tachikawa has accordingly been committed for public trial.

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HSINMINTUN AND MUKDEN.

From time to time newspapers contain references to Japan's refusal to allow China to carry her Hsinmintun Railway into the capital of Manchuria, and these references are generally accompanied by charges that Japan is acting the part of a dog in the manger. Certainly at first sight it does appear strange that China should not be permitted to connect a railway of her own with the capital of three provinces of her own, and in this particular case the problem is complicated by the fact that, according to ordinary maps, the Hsinmintun Railway already runs to Mukden, and, according to historical records, the restitution of the Hsinmintun and Mukden line by Japan to China was conventionally promised, which promise Japan subsequently fulfilled. But the fact is that the military line built by Russia to Hsinmintun, which line fell into Japan's hands in the sequel of the war and, having been reconstructed by her, was subsequently sold back to China—this line never actually communicated with the city of Mukden: it stopped at a point some miles west of the South-Manchuria road. To reach Mukden it would have to cross the latter road. Japan does not object to that, as we understand the situation. What she objects to is that her own railway should be excluded from the Manchurian capital, and, at the same time, should be crossed by a Chinese line which communicates with that capital. Such an arrangement would secure to the Chinese railway all the Mukden traffic, while leaving out in the cold the Japanese line which now runs nearer to Mukden than the Hsinmintun line does. It is said that the Japanese are quite willing to allow the Hsinmintun railway to be carried on to Mukden, provided that the Chinese reciprocate by agreeing to the construction of a short branch from a point on the South Manchuria road to that city.

THE RUSSIAN TOURISTS.

The Russian tourists who left Japan a few days ago and who are spoken of in this country under the somewhat poetic epithet of *kankōdan* (light-viewers), have arrived at Vladivostock and are said to be expressing unbounded satisfaction with the welcome they received in Japan. It is expected that other bodies of tourists will soon follow their example.

The reception given to the Russian tourists during their recent visit to Japan seems to have afforded genuine satisfaction. The Vladivostock newspaper by which the expedition was planned publishes an article alluding in the warmest terms to the incident. It says that even at petty stations along the railways the Russians were accorded a welcome such as might be extended to conquering heroes, and that when the party left Vladivostock not one of their number dreamed of such a reception.

All this is confirmed by the *Asahi Shimbun's* correspondent who seems to have travelled in the steamer which carried the tourists from Tsuruga to Vladivostock. He says that they were in the highest possible spirits, and that the treatment they had received in Japan was a constant topic of conversation. It is certainly novel in the history of the world that two nations which, four years ago, were engaged in a mortal combat should now be animated by such strong feelings of mutual friendship.

COTTON YARNS.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has a note about the export of cotton yarns during the first half of the current year. It appears that the record is second only to that obtained in the corresponding period of 1907, which was a bumper season. The figures are as follow :—

	Bales.	Yen.
First half 1909.....	123,379	14,823,976
Second „ 1908.....	66,492	7,900,438
First „ 1908.....	101,350	12,823,466
Second „ 1907.....	87,581	11,788,209
First „ 1907.....	138,894	18,558,510

So far as quantity is concerned our contemporary is confident that the current year will equal if not excel 1907, but prices being lower the monetary result will be correspondingly less for 1909.

We may mention here that the Kanegafuchi Spinning Company held its general meeting on the 13th inst. in Tokyo and declared a dividend of 14 per cent. per annum. This absorbed 549,797 *yen* out of the total profits of 701,499 *yen*. A hundred thousand *yen* was placed to the reserves and the remainder was carried to the next account, the total thus carried forward being 748,045 *yen*.

Meanwhile the question of the Cotton Yarn Trust is beginning to be discussed. The Trust was formed originally for the purpose of reducing production in the face of a falling market, and the signatories are bound by a heavy penalty to maintain the combination until the end of next October. The small producers joined this trust greatly against the grain, and are now beginning to advocate the break-up of the Union after the above date. The Fuji Gassed Spinning Company has joined the malcontents, and although its defection would not greatly matter were its yarns limited to the fine counts now manufactured by it, the Company will soon have a large factory for coarse counts at Koyama in Shimotsuke. Hence its secession from the Union would be a serious matter, and things now tend to indicate that the Trust will not be continued.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

There is no sign of an amicable understanding between the Tokyo Railway Company and the Municipality with regard to the question of a maintenance fund. The Company points out that shipping enterprises always lay by a maintenance fund to provide against the wear and tear of their vessels, and that nobody has ever dreamed of including these funds among the nett profits of the enterprises. The Municipality declines, however, to class an electric train company and a maritime carrying company in the same category. Apparently the aldermen adopt the extraordinary view that the rails and rolling stock of a tram company can be made everlasting, if due repairs be effected from time to time. That is the gist of the point at issue, according to the *Shogyo Shimpo*, but we find the statement scarcely credible, for it is impossible to attribute to the city aldermen such a phantasy as the notion that tram cars and rails can be permanently used without replacement.

THE HOUSE OF PEERS.

The election of a Viscount to fill the vacancy in the representation of that Order in the Upper House took place on the 10th inst. Considerable interest attached to the event, inasmuch as the contest lay between Viscount Fujitani, representing the *Kenkyu-kai*, and Viscount Sagara, representing the *Danwa-kai*. The *Kenkyu-kai* has been for many years practically supreme and has always stood for conservative principles. The *Danwa-kai*, on the other hand, consists of a group of Liberals the majority of whom recently broke away from the *Kenkyu-kai*, and who are regarded as the nucleus of a *Seiyu-kai* section in the House of Peers. Viscount Fujitani polled 196 votes, and for Viscount Sagara 98 were cast, so that the majority in favour of the *Kenkyu-kai* candidate was 98. This, at first sight, looks like a signal victory for the *Seiyu-kai*, but in well informed circles the amount of support which the *Danwa-kai* candidate was able to command is evidently considered very suggestive.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The Customs Returns for the first ten days of the current month show that exports totalled 7,756,000 *yen*, and imports, 10,140,000 *yen*, the excess of imports being 2,384,000 *yen*. This makes the following figures for the period January 1st to July 10th :—

	Yen.
Exports	193,217,000
Imports	223,701,000
Excess of Imports	30,484,000

Evidently unless a radical change soon occurs, the expected restoration of the balance of trade will not be effected during the remaining period of this year. In 1908, the excess of imports during the first half of the year was 80,587,000 *yen*, which figure fell to 58,011,789 *yen* by the end of December. If there be an equal recovery between now and the close of the year, the balance will still be in the wrong direction to the extent of some 8 millions, instead of being favourable to the extent of 20 millions as some predict.

THE YANGTSZ.

Brief telegrams received in Tokyo say that the flood in the Yangtsz is very serious and that the loss of life and property has been heavy. The season has been marked by extremes. For many weeks the regions of central China suffered from a drought which threatened to be fatal to the crops, and the next experience was an inundation.

We may mention here that Korea was threatened with a similar catastrophe in the matter of continuous dry weather, but in her case the succeeding rains have not been disastrous. The Emperor actually resorted to the expedient of cutting down his daily menu to show his sympathy with the threatened distress, but his table was recently restored on the appearance of genial rains.

As for the weather in Japan, the meteorological authorities will not yet admit that the rainy season has taken its final departure. They fix the 18th or the 19th as the probable date of that event.

THE WEATHER.

The Meteorological authorities are kind enough to vouchsafe the interesting intelligence that summer has fairly set in. According to their estimate the season has been hitherto most favourable. We should think that their verdict as to summer will be endorsed by everybody who has a chance of flying to the hills.

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THE RAILWAY PURCHASE LOAN.

We are perplexed at finding in the columns of some of our local contemporaries a statement that 500 million *yen* worth of Railway-purchase Bonds are to be handed over at the close of this month, and an account of apprehensions connected with the issue of such a large block of State securities. There appears to be some misapprehension. The total amount of Bonds to be delivered in connexion with this transaction of railway nationalizatiou was 476,348,800 *yen*, and out of that total the sum actually delivered up to the end of May, 1909, was 289,775,800 *yen*. Hence the balance remaining to be issued is 186,543,000 *yen*, being more than 100 million *yen* less than the moiety of the whole. Since the market has digested the larger half without apparent inconvenience, we see no reason to anticipate that the issue of the smaller half will be attended with any special embarrassment. Nevertheless it seems probable that the market has been more or less depressed by the fact that this transaction was hanging over it, and that the final issue of the bonds will be a relief.

MAX NORDAU'S FOLITENESS.

Dr. Nordau is a remarkable man and a certain eclat attends everything he does. He has now signally proved himself to be an exponent of graceful courtesy. It appears that the Japanese poet, Noguchi, whose English verses have won some fame in the United States, was recently criticised in very scathing terms by the *Japan Herald*, which said, *interalia*, that Noguchi's writing illustrates that confusion of the spheres of the senses denounced by Nordau as a symptom of degeneracy. Mr. Noguchi, who has magnificent assurance, retorted that Nordau's celebrated work is no longer taken seriously, and hinted that Nordau himself had constructively admitted its frivolity in a letter addressed to him, Mr. Noguchi, many years ago. The *Japan Herald* sent to Max Nordau its review and Noguchi's retort, whereupon Nordau dubbed Noguchi "an infatuated Guy Fawkes of Anglo-Japanese letters" and "an impudent churl." The eminent philosopher evidently practices a special kind of philosophy.

THE "KYORI KOGYO KABUSHIKI KAISHA."

This is the name taken by the company newly formed in Japan with the object of contracting for the supply of materials in connexion with Chinese railways. The Company has already been spoken of in these columns, and it will suffice to say now that its programme is to join hands with the English contractors, Messrs. Spauling & Co. so as to supply Japanese materials and Japanese expert labour wherever such a course can be pursued with advantage. It has been decided to send Mr. Odagiri (originally Consul-General at Shanghai and subsequently an officer of the Specie Bank) to consult with Lord Ffrench, who represents Messrs. Spauling & Co. in that city.

THE BOMB THROWING IN PEKING.

Some three years ago, on the occasion of the departure from Peking of the Commissioners sent by China to investigate foreign constitutional systems, a bomb was thrown, but the result was only the shattering of the thrower, whose name was discovered to be Wu, after long investigations. Subsequently Mr. Chang, expectant Taotai of Canton, was arrested on a charge of complicity and thrown into jail in Tientsin. The telegram says that he has just made his escape. It appears that in the confusion which followed the recent death of the Viceroy of Pehchili a rumour was spread to the effect that Tientsin was about to be invaded by a band of rioters from Lanchow, and Chang's friends took advantage of the excitement thus caused and succeeded in spiriting him out of jail. Chang is said to have studied in Belgium and to be affiliated with the French anarchists.

TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, July 9.

The market remains dull in view of the inclement weather. Unless sunshine be soon seen, a new era of depression will probably be witnessed.

Saturday, July 10.

The Stock Exchange continues to labour under the depressing influences of the weather and of apprehensions as to complications with China. There was a general fall of prices on the 10th inst. both in Osaka and in Tokyo.

Monday, July 12.

The re-appearance of sunshine gave an upward impetus to the market on the 12th instant. News of an unfavourable balance of trade during the first ten days of the month checked the upward movement temporarily. On the whole, however, the feeling was stronger.

Tuesday, July 13.

Large profit-taking sales by prominent brokers disturbed the market on the 13th instant and there was an almost universal fall of prices, especially in Kanegafuchi shares. Selling seems to be the order of the day, and the inference is that another period of depression is anticipated.

Wednesday, July 14.

Very little business was done on the 14th inst.

Thursday, July 15.

The 15th instant witnessed symptoms of activity but not sufficiently marked to warrant any prediction of continuance. We append the quotations for September delivery:—

	July 13th.	July 15th.	
Tanko Kisen	43.20	44.05	+ .85
Tokyo Railway	64.55	65.00	+ .45
Kei-hin Railway	63.20	63.30	+ .10
Yusen Kaisha	79.40	79.80	+ .40
Toyo Kisen	—	—	.—
Tokyo Gas	98.95	98.95	.—
Tokyo Dento	91.80	93.50	+1.70
Fuji Gass Spinning	106.95	108.95	+2.00
Tokyo Spinning	48.95	48.30	— .65
Kanegafuchi Spinning	99.35	101.45	+2.10
Beer	76.40	76.70	+ .30
Sugar	—	—	.—
Hoden Oil	99.55	100.75	+1.20
Nippon Oil	101.70	—	.—
Stock Exchange	157.40	159.95	+2.55

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK.

We are informed by the local branch of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank that the Directors will recommend in accordance with advices received from the Head Office in Hongkong subject to audit a distribution of the profits for the half year ending 30th ultimo as follows:—

PAYMENT OF A DIVIDEND OF 40 S.-PER SHARE.

To be added to Silver Reserve	$ 750,000
To be Carried forward to next half year	$20,000,000

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Telegrams from Osaka announce that the results obtained by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha during the half year just ended were distinctly favourable. The Company employed 120 ships with a gross tonnage of 140,598, and its gross income was 6,055,261 *yen*, being 194,040 *yen* greater than the income for the preceding term. The telegrams say nothing about dividend.

The annual graduation ceremony at the Imperial University took place on the 10th inst. The Emperor, accompanied by Prince Iwakura, Minister of the Imperial Household, proceeded to the University at 10.30 a.m., and the ceremony commenced shortly afterwards. There were 13 specially distinguished students to whom His Majesty granted silver watches. The numbers of graduates in the various colleges were as follow:—

Law	367
Medicine	114
Engineering	204
Literature	106
Philosophy	38
Agriculture	89

It is alleged (*Asahi Shimbun*) that the Communications Department is engaged in drafting a law for the better control of electric enterprises in Japan. The main purpose of this legislation is to provide an intelligible and practical unit for measuring supplies of electricity. In existing circumstances an electric light company, for example, sets up a meter in a customer's residence or in a public office and declares that, according to the showing of this instrument, a certain number of so-many-candle lights has been supplied in a certain time. But the person who has to pay the bill is entirely without any means of verifying this account. He has to take everything on trust, which is not the method pursued in any other branch of business. The bill proposes therefore to introduce some system which will enable users of electricity to accurately measure the dimensions of the quantity supplied to them.

Vladivostock telegraphs to the *Asahi Shimbun* that Admiral Alexieff has obtained the Tsar's consent for the erection of a monument in memory of the officers, soldiers and sailors who perished in the defence of the Liaotung Peninsula. It appears that while Port Arthur was in Russian possession before the war a sum of 26,000 roubles was subscribed for the purpose of building churches at that place and at Talien. The idea now is to make this money the nucleus of a fund for the erection of an *in-memoriam* monument, but where it is to be erected the telegram does not say. Port Arthur would be the natural place, but there already exists there a monument erected by the Japanese for the same purpose. We are inclined to think that the idea now is to build a church rather than a monument, and if that be so, Vladivostock will probably be chosen as the most appropriate site.

Mr. Matsumoto Shunzo who was recently expelled from Australia by order of the Commonwealth Government on suspicion of being a military spy, is said to be now at New Caledonia whither he was carried by a French ship under a ticket supplied by the Australian Government. There is a somewhat cryptic telegram which represents Mr. Matsumoto as much perplexed for a means to reach Japan, seeing that if he embarks in an ordinary steamer he will have to re-visit Australia *en route*, and will thus render himself liable to punishment. It is strenuously

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denied in Japan that any grounds whatever exist for the accusation of spying. The only inquiries which Mr. Matsumoto was engaged in making were undertaken in obedience to a commission from the Department of Agriculture and Commerce, and had nothing whatever to do with either military or naval affairs.

With regard to the lease of the cricket ground which expires on the 29th inst. the Tokyo *Asahi* says that it has been decided to cancel the lease, and to put the ground on a general footing; that is to say, it will be available for use by either foreigners or Japanese on application. Our contemporary does not state whether it has been decided to maintain the ground in its present condition. Unless that be done, its use for purposes of cricket would be absolutely nil.

According to the statistics compiled at the Bank of Japan we learn that out of 56 tabulated commodities there was appreciation in the case of 20 during June last as compared with May; depreciation in the case of 13, and no change in the case of 23. The nett result was that the average price of these 56 commodities stood at 99.97 in June as against 100 in May.

It is rumoured that the Admiralty are about to establish a new naval base in Belfast Lough, the spacious estuary of the Lagan. Coming upon the recently announced decision to establish a dockyard and naval station in the estuary of the Tyne, the talk of docks for Dreadnoughts in the Humber, and renewal of the construction works at Rosyth, this report, if correct, suggests remarkable activity on the part of the British naval authorities. It might have been supposed that the existing Dockyard at Pembroke and the torpedo station at Lamlash sufficed for present needs, as far as the Irish Sea is concerned.

The first-class cruiser *Ibuki*, which was built at Kure, has now been completely equipped and was to start for her final trial trip on the 12th inst., her destination being Hiroshima Bay. She is an armoured cruiser of over 14,000 tons with a speed of 21 knots, and she has been built with money taken from the extraordinary special fund laid aside during the war.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce is said to be engaged in drawing up regulations for the conditioning of *habutaye*. The present system of inspection varies according to localities, and the result is that nothing like uniformity of quality is obtained. The authorities recognise that this defect calls urgently for remedy, but they are not disposed to go to the lengths recommended by exporters of the staple. They will adopt a *via media*.

It is scarcely necessary, we imagine, to warn our readers against placing any implicit credence in rumour purporting to represent the Government's policy with regard to tariff arrangements under the new *régime*. The greatest secrecy is necessarily observed in this matter and no intelligence can be obtained by newspapers except such as represents the views of irresponsible and therefore untrustworthy persons. If the story circulated be believed, the Japanese Government is about to engage in the futile task of attempting to frame a tariff which shall fulfil the twofold purpose of furnishing a maximum of revenue and affording a maximum of protection. Protection there will be, we presume, but revenue may be expected to be the chief consideration.

THE BOOKSHELF.

Annotated Civil Code, by J. E. DE BECKER; Yokohama, Messrs. Kelly & Walsh; London, Messrs. Butterworth & Company.

THIS is a work covering 330 pages, with 28 pages of Introductory Notes. It is divided into two Books, the first containing 6 chapters; the second 10. The number of Articles in the two Books is 398, and it will thus be seen that there is almost a page of annotation to every Article. The Author, in his preface, lays stress on the fact that every one is nominally bound to know the provisions of the laws of the land in which he lives, and if he suffers through ignorance, the law makes no allowance for him and has no mercy for his negligence in informing himself. But the law is not altogether fair in this matter. For, in a majority of cases, it does not take the trouble to state itself intelligibly from the point of view of the ordinary lay mind. What is then to be done? The plea of ignorance is invalid, and the route to knowledge is inaccessible without special aid. It is precisely here that Mr. De Becker comes in. He not merely translates each Article in the clearest English, but also adds in every case a succinct yet thorough explanation. The work of translation is in itself difficult enough, for it demands not merely an exact acquaintance with the Japanese language, but also complete familiarity with the sources from which Japanese Legislators have drawn their principles; since without such familiarity it is frequently impossible to discover the precise English equivalents of the Japanese renderings. The work of annotation calls for a still fuller equipment, and is indeed possible to a skilled jurisprudent only. Mr. De Becker has all the qualifications and he seems to have performed his task excellently. He has made it quite easy for men of ordinary intelligence and education to become perfectly familiar with both the letter and the spirit of Japanese civil law, so far as he has gone. We do not suggest that every one should study this book with a view to exhaustive knowledge, but merely that every one should have it beside him, so as to be able to consult it in connexion with any contemplated transaction. That many vain regrets and many misapprehensions would thereby be avoided, there can be no manner of doubt. The author says:—

> Foreign suitors have often put themselves hopelessly in the wrong owing to (1) a misapprehension of the Japanese law, (2) omitting to adopt necessary legal precautions, and (3) their neglect to observe prescribed formalities. It is true that this state of things has arisen from want of knowledge, but in no country is ignorance of the law any valid excuse, because, by a necessary fiction, all are bound to know the provisions of the laws of the land in which they live, and a failure to study them is deemed to be a species of neglect. Law, after all, is a hard, cold and somewhat cruel science, and the Courts can hardly be expected to deal kindly and indulgently with a man who is not legally and technically in the right. The duty of a Judge is to give judgments in accordance with the law, and under every code system the tendency is for interpretation to become rigid and inflexible. Unfortunately this occasionally results in the protection of smart knaves who have studied the terms of the legal art and are versed in its technicalities, while the honest unsophisticated suitor, with nothing but a really just cause and his common sense to rely upon, finds, to his chagrin, that it is quite possible to be, metaphorically speaking, robbed in open Court by a smiling but unscrupulous adversary who is an adept in the game of legal hocus-pocus, and who knows exactly how to take mean advantage of the text of the law.
>
> That any suspicion should be entertained relative to the *bona fides* of the Imperial Courts is most unjust, for I am sure that the Japanese judges are, as a class, a body of eminently conscientious, upright and trustworthy men, and am convinced that they are animated with a sincere desire to render justice in an impartial spirit; but when a crafty rogue has taken the precaution to keep to the windward of the law and to hedge himself safely in behind its provisions, while his straightforward, although blundering, adversary has neglected to study his legal position and has thus put himself in the wrong from a technical point of view, what can the judges do? They are bound to administer the law as it stands, and even Solomon in all his glory would have found himself handicapped under similar circumstances!

To this may be usefully added the words of Count Hayashi, who writes a preface to the work:—

> It would, however, be most lamentable, should the occasional non-success of foreign suitors, largely caused by their own want of legal knowledge, lead them either to cast unkind reflections upon the Courts or to doubt the impartiality of the Bench; and, under these circumstances, it is clearly the duty of professional men, whose occupations lead them to participate in legal and judicial matters, to do all in their power to lessen friction and smooth away difficulties by aiding to diffuse legal knowledge among foreigners who have any interest or stake in this Empire.

Lying before us as we write is an official return, showing that from the date (1899) when the Revised Treaties went into operation until the close of 1905, the number of civil actions tried by Japanese tribunals in which foreigners were concerned totalled 114, and out of that aggregate the foreign litigant was successful in 80 instances. This practical and conclusive evidence fully confirms what Mr. De Becker says as to the impartiality of the Japanese judiciary *vis à vis* alien suitors, but unfortunately it is the unsuccessful litigants who raise their voices loudest, and by their outcry a false impression is produced. We trust that Mr. De Becker will be encouraged to continue his labours, for they are essential to the well-being of the foreign community.

THE IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCE.

LORD ROSEBERY ON THE VALUE OF TRAVEL.

In his speech at the Imperial Press Conference Lord Rosebery suggested that it would be a good thing for our statesmen to pay occasional visits to the oversea portions of the Empire, so that they might keep themselves in touch with the new movements and new ideas which are constantly springing up there. Some of them have already acted upon this principle and, indeed, in these days of State organisation and industrial complexity comparative study may be said to be an essential preliminary of every successful administrative career.

But Lord Rosebery's advice, says *The Scotsman*, may be recommended not only to the aspiring politician, but to the ordinary citizen as well, though of course in his case its application must be on a limited scale. Modern democracy demands that every man should keep himself well informed on all the topics on which he may be calles upon to give his judgment. Again, even from the standpoint of his own intellectual evolution, nothing can develop as travel does, and it is wonderful what even a brief spell abroad can do in this direction. The main thing is to get out of our insular habits and methods of thought, and that can only come with a change of atmosphere. It is worth remembering that even away back in the eighteenth century no man's education was supposed to be complete unless he had made the Grand Tour. There is more to be gained from the study of men and manners than from books.

ACCORDING to the Notary Public Regulations promulgated on July 12, notaries have to deposit security as follow:—

In Tokyo and Osaka *yen* 1,000; in localities containing over 100,000 population *yen* 700; in localities containing from 30,000 to 100,000 population *yen* 500; in localities containing a population not exceeding 30,000 *yen* 300.

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THE EVOLUTION AND INFLUENCE OF THE DREADNOUGHT TYPE.

SOME ten years ago a number of speakers and writers of the genus "naval expert" were strenuously advocating a return to moderate dimensions for British ships of the line. The vessels of the Spencer programme of 1894, commonly known as the *Majestic* class, and their immediate successors, the *Formidables*, had by that time taken the water, and were justly held to be the finest warships of the day. But even these vessels, with a displacement tonnage of 15,000 tons—14,000 was the precise figure—were criticized as of unnecessary size. In 1902, Admiral Sir JOHN HOPKINS, at one time Commander-in-Chief of the British Mediterranean fleet—which not so many years ago was the most powerful of all our Squadrons afloat—delivered a lecture at the Royal United Service Institution on the subject:—"Is a Second-class or Smaller Battleship Desirable?" All the familiar arguments against large vessels—as large vessels were then understood—were advanced, including the homely warning against putting too many eggs in one basket. For a brief time the advocates of the medium-sized battleship of 12,000 to 13,000 tons succeeded in carrying their views into practice, and the result of this is seen to-day in the vessels of the *Ocean* and *Duncan* type, of 13,000 to 14,000 tons. About that time, however, Lord CHARLES BERESFORD, returning from the Mediterranean, where he had been second in command, gave expression to the following opinion as reported in the *United Service Magazine*:—

> We must remember that all other nations are increasing their battleships and if we reduce our battleships, or in any way reduce their fighting efficiency for meeting, as they might, a larger ship, which would be more efficient on account of being larger, I think we should make a mistake.

This weighty utterance from so high an authority may be said to have sealed the fate of the small battleship for the time being, at least. From that date (1902 to the present time), nothing has been heard from the apostles of the "moderate dimensions" school. The principle that, ship for ship, the British vessels should be superior to any possible antagonist seemed too sound to admit of further dispute, and that the principle was being upheld is shown by the following table of the latest types of battleships building in 1902:—

	Battleships.	Displacement.
Great Britain.....	*King Edward VII.*....	16,350
France	*République*	14,865
Russia	*Slava*.....	13,516
Germany	*Braunschweig*	13,000
Italy	*Regina Elena*	12,624
United States	*New Jersey*	14,918
Japan	*Mikasa*	15,200

It is clear from the above table that six years ago Great Britain was building battleships of from 1,000 to 3,000 tons heavier than any other Power. The well-known policy of the Admiralty in "going one better" than their rivals in the matter of new construction was being duly observed. But three years later, a change had come over the situation, for Russia, Japan and the United States all began, in 1905, battleships of over 16,000 tons—the *Imperator Pavel I* of the first-named Power actually exceeding 17,000 tons; while Britain had in hand the *Lord Nelson* of 16,500 tons. The individual superiority of the British ship had disappeared, and it became necessary to reconsider the whole situation. The distinguished Italian architect, Colonel CUNIBERTI, had already surprised the naval world with a forecast of the "ideal" battleship of the future. Into the design and armament of this vessel the figure 12 entered curiously—the displacement was to be 24,000 tons, the speed 24 knots, and the armament was to consist of twelve 12-inch guns. Whether the two men most responsible for the conduct of the navy during recent years—Sir JOHN FISHER and Lord CHARLES BERESFORD—were influenced by the Italian designer's views or not, it is impossible to say; but both of these high authorities threw their pressure into the scale in favour of increased displacement, with greater weight and simplicity of armament. The present first Lord of the Admiralty thus tersely expressed his opinion—"*What we want in our ships is the biggest smallest gun and the smallest biggest gun.*" Lord CHARLES BERESFORD complained that "we had too many types of guns." It will be seen from this that there were two motives at work (1) the necessity of maintaining British ship for ship superiority (2) the desirability of a simpler, and at the same time more powerful, armament. Out of these dominant influences was evolved the design of the *Dreadnought*. The advent of the turbine gave the necessary impetus in the matter of speed, and thus may be accounted for the prototype of the "all-big-gun" ship—a vessel of 18,000 tons displacement, with a speed of 21 knots and an armament of ten 12-inch and 27 12-pounder guns—which naval opinion agreed upon as the best "smallest big" gun and "biggest small" gun, respectively. But the figures have not remained stationary. Even since October 1st, 1907, when the first *Dreadnought*—completed and commissioned in the amazingly short time of one year—sailed out of Portsmouth Harbour for her trials, the development of the type has been rapid, as the following table shows:—

Programme Year.		Tons.
1906.....	Dreadnought.....	17,900
1907.....	Superb, Bellerophon, Temeraire	18,600
1908...	St. Vincent, Collingwood, Vanguard...	19,250
1909.....	Neptune, Hercules, Colossus	21,000

The tonnage of the last two vessels, at least, is not yet settled, and may be considerably in excess of the figure given. For other Powers, ships up to 25,000 tons are spoken of. As regards armament, the 12-inch gun has already, in the latest designs, given place to the 13.5-inch or 14-inch, which fires a 50 per cent. heavier shell; and the anti-torpedo weapon, which forms the secondary battery, is now the 4-inch, 4.7-inch or even the 6-inch gun. Finality is by no means reached, either in size, speed or armament.

In several quarters during the past few months, Great Britain has been blamed for having intensified naval competition the world over by the introduction of the Dreadnought type. Indeed, the initiation of the all-big-gun type, with its vastly increased costliness, has been censured as a grave mistake of British naval policy. We have however shown that this type of ship was called into being in the natural course of development in naval construction. The advent of the Dreadnought was inevitable. The adverse critics of the modern "capital" ship will be found among economists of the "Little Navy" school. It is complained by such that the building of the Dreadnought has rendered all previous battleships obsolete; but this again is the inevitable result of progress. The process of obolescence has been hastened—that is all; and if it involve a serious loss to the British Navy, the same is true, proportionally, of all the navies of the world. Be that as it may, it behoves Britain, whose existence as a World-Power, and even as a nation, depends upon the undisputed supremacy of her fleet, to be in the forefront of naval progress, no matter what the cost.

THE LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS—IS IT A DREAM?

(COMMUNICATED).

THE question of armaments, and the drain they are for ever making on the resources of all the nations, is one of the burning problems of the hour. So keenly is the pinch of armed peace now felt the world over, that men are everywhere asking "Must these things be?" Can no way be found whereby the nations of Europe, in particular, and of the world in general, may be delivered from the costly necessity of preparing for war? Is there no prospect that, some day in the not distant future, they will be able to fling from their shoulders the terrible burden of armaments? To these momentous queries—fraught as they are with the fate and happiness of humanity—there are some who boldly and unhesitatingly give answers of hope. Of these champions of disarmament and peace Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE is one of the most doughty. To do him justice, the method advocated by this millionaire apostle of arbitration is the only method which could have the faintest chance of success—and which, indeed, all the workers in the noble cause of the limitation of armaments have proposed, in one form or another. It is the method by which all the Powers of the world—whether qualified by the attribute of "great," or otherwise—should band themselves together for the purpose of exercising authority over each nation and, in plain language, setting bounds to its ambition. In other words, an International Conference is to be summoned to secure to the world an era of unbroken peace. Now, International Conferences have been summoned before—with results not agreeable to contemplate; but Mr. CARNEGIE's proposals, as set forth in

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an interview which appeared lately in the columns of the *Daily Mail*, possess some fresh features with added interest of their own. He begins by declaring that Anglo-German rivalry is at present the prime cause of the world's unrest, and proceeds to say that the United States—which, according to Mr. CARNEGIE, has up to the present time enjoyed the happy position of a disinterested spectator—should take the initiative in summoning the Conclave of the Nations which is to put an end to that disturbing influence. Now, allowing that Anglo-German rivalry is the cause of the craze for armaments which has lately overtaken the world in a more violent measure than ever before, that very rivalry has, of course, an explanation of its own; but, leaving that question on one side for the moment, is Mr. CARNEGIE correct in his assumption? Can, for example, the recently increased appropriations for the navies of Austria, Italy and France be fairly attributed to the naval competition between England and Germany? In other quarters a different opinion prevails which would suggest that the responsibility for the *para bellum* craze is at least to be shared by another Power. The opinion of those who hold this view of the case is ably expressed by *The Spectator*. "The naval programmes of the last few months," says that most temperate organ, "are not a mere fatuous imitation of those of Germany and Britain, but the direct result of the demoralising of Europe by the discovery that pledges given in solemn Treaties count for nothing. For more than a generation we had been accustomed to accept the word of Austria-Hungary as an absolute guarantee that she would fulfil what she undertook and abide by what she promised. She was our *beau-idéal* of a Continental State. Now we know that a Treaty, which is intended to bind all its signatories till it is replaced by another, may be disregarded as though it did not exist. While that is so, nations must rely entirely upon force to defend themselves and preserve their rights. There is no longer, in the old sense, any public law under which they lived with a feeling of security. If all the police—symbols of law—were suddenly removed from the streets of London, the most peaceable citizens would be carrying revolvers in a few days. Something like that has happened in Europe."

Whatever may be thought of this utterance, Europe is certainly disposed to regard the fact as an example of the fallibility of the proposed procedure. As Mr. CARNEGIE says, the first duty of an International Conference would be to discover what nation, if any, is at fault—on which nation must rest the responsibility of menacing the peace of the world. . . . If any Power refused to enter the league of Peace, to submit to arbitration all questions arising in future on sea . . . then it would be clear where the blame would rest for continuing the present intolerable condition." Precisely. No doubt it would be a simple matter to discover who was to blame, but the task of imputing the fault to the recalcitrant Power would not be an enviable one. And Mr. CARNEGIE is not apparently blind to the possible consequences of so highly provocative an accusation, for he concludes, in a somewhat bellicose strain—"If there is to be any fighting, we are going to have a word to say about it; and if we say there is to be peace and any other vicious foe says there is to be war, then it will be a bad day for them." As to who precisely is to be understood by the "we," is not quite clear; but it seems highly probable that Mr. CARNEGIE'S methods would have the effect of precipitating the Armageddon which he is so determined to avoid.

As to the other point which the multi-millionaire has raised—that the United States should take the initiative in summoning the Conference—the suggestion is based on the plausible plea that "neutral nations cannot remain indifferent to the action of two rival Powers, which lays enormous burdens on the rest of the world, and threatens war in which all may be involved." Mr. CARNEGIE, however, goes on to admit that "it (the spectacle of the arming nations) *has a direct and vital value for us. Our country is necessarily about to be drawn into the vortex.*" In view of this admission of the deep and vital interest Americans possess in the matter, how can Mr. CARNEGIE maintain that the United States is a "neutral" nation? If the Great Republic had adhered to its traditional policy of isolation, it might well pose now as an impartial friend, *vis à vis* Anglo-German rivalry; but it is absurd for it, at this time of day, to pretend to be indifferent to the question of England or Germany's supremacy at sea. In fact, it would seem that because the fever of armaments is spreading to the American continent, Mr. CARNEGIE has taken alarm. A similar feeling—almost of resentment—against England has already been manifested by certain American publicists and newspapers—an attempt in fact to lay at England's door the responsibility for the recent acceleration of armaments. But later intelligence gives evidence that saner views of the situation are prevailing, for the *New York Times* remarks:—

> In England and this country a good many men believe that the German Emperor is the chief menace to the peace of the world. . . . There can be no doubt that he could easily become its most powerful promoter and guarantor. There is no other man in the world who by a single utterance or a single official act could do so much to quiet the apprehensions of war.

The root of the whole matter, in short, is national ambition and love of sovereignty. If Mr. CARNEGIE can suggest a way to educate the peoples of the world—and their rulers, especially when such hold anything of a despotic sway—out of these most human but dangerous qualities, he will be laying the only true and lasting foundation for International Peace.

GRUNDSTUCK.

THE Grundstuck controversy has reached a point where the deadly parallel is most effective:—

Japan Herald, July 3.

> Now, it is a known fact that at the time when the settlement lots were handed over to the foreign applicants, they were bare of any structures. At that time, therefore, when in German legal documents, for instance in the German consular registration certificates, the term "Grundstuck" occurred with reference to the settlement lots, it, obviously, meant the land of such lots only, since there were no houses on it yet.

Japan Herald, July 12.

> We are alleged to have "declared that the perpetual leases were leases of land only, since land alone existed when they were drafted." We did not declare anything of the kind. We never entered into any discussion about what the perpetual leases, viz., the deeds in Japanese and English language covered, when they were drafted. We merely stated what, in *German* Consular documents and in the mind of every *German* lawyer, the term *Grundstuck* covered, in the different stages of settlement property.

Nothing is needed except to place the above extracts side by side. The comparison completely demolishes our contemporary's case.

A word as to his other arguments. The *Japan Herald* writes:—

> The third of the *Mail's* contentions refers to the provision of the Settlement Clause of the German-Japanese Treaty, according to which settlement *Grundstuck* can be freely sold without the consent of the German Consular or Japanese authorities. The *Mail* writes:—"But the only property whose transfer had previously required such consent was land, and it is therefore certain that the *Grundstuck* referred to in this stipulation, signified land and land alone." As a matter of fact and as doubtlessly many of our readers remember, the transfer of settlement property under the old régime universally referred to land and buildings thereon, as an entity, in the Consular Courts of Germany as well as of Great Britain and the United States, since the very first existence of the foreign settlements.

To this we answer that it is a matter of universal knowledge that transactions with reference to buildings in the Foreign Settlements never required the consent of either the Consular or the Japanese Authorities. Houses might be built or demolished, erected or removed, without any reference whatever to such Authorities.

Finally the *Japan Herald* writes:—

> As to the fourth point, we once more refer to page 33 of the "Contre Memoire" where all the particular circumstances about the telegram of the Japanese Government, quoted in full by the *Mail*, are clearly stated. This telegram was not, as one might believe from the context in the *Mail*, an information of the Japanese Authorities to the German negotiators. It was a telegraphic instruction of the *Gwaimusho* to Viscount Aoki who, on the strength of it, made, in German, such assurances with regard to exemption of foreigners in the settlements from municipal taxes.

The distinction here set up is not material. Nevertheless we adhere to our original statement, namely, that the German Government, not being satisfied as to the taxation exception which the British Treaty guaranteed to the lands held under perpetual lease, asked the Japanese Government for some further assurance, whereupon Viscount AOKI was instructed to say that in Japan the owner of land was alone liable for municipal taxes levied on it. Hence, since the Japanese Government owned the *grundstuck* in the Settlement, the lessees could not be called on to pay any such taxes. Does anyone think of pretending that the Japanese Government owned the houses standing on the *grundstuck*? If not, then it is indisputable that the *grundstuck* referred to was land and land only. The *Japan Herald* ignores this vital point.

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SOUND FINANCING OF JOINT-STOCK COMPANIES.

THE balance sheet and profit and loss account of the Shell Transport and Trading Company for the year ended December 31st, 1908, are very instructive documents, and we earnestly commend them to the notice of Japanese directors. We do not allude to the highly prosperous results of the Company's working, satisfactory as these must be to the shareholders. What we think deserving of special notice is the fact that through good times and bad the Company has gone on steadily setting aside a depreciation fund every year, until the total now stands at £820,000, or very nearly 25 per cent. of the paid-up capital. It is further noticeable that the Company is gradually accumulating considerable sums in Government stock investments, having already £80,000 thus placed. Finally, the accounts are audited by a highly reputed firm of chartered accountants, whose signature may be described as a hall-mark. Is there any valid reason why Japanese companies should not do as this Shell Transport Company has steadily done for several years; any reason why they should not build up their undertakings on such a sound basis as to give an international value to their shares, and to have them quoted in foreign markets just as are the shares of the Shell Company? At present we see only two companies following that wholesome rule, namely, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha and the Kanegafuchi Spinning Company. The Tokyo Railway has begun to take the same course, but no sooner does it lay aside a depreciation fund than the Tokyo Municipality claims to share it on the ground that it represents nett profit! That a body of grave aldermen should deliberately interfere to check a measure dictated by all sound business principles and regarded by solid British companies as an ordinary precaution, is palpably so strange that we are driven to conjecture some occult reason. There are, it seems to us, three things essential to establish the international credit of Japanese business enterprises and to procure for them the aid of cheap foreign capital. One is that they should lay aside substantial reserves; another, that their accounts should be audited by men trained to the work, certified as competent to do it, and having no share-interest in the concerns whose accounts they audit; and the third, that the leading Japanese banks should be prepared to guarantee the companies. As to this last point there is a marked reluctance on the part of the banks to undertake any responsibility, and so long as they display such want of confidence in their own people, it is scarcely to be expected that foreign financiers will be more trusting.

SIBERIAN BUTTER EXPORTS.

The exports of butter from Siberia last year amounted to 57,000 tons, and an increase of 65,000 tons is expected this year. If many more statistics of this kind are forthcoming, says an exchange, there will need to be a revision of the popular conception of Siberia as one vast frozen prison peopled with hopeless exiles representing the best blood and brain of Russia and pining in benumbed despair.

II KAMON-NO-KAMI.

UNVEILING OF THE STATUE.

The ceremony of unveiling the statue of Ii Kamon-no-Kami commenced at Kamon-yama, at 2 30 yesterday. The representative of the construction committee delivered the opening speech, explaining that the erection of a statue was first planned in 1881 and, after many vicissitudes, it was at length resolved in 1903 that the statue to be erected should be of bronze. On the 26th of June 1909, the work was completed. The height of the statue is 22 feet.

After a selection by the band, COUNT Ii unveiled the statue and Count OKUMA then delivered an address, the substance of which was as follows:—

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—I am very glad to attend this great ceremony to-day, but in the meantime I cannot but express my regret that the ceremony was not performed on the 1st of July, the most important day in the history of Yokohama. Generally speaking, most countries have to engage in war before they attain great achievements, and sometimes they fall without reaping any good. Fortunately, Heaven gave us a remarkable man at a time of necessity, who arrived at wise decisions in a critical moment of our history, overcoming innumerable obstacles and rendering the highest services. All the great men who still survive were at first anti-foreign in disposition. If Mito Rekko had been in the position of Ii Tairo, he would have done the same as Kamon-no-Kami did. During the first stage of the Revolution many of our countrymen, especially the Sasshu and Choshu people, were guilty of many blunders, in consequence of which Japan had to pay a heavy indemnity. Again we experienced the favour of Heaven which was represented in the collision of Sasshu and Choshu. If these two clans had always been in cordial friendship, our country would have been ruined.

While our country was in this state of chaos, Ii Kamon-no Kami laid the foundation of great achievement, so that he is fully worthy to be honoured for ever.

His Excellency's speech was received with great applause.

Mr. J. C. HALL, British Consul-General, then said:—

YOUR EXCELLENCIES, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,—As a foreigner who has resided many years in Japan and as a sincere admirer and well-wisher of its people, I esteem it a great honour to have been asked to take part in the ceremony of to-day, in honour of one of Japan's great statesmen. I am aware that some of his countrymen, even now, are not willing to admit that Lord Ii Naosuke, Kamon-no-kami, was a great statesman; and I am not surprised at the fact when I recollect that for more that half a century after the English Revolutions of 1688 there were many Englishmen who failed to appreciate the benefits which the English nation as a whole had derived from the change, and clung to the forlorn hope of restoring the old régime. But the Japanese revolution which took place 50 years ago, though a purely domestic one, concerned the outside world as well; and there is therefore no impropriety in a foreigner expressing a judgment, as it were, from the foreign point of view. It will be permissible therefore to state briefly a few reasons for holding that Lord Ii Naosuke's action in opening his country to foreign commerce in spite of public opinion and in the face of strenuous opposition from several influential quarters was that of a patriot and a statesman.

The closing of the country against foreigners by the third Tokugawa Shogun in 1639 secured to Japan over two centuries of peace and of intellectual and artistic culture, during which the ruling military class had leisure to assimilate all that was best in the literature and the political and ethical philosophy of China, her peaceful and non-military neighbour. She was thus, towards the middle of the nineteenth century, thoroughly educated and prepared for a worthy forward step in social and political progress, when the youngest and least aggressive of the great nations of the West knocked at her door and asked for the pleasure of her acquaintance and good neighbourship. The bulk of the nation were not willing to grant the request, whilst its responsible rulers, with better information and broader views, knew that it ought to be granted promptly. Thus arose an urgent national emergency, not amenable to ordinary political manipulation, and the Japanese Government did what the ancient Romans were wont to do in similar circumstances—they appointed a Dictator. The powers of the Tairo Ii were in substance those of a Roman Dictator; the discharge of his exalted task proved that the nation had chosen its fittest man. The situation called for the highest qualities of statesmanship, and the Tairo achieved one of the great peaceful triumphs of the word's history without in the slightest degree compromising either the safety or the dignity of his country.

One proof of the soundness of Ii's policy is that it was in accordance with the spirit of the times. It was quite possible for both China and Japan in the middle of the seventeenth century to refuse to hold intercourse with the nations of Western Europe, then disturbed and in the throes of a long struggle to free themselves from mediæval fetters. It was not possible to continue that refusal beyond the middle of the nineteenth century, when the same nations had emerged from their chrysalis stage and were ready with the strong wine of modern freedom. Lord Ii and his fellow-thinkers were the earliest in this country to take note of the change that the West had undergone, and to appreciate the significance of the discrepancy between Japan's contempt for the commercial spirit and its ascendancy in the policies of the outside world.

The unwelcome advent of the importunate foreigners necessarily produced a domestic crisis; and the difference between the conservatives and the reformers consisted in this—that whilst the majority, whether they were orthodox Confucianists or Shinto archæologists, judged the situation from the absolute or doctrinaire point of view, the reforming majority, headed by Lord Ii, judged it in the relative spirit which, whilst guided by principles, makes allowance for the conditions of time and circumstances in the application of them to practice.

The reformers builded even better than they knew. For the old order was destined to change in the East as well as in the West. The old ethical philosophy of Japan, which had for long supplied such admirable guidance, was not indeed, ill founded, but it was incomplete; for though it dealt largely with the family and the State, it had little or nothing to say as to a still wider and higher development of human sociability, and it had no presentiment of the coming displacement of militarism by industry as the higher form of collective activity.

By the opening of her ports to foreign commerce fifty years ago, Lord Ii irrevocably linked the destinies of Japan to those of the European West and of Humanity. Therefore an ever widening posterity in many lands will hold his name in honourable remembrance. (Applause).

Mr. Hall's speech was then read in Japanese by Dr. Masujima.

The actual ceremony having ended at 3.30 p.m., the band furnished some excellent music, and at 4 p.m. all the guests were served with refreshments.

Among the guests, there were found the Consuls of Great Britain, America and Germany, Lieut.-General Nakamura, Mayor Mitsuhashi, and many leading members of the Municipal Council, etc. The number of visitors is believed to have exceeded a thousand, including many ladies, both foreign and Japanese.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN OF THE "MINNESOTA."

We regret to announce that Captain E. V. Roberts, of the G.N. S.S. *Minnesota*, died on board his ship at nine o'clock on the night of the 13th when the vessel was between Moji and Nagasaki. Death was due to kidney disease.

It will be remembered that Captain Roberts was till quite recently in command of the *Manchuria*.

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THE SIBERIAN TRIP.

This subject has been written about in your paper so many times by abler pens than mine that I doubt whether it is good form to ask the further forbearance of you and your readers; still there may be something new in my experiences.

We put two days in at Berlin and through the kindness of a friend were able to see much of that beautiful city. We visited the Palace, and the Old Palace and grounds at Charlottenburg, the Arsenal Museum, and the Emperor's Church, seeing many historic and beautiful objects.

In crossing the frontier about midnight into Germany one of our party, through want of knowledge on our part, neglected to have that portion of his luggage which was checked for Berlin, examined, the result was it was detained there much to his inconvenience. Through the efforts of Messrs. Cook's guide at Berlin it finally arrived at the Berlin Station. It had been sealed up by the Customs at the frontier and in its sealed condition was rechecked to St. Petersburg. To be sure of its not going astray again we waited on the departure platform at Berlin and saw the packages ready to go into our train before our departure At the Russian frontier we found that after all it had not been put on the train. It came to St. Petersburg by a train about twelve hours later. The day the baggage arrived was a fete day and but for the diplomacy of our guide I do not think we could have obtained it before we were to leave St. Petersburg.

A mutual friend of the party, a former well known resident of Yokohama, had, with his well known kindness, put at our disposal for sight seeing in St. Petersburg and Moscow a guide named Pilley. He is an Englishman who has lived in Russia for over 40 years. His address is "Hotel d' Europe." St. Petersburg. We found this man fully posted in all that was to be seen in these cities and able also to arrange for us to see it. Without him so far as sight seeing was concerned we should have been lost. The Winter Palace alone is worth days of visit. The beautiful rooms, treasures and pictures, simply surfeit one in a hurried sight seeing like ours. We saw the late Emperor Alexander's private suite of rooms, left just as they were on the day of his untimely death. All of the family photos on his desk and the little knick knacks about the room, even to the part of the last cigarette smoked by him, being most carefully preserved. We saw his narrow cot-bed upon which he was brought to die. All of the things in his room for personal private use shewed him to have been a man to whom display made no appeal. For instance his favourite walking stick could not have cost more than one *yen*. This stick he could only use out of Russia, as while in Russia he was compelled as a Russian military officer always to be in uniform, and thus was debarred from using it except when abroad. We saw many splendid Churches and Mausoleums. The mosaics in St. Isaacs were most beautiful. We heard singing by the monks at the church erected to the memory of the first Alexander which is said to be the best singing in Russia. The deep bass tones were simply wonderful.

We also visited the Imperial Mews and saw all the gorgeous carriages of State, some of them very old and beautifully painted.

Coming from London and Berlin, the City itself strikes one rather disappointingly as most of the streets are badly paved. In Moscow we stopped at the "Hotel National" and were very well treated; the Manager speaks perfect English. The Museum in the Kremlin was officially closed for the day, but we were able to see the upper galleries which contain many valuable pictures, crowns and other jewelled and valuable treasures. Here we saw a carriage and many other interesting objects made personally by Peter the Great. But we only had one hour in which to take a hurried glance. We saw the beautiful church of St. Saviour which has taken forty three years to build and which is built to commemorate the retreat of the French from Moscow. This church cost something like three million sterling, but it is a gem of modern art and shews the skill of present day Russian artists. The hard stones used in its decoration are finished and polished with a surface equal to the best of lacquer. There are many beautiful pictures in it by that famous Russian artist who lost his life in the flagship off Port Arthur. We visited the old part of the Kremlin, many parts of it having a distinct resemblance to Tartar architecture. We also saw the palace, rooms and robes used at the Coronation, as the Tsars are still crowned at Moscow. We visited one of the churches in the Kremlin and again heard some wonderful singing, and then we took a drive to Sparrow Hill, where Napoleon obtained his first view of Moscow and waited in vain for the keys of the city to be sent to him. In the Kremlin we saw the room in which Napoleon slept. One thing that struck me, in seeing these beautiful palaces and churches, was the crowd of Russians of all classes who are allowed to see and take an interest in seeing these riches; one feels that the Imperial family look upon these treasures as being held in trust by them for the people.

At Moscow we took our places upon the Wagons Lits Express and flattered ourselves we were at last on our way back to Japan, and free from further trouble. Early on our second morning out, we passed on the top of the Urals the stone erected on the boundary. Upon one side of which is cut "Europe" and on the other "Asia." About two hours later while I was reading in my room the obliging Chief of the train, who was the only official connected with it who really spoke English, came and told me, and apparently told the others, that we were entering Tcheliabinsk where we would have fifty minutes to stay and he added "Time for a long walk." Pleased with the unexpected prospect and comparing the length of stay given to me with two fellow passengers, two others and I started for a stroll, then myself and another took a drosky to drive round the town. We came back with as we thought, 13 minutes to spare, and found our train had left. In fact the station looked as if our train had never been there. With a few words of Russian and some pantomime we were able to make a kindly gendarme understand our position and he took us to the station master. Fortunately this gentleman could speak German and my fellow passenger, in distress, could converse in that language. This official was most kind and courteous and told us that our train being behind time had been despatched after but a short stay. He evidently knew nothing of our having been left behind. He told us we could go on by a train leaving for Irkutsk in the afternoon. It would take five days and there we could wait for ten days and pick up the "State Express" for Vladivostock. We asked him to telephone to the next station to have our hand baggage and Railway Tickets returned. This he did at once Later on we asked him whether we could get a special engine and overtake our train at the next stop, but after phoning he said this was now impossible. At noon our baggage and railway tickets came back with a kind note from one of our Japanese fellow passengers. What a relief this was, because without these I had been landed in the centre of Russia wearing a thin suit of clothes, a pair of slippers, and with my passport and only five roubles in my pocket. The station master could not have been kinder. He introduced us to two English speaking Russian ladies going to Vladivostock by our train, who were most kind in their help to us Our train was a local one running from Tcheliabinsk to Irkutsk (if five nights in a train can be called a local journey). It was composed of one first, two second and some third class carriages. By paying one rouble and a half, each, we each secured the right of one of the two sleeping couches in two adjoining compartments (very cheap for five days journey). However on the second day out one of the second class carriages had to be left at a side station because of a heated axle and we had to give up one of our compartments in favour of two young ladies, and my friend and I had to double up into one compartment, but later when we found a composite first and second had been put on the train, we arranged to move into the first class part and once more had each a compartment. We found the attendants in these carriages, though only speaking Russian, very attentive and of much assistance. There was plenty of food to be got at the numerous stations we stopped at, but my friend and I limited our desires to a little bouillon, hot milk, bread, tea and coffee. We were not travelling in the comfort we had paid the Wagons Lits people for, but we were able to get along. We saw at the station, where we were left, nothing that would have prevented the train waiting for us, or even going back for us, as it was merely a question of a few minutes. We wired to the Station Master at Irkutsk to secure us sleeping berths from Irkutsk.

It seems to me that the Russian attitude towards the press and books is much exaggerated. At the "Hotel d'Europe" I saw the "Times," "Daily Mail," "Punch" and the Paris edition of the "New York Herald" and certainly they were not mutilated. I bought at a shop in Moscow, Wells' "In the Days of the Comet."

Two days before reaching Irkutsk, we saw a good deal of the work for doubling the track. A new line is being made which very often crosses the present one overhead. It is evidently an improvement so far as grades are concerned. Here the country is a series of low flat hills making much cutting and any tunneling impossible.

At Irkutsk station we were met by the Chief of the train we had missed at Tcheliabinsk. He arranged our hotel for us and gave us every possible assistance while we were in Irkutsk. He told us that our absence was not noticed until it was too late to do anything. One of our fellow Japanese passengers, a well known kindly Banker, had given him for us a sympathetic note and a loan of some money.

The "Hotel Central" where we stopped is a large pretentious building, but like everything else in Irkutsk seems to have had nothing done to it since completion; if nothing else has kept up certainly prices have. Irkutsk is a big rambling city. The river runs between the principal part of it and the station. This river is said to be very deep, and is crossed by a bridge of boats. On the other side of the city there is a smaller river. Irkutsk itself seems to only exist as a trading centre for the district. There are several large churches and a large hospital, the latter a gift of a former rich resident. There are many large compounds and market places. We were able to buy English novels in Irkutsk, but met no one speaking English. After leaving Irkutsk, Lake Baikal is approached by following the course of the river up a valley. On the lake itself we saw no signs of shipping except that at a kind of port, there was one steamer and a wooden floating dock. A large number of men and boys were fishing with rods from the banks of the river and lake, but we never saw any fish caught as we passed. Most of the railway work round the lake must have cost very heavily as there are many cuttings and tunnels in the solid rock. At two places we saw a little ice. The loneliness of the lake strikes a chill in one's heart.

We are travelling on the state express and though the carriages are large and well kept, yet we miss several of the conveniences which were in the Wagons Lits. The food too in the Wagons Lits suits English and Americans better. On this train there is a Chinese waiter who speaks English and is quite a convenience. He says he has been on the run for four years. The cost of the sleeping car from Irkutsk to Manchuria station is 11½ roubles, first class. Then from the other Russian boundary to Vladivostock it is one and a half roubles, nothing evidently being charged in Chinese territory. For the whole journey one is struck by the fact that much as we hear of the linguistic ability of our continental friends, my experience is that no language save that of the country itself is understood. French and English are of no use to the traveller on this route, but now and then a limited amount of German is met. It would surely pay the railways concerned to have at least one waiter in each transcontinental train who could speak good English. We had our baggage examined at the station called Manchuria. This seems to be an important place and is inside Chinese territory. Some twelve foreign members of the Imperial Chinese Customs are here. From what I could learn, four take it in turn to be on duty each eight hours. The three I met could all talk English very well and they were very kind and obliging. Baggage checked right through to Vladivostock is not examined here. Mine having

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been checked to Harbin had been sent there. We found out about ten minutes before the train left this station that it was necessary to have our passports vised by Russian officials, who have an office in the Custom House Building in passing out of Siberia into Manchuria.

At Harbin I stopped the night at the Grand Hotel which is opposite the station. Here I took delivery of my heavy baggage. One of the most satisfactory experiences of my trip is that at Victoria station the baggage which I checked there arrived without hitch, though the baggage master at that station told me it was the first he had booked for Harbin. The information he then gave me about Custom House examination was absolutely correct.

The country between Irkutsk and Harbin shows very little sign of cultivation, in fact most of it is waste and the soil looks poor, but immediately after leaving Harbin for the south the aspect changes. At Harbin the train is taken for Changsun, the beginning of the South Manchuria line. This is a run from 9 a.m. until about 6-30 p m. There is no dining car on this train, The runner at the Harbin Hotel got me two tickets, one to the Russian terminus, which is about two miles from the Japanese, and one to the Japanese, but he checked my luggage only to the former station. Fortunately I noticed this error and had my luggage carried on to the Japanese terminus. This neutral ground is covered by the Russian train in coming south and lands you right alongside the Japanese train at Changsun. In parting with the Russian railways I must say that I met with nothing but the best of courtesy, civility and attention. From the passengers' point of view the drivers of the trains are, I should say, the best in the world, because they start and stop their trains without any jerk whatever, and the trains run very smoothly. Of course the bulk of the journey is over a perfectly flat and straight country, though in places the line, in my humble opinion, shews great breadth of scope and perservering engineering talent, in the face of climatic and other difficulties. The carriages are all very massively built, the lower portion for about three feet up being a massive wagon of thick plate and angle steel, making an excellent armoured train. With the aid of a sponge I was enabled to take a sponge bath every day. I must say that I think the waiters and servants in the State train are more obliging and civil than in the trains of the Wagons Lits. The waiters in the Dining Cars of the latter instead of being servants try in some little ways to be masters. As I see the subject from the traveller's point of view only, perhaps they are right and I am wrong, but all the same if I took the tripagain I should certainly sooner go Wagons Lits than State train. For any one not in a hurry and rather pressed for money and prepared to rough it, the ordinary mail train would offer many inducements. I imagine the time would be about aweek longer. A month's previous study of practical spoken and written Russian would be absolutely necessary.

The Russian soldier of the ranks seen by me seemed generally a bright, well set-up young fellow.

From the eastern side of Irkutsk Wilkinson's Tansan was procurable at the restaurant and in the State dining cars. The Russians have two very good natural mineral waters, one I think is called Narusan.

Boarding the Japanese Train at Changsun (Long Spring) one felt a hearty welcome and at home. The sleepers, in the express leaving at 7.30 p.m. Japanese Manchurian time, are Pullman cars and very much up to date. Everything looked well kept, clean, and smart. In the dining room the food was well served and of a kind suitable to the English or American traveller The journey is one of about eighteen hours, meaning but one night. The sleeping and baggage arrangements are not on quite such a lavish scale as the transcontinental trains, save that the beds themselves are about twice as wide, an example Russian and other railways might well copy. But in Russia generally the bed seems to play but a very secondary part. The washing arrangements in these Japanese cars are very good and the space liberal. It was a luxury to have an unlimited supply of soap and towels supplied. The carriages with their six wheeled bogies make no apparent blow at the fish joint of the rail, but they do not run so smoothly and quietly as the Russian ones. This is accounted for, however, by the reason that they are not so heavily built and the train goes very much quicker, averaging 30 miles, and at times going 46 miles, an hour and we are travelling through a hilly and thickly populated section of the country. As we steam along, the country around us is covered with farmers working. At the stations I have seen no signs of overbearing on the part of the Japanese. On the train I came by, a Chinese of some rank travelled with his family and retinue, and the men, women and children all had their dinner in the car and were treated by the Japanese the same as any of the other guests. In fact the overbearing, if any, was on the part of the Chinese, because twice I was ordered out of the way at Changsun station by the bearer of the chairs of the mandarin, in a voice which I felt like resenting. The untamed voice of the Chinese of the lower class seems generally to be very high pitched.

The military element in the district between the terminus and Dalny is not nearly so apparent as in Russian Manchuria, where every few miles there is a guard house and where the approaches of every bridge of importance are defended by heavy guns; but this may be accounted for by the fact that the Russian Manchurian Railway passes through a wild and sparsely inhabited country, while the Japanese Railway is mostly through a thickly populated and settled section.

Dalny. This is quite a big and well laid our city with many fine dwellings and other buildingst built by the Russians. The Japanese too have erected a number of fine public buildings. The present Yamato Hotel is in the former Railway Building and makes a very good and comfortable hotel. It is the best I have seen since entering Siberia. It is well managed. The room boys are very good, but there might be an improvement in the dining room service. The food is really very good and the charges are not high. You get a very good front room for three *yen*, food and bath extra. The people in the office are kind and attentive. The electric cars will soon be running in Dalny. The system is one of the many great undertakings here, belonging to the Railway. Fine macadamized streets are being made and the steam rollers are busily employed at night. Altogether it has the making of one of the best kept and planned cities in the Far East. There is no income tax, and the Custom House duties are those of the Chinese Government. Land is not sold but given to bona fide builders for the term of tenure here of the Japanese. The stores in Dalny seem rather poor. Work is in progress dredging the harbour and completing the breakwater. Large steamers even now come alongside the extensive wharfs. I went over to Chefoo. The accommodation in the steamer was about the worst I have ever experienced. I slept on deck. We took from 8 p.m. until 6.30 a.m. The captain, crew and steamer were Chinese. There were about 100 third class passengers. Returning I came by the same steamer. The life at Chefoo takes one back to what it was in Japan about 35 years ago. Still there is a great deal of business done there. Butterfield & Swire have one of their most important branches there. At times they have as many as ten steamers in port at once. So far as foreigners living there is concerned, it is a kind of glorified Kamakura. The climate is a nice one, but the South wind is off shore and comes from China town. The foreign settlement seems to be nothing else but Post Offices.

I spent a day at Port Arthur. The first sight of the place is a disappointment. The harbour looks so small that one is compelled to ask ones-self, is the place worth all the lives and money spent. Amongst things that claim attention is the enormous area the Russians had to protect. Then when one visits the position of one disputed fort after another the tenacity of the fight on both sides begins to be realized. The hell that has been on the tops of these hills dawns upon one. Surely if there is any truth in spirit rapping, here is the place to converse with the departed, for here has many a brave man departed this life with frenzied soul. The shell-riven hills and bullet-flecked concrete walls, what could they not echo of life at its intensest? On reaching the top of 203 metre hill, one realizes the hopelessness of the struggle once this was in the hands of the Japanese, and justifies the surrender. This hill cost the Japanese 7,000 lives. It would have been cheap at any price had it been taken earlier. Port Arthur now looks dead or asleep. The forts facing landwards have not been repaired. There are many fine empty or partially occupied buildings, and quite a number of partially finished ones of most ambitious size, left just as they were when the siege began. Never again will Port Arthur be the busy place it was.

From Dalny I crossed over to Chemulpo, 32 hours of a rough passage of 270 miles in a small steamer. Seoul shows many signs of advance. For instance a brass band in the Pagoda Park on Wednesday afternoon is well attended by the Korean and foreign residents. I am no judge of music but it seemed all right, and was under the able leadership of a German Professor once well known in Tokyo. I went through the new palace in Seoul. It is a stone building of excellent proportions. The interior fittings are made and being erected by specialists from Maples.' It promises to be a very up-to-date, tastefully and comfortably arranged dwelling. From Seoul, Fusan is an interesting and comfortable railway journey of about nine hours. At Fusan the "Satsuma Maru" bound for Japan was alongside the Pier. To Shimonoseki was a rough run of eleven hours.

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, June 19, 1909.

Yesterday took place the much discussed meeting between the Tsar of Russia and the German Kaiser. The toasts exchanged express the customary mutual cordiality and desire for a continuance of the feelings of friendship and good-neighbourliness which have long bound together the two nations and their rulers. The Tsar emphasised his desire to promote the general peace of the world, a sentiment which was echoed, with a difference, by the distinguished guest. It is officially accepted that the meeting causes no changes whatsoever in the political atmosphere.

What it is hoped will prove nothing more than a regrettable incident occurred on the eve of the meeting with a steamship carrying the English flag. The wildest versions are abroad, but the *Novoe Vremya* alone of the Petersburg press refers to the matter, and tells it thus. "In the night of the 16-17th the English ship 'Woodburn' was moving directly on the position occupied by the Imperial Russian yacht. The gunboats on scout duty after hoisting lanterns ordering a change of course, which were disregarded, fired a blank shot, then a second, as the vessel still held the same course, finally put a shell into her, which wounded or killed one or more men. The vessel then sailed for England."

There are many points in this story which invite inquiry. At the present season it is not dark enough at any moment of the 24 hours for lanterns to be successfully used as signals: in fact, it is so light all night that ordinary print can be read with ease, without any kind of artificial light. Why, again, was a ship which had offended against the shipping laws of all the world allowed to "sail for England" unmolested, after being fired on. But the most remarkable thing in the account of the *Novoe Vremya* is the entire tone of the article, which does not express the slightest regret, and indeed implies very plainly that the English commander was entirely to blame and that it serves him right. This may be so, in fact, but one misses the natural expression of regret at so untoward an incident at such a moment.

The evening papers say the ship went on to Helsingfors, that the Russian Authorities there boarded her, and were ordered off by the captain.

But the story of the cafés is the most striking: that this ship under English flag was really a

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Finnish boat commanded by a Finnish captain, and that it was making stem on at full steam for the Imperial Yacht !! But St. Petersburg gossip is remarkably daring, though lacking woefully in any traces of originality.

The *Novoe Vremya* says Mr. O'Beirne, Councillor of the British Embassy here, was recalled by the King, on complaint made by the German Ambassador in St. Petersburg of certain too outspoken criticisms on Germany's political methods uttered by Mr. O'Beirne in the hearing of the Bavarian Envoy and reported by him to Count Pourtales.

Yesterday the Russian loan of one million roubles for the Shah of Persia was formally sanctioned and the money despatched to Teheran. The loan has been made by Russia after full discussion and complete agreement on the subject with the British Government. The mejlis is to open in about a couple of months after receipt of this money by the Shah. Presumably this is one of the stipulations under which the money has been provided by Russia. At any rate, I am informed on the highest authority that of the hundred thousand pounds sterling which Russia has lent to the Shah, whose treasury is otherwise absolutely empty, twenty-thousand Persian tomans (between six and seven thousand pounds sterling) is ear-marked for the restoration of the Mejlis building after the wrecking operations and looting by the Teheran mob which followed the bombardment of last June. It is evident from the amount allotted that the damage was sadly exaggerated at the time.

A shocking balloon accident involving loss of life and injury to highly placed personages occurred at midday yesterday. In matters of aerial flight, Russia is still in the stage when the ascent of a free balloon of the old type is an important event. The military balloon park has been engaged on experiments with the old-fashioned pear-shaped balloon of an earlier generation for some years past, and accidents have not been uncommon whenever the balloon was not sent up on a string. A little while ago an old balloon named the "General Vannovsky" was presented by the military authorities to the newly-created Russian Aero-club. The balloon is old and badly patched all over: three military officers lost their lives from it last year, and it has other accidents to its account both before and since that. Yesterday, in ideal weather, the "General Vannovsky" went up with an aeronaut, a military officer of some experience, and three passengers making an ascent for the first time in their lives. They were an Engineer officer named Palitsin (son of the late Chief of the General Staff) with his young wife, and Count Rostovtsev, the personal secretary of the Empress and steward of the estates, etc. of the Imperial children. Six miles away from the start, when the balloon had just got across the Neva, not 20 minutes after it rose, those who saw it noticed a collapse first on one side then on both, and the balloon came down from a height of 1000 yards with terrific rapidity. The aeronaut flung out all the ballast bags and all, but nothing helped. With a crash the car struck the ground, killing the aeronaut and Engineer officer Palitsin, terribly injuring his wife, and leaving only Count Rostovsev with unbroken limbs. The Count, who is a fine athletic figure of a man, had the presence of mind to scramble into the network, and from the appearance of the bodies and the position in which the lady lay, it would seem that he had urged them to do the same.

Experts say the cause of the fall was either the decrepit condition of this gift-balloon of the military authorities, or the nervousness and ignorance of the three novices, one of whom is suspected of having inadvertently swung on the rope which slits up the balloon to ensure a rapid descent in the last emergency.

Count Rostovtsev got off with the shock and some scratches, and immediately set about extricating his companions, whose injuries are terrible. The unfortunate wife was happily long unconscious, but on coming to herself, snatched at a revolver from an officer near with the intention of rejoining her dead husband. The affair has cast a gloom over the Aero-club, even before it has acquired a single modern instrument of flight. The recently ordered "plane" has not yet left France, where its trials are reported to have been satisfactory, and where a Russian officer is undergoing instruction in its management.

The spread of cholera in St. Petersburg and the Province is assuming alarming proportions. The cases now number over fifty a day, and there are nearly two hundred patients in hospital. The press is full of angry articles against the municipality, which met for the last time before the Summer adjournment last night, and was counted out for want of a quorum after listening to the statement of the officer of health, who declared that he resigned his post and declined any responsibility for the future.

The tramways strike is practically over, and most of the cars are now running under amateur guidance. Some curious scenes result. Yesterday the Nevsky Prospect presented the spectacle of half a mile of cars all empty and in close order at irregular intervals, while thousands of people crowded the street. Some amateur driver had, at a crossing at right angles where the Sadovaja tram-route bisects the Nevsky, run his car into another, stopping something like a hundred and fifty cars on the four arms of the figure so extemporised. The municipality affects to be perfectly satisfied with the strike as a means of getting rid of obnoxious employees who are being sent off to their villages by the police. But the loss in fares is said to amount to four thousand pounds sterling; and, from all I hear, the damage to motors from the inexperienced handling of amateur drivers will amount to a good deal more. Some thirty cases of "burnt out" driving apparatus have been occurring daily!

St. Petersburg, June 22, 1909.

Russians are greatly gratified by the first news received of the favourable and friendly reception that the Duma deputies have met with in London. Many Russians, whose knowledge of the workings of British public opinion is incomplete, expressed fears on Saturday lest the unhappy incident with the British steamer "Woodburn" might affect the welcome of their compatriots in England.

The deputies have been invited officially to Paris and it is stated here to-day that some of them, at least, are expected to visit Belgrade on their way home.

The official organ, the "Rossia", in a brief leading article, most favourably deals with this visit to London, but relies expressly on "the native tact and political training of the hospitable English to prevent the visit being made into a political event by interested parties". Under such conditions the Government of Russia heartily approves the visit, "not as a political move, but as a step towards the peaceful rapprochement of the two nations, "an attempt to bring them together socially, an object which should have the widest and deepest sympathies of all men". These words of the very guarded official organ of the Russian Government are the more strongly suggestive coming, as they do, hard upon the meeting between the Kaiser and the Emperor, of which little has been said anywhere in Russia outside the columns of the local German papers.

The Russian Upper House is still sitting, and will only adjourn on Friday next until October 10/23. During the lifetime of the third Duma it has become the custom for the Upper House to continue sitting after the prorogation of the Duma in order that all bills sent up from the latter may be dealt with before rising.

On July 10th at Poltava will take place the two-hundredth anniversary celebration of the great victory of Peter the Great over Charles the Twelfth of Sweden and the revolting Little Russians under their Hetman, Mazeppa. The latter is the hero, of course, of Byron's poem "Mazeppa," which tells the early life of this wonderful adventurer. The more ambitious poem of Pushkin, entitled "Poltava" tells the end of his miserable life and the glorious victory of Peter the Great, who "long hesitated, avoiding a decisive battle 'as a very parlous matter'" but at length overthrew his enemies in a victory which confirmed the Russian power in the South, gave assurance of new conquests in the North and proved to the Empire the success and the necesssity of the reforms effected by the Czar," to quote the words of Pushkin's own introduction to his great poem.

The Emperor will be present at the celebration, probably with the Empress and the Imperial Family. The Guards Division is being despatched thither, together with representatives from the regiments whose predecessors took part in the historic fight.

It is gratifying to note that the Black Gang, which had made such wordy preparations to identify themselves with the celebration of this victory, the proud possession of all Russians without distinction of class, creed, or race, has met with a deserved rebuff. Their part in the celebration has been reduced to a minimum, as mere spectators where they claimed to represent the nation.

The passport system in Russia has always been found a nuisance by the traveller who ventured anywhere outside the beaten path of the big hotels and the capital cities. To the Englishman, with his very highly developed sense of law-abidingness, the passport, when he has to attend to it himself, is productive of many misunderstandings, which are not always accepted in a spirit of good humour by visitors to Russia from a "land of liberty." The other day a friend of mine, who had been in Russia just long enough to understand the vital importance of a passport and not long enough to appreciate the privileges so generously accorded to the foreigner by Russian regulations, received a summons to appear before the "Justice of the Peace" on a charge under such and such a paragraph of the "Criminal Code." Unfortunately my friend did not know very much Russian and appealed to a Russian whose English was evidently uncertain for a translation. He was told that the charge against him involved something punishable as a "capital offence." In a very unenviable state of mind he appeared at the police court to find that the yardman of his house had omitted to "write in" his passport and had probably spent the money given for that purpose in drink. As the police regulations had not been complied with the summons "on a capital charge" followed in due course—according to the appalling translation given. Altogether two appearances at the court were necessary before the matter was fully cleared up, and each visit meant a wait of several hours while a long string of "drunks and disorderlies" and other misdemeanants were told off. It is a happy omen that this Englishman refrained from appealing to his Consul or writing to the papers about it all, and is content to retail the story for the amusement of his friends. I take this change of attitude to indicate that the visiting Britisher is getting a little more at home in Russia, and no longer, as in the old days, sees Siberia looming large and terrible before his eyes at every point of contact with the dreaded "Russian police," who are, perhaps, even more human than most police, especially in the matter of making mistakes.

The cholera in St. Petersburg is steadily increasing: there are now 238 cases in the hospitals and the daily accession of undoubted cholera cases and the "suspects"—a new rubric in the returns—is over eighty. The Prefect has issued a drastic order to deal with the abuse of alcohol on Sundays and holidays which seems to affect the cholera returns. From 2 p.m. on Saturdays or the eve of other holidays than Sundays until 10 a.m. on Mondays or the days succeeding other holidays, neither the Government Drink Monopoly shops nor other refreshment retailers are now allowed to sell anything containing alcohol for consumption "off the premises".

M. Charikov, late Adjunct-Minister of Foreign Affairs, now appointed Ambassador to Turkey, has left St. Petersburg on a month's leave before proceeding to his new post, and M. Sazonov has taken his place. Other appointments daily expected are that of M. Poklevsky-Kozel, from London to Teheran, and M. Hartwig to Belgrade.

M. Stolypin leaves St. Petersburg to-morrow to accompany the Emperor on his visit to Stockholm.

The "Woodburn" incident has happily caused no excitement anywhere, and the official Russian statement entirely exonerates the British captain, whose ship was in the hands of the Finnish pilot as by law appointed. I understand that the whole

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affair arose out of the regrettable fact that the Finnish pilot, equally with the captain and crew of the British ship, was ignorant of Russian, and when hailed by megaphone failed to appreciate the situation. At the same time there is evidently room for inquiry as to why two blank shots, fired almost simultaneously, were so very speedily followed by shell, although the "Woodburn" had reversed her engines in the few seconds that intervened. Doubtless an official inquiry will be held into the conduct of the commanders of the gunboats on guard duty. Probably the whole incident is explained by the fact that on such important occasions these little vessels are often commanded by Admirals, and Russian Admirals are not the most intimately versed of Russian naval officers in the usages and practice of actual sea service, while their high rank makes it difficult to deal with that dangerous quality in all services—indiscreet zeal.

St. Petersburg, June 24, 1909.

The Russian papers are busy with the reception of the Duma visitors to London. Telegrams that are long for Russia on such an occasion and leading articles in all the papers, evidence the all-absorbing interest taken in this great step towards an *entente cordiale* between the two peoples. The official organ, the *Rossia*, again refers to the visit, while the organs of the opposition declare that, as was to be expected, the pretence that there was no political aim in allowing the deputies to visit England has been unmasked the first time they have come into close contact with British politicians. If the maintenance of the peace of the world is not a political aim, say these papers in effect, then what is? And the speeches of M. Khomiakov and the English Premier both emphasise this aspect of the common aspirations. The radical press goes farther, putting the dots on the i's by contrasting the speeches in Westminster Hall with the speech made by the Emperor William at Cuxhaven on an occasion, a sporting regatta, that was even less connected with politics. They contrast the warmth of the hopes of peace in England with the egotistic expressions used at Cuxhaven: the one scene indicates a union of the nations, the other an alleged agreement between the monarchs only. The Black Gang press is, however, the most amusing on this occasion. For days it has been engaged in vituperating by name every deputy that has gone to England and calling upon the Government and upon the Emperor himself to deprive them of anything like a mandate to speak to the English people, "who are regicides and anarchists to a man"! The Black Gang, it may be remembered, is smarting under the snub it has received in connection with the Poltava celebrations. Its utterances concerning the visit of the deputies to England will almost certainly call down upon it a throughly well-deserved penalty. As no more subsidies are forthcoming from public funds, the Black Gang is rapidly dwindling to nothing, and these gross expressions must be taken as the last sting of a broken-backed snake.

The "State of Extraordinary Defence," which differs only technically from a state of siege, has been now removed from Moscow, city and province, and replaced by a milder form of arbitrary rule. The regulations which hamper the freedom of the press, however, are to remain in force. Of late the Black Gang organs have been figuring with increasing frequency in the bulletins of the police-censure on the periodical press. The time seems now not very far off when these restrictions will in practice be enforced only against the two extreme wings, the ultra-radical and the Black Gang, leaving the respectable organs of public opinion, in the Capitals at any rate, to enjoy a considerable amount of freedom of speech without incurring either fines or imprisonment.

Certain centres in Poland, which have for years been under full "state of war", have also been placed under a mitigated form of military rule.

The cholera continues to increase. There are now nearly four hundred patients in hospital. Experts declare that the epidemic will increase rapidly for another fortnight, when some remission may be hoped for, but with the probability of a new and more severe return in August. So far the cases have been confined entirely to those classes that live under unsanitary conditions and persist in drinking raw water. The Neva water is now known to be infected throughout, right down to Kronstadt, where also the cholera has appeared. The filters have been declared by experts to be only another source of danger, since the state they are in makes them rather nurseries for bacteria than purifiers of the water that is forced through them at high pressure to supply an increasing demand. The Committee of Ministers has devoted a good part of a sitting to considering what is to be done. Divers are securing samples of the water taken from the Neva in the neighbourhood of the intakes for the water supply. Police water-boiling waggons and centres for the distribution of boiled water to the poorer classes are now in full work. In short everything that was done last year is being done over again, and with less hope of success in staying the progress of the scourge. On the one hand, the common people, whose ignorance is the worst obstacle in the way of introducing proper sanitary precautions, have become more than ever careless and accustomed to the presence of cholera in their midst, while, on the other hand, nothing whatever seems to have been done by the municipal authorities outside the useless, if not very costly, palliative methods adopted when the epidemic took the city by surprise last August. So far the figures obtainable of the progress of the epidemic in the Province, outside the city limits, show that it has not yet taken hold anywhere, but there are odd cases here and there.

In view of the pilgrimage of the Emperor to Poltava, vigorous efforts are being made to guarantee His Majesty against the unexpected on the journey. The railway route is especially being subjected to most careful inspection, not only in the technical sense, but in the matter of those living anywhese within reach of the line. For a two mile strip on either side of the line every single man, woman, and child is being overhauled by the police and his *bona fides* examined. Those whose passports are irregular or who the police have cause to suspect, will be forcibly removed from the neighbourhood for some time before, during and after the Poltava celebrations. These precautions are usual, and, unfortunately, they are necessary, though in individual cases the hardships involved may be considerable. At the present moment, when the Emperor has not for six years made any lengthy railway journey into the interior of his country, and six such years!—no precautions can be too great, for men's minds in Russia are still in somewhat of a turmoil. It is only in the higher classes of society that the truth is recognised already, that Russia has entered firmly upon the path of constitutional government, that the Emperor personally has acted as a constitutional monarch for some years past, and that the higher functionaries of the Government are growing more and more accustomed to and in favour of the new form of rule. But down in the lower levels the change is hardly yet appreciable, and, in the nature of things, hardly can be made appreciable for some years to come.

The laying down of four Dreadnoughts by Russia is the text for one of M. Menshikov's characteristic tirades in the *Novoe Vremya*. He is a partisan of what is known here as a "defensive fleet," a fleet of submarines, torpedo-boats, and mine-layers, with perhaps aerial machines to drop dynamite on an enemy's decks. Russia has done nothing with the fleet that Peter the Great created, says Menshikov, and there is no reason to believe that she ever will do anything with the fleet she has now begun to build. Russia wants her army putting on a perfect fighting basis. But no doubt it is the English who have provided the money to rebuild Russia's fleet, and its only use will be in the service either of Germany or of England. Menshikov is a publicist with a genius for saying the wrong thing in a telling way, but this present tirade is rather more of a hodgepodge of opinions than usual.

According to statistics published in the press here the penalties enforced under military law against newspapers during the month of May (O.S.) include fines to the amount of nearly six hundred pounds sterling: four confiscated issues: two newspapers stopped entirely, and imprisonment in sentences aggregating six years and seven months for nine editors. Various ordinary law-suits are also pending, including a charge arising out of the propaganda of Count Tolstoy's pamphlets.

The weather continues stifling hot by day with cool evenings and "white nights,"—practically daylight all the twenty-four hours.

THE CRICKET GROUND QUESTION.

GOVERNOR SUFU'S DECISION AWAITED BY THE MUNICIPALITY.

In reply to inquiries by a *Japan Mail* representative on July 15, the Mayor of Yokohama, Mr. Mitsuhashi, said that there is not yet any official information to be made public in connection with the Municipal Council's resolution on Tuesday requesting a decision from Governor Sufu on the question of the renewal of the lease of the local cricket ground to the Y.C. & A.C., or the investiture of controlling power in the Municipality. The matter still rests with the Governor of Kanagawa.

Mr. Vanderberg, the secretary to His Excellency the Governor, reaffirmed the Mayor's statement. If His Excellency has communicated his decision to the Municipality yet, which is doubtful, the public details are not yet communicable from Governor Sufu's office.

The resolution referred to was proposed by Mr. Akao, and was unanimously adopted in the following form:

"Referring to the Cricket Ground in the Park, leased to the Y.C. and A.C. an association of foreigners in Yokohama, concerning which Your Excellency sent an inquiry to the Municipality under the date of February last year, and the reply to which was submitted on the 28th of the same month, we have the honour to request that Your Excellency would undertake consideration of the matter as early as possible as the term of the lease of the Club is nearing expiration. If Your Excelleney should adopt the wishes of the Members of the Council and entrust the control of the ground to the Municipality, which at present controls all the other open spaces, this body would make suitable improvements to the park and enable all the public to obtain a share of pleasure, which is the sole wish of the Municipality."

The reply is naturally awaited with a good deal of anxiety by lovers of sport.

THE O.S.K.'S ACCOUNTS.

The half-yearly General Meeting of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha will be held on the 22nd inst., when the following accounts will be submitted:—

	Yen.
Gross Profit	1,518,937
Vessels' insurance charges	268,000
Repair of Vessels	335,000
Reserve for Depreciation	343,000
Nett Profit	572,937
Placed to Reserve	29,000
Bonuses	29,000
Balance	514,037
Brought forward	342,210
Total	857,147
Dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum	495,000
Carried forward	362,147

TRADE IN HUMAN BONES.

Judgment was passed at the Kumamoto Chiho-Saibansho on Saturday, says the *Nagasaki Press*, upon the five persons convicted in connection with the trade in human bones, brought to light a few weeks ago.

The principal, Hasegawa, of Nagasu, Kumamoto-ken, was sentenced to four years' imprisonment with hard labour, whilst his wife, also implicated, was given three years' imprisonment. Two others accused, of Nagasaki and Mogi respectively, were given eighteen months each, and the fifth, also of Mogi, received the lighter sentence of ten months.

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CRICKET.

"AN ELEVEN" *vs.* "THE REST."

In the match played on the Y.C. & A.C. ground on July 10 "the Rest" met with perhaps unexpected victory. After two hours' play—the excellent bowling of W.D.S. Edwards effectually preventing any stand—the 19 players of "the Rest" succeeded in reaching the modest score of 107 runs. But the opposing Eleven failed to accomplish the apparently easy task of exceeding this total—their innings being marked by several more or less inexplicable failures. Only the steady play of W.D.S. Edwards and N. Buckle prevented an ignominious collapse. As it was, "the Rest" were left victorious by 23 runs.

THE REST.

E. L. Squire, b. Edwards	0
L. M. Whyte, b. Edwards	10
R. E. Davur, c. and b. Edwards	10
S. G. Stanford, b. Edwards	2
W. A. Morris, c. Cornes, b. Scott	13
H. T. Hume, c. Scott, b. Edwards	12
E. K. Dinsdale, c. Bousfield, b. Edwards	11
F. R. de Silva, run out	0
W. E. Gooch, b. Buckle	16
V. A. Hearne, b. Edwards	0
W. Hayward, c. Bousfield, b. Buckle	7
G. C. Allcock, b. Edwards	1
H. S. Bell, b. Edwards	0
B. C. Foster, not out	9
W. G. Galloway, lbw., b. Edwards	0
F. G. Correa, c. Strome, b, Buckle	6
J. P. da Costa, c. Hardman, b. Edwards	4
S. A. Vincent, b. Edwards	1
W. H. Worden, c. Hardman, b. Buckle	1
Extras	4
Total	107

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	W.	Av.
Edwards...	149	41	12	3.42
Scott	60	18	1	18
Bousfield	42	16	—	—
Buckle	42	28	4	7

AN XI.

K. Hardman, b. Gooch	9
A. G. Hearne, run out	0
P. E. Bousfield, c. Galloway, b. Hayward	8
A. J. Cornes, c. Whyte, b. Hayward	0
W. D. S. Edwards, c. Stanford, b. Foster	39
A. P. Scott, run out	0
B. Deveson, b. Gooch	1
N. Buckle, c. H. S. Bell, b. Foster	12
C. Murray Duff, c. Gooch, b. Foster	2
O. Strome, b. Gooch	2
L. C. Sharman, not out	0
Extras	11
Total	84

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	W.	Av.
Gooch	84	20	3	6.66
Squire	42	18	—	—
Hayward	48	21	2	10.5
Foster	51	14	3	4.66

CRICKET "HOWLERS."

With the advent of the cricket season, there are the usual blunders in the press, inseparable from ignorance of the game. Upon some of these *Punch* pitches remorselessly. "It is scarcely creditable to the London Press" remarks the London Charivari, "that it should have remained for a provincial paper to chronicle a bowling feat in the Test Match which, we have reason to believe, is unique in the annals of cricket. 'The most striking contrasts of the match,' says the Liverpool *Daily Post and Mercury*, 'were the scores of C. B. Fry and Hobbs, *both of whom were out to the first ball in the opening innings*.' By-the-by the invention of a bowling machine will be announced. It is hoped later on to perfect mechanical batsmen and fielders as well; then every one, including the cricketers, will be able to watch a match in comfort."

In another part of the same issue appears the following gem from the *Birmingham Evening Dispatch*:—

"The first three balls puzzled him: he appeared a trifle nervous. A ball from Macartney jumped over the batsman's shoulder, hit Macartney on the head and went for a single."

A propos of which our humorous contemporary remarks—"The boomerang ball is very deceptive, but sometimes defeats its own end. Too much back spin, therefore, should not be employed."

The recording of bowling analysis is a trap into which many an unwary printer falls. Thus the *Newcastle Daily Chronicle*:—

	O.	M.	R.	W.
Crawford	1	0	160	—

We can imagine, says *Punch* sympathetically, his appeal for "just one more over," and the captain's apologetic refusal.

THE OBJECT-LESSON OF TOKYO.

Of the many evidences of progress that may be noted in the Far East, none, perhaps, is more worthy of attention than the remarkable transformation both accomplished and in progress in the city of Tokyo. Changes that in all parts of the land have accompanied the westernization of Japan are here, as it were, epitomized. In particular, the importance attached by western nations to comfort in municipal affairs has found recognition in the Japanese capital in an increasingly high standard of local government. And in this recognition the remarkable thoroughness with which Japan has adapted herself to the new ideas is strikingly conspicuous. The disease of "muddling-through-somehow" which at times afflicts Anglo-Saxondom so badly has not been allowed to spread its baneful contagion among the leaders of the new Asia movement in Japan. City authorities who can plan the reconstruction of an Oriental city on the basis of main thoroughfares a hundred feet and more in width prove themselves to be the possessors not only of great ideas but of strong faith in the future. Whatever adverse criticism may be passed upon the transformation of Japan, whether from a political or a merely romantic point of view, this spirit, of a perpetual looking to the future in all questions of public improvement, must be admitted. Like all poor countries, where the soil is insufficient for the support of a rapidly increasing population, Japan has suffered heavily in the past from denudation of her trees and underwood. To-day afforestation is in evidence everywhere. The slopes of the highest hills, wherever earth affords a root-hold, may be seen from afar furrowed by the lines of newly planted saplings. What a change might come over the face of China for the advantage of her agricultural prosperity, did her authorities deem it worth while to take a few lessons of this kind from the example of their neighbours.

There is, however, no truer evidence of regard to the needs of the future than the attention which a nation gives to the training of youth. The old saying that "it is impossible to make men good by Act of Parliament" expresses in a nutshell the importance of looking to the position that education holds in a nation as the most trustworthy evidence of what that nation is likely to become. Judged by this test alone, the Japanese may lay stronger claim to be deemed progressive than in almost any other respect. The foundation of universities worthy of the name, as distinct from schools which misuse that historic word, is a notable feature of the history of the last decade in Japan. Even Sapporo, hitherto chiefly known as the principal industrial centre of Hokkaido, has recently joined the ranks of cities possessing an Imperial University. But, as in matters of municipal reformation, so also in intellectual it is in Tokyo that the most vigorous witness to the sincerity of Japan's endeavour to assimilate the ways of the West is to be found. Tokyo is the largest student city in the world. Something like a hundred thousand students are in attendance at the high schools and universities of that wonderful city. The blue-uniformed undergraduate is a conspicuous figure in every street and place of public resort. That he should occasionally get a little out of hand when he receives less consideration at the hands of his pastors and masters than he conceives to be his due, as in the case of the recent strike of students at the Tokyo commercial college, is a small failing that he shares with undergraduates of far more ancient institutions in other lands. But of the earnest purpose that inspires him there can be no doubt. The best parallel that history affords to the spirit prevailing in Tokyo to-day is the enthusiasm for learning that spread through all the chief cities of Europe at the time when the Renaissance was at its flood. So overwhelming is this desire for learning in Japan that the question is being asked in all seriousness by writers in the Japanese Press, whether the Japanese may not find themselves in the next generation an over-educated nation.

Not only Japan is concerned in the nature of the reply that time will give to this question. Nearly five thousand Chinese students are to be found among the multitude of pupils who throng the Tokyo lecture-rooms: and with them are men from Korea, the Straits Settlements, Siam, even from India, so far has the fame of Tokyo spread as the educational metropolis of the Far East. Most of these are described as serious students, having a definite aim in study, who will stay for courses of three years and longer. Their continuance in Japan will depend considerably upon the political relationships of the two countries, and while there is undoubtedly much that China may learn with profit from Japan, it is to be hoped that no untoward event will arise to debar her students from the use of Tokyo's efficient educational institutions. At the same time it has to be admitted that the effects upon Chinese students of a training in Japan are not invariably of the happiest order, and that a certain distrust, not wholly unwarranted, for the results if not for the methods of Japanese education has begun to creep into the minds of China's rulers. That distrust has a distinct bearing upon the question whether Japan may not be tending to become an over-educated nation. The mental atmosphere of Tokyo is described as one of the widest toleration and eclecticism. Yet one blot on the whole, small at present but likely to prove dangerous in its unchecked progression, is pointed out by Professor Arthur Lloyd in his latest work on Japan. It is that a purely secular system of education, the very antithesis, be it remarked, of a comprehensive toleration, is already producing unsatisfactory results in character formation among young Japanese and is likely in time to lead to disastrous conclusions. Even if we leave questions of religious thought and training altogether out of consideration, it must be felt that in the contest of new ideas and old much that was good in the latter may be lost. The old ideals of Japan may have been almost fantastic in their elevation; but they laid the foundations of that national character that has made possible the birth of the new Japan. With the adoption of western standards, there comes an inevitable danger of a too violent reaction from sentiment to materialism. For the present that danger has gained no more than a partial footing, but it is one against which Japanese student and citizen alike must be guarded with strict care.—*N-C. Daily News.*

NATIONAL DEFENCE.

LORD ESHER ON ENGLAND'S PERILOUS POSITION.

Viscount Esher, speaking recently on national defence at Callender, Perthshire, said he was no alarmist, and belonged to no political party, but no one could look at the recent trend of events in Europe and the Near and Far East without being aware that Great Britain stood in a more perilous position to-day than at any time during the last hundred years. His earnest conviction was that unless the British Government and the Governments of Britain's Dominions overseas took strong and immediate steps, the lads he was addressing would have to fight for the freedom of Britain and the freedom of Europe. We were bound to maintain our naval supremacy by building two ships to every one of the next strongest European Power; and, in regard to military forces, we must have a regular army with a well-defined strength of reserves, and also a Territorial Force with reserves, of well-defined strength. Whilst the Dominions overseas must take their fair charge of the defence of the Empire, compulsion to his mind would be an odious necessity; but he hoped to see the day when every young man who did not voluntarily submit himself for the defence of his country, would be pointed to with contumely in the street.

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WHAT IS COLOUR BLINDNESS?

EXPERTS DIFFER.

The shipping world, and particularly those holding Captains' and officers' certificates, are greatly exercised by two extraordinary cases where candidates in the present Board of Trade colour-vision test have failed both at the ordinary Board of Trade examination and on appeal where the examination was conducted by specialists appointed by the Board for the purpose. One case was that of Mr. Walter H. Glover, who passed for Second Mate some eighteen months ago, and had served in this capacity on board a London steamer. On presenting himself for a certificate of competency as First Mate, he failed in colour-vision although he had passed successfully in this respect before. The Board of Trade then ordered a Local Marine Board Inquiry with a view to Mr. Glover's certificate as Second Mate being taken away from him on the ground of incompetency in eyesight. Mr. Glover, however, produced the expert evidence of Dr. Wm Ettles, of the Royal Eye Hospital, who testified that Mr. Glover was not colour blind. The London Local Marine Board, after hearing the evidence on both sides, decided that they would themselves test Mr. Glover. On doing so, they decided that he was not colour-blind and that his certificate should be returned to him. The Imperial Merchant Service Guild being greatly concerned in this matter, in so far as its members are concerned, have also had their attention drawn to the case of one of their members, Mr. John Trattles, which is even more extraordinary than that of Mr. Glover. In the year 1904 Mr. Trattles, preparatory to sitting for his 2nd Mate's certificate, was examined in colour-vision and passed. A few days after the Board of Trade discovered that his brother had been found defective in colour-vision, and Mr. Trattles was thereupon subjected to a re-examination in which he again proved successful. In 1905 Mr. Trattles presented himself for his First Mate's certificate, but on this occasion was failed in colour vision by the Board of Trade Examiner. He thereupon appealed to the Board of Trade and was examined at South Kensington by a specialist who upheld the examiner's decision. The Board of Trade then requested Mr. Trattles to surrender his Second Mate's certificate, which he declined to do. On his own part he presented himself for examination at the Central London Ophthalmic Hospital and the South London Royal Infirmary, obtaining certificates from both that his colour sense was good. Ultimately the Board of Trade ordered a Local Marine Board Inquiry in order that Mr Trattles' certificate as Second Mate might be confiscated on the ground that he was defective in colour-vision. On this Inquiry being held in London, the Local Marine Board, after testing Mr. Trattles themselves, declared that he was competent. In April 1906 Mr. Trattles again presented himself for examination for his First Mate's certificate, was examined in colours and passed in this respect by a Board of Trade Examiner in London. He then sat for the remainder of the examination, in which he was successful, and obtained the Examiner's authority for the issue of his First Mate's Certificate. Subsequently the Registrar-General of Shipping and Seamen informed Mr. Trattles that his examination had been cancelled on the ground that he was colour-blind and his certificate was withheld. The President of the Board of Trade, on being appealed to, declined to intervene, and Mr. Trattles therefore has been without his First Mate's certificate for some considerable time. The Imperial Merchant Service Guild have made arrangements for bringing the case of Mr. Trattles before Parliament very shortly; they have also addressed the strongest representations to the Board of Trade pointing out the injustice of this case and the most unsatisfactory nature of the present Board of Trade tests in colour-vision. The Guild now learn that the Board of Trade have consented to give Mr. Trattles a re-examination in the course of the present week, and have agreed that his own specialist shall be in attendance at the same time. The Guild, also, hope to have a representative present, if possible, so that they may have some opportunity of judging the particular features of the matter.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

KAWARA ZU BUOY AND OKINO-SU BUOY CHANGED.

Notice is hereby given that Kawara-zu Buoy and Okino-zu Buoy at Shiaku-seto, Inland Sea (see Notification No. 611 of Department of Communications, June 1909), have been changed into a lightbuoy each:

KAWARA ZU LIGHTBUOY.

Construction and painting:—Iron frustum of cone painted black, surmounted by a lattice work supporting the lantern. Height of light:—10 feet above the water. Character of light:—Pintsch's gas occulting white light,—light 1 second, eclipse 3 seconds. Illuminated arc:—The whole horizon. Distance visible:—4 nautical miles in clear weather.

OKINO SU LIGHTBUOY.

Construction and painting:—Iron frustum of cone painted red, surmounted by a lattice work supporting the lantern. Height of light:—10 feet above the water. Character of light:—Pintsch's gas fixed red light. Illuminated arc:—The whole horizon, Distance visible:—2 nautical miles in clear weather.

YOKOHAMA.

In preparation for the Bon matsuri in Yokohama, *Kusa ichi* (market for fruits and other vegetables necessary in celebration of Bon) was licensed by the Police Authorities on June 12. Some 50 stalls line the river side, near the Isezaki-cho Police Station.

On July 11, a rikisha-man at Tobe-cho 6 chome died from the plague.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended July 8th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	4	4	—	1	3
Died	—	—	—	—	—	2
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	6	5	2	—	—
Died	—	—	1	1	—	—

The Yokohama Railway Company is understood to be in negotiation with Messrs. Sale & Frazar for a loan of *yen* 1,000,000 or *yen* 1,500,000 to carry out the extension of its line along the foreshore.

DISGRACEFUL INCIDENT AT OSAKA COMMERCIAL MUSEUM.

A LION MALICIOUSLY INJURED BY A VISITOR.

A remarkable scene took place recently at the Osaka Commercial Museum. It appears, says the *Kobe Herald*, that a man named Chigami Takeshi, 25 years of age, who was visiting the menagerie attached to the Museum, set himself to torment a lion which was asleep in a cage. Awakened by his shouting, the lion became infuriated by the man's provocative conduct, and eventually, driven wild by continued teasing, thrust one of its paws between the bars of the cage and struck a sword-stick which the man was carrying. The blow caused the wooden sheath to fall off, leaving the naked blade exposed. Thereupon the man thrust the sword into the lion's mouth and drove it repeatedly into the unfortunate animal. Eventually the keeper of the animal appeared, together with other persons, and the man tried to get away. Fortunately, however, he was caught by a policeman and taken to the Higashi Police Station. As it is said that he shows no signs of mental derangement, it is to be hoped that he will receive the severe punishment which his ruffianly conduct deserves. The lion is stated to be very severely injured, and it is feared that it will prove very difficult to treat its wounds.

THE FRENCH NATIONAL HOLIDAY.

IS OBSERVED LOCALLY: BANQUET AT THE FRENCH HOTELS.

Wednesday being the anniversary of the fall of the Bastille, the notorious French prison, the day was observed as a national holiday in Yokohama. A big reception was held at the French Consulate, at which many of the leading local officials and residents were present, including the Mayor of Yokohama.

A luncheon and banquet were served at the Oriental Palace Hotel, and a dinner on an elaborate scale, accompanied by a foreign band, was provided by the management of the Hotel de Paris, at which the mayor was also one of the principal guests. All the consulates and the leading public buildings and offices courteously recognized the holiday by a display of their own national flags by the side of the Republican tricolour, and many offices recognized the day as a holiday. A noticeable feature in many streets was the knotting together of the Japanese and French flags, indicative of a pleasurable spirit of friendship.

CROWN PRINCESS IN YOKOHAMA.

INSPECTS NEWLY LAUNCHED VOLUNTEER FLEET VESSEL.

On July 15, between 10 and 11 o'clock, the Yokohama wharf was the centre of considerable interest. Her Imperial Highness the Crown Princess, attended by several court officials, and accompanied by Governor Sufu, His Worship the Mayor of Yokohama, Mr. Mitsuhashi, and numerous leading local officials, was inspecting the *Nengo Kamo Maru*, the new vessel just turned out of the Nagasaki Dockyard and which joins, as second unit, the Japan Volunteer Fleet.

The ship, which will be placed on one of the passenger *routes*, carries two 6" guns and is 3,600 tons in displacement. She carries two masts and two funnels and is equipped with all the latest improvements including telephone and electric light t roughout.

The Princess returned to Tokyo by the 11-11 a.m. train, being highly pleased with her tour over the vessel.

JOHNSON'S INSULTING CHALLENGE.

Jack Johnson, the negro heavy weight, has challenged James J. Jeffries to fight one round or 50 within two months, and calls on Jeffries to accept the challenge within 10 days or "hold his tongue." He issued the challenge in Boston recently, in the following terms:

"In view of the statement made in Pittsburg by James J. Jeffries, I. Jack Johnson, heavy weight champion of the world, do hereby challenge James J. Jeffries either to fight me at once for my title or henceforth hold his tongue.

"I believe he is a four flusher to the backbone I hereby challenge him to meet me in the ring within two months from this date, one round or 50, for a purse of not less than $30,000 for my end, and a side bet of $10,000.

"Aside from the purse I make this one condition: That Jeffries shall accept this challenge within 10 days from date, and as a token of that acceptance cover my forfeit of $5,000, which I have already posted, within two weeks."

YACHTING.

A moderate northerly to northwesterly breeze made agreeable yachting weather on July 10, despite the overcast condition of the skies. The various races were carried out as arranged, with the following results:—

Large Boats (Nagahama Course). *Mary*, 1; *Maid Marion*, 2; *Nantwa*, 3. The last named was awarded the prize on handicap, *Asagao* and *Cygnet* being unplaced.

22—Raters (Widow Buoy Course).—*Elsa*, 1; *Edna*, 2; *Pele*, 3. Of the 6 starters, *Elsa* and *Edna* ran a very close race.

Lark Class—(12 starters). No. 7 (Mr. N. Brockhurst) first; No. 12, second, No. 2, third.

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THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA.

The Hon. John W. Foster, in a magazine article on China and her present conditions, asserts that "probably in no previous period of the history of the human has there been awakened such concentrated attention to one portion of the earth and its inhabitants." One might add to this dictum and declare that from the very beinning of China's intercourse with the West, her people and her civilization have been a fruitful and apparently interesting subject to contributors to magazines and makers of books. She has been lauded to the skies by some and picturesquely abused by others. One author inscribes in a weighty volume the distinctly peculiar and ridiculous phases of Chinese life, and by his amusing stories adds to the gaiety of the nations. Another, a distinguished statesman, contents himself with an inventory of the mineral wealth of the Empire, and hopes to rouse the interest of his countrymen through the spirit of commercialism. Between the globe-trotter, who spends his week in each of the principal treaty-ports, and the missionary, who has lived in *Chung Kuo* so long that he actually becomes homesick when he visits his native land, there has arisen a literature on things Chinese that is at once bizarre and learned.

The singular feature of this outpour of printed matter is that it is almost entirely the result of the labours of foreign writers. Until very recent years, there were very few of our people who had mastered foreign languages, and who could express their views of the past and present of their country to the West. Nor did the Government realize, and, indeed, has not yet realized, the tremendous advantages of inspiring and paying for "write-ups" to secure the good will and approval of the world. Whether she is praised or abused, China has pursued the even tenor of her way, acting according to her best light and to her sense of right and wrong.

We have a saying that between right and wrong the public is an equitable judge; or in the words of Sir Robert Hart, "they (the Chinese) believe in right so firmly that they scorn to think it requires to be supported or enforced by might." That this saying is based on a correct philosophical conception and that our belief is also the guiding principle of the great men of other nations is proved by the numerous foreign statesmen and writers that have rushed to our defence whenever the honour and fair name of China have been unjustly assailed or her actions misconstrued. Nothing in the history of the foreign relations of the Empire has afforded us more gratification and filled us with more pride and hope than the staunch friendship and deep affection which so many foreigners, generally the ones that know us best, have for China.

It is hardly possible to restrain a smile when we read that "no one knows or ever will know the Chinese, the most comprehensible, contradictory, logical, illogical people on earth." This sounds something like a characterization, in a comic paper, of woman, and is not to be taken seriously. The fact is, we are very much like other human beings, with to be sure some peculiarities, due to centuries of segregation from other nations. But we have essentially "the same hopes and fears, the same joys and sorrows, the same susceptibility to pain and the same capacity for happiness." With increased and better acquaintance of the world through travel abroad and reading at home, the representative men of our country will lose many of the traits and discard many of the customs that seem peculiar to Westerners. Indeed, we have already a class of cosmopolitans, men who have enjoyed educational facilities abroad and who are as much at home in London or New York as in Peking.

In recent years, a revolution has taken place in our world of thought. Always a nation that delighted in books and worshipped literary talent, we have had a literature equal in extent and quality to that of Greece or Rome. Very few Westerners who have mastered our language have not echoed and re-echoed the sentiment that "untold treasures lie hidden in the rich lodes of Chinese literature." This mine of intellectual wealth has been enriched by the translation of the best works of the West. John Stuart Mill, Huxley, Spencer, Darwin and Henry George, just to mention a few of the leading scholars of the modern age, are as well known in China as in this country. The doctrine of the survival of the fittest is on the lips of every thinking Chinese, and its grim significance is not lost on a nation that seems to be the center of the struggle in the Far East. Western knowledge is being absorbed by our young men at home or abroad at a rapid rate, and the mental power of a large part of four hundred millions of people, formerly concentrated on the Confucian classics, is being turned in a new direction—the study of the civilization of the West.

Socially, an agricultural people is being transformed in a sudden into a manufacturing and industrial nation. New desires have given birth to new wants: the railway and the steamship must take the place of the mule cart, the sedan chair and the houseboat; gas and electricity supplant the paper lantern and the oil lamp: the roar of the loom bewilders the factory girl who has been used to the hand-weaving machine; and the smoke of factories and arsenals threatens to soil the blue of our skies and make hideous the exterior form of nature as it has done in the West. The foreign trade of Shanghai is already greater than that of Boston, while the greatest sea-port is the world, measured by the tonnage of its vessels, in the island of Hongkong, a stone's throw from Canton.

There is a public opinion in China now that makes itself heard and obeyed. No longer is it possible to hold to the conception that China stands for a few men in power and that their will is the law of the land. As Mr. Elihu Root has recently expressed it, "The people now, not Governments, make friendship or dislike, sympathy or discord, peace or war between nations." The people of China are gradually coming to their own, and with the elaborate preparations now being made for a constitutional government, it is only a question of a few years when a Chinese parliament becomes an established fact, and another member of the human family added to the ranks of liberal government.

There are many reasons why China and the United States of America should be the best of friends. Geographically, we are the two continental countries situated on the opposite shores of the Pacific Ocean. With the annexation and the acquisition by the United States of the Hawaiian and the Philippine Islands, we have become next-door neighbours. The completion of the Isthmian Canal, an event looked forward to with great interest by the whole world, will bring the Atlantic seaboard and the Mississppi Valley weeks nearer the trade of the Orient. It is a logical consequence and a consummation devoutly to be wished that the relations between the ancient Empire and the young Republic should grow more intimate every day.

From the time of Caleb Cushing, the American Minister who arrived in China in 1844, bearing a letter from President Tyler to the Emperor Taokuang, Sino-American relations have always been friendly. If, as the Emperor Taokuang used to command his ministers of state to impress on the foreign representatives, the Celestial Empire prides itself on keeping good faith in its promises and agreements, the United States has also taught China to believe through experience that it may be trusted to do what is right and just. The several treaties concluded between the two nations have been on the one hand honourable to the United States and on the other fair to China. When China desired to establish diplomatic relations with the Powers, it was also an American, the Hon. Anson Burlingame, that was given the coveted position of an envoy. The refusal of the United States of America to participate in the opium traffic, or in the coolie trade, the absence on her part of any desire to encroach on the territorial rights of China, her action in contending for the integrity of China, the recent remission of a part of the Boxer indemnity, and her willingness, in general, to give China a square deal, have not failed to make a very favourable impression on our people. If there is one commendable quality in our people conspicuous by its presence, it is that of not forgetting a good turn, and the good offices of this country are and will be appreciated by us for many years to come.

The twentieth century is pre-eminently the century of international commerce. The struggle for fresh markets, to dispose of the surplus products of the field and the factory after the full supply of home consumption, is a very keen one. China, with her teeming population gradually being infected with desires and wants of the twentieth century but possessing only the facilities of an agricultural people to gratify them, will become the biggest buyer of the world in the near future. A large share of this trade will come to America, if the statesmen and merchants of America are wise enough to seek for it. Ultimately, the national welfare and prosperity of the United States must depend on foreign markets and the securing of the commercial prize of the Orient is a *coup* worthy the attention and thought of all patriotic Americans. In this competition for commercial supremacy, the good will of our people is an asset not to be despised by the nation.

It would be a reflection on the intelligence and character of the people of the United States, however, were an appeal for closer relations between the venerable Empire and the young Republic to attract attention and derive interest simply through the spirit of commercialism. The present century is the century of internationalism, remarkable for the growth of exchange of ideas and ideals as well as of merchandise and commodities. In no former age has the civilization of the East come into such close contact with that of the West. The East has made and is making an honest effort to study the thought and the institutions of Europe and America, while this country in particular of the nations of the West is endeavouring to understand the spirit of the East. China has had a civilization of four thousand years and has contributed much to the progress of the world. Scores of discoveries, which have helped to increase the happiness and welfare of mankind, must be credited to us. But best of all, the Confucian school has evolved a type of manhood with many virtues to commend and deserving the serious study and imitation of other nations. Chinese civilization, being based on a moral order, has imbued its exponents with a profound respect and love for the moral relations. It is true very often the spirit of the teaching of Confucius is lost in the empty forms of ceremony and idle phrases of etiquette, but the centuries of discipline could not but leave its imprint on our people. We find, therefore, often a spirit of ministerial loyalty to the Emperor, of filial piety to one's parent, of devotion on the part of wives to their husbands, of affection between brother and brother and of constancy to friends that are not emphasized in other civilizations. Simplicity of living, patience under suffering, industry, contentment and an optimistic spirit, persistence in one's undertaking and the power to endure are some of the virtues which have made Chinese civilization so stable and so venerable. Then there is the devotion to and worship of letters, politeness towards all, respect for and obedience to the law, and last but not least the love for peace and tranquillity. If, therefore, China is poor in mechanical appliances and scientific knowledge, she may be wealthy in those virtues which add to the happiness and quality of the life that is lived. In the words of an eloquent writer, Europe and America, looking across the ocean to the Far East, should be anxious, "not indeed to imitate the forms, but to appropriate the inspiration of that ancient world which created manners, laws, religions, art, whose history is the record not merely of the body, but of the soul of mankind, and whose spirit, already escaping from the forces in which it has found partial embodiment is hovering even now at your gates in quest of a new and more perfect incarnation."

In the hundreds of Chinese students in this country that are earnestly and industriously absorbing the best the colleges and universities can impart to them, there exists a mighty bond of union and an unwritten alliance between China and America. These young men, as one of them strikingly expressed it, form a bridge across the broad expanse of the Pacific Ocean on which American learning, American ideals, American institutions, American inventions, and American manufactures are and will be conveyed to China. The

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influence of such young men, the future leaders of China, over their country's predilections and policies will be enormous. Having been fully saturated with American ideals and ideas they will transport them to and distribute them among their own countrymen. "They will be able to modify the public opinion of their countrymen that half a century of ordinary contact with the Occident cannot modify. They will be able to insure a peace and trade in the Far East that treaties and military forces cannot insure. In one word, these students will be the most effective instruments through and with which American civilization or rather American university education can exert its wonderful influence on the new China." WEI-CHING W. YEN.

THE PRINCE.

The Prince of Wales recently celebrated the forty-fourth anniversary of his birthday. His Royal Highness may almost be called a child of the summer. Born at Marlborough House on June 3rd, 1865, he was baptised at Windsor Castle on July 7th. On July 6th, 1893, he married the "Princess May" at the Royal Chapel, St. James's, and their eldest child, Prince Edward, was born on June 23rd, 1894. At present the Prince is taking an unusually active part in the affairs of the nation, and he is developing into a really able and personally magnetic public man. As a speaker, especially, he is invariably seen to great advantage. His speech on the Press at the Hotel Cecil the other day was a model of elocutionary excellence. His accent and manner are charmingly unaffected, and his vocal delivery is clear and resonant. Altogether he makes an ideal chairman at a public gathering.

It is, however, as a husband and a father that the Prince of Wales appeals most strongly to the British people. The very absence of trifling tittle-tattle about the Prince provides an eloquent testimony to his virtues in those capacities. His home life is completely happy, and no children are less spoilt or more carefully and sensibly reared than the "Wales children." Next to public speaking, the Prince's greatest talent is shooting. He is one of the three best sporting shots in the Kingdom. He has one or two curious little hobbies, such as collecting stamps and babies' photographs, and he is an inveterate smoker, like his father.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE Russian Consulate at Nagasaki will in future represent French nationals at that port not as a Consular Agency, as previously understood, but with the status of a Vice-Consulate.

IT is reported that Mr Arakawa Minoji, Japanese Minister in Mexico, will be appointed Minister to Spain in succession to the late Mr. Inagaki Manjiro. He will take up his post in September.

Sixteen boys living at Nezugaseki-mura, Nishidagawa-gori, in Yamagata profecture, were taken ill after eating some fruit on the 13th and their condition is still causing anxiety. The fruit was poisonous.

THE Kobe Chamber of Commerce has appointed Mr. Takigawa Benzo to be a member of the party of representatives of Japanese Chambers which is about to visit America. Five other delegates from the Kobe Chamber have still to be appointed.

THE submarine cable between Dairen and Chefoo, as well as the construction of the telegraph offices at both ports having been completed, the *Official Gazette* has announced the opening of the cable for transmission of official as well as private messages.

MARK TWAIN, as the saying goes, began young. When he was a boy at school in Hannibal, the schoolmaster once set the class to writing a composition on "The Result of Laziness." Young Clemens, at the end of an hour, handed in as his composition a blank slate.

MR. IWAHARA KENZO, of Tokyo, Mr. Ōi Boku-Bokushin, of Osaka, and Mr. Takigawa Benzo, of Kobe, representing the Mitsui Company, manufacturing pharmacists and match manufacturers, respectively are among the leading business men who will shortly visit America.

MR. RUTLAND BARRINGTON recently received a communication from the Somerset House people to say they were not satisfied with the amount at had returned his income. He replied that he had much more reason to be dissatisfied with the smallness of his income than they.

ACCORDING to a German sociologist, the reasons for the rapid increase of population in Japan are (1) early marriage, (2) divorce and remarriage in the event of fruitless union, and (3) the small number of unmarried persons. These circumstances account for the very considerable annual increase of about 700,000.

IT is reported that on the occasion of the Ise Daijingu Installation, which is expected to take place next Autumn, there will be a special performance of ancient music. The Board of Ceremonies will send the Head of the Musical Section, accompanied by several minstrels, who have made a special study of ancient music and musical instruments.

THE death occurred, at his residence at Kobe, early on the 14th instant, of Mr. Alexander Milne, for many years one of the leading Bill and Bullion Brokers of the southern port. Death was due to acute cerebral congestion. The deceased gentleman came to Japan about third-seven years ago and for a number of years served with Messrs. Walsh, Hall & Co, of Yokohama.

THE Lucknow correspondent of the *Standard* says that a huge rhinoceros has lately been shot in Assam with carried a horn 24½ in. in length, exceeding by over 4 in. the horn in the Ipswich Museum, which was previously the largest existing specimen. In height the rhinoceros stood 6 feet 4 inches at the shoulder, and is thus probably the biggest specimen of the Indian rhinoceros ever shot.

PROFESSOR DEYCKE, the eminent authority on leprosy, who went out to British Guiana some months ago with the consent of the German Colonial Office to make some experiments with the cure he believed he had found for leprosy states that he has absolutely proved that the Natin remedy has specific action on leprous issue, and is convinced that if compulsory isolation is combined with the treatment the number of lepers will, in the course of time, be reduced.

He would shortly leave for Surinam, in Dutch Guiana. After investigating leper conditions there he will proceed to New York, and from thence to England, and afterwards to Hamburg. In the meantime, arrangements have been made for the continuation of his treatment at the leper asylum, British Guiana an institution that is said to be one of the most suitable in the world for the purpose.

MR. SAMUEL KING HUTTON, sometime a resident in Labrador, writing to *The Times* in connexion with the reported discovery last autumn of a grave near Cape Mugford on the Labrador coast, with the name "Andre" on a cross at its head, throws doubt upon the suggestion made at the time that it might be the grave of the explorer Andrée. He submits a forecast of what he thinks will probably be the solution of the mystery. The inhabitants of two large Eskimo settlements, he says, make the bays about Cape Mugford their head quarters for seal fishing. When the sea is partly frozen, communication with the settlements is very difficult, and may be impossible. Should a death occur among the fishers in such circumstances, they bury the body in the neighbourhood. It is therefore quite possible that the grave discovered is that of an Eskimo. "Andreas" is a not uncommon name among the Eskimo, and it is quite conceivable that the friends of an Eskimo called Andreas would put a cross over his grave with the name, or their abbreviation of it, carved or written "Andre." At the Moravian Mission stations on the Labrador coast records are kept of all deaths among the Eskimos, and a reference to these, when in a few weeks the Labrador coast is again open, would show whether an Eskimo called Andreas had died and been buried at the sealing place.

CORRESPONDENCE.

NATIONALIZED RAILWAY BONDS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—So far as the shareholders are concerned the method of nationalising the railways seems to leave much to be desired. In the first place, after fixing the price the Government chose to pay it with bonds worth only some 90 per cent. of the face value. Secondly, a delay of two or three years is made in handing over those bonds; and thirdly, in the case of the Kyushu Railway, the bonds for which are about to be delivered, a number of papers to sign and make out has just been sent to each shareholder. It is true there is a book containing instructions, apparently, as to how these papers are to be made out, but all is in Japanese. Is it expecting too much on the part of the foreign shareholders to desire that such papers be sent to them in English? Or could you give for the benefit of these shareholders the basis on which calculations are to be made?

Yours truly, SPECTATOR.

THE LATE DR. SAKAWA.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—I have much pleasure in expressing my full agreement with your observations on the suicide of the late Dr. Sakawa. His was the hand that fired the fatal shot but in that act he was as much the helpless agent of others as in the alleged crime into which he was led and driven by them. *They* are his murderers, he was their victim, and the only true man amongst them. On their hands is his blood, and whatever stain has been on his hands it has washed away. That is my opinion and that of other foreigners to whom I have spoken on the subject. It may be a little grain of comfort, therefore, to Dr. Sakawa's family to learn that foreign sympathy is with them for the loss of a good husband and father, who, but for the vile schemes of others that finally engulfed him might have lived for many years to become their guide and joy and an honour to his country.

I am, Sir inclosing my card, Yours truly,

S.

POSTAL IMFORMATION.

JAPAN AND STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

On July 8, the Official Gazette promulgated the Emperor's sanction given to the agreement relating to Parcels Post Exchange, which has been concluded between Japan and the Straits Settlements.

The principal clauses of the agreement are as follow:—

A parcel not exceeding 11 lbs. in weight can be sent by post from Japan to the Straits Settlements and *vice versa*.

A parcel can be made Valeur Déclarée not exceeding 3,000 francs.

The postage for a parcel is in any case to be paid in advance, provided that the re-de pa ched parcels are excluded.

The postage for parcels are:—

Fr. 1.50	for a parcel weighing	less than 3 lbs.
„ 2.50	„ „	3 to 7 lbs.
„ 3.50	„ „	7 to 11 lbs.

If the sender of a parcel pays in advance a certain charge not exceeding 25 centimes, he can make it Avis de Réception. This charge may also be appropriated in case of applying to the post office for tracing the parcel after it is forwarded.

The undermentioned articles are forbidden:—

Correspondence, living animals (excluding bees put in proper box), those articles prohibited by the Customs (an invoice in the simplest form can be put in), explosive or kindling substance, dangerous articles, etc.

Specie, articles made of gold or silver and other valuable articles are forbidden, unless they are value marked.

In case a parcel is lost, stolen or damaged, excepting in cases caused by the act of God, the sender or the addressee when the sender does not request or he is asked by the sender, can receive the indemnity corresponding to the amount lost, stolen or damaged, excepting in cases in which any of these is caused by the fault or negligence of the sender or by the nature of the article itself. In any case, the indemnity for the parcel not Valeur Déclarée does not exceed the value declared. In case of loss or damage caused by the fault of post office, the sender can recover the charge for making enquiries, if there is any, provided that

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the charge for Value Déclarée is not to be refunded in any case whatever.

The payment of indemnity is to be made within a year at the latest after the same is requested.

The application for indemnity is requested to be sent in within a year after the parcel is posted, otherwise the sender has no right of receiving the indemnity.

The post office is not responsible for the parcel once delivered to the owner.

The amount of Valeur Declarée is to be real value or less of the contents of a parcel.

In case the sender of a parcel intentionally makes the parcel Valeur Declarée at an amount exceeding the real value of the contents, he has no right to claim for the indemnity.

This Agreement will come into effect on and after the date to be fixed on consultation of the Post Office Departments of Japan and the Straits Settlements.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

GERMAN FINANCE.

London, July 9.

The German Government has reached an agreement with the Centre and Conservative majority providing for the required twenty-five millions of new taxation.

RUSSIA IN PERSIA.

A Russian force under General Musnitzky has left Enzeli for Kazvin.

CHAMPLAIN'S TERCENTENARY.

Later.

The Champlain Tercentenary Celebration was held at Plattsburg, N.Y., Mr. Taft being present. Mr. Bryce, the British Ambassador to the United States, made a speech, declaring that Britain, France and the United States were linked in enduring friendship.

[Samuel de Champlain, the French geographer and pioneer, founded Quebec on July 3, 1608, and became the first Governor of New France.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE MURDERED PARSEE.

The body of the murdered Dr. Lalcaca has been buried in the Parsee section of the Brookwood Cemetery. There was a large attendance.

COLLIERY TROUBLES IN BRITAIN.

London, July 9.

Friction arising out of the application of the Eight Hours' Act has caused strikes at numerous collieries in the Midlands. Gangs of pit boys are marching about the district wantonly damaging property and terrorising residents. Serious conflicts with the police have taken place.

The Scottish colliery owners have given notice of a reduction of wages by 12 per cent. from the 26th inst. affecting 80,000 men.

Later.

The Scottish Miner's Executive has recommended a strike, to begin in the 26th inst., provided a general stoppage throughout the United Kingdom has been arranged. The matter will be submitted to the British Federation on the 15th inst.

OBITUARY.

General Marquis de Gallifet.

[The deceased General, whom death has overtaken at the age of 79, has had a long and distinguished career, extending from the Crimean War to the Franco-Prussian. He was French Minister of War in 1899.—ED. *J.M.*]

Later.

Lord Ripon.

[The First Marquis of Ripon was born in 1827, and besides acting as Lord Lieutenant of the North Riding (Yorks), has filled with distinction various high offices of State, as Lord President of the Council, Governor-General of India, and First Lord of the Admiralty.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE U.S. TARIFF.

July 9.

The Senate has passed the Tariff Bill by 45 votes to 34.

Later.

Washington—The House of Representatives has decided to submit the Tariff Bill to a Conference of both Houses, after a heated debate in which the Senate was denounced as violating Republican pledges.

The Senate has made 847 amendments to the Representatives Bill, mostly increases in the various rates.

DUELLING NOT DEAD.

The French Minister of Finance, M. Caillaux, and Deputy Bos engaged in a duel this afternoon. Shots were twice exchanged without effect. The cause is a political dispute, which culminated in Bos assaulting Caillaux in the lobby of the Chamber.

POLTAVA.

BICENTENARY CELEBRATION.

The Tsar has arrived at Poltava to celebrate the bicentenary of the battle. His Majesty was welcomed by a brilliant assemblage, and attended an open-air service, afterwards reviewing the troops.

[The victory of Peter the Great on July 8, 1709 over the "mad" King Charles XII. of Sweden marks the rise of the Russian Empire.—ED. *J.M.*]

FIRE AT CHERBOURG ARSENAL.

Fire has broken out in the gun and torpedo stores of the Cherbourg Arsenal. The garrison are fighting the flames. The arsenal is saved, but the damage, so far as is known, amounts to several millions of francs.

SPANIARDS AND MOORS.

PUNITIVE EXPEDITION SEVERELY HANDLED.

Four Spanish labourers in the El Rif country having been killed by the Moors, a Spanish punitive column had a severe fight with the tribesmen, losing 40 killed and wounded before capturing the enemy's fort.

SENSATION IN FRANCE.

A DYNAMITER IN THE TSAR'S ENTOURAGE.

London, July 11.

A sensation has been created in France by the revelation, confirmed by M. Clemenceau, that State-Councillor Harting, a member of the Tsar's *entourage* for the forthcoming visit to Cherbourg, is identical with a Russian convicted in Paris in 1890 for complicity in an alleged dynamite conspiracy against the Tsar Alexander. Harting has since been chief of the Russian secret police in Paris, but he will now be prohibited from entering France, and will be removed from the Legion of Honour.

LORD KITCHENER.

Lord Kitchener has accepted the invitation to visit Australia.

MORE EARTHQUAKES IN FRANCE.

London, July 12.

There were renewed earthquakes in southern France on Saturday. The damage done is slight, but a panicky feeling prevails in Marseilles and Toulon.

PRINCE VON BUELOW'S FALL.

REICHSTAG ADOPTS HOME SECRETARY'S FINANCE SCHEME.

London, July 13.

Berlin.—The Reichstag has finally adopted the financial reform scheme of Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the Secretary of State for Home Affairs, who is now regarded as Prince von Buelow's successor as Chancellor. This step has justified the Government's surrender to the Conservative Centre on the ground of Imperial expediency.

Prince von Buelow gave a farewell banquet to the Foreign Office staff on Saturday last.

THE NEW DUTIES.

Berlin.—The new tea and coffee duties adopted by the Reichstag on June 26, will be enforced on August 1.

Later.

The Kaiser will receive Buelow in farewell audience to-morrow. His successor will then be announced.

AMERICAN PACIFIC FLEET'S CRUISE.

London, July 13.

Washington.—The Navy Department has tentatively arranged the cruise of the 1st and 2nd divisions of the Pacific Fleet in Asiatic waters. It will extend from August to March.

ENGLISH COAL STRIKES.

London.—The Coal strike in the Midlands is extending. All the North Staffordshire mines, employing 30,000 men, are now idle. This involves a stoppage of ironworks in the Potteries.

FRANCE'S ARTILLERY AMBITIONS.

Paris.—The Senate is holding special sittings in order to secure the passage, before the vacation, of a bill for materially increasing the artillery, by 1912, to a strength of at least 2,536 guns. Germany has 3000.

Later.

The French Senate has adopted a bill creating eleven new regiments of infantry and 42 regiments of field artillery.

KITCHENER'S EASTERN TRIP.

DISTINGUISHED COMMANDER'S SUBSEQUENT APPOINTMENT.

London.—Lord Kitchener, who will shortly relinquish the Indian military command, will proceed to China and Japan before going to Australia. According to the *Standard*, Lord Kitchener will be appointed to the new post of Chief of the Imperial General Staff, and will supervise a common organization of the forces of the empire.

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION.

London.—The *Times* declares that concurrently with the appointment of a Chinese Consul-General at Ottawa important changes are announced in the Chinese immigration regulations. The white poll-tax on coolies is retained, but the restrictions inimicable to students and sons of Chinese merchants will probably be modified, exempting them from the tax in certain conditions.

TAFT YIELDS TO THE SOUTH.

NEGRO OFFICERS DISMISSED.

Yielding to the objections of the South, President Taft has ordered the retirement or dismissal of 150 negro Federal office-holders, of Texas who were appointed under the Roosevelt *régime*.

THE U.S. TARIFF.

Later.

Mr. Taft in the House and in the Senate has confirmed the fact that he has agreed to reduce the proposed tax on corporations by 1 per cent.

THE REVOLUTION IN PERSIA.

NATIONALISTS OCCUPY TEHERAN.

London, July 13.

The Nationalists have entered Teheran Vigorous fighting is in progress.

July 14.

Teheran.—The Nationalists entered Teheran by three gates at five o'clock in the morning. The Shah's Cossacks occupied the central square. There was vigorous street fighting in the northern part of the city. Bands of nationalists are keeping order. The Shah is momentarily expected to take refuge in one of the foreign legations, British or Russian. Banks are untouched, and there is no danger to the lives or property of Europeans.

COMPULSORY ARMY SERVICE REJECTED BY THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

The House of Lords has rejected Earl Roberts's bill, providing for compulsory service in the Territorials, by 123 to 103. Viscount Milner and Lord Curzon supported

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the bill. The Earl of Crewe and the Marquis of Lansdowne opposed it.

[It would appear from the above that neither the present Government nor the leaders of the Opposition are ready to identify themselves with anything savouring of conscription, even in its least objectionable form.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

PROTRACTED DEBATES RESULT IN CONCESSIONS.

Clause 2 of the Finance Bill was adopted by 302 to 114, the debate being closured. After five days' protracted sittings, Mr. Lloyd-George announced concessions exempting agricultural land from the small-holdings increment tax. The Nationalists thereupon voted with the majority. Clause 3 was passed by 148 to 57.

THE LORD MAYOR ENTERTAINS PRINCE AND PRINCESS KUNI.

London, July 15.

The Lord Mayor has given a luncheon in honour of Prince and Princess Kuni. Ambassador and Madame Kato were among the distinguished company present.

OBITUARY.

Constantinople. — Suliman Pasha, the brother of the Sultan.

GERMAN CABINET REVISION.

Berlin.—Vice-Chancellor Bethmann-Hollweg has been appointed Buelow's successor, involving several ministerial changes. Herr von Sydow, Minister for Finance, becomes Minister for Commerce to the Prussian Government, and he is replaced by Herr A. Wermouth, Under-Secretary of the Interior.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE "TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

THE RUSSIAN ADVANCE IN PERSIA.

London, July 7.

St. Petersburg.—The *Novoe Vremya* again advocates the despatch of a larger expedition to Persia assuring prompter settlement of the present difficulties and obviating the slightest grounds for prolonged occupation.

The Foreign Office is informed that the Cossacks forming the main body of the expedition have arrived at Resht.

Later.

There is excellent authority for stating that the British Government is satisfied that Russia is pursuing a straightforward policy in Persia. Both Governments consider that the ultimate removal of the Shah will probably be necessary.

Teheran says that the advance of the Russian troops has sobered the revolutionists, the majority of whom realize that their projects have failed.

In Constantinople the reform party sympathize with the Persians. The Liberals advocate some form of intervention, fearing that any Russian occupation would weaken the Turkish eastern frontier.

[Resht is a short distance inland from Enzeli on the Caspian, while Kazvin, the immediate objective of the Russian expedition, is about half way from that port to Teheran —ED. *J.M.*]

THE FRENCH NAVY.

Paris.—The debate in the Chamber on the Navy was marked by a speech from a member of the commission of inquiry declaring the unsatisfactory condition of the navy to be due to want of unity of purpose.

THE ANGLO-SIAMESE TREATY.

London, July 10.

Singapore.—The newly-signed Anglo-Siamese Treaty is freely acknowledged in the districts of the Straits Settlements as an agreement of great value, which promises an extremely rapid development of these districts with successful introduction of capital. Cordial relations exist between the Governor of the Straits Settlements and the rulers of the transferred States.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

The demand for Japanese securities is getting scarce.

CANADIAN IMMIGRATION LAWS.

London, July 12.

Ottawa.—Various changes are announced in the Canadian immigration regulations relative to the Chinese. The polltax on coolies is retained, but the restrictions applicable to students, sons of merchants, are considerably lessened.

JAPANESE STOCKS IN DEMAND.

On the stock exchange Japanese securities are being steadily bought.

THE POLTAVA CELEBRATION.

London, July 10.

St. Petersburg.—The celebration of the bicentenary of the battle of Poltava has begun, attended by the Tsar, the Grand Dukes, a large number of troops, and a multitude of peasantry. A requiem has been held over the graves of warriors. Torpedo destroyers, built by voluntary contributions, assembled in the Neva, have fired a salute in honour of the memory of the founder of the Russian navy.

THE U.S. TARIFF BILL.

July 10.

Washington.—After three months' labour, the Senate has passed the Tariff Bill. The result is not a scientific measure, although the majority declare that the Bill carries out every Republican pledge. 847 amendments have been made in it during its passage through the Senate.

TROUBLE AT CEUTA MELILA.

TRIBESMEN AND SPANISH TROOPS IN CONFLICT.

London, July 12.

Madrid.—Fighting has taken place between Spanish troops and Moorish tribesmen near Melilla, resulting in a sharp engagement and the capture of the Moorish positions.

The trouble is the outcome of the murder of several Spanish workmen in consequence of the failure of the Moorish authorities to secure the good behaviour of the tribesmen near the Spanish possession. The Spanish Government recently strengthened the garrison at Ceuta Melilla and a large force is now being mobilized there.

London, July 13.

Barcelona.—Eight thousand troops are preparing to go to Morocco: 1,900 have already sailed.

VON BUELOW'S SUCCESSOR.

Berlin.—It is now generally believed that Prince von Buelow's successor will be Herr Bethmann Holweg, Minister of the interior.

PASSAGE OF LAST BILLS.

Berlin.—The passing by the Reichstag of the remaining taxation bills coincides with Prince Von Buelow's farewell dinner to the Foreign Office Staff, at which function the Chancellor expressed the confidence that they would always take Prince Bismarck as an example as a foreign secretary.

Tributes were paid to Prince Von Buelow's great successes in the country's foreign policy. A new chancellor will probably be appointed shortly.

DIRIGIBLE'S SUCCESS IN NEW YORK.

New York.—A dirigible has been successfully sailed over the City in perfect ease. It started in New Jersey, crossed the river, and journeyed southwards over Manhattan for a distance of four miles, then wheeled round and returned to the starting point despite an adverse wind.

PERSIAN ROYALISTS ACTIVE.

Teheran.—The Royalist troops are demonstrating against the revolutionaries 18 miles outside Teheran.

ABDUL'S MONEY AS WAR FUNDS.

Constantinople. — The director of the Deutsche Bank has gone to Salonika with securities worth £500,000 sterling, the property of the ex-Sultan, which, it is announced, is to be handed over to the Minister for War.

AMERICAN NAVAL MANŒUVRES.

London, July 14.

New York.—The Atlantic Fleet has commenced to manœuvre off Cape Cod. It is composed of 54 ships, including 14 battleships.

It is stated in Washington that the 1st and 2nd divisions of the Pacific Cruiser fleet will visit Manila and Japanese and Chinese ports in Autumn, in accordance with the Government's policy of extending American influence through the Far East.

NATIONALISTS OCCUPY PERSIAN PARLIAMENT.

FURTHER FIGHTING: BUT EUROPEANS ARE PROPERLY TREATED.

Teheran.—Several hundred nationalists entered and occupied Parliament and the northern quarter of the city, after same fighting. The Europeans are being respectfully treated. The nationalists declare that their only desire is to ensure the re-establishment of the Constitution. They are, they declare, really loyal to the Shah. The people are fraternizing with the Nationalists £3,000 of them have enrolled.

The Shah is at Sultanabad, and may take refuge in the Russian legation.

TURKEY'S EYES ON PERSIA.

Constantinople.—The Government has received a Russian note pointing out that Turkish troops are advancing towards western Persia, contrary to the spirit of the Anglo-Russian Agreement. Russia requests Turkey to check the advance of the troops.

("DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST" SERVICE TO THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

GERMANY.

Berlin, July 9.

The trial of Prince Eulenburg has again been adjourned, the accused suffering from heart trouble.

Rumours have been spread as to a visit of the Tsar to Kiel on July 12th; these rumours are, however, unfounded.

The Bulgarian Diplomatic Agency at Berlin has been changed to a Legation.

THE RUSSIAN ADVANCE.

Berlin, July 9.

Five thousand Russian troops are undertaking forced marches towards Teheran, where a panic has broken out. M. Iswolski, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, has granted a Russian passport to the Pretender to the Persian throne, who is now staying in Western Europe.

DEATH OF GENERAL GALLIFET.

General Marquis de Gallifet is dead. (Born 1830 at Paris, taken prisoner 1870 at Sedan, later Commander of the IX. Army Corps and President of the Committee of the Cavalry.)

KING EDWARD.

King Edward, during his sojourn at Marienbad, will pay a visit to Emperor Francis Joseph.

GERMANY.

The Kaiser will go to Berlin next week for the nomination of the new Chancellor and the conclusion of the session of the Reichstag, which will take place on Tuesday next.

Prince Buelow will *not* sign the Finance

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Reform Bill and will also *not* make a farewell speech before the Reichstag.

Berlin, July 10.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the Secretary of State for Home Affairs, declared in the Reichstag that the Confederate States Governments have accepted unanimously the compromise as to Finance Reform providing for new taxes for the reason that the recovery of the finances of the Empire is of greater importance than the shortcomings of the various kinds of taxes, which have been passed by the majority of the Reichstag and which must be endured for this reason.

Prince Buelow has given a farewell dinner to the officials of the Foreign Office.

Professor Keifer, recently appointed director of the German-Chinese College at Tsingtau, which will be opened in September next, has left Berlin for his post.

The Kaiser will go to Berlin on Monday, the Reichstag will be closed on Tuesday, the nomination of the new Chancellor is expected on Wednesday.

PERSIA.

The occupation of Teheran by Russian troops is not regarded by the British Government as a violation of the Russo-British Convention.

MOROCCO.

Spanish troops have had severe fights, with many casualties, against the Kabyles tribes of Morocco, near Mellilla.

AUSTRIA.

Count Badeni, formerly Prime Minister of Austria-Hungary, is dead.

Lieutenant-General Sabron, the Dutch Minister for War, has resigned.

The Japan exposition in the Austellungspark at Munich has been opened.

RUSSIA.

The Tsar was present at the commemoration celebration of the battle at Poltava (July 8th, 1709.)

KAISER'S VISIT TO DENMARK

Berlin, July 12.

Rumours are current to the effect that the Kaiser will pay a visit to Denmark, but they are unfounded.

The national shooting competition of the German "Schuetzenbund" has been held at Hamburg amid great splendour. A telegram of homage has been sent to the Kaiser. —(Schuetzenbund—rifle association).

TSAR DWELLS ON THE FUTURE.

The Tsar, speaking at the Poltava Celebration, reminded his hearers of the genius of Peter the Great and expressed the hope of a better future of Russia after the hard times which have prevailed. He toasted the glory of the Army.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to June 27th ex Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on July 11th.

AUSTRIA AND ITALY.

The Chambers of Austria and Italy have concluded their Sessions and adjourned.

GERMAN FINANCE.

Berlin, July 13.

The Bundesrat has accepted the new Finance Reform Bill.

THE TURKISH ARMY.

The Turkish Chamber has passed a Bill, according to which non-Mohammedan Turkish subjects may be in future enrolled as recruits of the Army.

PERSIA.

The Persian Nationalists have entered Teheran, where severe fighting is going on. Russian reinforcements have arrived at Kazvin.

THE SCOTTISH COAL STRIKE.

The danger of a general strike of the coal miners in Scotland is increasing.

PERU, BOLIVIA AND ARGENTINA.

In the conflict between Peru and Bolivia, the Argentine threatens to sever diplomatic relations with the former in consequence of an attack on the Argentine Legation at Sucré.

THE NEW GERMAN CABINET.

Berlin, July 14.

Prince Buelow, speaking before the Ministry of State, explained the reasons for his resignation. The Press universally emphasises that Prince Buelow has put the House of the Empire in order, before tendering his resignation, and recognises in an honourable way the work he has done, regretting his resignation and saying that since Bismarck no Chancellor and no Minister has done so much for Germany's as von Buelow. The resigning Chancellor was honoured by the Kaiser with the Brilliants of the High Order of the Black Eagle.—Herr Holle, Secretary of State for Ecclesiastic Affairs and Education, has also resigned. —The nomination of the new Representative of the Government has been published to-day. Chancellor: Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, until now Secretary of State for Home Affairs. — Secretary of State for Finance: Herr A. Wermuth, until now Under-Secretary of State in the Kome Office.—Minister of Education: Herr Trott zu Solz, until now President in Chief of the Province of Brandenburg. — Minister of Cammerce: Herr von Sydow, until now Secretary of State for Finance.—The Reichstag, after passing the Bill providing for an increase of Salaries of State officials, has been adjourned.

THE NEW MINISTERS.

Herr Delbrueck, until now Prussian Minister for Commerce, has been nominated Secretary of State for Home Affairs as successor to Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg. Herr von Loebell, untill now Under-Secretary of State in the office of the Chancellor, has been appointed President of the province of Brandenburg as suceessor to Herr Trott zu Solz.

THE RESIGNATION OF PRINCE BUELOW.

The Kaiser has sent a personal letter to Prince Buelow, granting his resignation, with expressions of greatest regret, and thanking him for his devotion and self-sacrifice during his honourable and highly beneficial service to the Empire.

Prince Buelow, expressing himself as to the reasons of resignation, said that it was caused by the strange attitude of the Conservatives; by which a new political situation had been created, which had led the Conservatives, after their separation from the Liberal Parties, into a very close alliance with the Centre and the Poles. The Conservatives had interrupted the bridges which were joining them with the Liberals, in a very abrupt manner and had made, by this action, the Centre the decisive party of the Reichstag. The present Finance Reform did not correspond to the picture he had in view.

ROYALTIES AT MANŒUVRES.

Czechian reports, according to which King Edward and the Tsar will take part with Emperor Francis Joseph in the manœuvres at Meseriez, have not yet been verified. It is, however, certain that the Kaiser and also Freiherr von Aehrenthal, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, will be present.

BOLIVIA.

The Bolivian Government has refused to accept the arbitration of Argentine in the conflict with Peru, which is regarded universally as a *casus belli*. The Ministers of Argentine and Peru have withdrawn from Bolivia.

AUSTRIA.

Baron Oscar Rothschild has committed suicide by shooting himself at Vienna.

MOROCCO.

The troops of the Rogi of Morocco have entered Fez and are said to have expelled Sultan Muley Hafid.

TURKEY.

General von der Goltz-Pasha, the recalled Instructor-General of the Turkish Army, has been received by the Sultan.

CRETE.

The Note of the Protective Powers adjourning the solution of the Cretan question, has been received favourably at Athens and Crete, but unfavourably at Constantinople.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

THE SITUATION IN PERSIA.

London, July 8.

It is authentically stated that the British Government has approved the explanation given by Russia relating to the despatch of Russian troops to Kazvin, and that it is satisfied that Russia is executing a straightforward policy in Persia. Though the Nationalists wish to depose the present Sultan, neither Great Britain nor Russia desires to see a change of ruler at the present time, even though it is presumed that a dethronement may be necessitated at a future time.

According to a Teheran despatch, the movements of the Russian troops have made the Nationalists assume a much more sober attitude. The majority of them seem to recognize that the new plan has ended in failure.

TURKISH VIEWS CONCERNING PERSIA.

Constantinople.—The Reform Party in Turkey sympathizes with the Nationalistic movement in Persia. Fearing that if Russia takes possession of any part of Persia, it will weaken the Turkish frontier, the Turks are opposed to any intervention by Russia under any circumstances whatever.

THE NASHIMOTOS AT MUKDEN.

Mukden, July 12.

Prince and Princess Nashimoto arrived here this morning. Their Highnesses are expected to set out for the south tomorrow.

Seoul, July 12.

The *Asahi's* special correspondent at Seoul firmly believes that the Li Cabinet will be overthrown to-day or to-morrow.

On the night of July 10, a private consultation was held by Prince Ito, Viscount Sone and Mr. Bokusaijun at the Residency General. The conference lasted several hours.

When Prince Ito had his recent audience with the Korean Emperor, his Majesty stated that the present cabinet had often intimated a desire to resign, and he questioned Prince Ito as to what course should be adopted. Prince Ito replied that the matter should he refered to the Resident-General.

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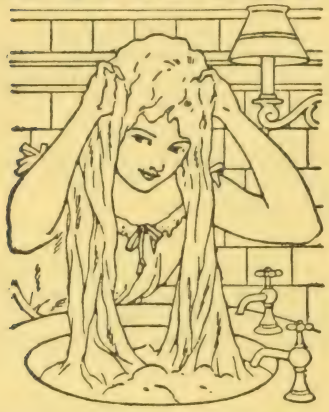
CUTICURA COMFORT



FOR IRRITATED SCALPS

Warm shampoos with Cuticura Soap followed by gentle applications of Cuticura to the hair roots clear the scalp of crusts, scales and dandruff, allay itching and irritation, destroy microscopic life, soften the scalp skin, stimulate the hair glands and promote hair growth. Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment have become the world's favourites for the skin, scalp, hair and hands.

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, D. K. Paul, Calcutta; China, Hong Kong Drug Co.; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; Russia, Ferrein, Moscow; So Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U. S. A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market for raw cotton remains firm. As to Yarns and Cotton Piece goods the market is quiet and home prices are against business here. There is almost no business done in Woollens.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	36.50 to 37.50
Egyptian	47.25 to 50.70
Indian Broach	31.00 to 31.50
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	29.00 to 30.00

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	270.00 to 285.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 365.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.00 to 8.50
Grey Shirtings—9lb, 38½ yds. 45 in. Common to Medium / Grey Shirtings—9lb, Good to Best	Y.4.50 to 6.00
Grey Shirtings—46-48 yds. 44-45 in. Ordinary to Medium	4.60 to 6.00
Grey Shirtings—46-48 yds. 44-45 in. Good to Best	6.10 to 7.50
Grey Cambrics—46-48 yds. 45 inches	6.90 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.10 to 3.60
Cotton Italians and Satteens—32 in.	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Italians and Satteens—36-40 in.	0.30 to 0.45
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	11.00 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	0.95 to 1.50
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.85 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.50 to .65
Italian Cloth, 32 in.	0.40 to 0.60
Italian Cloth, 36-40 in.	0.40 to 0.55
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.20 to 0.28
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.28 to 0.32
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.00
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.70 to 0.80
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.71
" " 2 " "	0.58 to 0.64
" " 3 " "	0.46 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.34 to 0.39
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Business only on a small scale has been done.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
d. Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The quotations fluctuate owing to competition.

Chester	Y.3.73 to 3.90
Victory	3.51 to 3.67
Nonpareil	— to 4.40
Borneo and Sumatra	2.90 to 2.94
Hokuyetsu	3.30 to 3.70
Nippon	3.33 to 3.73
Ogura	3.5[illegible] to 3.70
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

Little business has been done.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. There have been some pretty fair transactions in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.05
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.00

FLOUR.

There is little business doing and reliable quotations are difficult to obtain.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	13.00
Flag	"	12.90
Royal	"	12.60
Trophy	"	12.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	12.60
Lion	"	13.70
Portland	"	12.70
Premier	"	12.60

Japanese:—

Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.70
Takasago	6 "	2.68
Fuji	6 "	2.70
Pine	6 "	2.70

WHEAT.

No transactions are reported and quotations are nominal.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	6.60 — 6.70
Red " " "	6.50 — 6.60
Blue Stem	6.85 — 7.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The quotations are nominal. A small business has been done.

On July 15th stocks were: filatures 10,593 bales Re-reels, 321 bales; Kakeda, 43 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	—
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	—
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	—
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	950
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,005
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den	960
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	910
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	—
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	—
Re-reels—No. 1½	—
Re-reels—No. 2	—
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	—
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	—
Kakedas—No. 2	—
Kakedas—No. 2½	—

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

July	Present delivery. *yen.*	July delivery. *yen.*	August delivery. *yen.*	September delivery. *yen.*
9th	934	—	914	933
10th	934	—	912	935
11th	934	—	914	933
12th	933	901	911	932
13th	927	898	909	926
14th	922	895	901	923
15th	923	—	—	923

WASTE SILK.

The market is rather inactive. There has been but little business done.

On July 15th stocks were: Noshi, 3,883 bales, Kibiso, 1,409 bales; and Sundry, 401 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	90 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	65 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	117 to 122
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	107 to 112
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	95 to 105
Kereel—Fair	— to —
Kereel—Best	— to —
Kereel—Good	— to —
Kereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is still weak and no important transactions have taken place.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.55	8.45	8.45	8.55	8.50
27"	8.50	8.25	8.15	8.15	8.25
36"	8.55	8.35	8.10	8.05	8.05

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.25	8.25	8.15	7.85
27"	8.15	7.95	7.95	7.80
36"	8.15	7.95	7.85	7.75

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.60	8.10	8.80	9.50
22½	8.00	8.70	9.80	10.70
27	—	10.60	11.50	13.00
36	—	—	14.40	15.90

COPPER.

Quotations are fluctuating on a small scale.

According to a London telegram of July 14th, the quotation was £58.15.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 28.50—32.00

TEA.

The market is firm. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to July 15th, the sales amounted to 6,644,300 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 210,400 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	36 — 38
Good Medium	34 — 35
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is inactive and little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
July	125.60
August	126.00
September	126.35

RICE.

Since last week, the market has continued to fall.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	982,247
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	153,434

Delivery.	Closing Price.
July	13.71
August	13.94
September	14.25

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RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

	(Tokyo.) per *koku*.
Superior	Yen 14.60
Medium	13.60
Common	12.60
Average	13.60

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
July	13.47	July	13.51
August	13 88	August	13.90
September	14.00	September	14 06

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama July 16

London silver $\frac{1}{8}$ higher, China advices not yet received and local rates mostly unaltered but higher discounts from London causing sterling rates to rule firmer for long usance private paper, quotations are as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0½@$\frac{9}{16}$
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{13}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅝
— — 6 months' sight	2 1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	85½*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83½*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87½*
— Private 10 days' sight	89*
India—Bank sight	153¾
— Private 30 days' sight	155¾
America—Bank sight	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50¼ @ ⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51 @ ⅜
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London)	23⅝

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 1	Tu July 20
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Tango Maru	Tu. July 20
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru 2	Th. July 22
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Monteagle	Sa July 24
Europe	N. D. L.	Prinz Ludwig	Sa. July 24
Europe	M. M.	Ernest Simons	Tu. July 27
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	W July 28
Hongkong	P. M.	Siberia	W July 28
America	P. M.	Asia	W July 28
Hongkong	B. L.	Kumeric	W Aug. 11
America	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Sa. Aug. 14
Tacoma	B. L.	Suveric	M. Aug. 16

1 Left Hongkong on the 10th inst.

2 Left Seattle on the 6th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date
Europe	N. D. L.	Kliest	Sa July 17
Tacoma	B. L.	Oceano	Sa July 17
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamaguchi M.	Su July 18
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	Su. July 18
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	W July 21
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tango Maru	W July 21
Europe	N. Y. K.	Sanuki Maru	W. July 21
Australia	N.Y.K.	Yawata Maru	Sa July 24
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Monteagle	Sa. July 24
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru	Sa July 24
Europe	M. M.	Caledonieu	Sa July 24
Tacoma	B. & S.	Titan	Su. July 25
America	C. R.	A'tal Fourichon	F. Aug 20
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	W. July 28
America	P. M.	Siberia	Th. July 29
Hongkong	P. M.	Asia	Th. July 29
Hongkong	B. L.	Suveric	Tu Aug. 17
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	Th Aug. 19

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ceylon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,142, Fred. Pyne, 9th July,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Patroclus, British steamer, 3,547, W. Bailey, 9th July,—Kuchinotsu.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 9th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, T. Noguchi. 9th July,—Dairen via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, T. Tibbals, 9th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 9th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orestes, British steamer. 2,992, R. D. Owen, 9th July,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kleist, German steamer, 5,123, O. Pahnke, 9th July,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails & General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 10th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Prometheus, British steamer 3,583, G. Moir, 10th July,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 11th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manchuria, American steamer, 8,750, A. Dixon, 11th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, W. Davison, 11th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Manshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,284, Chiba, 12th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Suuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,789, K. Homma, 12th July,—Muroran.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 12th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Namsang, British steamer, 2,591, P. M. B. Lake, 13th July,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, E. Combes, 13th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kouang Si, French steamer, 4,840, Imbert, 13th July,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—M.M. Co.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,500, Iwamatsu, 14th July,—Takao, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salte, 14th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Arakawa, 14th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 14th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sikh, British steamer, 3,216, W. Atkinson, 15th July,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,796, I. Sato, 15th July,—Taku, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,366, T. Sekine, 15th July,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Minnesota, American steamer, 13,323, E. V. Roberts, 9th July,—Manila and Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—G.N. S.S. Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 9th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, Tsuda, 9th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Y. Nomura, 9th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Armand Behic, French steamer, 2,819, Lafont, 30th July,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Matoppo, British steamer, 3,420, W. H. Dormand, 10th July,—Moji and Ceylon—Sale & Frazar.

Numantia, German steamer, 2,806, Feldmann, 10th July,—New York via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, S. Kushibiki, 10th July,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 11th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 11th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 11th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ceylon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,142, Fred. Pyne, 12th July,—Hongkong, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Keelung Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,669, Yamamoto, 12th July,—Dairen, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, T. Tibballs, 12th June,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manchuria, American steamer, 8,750, A. Dixon 12th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Patroclus, British steamer, 3,548, W. Bailey, 13th July,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 13th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, W. Davison, 13th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Manshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,284, Chiba, 13th July,—Iquique via ports, Mails and General—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 14th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, T. Noguchi, 14th July,—Newchwang via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kamo Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,284, F. L. Sommer, 14th July,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Malta, British steamer, 3,900, G. N. Montford, 14th July,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,992, R. D. Owen, 14th July,—Manila, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Namsang, British steamer, 2,591, P. M. B. Lake, 14th July,—Calcutta via ports, General—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 15th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kouang Si, French steamer, 4.840, Imbert, 15th July,—Antwerp via ports, General.—M.M. Co.

Monmouth, British cruiser, 9,800, Captain Geo. W. Smith, 15th July,—Kobe.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3,583, G. Moir, 15th July,—Java, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 15th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kotick Russian steamer, 684, M. Bitte, 15th July,—Petropavlovsk, General.—Smith Baker & Co.

Dunbar, British steamer, 2,410, Martin. 15th July,—Vladivostock, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Shiokubi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, A. Yamashita, 15th July,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, E. Combes, 15th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Korea* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Marie, Master L. E. Marie Jr., Dr. and Mrs. B. Valdez and servant, Mr. D. Tuason, Mrs. F. Tuason, Miss C. Tuason, Mrs. C. L. Prieto, Miss C. Prieto, Master A. Legarda, Mr. and Mrs. C. Klinck, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Hall, Mr. H. S. Hull. For Honolulu:—Mr. F. B. Sinclair, Mr. C. L. Collier, Mr. Lee Ah Hoy, Mrs. Kang Ettani. For San Francisco:—Mrs. F. Allen, Mr. R. Brugers, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Burrill, Master Erskin Burrill, Mrs. F. A. Brannagad, Miss C. Bartlett, Miss M. E. Bender, Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Blair and child, Master Louis Blair, Miss Katharina Blair, Mrs. F. S. Cairns, Master Cairns, Mr. W. J. Conroy, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Cook, Mr. E. H. Cady, Mr. Chas. A. Dinneen, Dr. Paul Doenitz, Miss Virginia Garner, Mr. J. G. Hare, Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Hester, Mr. and Mrs. A. F. Jones, Miss Grace Jones, Miss Lesle Jones, Mr. Lee Gap, Mrs. Lee Can, Miss Lee Noon, Master Lee Kan, Miss Katherine McGowan, Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Mullin, Mrs. G. H. Macke, Mr. G. Macke, Miss Riva Macke, Hon. William Martin, Miss G. H. Martin, Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Nicholas and daughter, Mr. W. Nation, Mr. F. Nicola, Miss Alice Payne, Mr. and Mrs. Quock Chong, Mrs. J. J. Rafferty, Miss Rafferty, Mr. G. Roullet, Miss M. Ribelia, Capt. and Mrs. R. M. Shearer, Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Stanley, Mr. M. Strong, Capt. Victor Schwlerz, Miss Olivette Swallen, Miss R. Varney, Miss Lilly U. Woods, Hon. Amos P. Wilder, Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Wilson, Master Robert Wilson and Miss Louise Wilson in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* from Hongkong via ports:—Rev. and Mrs. Griffin, Mr. W. W. Purdell, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Michael and 2 children, Mrs. W. Bullard and son, Mrs. Bullard's maid, Pay Master W. G. O'Neill, Mr. E. E. Artois, Miss E. A. Lindholm, Miss A. Fitch, Mrs. E. Lloyd, Mr. C. E. Willis, Mr. R. L. Gaine and Mr. F. H. Bugbird For Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss F. M. Beattie, Mrs. F. Paget Hett, Dr. and Mrs. D. Van due Bussel, Mrs

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L. Fan Campt. Lieut. B. E. Cooke, Mr. C. E. Richardson, Mr. C. L. Hoover, Lieut. J. R. Youngblood, Capt. G. G. Thotcher, Mr. E. Hayes, Mr. J. H. Moore, Mr. H. Schlee, Mr. R. C. Turner, Madam Siffert, Mr. P. J. Doyle, Dr. A. Backhansen, Mr. J. A. Gaither, Lieut. H. T. Winston, Mr. H. C. Siddeley, Mr. and Mrs. Holliday, Mr. S. W. Cartwright and Mr. S. Houghton in cabin; 38 in Asiatic second; 349 in Asiatic steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer, *Armand Behic*, for Marsailles via ports:—Mr. E. W. Mills, Mr. A. S. Ginger, Mr. Hibbs, Mr. H. J. Rosencrantz, Mrs. M. E. Myres, Mr. H. G. A. Leveson, Miss L. Philipps, Mr. Popp, Mad. Perrin, Mr. J. T. Gale, Mr. Laurent, Trois sous officers and 1 matelot in cabin; Seize Matelot in steerage.

Per American steamer *Korea*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. K. Abiko, Mrs. Y. Abiko and servant, Mrs. B. T. Allen, Mrs. F. A. Allen, Miss C. Bartlett, Miss M. C. Bender, Rev. and Mrs. W. N. Blair, infant, 2 children and servant, Miss K. Booth, Mrs. F. A. Brannagan, Mr. and Mrs. B. H. Burrell and son, Mr. R. Burgers, Mr. C. H. Cady, Mrs. F. S. Cairns and son, Mrs. E. W. Clement, Mr. E. J. Clement, Mr. C. L. Collier, Mr. W. J. Corney, Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Cook, Judge J. V. Coffey, Mr. J. Coffey, Mr. G. H. Crone, Miss Elsie Davis, Miss G. Davis, Mr. H. P. Dekker, Mr. Chas. A. Dinneen, Dr. P. Doenitz, Mr. and Mrs. Sewall Dolliver, Miss V. Garner, Mr. J. G. Hare, Mr. and Mrs. A. Harris, Miss Harris, Lieut. Otto Heller, Mrs. Otto Heller, Mr. and Mrs. M. V. Hester, Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Hewlet, Miss M. Hitotsuyanagi, Mr. S. Horowitz, Miss Mary H. Jennings, Major A. J. Jones, Mrs. A. J. Jones, Miss L. Jones, Miss G. Jones, Miss L. B. Lea, Miss Lucy B. Lea, Mrs. Lee Kan, Master Lee Kan, Miss Lee Moon, Mr. Lee Ah Hoy, Mr. Lee Gap, Hon. Wm. Martin, Miss C. H. Martin, Mr. Gordon B. Macke, Mrs. E. Macke, Miss R. Macke, Miss K. McGowan, Mr. J. F. Mullin, Mrs. J. F. Mullin, Mr. W. Nation, Rev. J. W. Nichols, Mrs. J. W. Nichols and child, Mr. F. Nicolai, Mr. T. Oguri, Miss Alice Payne, Comdr. J. R. Parker, U.S.N., Mrs. J. R. Parker, Miss M. T. Parker, Mr. Quock Chong, Mrs. Quock Chong, Mr. J. J. Rafferty, Miss K. Raymond, Mrs. Grace Raymond, Miss G. M. Ribelin, Mr. G. Roullet, Capt. V. Schwierz, Mrs. Geo. Sealy, Miss Sealy, Capt. R. M. Shearer, Mrs. R. M. Shearer, Mr. F. B. Sinclair, Mr. Chas. W. Slack, Mrs. Chas. W. Slack, Miss Ruth Slack, Miss Edith Slack, Mr. J. S. Stanley, Mrs. J. S. Stanley, Mrs. M. Strong, Miss O. Swallen, Mr. J. C. M. Van Binsbergen, Miss L. B. Varney, Mr. M. Wada, Hon. A. P. Wilder, Rev. R. C. Wilson, Mrs. R. C. Wilson and 2 children, Mr. F. O. Wolf, Miss Lily V. Wood and Mr. K. Yamaguchi in cabin.

Per American steamer *Manchuria*, for Hongkong via ports.—Miss J. Denton, Miss M. V. McGrew, Mr. F. M. Beaty, Dr. F. B. Boulanger, Lt. C. H. Bowers, Mr. S. Bryant, Mr. U. H. Coleman, Mrs. H. C. Curl, Mr. F. Clark, Mrs. M. E. C. Dunsten, Miss S. D. Ellison, Miss A. S. Fuast, Mr. A. T. Flint, Mr. L. Francisco, Mr. R. Garcia, Mr. C. E. Gordon, Mr. J. H. Graves, Miss A. Harve, Dr. W. K. Howard, Miss H. Ingraham, Mr. B. W. Lidda, Mrs. C. H. Mooker and infant, Mr. C. Lopez, Mrs. J. H. Nickman, Mrs A. L. Cummings, Mr. L. V. Hitchcock, Mrs. T. W. Smith, Miss M. M. Cooke, Mr. M. N. Mehta, amah and native servant, Capt. J. H. Woodward, Major Day, Mrs. Day, Mr. A. V. Fensch, Capt. H. T. Cleaver, Mr. O. E. McKay, Mr. R. R. Mitchell, Mr. B. Obleflas. Mr. G. Pagaduan, Mr. C. Pendon, Mr. C. D. Ritter. Mr. E. F. Severy, Mr. T. Topacio, Mr. D. Urtula, Mr. R. E. Walters, Mr. and Mrs. C. D. Willson, Mr. and Mrs. E. F. Yates, Miss U. D. Youngs, Mr. W. Brune, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Gostin, Miss M. Gostin, Mr. J. Valdez, Mr. J. Villarta. Mr. P. H. McNellis, Miss F. Smith, Mr. M. J. Strong, Mrs. M. J. Strong, Miss A. Cockroft, Miss E. Vroom, Mrs. Phister, Mr. A. E. McGlew, Major Allen M. Smith, Mrs. Allen M. Smith, Mr. H. K. Smith, Mr. A. J. Easton, Mr. E. Thorpe and Mrs. H. T. Cleaver, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* for Vancouver, B.C.:—Dr. A. Backhausen, Capt. P. T. C. Baird, Miss T. M. Beattie, Miss H. M. Boyd, Mr. S. W. Cartwright, Mr. W. A. Cates, Lieut. B. E. Coke, R.E., Mrs. Dallas, Miss Dallas, Madam Louis Dewette, Miss H. F. Dewolfe, Mr. J. A. Gaither, Mr. C. L. Gibson, Miss D. Greer, Mr. Jno W. Hancock, U.S.N., Mr. S. Haughton, Mr. E. Hayes, Mrs. Paget Hett, Mr. L. B. Holliday, Mrs Holliday, Mr. L. Hoover, Miss McKnight, Mr. J. H. Moore, Mr. R. Muller, Major E. B. North, Mr. H. A. Pattman, Mr. A. A. Porter, Mrs. Porter, Mr. C. E. Richardson, Mr. H. Schles, Mr. B. W. Shumaker, U.S.N., Mr. H. C. Siddeley, Madam D. Siffert, Mr. T. S. Southey, Mr. F. L. Taverner, Capt. G. G. Thatcher, R.A., Miss T. Trimper, Mr. R. C. Turner, Mrs. Van Compt, Dr. Van den Bussche, Mrs. Van den Bussche, Lieut. H. T. Winston, U.S.N. and Lieut. J. R. Youngblood, U.S.A. in cabin.

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CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* for Vancouver:—

TEA.

From	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hongkong ...	1,901	—	32	701	—	2,634
Foochow.....	203	625	100	110	—	1,038
Shanghai ...	827	4,415	8,005	—	—	13,247
Yokohama...	737	274	278	26	—	1,315
Total.....	3,668	5,314	8,415	837	—	18,234

SILK.

From.	New York.	Easton.	South M'chester.	Montreal.	San Francisco.	Total. Bales.
H'kong & Canton	265	—	—	—	—	265
Shanghai	74	—	—	—	—	74
Yokohama	702	15	15	15	—	747
Total	1,041	15	15	15	—	1,086

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Armand Behic*:—

	Raw. Marseilles Option.	Lyon.	Moscow	Milan.	Waste. France.	Italy.	Trieste.	Peignes
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	70	—	—	—	10	—	—	—
Siber, Wolff & Co..	32	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	10	—	—	—	17	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.....	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett and Bent ...	10	24	10	St. Chamond	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co ..	—	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pila & Co.....	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
L. Mottet	—	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Total.....	137	89	20	—	27	—	—	—

Silk shippers by *Korea*, for San Francisco on the 12th July.

	Bales.
Nabholz & Co.	75
Vivanti Bros.	62
Siber, Wolff & Co.	60
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	52
Bavier & Co.	40
F. Strahler & Co.	30
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	20
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	382
Total	721

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 24TH, 1909.

BIRTH.

WARD.—On July 18th, at 87-C, Bluff, to Mr. and Mrs. F. W. R. WARD, a Son.

DEATH.

At the residence of Captain Weston, at Hiratsuka, on July 17, ROBERT HAY, late of the *Japan Mail*, aged 52. Interment private.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A HAMAMATSU despatch reports that the temperature at noon on July 16 was 95° F.

ON July 19, a marine, belonging to the warship *Satsuma*, was drowned, when swimming off Shirahama.

THE coast defence-ship *Kongo* has been removed from the register of Japanese warships. She was built in England in 1878.

AT 10 a.m. on July 20, the opening ceremony of Mount Fuji was held at the principal Sengen Jinja on the summit of the Mount.

ON the 19th instant, a woman aged 51 was knocked down by an electric car near Koyasu Station. Death from concussion of the brain was instantaneous.

Mr. FURUYA, Private Secretary to the Residency-General, has been appointed Private Secretary to the President of the Privy Council and Master of Ceremonies.

A VETERINARY surgeon in Tokyo, named Sugai Nenosuke, who carelessly examined a mad dog during August last, has been fined 100 *yen* by the Tokyo Local Court.

MADAME SUGANO SUGA, the editor of the *Jiyu Shiso*, has been arrested. It is supposed that she has distributed among the socialists the publication which has been suspended.

THE average heat on the first day of *doyo*, in Japan was less than that on the preceding day and the weather was generally cloudy. The prospects of a good rice harvest are bright.

ON July 16, a goods train from Tokyo to Sendai was derailed near Ota station, owing to a spreading of the rails resulting from the high temperature. A conductor was slightly injured.

THE Chinese Government has notified every Consulate in Sashi that, according to the Anglo-Chinese Treaty, the export of cereals will be prohibited on and after the 23rd instant.

ON July 15, the editor of the *Jiyu Shiso*, a socialistic organ, was prosecuted by the Metropolitan Police Board. Several socialists who live at Shibuya and Takinogawa underwent domiciliary search.

A MATSUMOTO despatch reports that the railway line between Saijo and Omi, which has been under repair, will be restored by the 25th instant. The expense incurred is estimated at *yen* 700,000 to 800,000.

A NAGASAKI telegram reports that the Russian Volunteer Fleet has suffered severe losses in plying between Shanghai and Vladivostock via Nagasaki, and it is probable that the service will be stopped for the present.

ON the 16th instant, a student of the Tokyo Imperial University, who was passing Atsuta, near Nagoya, by train, suddenly became unconscious and fell out of the car. Whether he was unsound in mind is as yet unknown.

A SENDAI telegram states that one of the teachers in the agricultural school at Kurihara has strangled himself. It is alleged that the school has been in disorder since April last, and that this has affected the unfortunate man's mind.

THE net receipts of the Mitsu Bishi Banking Department during the last half year term were 358,625 *yen* in addition to 4,475,224 *yen* brought from the previous accounts, making a total of 4,483 849 *yen*. On Tuesday the partnership held a general meeting, when the decision was passed to transfer to the fund of the partnership 50,000 *yen* out of the above sum as profit and to carry the remaining 4,433,849 *yen* to next account.

AN Osaka telephone message reports that on July 13, the police visited the houses of a man named Hirayama Yonekichi and several others in order to inspect the account-books. It is alleged that the men have been speculating on the rice exchange.

ON the 14th instant, 56 pupils in the dormitory of the Kyoto Dai Ni Girls' High school were taken ill with sickness and stomach pains, after eating fish which was presumably poisonous. Fortunately, all the sufferers are on the road to recovery.

ALTHOUGH the temperature at Yokohama on the 20th instant, the first day of *Doyo*, seemed much less oppressive than that of the preceding day, it is reported by the Meteorological Bureau to have been above the 12-year average for the opening day of the hot season.

IT is reported that notwithstanding that the life insurance policy for 1,000 *yen* held by the late Dr. Sakawa in the Yurin Life Assurance Company was invalidated by his self-destruction, the Directors of the company have presented to his family the full amount of the policy.

TWO Japanese, claiming to be agents of the Japanese Government, are reported to have been seeking to obtain an option upon a section of land from the Mount Diablo Oil Company, Bakersfield, California. The Mount Diablo Company named $1,000,000 as the price.

FATHER Clement, who went to Hawaii from France with Father Damien in 1863, has died in the leper settlement there. The priests devoted their lives to work among the lepers in the Molokai colony. Father Damion died from the disease in the leper settlement some years ago.

COMMANDER KONDO of the Eighth Regiment, is reported to have presented to the War Authorities an inquiry as to the advisability of his resigning. His query is the result of the death of the two men on the recent military forced marches, and the illness of others, he being in charge of the men.

ON July 18, a boat plying between Otsu and Kyoto on the drainage canal was upset near the mouth of No. 2 Tunnel. The accident was caused by 10 coolies who came on board despite their being declined by the *sendo*. Seventeen passengers were on board, five of whom were drowned.

ON July 16, Mr. Kunitomo Shigeaki died from acute pneumonia. He was one of the opponents of Treaty revision when Count Okuma was Minister for Foreign Affairs, and was once imprisoned in connection with the affairs of the Korean Empress. Since then he has continued to make every effort on behalf of Korea.

IT is reported that Prince Higashi Kuni, who has joined in the hard march of the Third Regiment of the Imperial Guard Division, and has been engaged in military drills at Fuji-no-susono, has behaved just the same as the other officers. His Highness seems unmindful of the heat, and is expected to ascend Mount Fuji, on July 20-21.

A HAMAMATSU telegram says that when 2,800 infantry of the Sixty-seventh Regiment were engaged in military manœuvres at Mikatagahara, a large number of men were attacked by sunstroke. One man fainted and became unconscious and 34 others were in a serious condition. Disapproval has been loudly expressed on account of the non-attendance of the surgeons.

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KOREA.

Friday, July 16.

The new convention is expected to be published in a few days. It is expected that there will be some change in the organization of the Judiciary, and that the present system of three courts will be changed to two, as is the case in Formosa. The Tokyo newspapers have a great deal to say about the effect that the transfer of judicial authority to Japan will have upon Consular jurisdiction, but we imagine that that particular outcome of the new situation will not be in the immediate future. Japan will doubtless wait until the new tribunals are in full working order, and until they are applying laws which can be recognised as satisfactory. We do not know that there is any precedent for what is now taking place in Korea in this particular line, and in the absence of such intelligence special care and deliberation will be necessary.

The funds to be devoted to road making under the programme of the new Resident-General are said to be 194,000 *yen* for the current year; 688,000 *yen* next year, and 294,000 *yen* the year after. The roads in question are mentioned, but the telegrams are unintelligible.

Saturday, July 17.

It is not at all surprising that changes apparently so radical as those just made in Korea should cause some excitement, nor is it at all surprising that rumour should play its usual game of exaggeration. The *Dai Han Mai Il Shimpo*, as our readers are aware, started this game by alleging that Korea was to be deprived of her sovereignty, and though that particular canard was soon disposed of, it appears to have been succeeded by a rumour that educational facilities were to be altogether suspended. Thus it can not be said that people's minds have yet been calmed.

It is alleged that the new Convention will not be published until after Prince Ito's return to Japan. It has to be submitted to the Privy Council in Tokyo and to be approved by the Emperor previously to publication.

It appears that there is in Seoul a Citizens Association under the presidency of Mr. Yu Kilsun, formerly Minister of Home Affairs. This Association has addressed to Prince Ito a document strongly eulogising the services rendered by him in the cause of Korean progress.

In the *Mainichi Dempo* an interesting statement is made but the source from which it emanates is not given. We read that Prince Ito has been insistently expressing his desire to resign the office of Grand Tutor to the Prince Imperial of Korea, and that the Emperor of Korea has been strongly urging him to retain that office. The Prince's idea is that a special bureau should be organised in the Korean Household Department for managing matters connected with his Imperial Highness' education, and that the Japanese personnel of the Bureau should be Prince Iwakura, Viscount Suyematsu, and Mr. Kuribara. As for the Korean personnel, our contemporary says nothing, but it adds that the despatch of a high official to Japan is part of the programme, and that Prince Ito, if this organisation were effected, would be willing to discharge the duties of superintendent.

Sunday, July 18.

Somewhat disquieting rumours come from Seoul this morning. They say that a speaker at the last meeting of the Young Men's Christian Association declared that Japan is steadily pushing her programme of swallowing up Korea, and the report adds that in consequence of this utterance an uneasy feeling has been created. Several Japanese residents are moving to I-hyon street, where better protection is available, and the barristers, who are specially interested in the judicial reforms, are fostering the general unrest. This state of affairs has engendered the usual criticisms about excessive secrecy on the part of the Residency-General. It is urged that if a policy of greater openness had been followed, no such doubts would have been possible.

It is stated that the total number of the Guards battalion, which represents the entire remnant of the Korean Army, is 781; composed of 644 infantry soldiers, 91 troopers and 46 officers. The Minister of War, whose Department is to be abolished, will be appointed Chief of the new Guards Bureau in the Imperial Household.

Prince Ito arrived at Shimonoseki at 5 p.m. on the 17th inst. and was of course besieged by interviewers. He abstained from himself meeting any journalists, but speaking through the mouth of his secretary, Mr. Furuya, he said that as he had not yet made his report to the Emperor, it was impossible to speak in any detail, but everything relating to the new Convention had passed off quietly, and the steps of the reform now taken represented the purpose entertained by himself for several years back. With regard to the question of educational reform he declined to make any comment.

Before leaving Seoul Prince Ito was entertained by the foreign Consuls at a banquet. The Belgian Consul-General, as doyen of the Corps, proposed the Prince's health in a speech which was translated by Mr. Furuya. He is reported to have expressed, on behalf of his colleagues as well as himself, profound gratitude for the uniformly courteous and kind treatment they had experienced at the Prince's hands during his tenure of office. They greatly regretted that he should have decided to lay down his important trust while so much still remained to be done, but they recognised that Japan had sent an able successor in the person of Viscount Sone. No one could fail to recognise the earnestness and assiduity which the Prince had brought to the discharge of his official duties, nor could it be doubted that the people of Korea, appreciating how largely his sagacious labours had contributed to their welfare and happiness, would raise their voices in a universal expression of profound gratitude.

Prince Ito, who replied in Japanese, Major-General Murata acting as interpreter, regretted that as the Belgian Consul-General did not speak English he was unable to communicate direct with him, but happily men's hearts and objects might be one although the languages in which they expressed themselves were different. He himself had desired to have an opportunity of publicly thanking the Consuls of the foreign Powers for the exceedingly friendly attitude they had always maintained towards his policy and himself, and he welcomed the occasion furnished by this banquet for assuring them that he thoroughly appreciated and was sincerely grateful for the kindly demeanour they had invariably shown. It was inevitable that among the representatives of so many different Powers some divergence of views should occasionally be manifested, and he recognised that to their sympathetic treatment of himself and his policy he owed the possibility of being able now to look back to nearly four years of uninterruptedly pleasant intercourse. He earnestly begged that they would extend to his successor, Viscount Sone, the same indulgence and sympathy that they had shown to himself.

The *Asahi Shimbun* justly observes that although the judicial changes now contemplated in Korea are attracting so much attention, they are not in reality as radical as the changes previously effected, which have been received by the Koreans not only without murmuring but even with very laudable expressions of approval. There can be no doubt whatever that the administration of justice in Korea since the appointment of assistant Japanese judges and procurators has been incomparably more even handed and impartial than it used to be in the old days, and the Koreans fully recognize the fact. The judicial organization now consists of one court of Cassation in Seoul; three Courts of Appeal in Seoul, Taiku and Pyongyang; nine local courts, and 40 district courts. In these the number of Japanese subjects actually employed at present are 115 judges, 43 public procurators, 156 secretaries and 25 interpreters, making a total of 339 in all. On the other hand the Korean judiciary consists of 75 judges and procurators and 189 secretaries and interpreters, making 264 in all. The laws administered by these tribunals are still very imperfect, but it is understood that the new criminal code, civil code and commercial code will be completed during the current year, and will be at once put into operation. The blessings of such a reform can not fail to be recognised by the people of Korea.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that pending the completion and promulgation of the new codes the arrangement with regard to the laws to be administered will be as follows:—When Korean subjects are plaintiffs and Japanese subjects defendants, Korean laws such as they are and Korean customs will be followed; secondly, when Japanese subjects are plaintiffs and Korean subjects defendants, or when Japanese alone are involved or when Japanese and foreigners are involved the laws of Japan will be applied.

Monday, July 19

With regard to the judicial changes contemplated in Korea the telegrams say that as no Korean occupant of the Bench will be displaced, the reform is viewed with perfect calm by the native judiciary. The barristers, however, are by no means equally complacent. They apprehend that under the new system the field of their operations will be greatly restricted, and that there will be an invasion of Japanese barristers in view of the administration of modernised laws. They are therefore doing their best to foster excitement, but it is not thought likely that their efforts will have much success.

The *Dai Han Mai Il Shimpo* of the 18th inst. is said to have contained a legal article declaring that the abolition of the War Office and the transfer of judicial authority to Japan is the beginning of the end of Korean independence and calling upon all patriotic Koreans to resist [illegible] necessary. The paper has been suspended. That was inevitable, but nevertheless it is not difficult to conceive that the new arrangements must prove startling to many Koreans. It is a pity that voices of invective can not be left to dissipate themselves in the open air, but in this case when bloodshed and outrage would doubtless result from unrestrained agitation the authorities have practically no choice.

Dr. Ume, the celebrated jurist, who has had so much to do with the compilation of

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the Korean codes, is quoted as saying that, with regard to the civil code, investigations into the manners and customs of Korea have been going on since last year and will be completed by next spring, so that the final compilation of the code may be looked for by the close of 1910. In compiling the family law and the law of succession minute reference to national customs and traditions is necessary, and that is true also with regard to certain portions of the criminal code. Professor Ume gives it as his opinion that the punishment of the bamboo should be maintained for the present, but he does not intimate whether this opinion is likely to be carried into practice.

The *Kokumin's* telegrams say that up to the morning of the 18th inst. things were quiet and there was no sign of any untoward consequences, but some discrepancies between the police and the gendarmes suggested grounds for uneasiness. General Baron Okubo is quoted as saying that some slight augmentation of the unrest in the provinces must be anticipated in the sequel of these new measures, but he does not apprehend that it will be anything serious.

With regard to the Officers School in Seoul, the course preceding graduation is five years, and there are some 50 students who have not advanced beyond their first or second year. To abolish the School now at once would be unfair to these youths, and the present idea is that the Institution will be maintained until all have graduated. We do not profess to understand what will be the destination of these officers or what it was originally intended to do with the graduates of the above College. The Guards number only 720, rank and file, and they are already provided with 46 officers, which is about double the number required for a battalion in a European army. If, however, there be from 40 to 50 cadet officers of the first and second year in the College, we may infer that there are at least a hundred officers in all the courses, and what possible use these men could have been put to had the old system been preserved one is perplexed to conjecture.

There is a strike on the part of the employees of the electric railway in Seoul. The motormen and conductors, learning that the Railway was about to be handed over to the Gas Company, concluded that their employment would cease, and that the only feasible course was a timely strike. Their uneasiness was accentuated by finding that Mr. Colbran contemplated leaving Seoul on the 19th inst. Accordingly, on the 17th, they proceeded to his office *en masse*, and demanded not only that a solatium should be paid to them but also that their security money of 25 *yen* a man should be returned. These demands being refused, the whole of the hands went on strike from the morning of the 19th and the service was suspended. The telegrams say that the police are guarding the offices of Messrs. Colbran and Bostwick against which some violent demonstration is expected. As for the employees of the Electric Light Company, which also is to be transferred to the Gas Company, most of them being Japanese, they have not created any disturbance.

Tuesday, July 20.

It has been suggested that the consent of the Japanese Diet will have to be awaited before giving effect to the transfer of the judicial power in Korea, inasmuch as certain extra expenses must be defrayed by Japan. Dr. Ume, however, denies that any such delay will be necessary. He says that so soon as the new Convention is interchanged, its provisions can be carried into effect, the whole question being one of foreign policy. Still he does not anticipate that the actual discharge of judicial functions by the Japanese will begin before next spring. Further he seems to think that the abolition of Consular jurisdiction will follow speedily, seeing that Japanese law will be administered by Japanese judges in all cases where foreigners are concerned. For the rest, the new Code of Civil Procedure is nearly completed and will be ready for promulgation next year, but the Criminal Code and the Code of Criminal Procedure will require a longer time. Whether a commercial code will be compiled remains uncertain. Dr. Ume appears to think that the Civil Code and the Code of Civil Procedure should suffice for all immediate purpose. He speaks of the necessity of enacting legal provisions with reference to the exercise of the Resident-General's powers. No steps have yet been taken with regard to the transfer of police authority, but definite arrangements must soon be made on that score. At present the Japanese Government is lending to Korea yearly without interest 1¼ million *yen* out of the 2 millions spent upon the police. There will be some increase of outlay in connexion with the exercise of the new judicial authority, but that is a question apart. Dr. Ume is quoted (*Asahi Shimbun*) as referring to France's doing in Tunis, where the judicial authority was carefully reserved to the Arabs. Japan has gone further in Korea, and moreover she has not had recourse to force.

Wednesday, July 21.

Seoul sends somewhat disquieting rumours about Chientao. One very vague telegram alleges that some 400 Chinese soldiers have entered a certain branch-store, and that 70 Japanese gendarmes have been sent post haste to the scene. Another message alleges that the Chinese tradesmen of Hunchun have gone on strike, and that Chinese policemen have been stationed at all the Japanese shops to prevent communication with outsiders. This second message seems to point to a boycott of the Japanese by the Chinese residents, and indicates that the police are cöoperating with the boycotters. The *Mainichi Dempo* has a telegram from Seoul which throws some light upon the second message. The particulars given are that a detachment of Japanese gendarmes having proceeded on the 4th inst. to arrest a Korean offender against the law, a number of Chinese soldiers took part with the Korean, effected his rescue by force and severely handled one or more of the gendarmes. The Japanese then proceeded to the Chinese barracks to prefer a complaint, and this measure resulted in a melée, involving recourse to side-arms and resulting in several casualties on both sides. Ever since that time an unquiet state of affairs has existed, and it may be that the boycott referred to above is the latest development of the situation.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* has a significant paragragh about Chientao. It tells us that without attempting to draw any clear distinction between the military and the police, one can now confidently affirm that China has a force of fully 3,000 men in Chientao, whereas the Japanese are represented by less than 100 gendarmes. Collisions are frequent, and the new Resident-General has decided that the policy of conciliation hitherto pursued by Japan must be exchanged for a more resolute attitude, and consequently the Japanese force in the region must be augmented. We trust that our contemporary is misinformed on this subject. It has long been recognised that Chientao is a weak spot in the two Empires' armour of peace, and that the chief danger consists in possible collisions between the Chinese and the Japanese forces stationed there. Hitherto both sides seem to have behaved in an exemplary manner, but anything like a marked increase of military force would constitute a disquieting presage. In this context we may refer to a telegram published by the *Asahi* from Seoul to the effect that 6,000 Chinese troops are rumoured to have entered Chientao. This is probably a great exaggeration. China's military organization does not enable her to despatch thousands of troops hither and thither at a moment's notice.

We take the following from the *Seoul Press*:—

It is a notorious fact that in former days Korean officials used to embezzle part of the taxes paid in by the people. In April last a law was promulgated for the adjustment of the loss caused to the Treasury in this way and also for the prevention of embezzlement in future. The Government has since been investigating the matter and is said to have discovered that during the 12 years between 1895 and 1907 as much as 3 million *yen* have gone astray, about 3,000 Korean officials being responsible for this. To their great consternation, the Government has now demanded of those officials against whom there is clear evidence the repayment of their misappropriations. Already over 100 officials, including some of high rank, have been informed of the Government's determination and have promised to make good the shortage, which amounts to about 300 000 *yen* altogether. Those unable to pay the whole amount at once will be allowed to do so by yearly instalments extending over eight years.

The mysterious strike of the motormen and conductors on the Seoul Electric Railway has not yet terminated. We call it mysterious, because of the difficulty of discovering what the men really want. So far as we can gather, they ask for two things, namely, a solatium in connexion with the transfer of the Railway to Japanese hands and the return of their security money. Mr. Colbran gave back the security and terminated the men's employment, but declined to grant them any solatium. That they should go on strike in these circumstances, when their conduct can hurt their new Japanese employers only, seems to be a very curious example of putting the saddle on the wrong horse. Mr. Colbran has taken his departure from Seoul, leaving the men to work out their own salvation, and doubtless a settlement will soon be effected.

We read in the *Kokumin Shimbun* that Dr. Kikuchi, Chief Medical Officer of the Seoul Hospital, has pronounced Viscount Sone to be suffering from inflammation of the kidneys, and to be quite seriously ill. There have been rumours of late with regard to the Viscount's health, but they did not suggest any cause for disquiet.

The general expectation is that the new Convention with Korea may be promulgated at any moment now that Prince Ito has returned to Tokyo. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, generally excellently informed, explains that the Convention is of the briefest and simplest nature—as brief and so simple that its publication in a newspaper extra will not be necessary. It says that the Korean Empire delegates to Japan all judicial and prison authority in the Peninsula, and that Japan will appoint properly qualified officials (Japanese or Korean subjects) to sit upon the Bench and manage the prisons. The document further says that, except in cases specially provided for by law or treaty, the judges shall administer Korean law and that the expenses of the new system shall be borne entirely by Japan. Finally it is provided that whereas the abolition of the War Department should have taken place long ago, it was deferred

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owing to circumstances, and this reform shall now be carried out. With regard to the matter of expenses we read in the *Asahi* that the sum required will be about 300,000 *yen* annually, and thus Japan's yearly contribution to the upkeep of Korea will become one and a half million *yen* yearly.

Thursday, July 22.

There are conflicting accounts this morn- as to Viscount Sone's health. Some correspondents repeat the rumour that Dr. Kikuchi has diagnosed his trouble to be inflammation of the kindeys, but others affirm that the malady is anæmia. Of course this illness is particularly inopportune just at the moment when the Viscount has assumed the office of Reident-General, but it does not appear that there is any cause for alarm.

The Seoul correspondent of the *Chuo Shimbun* repeats the rumour current yesterday to the effect that the Chinese have increased their military force in Chientao to 5000 men, and that the new Resident-General has ordered a detachment of 80 gendarmes to proceed to that place *viâ* Fusan and Chyonjin.

Concerning Chientao we read in the *Hochi Shimbun*, not with implicit credence, that the new Resident-General has radically changed his policy with regard to this problem. Hitherto Japan has been willing to recognise China's sovereignty provided that China recognised the residential and extraterritorial rights of Korea subjects. But now Viscount Sone has determined that Japan will insist upon the recognition of Korean suzerainty throughout the region. What makes us treat this story with incredulity is that no such radical change of policy lies within the scope of the Resident-General's power. It would have to be dictated from Tokyo, and Tokyo is not at all likely to dictate anything of the kind.

COUNT ARCO-VALLEY.

The *Japan Post* announces the death of Count Arco-Valley, and our German contemporary, the *Japan Herald*, has the following account of his career :—

Count Arco-Valley, whose death is reported in our telegrams to-day, was born on November 8th, 1852, of one of the oldest noble families of Bavaria. He practised law for some years at Munich; but was obliged to give it up owing to his over-scrupulous character, which went so far as to lead him to pay the costs out of his own pocket when the decision went against his clients. He entered the diplomatic service at the age of about forty and filled several European embassies. In 1898 he was sent as Minister to Rio de Janeiro, where he stayed till, in 1901, he was transferred to Tokyo, in which post he stayed without intermission till 1906. During his tenure of this post he became well-known both to his nationals and the German-speaking Japanese for his hospitality. He was a generous donor to benevolent causes, and it was by his advice and with his assistance and to some extent with his financial aid the *Deutsche Japan Post* was established.

Recalled from Japan in 1906, though his continuance in the office was much desired by many, both Japanese and Germans, he became Ambassador at Athens. In 1908, when great diplomatic changes were made, he was sent a second time to Rio de Janeiro, where his death occurred at the early age of 56.

Words are wholly inadequate to describe the qualities of this noble German, a man who did honour to his own great country, and to all that knew him set an example of the highest altruism. He understood how to promote Germany's interests in such a manner as to win for her love simultaneously with respect, and the diplomatic annals of Tokyo have no brighter page than that on whi ch his figure is projected.

THE CHINA AND JAPAN DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.

It is stated that on the 15th inst. Messrs. Kondo Rempei, Okura Kihachiro and Masuda Ko waited upon the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and explained that they had deemed it expedient to omit the word *kyori* (mutual benefit) from the title of their company, which will henceforth be simply *Nisshin Kyogyo Kaisha*. The capital will be one million *yen*, and the shares must not be sold or bought without the consent of the Directors.

This Company, of which the principal projectors are Messrs. Kondo Rempei, Okura Kihachiro, and Masuda Ko, has now become an accomplished fact. The former Japanese Consul-General in Shanghai, Mr. Odagiri, who is now an official of the Specie Bank, is closely connected with the Company, and is said to have been waiting its instructions in Shanghai for some time. He will now start immediately for Peking to open negotiations with Chang Chihtung and with Lord Ffrench, representing Messrs. Pauling and Company. The idea is that the Japanese Company and the British Firm should act in concert as contractors for railway work in China. There can be little doubt, we think, that such an arrangement would be mutually beneficial, and from a political point of view it is most desirable, for it would largely tend to dispel the idea that Japan is working in opposition to British interests in the Middle Kingdom.

A meeting of the projectors of this Japanese Company was held at the Mitsui Club on the 13th inst , and judging from the names of the members of committee—who are said to have been nominated by Marquis Katsura—the very best business men Japan possesses are included. The names given are Baron Shibusawa and Messrs. Masuda, Kondo, Okura, Hamaguchi (Toyokuni Bank) Toyokawa (Mitsubishi Bank), Hayakawa (Mitsui Bank), Suzuki, Matsukata Hara Tomitaro and Otani Kahei. By this Committee the articles of the Company were duly drawn up for submission to another meeting held at the Bankers' Club on the 16th inst. A final meeting of the 36 men representing the enterprise is convened for the 20th inst.

It appears that a slight set-back has been given to the China-Japan Development Company by a refusal on the part of the Mitsu Bishi Company to join the enterprise. Several Tokyo journals state the fact, and display a disposition to discover special motives, but the truth seems to be simply that it is not the habit of the Mitsu Bishi to associate itself with joint stock enterprises, and that its relations with China are not of a very important character. This appears to us to be quite a sufficient explanation of the fact that Mr. Toyokawa of the Mitsu Bishi Bank declined to serve on the committee of the new Company, although he was one of Marquis Katsura's nominees. Mr. Kondo Rempei's association with the Company, in spite of his very close connexion with the Mitsu Bishi, may be attributed to his perception that the success of the enterprise would increase the transport operations of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

The above title represents the name that has now been adopted for the Company just formed by 34 of the leading business men of Tokyo. What the exact English equivalent of the term is intended to be we do not know, for some Tokyo papers give it as the "Oriental Development Company" and others as the "Oriental Exploitation Company." It will be observed that the cooperation of Chinese subjects has apparently disappeared from the programme. The projectors met on the 20th inst. and agreed upon the statutes of the Company. The object is stated to be investigation of and contracting for work connected with railways, mines, electric enterprise, engineering operations and shipbuilding in China. The capital is to be a million *yen* in registered shares of 100 *yen* each ; the period of the Company's duration is indefinite ; twenty-five *yen* per share will be paid up at once ; the establishment expenses are not to exceed 1000 *yen*, and the ordinary general meetings are to take place once a year. There are the usual provisions with regard to reserves, rewards to officials and so forth. Eight thousand shares have been already subscribed for, the Mitsui taking 1,000 and Mr. Okura 500. The Mitsu Bishi Company takes no part in the enterprise.

Mr. Toyokawa, Manager of the Mitsu Bishi Bank, takes some trouble to explain through the columns of the Tokyo press that the Mitsu Bishi Company's opposition to the To-a Kogyo Kaisha is not to be inferred from the former's refusal to participate in the latter's enterprise. The reasons for non-participation are simply Baron H. Iwasaki's illness, and Mr. Toyokawa's ignorance of Chinese affairs, as well as his want of leisure to engage in any additional business.

THE GREEK CHURCH.

There is quite a schism in the ranks of the Greek Church over which Archbishop Nicolai has presided for so many years with such signal success. Stated briefly, the difficulty that has arisen is the same as that which agitated various sections of the Protestant church in the recent past. The ministers of the Greek church and many of the converts insist that the time has fully come when the Japanese church should be self-supporting and autonomous, with which object they propose a radical change of organization. A conference was held on the 16th inst. to consider the situation, and Archbishop Nicolai is said to have signified his willingness to agree to a change of organization but not to any shifting of the centre of power. In the eyes of the malcontents this appeared like giving the shadow and withholding the substance. They therefore announced their intention of proceeding with the proposed reforms in defiance of hierarchical dissent. The *Shogyo Shimpo*, from which we take these details, considers that the break-up of the Greek Church in Japan is imminent, a result which all friends of this country would sincerely regret.

The basis of the difficulty appears to be a question of money. Archbishop Nicolai has worked now for 48 years in Japan, and in 1871 he returned for a brief period to St. Petersburg, on which occasion he succeeded in obtaining from the Holy Synod a grant of 90,000 *yen* annually for the support of the Greek Church in Japan. As to the handling and employment of this money he declares himself unable to submit to any control or to delegate to others any part of the powers entrusted to him by the Holy Synod. So far as concerns contributions made by the Japanese themselves, however, he is willing to listen to all suggestions, but any interference with the manner of handling the above sum of 90,000 *yen* would immediately involve its withdrawal by the Synod.

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CHINA AND JAPAN.

Monday, July 19.

Tokyo journals devote a great deal of space this morning to the relations between China and Japan. Even the habitually moderate and exceptionally well informed *Kokumin Shimbun* writes in a strain which may almost be called alarmist. It says that when the Chinese Government withdrew its proposal for reference to the Hague Tribunal, the world believed that the Peking statesmen had decided to adopt a conciliatory policy towards the neighbouring Empire. That expectation has been completeiy falsified. China's action in withdrawing her arbitration proposal was really the signal for an aggressive diplomatic policy. She proceeded to formulate terms which were wholly unacceptable, and to Japan's requests that the situation should be reconsidered, Peking opposes an attitude of silence. It is perhaps significant, the *Kokumin* admits, that China's obstructive mood should syncronise with the competitive struggle on the part of European Powers to invest money in the Middle Kingdom's railways. But the Japanese Government will not be influenced by such coincidences. It will go quietly on its way, exercising all possible patience, but not carrying its endurance to the point of sentimentality. Unless China's mood change before the conclusion of the current month, Japan will have to assume a different attitude. This is what the *Kokumin* says, and we regard it as most significant. The two burning questions are the Kilin-Changchun and the Mukden-Antung Railways. China's obstruction has almost necessitated the abandonment of all work on those lines during the current year. She must be perfectly well aware of the fact, and in the circumstances the silence she obstinately maintains is most aggravating.

All the other leading dailies of Tokyo discourse in a similar strain, their tones being of course variously modified, but everyone without exception insisting that the limit of patience has been well nigh reached. The *Nichi Nichi* notes with regard to the Kilin-Chang-chun line that when Mr. Lu, the Chinese Commissioner, fell sick on the 8th inst., he promised that the negotiations should be resumed in ten days. There is no sign whatever of this promise being fuifilled. In a leading article the same journal complains bitterly that the foreign policy of Japan is to muke concessions without securing corresponding advantages. Our contemporary goes back to the Portsmouth Treaty to illustrate its thesis. It asks what Japan got for surrendering one half of Saghalien to Russia. Then passing to Chientao, it insists that whereas the Japanese Government originally claimed sovereign rights for Korea in that region, that claim is now well understood to have been abandoned even before the negotiations are concluded, and the lesson taught to China is that if she only sits quiet, her neighbour will relinquish all its titles. Diplomacy is on the whole a game of exchange. Give and take is the rule. The Power that succeeds in giving little and taking much, is the winner in the game. The cases of Austria-Hungary's management of the Balkan question, and of England's recent bargain with Siam show what clever diplomacy can accomplish. But with Japan the rule is to give all and get nothing. We (*Japan Mail*) confess that coming from a journal like the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* such a line of argument as the above s mewhat surprises us. Our contemporary seems to forget that there is an all-powerful factor which has to be reckoned with by Japan in all her present international dealings. That factor is the world's prejudice. There is no denying that she has become an object of suspicion to the nations, and the greatest and most useful triumph her diplomacy could achieve would be to disarm those suspicions. Nothing is easier for her than to force her neighbour to its knees at any moment. But on the other side of the resulting account she would have to set an incalculable loss, namely, ostracism from the good opinion of the Occident To say that she gains nothing by moderation and by patience is an allegation which can not appeal to thoughtful onlookers. Her gain may not be assessable in dollars and cents and may nevertheless be more valuable than any material profit could possibly be.

The *Jiji Shimpo*, referring to this subject, says that Mr. Ijuin, Japan's Representative in China, has been instructed to address a remonstrance to the Peking Government, and to request that that Government will clearly state whether it is prepared to withdraw its previous demands and re-open its negotiations with Japan in a friendly spirit.

Tuesday, July 20.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a telegram this morning from Peking on the subject of the two problems which are at present threatening to create serious trouble between China and Japan, namely, the Kilin-Changchun Railway and the Mukden-Antung Railway. The telegram represents Viceroy Hsi as maintaining a very obdurate attitude, but it alleges that the Peking statesmen, recognising the fact of their plain treaty obligations, are disposed to think that no course offers except to agree to Japan's demands.

The *Mainichi Dempo* adds its voice this morning to the volume of journalistic sound which filled the air of Tokyo on the 19th inst. It need hardly be said that the *Mainichi* endorses the unanimous view of its contemporaries. It declares that Japan has now carried patience to its extreme limit, and that nothing remains for her except to proceed at once with the construction of the Mukden-Antung line.

Wednesday, July 21.

The Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs is quoted as having stated to a deputation of Progressist politicians that the Government had not received any confirmation whatever of the rumour that China intends to build a railway from Kinchow *viâ* Yaonan to Mongolia by way of alternative to the Fakumen line. He added that since China's withdrawal of her arbitration proposal, no conference whatever has taken place between Peking and Tokyo with regard to the Fakumen Railway.

As to the Kilin-Changchun Railway, Mr. Ishii is quoted as saying that whereas the Chinese Commissioner, Mr. Lu, had promised to resume the negotiations as soon as possible, he had not yet returned to Mukden, and consequently no progress whatever had been made. Concerning the Mukden-Antung road the Vice-Minister had nothing more explicit to tell. He simply said that things were at a standstill.

Turning to the problem of postal arrangements, Mr. Ishii said that the negotiations were progressing rapidly and would probably soon terminate; but as this matter was in the hands of the Communications Department, the Foreign Office was not in a position to enter into particulars.

Turning finally to the Chientao problem, Mr. Ishii explained that here too a deadlock existed. No conference of any kind had taken place since China's withdrawal of her Hague proposal.

Thursday, July 22.

The accounts received this morning with regard to the Changchun-Kilin problem are more or less conflicting. They agree in stating that Mr. Lu, who by taking 10 days' sick leave from the 8th inst. interrupted the negotiations, has now asked for a prolongation of 10 days so that the problem is again hung up. But there is a discrepancy in the accounts of the measures attributed to the Japanese Government. One story is that the Japanese Commissioner, Mr. Nonomura, has been ordered to proceed to Tientsin, where Lu is, on the supposition that access to the Peking Government from that place will be easier. Another story is that the Japanese Commissioner, despairing of accomplishing anything, has withdrawn to Tairen. It is now stated that Mr. Lu was from the outset reluctant to undertake this work, being convinced that he could not at the same time please Peking and satisfy Japan. If that be so it would appear that he has probably commenced an interminable series of 10 days' postponements.

CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS.

It appears that the Departments of Agriculture and Commerce and of Justice are engaged in the compilation of a bill dealing with the whole question of company auditors. There is already in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce a Company's Section, which by the general public is erroneously supposed to discharge very wide functions of supervision but which really concerns itself with only the affairs of insurance companies and exchanges. As for ordinary commercial and industrial companies, it may be said that practically the sole organ having any controlling power is the Judiciary which enforces the Commercial Code. Recent events have proved, however, that this system errs in the matter of insufficient supervision and that the liberty it provides is apt to degenerate into licence. Consequently the Departments indicated above are consulting about important reforms which will ultimately be embodied in a bill for submission to the Diet.

The Kanegafuchi Spinning Company has been the first to follow the example set by the Seikosho in employing a foreign chartered accountant to audit its books. The expert chosen for the purpose was Mr. Spence of Messrs. Hunter & Co. in Kobe. He is said to have raised some objections to the method of counting, but on the whole he endorsed the Company's figures as satisfactory. One of the points to which he objected was the inclusion of unpaid shares in the capital account. In the second place he urged that the terms "reserves" is too loose, since it might include fixed property, and he insisted that the word "fund" should be added so as to obviate all doubt as to the actual nature of the reserves. Mr. Spence also employed experts of his own choosing to value the Company's assets, and wherever their figures were below those entered into the Company's books he adopted the smaller valuation. Finally he recommended that the method of writing up the profit and loss account should be more general, as by entering into a statement so particularized as that made by the Compeny, the secrets of the business might be disclosed. On the whole, however, the result of his auditing was eminently satisfactory.

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HAWAII.

Friday, July 16.

There is no special news from Hawaii this morning but the *Asahi Shimbun's* correspondent depicts the situation in a very hopeless light. He openly declares that some of the planters are having recourse to illegal methods. If they discover anybody advocating the strike, they immediately threaten legal proceedings, and sometimes go so far as to carry the delinquents to Honolulu or to the district court house and there dump them down. The same correspondent animadverts very strongly upon the nonchalant attitude of the Japanese Consul-General, who is said to be behaving with complete indifference. Neither he nor the trade unions are attempting to concert measures for the benefit of the strikers. Their sole object is evidently to put an end to the strike on any terms.

It is to be regretted that the correspondent of the *Asahi* should adopt this tone, but we must assume that he has some rea on for his statements.

Monday, July 19.

The latest news from Honolulu (*Asahi Shimbun*) is to the effect that no prospects of a satisfactory settlement are yet in sight. The Union of Sympathisers have dissolved, owing to a split in their ranks, some of their number being in favour of conditional surrender to the planters, and others insisting that there must be some concession, however small. The disappearance of this Union from the field is of course so much in the planters' favour, and at the same time there is no prospect whatever of any yielding to the demands of the strikers. Nevertheless the latter are said to be still very resolute, and as considerable supplies of money have reached them from the labourers who are still in employment, they are fully able to continue the strike.

Meanwhile it is somewhat singular that nothing is heard about the public trial of the men who were apprehended on a charge of inciting to violence and of conspiracy. The trial was to have taken place in the opening days of the present month, but the telegraph is absolutely silent on the subject, and we therefore infer that it has been postponed for the purpose of collecting evidence.

Tuesday, July 20.

Mr. Consul-General Ueno appears to have been making a very resolute effort to induce the strikers to return to their work unconditionally, with a tacit understanding that, in that event, their case would be favourably considered by the planters. It is reported by the *Asahi's* Honolulu correspondent that the Consul-General accompanied by the Acting Vice-Consul and a secretary repaired in succession to the two headquarters of the strikers and openly urged the advisability of surrender. The men seem to have been much angered by his suggestions. They are said to have pulled him off the platform three times, and a disturbance was barely evaded. The correspondent adds a note to the effect that this conduct on the part of the strikers should be interpreted not so much as evidence of the strength of their resolution to maintain the strike as of their indignation against the course pursued from the outset by the Consul-General.

Wednesday, July 21.

A telegram to the *Asahi* from Honolulu, dated the 19th instant, reports that the case of the 20 Japanese labourers, who were arraigned on a charge of creating a disturbance at the Waipuf Plantation, came up for trial on that day, but was dismissed, the jury being equally divided. The incident in question took place on the 8th of June.

The *Mainichi Dempo* says that Mr. W. Dening of Sendai is now engaged at Honolulu examining and verifying documents in connexion with the charge of conspiracy brought against the editor of the *Nippu Jiji* and others. Mr. Dening went from Japan for that purpose, the Attorney-General of Japan having privately applied for the services of an expert to verify the translations of certain documents. We may take this opportunity of denying a report that Mr. Dening was sent by the Japanese Government. That is quite untrue. The Japanese Government was in no way concerned in nor had it any cognisance whatever of Mr. Dening's mission. We are in a position to speak confidently.

It is alleged that according to Hawaiian law a warrant is not always necessary in making an arrest, and investigations are now in progress for the purpose of ascertaining whether the apprehension of the Japanese subjects charged with conspiracy falls within the category of cases justifying special procedure.

The *Asahi's* Honolulu correspondent, who is markedly hostile to Mr. Consul-General Ueno, telegraphs that that official's attempt to induce the labourers to return to their work unconditionally had a deterrent effect and added greatly to the indignation of the strikers. Nevertheless the latter are wellnigh tired out, and may be expected to surrender in about a week. It is thought that the Planters will then make some concession, to save the "face" of the Governor and the Consul General.

PORT ARTHUR.

It seems strange to hear of Port Arthur in connexion with transactions of trade and commerce. The world has learned to regard the place solely as an adjunct of 203 Metre Hill. It appears, however, that Port Arthur may have before it a better destiny than to be a mere memento of the most terrible conflict in the history of wars. The latest intelligence from Manchuria speaks of the place as likely to be converted into a by-port of Tairen. After all, Port Arthur, if it provided sufficient shipping facilities, should be the harbour of entry for the labourers, fruits and vegetables which Shantung sends to Manchuria, and the harbour of exit for at least a part of the cereals which Manchuria sends to South China. In view of these facts and in consideration also of the rapidly growing pressure on the transport accommodation available at Tairen, the authorities of the South Manchuria Railway recently took steps to improve the facilities for junk traffic at Port Arthur and have determined to hasten as much as possible the operation of raising the remaining sunken ships in the harbour so as to render the port easily accessible for steamers.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The foreign trade for the ten days ended the 20th instant showed exports to the total amount of 9,128,000 *yen*, and imports to the amount of 9,696,000 *yen*, the excess of imports being 568,000 *yen*.

The figures from January 1st to July 20th are :—

Exports	203,884,000
Imports	234,354,000
Excess of Imports	30,470,000

THE FOREIGN OFFICE AND THE STRIKE.

On the 20th inst. a delegation from the Conservative Section of the Progressist Party waited upon the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs to seek information about the strike in Hawaii. They urged that as Mr. Consul-General Ueno seemed to have forfeited the confidence of his nationals, it would be advisable to send a special official who could approach the question *de novo*. Mr. Ishii is quoted as having replied that the Government saw no occasion for such a step. In the first place, Mr. Consul-General Ueno is thoroughly acquainted with the whole affair from first to last, and can not justly be said to have forfeited the confidence of either party. He is understood to have obtained from the planters an unwritten promise that if the strikers return to their work, arrangements will be made for a system of labour by the piece instead of by time, and this system will certainly have the effect of bringing larger emoluments to the plantation hands. Thus, although the planters decline to give any pledge as to augmenting wages, that result will be practically attained. In these circumstances to send a special official would only have the effect of involving a delay of 15 or 20 days. The deputation then inquired whether the Vice-Minister confidently expected that the strike would be brought to an end in 15 or 20 days. Mr. Ishii replied that it was of course impossible to speak with any assurance on such a subject, but the Government entertained every hope of a speedy settlement.

This procedure on the part of the Conservative Section of the Progressist Party does not commend itself as a very wise move. If the Japanese Government followed the counsels of these politicians and appointed a special delegate to discuss with the planters, the locus of the responsibility would be entirely changed and a very mischievous precedent would be established. It is fortunate that there is such a thing as a Government to check the consummation of such freaks.

DIPLOMATIC CHANGES.

The *Chuo Shimbun* announces in large type that Count Komura has decided to resign the portfolio of Foreign Affairs and that he will be succeeded by Baron Chinda. The reason assigned by our contemporary for this important change is that Count Komura is still incapacitated by illness for the discharge of arduous duties such as those which present themselves now or in the near future in the realm of foreign affairs. Those duties are the settlement of outstanding questions with China, the functions connected with the Diet and the negotiation of the new treaties. The condition of Count Komura's health is not such that he could do himself justice in handling such troublesome matters, and our contemporary alleges that in the face of much persuasion to the contrary he has made up his mind to resign. As to his successor the eligible statesmen are Baron Motono, Baron Kurino, Baron Chinda, Baron Uchida, and Baron Makino. The *Chuo* assigns reasons for the selection of Baron Chinda from among this number, but its arguments are vague and inconclusive. It adds that Count Hayashi will probably succeed Baron Takahira at the Japanese Embassy in Washington, just as Count Komura agreed to go to London when Count Hayashi became Minister of Foreign Affairs. We give this information for what it may be worth, merely noting that we attach no credence to it. Count Komura is convalescent.

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AMERICA AND JAPAN.

Telegrams from New York indicate that the American public very naturally regards the new changes in Korean administration as steps towards the consummation of Japan's protectorate policy. As for the transfer of judicial power to Japan's hands, and its probable effect upon consular jurisdiction, no surprise is expressed, inasmuch as the Government of the United States has already made it quite plain that America is prepared to agree to the restoration of Korea's judicial autonomy so soon as the Korean tribunals are under Japan's complete control.

Mr. Skinner has returned to New York. He is quoted as saying that Japan's sericulture stands in need of many reforms which he repeatedly pointed out during his visit, but he nevertheless takes a most optimistic view of the future of the industry.

The *Kokumin Shimbun's* Washington correspondent wires that there is a strong desire to see Baron Takahira left in charge of the Japanese Embassy in that city. The correspondent quotes American politicians as saying that several difficult questions came up for solution during Baron Takahira's tenure of office and were in every case handled by him with tact and ability. In short the general opinion seems to be that so long as President Taft is at the helm of the United States and so long as Baron Takahira presides at the Embassy in Washington, no complications need be apprehended. But we (*Japan Mail*), judging from what has appeared in Tokyo journals, believe nothing is in question except Baron Takahira's infirmity of deafness, and that, were he not thus afflicted, there would be no idea of recalling him.

The same correspondent wires in a very optimistic strain about the new Treaty. He predicts that the President and the Secretary of State will approach this problem in a manner calculated to confer substantial benefits on both of the high contracting parties.

The *Yamato Shimbun* writes that considerable importance attaches to the question which Power shall be approached first in the matter of the new treaties. It is probable, our contemporary alleges, that the choice will fall upon the United States as Japan's best customer in the matter of buying her products. If that order be followed, France would come second and Great Britain third.

Telegrams received in Tokyo suggest that public opinion in the United States is not favourable to the new Convention recently concluded between Russia and China on the subject of jurisdiction within the railway zone, and that there is some uneasiness lest Japan should follow Russia's example in this matter. Such intelligence is disconcerting, for we at this end of the world imagine that the Convention was remarkable chiefly for Russia's liberality.

A telegram from Washington to the *Mainichi Dempo* professes to give the gist of the Secretary of State's action in the matter of the Chuan-Han Railway. According to this account, Mr. Knox has asked the Chinese Government to increase the amount of the loan to 36 million dollars; to allot to France, Germany and England the portions already assigned to them by agreement, and to assign the surplus to another Power or Powers, presumably the United States.

Another telegram from Peking alleges simply that the negotiations about this railway question are progressing, and that they will probably be brought to a satisfactory termination within the course of a week. The whole affair strikes us as embodying an element of mystery. We can not persuade ourselves to believe that American financiers desire simply to be admitted to the loan transaction on an equal footing with all other Powers. They can find many more advantageous methods of using their money. But on that hypothesis, what is their real aim? We are unable to fathom it.

FORCED MARCHES.

The Eighth Regiment of the Fourth Division whose headquarters are at Osaka appears to have been trying a most violent experiment. It consisted of a competitive march commencing on the 16th inst. and terminating on the 17th, the idea being that victory should rest with the company which first reached its destination with a minimum of casualties. The men were in full marching order, and they seem to have entered into the competition with the utmost keenness. But such a manœuvre during heat like that prevailing at present could have only one ending. Two deaths resulted from heart-failure, nine men are lying in a parlous condition and 70 or 80 are temporarily invalided.

We find a great deal in Japanese newspapers on the subject of forced marches, which performances are attracting much attention in consequence of disastrous results recorded from the various places. We alluded in our last issue to the fatalities incidental to a march of that nature on the part of the Osaka garrison, but a much worse case is now reported from Takasaki in Joshu. There the manœuvres commenced on the 17th inst. and on the afternoon of the 18th six men died in their tracks from heat apoplexy, four expired on the way to hospital and twenty others are now lying in a parlous condition. Another terrible experience took place at Hamamatsu in Yenshu on the 16th instant. After five hours of continuous manœuvring at a rapid pace in the blazing heat, 24 men fell out of the ranks, one of them dying on the spot and one becoming dangerously ill. In this case at Hamamatsu there appears to be quite an outcry against the officer in command for allowing his troops to take the field without being accompanied by a proper complement of surgeons.

Of course no one can condemn the motive of these extreme tests of endurance. Their object is not to train soldiers physically but to give them in times of peace a foretaste of the sufferings they may have to endure on campaign. But it can not possibly be right to push things to such extremes as the above incidents suggest. All that can be said in excuse is that the tremendous heat of the past few days took the military authorities by surprise, as it did everybody else for the matter of that.

THE YALU TIMBER FELLING COMPANY.

It would seem that the complications recently described in connexion with this Company have not yet been settled. Some time ago news came that an agreement on paper had been signed through the exertions of Mr. Consul Okabe, and it was thought that the trouble was all over. But for reasons which still remain obscure the woodmen have refused to subscribe the terms of that agreement, the passage of rafts is suspended, and all actual business is at a standstill.

SUGAR.

A correspondent who is eminently qualified to discuss the matters he refers to and who is, moreover, a sincere friend to Japan, writes as follows:—

If the *Japan Advertiser's* translation of the *Jiji's* Tariff Revision articles is to be relied upon, an interesting vista of the intentions of the Authorities is revealed, which is particularly instructive to the unfortunate importer of Hongkong Sugar, who is seemingly the target for all slings.

The *Jiji* is reported as saying that:—

> "In connection with the policy of our Government to protect domestic agricultural and manufacturing industries, it may be pointed out, for instance, that there would be no necessity for granting sugar rebates if there were no restrictions imposed by conventional tariffs. We do not hesitate to state in conclusion that these restrictions are responsible for the confusion which has been created in our business world on account of the Sugar Rebate Law, *whose value as a protective measure* for the industry concerned is highly doubtful....."

which means, I take it, that the Authorities, finding that the Conventional Tariff prevented Japan from giving more than a specified protection to the Sugar Refining industry, devised the method of Rebates as a means of evading the spirit of the international compacts into which Japan had entered. Surely the *Jiji* does not realise the significance of its admissions.

I have been wondering whether the concessions allowed to Formosan Sugar do not constitute an infringement of Treaty stipulations in addition to being unfair to the refiners in Japan proper. The Consumption Tax was imposed because the Treaty stipulations would not allow of further revenue being obtained from imported Sugar if domestic Sugar was not equally penalised. If a portion of the Consumption Tax is not collected in Formosa, it amounts to the same thing as increasing the Import Duty against the importer to the extent of the remission.

Of the prosecutions now being instituted against enterprising importers bent upon getting rich quickly by evading Import Duty I suppose we may say "better late than never," but it is small consolation to those who have lost a fine business to know that steps that might have been taken ten years ago are only now beginning to incommode evaders of duties. By the way Mr. Masudaiya seems to have got off very easily in respect of his Yokkaichi escapade, and Osaka importers were apparently forgiven altogether.

I cannot believe all this is for the ultimate advantage of Japan.

My calculation is that, in addition to the legitimate advantage under the Import Tariff, the refiner gets an advantage to the extent of 55 *sen* and 53 *sen* per picul respectively on classes A and B by reason of the rebate allowed on Sugar for home use.

SOCIALISM IN JAPAN.

The authorities have stretched out their hand with more than ordinary resolution to check the pernicious teachings and practice of the socialists. Several arrests have been made, among them, as a matter of course, the notorious Kotoku Shusui, and several documents have been seized, including the socialistic organ *Jiyu Shiso* (free thought). The officials of the Home Department explain that in thus acting they take no account whatever of personalities. It is wholly a question of protecting public morals and preserving good order. The socialists have pushed matters to an intolerable extreme. Even the sanctity of the Throne, so earnestly revered by all true Japanese subjects, has no reality in their eyes, and the doctrines they openly preach about the relations between the sexes amount to degrading human beings to the level of brute beasts. The Government is plainly responsible for checking the spread of these abominable doctrines, and the authorities are determined to do their duty. We heartily congratulate Baron Hirata upon this display of wholesome energy. Socialism as it has now been proved to exist in Japan, is a species of lunacy, and should be treated just as fell diseases like cholera and pest are treated, namely, stamped out while there is yet time.

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CHINA.

Friday, July 16.

Admiral Sa's extensive programme of naval resuscitation has been abandoned in consequence of insufficiency of funds. China will confine herself for the present to the building of a naval school, to the provision of guard-ships, and to some third measure which has become unintelligible in telegraphic transmission. Admiral Sa left Peking on the 14th inst. to resume his duties as Commander-in-chief of the Southern Squadron.

There is a rumour that American capital is to be employed on the construction of a railway from Haichow in Kiangsu to Hsian-fu in Shensi *viâ* Honan. Ex-Vice-President Fairbanks' protracted stay in Peking, and the recent visit of Mr. Tang Shaoi to Tientsin are said to have been connected with this affair.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that in addition to branches in Hongkong, Shanghai and Canton the International Bank of New York contemplates opening an office in Peking. Accommodation for this office will be given in the United States Legation until a suitable building can be provided, and it is expected that Mr. Green will be the first Manager. This extension of the Bank's field of operations is said to be connected with the incursion of American financiers into the field of Chinese railway construction.

Telegrams from Hankow say that the flood in the Yangtsz has reached 46 ft. above the normal level and that the big iron bridge on the Lu-Han Railway has been seriously damaged. It is impossible, however, to effect any repairs at present and traffic is consequently much delayed. At Hankow the water has overflowed the embankment and invaded the Chinese city.

With regard to the island of Linkung in the neighbourhood of Weihaiwei, which was recently spoken of as likely to be opened to foreign trade and was the scene of certain investigations and surveys by the Communications Bureau, the telegrams now say that the Chinese have chartered that *Kyodo Maru*, which belongs to the Awa S.S. Company, for the purpose of opening a weekly service between the island and Taku. The articles of commerce produced in the island are coarse silk, hinoki timber and wood for making clogs. Some 12 Japanese subjects are taking part in this business.

Saturday, July 17.

An Imperial decree has been published in Peking declaring that in accordance with the will of the late Emperor and with the provisions of the Constitution, the Emperor will henceforth assume the office of commander-in-chief of the nation's forces, both military and naval. The decree announces the organisation of an office which appears to correspond to the Headquarter Staff in Japan. It is added that as the present Emperor is too young to discharge these duties in person, they are delegated to the Prince Regent.

We are inclined to think that great importance may reasonably be attached to this decree. It is not to be interpreted as signifying that there will be any sudden or substantial increase of China's forces. But the issue of such a decree gives to the profession of arms a status which it has not hitherto enjoyed in China, and may mean that a country of enormous potentialities, which has hitherto relied solely on reason and not on force, now departs from this time-honoured principle and descends to the level of the old fashioned doctrine "might is right."

In connexion with the above, Prince (of the Third Order) Yu Lang is appointed to the principal post in the projected Headquarters Staff office and is succeeded in his present office by Prince Tsai-Pu.

The telegraph says that fine weather has been restored in the Yangtsz valley, and that the crops are expected to benefit accordingly. But the rice has suffered much injury, and the yield is expected to fall far below the average. This outlook has already cast a gloom over tradal prospects, and Hankow is looking forward to a bad time.

Thursday, July 22.

It is stated that the import duties collected at the Russian frontier on Chinese goods are very onerous and that the Chinese Government is concerting plans to obtain a more favourable tariff.

News from Peking says that the illness of his Excellency Chang Chihtung has become serious. The Grand Secretary has been in the habit of persistently ignoring his medical officer's advice to abstain from active duties, and the result is that it has now been found necessary to give him unlimited leave. Mr. Lu Chun-lin is also said to be in a very disquieting condition. This official is assistant Grand Secretary, High Commissioner for Opium Suppression and Director of the State Historiographers' Office.

The agitation against Mr. Li Tiehshun continues. He has been impeached by inhabitants of the four provinces, Pehchili, Kwansu, Shantung and Anhui, on the ground that the sum to be expended on the Tsin-Pu Railway is twice or three times as great as the cost of any other railway in China; that he has abused his power in order to curry favour with foreigners by employing some 60 German subjects in connexion with the line, and that he played into the hands of Germans in the matter of choosing a site for the railway station. This official, as our readers probably remember, was removed from office some time ago, and the site chosen by him for the station was changed. It is now stated that the German Consul has asked for the reasons of his removal and of the alteration of site.

A telegram from Hongkong to the *Asahi Shimbun* gives some very confusing dates with regard to the sailings of the Japanese and Chinese warships which are carrying the appraisers in the Pratas Island affair. The Japanese flag is represented by the *Asahi* and the *Uji*, but the name of the Chinese cruiser is not mentioned. The dates are of minor importance compared with the fact that the valuation is proceeding, and that it may be regarded as an indication of amicable settlement. The telegram adds that the Chinese were astonished at the magnitude and perfection of the arrangements made in connexion with Mr. Nishikawa's enterprise.

His Excellency Viceroy Hsi returned to Mukden on the 21st inst. from his provincial tour. He is said to have been accompanied by an *entourage* of exceptionally large dimensions, and the inference is that he has been collecting materials which will serve an important purpose in the conduct of his administration. The subjects in question are mentioned as the right of the Viceroy and the Governors to address the Throne direct; financial affairs; military reform; independence of the judiciary; reform of the prison system; manner of dealing with questions of foreign affairs, and the development of the country's natural resources.

THE RAILWAY LOAN QUESTION.

It really appears true that Russia has asserted a title to be included among the financiers of the Yangtsz-valley railways, and indeed we see no reason why it should not be true. The only point is that Russia, unlike the United States, can not allege the existence of any previous agreement with China on the subject. Besides there is one difficulty in Russia's way, namely, her Convention with England signed 10 years ago, by which Great Britain left her a free hand in the matter of railways outside the Great Wall, Russia on her side agreeing not to interfere with England's railway projects inside the Wall. So long as that Convention remains in existence, it would appear that Russia can not advance any claim to be admitted to the scramble now going on at Peking. But Russia may allege with considerable show of reason that the conditions now existing are wholly different from those which existed at the time of the conclusion of the above Convention. At that era England might fairly be said to possess in the Yangtsz valley an exclusive sphere of influence, whereas now not only has the doctrine of spheres of influence been completely abandoned, but also Germany, France and the United States have all gained admittance to the Yangtsz valley-railway enterprise on ground floor terms. It was Germany who by a clever manœuvre first broke down Great Britian's monopoly in this part of China, and it is Germany who may be said to have created the present maelstrom of competition. We are not surprised that Russia should object to be left out in the cold, but it must be confessed that the whole struggle is almost ludicrously undignified. No one can any longer pretend to think that it is a mere question of dollars and cents. Obviously there are ulterior considerations incomparably more important than any matter of money, and when we come to consider what must be China's feelings in the circumstances, our wonder is that she should take it all so calmly.

THE TOKYO EXHIBITION.

It appears that the fate of the exhibition proposed to be held in Tokyo the year after next has been at last sealed, though it can not yet be said that the project has received its *coup de grace*. The most influential among the aldermen of the city are, however, represented as having agreed that it would be extremely unwise to insist on a project with which the citizens are obviously not in sympathy. It is quite evident that Tokyo is already somewhat tired of taxation, and in view of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition of next year, the great Exhibition of 1917 and the various big works of improvement or sanitation now in progress, the citizens are not at all inclined to put their hands more deeply in their pockets. Some time ago the Governor, Mr. Abe, made a statement designed to show that the house tax in Tokyo is not as severe as people generally suppose. He instanced the cases of the Hakuhin-Kwan at Shimbashi which he said paid only 130 *yen* per annum in the form of house tax; the Mitsu Bishi buildings which pay only 2000 and the Bank of Japan which pays 1000. His Excellency added that the house tax on 20 *tsubo* of buildings in the most populous part of the city is something less than 9 *yen*. These figures were subsequently torn to pieces by Mr. Nonoyama, a member of the City Assembly, who showed that in every case the Governor's statistics were at least 25 per cent. too small.

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THE POSTAL QUESTION.

It was fully expected, we read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, that the month of June would have seen a final settlement between Japan and China with regard to the postal question. But this forecast has been disappointed, and, according to our Tokyo contemporary, the problem is still a long way from solution, which statement, however, does not exactly tally with that attributed to the Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs and quoted in these columns yesterday. China's obstructive mood in this matter is attributed solely to the rights-recovery fever. The story is that, some time ago, the Grand Council instructed the Waiwupu to prepare a list of cases in which the exercise of China's legitimate sovereignty was prevented by interference on the part of foreign States. The Waiwupu's reply laid special emphasis on the fact that several foreign States had post offices of their own in China, and that the tendency was to increase rather than diminish this system. In Japan's case the chief questions at issue were the manner of conveying mails between Shanhaikwan and Newchwang and the existence of several independent Japanese post offices in Manchuria. The *Nichi Nichi* does not attempt to deny that such a state of affairs constitutes an encroachment upon China's sovereignty, but it maintains that the Chinese are not yet qualified to be entrusted with the discharge of this duty. We (*Japan Mail*) are distinctly of opinion that the less emphasis laid upon this latter plea the better. The Chinese are excellent men of affairs; quite as competent and quite as careful as almost any other people, and to tell them that they are not yet fit to discharge what is after all an ordinary administrative function is to treat them with great want of ceremony.

MR. ARAI IKUNOSUKE.

On the 19th instant at 6 a.m. there passed away in the Red Cross Hospital, Tokyo, one of the remarkable men of the Meiji era, Mr. Arai Ikunosuke, in his 74th year. Educated at Nagasaki, where he received instruction from the Dutch in the days prior to the opening of the country, he made navigation his chief study, applying himself diligently at the same time to the acquisition of the Dutch and English languages. His public career may be said to have opened when he received the appointment of commander of the *Jundo Maru*, the first war-ship of foreign build owned by the Bakufu Government and also the ship in which the last of the *Shoguns*, Keiki, withdrew from Osaka after divesting himself of his administrative powers. When Admiral Viscount Enomoto resolved to fly to Hokkaido rather than submit to the new regime, he was accompanied by Baron Otori Keisuke and Mr. Arai Ikunosuke, Enomoto taking command-in-chief of the forces, Otori being placed in charge of the land-troops and Arai being nominated to command the naval squadron. It was under Arai's leadership in that campaign that the gallant but unsuccessful attempt was made to cut out the ram "stonewall" which represented the chief sea strength of the Imperial forces. The three men, Enomoto, Otori and Arai, were called by their countrymen *Sanketsu* (trio of heroes), and with the passing of Arai the sole survivor of the three is Baron Otori Keisuke. The Government of the Restoration, which showed its wisdom in nothing more than in its clemency to able enemies, subsequently appointed Arai to be an official of the Colonization Bureau under Count Kuroda, and placed him in charge of the Kaitakushi Girls School, so that among his pupils were the celebrated Miss Ume Tsuda, Miss Yamakawa, now Princess Oyama, and Viscountess Mori Yurei. It was at this period of his career that Mr. Arai published his English-Japanese Dictionary, the first work of its kind in Japan. Subsequently Arai proceeded to Hokkaido and made a trigonometrical survey of the island, this also being a pioneer enterprise. On his return to Tokyo he was appointed to organize the Meteorological Bureau, and thus he may be said to have been the father of navigation, of geodesy and of meteorology in Japan. The last 20 years of his eminently useful career were spent in retirement. Like many great Japanese, he practised the art of self-effacement, and no one could have inferred from his demeanour or his conversation the signal part he had acted in the making of his country.

DEATH OF MR. R. HAY.

We greatly regret to announce the death of Mr. R. Hay, which took place on the 17th instant at 8 a.m. in the villa of his kind friend, Captain A. Weston, at Hiratsuka. The cause of death was consumption. Mr. Hay had been ailing for some months, and in May last he fell into a very debilitated condition. Like all persons afflicted with that insidious disease, he refused throughout to recognise his danger, and it was with great difficulty that he could be persuaded in May to rest from his work and take six months' holiday. The malady had then progressed so far that the end was seen to be only a question of time, and, reaching Hiratsuka, he sank steadily, though he was not confined to bed for more than a week. Mr. Hay came to the East in 1883 under agreement to act as reporter for the *Japan Mail*. In that capacity he proved himself thoroughly competent. He possessed, moreover, considerable literary ability, and after some years of excellent service in the office of this journal, he accepted the post of editor of the *Japan Gazette*, being succeeded at the *Mail* by Mr. Thompson, who, too, came out from England for the purpose, and who subsequently passed to the editorial chair of the *Japan Gazette*, Mr. Hay returning to his old position on the *Mail's* staff. In June, 1908, on the occasion of Mr. A. Bellamy Brown's departure to be editor of the *China Mail*, Mr. Hay was promoted to be Manager of the *Japan Mail*, but he had held the position for only 11 months when illness necessitated a rest which was doomed to see his end. He was to the core a loyal, upright man, always faithful in the discharge of his duties and strong to suffer in silence the ills that fate meted out to him with no sparing hand. May he rest in peace!

The funeral of the late Mr. Robert Hay took place at ten o'clock yesterday morning at the Yokohama General Cemetery. In accordance with the wishes of the deceased, the interment was strictly private, no invitations whatever being issued. The casket containing the ashes was followed to the grave by Mrs. Hay (the widow) and Mrs. McArthur, Messrs. S. H. Somerton and A. W. Sterriff, of the *Japan Gazette*, Mr. J. Hyde, of the *Japan Mail*, and Mr. J. E. Beale, a former manager of the *Mail*, joining the little company at the graveside. The funeral service was read by the Rev. E. S. Booth, everyone realizing that the brief and simple exercises were not only in accordance with Mr. Hay's express desire, but were in keeping with his modest and retiring disposition.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

According to the *Asahi Shimbun* the question pending between the Tokyo Railway and the Municipality with regard to the former's depreciation fund has been shelved for the moment. Our contemporary does not attempt to be explicit as to the reasons of this alleged postponement: it merely says that the Directors of the Company have asked to be allowed to reconsider their decision.

The Directors of the Tokyo Railway and the members of the City Council have agreed to unite in an amicable appeal to the Administrative Court for a decision with regard to the depreciation fund annually laid aside by the Company.

The *Chuo Shimbun* says that the Tokyo Railway Company, recognising the unwisdom of disputing with the City about a paltry matter, will agree to hand over a portion of the depreciation fund to the municipality. We have already so fully explained this claim on the part of the City that we need not enter into details now. Our own strong opinion is that the City is not entitled to make any such claim, and that to do so is bad policy from the point of view of sound business enterprise. But it certainly would not be sagacious for the Company to antagonize the Municipality.

With reference to this subject of the Tokyo Railway, the *Asahi Shimbun* says that a project was recently on foot to sell the property to the city, obtaining money for the purpose by means of a foreign loan. It was not found possible, however, to effect this transaction in a manner satisfactory to both sides, and it has therefore been decided to await the abolition of the transit tax, which is expected to take place in the Diet's next session, and further to ask for an increase of one *sen* per passenger. At the same time all question of changing cars will be dispensed with. A ticket bought when a man steps on board will carry him over the whole of the Company's lines without further query.

We may mention here that according to Tokyo journals there is very keen competition between the various hydro-electric power enterprises to obtain the patronage of the Tokyo Railway Company. This patronage was originally promised to the Anglo-Japanese Syndicate, but owing to delay on the latter's part the agreement has lapsed, and thus an opportunity has been created for rival enterprises to step in.

THE MODEST ONION.

While the onion can hardly be described as a strictly modest and self effacing vegetable, it is only in localities in which conditions of soil, climate and market are specially favourable to its cultivation that it can be regarded as a relatively important crop. The report that it was grown in the United States last year to the extent of fourteen million bushels, or 800,000,000 pounds, will therefore come as a surprise to anyone who has not already some adequate conception of the magnitude of American agricultural operations. While the continued rapid growth of the population calls for a correspondingly large increase in the production of wheat, potatoes and other staple food crops, there is a distinct movement in the direction of specialization, and fruits and the minor vegetables are now produced in amazing quantities in the regions specially favourable to their cultivation.

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THE NEW TARIFF.

The *Asahi Shimbun* undertakes to give some particulars with regard to the new customs tariff which according to its information has progressed largely towards final compilation. Our contemporary alleges that while of course every effort will be made to correct the defects of the existing tariff, and while the principle of protection will not be ignored, it will not be applied in any extreme degree, but will be limited to a small and suitable measure. The 96 articles now borne upon the conventional list will be reduced in number, but as to the exact dimension of the reductions and the names of the articles affected, no information is given. The number of divisions in the general tariff will be increased to about 800. There will be no special change in the free list, and the principle adopted will be to impose the lightest rates upon raw materials, while the rates imposed upon manufactured or partly manufactured goods will be proportionately heavy, due regard being had to preserving relationship between the various articles of import. The question of imported iron is said to have caused much discussion. On the one hand the needs of the nation have to be considered, and on the other hand it has to be remembered that, if the duty upon manufactured iron be low, the Government's factory at Wakamatsu, upon which such a large sum has been spent, might as well close its doors. In these circumstances our contemporary says that a middle course will probably be steered, and that the duty on manufactured iron will be 15 per cent. while that on pig iron will be 5 per cent. As for sugar, the principle of protection will be frankly adopted. The import duty on rice, hulled and unhulled, will remain unchanged.

A WONDERFUL EMBROIDERY.

There is now hanging in one of the salons of the Tokyo Art School a wonderful embroidery by Mr. Sugawara Naonosuke, formerly of Kyo'o and now residing in the Takanawa district of Tokyo. This artist has for many years devoted himself to the study and practice of the art of embroidery, and he is said to have spent his whole fortune of 50,000 *yen* endeavouring to devise and perfect new processes. Hearing of the wonderful skill developed by him, and of the great sacrifices he had made on the altar of his art, Mr. Kondo Rempei commissioned him to reproduce a picture of the Goddess Kwannon, painted some years ago by the late Mr. Kano Hogai. This picture was exhibited at the Art School. It derived special interest as the last work of an eminent artist—so much the last indeed that Kano Hogai has died before putting the finishing touches to it. But apart from this special feature it was undoubtedly a picture of the very highest merit, showing transcendental traits such as are beyond the reach of any but the greatest masters. This picture Mr. Sugawara has reproduced in embroidery with such fidelity as to defy distinction. He spent three years over the work, and various technical features are spoken of as signal innovations, but to describe them with words is difficult. One great dilemma was to produce colours in silk which should be not only exact counterparts of their originals but also perennial and entirely free from all sheen. We have not yet seen the work, but from the descriptions given by our Japanese contemporaries we judge it to be a veritable *chef d'oeuvre*.

PRINCE ITO.

Prince Ito arrived at Oiso yesterday, and is to proceed to Tokyo to-day, July 20. He will be met at Shimbashi by Imperial carriages and by a guard of honour, and he will proceed at once to the Palace, where he will have audience with the Emperor at about 10 30 a.m. So far as we can remember this is the first instance in modern Japanese history of a guard of honour being attached to the person of an official lacking any Imperial title. The exceptional measure is taken to mark the Sovereign's unqualified approval of Prince Ito's services as Resident-General.

Prince Ito's reception at Oiso when he reached that place on the 19th inst. was practically identical with the reception that would be given on the return of a victorious general. The same may be said about the manner of his welcome in Tokyo, which he reached at 10.40 a.m. on the 20th. In fact the instructions issued by the Emperor made it clear that his Majesty's intentions were to have the returning Resident-General welcomed as Marshal Oyama and Admiral Togo had been welcomed on the occasion of their triumphal entry into the capital. An Imperial Chamberlain and all the Ministers of State were waiting on the platform as the train steamed in; a whole brigade of Guards was formed up outside the station; a company of mounted Guards acted as escort of honour, and the Prince drove direct from the station to the Palace in a carriage provided for the purpose by the Imperial Household. History will certainly say of his Majesty the Emperor of Japan that he knew not only how to choose his servants but also how to reward them.

THE WEATHER.

Korea after being threatened with the evils of a serious drought is now suffering from too much rain. The Tadong River has risen 16 ft. and 139 dwellings are said to be submerged. The river began to fall on the 17th inst., however, and the railway service, which had been interrupted by the flood was resumed on that day.

We may here allude to the weather in Japan which certainly can not be complained of on the score of coolness. Some folks are apt to explain their sufferings by saying that the rapid arrival of the heat has taken everyone unawares, and that the degree of caloric is not so great after all. The thermometer, however, tells a different story. It recorded a maximum of 90 at the Meteorological Observatory on the 15th inst., and a maximum of 91.4 on the 16th, but these readings were in departmental "shade," which signifies a condition not attainable in ordinary residences. Folks residing in the populous parts of the city speak of a record of 96 or even 97 ° upon these days, and of course as the earth grows more and more heated every hour no relief can be expected for some time. The consumption of ice is something enormous. Twenty-five thousand *yen* is spoken of as the daily expenditure on this account.

Usually after the wet season the Hokkaido becomes the region of a centre of elevation, which portends of course the coming of a disturbance from the south, but at present the centre of elevation is at the Bonin Islands which suggests a long continuance of sunshine.

Telegrams from Shanghai received on the morning of the 18th inst. show that the recently wired reports about the destructive action of floods in the Yangtsz were greatly exaggerated. Fine weather set in about a week ago, and the injuries wrought by inundations are now said to be 90 per cent. less than what rumour alleged. The rice and cotton crops promise well according to present appearances.

MR. USUI GIHEI.

It will be remembered that, just two years ago, when the post-bellum reaction was at its height, the failure was announced of Mr. Usui Gihei, hitherto known as the merchant king of Yokosuka. Ever since that time efforts have been made to effect a satisfactory liquidation of his affairs, and these efforts are now said to have been crowned with success. The creditors number over 50, and the debts total 1,450,128 *yen*. The arrangement is that 20 per cent. will be paid at once, and that the remainder will lie without interest for 10 years, and will thenceforth be paid off at the rate of 10 per cent. annually.

With reference to the above, the Kamakura Bank, which was a creditor of Mr. Usui to the extent of 64,000 *yen*, has apparently been thrown from the frying pan into the fire in consequence of the above arrangement. For when the Bank assembled its shareholders in connexion with recovering 20 per cent. of the debt, a barrister among those present at the meeting pointed out that the Bank had violated the commercial code, and it has been decided to open legal proceedings against it. Rumour, as might have been expected, suggests that the Bank has been guilty of many such irregularities.

THE "MAGNET"

No. 4 Vol. II. of *The Magnet* is as dainty, strong and witty as any of its predecessors. Here are two extracts to illustrate the first of these qualities:—

ADIOS!

Adios to you, oh, sun-smit strand,
To dawns of cloudless blue,
To dew-wet, sparkling emerald land,—
Adios to you,—to you!

Adios to you, oh, islands rare,
To noons of sun-scorched view,
To sultry, swooning mid-day glare,
Adios to you, to you!

Adios to you, oh, star-lit land,
To nights of silvery hue,
To perfumes spilt by Nature's hand,
Adios to you,—to you!

—*Estelle Lambert Matteson.*

ALGERNON SWINBURNE.

O, bard of an ancient measure, not of our age or line,
Thy sun, still molten resplendent, pales all in its light divine,
And the clime where are winging such pinions as thine,
Seems but distant and faint on the confines of time!

—*Morilla Maria Norton.*

THE ANGLO JAPANESE HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY.

According to the *Kokumin Shimbun* Mr. Sonoda Kokichi says that a telegram received from Messrs. Sparing & Co. announces that Mr. Stresse, accompanied by an eminent engineer, will leave London almost immediately and will reach Japan by the 23rd of August. After they have completed their examination the shareholders at this end will hold a meeting to determine their final course. In all probability there will be considerable modifications of the original programme.

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THE KOREAN-JAPANESE GAS COMPANY.

At a meeting of the Japanese-Korean Gas Company held in Tokyo on the 21st inst. the President, Baron Shibusawa, explained the terms upon which it is proposed to purchase the electric tram and electric light enterprises of Messrs. Colbran Bothwick in Seoul. The price is 1,200,000 *yen*, of which 200,000 is to be paid up immediately; 500,000 by the end of August, and the remaining 500,000 in six yearly installments commencing from next January and carrying 6 per cent. interest. In addition to the above, the Company takes over 500,000 *yen* worth of debentures issued in connexion with the two enterprises, and pledges itself to pay off these debentures in five equal annual installments with 6 per cent. interest. To obtain funds for the above a call of 12.50 *yen* per share will be made, producing a sum of 750,000 *yen*, and a loan of 500,000 *yen* will be contracted to serve as working capital. As to dividend, the calculation is that 8 per cent. will be easily paid from 1910 until 1915, after which date the figure will be larger. The meeting unanimously endorsed these proposals, and agreed that the name of the Company should be changed to Nikkan Gas-Denki Kabushiki Kaisha.

HABUTAYE.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* writes in a very gloomy strain about the prospects of the *habutaye* trade. The demand for this staple is steadily falling off and the producers have no recourse except to diminish their manufacture. Already the producers in Ishikawa prefecture are turning out 40 per cent less than usual and those in Fukui Prefecture 30 per cent. less. The only factories which remain tolerably busy are those of Kawamata in Fukushima Prefecture, which are more or less assisted by their trade in raw silk. Sales are steadily on the downward grade, and there are no symptoms whatever of improvement. We presume that the prime cause of this unfortunate state of affairs is defective manufacture. It has long been predicted that the fate of *habutaye* would be sealed unless its producers improved their methods.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, July 16.

The Exchange showed an upward tendency on the 16th inst. but it was not very marked. Buyers are cautious and sellers are coy. The exceptionally seasonable weather is the chief strengthening factor, but Osaka does not appear to be feeling its influence, and Osaka generally sets the pace to Tokyo.

Saturday, July 17.

A tolerably strong tone is maintained on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, but owing to persistent rumours in the sense that a dividend of even 5 per cent. will over-tax the resources of the Tokyo Spinning Company, shares of that concern suffered a heavy fall of over 5 points.

Monday, July 19.

The outlook in the direction of China is demoralizing the share market in Tokyo. Prices fell all round on the 19th, especially in the case of the spinnings.

Tuesday, July 20.

Some uneasiness about the weather, combined with political nervousness exercised a depressing effect on the market on Tuesday. The 20th instant was the opening day of the Dog Days, according to the calender; but instead of bringing an access of heat, it ushered in a cold wave. So much depends upon the year's harvest that every unfavourable climatic feature has undue influence. Whatever be the chief factor at work, selling has become the order of the day. The *Tanko Kisen* was the largest sufferer, and next on the list came the Tokyo Electric Light.

Wednesday, July 21.

The restoration of weather befitting the *Doyo* season gave an upward impetus to the share market on the 21st instant, and the movement was accentuated by news of high prices in Osaka. Nearly a million *yen* worth of stock changed hands in spot transactions.

Thursday, July 22.

The market weakened again yesterday owing to profit-taking sales and monthly settlements. Prices showed some little firmness at closing time, however. We append the September quotation:—

	July 21st.	July 22nd.	
Tanko Kisen	44.50	43.95	— .55
Tokyo Railway	64.55	64.60	+ .05
Kei-hin Railway	62.60	62.70	+ .10
Yusen Kaisha	79.85	80.00	+ .15
Toyo Kisen	—	17.35	.—
Tokyo Gas	98.40	99.15	+ .75
Tokyo Dento	92.70	92.50	— .20
Fuji Gass Spinning	109.40	109.00	— .40
Tokyo Spinning	41.95	41.95	.—
Kanegafuchi Spinning	102.45	102.25	— .20
Beer	76.70	76.50	— .20
Sugar	—	—	.—
Hoden Oil	100.90	100.50	— .40
Nippon Oil	101.80	101.20	— .60
Stock Exchange	162.00	161.00	—1.00

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The affairs of the Fujimoto Bank have at last been arranged. Its liabilities amount to 2,020,000 *yen* and its immediately available assests to 830,000 *yen*, leaving a balance of 1,190,000 *yen*. A portion of this balance is secured by checks of the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company, which the Company undertakes to pay at the rate of 10 per cent. a month, and as Mr. Fujimoto has resigned all his own claim upon the Bank, the Institution finally comes out with a balance on the right side. It is asserted, therefore, that the Bank will re-open its doors immediately.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* alleges that the return of Baron Takahira from Washington is likely to be permanent. The Baron is suffering from deafness which incapacitates him for the discharge of serious diplomatic duties, and unless his malady can be successfully treated, he will retire permanently from the service.

The Hokkaido-Tanko Kisen Kaisha has made up its accounts for the past half year, and proposes to pay a dividend of 6½ per cent. per annum, carrying 45,000 *yen* to the reserves.

The Tokyo *Mainichi Shimbun* has again fallen into difficulties. It is amongst the very oldest of Japanese journals, and for quite a number of years, something like 30, if we remember aright, it was conducted under the control of its originator, the celebrated Mr. Shimada Saburo. Financial troubles finally overtook it, and Count Okuma came to Mr. Shimada's relief, the issue being that the work of editing and publishing the paper was assumed by the Waseda University, Mr. Taketomi becoming Manager and Mr. Tanaka Editor. This arrangement has now been proved a failure and the *Mainichi* is to be handed over wholly to the *Hochi Shimbun*, which is certainly one of the best managed newspapers in Japan from a business point of view. It should be noted that these events have no reference to the *Mainichi Dempo*, which is a wholly distinct publication.

The Department of State for Home Affairs has taken an important step with regard to advertisements by physicians and surgeons. It has issued an order, under the authority of the law passed by the Diet in its last session, which practically forbids all advertisements in the nature of puffs. Under this order physicians, surgeons, including dentists, and all who conduct hospitals or provide other means of medical consultation or treatment will not be allowed to advertise anything except their names, qualifications, localities and charges. Doubtless such legislation is calculated to enhance the dignity of the profession, but the officials of the Home Department will have a delicate task in distinguishing between advertisements that violate and advertisements that comply with this regulation. One great abuse which may be charged against the medical profession in Japan is the habit of trusting the treatment of patients to unqualified assistants, but the new order does not appear to touch this branch of the subject.

A meeting of the Trade Association of Japan was held on the 16th inst., but its proceedings are reported in a very fragmentary manner. Mr. Sonoda Kokichi spoke on the subject of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition and urged that every effort should be made to insure success, as anything like failure must tend to impair the validity of the Alliance. The eminent financier spoke also of the distinction that must be drawn between the two great classes of British investors abroad, namely, those who put their money into State securities and those who are willing to lend it for the promotion of enterprises. We should have liked to learn what deduction Mr. Sonoda drew from this differentiation, but the reports are too meagre to furnish any information on that point.

Other more or less well known business men addressed the meeting but it is impossible to follow their remarks intelligently.

The Third Bank declares a dividend of 12 per cent. for the first half of the current year; and the Hundredth Bank a dividend of 30 per cent. The Specie Bank is not yet certain as to its figure, but it will probably declare a close approximation to the dividend of the previous term, for though the Bank complains of having suffered considerably from the bad times, its branches in London and India did well enough to afford compensation; finally the First Bank declares its funds available for dividend to be 416,478 *yen*, but does not say what the rate of dividend will be.

The *Hochi Shimbun* states that Messrs. Shimada Tanejiro and Kusano Kaoru have invented an aeroplane which is ideal in every respect. They claim that their machine will be able to cover the journey between Tokyo and London in two days and seven hours. Count Okuma is quoted as remarking that if this claim be substantiated there will be a rude awakening for the Kaiser and other patrons of the art of flying. We wonder what Dr. Johnson would say were the present state of affairs revealed to him in his grave. The first thing he would do would be to alter a few pages of "Rasselas."

With regard to the alleged dispute among the members of the Cotton Spinners Union,

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the *Shogyo Shimpo* denies that it is of any consequence. Cognate differences of opinion are almost invariably developed whenever the period of the Union's agreement approaches its close. When we come down to hard facts, the companies which threaten to be recalcitrant produce only a very small fraction of the coarser varieties of yarn which alone have interest for the Union. Thus even though the Fuji Gass Spinning Company and the Amagasaki Company refuse to be any longer bound by the agreement for reduced production, the other companies will doubtless continue the arrangement for six months longer.

The law authorising the hypothecation of tramways was promulgated in the *Official Gazette* of the 21st inst., and is to go into effect from the 22nd. It is unnecessary to give the exact details of the measure. For general purposes it will suffice to say that such property may hereafter be given as security for loans, just as is the case with railways, and that the new law provides for the processes to be observed in connexion with such transactions.

It is stated that Mr. Nishizawa in view of the imminent necessity of abandoning his enterprise on Pratas Island, has decided to transfer the scene of his operations to an island called Oki-no-Higashijima, which lies about 100 miles from Higashijima in the Ryukyu group. There can be no question about the ownership of this island, and with regard to its resources rumour says that it offers for exploitation inducements not inferior to those possessed by Pratas Island. Apparently it has only been once visited, and that was by the warship *Kaimon*.

The Mitsu Bishi Bank's methods are certainly typical of sound business. Its nett receipts during the first half of the current year were 358,625 *yen*, and out of that total it appropriates 50,000 *yen* only to the partners, being equivalent to a dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. annually, as the capital of the Bank is one million. The remainder, namely, 308,625 *yen*, is carried forward and added to the amount already accumulated, namely, 4,125,224 *yen*. It follows that with a paid-up capital of one million the Bank's reserves now aggregate 4,433,849 *yen*. It would be well for Japan did she possess many institutions conducted on such exemplary lines.

A London exchange remarks that "even swearing and cursing was an actionable offence in the days of George II." Only a short time ago, however, a resident of the Capital of the United States was arrested and fined for swearing in his own house. He had not taken the precaution to see that the windows were closed, and the offence, although unattended by any aggravating circumstances, was held to be public profanity and the offender was punished accordingly. The law that was violated, however, was merely a local ordinance, entirely out of harmony with the sentiment of the country at large.

Mr. Hubert Latham, whose recent attempt to cross the Channel in a Monoplane had so unlucky an ending, is said to have become remarkably proficient in the manipulation of his machine in a few weeks' time. He won the medal of the Aero Club of France for the longest novice's flight over 500 yards, and he has also made a record monoplane flight of more than 60 miles. May he have better luck next time!

THE BOOKSHELF.

Japanese Laws Concerning Patents, Trade-Marks, &c.

THE indefatigable German jurist, Dr. Loenholm, has placed the foreign community under a new obligation by publishing an English translation of the new Japanese Law concerning Patents, Trade-Marks, Designs and Utility Models. It may seem a work of supererrogation to produce this work, seeing that a good translation by Mr. Crowe, British Commercial Attaché, is already in existence. But in the case of a law of such importance from the point of view of foreign interests, an additional interpretation must be welcome, especially an interpretation by an expert like Dr. Loenholm, who has the advantage of intimate acquaintance with the original German laws which were doubtless largely consulted by the Japanese for the purpose of this compilation. It is alleged that in order to invest the two translations with greater value in the matter of comparison, Dr. Leonholm did his work entirely without reference to Mr. Crowe's. We do not propose to attempt any comparison of the two translations: their value lies largely in their mutual independence. Dr. Loenholm's work is obtainable in Tokyo at Messrs. Maruya & Company, and in Yokohama and Leipzig at Messrs. Geiser & Gilbert.

America and the Far Eastern Question, by THOMAS F. MILLARD. Moffat, Yard and Company, New York.

IN one sense this is a wonderful book. It illustrates in a manner so vivid as to be almost dazzling the extremes to which blind prejudice can be carried. Mr. Millard sets out to survey Japan from a standpoint of pure abhorrence, and twists every item of his story so that it shall seem to justify that sentiment. Accuracy is absolutely impossible to him. Of the faculty of discrimination he possesses none whatever. That the sermon he preaches can only tend to provoke international hatred and to correspondingly injure the cause of peace, gives him obviously not the smallest concern. He deliberately addresses himself to that large section of the public which has no means of verifying or controverting his statements, and in playing to such a gallery he is wholly reckless as to his postures. In short, his portly volume is an expanded yellow journal of the most pernicious type, substituting sententious diction for sensational headlines, and seeking in ponderous gravity of tone the weight which it can not possibly derive from discernment or accuracy. There is not in the whole world, there never has been in the whole world—so Mr. Millard evidently thinks—a nation so detestably treacherous, so greedily self seeking, so mercilessly aggressive as Japan. She is now and has been for many years the secret, subtle, scheming enemy of the United States of America; lacking nothing but opportunity to make her fierce spring and eagerly striving to create that opportunity. This may sound a harsh analysis. We invite any careful reader of Mr. Millard's pages to controvert it frankly. He is not a mere random collector of curious or interesting trifles after the manner of the usual cursory visitor to the Orient—for a mere cursory visit or two represent his whole first-hand acquaintance. He is a man with a capacious note book together with a deep fund of diligence, and by the indefatigable exercise of the latter he has filled the former with every anti-Japanese rumour and every anti-Japanese slander circulating among the local traducers of this country or among the sensational correspondents who count truth as nothing compared with effect. The book runs to 532 pages and to review it conscientiously would demand 532 catalogues of misrepresentations, for with these every page abounds. We have no intention of essaying such a task. The book may safely be left to discredit itself, which fate will inevitably overtake it. But it is worth while to cite one or two illustrations of Mr. Millards' arithmetical methods. He says, for example, that Japan's national debt is 2,267 millions of *yen* upon which the "annual interest charge is 166 millions." That would mean that Japan has to pay interest at the average rate of 7⅓ per cent., whereas what she really pays is from 4 to 5 per cent. He alleges that the "annual *per capita* taxation is 16 *yen*," which means that the total tax is 800 million *yen*, whereas the true figure is 320 millions. He affirms that the "average Japanese family of a husband, wife and 2 children spends 9.44 *yen* per month and has an income of only 8.28, so that the deficit is 1.16 per mensem, which would mean that the nation is spending annually on daily existence alone 174 millions more than it earns. Such are a few of his monstrous allegations. They suffice to indicate the general character of a book whose publication we regard as a misfortune, for its only effects will be to disseminate falsehood and to foster international distrust.

BATTLESHIPS AS NAVAL BASES.

For some time past the Admiralty have been credited with the intention of using some of the special service vessels as naval bases at one or more of the important North Sea ports which possess strategical value. Already it has been decided to appropriate the old turret battleships *Nile* at Devonport, and *Trafalgar* at Chatham, for this service. One of the vessels will be stationed in the Humber, where there are docks adapted for dealing with submarines and other small torpedo craft. The location of the other battleship will probably be at one of the Scottish ports.

The battleships will have their signalling apparatus modernised by the installation of high-power apparatus, and due provision will be made for storing reserves of ammunition and stores. The low free-board of this type of vessel admirably fits them for the duties of a floating base, permitting small craft to lie alongside in security and to receive supplies direct from the upper deck; while their armaments of four 12in. b l, six 6 in. q.f., and smaller weapons, would prove of material assistance in the defence of the important mercantile centres. The Admiralty decision, following as it does the recent visit of naval officers and officials to the Humber in connection with the acquisition of docks and basins, points to a comprehensive scheme of defence for the East Coast.

NOT AN ILLICIT TRAFFICKER.

The sensational charges of having been connected with the traffic in Japanese women preferred against K. Hirade, vice-president of the American Oriental Bank of Seattle, by certain of his fellow countrymen, have not been sustained, says the *San Francisco Call's* Vancouver Correspondent.

Hirade, is free to return to the United States. This was the finding to-day of a special board of inquiry of the local United States immigration officials, after the investigation had been in progress for nearly a fortnight.

Hirade has started for Seattle and declares that he has been the victim of a conspiracy, and will seek redress in the courts.

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THE IMPERIAL PRESS CONFERENCE AND THE QUESTION OF IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

IF further proof were wanted of the hold which the question of Imperial Defence has taken upon the minds of Britons in all parts of the Empire, it is furnished by the proceedings at the Imperial Press Conference, which assembled in London on the 5th ultimo. While in a general sense the object of the Conference was to bring into closer touch the representatives of the Press in various parts of the Empire with those of the Mother Country, the meeting resolved itself in large measure into a serious discussion on the ways and means of Imperial Defence. The key-note was struck by Lord ROSEBERY in a magnificent speech which formed the outstanding feature of the inaugural banquet. After a graceful and tactful allusion to the object of the Conference, in the two words which, in his opinion, should suffice for his speech—"the simplest, and perhaps the sweetest that can be heard by mortal ear—the words 'Welcome Home,'" and all that they involved—the great Liberal Imperialist struck a graver note. "There is a hush," he said, "in Europe; a hush in which you may almost hear a leaf fall to the ground.....a condition of things most remarkable, most peaceful, yet in some respects, most ominous. There is an almost absolute absence of any questions which ordinarily lead to war, yet there never was, in the history of the world, so threatening and so overpowering a preparation for war. The present condition of the nations Lord ROSEBERY happily described, in the words of Petrarch, as *tacens bellum*—"a silent warfare, in which not a drop of blood is shed in anger, but in which the last drop is extracted from the living body by the lancets of the European statesmen." The special instance which the Ex-Prime Minister had in mind was, of course, the unprecedented action of the leading military Power in Europe in asking for 25 millions of extra taxation from its already burdened subjects for the purpose of warlike preparations—a condition of things which makes every peaceful member of society wonder whether Europe is about to lapse into a state of barbarism or whether, the limit of endurance reached, the workers of the world will not rise in universal revolt against this tyranny of mad ambition. But what, it may be asked, is the special significance which these enormous preparations possess for the representatives of the Press of the Empire? It is simply this—that the extraordinary efforts of Germany within the past year to obtain not only a military but a naval ascendancy among the World Powers of to-day have gravely affected the balance of power in Europe, and that this circumstance is fraught with peril for the safety of the British Empire. One has only to go back a century in the pages of history to perceive how the insatiable ambition of the first Napoleon, in endeavouring to establish the military and naval predominance of France, threatened the foundations of the British Empire, as it then stood, and was frustrated solely by England's invincibility at sea. Lord ROSEBERY is of the opinion—and every keen observer of the times can hardly fail to agree with him—that the attempt of Germany to establish a like supremacy in *Welt Politik* has ushered in a similar period of danger to the British Empire. The mere fact—and it is at once the most obvious and the most vital fact of the situation—that the maintenance of the British Empire depends entirely on England's naval superiority, and that it is precisely that naval superiority which Germany seems bent on destroying, renders the intentions of Pan-Germanism clear enough, and indicates, as clearly, in which direction the danger lies. The trend of recent events in Europe is therefore of the profoundest significance not alone to the Island-Power which is the heart and mainstay of a great and scattered Empire, but, in an equal degree, to every component part of that Empire. And one of the momentous events of the time is the recognition of this fundamental truth in the Dominions across the Seas. That such is the case has been proved in deed as well as word—by the offering of Dreadnoughts to swell the Imperial Navy and by the sending of delegates to the Empire's capital to meet in common council, and concert the best measures for mutual defence. It was shown also, in a marked degree, by the reception given, at the Press Conference Banquet, to the message which the delegates were bidden by Lord ROSEBERY to take back with them, as missionaries of Empire:—

We can and we will build Dreadnoughts—or whatever the newest type of ship may be—*as long as we have a shilling to spend on them or a man to put into them.* All that we can and will do; but I am not sure that even that will be enough, and I think it may be your duty to take back to your young Dominions across the seas this message and this impression—that some personal duty and responsibility for national defence rests on every man and citizen. Yes, take that message back with you. Tell your people—if they can believe it—the deplorable way in which Europe is lapsing into militarism and the pressure which is put upon this little island to defend its liberties—and yours. But take this message also back with you—that the old country is right at heart, that there is no failing or weakness in heart, and that she rejoices in renewing her youth in her giant Dominions beyond the seas. For her own salvation she must look to herself, and, that failing her, she must look to you.

The prolonged and enthusiastic applause with which this stirring and eloquent appeal was received speaks volumes for the spirit which pervaded the assembly. Lord ROSEBERY'S view of the gravity of the situation was successively and fully endorsed by Sir EDWARD GREY, Lord CROMER and Mr. BALFOUR. We believe that it may safely be said that the people of Great Britain, as well as those of Greater Britain, have of late years enlarged their vision. In their imagination, under the stimulus of Imperialism, the British Isles have given place to the British Empire. They are taking thought, not merely for themselves, but for their kinsmen across the seas. The cry has gone up for closer Union, for consolidation and defence of the common Heritage which Time and Circumstance and the sacrifices of their fathers have bequeathed to them. It is a happy omen, this spontaneous community of thought between the men at the heart of the Empire and the men in its most distant dependencies. It remains for the assembled statesmen, acting now for both and for all, to utilize the great occasion for the establishment, on a lasting and coöperative basis, of the surest methods of defence for "the most extensive and the most unselfish empire known to history."

THE FATE OF THE TWO-POWER STANDARD.

IN November last Mr. ASQUITH won the unstinted plaudits of his countrymen by declaring for a Two-Power Standard of naval strength. Whether the force of public opinion drove him to that memorable statement of policy, or whether he sincerely felt it to represent the minimum of strength at which the "first line of defence" could with safety be fixed, is now of little consequence; for he has "made a public meal" of the words which he uttered only five months before. Had the naval situation in the meanwhile from England's point of view shown material improvement, it would be possible to acquit the Prime Minister of insincerity on the second of these occasions,—assuming him to have been sincere on the first; but inasmuch as the situation has undergone a distinct change for the worse—we refer in particular to the discovery of the acceleration of the German naval programme in March of this year—it is difficult to find a rational motive for this Ministerial change of front. Indeed, after casting about for an explanation and finding none, one of the leading London reviews falls back upon the dismal theory that Mr. ASQUITH has been reduced to taking his orders from Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL. "The Prime Minister's speech," it avers, "is an obsequious transcript from the President of the Board of Trade's letter to his Dundee constituents.....It is a wretched pass for Lord ROSEBERY'S chief Lieutenant in the Liberal Imperialist League to be trimming himself to the taste of a little England hooligan." But what is Mr. ASQUITH'S own defence of this ill-judged step? Mainly, that it is a question of Geography. Some of the Great Powers are close at hand, others at a distance of 3,000 miles or more; and it is absurd not to make due allowance for distance. Was ever an argument so childish advanced in all seriousness by a responsible Minister? Mr. ASQUITH is referring, of course, to the United States of North America. Has he already forgotten that that Power sent a fleet of 16 battleships a distance of 25,000 miles and that the vessels arrived at their destination in good fighting trim? It has been urged that the United States are a friendly nation, linked to the British people by ties of blood; and that a quarrel between the two should be

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ruled out of the sphere of probabilities. All of which, no doubt is perfectly true; nevertheless, to proceed on discriminatory lines when estimating the requirements of British naval power is to commit a diplomatic error of the first magnitude. If one begins by eliminating all friendly Powers, then those left in the reckoning must necessarily be unfriendly. By implication, they are virtually informed that they have been relegated to the unfriendly category, and thus the intimation is conveyed to the world at large that Great Britain is building against such or such a Power, or group of Powers. In other words, if Mr. ASQUITH's policy means anything, it means the exchanging of an abstract standard for one of invidious distinctions—the abandonment of an automatic policy for one alike suspicious and provocative. Moreover, it might well be asked, how will the more distant Colonies look upon this new geographical qualification of British naval requirements? "A fleet with a base three or ten thousand miles away," says the responsible head of the Government, "should not be regarded, for the purposes of the two-Power standard, as though it had the same effective value as a fleet with its base 300 or 400 miles distant from our shores." Are Canada, which is three thousand miles away, and Australia, which is ten, to understand from this that the fleet of a hostile Power not in the immediate vicinity of the British Isles will be treated with indifference unless and until that fleet appears in the English Channel? And what is to become of Sir JOHN FISHER's masterly axiom that the frontiers of England are the coastlines of her enemies? It is to be hoped that none of the distant Dominions will take alarm at Mr. ASQUITH's philosophical estimate of the geographical factor in naval policy, but his language certainly lends itself to the most unfortunate interpretations. It is a matter for thankfulness that the Imperial Defence Conference will shortly be in session to set at rest any colonial apprehensions as to the precise significance of this latest phase of British naval policy. From Ministers, as such, it is to be feared they will get nothing. Though Mr. BALFOUR—as well as Mr. ARTHUR LEE, who was Civil Lord of the Admiralty under the last Unionist administration—invited, and even entreated, Mr. ASQUITH to substitute some other definite formula for the one he had destroyed, it was of no avail. The suggestion of the two-keels-to-one standard was not taken kindly by a Ministry wedded to costly, vote-winning schemes of social reform. The country is simply asked to trust its Ministers. That confidence, we fear, is not forthcoming. From more than one quarter has issued the retort that the country would prefer an arrangement which they cannot evade. An illustration of the attitude of the Government towards the question of Defence is furnished by a striking cartoon published recently in the *Pall Mall Gazette*, under the caption "Sleeping Quietly." A deputation of leading Imperialists is seen approaching Mr. ASQUITH, who is seated beside a sleeping Lion. "The fact that we have a predominant navy is now relegated to the region of doubt," says Lord ROSEBERY. "The new German navy imposes upon us the necessity of rebuilding the whole of our Fleet," is the warning reminder of Sir E. GREY, while Lord CHARLES BERESFORD characteristically exclaims—"If we lose, it will be 'Good Night.'" To all of which the Prime Minister, his finger raised to his mouth, replies "Hush! Not so loud! You may wake him!" The illustration is apt enough. The last thing in the world the present Radical Government desires is for the British public to be roused to a sense of danger, and for themselves to be driven to do their duty by the country. Already several of the more influential of the Conservative organs are clamouring for an appeal to the country on the naval issue, while others urge that the House of Lords, by rejecting the Budget on that ground, should precipitate a General Election. Abroad, the British Premier's befogging and beclouding of a definite issue has produced an effect which might have been expected. The *Vossische Zeitung*, with a Machiavellian contortion of argument, endeavours to set France and England by the ears by pointing out that Mr. ASQUITH clearly reckons not only Germany and Austria, but France also, as potential enemies of the British Empire; while the Conservative *Reichsbote* takes occasion to denounce "the matter-of-fact manner in which the British presume to claim supremacy of the sea—" a presumption it declares, which other Powers cannot put up with. That British naval policy should have been made a subject of debate at all is unfortunate enough; that the debate should have ended in the "befogging and beclouding" of a well-understood policy and a general weakening of the Government's attitude on the question of all questions for the British Empire, is little short of a calamity. In the past, the two-Power standard kept France from war over the Fashoda incident: during the struggle in South Africa it prevented certain Powers from armed intervention on behalf of the Boer-republics. Mr. ASQUITH has taken from Britons what he is pleased now to describe as "a purely empirical generalization," and he has given them nothing in its place; but he has committed a grave error of policy for which the country will certainly call him to account, and he is digging wide and deep the grave in which his reputation as a statesman will ere long be laid.

THE AMERICAN TARIFF SITUATION.

AS it is probable that the wires may now at any moment bring us the result of the Tariff struggle which for the past four months has been agitating the Congress of the United States, not only the direct but also the indirect issues involved in it cannot fail to be of interest.

As to its probable outcome, from the commercial point of view, the contest has assumed such a peculiar aspect, and its merits have been so thoroughly discussed by the American press, that prophecy, even at this long range, becomes unusually safe. The movement for revision taking its inception from a definite promise in the platform of the dominant party upon which it went into its late Presidential campaign, and that promise having been explicitly interpreted by its Presidential candidate as a pledge for revision downwards, it would seem at first sight that a radical reduction of duties on important lines of goods was assured in advance. Such assurance, however, it was early seen, was doomed to be disappointed, and the prophecy may now safely be made that the final result will be a bill differing from the strongly entrenched Dingley act in a few unimportant and anything but vital particulars.

The course which events have taken fully justify such a presage. The principle of protection under which the one time "infant industries" of the nation have grown to be an overshadowing and tyrannous power, has held its sway unchecked in the Halls of Congress. The Payne Bill, passed by the Lower House, though falling far short of popular expectation, and meeting with fierce denunciation from wellnigh the entire Republican press, was, as might be expected from the popular branch of the Government, an attempt at least to seem to satisfy the people's demands for downward revision. The Senate, however, from the moment the bill came into its hands, showed at once its character as the stronghold of the protected interests and its contemptuous disregard of party pledges and popular demands alike. Its leaders openly declared that the party platform promised revision only, the word "downwards" not being mentioned in it, and then proceeded actually to raise the schedules on all important and vital items in favour of the protected interests. This was done in a spirit of such flagrant flouting of the President's explicit and repeated assurances made on the stump during the late campaign that it has become a serious question whether the latter can by any possibility preserve his self-respect save by a veto of the measure. As during the present tariff debate he has made the significant declaration that he has always been accustomed to keep his pledges, it is quite certain that the warning will be heeded, and that in the final stage of the passage of the bill, through a Conference Committee of both Houses, it will be shorn of the soaring wings fastened upon it by the Senate and kept down to a semblance at least of the measure passed by the Lower House. That the President has just announced in no uncertain terms his determination to keep his ante-election pledges is evident from yesterday's cable describing the sensation created by his utterance.

By so doing, however, he places himself

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squarely in opposition to the dominant influences controlling his own party in both Houses of Congress and enters upon a contest which may lead to its disruption, if not ultimately to a radical realignment in the political history of the nation.

That although he will lose the support of the Congressional leaders he will have the country behind him is evident from whatever point of view the situation is studied. There is scarcely a Republican paper of any influence throughout the length and breadth of the land which has not been open and even fierce in its denunciation of the spirit and methods characterising the leaders in this tariff debate in Congress, while as to the debate itself it has been educational in a higher degree than any other ever carried on in the legislative arena. It has proved a veritable eye-opener to the people of both parties, awakening them to a full realization of the leading moral issue now before the country upon which the opposing political camps must hereafter conduct their warfare. That it can be carried on under the old Republican and Democratic banners is henceforth out of the question. While the dominant party has flagrantly abused its privilege and has become hopelessly divided upon the issue, the Democrats have as hopelessly lost their opportunity by their recreancy to the principle of a purely revenue tariff upon which their organization was mainly based. Their chance was deliberately thrown away when in the recent debate their representatives in Congress abandoned every semblance of principle and joined in the selfish scramble for the support of merely local interests, the very essence of the protectionist policy.

In such circumstances there would seem to be, in view of the inevitable overthrow of the dominant party in next year's Congressional elections and the elevation of the tariff question to the dominant issue of American politics, no other ultimate outlook than a radical realignment of parties upon that issue.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

THE opening of the Trans-Siberian line to tourist travel, apart from the conspicuous success it has attained for that end, has proved to be of untold importance in bringing a hitherto unknown realm under the observant eyes of the world, thus contributing to much needed enlightenment concerning the actual conditions of the huge empire which is destined to play so large a part in the future of modern civilization.

Heretofore, in the practical seclusion to which Russia has been condemned, not only by the immensity of its bulk but by the embargo which the rest of Europe has put upon its commerce, the great empire has been suffering from the national results of isolation in becoming to the rest of the world a field for the exercise of the imagination, or one to be exploited only by an occasional knight of the pen sent thither to expose and portray its iniquities. Now, however, observant travellers from every nation, men without prejudice or animus to cloud their vision, are constantly passing through it, becoming conversant with its intelligent classes, and giving to the West the results of their unbiassed impressions and observations.

To no country are these results more important or more reassuring than they are to Japan, especially in view of the prophecies so frequently made that the peace which has followed her gigantic war is merely a truce to be followed by an even more tremendous struggle.

If the testimony of recent travellers in Russia, endowed with intelligence and with ample opportunities for getting at the facts, be of any worth, it ought to go far toward the complete negation of these doleful prophecies.

In the first place, its consensus is that throughout the great Empire there is to be found no appreciable vestige of the feeling of revenge such as has so long been smouldering in France since the latter's war with Germany. Indeed, not only is the absence of such feeling a matter of common remark, but what is still more extraordinary, the reasons for its absence are freely commented upon. Among these reasons are primarily the fact that traditional hatred and prejudice bore no part in the contest and left no bitterness. Then again there is felt on the part of Russia that ample excuse for her defeat may be found in the enormous distance which separated her from the field of conflict and the consequent inability to bring her real power to bear on the result. If there is any resolve uppermost in the mind of intelligent Russia to-day, it is that she will never again enter upon a war at arms-length. The main factor, however, which is drawing the late combatants into relations of lasting peace is the profound mutual respect engendered by the desperate nature of the conflict. Just as the Japanese army returned home with a most wholesome regard for the fighting qualities of their enemy, so the theme of conversation in Russia is the admirable bravery and devoted patriotism of the island soldiery. There can be no stronger bond of amity between nations than that of the deep respect which Russia and Japan bear to each other.

Greatly contributing to its strength and permanence is the kindly feeling engendered in Russia by the evidence of the traditional instinct of hospitality furnished by Japan in her treatment of her prisoners of war. The great army of these, now returned to their homes, never tire of testifying to the consideration shown them by their captors and even to the actual pleasures of their sojourn in the island home to which the fates of war had consigned them. Japan's hospitable instinct has thus plainly transformed a large body of her one time enemies into an army of devoted friends.

MOTORS AND ROADS.

THE most striking as well as ever recurring impression made by a visit to the West just now is that the new era in locomotion, closely akin to that which followed the introduction of steam power, has not only dawned but is in almost complete sway. In the streets of the cities as well as on the suburban and rural roads the horse is becoming the exception and the motor the rule, a phenomenon of greater practical interest to the masses than even that of wireless telegraphy or of the flying machine. Not only is the latter appliance in its infancy, but it also stands to reason that it should remain there until the possibilities of locomotion on the surface of mother earth are fully realised.

That they are in process of reaching the final stage of such development is everywhere becoming manifest in the West. In certain respects it may indeed be said that the epoch which STEPHENSON'S locomotive inaugurated cannot be compared in general usefulness to that which is now leading to the opening of vast tracts of country which the railroad can by no possibility ever reach.

The very word railroad implies the narrowest kind of limitation, a limitation which the modern necessity for rapid transit has already far outgrown. By rail we can reach only certain places in an established and expensive line of travel. By the motor the whole vast network of ordinary roads is at once made available and every place they touch becomes accessible.

In many other important regards, aside from the immense extent of pleasure travel open to tourists, there would seem to be no end to the possibilities which may be developed by the use of the new appliance. Not only will it go far toward solving the serious problem of city congestion, but such services as postal transport and goods delivery, the cleaning and watering of streets, removal of refuse and the transport of agricultual produce etc. are uses to which motors are eminently suited, being cheaper, swifter, less distructive to roads and much more enduring than horses.

It goes without saying that this new use to which ordinary roads are being devoted must have a vitally transforming effect upon the roads themselves. The imperative demand which will arise for breadth, and for the smoothness which can come only from solid and scientific construction, will speedily make itself felt in the art of ordinary road-building. The mere make-shifts in this line which have so long been deemed good enough for use, are to-day becoming simply intolerable. Municipalities all over the West are suddenly awaking to the essential importance of mending their ways, and the science of transportation is taking its place as almost the foremost in the development of modern needs.

It is in this special regard that Japan, because of the almost entire absence of aught which in the West goes under the

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name of road, is likely to find itself seriously handicapped. In the centuries when Europe was building its magnificent thoroughfares and military roads, conquering by them even the fastnesses of the Alps, this country, contenting itself with the most primitive means of travel, allowed the mere path to suffice for intercourse between its villages, while its two main lines of communication hardly attained the dignity of lanes. In other words this entire Empire is to-day practically without roads which can be utilised by the coming appliance for locomotion, and must therefore fall behind in the coming race. Even more unfortunately, as a natural result of the past absence of roads, the country has to-day no road-builders. The pathetic attempts at road repair, even in the chief cities, abundantly testify to the fact. It will certainly be a curious and interesting study to watch the course which Japan will take with the new problems of locomotion soon to claim her attention.

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, June 26, 1909.

The Upper House rose yesterday and will reassemble on the same date as the Duma, namely, October 10/23. The last few sittings have been extremely busy, but mainly with matters not of imperial interest. On the last day some fifty bills were passed in twenty minutes, which constitutes a record. But bills of national importance, like the "9th November" Agricultural Bill, and the Freedom of Conscience Bill, both of which passed the Duma, have been left over by the Upper House until Autumn. In spite of considerable opposition, purely on grounds of economic expenditure, the Upper House passed the bill to found a University at Saratov. The Opposition preferred to have the same amount of money expended in other forms of education, instead of the establishment of a new University. Another considerable expenditure authorised in the last days was that of about one million sterling for the construction of a bridge over the Volga at Jaroslavl—the second bridge over the thousand odd miles of this magnficent Russian waterway.

Another saint has been added to the Russian Calendar, Saint Anna of Kashin, whose "incorruptible remains" (mosci) were "invented" with great pomp and ceremony yesterday in the presence of the Grand Duchess Elizabeth Theodorovna. It is noteworthy that among the ceremomies there was not only the customary Orthodox "procession of the cross" but also a procession of the cross by the dissenters, Old Believers, whose headquarters are at Moscow. The latter petitioned the Holy Synod to grant them some portion of the "incorruptible remains" for use in their own churches, but it is expected that the request will be refused, inasmuch as it is the strongest argument the Orthodox missionaries have against the Old Believers to declare that "if these sectaries were really the true Church they would not lack for holy relics."

The Russian Aero-Club has obtained the use of the military training ground at Gachina for its future experiments. At a meeting of the club held yesterday many telegrams of condolence were read from all parts of the world on the sad accident to the balloon of the old type which caused the death of some of its members: among the telegrams was one from the English Aero-Club.

There is a great and increasing interest in aviation questions in Russia, but little to be heard of practical results. At Kiev a monoplane is reported to have made a successful flight for several hundred yards at a height of 8 feet above the ground. A new plane is to be tried this week at Moscow, but no accounts are yet to hand. The Wright aeroplane ordered by the Russian Aero-Club in Paris has not yet reached Russia.

The Ministry of Commerce is interesting itself in the question of readjusting the tariffs on goods between Russia and Bulgaria, with a view to increasing the trade exchange of these two countries. At present Russian imports into Bulgaria are only four per cent. of the total imports, and Russia, although so closely allied in blood and interests to Bulgaria occupies only the ninth place among the countries importing, while of Bulgarian exports Russia barely takes one fourth per cent. of the total.

The papers continue to discover one horror after another in connection with the recrudescence of cholera in St. Petersburg. The last discovery is that at a certain wharf, almost alongside one another, are habitually to be seen the barges which take out a large part of the sewage of the city to be dumped into the river some miles below, and the tank-barges which form the principal live-fish market for the city of Petersburg. The Prefect has issued the usual exhortation to the people to assist the authorities in every way to improve the sanitary conditions of the houses, yards and streets and to look after their neighbours.

In the last two days there have been registered 191 cases of cholera and 76 cases of "suspected cholera": deaths in two days number 57, and 489 undoubted cholera cases are in hospital. The heat increases, if anything, and other conditions favour the spread of the disease even under the best sanitary conditions, which are nowhere to be found in St. Petersburg. In the so-called "Marble Palace," not a stone's throw from the British Embassy, on the quay where the Winter Palace stands, a death from cholera has already taken place. It is significant of some of the difficulties met with by the municipal sanitary commission that when the disinfecting detachment proceeded to this Palace they were refused admission on the ground that the Palace had its own medical staff and appliances.

In the environs of St. Petersburg, where, in point of fact, most Peterburgians are now living, the simple life of the "dacha," or country house for the Summer, cases of cholera are beginning to be discovered with more frequency, due to some extent to the habits of the itinerent gipsies, musicians (!) and monkey-men, who traverse the dacha-resorts during the Summer. The latest figures given 12 cases and 6 deaths outside the city boundaries, but it takes longer to get together figures in the province than in the city, so that these 12 cases must probably be referred to a week back.

It has been found that numbers of "emigrants" from central Provinces of Russia to the Amur Region have been provided by the local authorities with the necessary special-price tickets to the wrong station, namely to "Manchuria" which is the station just on the entrance to the region so called. At Manchuria station some curious scenes have been occurring. It is necessary to get the emigrants to return a couple of hundred miles before they can get on their right route, and the task of explaining to a muzhik that his properly authorised ticket given by the home authority is useless for his purpose is peculiarly difficult—the muzhik with too much reason suspects he is being "had," for a bribe, by the Siberian jack-in-office!

St. Petersburg, July 1, 1909.

The Tsar returned from has visit to Sweden yesterday and remained aboard the Imperial yacht *Standart* in the Finnish Skerries. Next will be undertaken the long railway journey to Poltava, a distance of one thousand miles by rail. This is the first time for six years past that the Tsar has been able to venture into the interior of his Empire. Four years ago central Russia at this time was ablaze with incendiary fires from end to end, revolutionary bands burning out the landed proprietors under the guidance of fanatical agitators. The revolution was got to a head and crushed, "punitive expeditions" of dragoons and infantry traversed the worst districts and with military severity punished right and left; then followed the hangings by military law. Two Dumas came to a speedy end with all their work still before them. The third has existed eighteen months, and worked harmoniously with the Government of Russia. The result is that the country, which four years ago was all ablaze, is now sufficiently tranquillised to permit of the Tsar undertaking a journey of no less than a thousand miles through, for the most part, the very heart of the regions where revolution was rife. Of course great precautians are taken, as they always have been since the dastardly deed of 1881, but when everything is allowed for there is no denying that Russia has made rapid progress in the past few years, and no fact more clearly demonstrates this truth than the visit of the Tsar to Poltava in state.

The "protest" of the Labour-Socialist Party in England has been met here with much the same contempt as in England. The actual text has not been published in Russia and certainly never will be, but references are made to the matter in various papers, while the entire press prints the dignified reply of the Duma members now in England. The *Slavo* remarks that it is as well the majority of the Duma visitors to England belong to the Opposition, as this only emphasises the significance of their reply to an unmannerly insult. The Black Gang, whose day is practically over now, are the only people in Russia who do not now recognise the meaning of the English expression "His Majesty's Opposition."

From to-day the Russian Telegraph Offices will use for international telegrams the astronomical reckoning of hours by the clock, beginning from midnight, which is "0" or 24; noon is 12 o'clock, 13 is one o'clock p.m. and so on. For inland telegrams the old reckoning will be retained.

The Russo-English Chamber of Commerce has taken up the question of railway tariffs on exported Russian sugar from Odessa, and is petitioning the Ministry of Finance to secure a reduction.

The Finnish Pilots Association has published its version of the unfortunate incident in the Finnish Skerries when Russian guardships fired upon the British ship *Woodburn*. The account confirms what has already appeared, namely that a vessel of the *Woodburn's* size had no choice of course in a narrow channel of depth sufficient for her draught, that it was not night but only seven in the evening when the affair happened, that the guardships were two cables length away from the Imperial yachts and the pilot considered it perfectly safe to pass between them and the yacht as the draught of the English ship and the narrowness of the fairway required. The captain of the *Woodburn* was acting as he was accustomed to act in English waters under similar circumstances.

The Tarriff Committee of the Ministry of ways of Communication has made several changes in the rates on ores, which affect the iron and steel industries. In the southern mining regions the rate for short distances by rail remains as before, but a maximum rate of 3d. per tonverst will have the effect of reducing the cost on long distances. For other regions, as also for export by the Black Sea and Sea of Azov, the existing tariff to remain in force. The vexed question of the carriage of manganese ore on the Caucasian railways has been settled by reducing the rate for ore intended for home-consumption to that charged on ore for export—which is still, I understand, a pretty high tax on the commodity.

The Russian Aero Club is to erect an aerodrome on the military training ground at Gatchino, where already sheds are in course of erection for the accommodation of a number of flying machines of various patterns, which are to reach Russia before the end of the Summer. The *Novoe Vremya* deals with aerial flight in Germany, England and Russia in a leading article—principally for the purpose of showing how very backwark Russia is in the new science. The papers publish the following as the secret of the long expected Tatarinov "discovery of a new principle in dynamics applicable to aerial flight":—"Two bodies, whereof the one has large surface with little massivity, and the other small surface with great massivity, elastically united, for example by a spring. Power intermittently applied to those two bodies in opposite directions." Then follows an illustration taken from the flight of a bird on a still day, from which it would appear that the

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"new principle" has been heard of before in connection with human flight.

There are 100 cases of small-pox in hospital in St. Petersburg, and the population is hastening to be revaccinated. The cholera cases now in hospital reach 600, and it is confessed that the returns are not complete. As the weather has changed and become a little cooler for the last couple of days, there is hope that the number of cases may drop again. Several cases have already occurred of cholera-stricken people falling in the street. Moscow has put on a medical examination of arrivals from St Petersburg as a precaution.

The papers here give large space to accounts of the doings of the Duma visitors to England. The pageant at Colchester and the mediaeval peace of Cambridge seem to have impressed the Russians most of all. A great point is made in all the accounts published of the sanctity with which England maintains ancient traditions, even when they are plainly inconvenient and sometimes a little ridiculous. Instances are given in the wigs and robes of barristers and judges, the Lord Mayor's and provincial mayors' peculiar regalia, the degree ceremony at Cambridge, etc., in all which the Russian correspondents see enviously a spirit of patriotic conservatism which they regret to acknowledge entirely wanting in Russians. The visit is thus being used here as a valuable object-lesson to the stay-at-homes.

The *Novoe Vremya* points out that Germany is wooing the United States with ardour and perseverance, with the hope of detaching this great branch of the English-speaking race from the parent trunk in case of trouble: the wooing of the United States has become still more marked since the American Navy rose to its present place in the international list. England, says the *Novoe Vremya*, has a dangerous and implacable rival in Germany the world over.

A curious discovery has been made in Moscow on the death of a miserly old woman who lived in filth. The police officials to whom her boxes were handed over for an inventory to be made, refused to deal with them until they had been disinfected. In this process it was discovered that wrapped up in various filthy rags was a sum in cash of nearly 14,000 pounds sterling. The old woman had been humpbacked in life, but was buried without her hump, which consisted of a further sum of still larger amount in securities of various kinds, sewn into her clothes to make a hump. There appear to be no heirs.

YOKOHAMA YACHT RACES.

Beautiful sailing weather favoured the Yokohama Yacht Club's programme, on July 17. The sun was warm and a charming southerly breeze blew over calm water.

All Comers Race :—

The 22-raters started at 2 p.m. and the large boats at 2.30 p.m., the course being round the Lightship, Mandarin Bluff Mark, Tachibana, with a second turn round the Lightship and Mandarin Bluff Mark. Distance, about 10 miles. The prize was a cup presented by the Commodore.

There were six competitors. *Mary*, the scratch boat, allowed *Maid Marion* (10 mins.), *Naniwa* (25 mins.), *Valkyrien* (27 mins.), *Asagao* (30 mins.), and *Windspiel* (28 mins.).

Windspiel vanned the 22-raters, and *Mary* those over 22 rate, the latter keeping the lead and finishing first, though *Maid Marion* the second boat, won the prize on handicap, with *Windspiel* third.

Larks: Course.—Tachibana, Mandarin Bluff and Lightship.

Thirteen lined up for this race—No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16.

No. 7 sailed by Mr. Brockhurst (Junr) came in first. No. 4 (Mr. Franklin) second and No. 4 (Mr. Mason) third. No. 4 won on handicap.

MOSQUITO CLUB.

Course.—Widow Buoy.

Five competitors, namely, *Elsa*, *Sunbeam*, *Pele*, *Edna*, and *Winsome*.

Elsa (Mr. Poole) had an easy win.

KOBE NOTES.

Our recent remarks on the state of Kobe roads have been in a characteristic manner construed by local journalists into a eulogium on the perfection of Japanese highways. This misconstruction of purpose can only be regarded as wilful. In the eyes of reputable people this sort of criticism is its own best answer. For our own part we esteem that to be the worst class of society which answers honest criticism with abuse. A resort to vulgar tactics is always a confession of defeat. Herein again we may find occasion for admiration of the Japanese. How much foreigners have said of their weaknesses: how little they have said of ours, when retaliation would have been easy. If certain foreigners were as amenable to honest criticism as the Japanese, there would be more forebearance among them and less of that biting and devouring spirit that renders criticism abortive.

It is a familiar aphorism that the Gossip of petty communities is notorious. That the saying should so often pass unchallenged does something to confirm its truth. But if a society be governed by proper ideals there is no reason why it should become abandoned to backbiting propensities. The proper respect of man for his fellow man is not the result of numbers but of character. Rightminded people neither belittle one another nor consider themselves above the criticism of their neighbours, whether they reside in a tiny hamlet or a great city. A disposition obviously in harmony with the pettiness of gossip is that which, because of some fancied grudge, refuses to recognize an acquaintance on the street. This sort of vulgarity and general departure from the rules of good breeding is surely more the result of personality than of place. It is not suggested that this boorish type of mind is typical of local citizenship but we are assured that it exists, tolerated probably on the principle of those whom an Apostle mentioned as suffering fools gladly.

With all our social eccentricities the town appears to be going ahead. There is now some appearance of preparation for the construction of an electric tramway through the city, a service of which there has long been need. Streets are being widened, straightened, and some houses removed after the peremptory manner of the municipal authorities.

The hospitable sportsmen of our city have for some weeks been entertaining fellow sportsmen from Hongkong, for the purpose of having a game out of them, but the elements for long were unfavorable. But the indoor games were apparently as welcome as those precluded by the weather, and it is said that transferences were sometimes the cause of unwelcome jokes on some. In these as well as in the games upon the green the visitors proved quite equal to our local talent and agility. A baseball game with the students of the Higher Commercial School was also played some time ago. This is always a pleasant feature as tending to bring the various races into closer relations, and thus improve the prospects for mutual interest.

It is reputed that plans are being furthered for the establishment of a German school in Kobe. How true this is, we cannot say, but we have heard the rumour that teachers are expected from the Fatherland for the inauguration of the school in the Autumn, and that the German Government is alleged to be taking a practical interest in the movement.

The Bishop of Korea spent a Sunday in town lately and preached for Dr. Bryan at All Saints' church from the text: "Love is of God; he that loveth not hath not seen God." The Bishop reports great progress now going on in Korea and a marked change in the recent attitude of the inhabitants toward the new administration.

Most of the Kobe ladies are now getting out of town on account of the heat, the gentlemen doing so at the week ends, as they have been doing most of the year. Rokkosan is reported to be densely populated this Summer, with a good sprinkling of missionaries, which leaven we hope will not prove inappropriate. Among them are included two bishops, and two other episcopal visitors are expected, if they have not already arrived.

OMEGA.

BASEBALL.

WASEDA "9" VANQUISHES YOKOHAMA TEAM BY 8 TO 4.

Waseda nine managed to leave Yokohama comfortably by a score of 8 to 4, on July 17. The game took place on the Recreation Ground, and was watched by nearly all the local fans, who were keen to see whether the Tokyo team would be capable of reversing the victory of the Yokohama men against the university a fortnight ago. The play was not strikingly brilliant, but at times was pretty strenuously contested, despite the heat of the afternoon. Waseda deserve every credit for their well-fought for victory.

The opening inning produced 2 runs, which were registered by Fukabori and Yamawaki, and the second inning brought a single for Waseda through Masuda.

Da Costa earned loud applause by a fine catch at first in the 5th inning. Waseda added two more runs to their credit through Ogawa and Yamawaki. The locals were wanting runs.

McChesney caught beautifully in the eighth inning, and Waseda failed to score. Da Costa was the hero of this inning, his hit bringing McChesney over the plate, O'Connor also getting over on "blocked" ball. The locals added three to their score.

Waseda failed to score in the 9th inning, as did also Y. C. & A. C.

WASEDA NINE.

Tanabe	P.
Yamaguchi	C.
Nasuda	1st B.
Oshikawa	2nd B.
Fukabori	3rd B.
Yamawaki	S.S.
Ogawa	M.F.
Mikami	R.F.
Sakizawa	C.F.

Innings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total.
Yokohama.	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	4
Waseda.	2	1	1	1	2	0	1	0	0	8

YOKOHAMA NINE.

Dickie	P.
Walker	C.
Da Costa	1st B.
Kellogg	2nd B.
Benedict	S.S.
Correa	3rd B.
McChesney	L.F.
O'Connor	C.F.
W. H. Da Costa	R.F.

Y.M.C.A. SUMMER CONFERENCE.

The Summer Conference of the Young Men's Christian Association opened with a large attendance at Aoyama Gakuin on Wednesday afternoon. The first impressions of a visitor are of the complete preparations which the school authorities have made for the entertainment of delegates. A committee of students and professors, of which Rev. A. D. Berry is a leading member, have opened wide the whole school. The dormitories, dining halls, library, reading room and lecture halls have been swept and garnished and made ready for use. Even a special ice cream and fruit booth has been opened under the trees.

The Japanese leaders who are taking part in the programme are as follows:—

Pres. Ibuka of Meiji Gakuin; Pres. Harada of the Doshisha, Kyoto; Pres. Sasamori, of Nagasaki Chinzei; Pres. Imai of Tokyo Episcopal Theological School. Pres. Chiba of Fukuoka Baptist Seminary and Messrs. Yoshizaki and Narahashi of Kobe, Sajiina of Osaka, Dr. Yatsu of the Imperial University, Kashiwai, Uzaki, Yokota, Ebata, and Reverends Kozaki and Uemura.

The meetings will continue until noon of the 28th of July. The morning Bible Classes meet at nine o'clock, followed by a lecture at ten. The two evening meetings begin at six and seven o'clock. The conference is open to all men, and it should be of special help to Japanese students and Christian workers.

A NAGANO telegram says that latterly Mount Yakegadake has again become active and is emitting volumes of fire and smoke at intervals of five minutes.

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YOKOHAMA.

Early on the morning of the 15th instant, the corpse of a young woman was discovered in the water just below the Benten Bridge. Identification is wanted.

At 0.42 p.m. on July 17, a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. It lasted for 1 minute 50 seconds. There was another oscillation at 7.49 a.m. on the 18th, but it was so slight that the magnitude and duration could not be determined.

On July 15, Mr. Adachi Yagoro was appointed Head of the Engineering Section in the Municipal Office.

A few days ago, a rikisha-man injured two passers-by by throwing lighted Chinese fireworks on the street. He was discovered by a policeman and condemned to 3 days' detention.

As to the selection of business men who are most qualified to visit America, it has been practically decided that Messrs. Soda Kinsaku and Nakamura Fusajiro will be sent, one representing the Chamber of Commerce and the other the raw-silk merchants. Either Mr. Ito Tomijiro or Mr. Arakawa Shinjuro, who are both directors of the Kiito Gomei Kaisha, will also go, representing the company.

At about 9 a.m. on July 18, when a woman, aged 41, was passing by the Water Police Station, she was attacked by cerebral anæmia caused by the hot weather and fell down senseless. She revived after treatment.

On the 18th instant, a thief attempted to steal from the Kanagawa Ginko in broad daylight, when the care-taker was out. He was caught in the act.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended July 15th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	3	—	1		2
Died	—	—	—	—	—	3
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	17	17	—	—	—
Died	—	—	4	—	—	—

On July 18, a boy, about 17 years of age, threw himself in front of a train that had just left Hiranuma station for the West. He was killed.

On July 19, judgment in the Yokosuka bribery case was given in the Yokohama Local Court. The following is the gist:—

Sentenced to a Fine of *yen* 300, or in default of payment imprisonment for 60 days: Suzuki Chubei, Kawashima Kinosuke, Negishi Kyuyemon and Kitamura Shigekata; eight months' Penal Servitude: Yamamoto Taiichiro and Hachisuka Matajiro; ten months' Penal Servitude: Kamei Saichi; one year's Penal Servitude: Okabe Yoshitaro. Yamamoto, Hachisuka, Kamei and Okabe were also ordered to refund *yen* 400, *yen* 150, *yen* 580 and *yen* 250, respectively. Okabe, Yamamoto, Hachisuka and Kamei, who have been in prison, were released on bail of *yen* 100 each.

On July 21, a woman named Ishidzuka Hana, aged 43, was murdered at Aoki-cho, Kanagawa. The publication of further details at this stage of the prosecution is prohibited by the judicial authorities.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

On July 20, when a goods train from Akiha arrived at Omiya Station, two cases of nitric acid in one of the wagons suddenly exploded. No casualties are reported. The amount of damage is as yet unknown.

On the same day, a goods train from Akiha was going north, when the engine ran off the rails at Tahata Station, and the train was delayed one hour.

A third accident also took place on the same day near Ishigami Station. The engine of a train from Taira became ineffective and the train came to a standstill. Relief was brought by an engine from Ishigami.

FATAL FORCED MARCHING.

29 MILES OF HARD WALKING UNDER A BURNING SUN.

On the 16th and 17th inst. the 8th Infantry Regiment of the Fourth Division (Osaka) carried out a forced march over a the distance of 12 *ri* under the burning heat of a summer sky. The object of the march, says the *Japan Times*, was to encourage the martial spirit of the troops and cultivate the patience and fortitude of the men against want and hardship. Prior to the the departure the Regimental Commander issued an instruction to the commander of each company that participated in the march to the effect that the honour of victory in the march should be given to the party that safely arrived at the appointed destination without producing any stragglers or sick.

Naturally a strong feeling of competition was excited among the commanders of each company, who were anxious to display their training and discipline On the afternoon of the 16th the rank and file left their barracks under the burning heat of a mid-summer sun and marched toward their destination, tramping down the sand and dust heated by the fiery sunshine through the districts of Hono and Mishima.

As the march went on and on the competition became hotter, some companies marching at the double for hours though not ordered to do so. The sufferings of the soldiers were deplorable. The men were under the arms and accoutrement of war time and were burdened with a weight of over 10 kwan.

A private named Kameichiro Okamoto, belonging to the 8th company commanded by Captain Shimomura, which proceeded toward the direction of Itami sickened and dropped in a faint at a place called Jyusanbashi. The invalid was taken back to the barracks on kuruma and treated by surgeons. but succumbed the next morning to heart failure. Another private, Seiji Nakai by name, of the 5th company, under command of Captain Koizumi, also fainted during the march and was taken back to the barracks, but expired from failure of the heart on the afternoon of the following day. Besides these over forty men dropped in a faint during the march or took to bed after their return to barracks, several of them being in a serious condition. They were all taken to the garrison hospital where they are now on the way to convalescence. Their sufferings were so severe that many of them went mad in hospital and made a raid on the wardroom, destroying the beds and all the furniture they could lay hands on.

The 11th company, which gained the victory in the march, is stated to have reached its destination after covering the distance of 12 ri in 11 hours 5 minutes. The 1st company, which brought up the rear, reached its destination in 14 hours 36 minutes, without stragglers.

AUSTRIA'S NAVAL AMBITIONS.

In political and military circles in Vienna a pamphlet is being just now much discussed. It may be regarded as representing the acme of naval agitation there. It is published in the form of an open letter to Admiral Count Montecucoli, Chief Commander of the Navy, and discusses the question as to the necessary dimensions of the Austro-Hungarian navy.

The writer demands a two-Power standard, the equivalent being the Italian and Russian fleets combined. He regards the building of thirty-two battleships of 22,000 to 26,000 tons as absolutely essential, in addition to twelve armoured cruisers of 15,000 to 18,000 tons, and twenty-six fast cruisers, all this requiring the expenditure of 2,500,000,000 kronen, to be spread over a space of ten years.

The writer remarks, "Our naval strength will not only make us new friends, perhaps new allies, but will also lighten the burdens of our ally, Germany. England, by this strong increase of the Austro-Hungarian navy, would be forced not only to add to the colossal force under the cost of which she now groans, but would also be obliged to send part of the Home Fleet to the Mediterranean to preserve the political balance."

A NEW BOWLING MACHINE.

Considerable interest is being aroused in England by a new bowling machine. The general opinion of the Australians is said to be that a great discovery has been made. Mr. Victor Trumper, who, having practised against the machine, went in and made a century, was enthusiastic in its praise. "I think it is a very fine thing," he said, "and ought to be largely adopted. It should be of special value to schools. In the winter time you can put it in a shed with a cocoanut matting wicket and practise as long as you like. It should be of special value also in our country, for in our climate you cannot get a man to go on bowling for two hours, but this machine will continue to bowl any ball any length and any break for as long as you like.

The new machine, says the *Nagasaki Press*, has been invented by Dr. Venn, F R S., who is aged seventy-four, and his son, Mr. J. A. Venn, after two years' experiments The delivery is secured by an arm moving from a joint at the base. This arm swings forward, worked by a spring, which can be tightened or slackened for pace. The twist of the ball is secured by a clutch at the top of the arm, which is a sort of cup facing the wicket. This grips the ball until it is released at the moment the arm finishes its swing forward.

Y. C. & A. C.

An Extraordinary General Meeting of the above club, was held at the Cricket Pavilion on the evening of the 15th inst., in order to elect a Cricket Captain for the remainder of the season. Dr. Wheeler, the President, presided. Among those present were:—A. J. Cornes, W. D. S. Edwards. B. C. Foster, P. E. Bousfield, W. W. Galloway, H. C Gregory, J. F. Drummond, H. S. Bell, C. Thwaites, L. C. Sharman, L. M. Whyte, W. J. White, A. G. Hearne, W. A. Morris, E. Powys, Junr., and others.

The nominations for the Captaincy were Mr. B. C. Foster, Mr. A. P. Scott, and Mr. W.D.S. Edwards, but both Mr. Edwards and Mr. Foster declined to stand for the position, so that Mr. A. P. Scott was elected unanimously by those present.

The vacancy thus caused on the Committee was filled by Mr. J. F. Drummond being elected to look after the interests of Tennis.

This completed the business of the Meeting.

AIRSHIP PARTIES IN LONDON SOCIETY.

Mrs. Waldorf Astor, who has a large party staying with her at Cliveden, London, is one of the smart women bitten with the craze for aviation this summer, says a London co-respondent of an American journal. She and her guests are amusing themselves experimenting with miniature balloons and aeroplanes.

Mrs. Astor is also greatly interested in kite-flying, and she has some of the prettiest kites in England. They are made of silk in a variety of colouring and design and in the form of flowers, butterflies and other insects. They may be seen of an evening fluttering over the magnificent Cliveden woods.

The young mistress of the famous house is as enthusiastic as her own children in this pastime. She makes the prettiest picture in her white gown, standing among the greenery letting off one of her picturesque fliers. She is one of the American women who care very little for London. Her heart is centred in her beautiful home on the river, of which she never tires, and she is exclusive to the last degree.

JUBILEE FUND.

We are informed by the Secretary of the Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade that he has received a cheque from Mr. B. C. Howard for *yen* 400 on behalf of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company and the Portland and Asiatic Steamship Company, this being a donation to the Yokohama Jubilee Memorial Fund, and that the amount has been forwarded to the Mayor of Yokohama.

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THE PACIFIC MAIL BOYCOTT.

EXPLANATION OF THE INCIDENT AT HONGKONG.

In connection with the cables as to a boycott of the Pacific Mail S.S. Co. by Hongkong Chinese, the *China Mail* writes recently: The Chinese of late years have keenly realised the powers that lie in the boycott movement and local commercial circles have been more than once disturbed in consequence. The latest instance of steps being taken in this direction occurred within the last few days, when rather strained relations for a time prevailed between a body of leading Chinese exporters and the Pacific Mail Steamship Company. Fortunately however, wiser counsels have prevailed and friction has gradually simmered down until the points at issue are now in a fair way to amicable settlement. A representative of the *China Mail* this morning called on a prominent Chinese merchant with a view to learning the cause of the conflict between the parties concerned as well as the present outlook in the matter. He was told that some time ago certain complaints were made by Chinese passengers using the Pacific Mail boats, and that these, together with a local matter, had greatly irritated Chinese exporters in Hongkong, who did a good trade with the Company in shipments of merchandise to California, Honolulu, and other places. The biggest thorn in the side of the Chinese was that there had been erected over the entrance to the Pacific Mail Co.'s offices a notice in Chinese characters forbidding Chinese merchants to enter by the front door.

This severely wounded their susceptibilities, and as a result a meeting was called to discuss the advisability of instituting a boycott against the Company. This gathering was attended by the Pacific Mail Co.'s compradore, who made certain explanations and indicated that the Company were extremely anxious to do all in their power to remedy the grievances complained of. A further meeting was held a few days later but the actual result of this our informant did not know. From subsequent enquiries, however, we have been able to gather that at present there seems every reason to believe that the matter will be immediately smoothed over and that a committee of the Chinese merchants concerned will shortly wait on the well-known agent of the Company (Mr. S. Silverstone) in order to formerly settle the business on satisfactory lines. It appears that the management of the Company were totally unaware of the little matters which gave rise to the friction until their notice was drawn to them, and in fairness to the Company it should be stated that they immediately took steps to remove any cause for complaint. This applies as well to the notice forbidding Chinese merchants to use the front entrance, which has since been removed. It is a matter for gratification that things at present look so ripe for a mutually satisfactory agreement.

THE FIRING ON THE "WOODBURN."

In the House of Commons recently, Major Anstruther-Gray asked the Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs whether he had any official information showing that a British merchant ship had had several shots fired at her by a foreign ship of war, whereby four men were wounded and the ship damaged; and, if so, whether he could make any statement with regard to the incident.

Dr. Cooper and Mr. Lonsdale also had questions on the same subject.

Mr. McKinnon Wood: The British Vice-Consul at Viborg reported on the 18th instant to his Majesty's Ambassador at St. Petersburg that the steamship *Woodburn*, of Newcastle, in passing Pitkagraasi, was fired at by a Russian man-of-war. The ship was damaged, and a fireman named Coyne was wounded. The wounded man was conveyed in a torpedo-boat to the military hospital at Viborg and immediately attended to by the Russian Marine doctor. The wound was in the leg and not dangerous, and I am glad to say that the latest reports show that he is doing well. His Majesty's Consul at Helsingfors reported to Sir A. Nicolson on the same day that that he was enving at once for Viborg to inquire into the matter and report. He added that the *Woodburn* was fired on by torpedo boats on escort duty with the Imperial yacht.

On receiving a report of the incident, Sir A. Nicolson at once brought the facts to the notice of the Russian Government, and asked for an explanation. Subsequent information received is to the effect that the *Woodburn*, with a Finnish pilot on board, was passing through the lines. According to the regulations to be observed by vessels approaching a Russian squadron at anchor, all vessels must pass between the shore and the squadron, and not through the squadron. I may add that these regulations have been published by the Board of Trade in their "Notices to Mariners."

WARNED BY A TORPEDO BOAT.

The *Woodburn* was warned by a torpedo-boat to keep outside the lines, but in spite of this warning she continued on her course. Four blank shots were fired, but as the vessel did not stop, and was heading towards the Imperial yacht, two live shots were fired. One of these hit the vessel and burst a pipe, and a portion struck and wounded a fireman. The Russian naval officer sent on board the *Woodburn* stated that the captain of the vessel declared that he was only executing the pilot's orders. I cannot make any further statement till the Russian officials report has been received and the statement of the captain of the vessel is known.

Mr. Mitchell-Thomson: Can the hon. gentleman say whether the pilotage was compulsory or not?

Mr. McKinnon Wood: I am not able to answer that.

Mr. W. Redmond: May I ask whether it is true that the wounded fireman has been offered £20 by way of compensation, and whether the Government will see that proper compensation is given to him? (Cheers.

Mr. McKinnon Wood: I have no official information on the subject. I have only seen the statement in the Press.

Mr. W. Redmond: Will the hon gentleman be kind enough to inquire and see that the fireman gets proper compensation?

Mr. T. A. Herbert: Can the hon. gentleman inform the House whether this incident took place in Russian territorial waters or on the high seas, and if on the high seas whether there is any treaty or convention which enables the Russian Government to make regulations and enforce them against British vessels? (Cheers.)

Mr. McKinnon Wood: I am sorry I cannot give the detailed information asked for by my hon. friend without notice.

JAPAN'S HERALDIC DEVICES.

Heraldic devices, like other accessories of the chivalry of the Western Hemisphere, are known to have existed—and still do exist—in Japan, said Mr. Lee in a paper read recently to the members of the Japan Society in London. The lecturer said that there was in existence in Japan before the restoration of half a century ago heraldry which was obviously of great antiquity, of some complexity, and of extreme beauty. He drew attention to the similarity of the art of ancient Egypt and that of Japan, and said that many of the emblems were identical and the use in both countries of the metal mirror, the wooden pillow, the lotus plant, and many other subjects seemed to him of the possibility of a common origin of the two nations.

There were no coats-of-arms in Japan, its heraldry practically consisting of the "mon" or badges in the 14th century, and probably earlier. Their use was believed to have arisen from the large circles of embroidery to be found upon the ancient Chinese court dress. Japanese heraldry did not recognise the use of color, for the "mon" were of any shade which would serve as a contrast to the material displayed. As in European heraldry, the chief aim was that the object displayed might be seen at the greatest possible distance. The greater nobles in Japan apparently possessed three badges, one for their personal use, another for family use, and a third for retainers.

The lesser nobles had two badges, and the others, whose position entitled them to a badge at all, had but one. He had been unable to ascertain the exact qualification of badge wearers, but it was certain that with or without authority they were used by actors on their stage costume. Some system certainly existed by which badges were differenced for junior members or collateral branches of a family. It would also appear, he said, as if alliances between families could be indicated, for, while no Japanese authority, so far as he was aware, distinctly stated that such was the case, examples occurred in which a number of badges, not merely applying to one family, were arranged on one object.

When a man was armed for fighting his "mon" appeared in many parts of his clothing. There appeared to be nothing in the design of the badges to indicate the rank of the bearers, but the more important would, of course, become familiar. Under the laws which kept Japan secluded and at peace for 200 years, the Daimios were kept moving about the country, as they had to spend a certain time every year in the capital.

Travelling as they did with an enormous retinue, the badges would become well known, but as at the time of the restoration there were nearly 270 Daimios, he could not accept the theory advanced by European authorities that the people could immediately recognise each prince by his badge.

In Japan, continued Mr. Lee, a married woman appeared to have always displayed the badge of her husband and not of her father, whereas in European heraldry she could use the arms of both. Many of the stories told of the alleged origin of the "mon" were very similar to the legends concerning European devices.

Although the heraldry of sales in England had always been of great importance and interest, nothing of the kind existed, as far as he was aware in Japan. The objects in Japanese heraldry included practically everything in daily use. Thirty devices were founded on the chrysanthemum, thus illustrating the extraordinary fertility of the Japanese in invention in those matters. The lecturer concluded his paper with a reference to the modern heraldry of Japan, which to a great extent was imitated from European heraldry.

RENTS IN THE SHANGHAI FRENCH CONCESSION.

A number of Chinese firms recently petitioned the Viceroy, says the *Shanghai Times*, showing that in these times of trade depression they find it impossible to bear the high rents in the Settlement and that the property owners in the French Concession have absolutely refused to make any reduction and praying that the Shanghai Taotai may be instructed to again request the French Consul to persuade the house-owners to reduce the rents. Viceroy Tuan Fang has made the following rescript:—"Considering that exchange is so low and trade so bad in Shanghai at present what is set forth in your petition is undoubtedly true. You have already petitioned the Shanghai Taotai to request the French Consul to advise the house owners to reduce the rents and the Shanghai Taotai is hereby instructed to consider the best method of again approaching the French Consul and the Courts with the request that the circumstances be put clearly to the house-owners, both foreign and Chinese and a reduction of the rents be effected in the interests of trade."

EXPORTATION OF KOREAN RICE.

Up to the present the exportation of Korean rice to America and European countries has been carried on by only a few merchants in Korea in a small and experimental way, says the *Seoul Press*. It having been found that the rice meets with a ready sale in the Western markets, as material for the preparation of curry-rice or the manufacture of paste, the Tanaka firm at Dairen is stated to have decided to engage in the business on an extensive scale. The manager of the firm, who recently came to Chemulpo, is making preparations.

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THE VANISHED LEON LING.

Leon Ling, the supposed murderer of Elsie Sigel, in New York, and whose suspected journey by one of the Eastern route vessels, to Yokohama, aroused some local sensation a week ago, is still being untiringly searched for all over the States. On June 21, say the journals arriving here yesterday, the New York police thought they had made a real capture, and that the actual murderer of General Sigel's granddaughter was in their grip. "But," run the reports, "an hour or two of unverified telephoning and telegraphing between cities again resolved the situation into that of an apparently insoluble crime. . . .

"Chun Sin, who formerly occupied a room adjoining that where the girl's body was found, is held by the police at the little up-state village of Amsterdam, N. Y., but what has been learned from him has cleared up the case but little. At Schenectady the Chinese arrested to-day, at first thought to be Leon Ling or William L. Leon, who is sought as the girl's murderer, pretty well established that he is an unoffending Celestial, whose arrest was brought about through his striking resemblance to Leon Ling."

The disappearance of Chun Sin about the time the murder was discovered, made the police eager for his apprehension, but the interviews with him at Amsterdam seem to have brought out nothing of value to the authorities. He maintains that he rarely associated with Leon, and while acquainted with Elsie Sigel, knows nothing of the murder.

"While the authorities up state were putting the two Chinese through an inquisition, Sun Leong, keeper of the restaurant above which the body was found, was questioned at police headquarters. Sun Leong who disappeared on the night the body was found has quietly surrendered himself. His voluntary surrender is taken to mean that he is not implicated in the crime.

A meeting of Chinese who have been converted to Christianity has been held in a Dover street mission to discuss plans for raising a fund to be offered as a reward for the capture of Elsie Sigel's slayer. A committee will go through Chinatown soliciting subscriptions.

Rev. Fungy Mow, who acted as chairman, said Leon Ling had never been connected with the mission in any way, and, as far as he knew, he never attended school in Chinatown. Miss Sigel, he said, had taught him.

Theories as to the motives for the murder all centre on the jealousy of Leon Ling. That he killed her for her apparent friendship for Chu Gain, who is still detained as a material witness, is the predominant belief.

The Chinese Consuls throughout the States have been instructed by the Embassy to exercise the greatest vigilance.

AMERICA'S PHILIPPINE FORTUNE.

The United States forestry reports show that unless a halt is called in the cutting down of the Country's forestry, that country, within 20 to 30 years, will be as devoid of timber as is China and the Levant, both of which have been compelled to import wood for all sorts of purposes for thousands of years. The attention of the forest service of the Department of Agriculture has never been drawn to the vast supplies of hardwood and soft wood contained in the Philippine islands. America's island possessions produce as great a variety of trees as any similar section in the world.

If only for one thing, namely, the saving of American forests, the Philippine islands are worth all the trouble and expense which the anti-imperialists have been harping about ever since 1898. The Philippines produce woods that can take the place of all American hardwoods.

The principal wood imported into the States from its island possessions is what is known as Philippine mahogany. While this is not exactly the same as the Mexican mahogany, its grain, texture and colour are nearly like it. Within the last several years Philippine mahogany has been imported into this country in ever increasing quantities and is now in general use.

In the Philippines trees grow to more magnificent proportions than they do in other tropical countries not equally favoured in the matter of moisture, etc, and on this account a much better grade of lumber is obtainable.

Nara is another Philippine wood which is fast growing into favour as a fine cabinet wood, but on account of its high cost it is not used so extensively as the mahogany, which is sold at about half the price of Mexican mahogany.

Almon is another Philippine wood which is used for ordinary building operations. As yet very little of this has been imported into the United States on account of the position it meets in Oregon pine and other cheap woods of which the States still have a large quantity on the Pacific coast. A prominent lumberman lately returned from Manila, in an interview, is quoted as saying: "Any person who thinks that America should not keep the Philippines should go into the island of Negros and see the vast forest of almon, nara and Philippine mahogany waiting the pleasure of the American logger."

INTER-IMPERIAL CABLE COMMUNICATION.

The question of the extension of the system of cables and of other means of communication between the Colonies, Dependencies, and Protectorates and the Mother Country has for many years occupied the attention of telegraph engineers, says *The Times*. The resolution unanimously carried by the Imperial Press Conference in favour of the provision of increased facilities for the transmission of inter-Imperial telegrams may therefore be regarded as a definite expression of approval of the general principle of the scheme, and it now remains for telegraph engineers and for those responisble for the financial aspect of the matter to consider the proposal in all its bearings. Lord Crewe, in the course of the discussion, drew attention to the conditions in regard to the Pacific cable, and while expressing sympathy with the principle of extension of facilities, he emphasized the fact that, "to the technical sense," the Pacific cable does not pay. All who rememper the delays and the opposition that for years checked the progress of that undertaking will have clearly before them the main reason for the present difficulty in obtaining a broader margin of intrinsic profit upon that mighty section of the Imperial lines of communication. While delays were heaped upon delays, the prices of materiale rose abnormally, and the Empire today is paying the price of its former hesitancy. The lesson is one that requires at this moment to be emphasized. If the charges for transmission are to be reduced, alternative routes must at once be provided, and competition must be allowed to lead the way to efficient working and cheapness. From the strategic point of view ideas have now to be modified owing to the destructive work that is rendered possible by submarine vessels. But this should not hinder the progress of Imperial telegraphs; it should merely serve as a stimulus to induce cable engineers to meet the difficulties which result from the general development of the engineering resources of the Empire.

THE CHINESE LOANS.

The President of the Chinese Board of Posts and Communications has, in conversation with a member of the Government, remarked that to develop the railways would require the sum of Tls. 15,000,000 during the next three years over and above the net profits from the railway. The most important and largest item, says the *Shanghai Times* is that for the building of the four branch lines of the Peking-Hankow Railway (from Tingchow to Tanghsien, the North bank of the Huangho to Muhlan, Yencheng to Chou Chia Kow and Matauchen to Wangkintien); and the construction of the line from How Hsiang Chen to Yuchow will cost 3,600,000 taels, besides the money required for the new carriages, hotels and stations, and for acquiring and working coal mines. His Excellency Hsu, concludes that if the above things are to be done a foreign loan is absolutely necessary.

CHINESE BARITONE WILL TEACH HIS PEOPLE.

MASTER OF FIVE TONGUES IS TO TRAIN THE ORIENTAL EAR TO OCCIDENTAL CHORDS.

After eight years spent in studying music in the conservatories of Germany, France, Italy and the United States, Charles Knox Johnson, a Chinese baritone, passed through Yokohama, on board the *Minnesota* the other day, from Seattle, bound for his native land. There he will undertake to teach European and American music to the Chinese. He is already engaged to teach music at the Nanking University, and will give concerts in China.

Mr. Johnson's Chinese name is Tung Sing Quie, but he uses his American name almost entirely. While in Seattle he has been the guest of Chin Keay, of the Quong Tuck Company, 208 Washington street.

He first studied in Germany, France and Italy before going to the United States.

Besides gaining recognition as a singer in many cities of this country, Mr. Johnson is also a composer. His "Softly Falls the Gentle Moonlight" is regarded as one of his best compositions.

"I do not know how well the modern idea of music will take in China," said Mr. Johnson to an interviewer. "The Chinese music is so vastly different from the European and American idea that it will probably be hard. However, the Nanking University employs modern methods in all educational work, and I think I will be successful in my teaching.

"I have studied music in several countries and have mastered the languages of those countries. In all my travels, however, I have not found another Chinaman who has made a specialty of studying music."

Mr. Johnson speaks English, German, French and Italian like a native. His English is entirely without foreign accent.

OFFICIAL EMBEZZLEMENTS IN KOREA.

It is a notorious fact that in former days Korean officials used to embezzle part of the taxes paid in by the people, says the *Japan Times*. In April last, adds the *Seoul Press*, a law was promulgated for the adjustment of the loss caused to the Treasury in this way and also for the prevention of embezzlement in future. The Government has since been investigating the matter and is said to have discovered that during the 12 years between 1895 and 1907 as much as 3 million *yen* have gone astray, about 3,000 Korean officials being responsible for this.

To their great consternation, the Government has now demanded of those officials against whom there is clear evidence, the repayment of their misappropriations. Already over 100 officials, including some of high rank, have been informed of the Government's determination and have promised to make good the shortage, which amounts to about 300,000 *yen* altogether. Those unable to pay the whole amount at once will be allowed to do so by yearly instalments extending over eight years.

FOREIGN UNIVERSITIES IN CHINA.

In view of the fact that several foreign countries are contemplating the establishment of universities in China for the education of Chinese youths, the Board of Education intends to request the Ministers abroad to inform the Ministers of Education of the countries to which they are respectively accredited that special attention should be paid to the Chinese language in all universities and colleges they have opened or are about to open in China. Unless the students pass in Chinese both at the periodical and final examinations, says a Chinese Exchange, they will not be recognized as first-class men no matter how well they might have done in the other subjects, and that before students are admitted into those universities and colleges they should be first examined by the Board as to their knowledge of Chinese and their character and then by the universities or colleges as to their knowledge of foreign languages, etc.

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TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

FAREWELL TO VON BUELOW.

KAISER'S GOOD BYE IN THE CASTLE GARDEN: THE NEW CHANCELLOR.

London, July 16.

Berlin.—It transpires that Herr Bethmann-Hollweg, the successor of Prince von Buelow as Chancellor of the German Empire, is a descendant of an 18th Century Jewish banker, of Frankfort. He has bureaucratic leanings, with strong tendencies towards social reform, but is quite inexperienced in the realm of foreign policy.

The Kaiser has sent an autograph letter to Prince Buelow, intimating that he releases him from his duties with the greatest reluctance and deeply regrets the severance of the tie of trustful co-operation which has existed between himself and his minister. He thanks him for his devotion to the Empire, and for his self-sacrifice, and to mark his Imperial recognition of the retiring servant's distinguished and fruitful services he confers upon him the Brilliants of the Black Eagle.

The Kaiser bade a touching farewell to Prince Buelow, in the Imperial Castle Garden, and immediately afterwards received Herr Bethmann-Hollweg, his new Chancellor.

PERSIA'S CIVIL WAR.

THE SHELLING OF PARLIAMENT: THE SHAH OBSTINATE.

Teheran.—Fighting was continuous yesterday. The shrapnel from the guns of the Cossacks repeatedly struck the houses of the Europeans.

The Shah's troops are still shelling the Houses of Parliament from the hills outside the City.

The Ministers of Great Britain and Russia have urged the Shah to arrange terms with the Nationalists, but his Majesty has refused.

DISASTER TO A SUBMARINE.

SUNK BY A PASSING STEAMER.

London, July 16.

An official report says that an unknown steamer sank submarine C 11 near Lowestoft. The crew were lost. Submarine C 17 was damaged, but the crew were saved.

Later.

The latest information says that the steamer *Eddystone* got among the flotilla of submarines at midnight. She collided with and sank C 11, and Lieutenants Brodie and Watkins, with three seamen, were saved, while eleven are missing. C 17 was damaged by colliding with C 16 in trying to avoid the *Eddystone*.

Later.

The Captain of the *Eddystone* has been interviewed. He says that there was a dense fog and that he was not aware of the presence of the warships until he was blinded by their searchlights.

The King and the Prince of Wales have telegraphed their sympathy.

JAPANESE SCHOONER SEIZED.

Seward, Alaska.—An American revenue cutter has seized a Japanese schooner named *Taki*, as she was sealing at the Pribylov Islands.

BISLEY PRIZEWINNERS.

Canada has won the McKinnon Cup at Bisley with a score of 1616. The Transvaal was second with 1514.

SEVERE FIGHTING STILL GOING ON.

Teheran.—Gun fire has practically ceased, but rifle fire is still proceeding. The Loyalists, Nationalists, and the Shah's troops have attacked the northeastern gate, and been repulsed with heavy loss.

THE SHAH SEEKS REFUGE.

Later.

The Shah has taken refuge in the Russian Legation.

NEW AMERICAN MINISTER TO CHINA.

London, July 17.

President Taft has decided to appoint Mr. Charles Crane, a Chicago manufacturer, Minister to China.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN'S BIRTHDAY.

MRS. CHAMBERLAIN RETURNS THANKS FOR CONGRATULATIONS.

Mrs. Joseph Chamberlain begs the assistance of the Press in gratefully acknowledging worldwide birthday congratulations to Mr. Chamberlain, for which she desires to express sincere thanks and good wishes.

EARTHQUAKE IN GREECE.

There has been an earthquake in the Greek province of Elis, with great devastation and many casualties. Thirty lives were lost and 400 houses destroyed in the village of Havari. A dozen other villages suffered severely.

THE NUMBER OF CASUALTIES.

London, July 18.

The latest reports of the earthquake in Greece give 116 as the number of killed and injured.

CROWN PRINCE PROCLAIMED SHAH.

Teheran —The Crown Prince has been proclaimed Shah and a provisional government is being formed.

THE KUNIS IN LONDON.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS ATTEND A STATE BALL.

Prince and Princess Kuni have been present at a State Ball at Buckingham Palace.

THE BISLEY MEETING.

London, July 17.

In the annual rifle competition at Bisley England won the Elcho Shield with a score of 717 (1,717 ?). Scotland made 1693 and Ireland 1650. Canada won the Kolapore Cup with a score of 765.

NEW ZEALAND INVITES LORD KITCHENER.

The New Zealand Government has invited Lord Kitchener to advise them as to the defences of the Dominion after his visit to Australia.

THAMES NAVAL PAGEANT.

TREMENDOUS WELCOME TO ATLANTIC AND HOME FLEETS.

London, July 18.

London —Nearly all the vessels in the Home and Atlantic Fleets are participating in the Thames Naval pageant, and have occupied all the naval stations in that neighbourhood. The vessels are being enthusiastically welcomed by tremendous crowds all along the river banks and on the bridges, and aboard other vessels.

THE SPANISH MARRIAGE PUNISHED.

Madrid.—The Infante Alfonso of Spain has been deprived of his title for marrying the daughter of the Duke of Saxe-Coburg. He has also been removed from his regiment, and becomes triable at a disciplinary court.

LORD SELBORNE A K.G.

London, July 19.

The Earl of Selborne is created a Knight of the Garter, in succession to the Marquis of Ripon.

BUELOW POPULAR WITH THE MASSES.

EX-CHANCELLOR GIVEN A GREAT OVATION.

When Prince Buelow left Berlin for his country seat, he was accorded a tremendous ovation, as he drove through the streets to the railway station.

ADMIRAL CURZON-HOWE CRITICALLY ILL.

Admiral Sir A. G. Curzon-Howe, who passed through a critical surgical operation on the 15th instant, is now very weak.

RUSSIA RENEWS ASSURANCES.

POLICY NOT AFFECTED BY ASYLUM GIVEN TO THE SHAH.

A Russian circular to the Powers declares that the Shah's taking refuge at the Russian Legation in nowise modifies the principle of internal non-interference to which Russia has pledged her adherence.

TARIFF REVISION IN U.S.

FIRST CONCESSION TO THE PRESIDENT.

London, July 19.

Washington.—At the instance of President Taft, the Conference Committee of the two Houses of Congress has agreed to a reduction of 50 per cent. from the Dingley [existing] tariff rates on women's and children's dress goods made with cotton warp.

THE SHAH'S GUARD.

COSSACK AND SEPOY KEEP WATCH AT HIS DOOR.

After the arrival of the Shah at the Russian Legation, Cossack and Sepoy sentinels were placed on guard before his apartments, and the British and Russian flags were crossed over the door.

THE BOY SHAH.

The new Shah, who is only thirteen years of age, has been formally notified of his accession.

DEATH OF DON CARLOS.

The death is announced of Don Carlos.

[Don Carlos, Duke of Madrid, claimed the Crown of Spain on the ground that Isabella, daughter of Ferdinand VII., and mother of Alfonso XII., was debarred from the succession by the Salic law. Much was heard of him during the last reign, but for some years he has been living quietly at Venice, and his adherents seemed to regard his cause as hopeless. His heir, Don Jaime, is an officer in the Russian Army.—ED. *J.M.*]

SERIOUS MOTOR-CAR EXPLOSION.

At a cycle race, at Berlin, a motor-car has exploded in close proximity to a crowded stand, upon which it scattered a rain of fire. A score of summer dresses were instantly ablaze. Many panic-stricken occupants of the stand jumped on to the track only to be run over by the competitors in the race, many of whom were thrown and hurt. Altogether four persons were burned to death, and 32 injured, mostly by burning.

THE KUNIS LUNCH WITH KING EDWARD.

London, July 20.

London.—Prince and Princess Kuni have lunched with the King at Buckingham Palace. The Prince and Princess of Wales and Prince Arthur of Connaught were present.

MR. ASQUITH DETERMINED TO PASS FINANCE BILL.

HE MAY ASK FOR NEW PEERS OR RESIGN.

London.—The *Daily News* learns from the highest quarters that in the event of the Lords persisting in their requirements for amendments to the finance bill, the creation of a sufficient number of new Peers to secure the passage of the bill will be recommended. Only in the event of the Crown refusing to accept this proposal will Mr. Asquith

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advise a dissolution or resign. It is almost certain that in such an eventuality he would resign.

HANKOW RAILWAY LOANS.

Peking.—*The Times* correspondent here says that the Russian minister has informed the Wai-wu-pu that in view of Russian interests in Hankow and in the tea trade in the Yangtze, Russia has requested that Russian financiers, represented by the Russo-Chinese Bank, participate in the Hankow railway loans.

MONOPLANING ACROSS THE CHANNEL.

ATTEMPT TO WIN DAILY MAIL PRIZE ENDS IN DISASTER.

After waiting a week for favourable weather to fly across the Channel and win the *Daily Mail* prize of one thousand pounds, Latham started near Calais for Dover yesterday morning, on a monoplane. He fell into the sea 6¼ miles from the shore. He was picked up by a passing steamer unhurt. His failure was due to a breakdown of the motor.

ADMIRAL CURZON-HOWE.

FAVOURABLE REPORT ON HIS CONDITION.

Later.

The operation on Admiral Curzon-Howe has been successful, and it is hoped he will be able to rejoin his ship within a fortnight.

KING VISITS MR. CHAMBERLAIN.

London. — King Edward visited Mr. Chamberlain at his London residence yesterday.

GREAT BRITAIN'S NAVY.

TO BE INCREASED BY THE MAGIC "8": THE GREAT NAVAL PAGEANT.

London, July 21.

London.—It is understood that the Government has decided to build eight additional Dreadnoughts during 1909-10.

Yesterday was a gala day on the Thames. The Naval Pageant reached its zenith. The Lord Mayor, the Admiralty, and many Government officials visited the fleets amidst thundering salutes. The weather was glorious, the railways and steamboats were unable to cope with the traffic southwards, and thousands of would-be visitors from the north were left behind.

THE DEPRESSED COTTON TRADE.

London.—The adoption of short time in the cotton trade is proceeding with remarkable unanimity. Owing to the recent severe trade depression a prolonged curtailment in the output will probably be necessary.

ARGENTINA'S ULTIMATUM.

BOLIVIA'S REFUSAL TO ABIDE BY ARBITRATION DECISION HAS SERIOUS RESULTS.

Argentina has sent the Bolivian Minister his passport, and has ordered him to leave the country within 24 hours. She has also recalled her own Minister from Lapaz. This drastic action is due to Bolivia's refusal to accept the arbitration award with reference to the Chilian boundary question.

FRENCH LEADERS IN AN ANGRY SCENE.

M. CLEMENCEAU CALLS DOWN M. DELCASSE: FORMER DISTRUSTED.

London, July 21.

Paris.—The French cabinet has resigned as a result of the debate on the Navy in the Chamber.

The Government's defeat came as a complete surprise both to its members and to other parties, and resulted in an angry scene between MM. Delcasse and Clemenceau. The former accused the government of a policy of incoherence and impotency as regards the navy.

M. Clemenceau, who was by far the angrier of the two men, resented the attitude of M. Delcasse, which he characterised as "presumption," and who had, he said, led France into Algeciras on a mission of the greatest humiliation she had ever experienced.

The deputies protested against the latter declaration but M. Clemenceau ignored their reproofs and reaffirmed his statement of the country's humiliation, as he had understood from the then Ministers of War and Marine that France was not ready.

The deputies sympathised with M. Delcasse, and rejected a vote of confidence by 212 votes to 176.

S.S. "DERFFLINGER" AGROUND IN THE NEEDLES.

BOUND FOR YOKOHAMA: TUGS TAKING OFF PASSENGERS.

London.—The *Norddeutscher Lloyd* liner *Derfflinger*, bound for Yokohama, went ashore in the Needles to-day. Tugs are standing by to take off the passengers.

FRENCH CABINET CRISIS.

London, July 22.

M. Briand is most prominently mentioned for the premiership. It is thought likely that several members of the late cabinet will be included in the new ministry.

[M. Briand held the portfolio of Justice and Public Worship in M. Clemenceau's cabinet.—ED. *J.M.*]

"DERFFLINGER" STILL AGROUND.

The attempt to refloat the *Derfflinger* has so far been unsuccessful, and it is feared that it will be a very difficult operation in view of the situation of the stranded vessel.

SPAIN INVOLVED IN WAR.

SERIOUS TURN OF EVENTS IN MOROCCO AND SPANISH POPULACE OPPOSED TO HOSTILITIES.

With regard to the Melilla hinterland, Spain has decided to meet all General Marina's requirements. Serious fighting has taken place between the Spaniards and the Moors, lasting from six o'clock last evening till five o'clock this morning. The Spaniards sustained considerable losses. Reinforcements are leaving Madrid amid tremendous uproar, the populace being opposed to the war. Spanish securities have fallen four points on the Madrid exchange.

Later.

The Spaniards maintained their position with difficulty in yesterday's fighting at Melilla. The Moors made persistent and furious attacks, with the object of cutting communications. The Spanish losses were ten killed and twenty wounded.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE "TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

FIGHTING STILL GOING ON AT TEHERAN.

London, July 15.

Teheran.—There has been continuous street fighting for 36 hours.

St. Petersburg. — The *Novoe Vremya* insists that more troops should be immediately despatched to the Persian frontier, to be ready to protect Europeans. If the Shah asks Legation protection, it will be granted, and the Shah will be escorted to Russia. This would be regarded as an abdication.

THE NEW GERMAN CHANCELLOR.

Berlin.—The new Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, is reputed to be an excellent official, of sound judgment and great capacity for work. He is inexperienced in diplomacy, and apart from the Emperor's personal initiative, foreign policy will for the present remain in the hands of the Foreign Secretary, Herr von Schoen. Prince von Buelow announces that he has retired because the attitude of the Conservatives has made the Centre the controlling party, to the exclusion of the Liberals.

CONSERVATIVE MEASURES IN PERSIA FAVOURED BY RUSSIAN PRESS.

London, July 16.

St. Petersburg.—The Press strongly warns the Government to avoid an adventurous policy in Persia.

THE SPANISH NAVY.

WORK BEGUN BY BRITISH CONTRACTORS.

London, July 16.

The British syndicate entrusted with the rebuilding of the Spanish Navy and the reorganization of the arsenals has begun operations. The total expenditure will be about seven million pounds. The British secured the contracts in an international competition against French, Italian and German firms.

FOREST DENUDATION IN AMERICA.

New York.—The U.S. Department of Agriculture estimates the forest reduction by cutting, clearing and fires at 850,000,000 to 550,000,000 acres, the forests being cut thrice as fast as they grow.

[The estimated total area of National and privately owned forests in the United States in July, 1908, was 600,000,000 acres.—ED. *J.M.*]

JAPANESE STOCKS IMPROVING.

London, July 17.

Russian and Japanese stocks are fairly active.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

Madrid.—There have been no further Moorish attacks on the Spanish settlements at Melilla and the tribesmen appear friendly. Nevertheless, 12,000 Spanish troops have been despatched and a similar force is mobilizing.

THE SHAH DEPOSED.

PACIFIC DECLARATIONS: SHAH'S SON TO SUCCEED TO THRONE.

London, July 17.

Teheran.—The Shah has taken refuge with his secretaries in the Russian Legation. The British and Russian Legations have arranged a meeting between the Russian commander Liakoff, who is in charge of the Persian Cossacks' brigade, and the Nationalist leaders, which has resulted in pacific declarations.

The brigade will take service with the provisional Government, under Russian officers.

At an extraordinary meeting of the Nationalist Council the Shah was deposed, and his son Ahmed Murza, was chosen to succeed him, with the aged head of the Kazar tribe as Regent.

TO ESTABLISH ORDER.

RUSSIAN TROOPS REMAIN IN PERSIA PENDING REESTABLISHMENT OF ORDER.

London, July 19

St. Petersburg.—Russian troops will remain in Persia until absolute order has been reestablished and European interests guaranteed. The ex-Shah will shortly leave for Russia.

FREE TRADE BETWEEN THE U.S. AND THE PHILIPPINES.

Washington.—The new Philippine tariff bill establishes free trade between the islands and the United States. The fear that British trade with the islands will be destroyed is not shared by officials, who think there will be merely a temporary shrinkage.

GERMANY AND JAPAN.

SEMI OFFICIAL UTTERANCE ON RELATIONS OF THE TWO POWERS.

Berlin.—The Cologne Gazette prints a

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semi-official telegram complaining of the unfriendly attitude of the Japanese press, particularly regarding Morocco and the Triple Alliance. The Japanese tone is described as regrettable, because Germany has not opposed Japanese interests. Japan is reminded that criticism provokes criticism, and she is invited to note that in all Japan's quarrels with other people, including the immigration question in America, Germany has always avoided taking sides or wounding Japan.

ANARCHY IN TEHERAN.

BRITISH LEGATION SAYS THAT FOREIGNERS MUST BE PROTECTED.

London, July 20.

A state of anarchy is prevailing in Teheran. The British Legation has informed the provisional Government that foreigners must be protected. British sailors are in readiness for eventualities at Bushire. The tribesmen are threatening to sack the town unless the refugees at the British Consulate are surrendered.

"THE TIMES" AND PRINCE CHING.

SEVERE CRITICISM: LENGTHY ADVICE TO CHINA, WHO SHOULD SETTLE OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS

London, July 21.

The *Times* prints an article from its Peking correspondent severely condemning the incapacity and blunders of Prince Ching. An editorial accompanies the articles referring to Prince Ching and also to the growing indignation of the Japanese Press. Such irritation, continues the article, is not unnatural. However, where mutual friendship in regard to external politics is so essential to the two nations, it is unwise for either nation simply to insist upon all fair and just demands without considering the results upon the feelings of the weaker nation, which is compelled to yield, although its resentment will affect political action. On the other hand, continues the *Times*, it is unwise for a weaker nation to trade upon its weakness. True statesmanship dictates a policy of compromise.

The Times particularly urges a speedy and definite settlement of the Manchurian Railway question, with a view to avoiding all possible controversies with foreign financiers who are working behind the Chinese.

THE FALL OF THE CLEMENCEAU CABINET.

London, July 22.

Paris.—The question of the Navy, which has already caused the fall of the last minister of Marine, has now proved fatal to the Clemenceau cabinet. The report of a Special Commission on the Navy furnished the material for condemnation of the apathy of the Government, as did also their predecessors' reference to naval efficiency. The debate was singularly bitter. Its chief feature was a vehement indictment by M. Delcasse of those responsible for the naval policy, taunting the premier with criminal levity. The premier, stung by the severity of the attack, answered passionately, disregarding all tactical considerations. The Chamber plainly showed hostility to the Government, and immediately a vote of confidence was rejected, the Ministers withdrew.

[The Clemenceau cabinet has been in office since October 23, 1906, an unusually long period for a French cabinet in recent years.— D. *J.M.*]

AMERICAN CAPITAL IN CHINA.

IMPORTANT CONCESSION RESULTS FROM TELEGRAPHIC NEGOTIATION BETWEEN PRESIDENT AND REGENT.

Washington.—It is admitted that American capital has been given a share of the Hankow railway loan on equal terms with the British, French and German bankers. The consent of China was secured by direct telegraphic negotiation between President Taft and the Prince Regent. The precise nature of the agreement has not been disclosed.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

THE GOLDEN GATE BANK.

In the case of the Golden Gate Bank the new officials have completed their examination in accordance with the Banking Law which went into operation on the 2nd inst. They consulted those concerned in the Bank, and announced that in order to re-open the Bank on a sound basis either a sum of $300,000 must be put up, or some compromise must be effected with the depositors. The views of these officials were inquired as to two or three projects, but nothing satisfactory could be accomplished, and it was finally resolved with regret that the Bank must be closed and steps taken for winding up its accounts. The new Law requires that these accounts must be prepared by the officials. These officials will consult the Japanese Consul, or Japanese subjects chosen by him, with the object of carrying out the Law in the manner most conducive to Japanese interests. A settlement will probably be effected within the course of a year.

("DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST" SERVICE TO THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

HOLLAND.

Berlin, July 15.

It is rumoured that Queen Wilhelmina of Holland and Prince Henry intend to go to Salzkammergut for rest.

UNITED STATES.

New York papers report that the Government of the U.S. will station a full battle fleet at the Philippines after the end of the great naval manœuvres of this year.

THE OFFICIAL CHANGES.

The Kaiser will return to Kiel to-morrow, July 16th. Telegrams have been exchanged between the Kaiser and Prince Regent Luitpold of Bavaria, in which the latter regrets the resignation of Prince Buelow and expresses himself satisfied with the nomination of Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg as Chancellor.

Count Arco-Valley, German Minister at Rio de Janeiro, formerly (1901-1906) German Minister at Tokyo, born 8/II, 1852, is dead.

FRANCO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

The French *Charge d'Affaires* at Berlin has communicated to the French residents on the occasion of the French National Day, that there is a good prospect for a further improvement of Franco German relations, including economic relations.

BOLIVIA.

Bolivia has given full satisfaction to Argentine, by which the conflict has been settled.

PERSIA.

The Nationalists at Teheran have gained a great victory. They declare that the bombardment of Teheran was due to the fault of a Russian Dragoman. Russia seems to be willing to negotiate with the Nationalists as to the dethronement of the Shah.

SPAIN.

Berlin, July 16.

The Infante Alfonso of Spain has hurriedly married Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg.

GERMANY.

Prince Regent Luitpold of Bavaria has sent a personal letter to Prince Buelow, to whom also the Bundesrat has directed a vote of thanks. An ovation is being prepared at Berlin, on account of which the departure of the Prince has been postponed until Sunday. The Labour Party associations have offered him honorary membership. The Hamburg American Line will christen its next steamer "Buelow."

King Edward will stay at Marienbad from August 11th to September 2nd.

PERSIA.

The Shah has fled to the Russian Legation and offered an armistice to the Nationalists. He is regarded as lost, if the Russians do not take his part openly and send more troops to Teheran. Sir Edward Grey has announced that English troops will be advanced from Abushehr (Port Bushir) to Shiraz as a consequence of the warlike state of Persia.

PERSIA.

Berlin, July 17.

The Shah has abdicated the throne and placed himself under the protection of Russia and Great Britain. He is now in safety at the Russian Legation and is being protected by a special Indian bodyguard. The Russian and British flags have been hissed at the Russian Legation. Crown Prince Mirza has succeeded the Shah on the throne.

SPAIN.

Prince Henry, the Chief of the German Battle Fleet, has been invited to visit the Spanish Naval port San Sebastian with his fighting Squadron.

King Alfonso of Spain has cancelled the title of Infante of Spain to the husband of Princess Beatrice of Saxe-Coburg, his marriage having been performed without his agreement.

UNITED STATES.

President Taft has declared that a revision of Customs must necessarily be carried out; this declaration has created a great sensation.

RUSSIA.

The King and Queen of Denmark have been very cordially received by the Tsar and Tsaritsa at Peterhof, most cordial toasts being exchanged.

ALBANIA.

A Secretary of the Greek Consulate at Monastir has been arrested for his participation in the anti-Greek agitation in Macedonia.

GREECE.

Severe shocks of earthquake have been experienced in Greece, many lives being lost.

HOLLAND.

The rumour of a planned trip of Queen Wilhelmina and Consort to Salzkammergut is not yet confirmed.

GERMANY.

The Kaiser and the Kaisarin will pay an incognito visit to the old Dutch family of the Count of Bentinck on August 9th.

The Kaiser and Prince Buelow have exchanged their photos with mutual dedications. A message of sympathy has also been sent by the Norddeutscher Lloyd.

The Kaiser has had a private meeting with King Haakon of Norway.

Berlin, July 18.

Enthusiastic ovations have been given to Prince Buelow on the occasion of his departure from Berlin, his carriage having great difficulty in reaching the station owing to the vast crowds. The new Chancellor, the whole Ministry and many diplomats were present on the platform, the Kaiser presenting him with floral offerings through his adjutant. The people were singing the National Anthem when the car moved

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out of the station. The Sovereigns of the Confederate States have sent to the Prince their warmest declarations of sympathy. Freiherr von Aehrenthal, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, has written a letter to him, calling him the soul of the Triple Alliance. Kaiser Francis Joseph has also sent a letter to the Prince, saying that he would always preserve grateful memory of him.

The Kaiser has sent a letter of sympathy to the British Navy in connection with the recent loss of a submarine boat.

GERMANY.

Berlin, July 19.

The Kaiser has left for his usual Northern summer-trip.

A terrible explosion has taken place at a motor-race meeting at Berlin, by which 5 persons have been killed and 28 severely wounded.

SPAIN.

The pretender to the Spanish throne, Prince Alfonso of Bourbon (born on March 28th, 1841), is dead.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to July 4th, arrived at Berlin on July 19th.

PERSIA.

The solution of the Persian crisis has been satisfactorily received at St. Petersburg, London, Paris and Berlin, all the more for the reason that Teheran has not been occupied by Russian troops. The Russian Government has communicated to the other Powers that the granting of a place of refuge to the Shah by Russia is not regarded as injuring the principle of meddling with internal Persian affairs. The ex-Shah will take up residence in the Crimea.

GERMANY.

Berlin, July 20.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new German Chancellor, will be present in the event of the Kaiser meeting King Edward and the Tsar in the first half of August. He will also present himself to Emperor Francis Joseph, King Emmanuel, and the South German Courts in autumn.

TURKEY.

The *Temps* reports that General von der Goltz-Pasha has advised the keeping of peace as to the Cretan question. The Young Turks, however, are pressing the Cabinet in opposition.

PERSIA.

Russia recognises officially the Government of the new Shah of Persia.

MOROCCO.

New encounters, with losses on the Spanish side, have taken place between the Spanish troops and the natives at Melilla.

SPAIN.

Prince Heinrich, the Commander of the German Battle Fleet, now at San Sebastian, has paid a visit to King Alfonso of Spain at Château Miramar.

FRANCE.

Berlin, July 21.

President Fallières has accepted the resignation of the Clemenceau Cabinet, a vote of confidence as to the Navy question having been refused by the Chamber. It is probable that M. Pichon, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, will remain at his post.

A visit of British and Russian Members of Parliament to Paris will take place in the beginning of 1910; the plan is encouraged as a manifestation of the Triple Alliance between Great Britain, Russia and France by M. Pichon, Sir Edw. Grey and Count Stolypin.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

The Spanish Press expresses itself doubtfully as to a combined military action against the natives at Melilla (Morocco).

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Norddeutscher Lloyd steamer *Derfflinger*, on the way to the Far East, has gone aground off the Needles (Isle of Wight). There is every reason to believe that the liner will be refloated, and the passengers are remaining on board.

ARGENTINA AND BOLIVIA.

Diplomatic relations have been severed between Argentina and Bolivia.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

THE NASHIMOTOS AT SEOUL TO-DAY.

Seoul, July 17.

Prince and Princess Nashimoto are expected to arrive here on July 19. The following day their Highnesses will pay their respects to the Emperor and ex-Emperor.

SEVERE STORM AT TIELING.

Tieling, July 17.

Since 2 a.m. this morning, a severe storm has been raging. The damage to crops is expected to prove serious.

"KOREAN DAILY NEWS" PROHIBITED.

Seoul, July 18.

The *Korean Daily News* having again published an article relating to the question of jurisdiction, which might excite the popular sentiment, was prohibited from sale to-day.

ARCTIC AND PACIFIC MARINE PRODUCTS.

Vladivostock, July 18.

The Russian Naval Department has resolved to despatch two transports with a view to protect the marine products industries in the Arctic regions and in the Pacific.

A STEAMER ABLAZE.

Tsingtao, July 18.

On July 17, the steamer *Mayasan Maru* caught fire and one-third of her cargo was lost.

THE HOLIDAYS IN RUSSIA.

Vladivostock, July 18.

Most of the Russian officials belonging to the Department of Foreign Affairs are taking their summer vacation. All the foreign ambassadors, excepting the British Ambassador, are staying in St. Petersburg, on account of the Cretan question.

CHOLERA SCOURGE IN ST. PETERSBURG.

In St. Petersburg, cholera has spread with such rapidity that there are now 850 patients in all.

SEOUL ELECTRIC RAILWAY OFFICIALS' STRIKE.

Seoul, July 19.

The officials of the Electric Railway Company here have gone on strike. The electric cars are not running to-day.

RAIN IN YALU REGIONS.

RIVER SWELLED OVER 10 FEET BY THE DOWNFALL.

Antung, July 20.

Rain is still falling and the Yalu River has risen over 10 feet.

THE NASHIMOTOS IN SEOUL.

DENSE FOG DELAYS THEM FOR ABOUT A DAY.

Seoul, July 20.

Owing to dense fog, Prince and Princess Nashimoto were delayed one day and did not arrive until 5 p.m. to-day. Their Highnesses were welcomed by a representative of the Korean Emperor, the Secretary-General of the Residency-General and many other high officials, both Japanese and Korean. The party proceeded immediately to the Residency-General.

6000 CHINESE TROOPS IN CHIENTAO.

It is reported that 6,000 Chinese troops have entered Chientao. The statements are generally accepted.

CHEMULPO FIRST BANK'S TRADE RELATIONS.

Chemulpo, July 20.

It was decided at a conference of the heads of the various branch offices that the local department of the First Bank will continue its business. It is intimately connected with trade in Osaka and Kobe.

SEOUL ELECTRIC RAILWAY STRIKE.

Seoul, July 20.

The Electric Railway strike is not yet over. The Company has dismissed the strikers on the refund of the security money. Mr. Collbran has left for home.

RUSSIAN STRICTURES ON CHINESE MERCHANTS.

Peking, July 21.

In consequence of the attitude of the Russian authorities towards Chinese Merchants and their goods in Russian territory and the heavy taxes by Russia, the Chinese Government is contemplating a scheme of retaliation.

VISCOUNT SONE CONVALESCENT.

Seoul, July 21.

Resident-General Viscount Sone, who is said to have been suffering from nephritis, is reported to be convalescent.

HARBIN'S TROUBLE WITH THE CHINESE.

Harbin, July 20.

The Municipal Authorities have not only rejected the proposed reduction of ground rent which has been canvassed for by the Chinese tradesmen here, but have prohibited the latter from lodging in the town. In consequence, many Chinese are very angry, and have struck work.

JOURNALISM IN SOUTH AMERICA.

A gentleman who has lately visited the Argentine supplies the *Glasgow News* with a description of the chief newspaper office in Buenos Ayres. Offices of the kind elsewhere are simply "not in it" when compared with this South American building. He says it is a palatial establishment, where straw hatted reporters of descent from authentic Spanish hidalgos sit in sumptuous armchairs smoking long cigars, and refreshing themselves with rectified sodas, while "copy" is in process of manufacture. The editor's room is like something from the Ritz, the Carlton, or the Yildiz Kiosk before the revolution, and each and all of his leading men have almost equally impressive apartments. The office includes a large ball-room and a public library, while there is in residence a physician whom readers of the paper may consult free at any hour of the day or night without any danger of his prescriptions being confined to the specifics advertised in the columns of the journal. An outside feature of the place is a colossal steam siren, which is blown periodically when any important news comes to hand late at night. The piercing nocturnal blasts prepare the town for sensations with the morning roll, and that each blast is an offence punishable by fine is a matter of supreme indifference to the management. They pay up and see to it that steam is ready for the next blow.

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THE NEW AMERICAN MINISTER TO CHINA.

At this juncture a few facts concerning the life of Mr. Charles Crane, the new American Minister to China for the United States, are interesting. The new Minister, says the Washington correspondent of the *Mainichi*, is the founder of the famous firm of Messrs. Crane & Co., one of the largest manufacturing concerns in Chicago, and is one of the ablest business-men in America. The President, who attaches great importance to the post at Peking, expresses much pleasure that Mr. Crane has accepted the appointment. Having visited Russia seventeen times, he has an intimate knowledge of the Russian language, and has also some knowledge of diplomatic affairs.

Mr. William Crane, the new minister's uncle, was Professor of Chinese at Yale University and published several books on China. The President has asked the Chinese Government for its opinion of the appointment. In view of the public desire that America should take steps to promote the commercial developement of China, the Department of State regards the President's appointment of Mr. Crane to Peking as most timely.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

OWING to the recent excessively hot weather, the demand for ice has appreciated *yen* 1.80 per *kwamme* in Tokyo.

BARON MATSUO, Governor of the Bank of Japan, who has been staying at Hayama, returned to Tokyo on the 19th inst.

MARQUIS INOUYE and his family will go to Okitsu, leaving Shimbashi on the 21st inst. to pass the hot season there.

ON July 16, a large tunny was captured by a party of students of the Awa Middle School, who were swimming near the beach off Hojo, Awa province. The fish weighed over 250 lbs.

ON July 20, Prince Ito and Premier Katsura paid a visit to the Imperial Palace, in order to submit the new agreement between Japan and Korea to His Majesty. The promulgation will take place about the 25th instant.

AT 9 a.m. on July 21, a party of teachers and students of the Gakushu-in, numbering 180 in all, left Shimbashi for Kodzu. They are to sojourn in tents for three weeks at Katase, recreating in swimming and other exercises.

IN all probability after the conference of flag officers which is to be held next Autumn, Admiral Togo, Chief of the Naval General Staff, will be promoted to be Admiral of the Fleet, and Vice-Admiral Ijuin will succeed him.

ON July 16, the steamer *Tateyama Maru*, belonging to the Tokyo-wan Kisen Kaisha, ran on a sunken rock off the coast of Futomi-mura, Awa-gori, Chiba prefecture, on her way from Tokyo to Boshu. The vessel was seriously damaged, but no casualties are reported.

MORIOKA reports state that on July 20, when the second Battalion of Engineers were practising bridge-building exercises over the Kitakami River, at Mayesawa-cho, Izawa-gori, a mine exploded. Three privates were instantly killed and one was seriously injured.

IT is announced by the Yokohama Waterworks Bureau that for a period of about one week, commencing to-day, the 19th, the supply of water will be cut off from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The daily consumption of water in the city exceeds 5,800,000 gallons, while the intake at the reservoir is only 5,400,000 gallons.

YUSUJIRO ENDO and Gentaro Tomita, editor and proprietor of the *Boyeki Shimpo*, of Yokohama, were arrested on Thursday by the Kagacho police and were sent to the Negishi Prison. Tomita, says the *Japan Times*, was released on the following day. As to the cause of the arrest, it is alleged that on the occasion of the Yokohama 50th anniversary celebration, the paper made a prize election of 15 great men of the city. It seems that a secret understanding was concluded between the paper and Zensuke Tanaka, of Samuel, Samuel & Co., that the paper would elect Tanaka as the second prize winner in return for 1,500 *yen* (some say 5,000 *yen*). The promise was not carried out and Tanaka brought an action against the paper.

IT is understood that 50 more subscribers are required in order for a start to be made with the proposed Yokohama City band. Sunday concerts are contemplated. Professor Griffiths, the Director, is confident that this feature will give every success. The subscription rate is 6 *yen* per annum.

IT is telegraphed that Prince Tsai Cheng arrived in Peking on July 17, and that he immediately proceeded to the Imperial Palace, where he reported the result of his mission to the Prince Regent. His Highness has expressed deep gratitude for the cordiality of the Japanese Imperial family, as well as of the people in general.

ON July 15, fire broke out at Takahama Minami-machi, Tokyo, near which place are the residences of Prince Kitashirakawa and Viscount Watanabe. Before the flames could be subdued one house was totally destroyed and five others were partly damaged. Two persons were slightly injured. Viscount Watanabe subscribed 15 *yen* for relief.

IT is telegraphed from Mexico that an agreement has been concluded between the Toyo Kisen Kaisha and the Mexican Government to the effect that the steamers of the company will call at Manzanillo and Salina Cruz on their way to South America six times per annum, and that Mexico will deliver securities for *yen* 60,000 on that account.

AS previously announced, Prince Higashi Kuni ascended mount Fuji in company with his battalion. He left Gotemba at 5 p.m. on July 20 and reached the summit at 6.52 a.m. the next morning. He was the only one who wore boots. It is reported that *en route* his kindness to the privates stimulated possible invalids to greater efforts.

ON July 21, the Imperial Grandsons Princes Michi, Atsu and Teru, honoured Governor Sufu by a visit to his villa at Dzushi. Baron and Baroness Sufu and their son Mr. Kanemichi Sufu were received in audience by their Highnesses, who are reported to have much enjoyed the hospitality of the governor, who entertained them to gramaphone selections.

A KANAZAWA despatch says that a general meeting of the export fabrics union of Ishikawa prefecture was held on July 21 at the branch in Haguri-gori, when it was decided that a three months cessation from work in the *Habutae* be observed. Those who have in stock raw-silk of superior quality, will be granted grace for the use of their stocks.

Two post offices have been established on mount Fuji, one on the summit and the other on the *Hichigome*. Ordinary and registered mail matter and ordinary parcel post matter will be received and delivered. The offices will be open daily till August 31.

The installation of a telephone wire is expected to be completed by the end of this month.

THE Mayebashi report in our Wednesday's issue relating to the arrest of about a dozen canvassers for the election of Mr. Tsuruhara Sakakichi, including a member of the prefectural assembly, originated in publications in the *Jomo Shimbun* and *Joshu Nippo* supporting Mr. Nakajima, a rival to Mr. Tsuruhara in the bye-election. The two papers have been prosecuted on a charge of obstruction.

THE *Seoul Press* says that during the summer vacation the daily routine of the Korean Crown Prince in Tokyo mainly consists of writing a letter to the retired Emperor of Korea, going through his lessons and exercises with his fellow students in the daytime and listening to lectures on history from his attendants in the evening. It appears that lately the Prince Imperial has made great progress in his studies, and having already completed his study in Japanese geography, he is now studying Japanese history and has got as far as the beginning of the Tokugawa dynasty. It is expected that he will be the 1st year class student of the middle school course in the Peers' School next year.

THE revised law for physicians which was passed at the last session of the Diet was issued in the *Official Gazette* for July 19. The chief point of the law is that physicians are not allowed to advertise in any way whatever their medical ability, methods af treating patients, or their past career. If they violate the law, they will be punished with fines ranging up to 100 *yen*. The law also applies to dentists.

THE quantity of cargo exported from Dairen (Dalny) during last month amounted to 55,568 tons, which is classified as follows: Beans, 19,926 tons; bean cakes, 18,599 tons; other cereals, 14,221 tons; and general goods, 2,822 tons.

The total shows a decrease of 35,663 tons on the figures for the previous month.

The goods consigned to Europe were 12,948 tons of beans and 1,224 tons of other cereals,

SHANGHAI dispatches state that the Chinese Government opened on the 17th inst. to steamers plying on the Yangtze the ports of Tungchou in Kiangsu and Tienchuangchen, on the opposite side of Tungchou. All goods loaded and unloaded at those ports are to be examined at the Customs of the places according to the call regulations. The vessels engaged in the voyage according to the river navigation regulations are exempted.

ON July 13, the president and 11 directors, anditors, managers, etc., of the Boso Hakuai Kabushiki Kaisha, at Yuki-mura, Awa-gori, Chiba prefecture, were arrested. The Company was established in 1903 to carry on a sort of insurance business. It is alleged that the directors have misappropriated the company's funds to a large extent. The publication of further details at this stage of the prosecution is prohibited by the judicial authorities.

MR. D. H. BLAKE has been elected Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Grand Hotel, Ltd. vice Dr. C. H. H. Hall, who has been Chairman since July, 1899, resigned. Dr. Hall is still a director. The Board now stands:

D. H. Blake, Esq., Chairman
Dr. C. H. H. Hall, Director
G. W. Colton, Esq., „
C. F. Heinlein, Esq., „
J. Murai, Esq., „

LORD FREDERICK HAMILTON, who arrived at Liverpool recently by the Canadian Pacific steamer *Empress of Britain*, recorded with satisfaction that he had completed a tour round the world without placing foot on foreign soil. Leaving India, which he had reached by steamer from this country, he had travelled by way of Ceylon, Singapore, and Hongkong, where he joined the Canadian Pacific for Vancouver, and travelled by that company to Liverpool.

AN AIRSHIP in course of construction by Mr J. H. Walker, of Stoke-on-Trent has a boat-shaped car suspended from a cigar—shaped balloon, and is fitted with a pair of wings which are designed to work with a bird-like movement. The propelling power is a 3¾ h.p. motor, which work the wings and propeller simultaneously. A novel feature is a tank capable of storing a considerable quantity of gas, and this, the inventor claims, can be introduced into the gas bag if needed.

A PARIS journal publishes a pretty story of the little Princess of Holland. A few weeks ago a Grenadier sentry at one of the gateways of the Palace at The Hague saw passing in the grounds a baby carriage pushed by a nurse. He followed it with his eyes for some seconds, and then it dawned upon him that it was the little Princess of Orange, the future ruler of his country. Forthwith, the sentry, as he thought unobserved, pre-

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sented arms to the Princess, who was asleep. Prince Henry was the one beholder of the incident, which so much appealed to him that he sent for the soldier, to whom he made a present of money, that he might purchase something as a souvenir of the Princess's first salute.

ACCORDING to reports at the Bremerton Navy Yard, the merchant steamer *Zafiro*, which was purchased by Admiral Dewey from British owners prior to the battle of Manila, in order to get coal to carry him through the engagement, has been sold to a junk dealer for $3000. The *Zafiro* was in the line of battle at Manila as a supply ship, and later was used as a dispatch boat in the Philippines.

THE temperatures at different localities, wired on July 18, were as follow :—

Nagano :—95° F. with a breeze.
Tsu :—99° F. which has not been experienced for 20 years.
Fukushima :—Owing to the heat many lampreys and gibels were found dead.
Hamamatsu :—During the morning, the fog was so thick that nothing could be seen even from a short distance. The heat shows a tendency to become more intense.

THE price of radium is now $8,000,000 per pound of 12 ounces.

This price has been established by an order given to a British company by Lord Iveagh and Sir Ernest Cassell for seven and a half grams, which is little less than one-quarter of an ounce, and for which they have contracted to pay $150,000.

The radium is to be used in experimental work in an institution recently founded for the investigation of cancer.

IN view of the the renewal of the rumours that he was preparing again to challenge for the America Cup, Sir Thomas Lipton, in an interview recently made it quite clear that he had no intention of competing under the present conditions. "No man will build a boat to sail under conditions such as have prevailed in the past," Sir Thomas said, "I am always willing to give the Americans the advantage of their own universal rule, under which they have had experience in building and sailing, and I am ready to challenge thereunder, but I will not try again under the rule of fifty or sixty years ago.

ON Saturday, the 10th instant, a large number of medical men assembled at the Osaka City Hall and did honour to the memory of Dr. Ogata Koan, a pioneer doctor of modern Japan. Dr. Ogata died 47 years ago, noted as one of that small band of scholars who strove so hard to disseminate Dutch learning in Japan when the country was closed to all foreign intercourse. After learning the Dutch language he studied all the medical books he could procure, and imparted to the students in Osaka the knowledge he had acquired. Some of his pupils became prominent in many fields of labour in modern Japan.

A SEVERE hail and thunderstorm visited Yokohama on the afternoon of July 19. A meteorological report states that the hailstones varied from half an inch to an inch and a quarter in diameter, the larger ones falling in the western part of the town. The first drops of rain were of phenomenal size, single drops moistening a circle of ground 2½ inches in diameter. The damage done by the hail was very slight. The storm had little effect on the temperature, the night of the 19-20th being one of the hottest of the season. On the 20th, however, a change in the direction of the wind brought some relief.

AT a recent meeting of the Royal Statistical Society in London Mr. G. Paish read a paper on "Great Britain's Capital Investments in Other Lands." He stated that to obtain an income from abroad of nearly £140,000,000 a year Great Britain had invested a sum of about £2,700,000,000 and was obtaining an all-round return of 5.2 per cent. As soon as the large amount of capital sent out in recent years bore fruit the annual income would reach a much greater figure. Of this total nearly £1,700,000,000 had been expended upon railway construction. Before the close of the current year the total amount of British capital invested abroad would probably exceed £3,000,000,000, and there were good prospects that in the seven years from 1905 to 1911, inclusive, Britain should place new capital in other lands to the extent of at least £700 000,000, or an average of about £100,000,000 a year. Sir Charles Dilke said that the paper confirmed his own impression of the beneficial effect on trade of the country's large foreign investments.

SOME very interesting experiments have been carried out at Toulon for the purpose of ascertaining whether the wireless telegraphy station, with its three legs rising to a height of 276 feet above the Mechanical School, has had dangerous magnetic influence upon the dormant torpedoes that lie submerged in a long line at the entrance to the roadstead, with a view to defending the channels. Some French Naval experts go so for as to say that the accident to the battleship *Jena* was caused by the action of the Hartzian waves in the atmosphere, and this opinion was endorsed by the Committee of Inquiry.

THE Kaiser, at the banquet on the *Deutschland*, said, in referring to his meeting with the Emperor of Russia :

"I rejoice in being able to tell you, the representatives of trade and the business world, the meaning of that visit for the further preservation of peace. The Emperor Nicholas and I agree that our meeting must be regarded as an energetic proclamation of peace. We feel ourselves, as Monarchs, responsible to God for the weal and woe of our peoples, which we want to lead forward as far as possible on their peaceful way to prosperity. All nations need peace, therefore we will both strive, with God's help, and so far as lies within our power, to maintain peace."

COYNE, the fireman on board the British steamer *Woodburn* of Newcastle, which was fired upon at Pitkipas bay recently by a Russian vessel, sustained only slight injuries. He declares at Stockholm, that three other members of the *Woodburn* crew sustained slight injuries.

Further details of the occurrence, says an American exchange, show that the *Woodburn* strayed during the night within the prohibited zone of navigation in the vicinity of Pitkipas bay. Her captain evidently was unfamiliar with the published regulations and was obviously too near the yacht upon which the Tsar and the Kaiser were meeting for their escort's satisfaction.

THE following table shows the number and tonnage of ships of various nations using the Suez Canal in 1908 :

Nationality.	No. of Vessels.	Net Tonnage.
English	2,233	8,303,802
German	584	2,310,507
French	242	815,120
Dutch	246	743,980
Japanese	59	286,456
Russian	84	251,820
Italian	83	189,543
Danish	34	89,768
Spanish	27	77,974
Norwegian	22	61,901
Swedish	16	49,628
Austra-Hungarian	107	38,546
Turkish	30	34,601
American	8	17,500
Greek	8	10,408
Portuguese	3	1,689
Brazilian	1	1,484
Siamese	1	556
Total	3,795	13,633,283

The usual practice, says the *N.-C. Daily News*, has been that when a Chinese official dies in office owing money to the Government, his heir is held responsible for the deficiency and is compelled in every case to make good the amount. The Imperial Government now proposes an amendment to this procedure. Oftentimes the official becomes indebted to the Imperial exchequer through no fault of his own, the debts being incurred in the discharge of his official duties. In such instances the Government will hereafter make some allowance, but not until the Viceroy or Governor is satisfied, after a most careful and thorough investigation, that the debts were really contracted in the discharge of his duties. The Financial Commissioners of each province are required to pay attention to such matters and to make periodical reports to the Throne, to prevent abuse of this privilege.

"THE feeling between the white race and the coloured race in the South is growing better each year," declared President Taft recently before handing diplomas to nearly 200 graduates of the two coloured high schools and the coloured Normal School at Washington.

"I do not care if there are extremists who differ from me," continued the President. "They do not represent the real white feeling in the South. As a negro labourer becomes more efficient, so does the industrial progress of the South move on. In the endeavour, self-restraint and industry of the race itself lies its hope of success. I do not minimize your burdens, but those of the future are as nothing compared with those which you have already overcome."

REMARKABLE HOTEL FESTIVAL.

A most remarkable hotel is coming to San Francisco next October, says the *San Francisco Chronicle*. It will be the most strictly first-class hotel in the world, and it is coming, not as bricks and lime and steel and lumber, but already in operation, complete in every detail, and throughly equipped and in full operation.

James Woods, of the Hotel St. Francis, special commissioner af the Portala festival, is the man who will execute the big feat.

Commissioner Woods will bring a big, first-class hotel to the Portola Festival from New York, on wheels. The railroad companies will call it a special train, but it will be a hotel on wheels, nevertheless, and it is claimed that it will be the best equipped hotel in the world.

The engineer, conductor and brake-men will be railroad men. Everybody else on the train will be a hotel man of the first water. There will be a manager, taken from one of the largest Eastern hotels. The room clerk will come from the Wardolf, or the St. Regis, or the Plaza, or some other world-famous hotel. Bellboys, porters, stewards, waiters, pages, chefs will all be aboard, and they will be the pick of the men in their departments from all over the country.

There will be upward of a thousand guests in this Arabian Nights hotel. Each guest will be a world-famous hotel man. It will bring together for the first time all of the men who are caring for the first-class tourist trade of the world—the men who have made travel in America and Europe a delight.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S HEAD ON FEDERAL STAMPS.

Some discussion has latterly taken place between the English Government and the Australian authorities over the postage stamps in use in the Colony. Until the expiration of certain clauses of the Australian Constitution in 1910 the old pre-Federation postage stamps, with the head of Queen Victoria upon them, have been retained in each of the six States by the National Postmaster-General. In due time a stamp with the head of King Edward VII as a prominent feature will be issued, but until then the Australian Government will continue to use the old plates.

This position has, however, now been contested by some official of the British General Post office. A letter bearing a Queensland stamp and addressed to a firm in Cheapside a short time ago, has been declared by this official to be improperly stamped, as "the imperial authorities cannot accept stamps bearing the late Queen's head, six years being the limit of age up to which stamps can be received."

As such a decision would throw the entire Australian mail business out of gear, it has been contested by the Federal Government, and cables on the subject are being exchanged between the British and Australian authorities.

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DISCOVERIES IN CHINESE TURKESTAN.

The recently published report of the first Royal Prussian, or second German, expedition to Turfan, in Chinese Turkestan, under the leadership of M A. von le Coq, is commented upon in a recent issue of the *Bombay Gazette* as follows:—

The way had been opened by others: in 1879 by Dr. A. Regel, a German botanist, franked by Russia, by the two Russian brothers Grum-Grizmails, in 1896, by Messrs. Donner and Baron Munck of Finland in 1898, and by D. Klementz, the Russian Academician, in the same year. The Report of this last traveller attracted the attention of scholars more than any of the previous explorers, and the interesting account given in 1902 by Dr. A. M. Stein of his successful excavations in Chinese Turkestan still further whetted German curiosity. Berlin decided to send out Professor Grunwedel with two assistant antiquarians to the Turfan oasis to unearth the antiquities buried there. Considerable opposition was offered to this first German expedition by "men who ought to have been better informed" But it came off in 1902-3, and it bore fruit in important archæological and literary discoveries. Some of the MSS. brought back were recognised as being in the Estrangelo character and as remnants of the "long-lost literature" of the Manichæans, others as portions of the Sanskrit Canon of the Buddhists. These finds further inspired the enthusiasm of Berlin scholars and through the unremitting exertions of Professor Pischel another expedition was planned. This was confided to the leadership of M. A. von le Coq. The German Government provided funds, the Emperor William contributing a large sum, and a start was made from Berlin on September 12 1904. Mr. Bartus, who had accompanied Professer Grunwedel in 1902, was associated with M. von le Coq. If there were exciting adventures on the way to Turfan, the leader of the expedition does not allow them to intrude on his impersonal account just published in the Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society. The road lay through St. Petersburg where we note that the members of the Academy of Science were visited before the explorers proceeded to Omsk by train, whence an Irtish river-boat carried the party to Semipalatinsk. From here the dreary steppe had to be crossed by tarantass and telega. This latter is about the rudest thing in vehicles, though it, in common with the luxurious motor car is obliged to carry at least one extra wheel in readiness for emergencies—and spare axle-trees as well. The post-stations were painfully primitive, only tea and sugar being provided for refreshment, all other food had to be found in the travellers' knapsacks. M. von le Coq makes the simple but pregnant remark that "tubs and insect powder will be found useful." From Semipalatinsk to Bakhty was an eight-days and nights tarantass journey. There they entered Chinese territory and were soon in the flourishing town of Chorchak or Chuguchak, and in touch with Chinese officials whom they found not only here, but all through Turkestan, most friendly and obliging A caravan was formed to negotiate the "detestable roads" leading over a very rough country to Urumchi, the capital of Chinese Turkestan, whither sixteen days of hard riding in great discomfort brought the antiquarians. Formal visits were paid to the Futai and Chinese officials and welcome hospitalities accepted from the Russian Consul. A new caravan was hired to cross the Tien-shan to Turfan, a journey of six days, via Dabanching. The Wang of Luk chun sent officers to receive the travellers who forthwith revelled in melons, grapes, pomegranates and other fruits of the earth offered by the good-will of the amiable Wang, who is lord of the land from Turfan to Lap-Nor, and whose friendship proved of the greatest possible use to M. von le Coq throughout his stay.

Arrived at their base, Qara Khoja, the travellers took up their residence in Grunwedel's old quarters, the sarai of the peasant Saut. They were immediately called upon by many natives, mostly cultivators, and began their collections by buying a few coins, fragments of manuscripts, some curious brown pottery adorned with Buddhist saints—in relief and some clay heads of statues inthe Ghandaran style of art. An inspection of the ruins of the city was immediately set on foot. Mr. Bartus was bitterly disappointed at the changes wrought among the ruins since his visit two years before. It was the old story of destruction of the monuments of the dead past, apparently inevitable in the struggle for life in the present. The cultivators wanting ground for their crops, had pulled down ruins ruthlessly and had traced new canals for irrigation. The consequence of this increased agricultural activity was a greater demand for the "loess" that the centuries had accumulated in the old buildings, and which is considered the best manure for exhausted land. Gathering this "loess" meant the loss or sale to Russian Mahomedan traders of the MSS and antiquities found in it. A curious discovery was made here in a "complex of ruins," during the pulling down of a wall which had been built against the original wall of a hall-like edifice. On this was revealed a watercolour picture of a Manichæan high priest in full canonicals, larger than life, surrounded by his clergy, all in white priestly garments but under life-size. The name of each of these was on his breast in Uighur characters A double row of Manichæan nuns in white were represented further off, and beyond them again lay folk in ordinary dress. The painting seemed Chinese, but the faces were those of western Asiatics. Byzantine art is recalled by the whole picture and it was the only Manichæan wall painting these explorers found, It was difficult to understand the reason for building a second wall right against the first. It might have been the work of Buddhists, when Buddhism was in the ascendant, as a considerate way of hiding the symbols of the old worship, or it might have been only a device to strengthen the temple in later centuries, for Buddhist paintings were found concealed in this manner in Buddhist temples. A picture of a battle of demons, men and dogs with two huge birds, was another vivid wall-scene uncovered. There were strings of Chinese Buddhist monks, names and all, a row of Indian monks in yellow robes filled other walls, their names on their breasts in Brahmi letters. All of these were evidently portraits. The paintings were important chronologically for they clearly fixed the date as the ninth century. In the ruins of what had been domed buildings were found skeletons, recognised by their tattered habits as Buddhist monks. These poor things had evidently been slain and flung in heaps by some ruthless invaders, to whom is also ascribed the wholesale destruction of valuable manuscripts.

Still M. von le Coq found many writings, notably a large bundle of Manichæan MSS. in fair preservation, written in the Persian and Sagdian languages, fragments of Manichæan miniatures, and a Persian MS. giving a list of the persons at the Khan's Court. In many temples were unearthed interesting native flags, formed of long strips of cotton cloth, covered with a thin layer of stucco on which priests and worshipping figures of men or other designs where painted in water colours. Paintings of finer execution on fragments of silk were found. All these objects, Manichæan or Buddhist, had evidently been dragged down savagely, and torn to shreds. The wind had carried them into the corners of decayed buildings where layers of dry dust piled up by the ages had preserved them. All sorts of designs, painted in harmonious colours, were revealed to the persevering excavators, scenes from Buddhist hells, simple flowers, the eleven-headed Avalokitesvara and demons of many forms. Beautiful and refined specimens of textile work were found, such as *batik* or wax printing on cloth, *ikat* or the tying process of dyeing called *chunari* in the Punjab—both processes once so general in India, now fast becoming obsolete—besides block-printed ornamental cloths similar to those still made in Kashmir and Turkestan. Fragments of beautiful gobelin embroidery of figures, flowers and even of writing in Uighur characters came to light. Bronze coins of the T'ang dynasty, silver Sassanian coins, some with 13th century Mahomedan inscriptions were found or brought in by the native cultivators. M. le Coq gives many interesting details regarding the sculptures and vessels discovered which well repay perusal. In the architecture of city, temple and monastery he always found either Indian or Persian elements. The permanence of the well-made sundried bricks that formed the domed vault-like buildings, of which the purpose has not yet been discovered, amazed him, for they have resisted the terrific storms and the frequent earthquakes that shake Turfan. The MSS. found show that the Turkestan ancients had four forms of books: the book-roll, the folding-book, the Indian *pothi*, and the modern western book, with leaves folded, sewn and bound in leather. M. le Coq persevered in his excavation work among the ruins, great and small, of Turfan until news of the advent of Professor Grunwedel at Kashgar made him pause, give up further excursions and make a forty-four days' journey to Kashgar to join in the second Prussian Expedition under the Professor about which there will undoubtedly be another story.

THE TRAFFIC IN WOMEN IN CHINA.

Mr. Edwin J. Dingle, a Singapore journalist, who is travelling across China on foot, writes the following on girl-slavery in Chaotong to a China contemporary.

"At Chaotong, a city of some forty thousand souls, I was told that one of the briskest directions of local trade was the selling of female children into slavery, and at the time I passed through, prices were fairly high, a girl who could boast good looks and who had reached an age when her charms were naturally strongest, fetching the alarming figure of three hundred taels—this was the highest figure reached, whilst small children could be had for anything up to twenty. This wholesale disposal of young girls, although the traffic in some quarters was emphatically denied to exist, is one of the chief sorrows of the district. And well it might be, for thousands of children are annually disposed of for a few taels by heartless parents who watch them being carried away as so much silver—in many cases in this poverty stricken district, merely to satisfy the craving for opium of some sodden wretch of a man who calls himself a father.

This and the terrible infanticide which exists in all poor districts of China, menaces the lives of all wellwishers of the entire province of Yunnan. At Tongchuan, the missionaries have adopted a poor little mite whose mother had abandoned her infant. The little girl is now three years old, and is as bright intellectually as any European child. Later this tiny Chinese derelict will be sent to England, and what she may become will depend upon her own efforts when she shall have become of age.

However, all honour to those who take that absorbing interest in little children who are thrown over mission walls, to perish or to be picked up by some charitably disposed person. In the particular district of which we speak, it is not an uncommon sight to see children, perhaps not yet dead, being torn to pieces by dogs, the scavengers of the Empire, perhaps by the very dogs that had been their playmates from birth."

GOLD PLENTIFUL IN ALASKA.

Six and a half tons of virgin gold, valued at $3,200,000, the largest single shipment ever sent from Alaska, arrived at Seattle recently on steamer *Jefferson* from Juneau. Of this sum $2,800,000 was sent out by mail and about $400,000 by express, coming from Fairbanks, Circle, Dawson and other rich camps of the interior.

After slinging 100 heavy sacks of gold on to the dock the consignment was taken to the Post office in a dozen mail wagons, which were waiting at the dock. The gold after delivery at the Post office was to be forwarded to the Mint through the Assay Office, Seattle.

The shipment on the *Jefferson* besides being the largest ever brought out, indicates, a very large clean-up in Alaska this summer, says the San Francisco *Chronicle*. Mail advices from the Tanana state that the dumps on all the creeks are showing up better than ever, and it is said that $11,000,000 to $15,000,000 will be a conservative estimate of the output of the Tanana alone.

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NEW VEGETABLES AND PLANTS DISCOVERED IN CHINA.

What the American Government's Plant Bureau calls a "Klondike of new plants," is said to have been discovered recently by Mr. Frank N. Meyer, one of the botanical explorers of the Department of Agriculture, in Northern China. In the course of an expedition covering many months, this intrepid investigator, travelled over a vast region hitherto unvisited by any white man, incidentally crossing three times the great natural barrier known as the Ever White Mountains, which separate Manchuria from Korea. It is a very cold part of the world, and an object explorer Meyer had particularly in view was to find valuable plant varieties that would prove useful in the far northern part of the United States, where the summers are short. One such plant secured by him was a hull-less oat, which grew at an elevation of two miles above the sea, in the province of Shansi. Another, from the same section, was a hull less barley. The latter seemed to be rare, and is believed to have been brought originally from the far interior of Mongolia by religious pilgrims. From the same region was obtained a remarkable cabbage. It is much like an ordinary cabbage; but grows on a tall stalk. The expectation is that it will prove well adapted for cultivation in the northern United States

There was also a red lily, and a strawberry tree, bearing round, wine-red fruit, very pleasing to the taste. This fruit is eaten fresh, stewed or preserved in spirits. Mr. Meyer found in Northern China a peculiar kind of quince, bearing small fruits with a spicy odour, which are used by natives to perfume their dwellings. He also came across and collected slips of a new sort of red rose, with red stems and a multitude of spines. This rose plant, which produces not only flowers, but numerous bunches of large scarlet berries, is likely to prove valuable as a soil binder in dry regions. It has a spreading habit, and, running rapidly over the ground, serves the suggested purpose admirably.

Mr. Meyer has taken back with him the seeds of two new kinds of water-melon, one with yellow flesh, and the other with white flesh. Both are said to be very fine. He also secured slips of a number of dwarf trees—those vegetable curiosities which in China are dwarfed artificially by growing them in pots, to confine their roots. One of these, called the *kua*, is also grown in gardens clipped or twisted into many grotesque shapes, imitating animals, etc. It attains a great age, certainly several centuries Another known as the *shi* is loaded in winter with white capsules out of which peer scarlet berries. It is commonly used for decorating tables.

HOW WE ARE HOAXED BY THE AIRSHIP.

The New York *World* is less convinced than any of its American or European Contemporaries of the air-ship's practicability for war purposes. It emphasizes its limitations thus:

"The Zeppelin ship is about 450 feet long and 50 feet wide. At home it is housed on a floating raft in the middle of a lake to give it plenty of space It can make an emergency stop in a field as big as the parade-ground at Prospect or Van Cortlandt Park. It is enormously expensive, very fragile, useless in high winds.

"Apparently, air-ships will never transport armies of attack Their enormous cost, the vast area required, the difficulties of landing, the dependence upon weather conditions, seem to preclude such use. Similar reasons make their employment in passenger service doubtful. They may become the playthings of rich men, though not for years to come, if ever, in any such numbers as the automobile. In war they should be valuable for scouting and observation and the tendency will perhaps be to multiply their number rather than their size. In that the smaller, cheaper aeroplane has the advantage

"Meanwhile most soldiers still travel on their own legs as they did at Marathon and at Crecy."

CORRESPONDENCE.

AN EARLY JAPANESE QUOTATION FROM THE BIBLE.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Now that the hot weather is upon us you ought to be very glad to have anyone contribute a short paragraph to your paper. On the plea that every little helps you in your tropical labours, and that all sorts of things are interesting during the dog-days in a land where gooseberries do not grow to abnormal sizes and sea-serpents are unknown, I venture to send you a little paragraph which may be of interest to some of your readers.

Yours, A. LLOYD.

July 15th, 1909.

Shinshū seikun is a small volume of extracts from the works of prominent Shinshū divines, arranged methodically so as to be at once a handbook of Shinshū doctrines, and a promptuary for the preachers of that sect. It was published in the 39th year of Meiji by Morie, of Tokyo, the well-known Buddhist publisher. On page 57 there is an extract from a work of Shinran Shōnin's entitled 帖外御文 (*Chō gai gyo mon?*) in which the author is urging upon the Shinshū believers the necessity of abandoning the worship of all other Buddhas, Gods, or Spirits good or evil, and concentrating the eye of faith on the Buddha Amida alone. In the middle of the paragraph comes the following sentence; *sareba geten* (外典) *no kotoba ni iwaku: Chushin wa ji-kun ni tsukaezareba, teijo wa ji fu ni mamiedzu to ieri.* "It is said in the words of the *geten* (*i.e.* the outside Scriptures) that the faithful servant cannot serve two masters, and that the handmaiden cannot have her eye on two mistresses." That *geten* refers to some Canon of Scripture outside the Buddhist one is quite clear, and the resemblance to the words of the Sermon on the Mount is too obvious to be overlooked or, I think, denied (see Matt. VI. 24) In the second half of the quotation from the *geten*, the word *mamiyuon* (見) suggests the parallel passage in Psalm CXXIII. v. 2. "Behold, as the eyes of a maiden look (見) unto the hand of her mistress, so our eyes wait upon the Lord our God until he have mercy upon us."

Earlier in the same book (p. 27) there is a discussion of the relative importance of the *ō-hō* and *Buppō* ("the Law of the King and the Law of God,") which, taken in connexion with the above direct quotation from the Sermon on the Mount, and possibly from the Psalms, suggests the probability that the religious leaders of Japan were acquainted with Christianity at least two centuries before the arrival of the Catholic Missions of the sixteenth century. I have heard it very positively asserted that there exists in Japan a copy of the Gospel of St. Matthew in Chinese in the handwriting of Shinran Shōnin. My little discovery certainly points to the truth of that legend.

A. LL.

HSINMINTUN AND MUKDEN.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In a paragraph under the above heading in to-day's issue of your paper, you have admirably illustrated an attempt of the Lone to lead the blind.

With your accustomed solicitude to inform the public correctly about the merits of the Japanese side of any case in dispute, you mention as a fact, "that the military line built by Russia to Hsinmintun, which line fell into Japan's hands in the sequel of the War, and having been reconstructed by her, was subsequently sold back to China. This line never actually communicated with the city of Mukden."

Allow me to point out to you, that not only did this alleged line, never actually communicate with the city of Mukden, but it never existed at all prior to the entry of the Japanese into Mukden on the 10th of March, 1905.

I was the last European to leave Mukden after the above-mentioned entry of the Japanese, and when I did leave on the 19th of March for Hsinmintun, there was no more sign of a railway in any shape or form between the two places, than when I travelled along that road on the 2nd of February previously.

The light railway you mention between Hsinmintun and Mukden and on which I travelled one year later, was constructed by the Japanese and subsequently sold to China. Quite recently you commented somewhat severely upon the slipshod manner of modern journalists, in quoting names and dates of persons and events, whose history did not go back for more than 30 or 40 years, without verification.

But what is the public to say in your case, when the mentor on everything Japanese shows himself so deficient in knowledge of the commonest fact of history, not even half a dozen years old?

Really, people who live in glass houses should'nt throw stones.

Hoping that you will appreciate the above correction, I remain.

Yours faithfully, J. N. KALFF.

Yokohama, 16th July, 1909.

THE "VOSSISCHE ZEITUNG" AND FRANCO-ENGLISH RELATIONS.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In your issue of the 20th inst. you say: "The *Vossische Zeitung*, with a Machiavellian contortion of argument, endeavours to set France and England by the ears by pointing out that Mr. Asquith clearly reckons not only Germany and Austria, but France also, as potential enemies of the British Empire."

As the resident correspondent of the *Vossische Zeitung*, I shall be glad if you will kindly point out to me the issue of the paper in question in which the article appeared that provoked your criticism. In the files recently come to hand I am sure nothing has appeared that warrants it. The *Vossische Zeitung*, on the contrary, has always been most pronounced in its advocacy of the best possible relations between Germany and England, so that nothing would be further from its policy than any attempt to disturb the existing friendly relations between France and England. But if it appeared to the editor that Mr. Asquith clearly reckons France as a potential enemy of the British Empire, why should he not say so without being charged with a "Machiavellian contortion of argument?" And what of a Machiavellian character at all is there in such a simple proposition? What contortion of argument is there needed to make it? What intelligible purpose, further, could the *V. Z.* possibly have to serve in resorting to contortion of argument in advancing such a natural proposition? None whatsoever. The *Vossische Zeitung* was established more than 200 years ago, has remained in the hands of the same family ever since, and is, moreover, the wealthiest paper in Germany, so that it is absolutely independent. Relations between France and England, moreover, are not affected and cannot be affected to any dangerous degree by the independent press but only by the press that is in the service and under the control of the International Government of the world, of whose working I know more than I could assert and prove in print.

On the 26th August, 1905, however, I published the names of 73 members of a certain branch of it in the "*Eastern World*" who are seated in London, Berlin and Paris. I also published the number of £1000 shares held by each of those members—shares, by the bye, which are not in the market. The following are the names of the fifteen financial actual rulers of the world who govern its nominal rulers and without whose consent not a shot can be fired anywhere. They are: Rothschild, Cassel, Stern, Goldsmid, Camondo, Fould, Péreire, Ephrussi, Bischoffsheim, Bleichroeder, Warschauer, Mendelssohn, Hirsch, Gunsburg and Warshavski. Information of their plans that sometimes comes to me through absolutely reliable sources enabled me in February, 1905, to accurately forecast in the *Eastern World* the principal terms of the Portsmouth Treaty. Europe owes twenty-four billion dollars to them. That is why they are the rulers of Europe and of the world through Europe. *They*, and not the crowned heads and presidents of republics, make war and peace and conclude treaties, appoint Chancellors, Ministers and Ambassadors, and use the press they own or control for the purpose. But the *Vossische Zeitung* does *not* belong to that press. Sir Cecil Spring Rice, the British Chargé d'Affaires at St. Petersburg, towards the close of the war with Russia, could say much on the subject if he were permitted to do so and if he liked, neither of which is very probable. It would be of special interest, however, to know what he heard and said at a certain conference at St. Petersburg between the Tsar, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, the German and Austrian Ministers and himself, and at a conference shortly afterwards at Washington between Sir Mortimer Durand, the British Ambassador, President Roosevelt and himself.

You may take it for granted that the aforesaid 15 rulers of the world were present at those conferences, although not in person, and also that they will and do determine the relations between France and England whom they alone can set by the ears or keep on good terms. I am, Sir, thanking you for the courtesy of your columns,

Yours very truly, F. SCHROEDER.

Yokohama, July 20, 1909

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EXPERT FAILED TO CURE HIS ECZEMA

Had Suffered Six Years—Face Badly Affected—Dared Not Go Out when Air Was Raw—Cuticura Proved Only Remedy—Also Cured Ringworm on Girl's Arm.

CUTICURA REMEDIES TWICE SUCCESSFUL

"I found three cakes of Cuticura Soap, one box of Cuticura Ointment and two bottles of Cuticura Resolvent ample to clear me of eczema, with which I had suffered for six years. It was the face principally that was affected and latterly I scarcely dared show myself out of doors if there was the least rawness in the air. I tried two or three doctors, also a chemist who was supposed to be an expert on eczema, but they did not seem to cure me permanently. Also the same box of Cuticura Ointment cured a pretty bad case of ringworm on a girl's arm that I persuaded her to allow me to dress with it. G. L. Monro, Burrow Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale, May 11, 1907."

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

MOTHERS

Of Skin-tortured and Disfigured Babies Should Know

That warm baths with Cuticura Soap and gentle anointings with Cuticura, the great Skin Cure, afford instant relief, permit rest and sleep, and point to a speedy, permanent, and economical cure of torturing, disfiguring eczemas, rashes, itchings, irritations, inflammations, and chafings of infants and children, and afford rest and comfort to worried, worn-out parents, when all else fails. Guaranteed absolutely pure and may be used from the hour of birth.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour of Infants, Children, and Adults consists of Cuticura Soap to Cleanse the Skin, Cuticura Ointment to Heal the Skin, and Cuticura Resolvent or Cuticura Resolvent Pills (Chocolate Coated) to Purify the Blood. A Single Set often Cures. Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Capetown, Natal, etc.; Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The quotations for American and Chinese Raw Cotton have advanced considerably, but business is practically at a standstill. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. Home quotations for Cotton Piece Goods and Woollens are higher, and no large business has been done.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	39.00 to 40.00
Egyptian	47.25 to 50.70
Indian Broach	31.00 to 31.50
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 31.50

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	270.00 to 285.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	340.00 to 365.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.20 to 9.00
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.60 to 6.20
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.25 to 7.75
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch. (PER PIECE.)	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	11.00 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.20 to 2.30
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.85 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.00
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.71
" " 2 " "	0.58 to 0.64
" " 3 " "	0.46 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.34 to 0.39
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Business only on a small scale has been done.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
do Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

Owing to competition in imported oils, the market shows some confusion. Native oils will most probably not be exmpt from a slight decline.

Chester	Y.3.79 to 3.91
Victory	3.30 to —
Nonpareil	— to 4.40
Sumatra	— to 2.94
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	— to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No transactions have been done in imported sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. There have been some pretty fair transactions in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.05
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.00

FLOUR.

There is little business doing owing to high prices asked by producers.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	13.00
Flag	"	12.90
Royal	"	12.60
Trophy	"	12.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	12.60
Lion	"	13.70
Portland	"	12.70
Premier	"	12.60

Japanese:—

Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.70
Takasago	6 "	2.68
Fuji	6 "	2.70
Pine	6 "	2.70

WHEAT.

No transactions are reported and quotations are nominal.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	6.60 — 6.70
Red " " "	6.50 — 6.60
Blue Stem	6.85 — 7.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is very quiet. The business has been done little by little.

On July 22nd stocks were: filatures 13,058 bales Re-reels, 955 bales; Kakeda, 430 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	Y.1,090
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	1,040
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	1,040
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	940
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,025
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	1,000
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	890
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	980
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	950
Re-reels—No. 1½	910
Re-reels—No. 2	890
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	930
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	900
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	880
Kakedas—No. 2	860
Kakedas—No. 2½	—

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

July	Present delivery.	July delivery.	August delivery.	September delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
16th	—	—	—	—
17th	919	890	902	919
18th	—	—	—	—
19th	920	890	902	920
20th	918	—	—	918
21st	920	—	899	918
22nd	923	898	902	923

WASTE SILK.

The market is inactive. There has been but little business done.

On July 22nd stocks were: Noshi, 1,616 bales, Kibiso, 2,697 bales; and Sundry, 626 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	90 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	65 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	117 to 122
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	107 to 112
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	95 to 105
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is still weak and the quotations have gone down a little. There have been no important transactions.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.55	8.25	8.20	8.40	8.30
27″	8.50	7.95	8.10	8.10	8.10
36″	8.55	8.20	8.10	8.05	8.05

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.15	8.15	8.00	7.65
27″	8.05	7.90	7.95	7.60
36″	8.15	8.00	7.85	7.55

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.60	8.10	8.80	9.50
22½	8.00	8.70	9.80	10.70
27	—	10.60	11.50	13.00
36	—	—	14.40	15.90

COPPER.

Quotations are fluctuating on a small scale.

According to a London telegram of July 21st, the quotation was £59.5.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 28.50—32.00

TEA.

The quotations have fallen somewhat in the lower grades.

The market is firm. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to July 22nd, the sales amounted to 7,132,300 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 120,800 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	— —
Good Medium	35 — 40
Medium	30 — 34
Good Common	27 — 29
Common	24 — 26

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is inactive and little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen
July	125.80
August	126.40
September	126.75

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RICE.

Since last week, the market has still continued to fall.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	918,834
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	125,491

Delivery.	Closing Price.
July	13.15
August	13.57
September	13.96

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*.
Superior	Yen 14.30
Medium	13.30
Common	12.30
Average	13.30

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
July	13.20	July	12.90
August	13.50	August	13.20
September ...	13.75	September...	13.54

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama July 23

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower, China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates unaltered closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T/T	2/0 $\frac{15}{16}$@$\frac{16}{16}$
— — Bills on demand	2/0 $\frac{16}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 $\frac{11}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 $\frac{7}{8}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight .....per $100	85¾*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83¾*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87½*
— Private 10 days' sight.....	89*
India—Bank sight	153½
— Private 30 days' sight	155½
America—Bank sight.....	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅛
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London).....	23 $\frac{1}{8}$

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Monteagle	Sa. July 24
Europe	N. D. L...	Prinz Ludwig	Sa. July 24
Europe	M. M.....	Ernest Simons 1	Tu. July 27
Vancouver...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	W. July 28
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Siberia 2	W. July 28
America.....	P. M.....	Asia	W. July 28
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Aki Maru	Tu. Aug. 3
Seattle	N.Y.K....	Tosa Maru	Th. Aug. 5
Hongkong ..	B. L.....	Kumeric	Tu Aug. 10
America.....	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru	Sa. Aug. 14
Hongkong...	T. K. K....	Chiyo Maru	M. Aug. 16
Tacoma	B. L	Suveric	M. Aug. 16
Portland.....	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	Tu. Aug. 17

1 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date
Australia ...	N.Y.K....	Yawata Maru	Sa. July 24
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Kaga Maru	Sa. July 24
Europe	M. M.....	Caledonien	Sa July 24
Shanghai ...	N. Y. K...	Chikugo Maru	Su July 25
Tacoma.....	B. & S....	Titan	Su. July 25
Vancouver...	C. P. R....	Monteagle	M. July 26
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	W. July 28
America.....	P. M.....	Siberia	Th. July 29
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Asia	Th. July 29
Europe	N. D. L...	Prinz Ludwig	Sa. July 31
Seattle	N. Y. K...	Aki Maru	W. Aug. 4
Europe	N. Y. K...	Awa Maru	W. Aug. 4
Tacoma.....	B. L.....	Kumeric	Sa Aug. 11
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru	Su. Aug. 15
Hongkong...	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	W. Aug. 18
America.....	T. K. K...	Chiyo Maru	W Aug. 18
Hongkong...	B. L.....	Suveric	Tu Aug. 17
Seattle	G. N.....	Minnesota	Th Aug. 19
America.....	C. R.....	A'ral Fourichon	F. Aug. 20

FUKUSHIMA & Co.,

Tokyo, July 23rd, 1909.

Bonds and Stocks.	Face Value.	Paid Up.	Dividend Per Annum.	Dividend Payable.	Average Quotations	Remarks
Bonds and Debentures.	Yen	Yen	Per cent		Yen.	
EXCHEQUER BONDS 2nd	100	100	5	March—September	101.10	
EXCHEQUER BONDS 3rd	100	100	5	March—September	100.10	
NEW IMPERIAL BONDS ISSUED 1906	100	100	5	June—December	92.50	
CONSOLIDATION LOAN BONDS (SEIRI)	100	100	5	June—December	92.40	
WAR LOAN BONDS (GUNJI)	100	100	5	June—December	92.40	
5% IMPERIAL LOAN BONDS (GOBURI)	100	100	5	June—December	93.00	
RAILWAY BONDS (Ko-Gobu)	100	100	5	June—December	92.30	
NEW EXCHEQUER BONDS (Otsu-goburi, Mark Ih)	100	100	5	March—September	96.70	
Tobacco Monopoly Bonds (Mark ろ=B)	100	100	5	June—December	98.80	
Tobacco Monopoly Bonds (Mark ほ=E)	100	100	5	June—December	97.80	
Tobacco Monopoly Bonds (Mark に=H)	100	100	5	June—December	93.90	
Yokohama Water Works Bonds	100	100	6	June—December	97.00	
Yokohama City Work Bonds	100	100	6	March—September	98.00	
Osaka Harbour Construction Bonds	100	100	6	June—December	98.80	
Kawasaki Shipbuilding Yard's Debentures	100	100	6	June—December	92.00	
Osaka Steam Ship Co.'s Debentures	100	100	6	June—December	90.50	
Banks.						
Nippon Ginko (Bank of Japan)	200	200	12	February—August	650.00	
Kogyo Ginko (First class)	50	50	8	June—December	73.10	
,, (Second class)	50	37.50	8	June—December	55.10	
,, (First new, issued in London)	50	50	8	June—December	71.10	
YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK	100	100	12	February—August	232.70	
Taiwan Ginko (Bank of Formosa)	100	100	10	February—August	177.00	
Railway & Electric Tramway Co.'s						
Hokuetsu Railway Co.	50	50	6	June—December	45.50	
Kwansai Railway Co.	50	50	6	March—September	58.50	
Hokkaido Tanko Steamship Co.	50	50	14	June—December	44.80	
,, (New Issue)	50	25	14	May—November	21.20	
Tokio Railway Co.	50	50	5.4	May—November	64.00	
,, New	50	25	5.4	March—September	32.10	
Sobu Railway Co.	50	50	15	June—December	97.00	
,, ,, (Fifth New)	50	45	15	June—December	87.00	
KEIHIN ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO.	50	50	6	May—November	62.00	
YOKOHAMA ELECTRIC TRAMWAY CO.	50	50	6	May—November	41.50	
Hanshin Electric Tramway Co.	50	50	12½	April—October	118.50	
,, ,, (New Issue)	50	12.50	12½	April—October	50.00	
Electric Light and Gas Co.'s.						
TOKYO ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.	50	50	12	May—November	91.20	
,, ,, New	50	30	12	May—November	62.10	
YOKOHAMA ELECTRIC LIGHT CO.	50	50	18	May—November	86.50	
,, ,, New	50	30	18	May—November	56.00	
Osaka Electric Light Co.	50	50	12	May—November	130.00	
Kobe Electric Light Co.	50	50	13	June—December	90.50	
Ujigawa Electric Co.	50	12½	5	March—September	11.00	
TOKYO GAS CO.	50	50	13	June—December	97.50	
,, New, 2nd Issue	50	17.50	13	June—December	51.80	
Osaka Gas Co.	50	50	9.5	June—December	98.00	
Steamship and Dockyard Co.'s.						
Japan Mail Steam Ship Co. (N.Y.K.K.)	50	50	10	April—October	78.90	
Oriental Steam Ship Co. (T.K.K.K.)	50	50	no.	February—August	17.00	
Osaka Steamship Co. (Osaka Shosen K.K.)	25	25	6	June—December	17.30	
YOKOHAMA DOCK CO.	50	33	12	May—November	56.50	
Uraga Dock Co.	50	50	no.	June—December	12.30	
Kawasaki Ship Building Yard	50	50	8	May—November	51.80	
Spinning and Weaving Co.'s.						
KANEGAFUCHI COTTON SPINNING CO.	50	50	16	June—December	99.80	
,, ,, ,, News	50	12½	16	June—December	39.50	
Tokyo Cotton Spinning Co.	50	50	5	June—December	41.30	
FUJI GASIAN COTTON SPINNING CO.	50	50	18	June—December	107.00	
Imperial Hemp Weaving Co.	50	50	12	June—December	69.60	
,, ,, New	50	25	12	June—December	35.00	
Nisshin Spinning Co.	50	12.50	5	May—November	13.40	
Exchange.						
TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE	50	50	15.2	May—November	159.00	
Tokyo Rice and Merchandise Exchange	50	50	16	May—November	101.50	
Osaka Stock Exchange	50	50	10	May—November	127.50	
Osaka Rice Exchange	50	50	12	June—December	84.50	
Brewery Co.'s.						
DAI NIPPON BEER BREWERY CO.	50	50	15	June—December	75.80	
,, ,, ,, New		12½	15	June—December	22.00	
Japan Beer Brewery Co. (Kirin)	50	50	6	June—December	46.50	
Godown Companies.						
YOKOHAMA CHUO GODOWN CO., LTD.	50	50	10	June—December	51.00	
Yokohama Boeki Godown Co., Ltd.	20	20	14	June—December	30.50	
Fire Insurance Co.'s.						
Tokyo Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	50	12½	8	May	16.90	
YOKOHAMA FIRE & TRANS. INS. CO. LTD.	50	12½	16	June	22.30	
Meiji Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.	50	50	20	March	240.00	
Oil Co.'s.						
Hoden Oil Co.	50	50	30	March—September	99.60	
Nippon Oil Co.	50	50	24	June—December	100.00	
Sugar Manufacturing Co.'s.						
Dai-Nippon Sugar Refinery Co.	50	50	no.	April—October	19.30	
,, ,, ,, New	50	20	no.	April—October	5.10	
Taiwan Sugar Manufacturing Co.	50	50	10	June	74.00	
,, ,, ,, New	50	32.50	10	June	48.30	
Ensuikow Sugar Manufacturing Co.	50	15	20	June	33.80	

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SHARE REPORT.

Yokohama, July 21, 1909.

LOCAL STOCKS.—Business remains dull, and consequently I have very little to report, prices of our local Stocks show but little change. Grand Hotels have buyers at par. Nickels can be placed at Y.43½. Langfeldts are on offer at Y.50.

STOCKS.	Capital.	No. of Shares.	Issue Value.	Amount Paid Up.	Reserve Fund.	At Working A'nt or Carried Forward.	Date.	Last Dividend.	For Term.	Closing Quotations.
	Y.		Y.	Y.					Year.	
Brett & Co. Ltd.....	28,000	2800	10	10			31.12.07	10%	for 1	11 B.
Club Hotel, Ltd.....	185,000	1850	100	100	3,000	Y. 768.96	31.3.08	7%	„ 1	70 N.
Grand Hotel, Ltd.....	500,000	5000	100	100	10,000	Y.	31.12.08	3%	„ ½	100 B.
Helm Bros., Ltd.....	186,000	3720	50	50	25,000	Y. 6,395.55	31.12.08	17½%	„ 1	80 Sa
Langfeldt & Co. Ltd.....	100,000	2000	50	50		Dr. 2,038.97	31.12.08		„ ½	50 Sa.
C. Nickel & Co. Ltd.... †	500,000	20000	25	25		1,782.10	31.10.08	20%	„ 1	43½ B.
Y. E. & Iron Works... *	500,000	10000	50	50	50,000	Y. 29,421.19	31.5.08	10%	„ 1	70 Sa.
Oriental H'l, Ltd. ord.	250,000	3000	50	50	306,090 49		31.8.07	12%	„ 1	50 N.
„ „ pref.		2000	50	50				8%	„ 1	50 N.
The Union Estate & Investment Co., Ltd. ...‡	1,000,000	10000	100	100	6,000.00	1,753.03	30.9.08	7%	„ 1	100 N.

† 285,000 unissued. * Y.390,000 issued. 110,000 unissued. ‡ 475,000 unissued.

Debentures Loan.	Amount of Loan.	Face Value of Debentures.	Rate of Interest.	Interest Payable.	Closing Quotation.
Brett and Company, Ltd....	11,500.00	100.00	7 per cent.	1 June and 1 Dec.	95 Sa.
Yokohama United Club	250,000.00	100.00	7 per cent.	30 June and 31 Dec.	100 Sa.
C. Nickel and Company, Ltd.....	50,000.00	100.00	8 per cent.	1 May and 1 Nov.	110 S.
Oriental Hotel, Limited	250,000.00	100.00	8 per cent.	1 April and 1 Oct.	100 Sa.
Union Estate & Investm'nt Co., Ltd.	250,000.00	100.00	6 per cent.	30 June and 31 Dec.	95 S.

A. C. HUTTON POTTS.

Share and General Broker.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Slavonia, German steamer, 2,829, Peter, 15th July, —Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, Asakawa, 15th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceano, British steamer, 3,050, W. R. Davies, 16th July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Dunbar, British steamer, 2,410, Martin, 16th July,—(Put back for repairs).—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Caledonien, French steamer, 2,100, Casanova, 16th July,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Greene, 16th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Shinchiku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,938, T. Saito, 16th July,—Saigon, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 16th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,830, H. Yamamoto, 17th July, Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha. (Samuel Samuel & Co., Lt. Agents)

Ashtabula, British steamer, 4,527, G. Harding, 17th July,—San Francisco, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Sardinia, British steamer, 4,126, C. C. Talbot, 17th July,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S N. Co.

Welsh Prince, British steamer, 3,218, Sheppard, 18th July,—New York via ports, General.—American Trading Co.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 18th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, S. Ishikawa, 19th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Koshun Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,657, I. Ijiti, 19th July,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Glenearn, British steamer, 2,855, W. Haughton, 19th July,—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hsing Sang, British steamer, 1,536, A. G. Smith, 19th July,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Indrawadi, British steamer, 3,369, Gray Williams, 19th July,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, W. E. Filmer, 20th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Y. Nomura, 20th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Jason, British steamer, 4,880, T. G Steeves, 20th July,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,803, C. H. Butler, 20th July,—Antwerp and London via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 20th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 21st July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Selja Norwegian steamer, 2,789, O. Lie, 21st July, —Portland, Or., Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Tahoma, U.S. Revenue Cutter, 1,000, Quinan, 21st July,—Manila.

Konan Maru Japanese steamer, 858, Aihatsu, 22nd July,—Yawata, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, M. Machida, 22nd July,—Newchwang via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salte, 16th July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaiserin Elisabeth, Austrian cruiser, 4,200, Captain O. Hansa, 16th July,—Hakodate via Matsushima.

D'Entrecasteaux, French cruiser, 8,723, Captain Thibault 17th July,—Hakodate.

Kleist, German steamer, 5,123. O. Pahnke, 17th July,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Oceano, British steamer, 3,050, W. R. Davies, 16th July,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,796, I. Sato, 17th July,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, W. W. Greene, 18th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General,—Toyo Kisen Kaisha,

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Arakawa, 18th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, Asakawa, 18th July,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,500, Iwamatsu, 18th July,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Dunbar, British steamer, 2,400, Martin, 18th July,—Vladivostock, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Slavonia, German steamer, 2,829, Peter, 18th July, —Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Umegaka Maru, Japanese Volunteer ship, 3,100, S. Mori, 18th July, –Chiba.

Tacoma Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,830, H. Yamamoto, 18th July,—Tacoma, Mails & General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha. (Samuel Samuel & Co., Lt. Agents.)

Hing Sang, British steamer, 1,536, A. G. Smith, Kobe, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Welsh Prince, British steamer, 3,218, Sheppard, 20th July,—New York via ports, General.—American Trading Co.

Sikh, British steamer, 3,216, W. Atkinson, 20th July,—Moji.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Glenearn, British steamer, 2,855, W. Haughton, 20th July,—Cardiff and Hull via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Shinchiku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,938, K. Muto, 20th July, —Moji.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 21st July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,789, K. Homma, 21st July,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, W. E. Filmer, 21st July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, S. Ishikawa, 21st July,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Koshun Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,657, I. Ichiki, 22nd July,—Katsuura, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 22nd July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Y. Nomura, 22nd July,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Selja, Norwegian steamer, 2,789, O. Lie, 22nd July, —Hongkong via ports, General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Chiyo Maru* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Edward Allanson, Mr. T. Asano, Mr. Delos Bardel, Rev. A. Chori, Mr. Jos. Cosand, Mrs. Jos. Cosand, Mr. Ambrose Cumming, Mr. Wilhelm Dreschler, Mr. C. K. Dunlap, Miss Sydney Dunlap, Mr. E. M. L. Engle, Mr. C. E. Ferguson, Mr. C. E. Ferguson, Mr. Paul Framm, Mr. Green, Rev. J. F. Hail, Mrs. J. E. Hail and infant, Miss Eunice Hail, Miss Margaret Hail, Mr. E. W. Hutchinson, Mr. Heston McNeill, Miss Ellen Moore, Mrs. Anson W. Richards, Master Chas. Richards, Mr. Frank Rosether, Mr. Takai, Mrs. M. R. Simpson, Mrs. J. O. Tabor, Miss A. Tabor, Rev. C. Wood, Mrs C. Wood, Miss Marguerite Wood, Miss M. H. Wood, Mr. S. Yajima, Mrs. Y. Yoshida and infant, Miss E. Barber, Mr F. Hagerman, Mrs. F. Hagerman, Miss A. S. Hagerman, Mrs. J. W. Hickman, Mr. M. J. Strong and Mrs. M. J. Strong. For Kobe:- Dr. J. B. Hartwell, Miss A. B. Hartwell, Mr. G. B Warner and Mr. S. B. Warner. For Nagasaki:—Mr. H. Kitada. For Shanghai:—Mr. J. D. Addison, Mr. Horace Gray, Mr. J. D. McLachlan, Mrs. J. D. McLachlan, Miss C. Lawson, Rev. Dudley Tyng and Mr. B. Shaw. For Hongkong:—Mr. Guy Ayrault, Mr. Ferd Boynton, Capt. Jacob N. Coffin, Mr. Lee E. Collier, Mr. Roger S. Hardy, Dr. J. Spencer Hough, Mr. B. W. La Prade, Miss Carrie E. Leiberg, Mr. W. Marseille, Mrs. W. Marseille, Mr C. C. McCollum, Mr. Jose Ma Menendez, Mr. F. Miller, Rev. R. B. Ogilby, Mr. Cecil D. Rainey, Mr. S. C. Ridgaway, Mr. Carl W. Shepardson, Mr. John J. Snidow and Mr. Dwight Whiting in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—Mr. R. A. Hebberdine, Com. R. H. Gibbins, Mr. L. J. Healing, Mr. P. A. Cox in cabin and 77 Chinese.

Per British steamer *Malta* for London add Antwerp via ports:—Mr. D. Runciman, Mr. C. H. G. Ball, Mr. T. F. Young and Miss Elsmere in cabin.

Per German steamer *Kleist* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—Mr. R. Veit, Mr. S. Kondo, Mr. Wolff, Mr. F. J. Blake, Mrs. C. M. Anderson, Mr. A. B. Pollock, Mrs. E. Griffith, Mrs. Paul, Mr. E. Lund, Mr. W. Chappo, Mr. Speselman, Baron and

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Mrs. von Lyden, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Vandergrift, Mr. John M. Vandergrift, Mr. and Mrs. W. E. McVay, Miss S. K. McVay, Miss H. S. McVay, Miss F. A. McVay, Mr. C. Stueckewald, Mrs. and Miss Langstein, Mr. Lukes, Mr. and Mrs. Herman A. Sommer, Mr. H. Bassett, Mr. H. Lutz, Mr. F. A. Shattuck, Mr. Cheong, Mr. Chung, Mr. F. W. Chang, Mr. T. Z. Chang, Mr. T. S. Chang, Mr. H. H. Ho, Mr. M. K. Lau, Mr. H. J. Ho, Mr. S. Chow, Mr. T. Lee, Mr. S. K. Chow, Mr. K. Sat, Mr. S. Tong, Mr. T. Kong, Mr. Ho Lei Hin, Mr. Che To Yum, Mr. Yuen Fock Ten and Mr. Jee King Mung in cabin.

Per British steamer *Chiyo Maru* for Hongkong via ports:—Dr. J. B. Hartwell, Miss A. Hartwell, Mr. J. D. McLachlan, Mrs. J. D. McLachlan, Mr. Ferd Boynton, Capt. J. N. Coffin, Mr. Lee E. Collier, Mr. Roger S. Hardy, Dr. S. Spencer Hough, Mr. B. W. La Prade, Dr. C. E. Leiberg, Mrs. C. K. Dunlap, Mr. E. A. Kilboorne, Rev. O. E. Cowman, Count J. Komura, Mr. O. Sasano, Mr. M. Uchimaru, Dr. H. R. Macauley, Miss A. Fitch, Mr. E. L. Brigham, Mr. H. Weber, Miss Bessie Smith, Mr. G. B. Warner, Mrs. G. B. Warner, Miss C. Lawson, Mr. B. Shaw, Mr. C. C. McCollum, Mr. F. Miller, Mr. C. D. Rainey, Mr. S. D Ridgaway, Mr. C. W. Shapardson, Mr. John J. Snidow, Mr. D. Whiting, Miss S. Dunlap, Mr. E. M. L'Engle, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mrs. B. C. Howard, Miss S. Howard, Mr. K. Nakahama, Mr. S. Tessenden and native servant, Mrs. M. R. Simpson, Mr. R. Brill. Mr. C. E. Benedict and Mrs. Belle Mansfield in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. H. K. Fry, Mr. F. A. Gelsthorpe, Miss V. Judy, Miss J. E. Lebens, Mrs. M. B. Madden, Master J. H. Madden, Master G. Madden, Master Teddy Madden, Mrs. H. E. Manwaring, Miss Gladys Manwaring, Mr. S. Nakaya, Mr. J. C. Prescott, Mr. Hugo A. Rausch, Mr. Y. Sakurai, Mr. A. W. Taylor, Mr. W. W. Taylor, Miss Tierney, Mr. G. Twose, Miss Waite and Mr. H. W. Whiting in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—

	Raw Silk. France.	Waste Silk. France.	Triestes.	Peignes France.
Sieber & Co.	10	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent	10	16	—	—
Pila & Co.	39	—	—	—
Jardine Matheson & Co.	—	8	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	—	10	—	—
	59	34	—	—

Per British steamer *Malta* for London and Antwerp via ports:—

	Waste Silk. England	France.	Italy.	Bombay.
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	—	125	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	—	—	150	—
Total	—	125	150	—

Per German steamer *Kleist* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—

	Raw. Genoa.	Optien.	Lyon.	Marseilles	Milan	Waste. Lyons.	Marseilles	Trieste.	M'chester.
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	—	76	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co.	—	20	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pila & Co.	—	—	59	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	—	—	—	—	20	—	—	—	—
Total	—	96	69	—	20	—	—	—	—

Silk shippers by *Tacoma Maru*, for Tacoma on the 17th July:— Bales.

F. Strahler & Co.	100
Nabholz & Co.	55
Jewett & Bent	41
Vivanti Bros.	100
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	151
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	132
Total	579

Silk shippers by *Nippon Maru*, for San Francisco on the 21st July:— Bales.

Siber, Wolff & Co.	50
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	351
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	152
Total	553

Silk shippers by *Oceano*, for Tacoma, on 21st July:— Bales.

China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	103

By royal Warrant to H.M. THE KING.

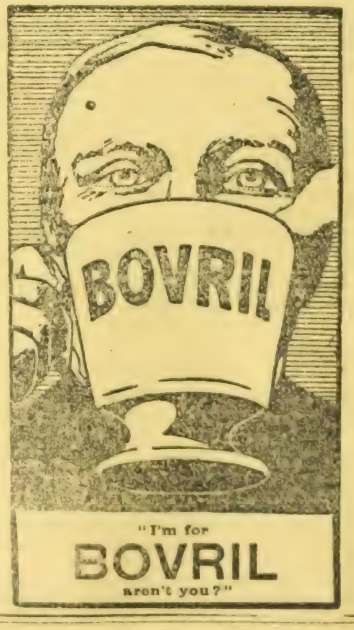
LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE

gives a delightfully appetizing flavour to all Meat Dishes, Fish, Soup, Game, Cheese and Salad, and assists digestion.

The Original & Genuine Worcestershire.

Silk shippers by *Tango Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., on the 21st July:— Bales.

Vivanti Bros.	55
Nabholz & Co.	50
Siber, Wolff & Co.	45
China & Japan Trading Co.,	45
H. Bernardin & Co.	5
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	241
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	216
Hara Yushutsuten	15
Total	672



(毎土曜日一回發行)
編輯人兼發行人 エフ アレンタリー
配人兼印刷人 イ アルース ミツトフオールド
發行所 横濱市山下町五十五番
ヨコハマメール新聞社

CARGO.

Per American steamer *Oceano* for Victoria and Tacoma:—

From.	Canada.	TEA. Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total. Packages.
Hongkong	—	—	—	575	—	575
Kobe	400	—	—	19	—	419
Yokohama	154	2,794	427	—	—	3,445
Total	554	2,794	497	594	—	4,439

	SILK. New York.	Boston.	Other Cities.	Total
Yokohama	30	—	73	103
Total	30	—	73	103

RAILWAY TIME-TABLE.

Leave Yokohama.	Up Trains to Tokyo.	Arrive Shimbashi.
5.30 a.m.	(from Yokohama)	6.22 a.m.
6.20 „	(„ „)	7.12 „
7.00 „	(„ „)	7.52 „
7.38 „	(„ Kodzu)	8.30 „
8.15 „	(Express from Kodzu)	8.43 „
8.25 „	(from Yokohama)	9.17 „
8.47 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	9.40 „
9.05 „	(from Yokohama)	10.07 „
9.43 „	(„ Kodzu)	10.35 „
10.20 „	(„ Yokohama)	11.12 „
10.45 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	11.37 „
11.18 „	(from Yokohama)	12.07 p.m.
11.41 „	(„ Numadzu)	12.50 „
12.25 p.m.	(Through from Yokosuka)	1.17 „
12.58 „	(from Kodzu)	1.50 „
1.40 „	(„ Yokohama)	2.32 „
2.10 „	(„ Kodzu)	3.02 „
2.38 „	(„ Yokohama)	3.30 „
3.10 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	4.10 „
3.44 „	(from Hamamatsu)	4.45 „
4.30 „	(Express from Yokohama)	4.58 „
4.40 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	5.32 „
5.10 „	(from Kodzu)	6.02 „
5.40 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	6.32 „
6.18 „	(from Kodzu)	7.00 „
6.45 „	(Through from Ogaki)	7.37 „
8.00 „	(from Kodzu)	8.52 „
8.35 „	(„ Yokohama)	9.27 „
9.08 „	(„ Kodzu)	10.00 „
9.50 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	10.42 „
10.38 „	(from Kyoto)	11.30 „
11.30 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	12.22 a.m.

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ON THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

The Japan Weekly Mail.

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, JULY 31ST, 1909.

DEATH.

At Nikko, July 22nd, the Rev. E. R. WOODMAN.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

A MAGAZINE at Akidzuki, Edajima, was destroyed by fire on July 24. The cause is unknown.

On July 22, Mr. Saito Tokusaburo, father of Mr. Saito Jun, manager of the Japan Industrial Bank, passed away.

IT is reported that a building in Chuzenji, Nikko, has been purchased by the French Government for the summer use of its Embassy.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS NASHIMOTO arrived at Shimonoseki on July 25. Their Highnesses are expected to return to Tokyo, via Miyajima, on the 29th inst.

NAGASAKI has discovered a prodigy of 7 years of age who is 4 7/10 feet in height and exceeds 108 pounds in weight. He is said to be able to lift an adult with ease.

ACCORDING to an official report from Antwerp, the *Official Gazette* of Belgium proclaimed on the 24th ultimo that Yokohama has been declared a district infected by plague.

On the night of July 23, the skirt of mount Fuji was visited by a heavy storm, accompanied by thunder. The snow covered the mountain from the summit to *Hachigome*.

AN Aomori telegram dated the 25th instant reports that since July 17th the forest fires have continued to ravage Chitose-mura, Nakatsugaru-gori. The damage is extensive.

ON the 20th instant, a Japanese lighter laden with rails valued at 40,000 *yen*, sank near the torpedo division at Nagaura, owing to her heavy cargo. Twenty casualties are reported.

IT is reported that in a wood near Oanasama, at Komaoka, Asahi-mura, Tachibana-gari, in this prefecture, an antique jar, two gold rings; a tube-shaped gem, five other small gems and other relics have been dug out of the ground.

ON July 23, many places in Hidachi province were struck by lightning. One house was burnt and one of the occupants was killed and two others seriously injured. The telegraph wires were cut off at Sodomura, Yuki-gori, but no casualties are reported.

A SAPPORO despatch says that on June 24 a train from Kushiro was running between Chokubetsu and Atsunai, when 7 wagons became detached from the engine, and were completely shattered. No casualties are reported, and another engine was speedily despatched from Kushiro to render assistance.

THE party of American business men who lately visited Japan have presented souvenirs to the Secretaries of the Chambers of Commerce in Tokyo, Osaka and the other organizations they visited, in token of thanks. Mr. Okada, Secretary of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, has received a splendid silver vase.

WE are informed by the Secretary of the Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade that he has received a cheque from Mr. N.S. Marshall for *yen* 500 on behalf of the International Banking Corporation, this being a donation to the Yokohama Jubilee Memorial Fund, and that the amount has been forwarded to the Mayor of Yokohama.

IT is reported that the Mexican Oriental Steamship Company, which has just commenced to compete with the Toyo Kisen Kaisha in the South American services, has resolved to suspend navigation for the present. The difficulty of the landing of the Chinese emigrants in Peru and Chili is most probably the cause of this measure.

WE are informed by the Secretary of the Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade that he has received a cheque from Mr. P. A. Cox for *yen* 250 on behalf of the Peninsular & Oriental Steam Navigation Company, this being a donation to the Yokohama Jubilee Memorial Fund, and that the amount has been forwarded to the Mayor of Yokohama.

ON July 25, a serious accident took place on board the battleship *Asahi* belonging to the Reserve Fleet, and lately exercising inspection firings in the Gulf of Ise. The safety arrangement of a 12 *kin* quick-firing gun fitted up in the fore part of the battleship was imperfectly adjusted, and the plug sprang out backward at the third firing and 4 men were instantly killed, one man fatally injured and 4 others, including 2 officers, more or less injured. In consequence, the exercises were suspended, and the cruiser *Hashidate* has left for Yokosuka and the *Asahi* and *Naniwa* will follow shortly.

ON July 23, on the occasion of the Gion Festival, a heavy thunderstorm passed over Kyoto. Many streets in the city were flooded, and a tall spruce-tree at Maruyama Park was struck by lightning. The electric cars ceased running and a ton of lime in one of the wagons at Kyoto Station caught fire, but the flames were extinguished before they became serious.

A NAGASAKI telegram reports that the steamer *Nippon Maru*, from Hongkong, took on board 145 Philippine emigrants, when she called at that port. They will go to Hawaii under three years' contracts at $18 per month. If the trial has satisfactory results, 10,000 more will follow. Their position will naturally be competitive against the Japanese there, who number some 70,000.

TROUBLE is reported in Seoul to have arisen between Mrs Bethell, widow of the late Mr. E. T. Bethell, and a Korean named Pak Yong-kei. It appears, says the *Seoul Press*, that the Korean was being paid a sum of fifty *yen* per month by the deceased, but that since the death of her husband Mrs. Bethell has not paid him. The Korean is also claiming payment of a loan of 1,000 *yen* from Mrs. Bethell which she refuses to acknowledge.

ON July 24, the *Official Gazette* promulgated the Imperial ordinances relating to the organization of the Electric Bureau and the Postal Savings Bureau. Mr. Nakatani Kokichi, Councillor of the Communication Department, and Mr. Shimomura Ko, who has been a Director of the Yokohama Post Office, have been appointed the Heads of these newly established Bureaux. Mr. Kawai Betsu, Director of the Niigata Post Office, will succeed Mr. Shimomura.

REMARKABLE success has attended the recent experiments made in France with wireless telephony. French engineers, according to a statement made to day by M. Simyan, Under Secretary of Posts and Telegraphs, have conversed over a much greater distance by means of Hertzian waves than is possible by wire. It is hoped that they will soon be able to maintain telephonic communicatian direct between France and Algeria, which is impossible by the ordinary telephone.

IT is reported that a society for scientific research in reference to aeonautics in time of war will be shortly established. It will be organized by the naval and military departments and its members will consisist of experts belonging to these two departments as well as the professors of the Engineering College, the experts of the Central Observatory and others who have special knowledge and experience. The plans will be announced within a few days and the materials for research will be supplied by the aerostat corps at Nakano.

THE new Port of London Authority is grappling with the difficult problem of making the Thames a deep-water river at all states of the tide, capable of being navigated by the enormous ocean liners now being constructed. A large party of London merchants, shipowners, and others interested in London shipping have been taken down the river on the General Steam Navigation Company's new paddle steamer Golden Eagle to see the operations. For nearly ten miles a new channel is being dredged to a width of 1,000 feet, with a minimum depth of 30 feet at low water spring tides, which, when completed, will put the Thames on a level with the great competing ports of the Continent.

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CHINA.

Friday, July 23.

It appears that Sir John Jordan's protracted and strenuous efforts to obtain the Chinese Government's consent to the installation of wireless telegraphy at the Palace Hotel in Shanghai have ended in failure. His Excellency has intimated to the proprietors of the Hotel, through the British Consul-General, that the installation must be moved in spite of its acknowledged usefulness as the only enterprise of the kind in Shanghai. The officials of the Hotel are not disposed to bow tamely to this judgment. They were to hold a special meeting on the 23rd inst. for the purpose of formulating a protest.

A Shanghai telegram announces that Admiral Sa is about to pay a visit to Japan. No reasons are assigned, and Sa's personality is so considerable that such a move must suggest many conjectures. It will be remembered that he was lately an important member of the commission for the increase of the Army and the Navy, and that he resigned owing to discontent with the progress of the deliberations.

Saturday, July 24.

His Excellency Viceroy Hsi, who returned on the 21st inst. to Mukden from his tour of inspection, is said to have proceeded at once to Peking carrying a number of documents. The inference is that the final negotiations about pressing questions between Japan and China will take place in the Chinese capital.

Mr. Nonomura, a managing director of the South Manchuria Railway, has also proceeded to Peking, and it is thought that his journey is taken in consequence of China having agreed to Japan's latest proposals about the financing of the Kilin-Changchun Railway.

On the other hand this morning's telegrams do not suggest any prospect of a speedy settlement of the Mukden-Antung question. The only news conveyed over the wires is that Japan's attitude is inflexible. The *Chuo Shimbun* speaks with a semblance of absolute assurance. It declares that the Japanese Government has arrived at an irrevocable decision, and that if China maintains her obdurate silence up to the close of the current month, the operation of reconstructing the Antung-Mukden road will be commenced without further parley. Hence from the end of July to the beginning of August may be regarded as a critical period of international relations. This journal adds that the recent visit of Mr. Nakamura, President of the South Manchuria Railway, to General Oshima at Port Arthur had reference to this question and resulted in an explicit arrangement as to the course to be adopted if China remains obstinate. Further we read that Japan has privately conveyed to the Governments of Great Britian, Russia, France and the United States an exact account of the whole question and of the negotiations hitherto conducted.

Sunday, July 25.

The latest story about the doings of the German merchants in Tientsin is at once incredible and incomprehensible. We find it in the columns of the *Asahi Shimbun*. The gist is that in answer to frequent applications from the German merchants, the Chinese Government consented to advance a million *taels* in order to cover some of the losses incurred by German firms of importers owing to the default of their Chinese clients. This offer was declared quite inadequate, and an alternative programme was submitted through the German Consul, namely, that China should borrow 30 million *taels* from German capitalists for the purposes of railway construction and should impose an interest charge of 3 per cent. in excess of the market price, which additional interest should be handed over to solve the tradal problem. Our Tokyo contemporary adds that the Chinese Government objects strongly to this one-sided proposition, but will probably be obliged to endorse it. Frankly speaking, we (*Japan Mail*) regard this story as quite unworthy of credence. The German merchants of Tientsin have certainly suffered severely, but that they should have proposed through their Consul such a method of relief as the above we can not believe.

The return of SIR ROBERT HART to China seems less and less probable. In connexion with his application for a further extension of his leave from the Chinese Government, the statement is made that he was able to go out of doors on the 13th ultimo for the first time for over a month. Certain public utterances with which he has been credited have probably caused some misconception as to his true condition.

Telegrams from China say that the ravages wrought by the continuous rains in the Yangtsz valley have now been almost completely repaired. The recent clear skies and strong heat have effectually corrected the previous low temperature and heavy rainfall. A good rice crop may therefore be confidently expected. Such is not the case with cotton, however. The crop is very patchy and weak, so that even though climatic conditions continue to be favourable a good yield can not be expected.

A curious story comes from Tientsin. It appears that Russian agents are busily buying up cattle there and at Cheefoo and have already sent 10,000 beasts from each of those places to Vladivostock and Nicholiavsk. Even this large quantity does not suffice, for an office has been established in Tientsin and steps are being taken to obtain cattle from Mongolia. It is further alleged that a Russian steamer is lying at Chienwantao, and that her captain is engaged shipping 3,000 tons of beef, big slaughter houses having been erected on shore for the purpose. All this is intelligible enough. But the inference drawn is laughable, namely that as such purchases of cattle and beef were made by Russia just before the outbreak of her war with Japan, they must be interpreted now as presaging a similar event.

Monday, July 26.

It will be remembered that some time ago there was talk of Japan conceding China's demands with regard to Chientao on condition that the Chinese Government agreed to the building by Japan of a railway connecting Chyonjin with Kilin *viâ* Chientao. It now appears, according to the *Nippon*, that the Chinese are disposed to build this railway themselves, exclusive of the portion lying within Korean territory. Mr. Wu, Governor of the Chientao Marches, is said to be strongly in favour of the project. The terminal point of the line on the east would be Hunchun, which lies on the left side of the Tumen River in close proximity to the Russian frontier. Thence the road would be carried to a point in Chientao which has not yet been indicated, and from that point it would branch off in two directions, one leading nearly due north to Niguta, the other running northwest to Kilin *viâ* Omoso. This line would give more convenient access to Kilin and Mukden than that furnished by the Antung road. It would effectually open up the Chientao region and would be an important factor in the situation.

Tuesday, July 27.

There are conflicting accounts about the inundations in South China. A few days ago the telegraph conveyed intelligence to the effect that no very serious damage had been caused and that, although the cotton crop would suffer considerably, the yield of rice would be up to the average. Now, however, Hongkong wires in a very different sense. It represents the inundations as the worst that have occurred since 1897. The Han River has proved a special agent of destruction. It has converted nearly the whole region through which it runs into a lake, and Laohu-kau and Tapingchieh are mentioned as the places that have suffered most. There has been great destruction of life and property, and thousands of the people have been obliged to abandon their homes and encamp on the embankments. The Yangtsz is still 46 ft. above its normal level, and had not begun to fall at the date of these advices. Of course the crops of beans and rape were not affected, neither was the first crop of barley, for these had all been garnered before the floods set in; but the second crop of barley will probably be wholly lost, and the rice will not be more than 50 per cent. of the normal output. It is added that if fine weather now continues, things will slowly right themselves but that any more rain would be disastrous.

The news of the new Memorandum between Japan and Korea is said to have attracted considerable attention in China. Telegrams received in Tokyo say that the press of the Middle Kingdom write in the sense that Japan's action should be taken as a model for China, and should teach her that only by enacting good laws and effecting judicial reforms can a country hope to maintain its sovereignty. We venture to think that the Chinese newspapers are following a much more useful course when they write in this strain than they follow when they magnify, as they too often do, the political differences between their country and their neighbour. No one can pretend to think that the Chinese, whether the governed or the governors, are really solicitous for their country's dignity and welfare so long as they are content with mediæval laws and mediæval methods of administering them.

The negotiations between Portugal and China with regard to Macao promise to be protracted almost to the length of a suit in chancery. Some months have already elapsed since the discussion of the question entered the domain of practical politics, and yet we now learn that only the second conference has just taken place. The business done was that the Chinese commissioners presented evidence to show that their country's territory had been violated by Portugal, and it is believed that the next conference will be deferred until Portugal can collect testimony in rebuttal.

It will have been observed that during the past few weeks the telegraph has constantly alluded to the Minister of War in Peking, Mr. Tieh Liang, and has represented him at one moment as the victim of intrigue, at another as suffering from incapacitating disease. The latest news is that his resignation will be accepted, and that he will be transferred from Peking to the Governorship of Kilin, Prince Su being appointed his successor at the Board of War.

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Wednesday, July 28.

Manchuria seems to be visited with quite a heavy downpour of rain. The fact that the South Manchuria Railway had been washed away at two places was reported in our last issue, and now comes news that there is a flood of large magnitude in the Yalu River and that the water has invaded the Chinese section of Antung. Meanwhile there does not appear to be any prospect at present of this rain visiting Japan. The meteorological authorities report an unbroken continuance of fine weather, and an increase of the heat. Crop prospects are said to be excellent so far as the weather is concerned, but there are some apprehensions as to the ravages of insects.

THE STRIKE IN HAWAII.

It is impossible to reconcile the conflicting rumours that arrive daily from Hawaii. The latest story is that Mr. Consul-General Ueno urged the planters to give increase of wages to all Japanese that had not struck or who had returned to work. A majority of the planters, however, declined to take any step which could be construed as acknowledgoment of a claim advanced by means of a strike. Nevertheless it is stated that some of the planters have already given an increase of one dollar a month, and that as the season of the sugar harvest is imminent, great loss will be incurred unless the strikers resume work. It is thought therefore that the trouble will soon end in a manner satisfactory to the workmen. What truth there may be in this forecast we do not pretend to judge.

Regarding the progress of the strike in Hawaii, an interesting bit of news comes from Nagasaki. It appears that the steamer *Nihon Maru* has just arrived at that port from Hongkong *viâ* Manila. She carries 150 Philippinos who are proceeding to Hawaii under contract to work on the plantations at 18 dollars a month; that is to say, the same wages as are now paid to the average Japanese. These men are said to be a trial batch. Should they prove a success, 10,000 will be imported to replace as many Japanese in Hawaii. Probably this move will have a considerable influence on the strike.

A telegram from New York represents Mr. Secretary Knox as entertaining the view that the wisest plan for the Hawaiian planters is to face the situation boldly and make arrangements to replace Japanese labour with white so as to avert the danger of Hawaii falling under Japanese control. This would certainly be a costly programme, but the outlay of money would be compensated by the increased security, and by the permanency of the arrangement.

How curious it is to observe the faculty that many Western publicists possess of keeping one eye closed when they view world problems! They seem to be frequently quite blind to the state of affairs existing at home when they are called upon to consider the conditions that present themselves abroad. If experience teaches anything, it is that the white labourer is far more exacting and much more violent in asserting what he believes to be his rights than the Japanese labourer is. Yet at the first indication of an attempt on the part of Japanese labourers in Hawaii to obtain an increase of salary, they are regarded as having created a novel and very disquieting situation.

Meanwhile there is no news as to the progress of the strike or as to the probability of any new arrangement being effected.

Letters from Hawaii say that the Higher Wages Association is a body which the Hawaiian Government can not allow to continue acting as it has acted for months back. It constitutes an *imperium in imperio*. Beating is a common weapon of the Association, and it has succeeded in establishing a kind of reign of terror. No Japanese, it is said, can visit a plantation without a pass signed by this body. As for Makino and his confederates, very grave charges are preferred against them. They are said to have squandered the wages of the poor labourers on objectless litigation and in other unwise, if not improper, ways. All their accounts have been kept in English as well as in Japanese, and the prosecuting attorney has photographic copies of the ledgers. The trial was to begin on the 19th instant and was expected to last far into August. We have obtained a copy of the Injunction:—

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIRST JUDICIAL CIRCUIT,

TERRITORY OF HAWAII.

AT CHAMBERS.	IN EQUITY.
Oahu Sugar Company, Ltd., vs. F. K. Makino, M. Negoro, Y. Soga, Y. Tasaka, M. Yamashiro, K. Kawamura, Mitsunaga, K. Ono, Tsukasa Saito, Harukichi Harada, Kiyozo Ogawa, Jyusuke Nakamura, Keikichi Ishida-Itsuki, Jr., Tatsuo Uyeno, Ihichi Matsuda, Miauchi, T. Yamakai, Kawakami, Fushino, Suo Shigeta Hanada, Mikawa, J. Tanahashi, Chiba Eguchi, Miura, Yanagizawa, Kohae Yamamoto, K. Hashimoto, G. Okamoto, K Inouye and M. Matsuki.	Bill For Injunction.

TEMPORARY INJUNCTION.

The Territory of Hawaii: To F. K. Makino, M. Negoro, Y. Soga, Y. Tasaka, M. Yamashiro, K. Kawamura, Mitsunaga, K. Ono, Tsukasa Saito, Harukichi Harada, Kiyozo Ogawa, Jyusuke Nakamura, Keikichi Ishida, Itsuki, Jr., Tatsuo Uyano, Ihichi Matsuda, Hada, Miauchi T. Yamakai, Kawakami, Fushino, Suo, Shigeta Hanada, Mikawa, J. Tanahashi, Chiba Eguchi, Miura, Yanagizawa, Kohae Yamamoto, K. Hashimoto, G. Okamoto, K. Inouye and M. Matsuki, your agents and servants and all other persons associated with you in committing the acts and grievances complained of in the Bill of Complaint filed in the Circuit Court of the Frst Circuit, in equity, at chambers, in the above entitled cause:

You and each of you are hereby strictly enjoined, until further order of this court under penalty of being adjudged guilty of contempt of court, from in any manner hereinafter described, interfering with, hindering, obstructing or stopping the operation of the plantation of Oahu Sugar Company, Limited, complainant in the above entitled cause, hereinafter referred to as complainant, situated at Waipahu, City and County of Honolulu, or complainant's agents, servants or employees in the operation of its said plantation, and from visiting the said plantation or causing any other persons to visit said plantation or from stopping or remaining in the vicinity of the said plantation for the purpose of interfering in any manner hereinafter described with the workmen of complainant or with any person who may desire to visit the said premises of complainant for the purpose of engaging in the employment of complainant; and from compelling or inducing, or attempting to compel or induce, by intimidation, insults, threats, force or violence, or by intimidating and threatening language or threats of boycott or ostracism published in that certain newspaper called the "Nippu Jiji," published in the Japanese language in said Honolulu, any persons to leave the employment of complainant or to refrain from entering or re-entering the employment of complainant or to refuse or fail to perform their duties as employees of complainant or to refrain from going to or upon the said premises of complainant for any lawful purpose whatever; and from requesting, aiding, assisting or abetting any person or persons to commit any of the acts aforesaid; and from congregating at or near the premises of complainant, or at or near the Railway Station of the Oahu Railway and Land Company at said Honolulu or at said Waipahu for the purpose of intimidating employees of complainant, or coercing said employees, or preventing them from rendering their service to said complainant, or inducing or compelling by intimidation, insults, theats, force or violence any of the employees of complainant from continuing in its service or any persons from engaging in the service of complainant; and from going, either singly or collectively, to the homes of complainant's employees, or any of them, or the homes of persons who desire or intend to enter the service of complainant for the purpose of intimidating or coercing any or all of them to leave the employment of complainant or from entering complainant's employ; and picketing or patrolling or guarding complainant's plantation, the public highway between said plantation and Honolulu, said railway station at Honolulu, said railway station at Waipahu, or the boarding houses in Honolulu frequented by Japanese labourers or any of said places for the purpose of intimidating employees of complainant, or coercing said employees, or preventing them from rendering their services to said complainant, or inducing or compelling by intimidation, insults, threats, force or violence any of the employees of complainant from continuing in its service or any person or persons from engaging in the service of complainant, herein fail not at your peril.

Witness the Honourable W. J. Robinson, Third Judge of the Circuit Court of the First Circuit, presiding at chambers, this 9th day of July, A.D. 1909.

(Seal) M. T. SIMONTON,
Clerk Circuit Court, First Circuit

Let the foregoing injunction issue.

W. J. ROBINSON,
Third Judge, First Circuit Court.

Honolulu, July 9, 1909.

PRINCE ITO.

On the 26th inst. Prince Ito was formally appointed President of the Commission for superintending the education of the Korean Crown Prince. The explanation of this appointment is that Prince Ito, deeming it inconvenient that he should hold simultaneously the offices of President of the Japanese Privy Council and Grand Tutor to the Crown Prince of Korea, desired to resign the latter post in the immediate sequel of resigning the Residency-General. The Emperor of Korea, however, refused to entertain for a moment the idea of removing the Crown Prince from Prince Ito's care, and the Emperor of Japan, appreciating Prince Ito's dilemma, decided that a commission should be formed in connexion with the education of the Prince and that Prince Ito should be appointed its head, receiving his nomination direct from his own Emperor. It is a mere point of etiquette, and its result is to leave the little Prince under the charge of the ex-Resident-General without violating any of the proprieties.

THE YALU TIMBER ENTERPRISE.

The Chinese offer a very curious explanation of the difficulty with regard to the Yalu timber-felling enterprise. They say that the Company, as now conducted, is merely a taxation bureau. In the first place, the organization is very costly, only highly-salaried officials being employed; in the second, the Company, instead of buying the rafts from the woodmen, leaves them to be floated down the river and sold by the fellers, and confines itself to levying fees upon the lumber. It is insisted that in such circumstances the prospect of keeping the Company on a profitable footing is very small, and that re-organization and a complete change of procedure are essential. How such a state of affairs can exist we do not understand, for the Company's articles distinctly provide that the timber shall be purchased from the woodmen at the place of felling and that the subsequent disposal of it shall be in the hands of the Company.

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CHIENTAO.

Friday, July 23.

All the Tokyo newspapers publish telegrams this morning describing the rough and insulting conduct of the Chinese troops in Chientao. A special case is cited; namely, that of a Mr. Hashimoto who appears to have been treated with very little ceremony. On the evening of the 17th inst. as he was driving toward a place of which we can not deciper the translitterated name, his *jinrikisha* was stopped by some 30 soldiers, who demanded his name and his passport, and subsequently escorted him to the district headquarters where he was held in custody for 24 hours. His experience is said to be one of many, and it is alleged that ever since the arrival of the new Chinese Commander, Mr. Wu Luting, the demeanour of the Chinese towards the Japanese has been most insulting, and the Japanese residents and travellers are fast losing all sense of security of life and property.

If the above statement be credible it is evident that the Chinese in Chientao have determined to solve the situation by force without waiting for the result of any negotiations. The position they are assuming in the district amounts to practical exercise of the rights which now form the subject of dispute between the Governments at Seoul and Peking. This is certainly not a conciliatory method of procedure. It is diametrically the opposite of conciliatory. No one can deny that the Japanese have shown exemplary patience in their manner of dealing with the Chientao problem, but we can not expect their patience to be inexhaustible.

We may here note that the *Asahi Shimbun*, referring to *The Times*' counsels of compromise, says that it is exactly because Japan desires to compromise that she is showing so much patience. Our contemporary strongly recommends that recourse should be had to public negotiations. In other words, it would have the Japanese Government address to all the Governments of the West a clear statement of the matters in dispute and the progress of the negotiations up to the present. The *Asahi* thinks that this is the only way to shield Japan from misrepresentations and to appeal to the unbiased verdict of the world. So long as secrecy is observed, the situation continues to lend itself to all kinds of misrepresentations.

Saturday, July 24.

From telegrams published by the *Asahi Shimbun* it would seem that an injustice has been done to Mr. Wu Lu-ting, the Chinese Boundary Governor in Chientao. According to the news published in Tokyo on the 23rd inst. the unquiet state of affairs now said to be prevailing in Chientao was attributed to Mr. Wu's method of administration, but the truth appears to be that these untoward conditions have occurred since Mr. Wu resigned his post.

The *Mainichi Dempo* has a telegram from Chyonjin saying that certain troops have moved northward. We recognise in this statement the studied vagueness which is alway dictated to press utterances with reference to Japanese military movements, but the inference deducible is plain enough, namely, that it has been deemed expedient to increase the handful of Japanese gendarmes now stationed in Chientao.

Monday, July 26.

Our readers will not be surprised to learn that semi-official denials are published of the story that China has suddenly increased her forces in Chientao by several thousands of men, and that Japan has taken a similar step, though on a much smaller scale, by despatching a body of gendarmes from Chyonjin. It is pointed out that any such step, on China's part would be a very grave measure, and that for Japan to despatch 70 or 80 gendarmes would not be at all an adequate response. Doubtless the rumour had its origin in the difficulties experienced with reference to the negotiations between the two Empires, but it is in the last degree improbable that China would have recourse to any such extreme measure. It is true that a few Japanese gendarmes were lately sent to Chientao, but the simple reasons were, in the first place, that the number of Japanese and Korean settlers having suddenly increased, the detachment of gendarmes already in the district had become unable to discharge the duties devolving on it; and, in the second place, the ordinary reliefs had to be sent.

Nevertheless the *Mainichi Dempo* has an exciting though splendidly vague telegram from Mukden. It says:—"There is a troubled under-current in the relations between Japan and China, and close attention should be paid to the course of events." As for the *Chuo Shimbun*, its correspondents in Manchuria send most disquieting news. They say that in consequence of the violent conduct of the Chinese soldiers in Chientao, a collision has taken place between them and some Japanese gendarmes, with the result that several of the Chinese were killed or wounded. Other rumours are published by the same journal, but since they amount merely to sensational conjectures based on events which may be perfectly pacific and natural, we do not reproduce them.

The *Hochi Shimbun*, which in matters of foreign policy is nothing if not stalwart, insists that things are in a parlous condition, and blames the authorities for not accomplishing what we Westerners have always been accustomed to regard as an impossible feat, namely, proving a negative. The Government says that the Chinese have not increased their forces in Chientao to any significant extent, and that nothing of an alarming character has occurred, but our Tokyo contemporary is not content with this: it insists that both denials must be confirmed by definite proofs. Evidently the *Hochi* is genuinely perturbed, for it tacks together all the shreds of rumour that have been floating in the air for the past few days, and it actually seems to believe that China is prepared to take the initiative in appealing to the sword. Referring to the advice of *The Times* that Japan's wisest course is to compromise with China, the *Hochi* expresses approval of compromise as a principle, but asks pertinently how compromise is possible if the other side will not listen to any terms. It recalls President Roosevelt's saying that diplomacy is a futile instrument, unless it has a solid backing of force.

The *Hochi Shimbun*, taking into account its evening edition, is said to have the largest circulation of any Tokyo journal. It is a pity that a paper so widely read should write in an alarmist strain. Looking back 15 years, one can certainly recall that China took the initiative in sending troops to Korea in 1894, and that she made arrangements for despatching a large force to Pyongyang *viâ* Wiju while negotiations were still pending with Japan. But the China of 1894 with an army supposed to be really powerful and a fleet believed to be far superior to that of Japan, was very different from the China of 1909. In truth, however, it is almost sinful to speak of war at all. The questions at issue between the two Powers are perfectly capable of simple adjustment, and neither State can have the least inclination to carry matters to an extremity.

Tuesday, July 27.

The latest news from Chientao is an utterance, apparently semi-official, in the sense that the rumoured massing of Chinese troops in the region is probably referable to a very simple cause. China stations her forces along the frontier between Chientao and Korea in the ratio of ten men per mile, but during the very hot season she recalls these outposts to cooler positions. This manœuvre presents an appearance of massing forces, and may possibly be intended to bear the collateral character of a demonstration. But as to the notion that it is likely to involve a collision of any kind between the Chinese troops and the Japanese gendarmerie, such a contingency may be counted in the last degree improbable. Any unusual movement of troops, especially within a region which constitutes a bone of contention, can scarcely fail to attract public attention, but in this instance the grain of truth seems to be conspicuously small.

PRATAS ISLAND.

Saturday, July 24.

In the *Chuo Shimbun* we find a statement that the Japanese and Chinese appraisers sent to Pratas Island, did not spend more than about four hours on shore, and could not possibly have made an inventory or arrived at an intelligent estimate in such a brief time. They are said to be now busily conferring, but it is evident that fuller investigation *in loco* will have to be made. This is a very inexplicable statement, for after the two Powers had incurred the trouble and expense of sending warships to the Island, we can not suppose that the appraisers behaved in such a perfunctory manner.

Sunday, July 25.

The *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a very incredible bit of news about the Pratas Island affair. It says that when the appraisers arrived at the Island they found nothing at all to justify Mr. Nishizawa's estimate of the sum required to compensate him for compulsory abandonment of the enterprise, namely, half a million *yen*. In fact the apparatus belonging to him on the island was of very little value, and the money to be received from China on that basis would be a mere bagatelle. All this is credible enough, and moreover it accounts for the story that the appraisers spent barely four hours on the island. But the writer in the *Asahi* goes on to say that the Japanese Government now intends to go outside the appraisement and ask for a sum which will compensate all Mr. Nishizawa's expenditures in the past. This is hard to believe. Of course something is due to Mr. Nishizawa on account of the sums he has expended in carrying workmen to the island and maintaining them there, but that item must have been entered in the original account between the two Governments, and therefore it can not constitute any reason for a change of attitude on Japan's part now. Some fuller explanation is evidently necessary.

Monday, July 26.

The *Jiji Shimpo* confirms the impressions formulated in these columns with regard to the Pratas Island affair. It says that the commissioners of the two Powers having

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visited the island and inspected things *in situ*, will have no difficulty whatever in agreeing as to the amount of compensation to be paid to Mr. Nishizawa. The question may therefore be regarded as practically settled, but the sum paid to Mr. Nishizawa will be very much smaller than the public has been led to expect. We trust that this news may prove correct, and that the settlement of this problem may prelude a similarly amicable adjustment of all issues pending between China and Japan.

Tuesday, July 27.

From Hongkong comes a piece of intelligence which seems to suggest that the Pratas-Island commissioners are wrestling in space. The Japanese are said to be demanding on Mr. Nishizawa's account compensation to the extent of half a million *yen*, which, if rumour be credible, is very palpably in excess of the sums actually expended on the development of the Island; and the Chinese are reported to be estimating at 170,000 *yen* the losses suffered by their countrymen on account of Nishizawa's undertaking. Both of these sums suggest great elasticity of compression, and we are therefore driven to think that some tedious bargaining will still be necessary.

THE BUDGET FOR NEXT YEAR.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that the Finance Department is now busily engaged compiling the Budget for next fiscal year. The general character of the compilation will be on the lines of the current year's budget, namely abstention from all loans and adherence to the 11 years' system of public undertakings. In fact financial adjustment will continue to be the ruling object of the Katsura Cabinet in the future, as it has been in the past. The figures given by our contemporary are as follow:—

REVENUE.	Yen.
Ordinary and Extraordinary.....	496,481,340
EXPENDITURES.	
Ordinary and Extraordinary.....	503,185,630
Excess of Expenditures	6,704,290

This excess is amply provided for by the surplus remaining over from the current year, namely, 21,099,457 *yen*.

After giving the surplus for the 41st fiscal year in such exact terms; our contemporary then proceeds to say that this figure will not be accurately known until the end of October, but that it will probably exceed 50 million *yen*. If there be any such expectation, we are wholly perplexed to understand why the surplus should have been set down as above at 21,099,457 *yen*. Nothing but the addition of so many *sen* and so many *rin* is wanting to make this account comical. We further note that our contemporary gives the ordinary revenue and the extraordinary independently, but as they do not add up even approximately to their alleged total, we see no use in reproducing them.

The *Shogyo* goes on to say that in compiling the Budget the Finance Department has three objects in view. One is to reduce some taxes and to abolish others; another is to increase the sum devoted to repayment of the national debts, and the third is to augment official salaries. If all this programme be carried out, a very large sum will be involved, and consequently the compilation of the Budget presents some difficulties. There appears to be a disposition, if our contemporary be rightly informed, to regard the natural increment of the revenue taxation as a fixed asset. We trust that this disposition may not be carried into practice. It would be distinctly a retrograde step. A surplus which has actually accrued can very properly be carried into the Budget, but a surplus which is still in the future can not be included in stable income. As to the repayment of the national debts, our readers are aware that the original sum destined for this purpose was increased by the Katsura Cabinet to 50 million *yen* last year, and has been placed on a 60-million basis this year. The latter figure will, it is said, be raised to 70 millions next year, and so far as we can gather from the *Shogyo's* somewhat perplexing statements, this method of addition will be pursued until 100 millions is reached. With regard to taxation, the nomenclature is to be amended, in the sense of converting extraordinary taxes into permanent imposts, while reducing their total by from 10 to 15 million *yen*.

THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATIONS.

Two new bureax have been added to the Department of Communications. They are the Bureau of Electricity and the Bureau of Postal Deposits. This means an increase of the staff of the Department by 1800 individuals.

Mr. Nakakoji, Vice-Minister of Communications explains that the rapid growth of electric enterprises necessitates the organization of a special bureau. Five years ago, the number of kilowats of electricity used in Japan was 58,000. To-day it is 170,000, and applications have been sanctioned which will raise the number to 380,000. In fact out of 817 manufacturing industries existing in Japan, no less than 198 are electric and their capital is 210 millions. Turning to hydro-electric power, the increase has been equally remarkable. Five years ago the number of kilowats obtained by this means was 16,000; to-day it is 62,000, and permits have been given which will raise the total to 220,000.

With regard to the question of postal deposits, the growth of business in recent years has been almost phenomenal. Thus between 1903 and 1908 the number of depositors grew from 3,560,000 to 8,720,000, and the total sum deposited increased from 22,750,000 *yen* to 104,310,000 *yen*. In the second place, there is the business of buying public loan bonds with the interest accrued on postal deposits. The authorities purchase these bonds at the request of a depositor, hold them in his name and collect the interest on them, all without charging any fee whatever. Transactions of this nature grew from 11,200 bonds representing a face value of 1,154,000 *yen* in 1903 to 318,000 bonds representing a face value of 20,979,000 *yen* in 1908. Then there is the question of postal money orders. These grew from 10,250,000 representing a value 102,240,000 in 1903 to 14,550,000 representing a value of 175,710,000 in 1908. The above were domestic money orders, and during the same period the number of foreign money orders more than doubled. Finally the aggregate sum handled by the post offices and postal savings banks increased from 719,000,000 *yen* in 1903 to 1,760,000,000 in 1908. Mr. Nakakoji also spoke of the great convenience afforded to depositors in the matter of discharging debts due in various localities. For example, a depositor in Tokyo, if he wants to pay an account in Nagoya, has only to make application to a post office anywhere in the former city, whereupon the amount is handed over to the creditor in Nagoya and the depositor's account is debited accordingly, no fees of any kind being charged. This system extends to payment of taxes, and although it was instituted in 1906, the number of persons who took advantage of it in 1908 was 3,324,000, and the monies involved aggregated 226,440,000 *yen*.

RESUMING OF THE NEGOTIATIONS.

A telegram to the *Mainichi Dempo* from Peking says that the negotiations about Chientao and other questions at issue between China and Japan were resumed in Peking on the 26th instant and that there is believed to be a sincere desire to reach a settlement. China, according to the same information, attaches prime importance to the Chientao question. The correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun*, however, says that at the meeting on the 26th instant the Chinese had no proposals to advance, and that they merely asked Mr. Ijuin to reconsider Japan's last conditions. Indeed this correspondent wires in a most pessimistic strain. He thinks that no signs of progress towards a settlement are yet visible.

Mr. Nakamura, President of the South-Manchurian Railway, has arrived at Shimonoseki, and denied that his visit to Japan has anything to do with the negotiations. He explains that all preparations have been completed for beginning the construction of the Mukden-Antung road, as soon as ever the Japanese and Chinese Governments intimate their permission. As to the reasons of China's long delay, he does not profess to have any special knowledge, but he is evidently disposed to credit the theory advanced by a foreign newspaper in China, namely, that as the Chinese Government will be entitled to buy up the line after the expiration of a fixed period, the Peking statesmen deem it wise policy to prevent any improvements which might enhance the value. Mr. Nakamura confirms previous reports in the sense that the only point remaining unsettled in the negotiations for the Kilin-Changchun line is the question of the custody of the funds, a matter which admits of easy arrangement.

THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

The *Jiji Shimpo* recalls the facts the on the 23rd of last month Mr. Consul-General Koike at Mukden was handed China's replies to the Japanese proposals with regard to the Mukden-Antung Railway, and that Mr. Kurachi of the Foreign Office being questioned as to the nature of those replies, admitted that they were eminently unsatisfactory, but denied that Japan had any idea of adopting an extreme policy, her intention being to treat the matter with the utmost patience. A month has passed since that time, and things remain exactly where they were. Japan's protests as to disregard of treaty obligations and her requests that the Peking Government should reconsider the situation are met with solid silence. Meanwhile this country has made every preparation to commence the work of reconstruction at once, and something must certainly be done before the cold weather sets in. There is no occasion to be precipitate, but it is evident that unless some settlement is arrived at before the end of August or the beginning of September, there will be no possibility of accomplishing any work during the current year. In another month therefore, unless the present aspect of affairs changes radically, we may expect that the diplomatic situation will become strained. Such is the *Jiji's* analysis.

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THE MEMORANDUM.

Saturday, July 24.

It is semi-officially announced that although the new Korean-Japanese Memorandum has been published, the date of putting it into operation is uncertain, and will probably be fully three months hence. Mr. Kurachi, Head of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office is quoted as saying that, with reference to the cost of the new arrangement, a sum of 1½ million *yen* annually has hitherto been taken from the 10 million *yen* lent by Japan to Korea, and he apparently does not think that any large addition need be made to that amount. He further says that as Korea's expenses are on an increasing scale, Japan can hardly expect to recover the money lent by her to the Peninsula Empire at the date fixed for its repayment. In fact, he evidently thinks that Japan must regard that money as a gift, and must even be prepared to put her hand more deeply still into her pocket.

With regard to the fact that the new arrangement is embodied in a Memorandum, not in a treaty or convention, the *Jiji Shimpo* observes that Korea being now unquestionably a protectorate of Japan and the former's foreign affairs having been placed entirely in the latter's hands, there is no longer any occasion for troublesome forms and ceremonies. The simplest kind of document is the best and most practical.

There was an idea in some quarters that this transfer of judicial power to Japan would involve a change in the present system of Korean courts, the Formosan plan being adopted and the Court of Cassation abolished. That is now denied. The district courts, local courts, courts of appeal and court of cassation will all remain in existence as before. But the residency courts would be abolished and of course there will be a corresponding gain in simplicity and expedition.

The prisons will of course constitute a difficult problem. So far as is known, the jails in Korea are in a most primitive condition, and Japan having now openly assumed charge of them will be held responsible for their improvement. A high Japanese official in Korea is quoted as saying that this part of the business will involve a heavy expenditure. A distinctive feature of crime in Korea is the exceptional number of robberies with violence, and a corresponding number of long-term prisoners. If a proper system of prison labour were in operation, these criminals might be made more or less self-supporting. But there is no provision for hard labour in the prisons, and to make due arrangements would require a heavy capital outlay. Altogether this official is evidently of the opinion that the financial side of the problem will cause some embarrassment.

It appears that the Emperor himself attended the meeting of the Privy council on the afternoon of the 24th inst. when the Memorandum came up for final decision.

The Memorandum was handed to all the foreign Powers and is said to have been well received by them.

As to the abolition of the War Department, another memorandum embodying this reform is expected to be soon published.

A telegram to the *Hochi Shimbun* says that the publication of the Memorandum in Seoul did not give rise to any commotion whatever.

Tuesday, July 27.

The Memorandum appears to have produced no disquieting effect whatever in Korea. Probably the people do not take any very keen interest either in the Judiciary or in the prisons. The administration of the law itself and the management of the jails have for centuries been so bad that nothing connected with them suggested any hopefulness. There has been a marked improvement under Japan's regime, and very likely the majority of the Korean people feel merely that if their kind neighbour is willing to spend money upon reforming these abuses, litigants and criminals ought to be much obliged, while law-abiding and peace-loving people are not greatly concerned. The telegraph says that the Prime Minister, Mr. Yi, on the 26th inst. assembled the various provincial officials, and having explained to them the import of the Memorandum, urged that they should make it clear to the people in their districts and should take every step to prevent excitement.

Wednesday, July 28.

News from Seoul continues to describe the reception given to the Judicial Memorandum as peaceful and even favourable. One point, however, seems to be troubling the minds of the Koreans; namely, whether the transfer of the judicial power to Japan will not interfere with the Throne's prerogative of pardon. We do not see that this necessarily follows since the power of granting amnesty is exercised in all countries without respect to the views of the Judiciary and without consulting the latter.

The *Asahi* reports in this context that at a lecture meeting held in Seoul on the 26th inst, one of the speakers elicited much applause by stating that Korea could not avoid becoming a Japanese protectorate and that the people, instead of troubling themselves about political issues, should devote their whole attention to developing their material resources. If this temper prevailed in Korea, the work of reform would be made much easier for Japan.

Meanwhile the terminology of the Memorandum is provoking some adverse comment in Japan. The critics point out that the first Article practically reserves to Korea the power of terminating the agreement at any moment. The Article says that "until the systems of justice and prisons in Korea shall have been recognised as complete, the Government of Korea delegates to the Government of Japan the administration of justice and prisons." If this Article contained the words "by the Japanese Government" after the words "recognised as complete," there could be no doubt that the recognition is to depend upon Japan's discretion. But as the Article actually stands, the power of judgment is entrusted to Korea, and she may terminate the arrangement at any moment. Another criticism is directed to the second Article, which says that the officers of the Japanese courts in Korea shall be appointed from among Japanese and Korean subjects. But the Constitution of Japan lays down distinctly that Japanese judicial officials must be Japanese subjects, so that this Article seems to be a plain violation of the Constitution. The *Hochi Shimbun* predicts that these questions will be brought up in the next session of the Diet and will provoke much discussion. The answer of the Government, will be, we presume, that Japan's attitude towards Korean affairs belongs strictly to the realm of foreign politics, and is therefore within the prerogative of the Crown. The Japanese Constitution does not extend to Korea, and can not be conveniently extended to it in existing circumstances. As for the discretion apparently left to Korea in appraising her own qualifications, the idea that she will attempt to exercise it in a manner inconvenient to Japan must be regarded as a fine fear.

We gather from the *Asahi Shimbun* that there is no intention of taking any speedy steps to reconstruct or otherwise improve the jails in Korea. This question will certainly have to be taken up by and by, but at present the expense is deterrent. The same journal alleges that the provisions of the Memorandum will probably not be put into operation before the beginning of next year. The Diet's consent will of course have to be obtained for any expenditures incurred, but as a temporary measure money can be advanced from the reserves, and parliamentry *post facto* approval can be obtained.

THE KILIN-CHANGCHUN RAILWAY.

The telegraph says that on the 22nd inst. Mr. Nishimura, President of the South Manchuria Railway Company, visited Port Arthur and had a long conference with General Viscount Oshima. The subject of discussion is not clearly known but is believed to have been the Kilin-Changchun question. As to this question, the rumour is confirmed that the seat of the negotiations is to be transferred to Tientsin whither the Chinese Commissioner, Mr. Lu, has retired on account of sickness. It does not appear that the Chinese authorities are really averse to continuing the negotiations. They have agreed, at the instance of the Japanese Representative in Peking, to appoint an assistant commissioner who will be empowered to act for Lu during the latter's illness. But this concession is made at the cost of tearing up all the results of previous negotiations and commencing the matter anew.

While there is an element of hope in the above account, it also lends itself to be read as a mere manœuvre of procrastination, for if the illness of a plenipotentiary is to involve the deletion of all the conditions agreed to by him during his period of health, the negotiations may be protracted *ad infinitum*.

According to the *Jiji Shimpo* the statement that it published nearly a fortnight ago was not without foundation, namely, that at that time the Chinese Government contemplated the despatch of a special commissioner to Japan to settle all outstanding questions, and had actually offered the post to Tang Shaoi. That official declined, however, being dissatisfied with the comparatively humble position assigned to him on his return from Europe, namely, that of expectant Vice-Minister. There was then talk of appointing Liang Tun-yen, but it was not found convenient that he should leave Peking at present. It is plain that if China really had a mind to send a plenipotentiary for such a purpose, she would have no difficulty in finding a suitable person, and the fact that she has allowed the matter to drop constituties another proof of her want of sincerity.

There appears to be very little room for doubt that the final negotiations about the Kilin-Changchun Railway are on the verge of being commenced. On the 26th inst. Mr. Nonomura and Major Sato arrived in Peking from Tientsin, and after a short meeting with the Japanese Representative in the former city, returned to Tientsin in the afternoon, where the Chinese Commissioner, Mr. Lu, is staying and where negotiations were to commence on the morning of the 27th.

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KOREA.

Friday, July 23.

The new Convention will be promulgated in a day or two, according to the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and the Korean subjects now occupying places on the Bench of their country will then be appointed interpreters to the courts. We had hitherto supposed that the Judiciary was to include Korean subjects, but if the *Kokumin* be rightly informed, which is more than probable, the occupants of the Bench will be entirely Japanese. Of course such tribunals can not be perfectly satisfactory, but nothing in Korea is ideal or can be ideal for some time more.

It appears that the Korean War Department has hitherto involved an expenditure of 180,000 *yen* annually, including the upkeep of a body of 700 Guards. The abolition of this Department and its replacement by a *shuyei-fu* in the Household Department will represent a substantial economy, but the amount is not yet ascertained clearly. Out of the 46 officials now constituting the personnel of the Department about one half will be dismissed, but they will receive pensions where civil appointments are not available. As for the Military School, it will be ruled out of existence, the students being transferred to a Japanese school, where they will study to qualify for the position of interpteter.

Dr. Kikuchi now pronounces Viscount Sone's malady to be comparatively trifling.

Saturday, July 24.

There has hitherto been an independent Red Cross Hospital in Seoul, but on the 24th inst. it was abolished, and there was substituted for it a "Korean Head Office" of the Japanese Red Cross Society. The new Institution will be under the patronage of the Sovereign of Korea, but the appointment and removal of the members of its staff will be controlled from Tokyo.

The general rule in Japan is that all cattle from abroad are medically inspected before being allowed to land, but the Japanese Diet in its last session abrogated this rule so far as it related to cattle from Korea, the view taken by the Legislature being that Korean cattle are nearly always free from disease. It would appear, however, that this exemption has not worked well in practice, for the *Official Gazette* of the 24th inst. contains an ordinance issued by the Resident-General in Seoul requiring that cattle exported from Korea for Japan shall be medically inspected at the port of export.

Monday, July 26.

The Seoul correspondent of the *Chuo Shimbun* sends an extraordinary rumour to that journal. He says that Mr. Colbran has left Korea without reimbursing the price of the shares held by the Household Department in the electric tramway, namely, 750,000 *yen*; and he adds that Mr. Komiya, Japanese Vice-Minister of the Department, has taken action in the matter. Two points are difficult to believe in this statement. One is that the Korean Household Department has any such share in the enterprise; the other that Mr. Colbran has in any way evaded his obligations.

It is stated that the residence of Miss Sontag, who is about to leave Korea permanently, will be taken over by the proprietors of the Palace Hotel, but whether this means the hotel of that name in Shanghai or another institution we are unable to say.

It is expected that the memorandum with reference to the establishment of a Central Bank in Korea will be published in a few days, together with the detailed regulations for giving effect to its provisions.

Tuesday, July 27.

Some days ago it was announced that Mr. Yi Keun-thaik, formerly Minister of War in Korea and generally regarded as a *persona grata* with the ex-Emperor, had arrived at Shimonoseki with the idea of spending some time in Japan to avoid the great heat of summer. Mr. Yi then disappeared from public ken, as was sufficiently appropriate if his purpose in visiting Japan were really what rumour represented it to be. But now a new light has been thrown upon his visit. He is said to be living in Tokyo, which is not an ideal place for avoiding the heat, and instead of leading a life of leisure he is devoting his time to minute inquiries into the real policy of Japan towards Korea and into the relations between the Crown Prince and the Japanese Court. These things he is doing at the instance of the ex-Emperor, who evidently has not yet reconciled himself to the role of a recluse. All the Tokyo papers print paragraphs in the above sense, as though much importance attached to Mr. Yi's mission, but after all what can be more natural than the ex-Emperor's curiosity? His Majesty has been for only a very few years removed from an arena where his movements and intrigues possessed vital interest and international importance. It is not to be supposed that he has ceased to ruminate over his country's future, or that he has even abandoned hope of once more wielding the power which he was so suddenly obliged to lay down. Assuming Mr. Yi Keun-thiak to be an honest man who will report truly what he sees and what is going on, it appears to us that his coming should be welcomed rather than disapproved by the Japanese.

We take the following from the *Seoul Press*:—

As may be expected, sanitary officers in this country have little cause to complain because of the scarcity of work. On the contrary, they are face to face with the great task of introducing the modern system of sanitation among a people who are utterly ignorant of its benefit and who offer stubborn resistance to every new departure. It is to the great credit of the authorities concerned that amidst such great difficulty they are steadily improving the sanitary condition of the Korean people. We learn that between February and May this year they vaccinated under compulsion 511,288 Koreans and also distributed gratis a quantity of vaccine sufficient for 460,000 persons. It goes without saying that these measures have saved many a Korean from death from small-pox.

We further learn that during the five months from January to May this year the total number of persons who suffered from epidemic diseases in this country reached 4,161, of whom 888 persons died. Among these 3,796 were attacked by small pox, of whom 803 died; while those affected with typhus, dysentery, diphtheria, scarlet fever, and cholera amounted to 266, 41, 28, 15, and 13 respectively, of whom 56, 6, 6, 9, and 9 succumbed to these respective diseases. These are only cases which came under official notice. There is no doubt that the actual cases far outnumber these figures.

Up to May this year the number of opium eaters discovered by the police authorities totalled 5,360. The authorities are taking suitable measures to check the people from indulging in this bad habit. As to those who have something to do with the sanitation work in this country, there are 2,659 physicians, including 283 Japanese and 19 foreigners. There are also Japanese and Korean druggists to the number of 75 and 143 respectively; 105 Japanese and 33 Korean midwives, 155 Japanese and 32 Korean trained nurses, 5,175 Japanese, 3,265 Korean and 9 Chinese dealers in patent medicines.

Wednesday, July 28.

The regulations for a Central Bank in Korea have been published in Seoul. They consist of 49 provisions, and the general outline does not differ from that already published in these columns. The capital is 10 million *yen* in shares of 100 *yen* each; the note-issuing power is 20 millions; the reserve against the notes is 25 per cent.; the working capital is 1,200,000 *yen*, and the tax on any notes issued above the legal limit is 5 per cent. All business connected with the establishment of the Bank is entrusted to the Japanese Government, but the Korean Government takes 30,000 shares.

Mr. Arai, Vice-Minister of Finance in Korea, explains that the new Bank will have to do a more extensive business than the Central Bank of Japan. It will have to lend money to private individuals on security. The addition to its role may seem to suggest that it will compete with private banks and thus check the development of the latter. Such is by no means the intention, however. The loan business of the Bank will be strictly limited to cases beyond the range of an ordinary bank's transactions.

It appears that there have been three estimates made with regard to the cost of building the Seoul-Gensan Railway, which figures prominently on the programme recently announced by Viscount Sone. They vary in amount from 10 millions to 18 millions of *yen*, but the idea is that the largest figure, which corresponds to the latest calculation, will be taken for basis. The money to build this line will of course have to be found by Japan, as it will belong to her system of State railways, but the Diet's consent will have to be obtained. It will be very difficult for Japan, in view of the various needs confronting her, to adhere strictly to her resolution of not borrowing any more money.

It is stated that the Ministers of Education and Finance in Korea have tendered their resignations, and that the former official is very resolute in his determination to go out of office. This incident is of course referred to an intrigue on the part of the enemies of the present Premier, but as yet there is no apprehension that the Cabinet will have to be remodelled.

Thursday, July 29.

The latest news from Seoul is that the resignation of the Minister of Education has been accepted, and that there will probably be another change of portfolios as well.

It is stated that on the 28th inst. a conference was held between the Prime Minister, the Minister for War and the Resident-General with reference to the abolition of the War Department and the organisation of the Shuyei-fu. A complete understanding is alleged to have been reached, and the necessary rescript will be issued in a few days. The Minister of War will receive a solatium of 30,000 *yen*, and suitable sums will be distributed among the officials whose posts are abolished.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Seoul intelligence that the 16 patrol boats which are to attack the insurgents in their insular fastnesses, and also to check smuggling and trespasses in the north-western waters of Korea, will be finished by the middle of next month. Steps are now being taken to make such organizations as are necessary for utilizing these craft.

The good news is confirmed that there is no truth in the *Hochi Shimbun's* recently published paragraph to the effect that Viscount Sone's illness had been diagnosed as cancer in the stomach. Nothing worse than a sharp attack of catarrh seems to have been experienced.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS NASHIMOTO returned to Tokyo after their long tour in Europe, at 9 a.m. on July 29.

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THE WEARY QUESTION.

A telegram to the *Mainichi Dempo* from Mukden says that on the 27th inst. Mr. Consul-General Koike had a two hours' interview with Viceroy Hsi on the subject of the Mukden-Antung Railway. A warm discussion took place, but as each side adhered firmly to its original position, no progress whatever was made.

Another telegram to the same paper says that the Viceroy, apprehending an intention on the part of the Japanese to commence the reconstruction of the Railway secretly, has stationed a number of policemen and soldiers disguised as coolies in the district through which the line would run. This sounds very like a sensational canard.

More important is a paragraph in the *Kokumin Shimbun* to the effect that, at a meeting between Mr. Iijuin and Mr. Liang of the Waiwupu on the 26th inst., no progress whatever was made, and things remained precisely in *statu quo*. Several meetings will probably be necessary before anything like an understanding can be approached. Meanwhile Count Komura is expected to return to Tokyo on the 1st proximo and Mr. Nakamura, President of the South Manchuria Railway, is now on his way to the capital. After the arrival of these two officials the whole question will be thoroughly thrashed out in Tokyo, but the Japanese Government has already decided upon the course of action to be pursued in the event of China's attitude proving obdurate. There will, however, be nothing like precipitancy or peremptoriness. The utmost patience and conciliation will be shown by Japan, and in the last resort she will propose a compromise which will afford a final test of China's sincerity.

We confess ourselves quite unable to sympathise with China's action in this matter. With every possible wish to find excuses for her conduct, it is hard to see that she has any show of reason on her side. No intelligent person can honestly think that the privilege of performing ordinary repairs on the Mukden-Antung Railway constituted a subject of special negotiation in Peking after the great war. It is quite undeniable that what Japan asked for, and what China agreed to, was the conversion of the temporary track into a permanent line, which should form a part of the Manchurian and Korean railway systems. China is very ill-advised when she takes her stand on such palpably unsound ground. She evidently counts on the hypothesis that the world will condemn the party which first resorts to force in such a case, but she seems to forget that the world may change its views when it comprehends the injustice inflicted on Japan.

THE CHINESE LOAN QUESTION.

The not very dignified struggle to lend money to China does not appear to have been settled, as was suggested by telegrams received on the 23rd inst. The news then was that America had been admitted to the transaction by the simple process of enlarging the dimensions of the loan. In other words, 10 milion *taels* had been added to the original figure, and that amount was to be furnished by America. Considering that the whole of the loan is to be devoted to the specific purpose of building certain railways, the notion of increasing or diminishing the amount merely to suit the fancy of the lenders strikes one as a quaint kind of finance. Still that is what was said to have been done, and apparently the American Government was satisfied, though truly it is hard to believe that the machinery of administration in Washington was set in motion originally for such a petty purpose as to obtain the privilege of lending China 10 million *taels* on the same terms as those agreed to by other Powers. However that may be, the latest telegraphic information says that Germany has protested against this intrusion on the part of the United States, but exactly on what grounds the protest is formulated the telegraph leaves us in doubt. At any rate it is evident that this weary question has not yet come within sight of final settlement. England would certainly welcome American cooperation, but the striking fact is that this unprecedented struggle between four Powers is taking place in the Yangtsz valley which, in the old days, used to be complacently regarded as Great Britain's sphere of influence *par excellence*.

THE SEIKOSHO.

On the 22nd inst. the furnaces were lit for the first time in the new factory at Muroran. This step had naturally been regarded with much anxiety, as its results had an intimate relation to the success of the great Anglo-Japanese enterprise. Telegrams affirm that everything passed off most satisfactorily. It is mentioned incidentally that Mr. Amenomiya, one of the principal shareholders, was so delighted with the excellence of all the arrangements that he presented the gold watch he was himself wearing to the chief engineer, Mr. Ito. General Count Oku, who also was present, expressed profound satisfaction. One most important point which we gather from the telegrams is that 8 tons of iron smelted on this occasion consisted of the sand ore which exists in almost an unlimited quantity near the site of the works. The great question had been whether this mineral could be successfully employed, and an affirmative answer is now apparently possible.

It appears that the ceremony that took place in Hokkaido on the 21st inst. was the opening not of the Seikosho but of the Seitetsujo. The latter belongs to the Tanko Kisen Kaisha, and has been erected in the belief that the immense quantities of sand iron abounding in Hokkaido are capable of being smelted and applied to manufacting purposes. The first charge of sand iron was put into the furnaces on the 19th inst., and on the 21st the metal flowed out to the extent of 8 tons in excellent condition. For many years back the idea of utilizing the Hokkaido iron has been entertained by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro and other directors of the Tanko Company, but expert opinion was almost unanimously arrayed against them, and, at all events, so long as the Company was registered as a railway corporation, it could not obtain official permission to establish an iron foundry. The nationalization of the railways removed that difficulty and the building of the foundry was then proceeded with, the result being apparently a conspicuous success. It has been a very anxious time for Mr. Inouye and his friends, and the *Nippon* quotes him as expressing profound satisfaction. Evidently the result now obtained has an important bearing on the Seikosho also, because, although the latter need not be dependent for its supply of iron on the Wanishi Foundry, to have the ore and the coal for the smelting it at the very doors of the factory is obviously an immense advantage.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Sunday, July 25.

The talk of the newspapers in Tokyo this morning is somewhat disquieting. This is notably true of the *Hochi Shimbun*. It publishes a paragraph plainly implying that the Chinese Government is preparing to appeal to force in Chientao if Japan attempts to commence the reconstruction of the Mukden-Antung Railway without China's acquiescence. In confirmation of this story our contemporary alleges that 3000 Chinese troops left Mukden for Chientao on the 16th inst. It adds that corresponding activity is shown in Japanese military circles at Mukden and Antung.

On the other hand, the *Asahi* publishes a telegram from Tientsin saying that Mr. Nonomura arrived at that place on the evening of the 23rd to continue the negotiations with regard to the Kilin Changchun Railway, which question, our contemporary's correspondent thinks, will be very soon settled in a satisfactory manner.

Another piece of disturbing intelligence published by the *Hochi Shimbun* is that the Chinese officials and Chinese inhabitants of Chientao have organized a boycott of Japanese and Korean goods and have commenced to put it into operation.

It appears to us that these rumours of the *Hochi* are to be received with caution. The boycott is conceivable enough, though in view of the comparative paucity of Chinese settlers in Chientao such a measure could not be very effective. But that China is massing troops in Chientao with the idea of making a counter-move there should Japan begin to reconstruct the Mukden-Antung Railway seems to us to be in the highest degree improbable.

POLITICAL PARTIES.

The sugar scandal has not exercised any dislocating effects upon political parties. Fourteen members of the *Seiyu-kai* lost their seats in connexion with the scandal, but the subsequent bye-elections as well as the automatic return of "seconds" at the previous general election gave them back 13 seats, so that they now muster 192, which is only one less than their previous strength. They have suffered, however, by losing Mr. Tsurubara and Dr. Isobe at the Gumma and Tochigi elections respectively. As for the Progressists, out of their 66 members 4 were tainted by the sugar disgrace, and one recently died, but they have recovered 4 seats and thus they now muster 65. All the other parties remain unchanged, the Daido Club having recovered the two seats occupied by its discredited members. The only gainer is the *Yushin kai* which has received an increment of two. The *Seiyu-kai*, however, is threatened with another serious loss in the person of Mr. Tachikawa Umpei, who is involved in the Osaka scandal with reference to slaughter houses. Judgment will be pronounced in his case on the 3rd proximo, and it is considered certain that he will be pronounced guilty and will lose his seat.

It may be mentioned here that the Reform Section of the Progressist Party seems to be steadily losing ground. It is now said to number only 15 members, whereas the Conservatives have 36, the remainder of the Party being neutral. The hopelessness of effecting anything so long as this dislocated condition exists seems to have been realized of late by both sections, for there is talk of an attempt to reconcile their views.

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THE EAST ASIA DEVELOPMENT COMPANY.

There is a great deal of talk about this Company. It evidently has some enemies, and these, rightly or wrongly, are doing their best to persuade the public that the Company, if formed, will be merely a cat's paw of the Mitsui and the Okura *gumi*. These people represent the Mitsu Bishi as strongly opposed to the objects of the Company, and even go so far as to allege that no competent persons can be found to fill the offices of president and directors. In other quarters, however, it is alleged that the Mitsu Bishi are not really opposed to the project, though they do not go so far as to lend their name to it, and that suitable candidates for the directors have already been found. The *Yomiuri* goes so far as to allege that the Mitsu Bishi will probably reconsider their decision.

It is shrewdly observed by onlookers that whereas the public are very ready to find fault with the Government's foreign policy and to say that Japanese diplomatists busy themselves mainly with immaterial questions, yet when the Government exerts itself to promote a really substantial enterprise abroad, the sapient critics draw back.

According to a telegram published by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the affairs of this Company are not in a particularly flourishing condition. The Company has been 8 months in existence, and the only work done by it has been to lend out 45,000 *yen* and to take over a portion of the land which the Korean Household Department is to give as its share of the capital. It is alleged, however, that closer investigation shows that this portion of land—the name of the place is given as Ponshan—suffers habitually from inundations and may be said to be practically sterile. The Company has therefore objected to receiving such a valueless asset, and a serious hitch has consequently occurred in the transfer of the Household Department's land. It will be remembered that questions were raised at the outset as to the intrinsic value of the lands which the Household Department proposed to hand over, and this news seems to confirm the justice of the queries.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

On the 26th inst. a meeting of the united Stock Exchanges of Japan was held in Tokyo, and various resolutions were passed. One only was of general interest and importance. It was a resolution to the effect that no transaction which has not been duly registered in the ledgers of an exchange shall be regarded as valid so far as the exchange's responsibility is concerned. To understand this it is necessary to remember that certain brokers have been in the habit of receiving orders from customers and "swallowing" them, as common parlance has it. Thus, for example, if a broker received an order to sell on a market which he considered to be rising, he would suspend the execution of the order until the particular shares concerned had appreciated, whereupon he would make the sale and credit himself with the difference between the price actually realized and the price at which the order was given. The Exchanges are anxious to put an end to this abuse, and the meeting on Monday decided to memorialize the Government in that sense, having previously submitted the memorial for approval by all the Exchanges in conclave.

MR. BRYAN AND THE SENATE.

The announcement that Mr. W. J. Bryan, thrice Democratic candidate for the Presidency of the United States, has declared himself a candidate for the U. S. Senate in succession to Senator Burkett, of Nebraska, is no surprise to us. It was, in fact, foreshadowed in our issue of November 7, immediately after the presidential election, and before it had even been suggested in America, so far as we then knew or have since learned. We think there is little doubt of Mr. Bryan's election to the Senate. Although Nebraska is normally a Republican State, the great Democratic leader, who has long been a resident of Lincoln, the State capital, is immensely popular throughout the entire commonwealth. Alike in 1896, when Mr. McKinley carried the country with a considerable margin of votes both in the electoral college and in the country at large, and in 1908, when Mr. Taft carried 29 States out of 46 and had a plurality of 1,233,494 in the popular vote, Mr. Bryan was given the vote of his own State, losing it only to Mr. McKinley in 1900. That Mr. Bryan is the most distinguished citizen of Nebraska, the most thorough-going Republican would scarcely have the hardihood to deny. Distinction as a man of letters or even as a statesman may not always be an open sesame to popularity in America; but Mr. Bryan combines with his other remarkable qualities oratorical ability of the highest order, great personal magnetism, and a thorough identification with the feelings, sympathies and interests of the common people. State pride is one of the most powerful factors in American political life, and the idea of being represented in the Senate by the great Democratic standard-bearer, whom they have so recently voted to place in the Presidential chair, will appeal very strongly to the people of Nebraska. The Republican candidate will doubtless be the senator whose place Mr. Bryan desires to fill, a circumstance that will, in itself, tell greatly in Mr. Bryan's favour. Western dissatisfaction with the new Tariff Bill will also prove a potent factor in the contest. Everything points to Mr. Bryan's success, and without identifying ourselves in any way with American party politics, it seems to us as if nothing but good could come from the presence in the Senate of the greatest present-day exponent of Democratic principles. Both Senators and Members of the House of Representatives must be actual residents of the States that send them to Congress; so it is beyond the power of any other State than Nebraska to give the great popular leader a voice and vote in the legislative councils of the nation.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

We read in the *Nippon* that the Municipality and the Directors of the Tokyo Railway Company are likely to come to a compromise with regard to the question of a depreciation fund. There can not be the least doubt that such a fund ought to be set aside in Japan, as is done in all Western countries, and the fact that no provision is made for it in the Company's charter, must be attributed solely to an omission on the part of the drafters of that document. It would be extravagant to condemn the Company to follow unsound methods of business merely because its charter is disfigured by ignorance. Thus the expediency of laying aside a depreciation fund being recognised by all parties, the only question is one of amount, and that is a point for experts to determine. The outcome of the situation will probably be some reduction of the sum appropriated by the Company under this heading, and the carriage of the difference to the profit account. We can not see that this would benefit the city in any way, for certainly the small amount thus added to the profits would not bring the dividend to anything like 7 per cent., which is the point from which the city begins to participate.

According to the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Nippon* the question of the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway has been again brought upon the tapis, but both journals seem to think that the Cabinet is not at all likely to sanction the transaction. They represent Mr. Ozaki Yukio, however, as unchanged in his opinion that the only proper course is to municipalize the Railway and then to raise the fares so as to bring a substantial sum to the City's exchequer.

LIEUT.-GENERAL YENYA.

The President of the Dai Nihon Suisan Kaisha, having been remanded for trial by a court of first instance, has had to resign his military rank and his official grade. There has been a curious disposition on the part of certain Japanese publicists to contrast General Yenya's conduct unfavourably with that of Dr. Sakawa, extolling the latter for having effaced his disgrace by suicide, and hinting very plainly that the former lacked courage to adopt that soldier-like course. These onlookers point out that had General Yenya expiated his offence by taking his own life, he would have died in possession of his military rank and his grade. All this seems to us to be a lamentable perversion of the genuine doctrine of *bushido*. The grand motives of the *bushi's* suicide were two, namely, either to protest against pernicious conduct on the part of a feudal chief or to avoid disgrace. The former principle applied in cases where a vassal saw that unless his feudal chief's evil courses were abandoned they must compromise the dignity and even the existence of the family. In such circumstances it was counted the duty of a loyal man to emphasize his protest by laying down his own life. There was no nobler act in the catalogue of the *bushi's* virtues. The second instance of justifiable suicide was to avoid the disgrace of falling into an enemy's hands after defeat. That too was a procedure not without nobility. But what can be more erroneous than the doctrine that a man who has committed a common vulgar fraud should be considered to rehabilitate himself in public opinion by an act of *felo de se*? If such a principle were carried out in everyday affairs, the resulting situation would be little short of monstrous. As for General Yenya, he is said to be lying in such a state of prostration that he wholly lacks force even to do himself a fatal injury. Major-General Sato is quoted as saying with much justice that Lieut.-General Yenya's great mistake was made when he entered the world of commerce and put his hand to work for which he was totally unfitted alike by training and by disposition.

It is alleged that all hope of Lieut-General Yenya's recovery has been abandoned and that his death is now only a question of time. Hence the trial of the case against him, which has had to be postponed owing to his inablity to attend in court, will probably never come off.

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THE ANGLO-SIAMESE TREATY.

Great Britain's surrender of extra-territorial jurisdiction in Siam, in return for the Siamese provinces transferred to the British Crown and incorporated with the Federated Malay States, was by no means well received by British residents in Siam. A more thorough familiarity with the provisions of the Treaty, however, must surely have done much to restore confidence and tranquillity of mind where these had been temporarily disturbed. The Treaty not only gives British subjects throughout the whole extent of Siam the rights and privileges enjoyed by the natives of the country, notably the right of property and the right of residence and travel, and protects them against discrimination in the matter of taxation, but also it establishes effectual guarantees for the due administration of justice by the provision that in cases where a British-born or naturalized subject is defendant or accused, a European legal adviser shall be a member of the Court, and in all cases where such defendant is not of Asiatic descent, the opinion of such adviser shall prevail. The understanding that the Siamese Government contemplates the appointment of a number of judges of British nationality should remove the last vestige of feeling that the rights of British subjects have been sacrificed for a slice of territory. We hope that the administration of justice in the purely Siamese courts will be so unexceptionable that the special provisions for the protection of British subjects will soon become unnecessary. Just as a man has a right to be master in his own house, so a government whose laws and judicial procedure are in general conformity with those of the civilized nations of the world should be supreme in its own domain.

THE WEATHER.

The meteorological authorities say that there are no signs of a change of weather. The temperature in Tokyo rose above 90 on the 25th inst., and at points remote from the sea the thermometer registered 95 or 96.

China, Manchuria and Korea all seem to have been visited by very heavy rains this season. The Sungari River is reported to have risen 17 feet and to have swept away a great deal of property. We have already reported breaks on the South-Manchuria line, and the telegraph now adds that on the 26th inst. the bed of the Mukden-Antung road was washed away at one place, and that several days must elapse before the service is restored. The Yalu also is in a state of high flood, and it is wired that some 200 people have been rendered homeless in Antung and have been obliged to find shelter in a temple. The news from Pyonyang is even more disastrous. The Tadong River, on which that town is stuated, rose 20 feet above its normal level on the 27th inst. and inundated a large area of the town. The debris of houses, as well as many chattels and cattle, were washed down from the upper reaches of the river, where the flood seems to have developed its greatest force.

Meanwhile there are signs of a change of weather in Japan. The centre of elevation which was for some time lingering in the neighbourhood of the Bonin Islands has begun to move northeast, and a centre of depression has developed in the region of those Islands, whence it seems to be moving to the north-west. Two other centres of depression are also developing, one in the Formosa channel and the other on the south of that Island. Both of these depressions being very distant, their ultimate course can not yet be foreseen, but the probabilities at present are that the east and north coasts of Japan will have a spell of cloudy cool weather, while on the west coast the wave of heat will still linger. With the exception of occasional heavy dashes of rain in Hokkaido, dry weather now prevails throughout Japan.

We may mention here that Hankow is the latest sufferer from severe heat. The thermometer there is said to mark an almost insufferable temperature.

JAPANESE AEROPLANES.

Nothing more has been heard of the Japanese aeroplane which was to make England tremble and re-habilitate the Kaiser's yellow peril. The story was too obviously a canard to need any comment. It would seem, however, that the Japanese military and naval authorities are now combining with the serious purpose of studying this interesting subject. They will not be able to devote any very large sum to experimental purposes, but they hope not to be altogether distanced in the race which engages the eager feet of so many nations at present. The officials at the Patents Bureau are quoted as saying that there have been seven applications for patents by Japanese subjects since the War. Two were granted, the names of the inventors being Yamada and Uchida, but the others had to be refused, as they were both unpractical and unscientific. In fact, nearly all the applicants laboured under the disadvantage of being entirely without scientific qualifications. They relied entirely upon natural genius. If some suitable combination has been effected, and if the matter had been treated seriously, something would doubtless have been accomplished ere now. But after all, the British naval and military authorities have only just joined hands to pursue their enquiries vigorously in the region of aeronautics, so that Japan is not so far behind the times after all. One thing certain is that the navigation of the air has become a really practical problem, and we can be pretty sure that it will be solved.

We observe that the *Niroku* takes a very strong line on this subject, and emphatically declares that the aeroplane has come to stay and that it will revolutionize warfare, rendering warships useless.

THE DISCOVERY AT PESHAWUR.

The profoundly interesting announcement which we made on July 26, on the strength of a Reuter's despatch, to the effect that there have been discovered near Peshawur, in North-Western India, certain human remains which are almost without doubt a portion of those of Gautama Buddha, will send a thrill of excitement throughout the entire Orient. That even so small a part—three charred bones—of the mortal remains of the founder of one of the world's greatest religions should be discovered after the lapse of 1,900 years, and nearly 2,400 years after the saint's death, is no mere incident of exploration. It is an event that may be fraught with untold possibilities, not only in revivifying Buddhist sentiment and devotion, but in stimulating that study and adoption of Buddhist doctrines by Occidentals of which we hear from time to time. If the discovery proves to be authentic, relics of far more transcendent importance should speedily be brought to light, the Emperor Kanishka having, in the first century of the Christian era, also buried, in a stone box, three Buddhist commentaries, engraven on copper plates. These commentaries had a profound bearing on the early divisions in the Buddhist ranks, and their discovery could scarcely fail to prove of far-reaching importance.

THE SUGAR CASE AT OSAKA.

The Custom House authorities of Osaka have pronounced judgment in the case of two of the men charged with smuggling sugar. One, Mr. Nishioka Genjiro, is ordered to pay a fine of 50 *yen* as well as a sum of 88,057 *yen*, being five times the tax which he attempted to evade, and another, Mr. Kusumoto Kusutaro, has to pay a fine of 20 *yen* and put up 28,005 *yen* for the same reason. The two others accused have been acquitted for want of evidence.

It is further stated that, according to investigations made by the two customs stations at Osaka, 19 other persons have been engaged in similar attempts to defraud the customs. The total amount of duty evaded is 500,000 *yen*, and if the law were strictly enforced these offenders would have to pay 2,584,800 *yen*, the Sakai merchants alone being liable for one million. To apply this rule in its integrity would probably result in several bankruptcies, and cause considerable disturbance in the market. The authorities have therefore decided, it is said, to enforce the letter of the regulations in cases only where incontrovertible proofs are forthcoming, and to dismiss the rest with a reprimand.

THE JITSUGYO SHINKO-KAI.

This somewhat formidable title is the name of the combination of high officials and leading business men formed some time ago at the instance of Marquis Katsura for purposes of mutual economic cöoperation. The members are to hold a second meeting on the 30th inst. at the Bankers Club, when their principal business will be to receive the reports of the special committees appointed at their last meeting to consider the important subjects of silk weaving (Messrs. Hara and Mogi), improvement of industries (Messrs. Hibiya, Masuda, Toyokawa and Wada), and organization of chartered accountants (Messrs. Hadano, Yamakawa and Sasaki). After receiving these reports and discussing them, the meeting will pass on to consider the general question of finance. It is said to have been decided that these meetings shall be held hereafter once a month.

SUGAR.

The Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company seems to be still in a tottering condition after having recently recovered its feet. Its difficulty is that its chief creditor is Mr. Suzuki, who will not show his hand clearly. If he chooses to press his claim, the bankruptcy of the Company would follow immediately. He does not show any sign of taking this extreme step, but neither will he come to any distinct agreement on the subject, and thus the Company is working with a Damoclean sword hanging over its head.

On the 30th instant there is to be a meeting in Tokyo of sugar refiners and sugar producers for the purpose of exchanging views in regard to customs duties and consumption tax. It is not thought that this meeting will have any practical result, as the producers and the refiners do not row in the same boat.

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VISCOUNT SONE

The *Hochi Shimbun* of July 27 has a telegram from Seoul to the effect that Viscount Sone's malady has been finally diagnosed to be cancer of the stomach. We sincerely hope that this intelligence may prove incorrect.

We are glad to find that the rumour as to Viscount Sone's case having been diagnosed as cancer of the stomach is contradicted by no less an authority than the *Kokumin Shimbun*. We observe too that the *Nichi Nichi's* Seoul correspondent reports the Viscount as having recovered. In view of this news the alarmist rumour may be dismissed as untrue.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

A remarkable addition to the domain of science, like the annexation of new territory by a growing empire, is reported from America, where the indolence and anemia popularly regarded as merely the result of climate have been found by Dr. C. W. Stiles, of the U.S. Marine Hospital Service, to be due, to a very large extent, to hook worms. Dr. Stiles estimates that two million persons in the Southern States, mainly the poorer class of whites, are afflicted with this parasite, at an annual loss in labour of $100,000,000. In certain districts, where the conditions of living are more than ordinarily insanitary, from 50 to 80 per cent. of the population are infected. Dr. Stiles is labouring in a field of incalculably vast possibilities and we wish him every success.

This distinguished officer, who for several years has been head of the Paymasters Bureau in the War Department, now retires from active service. It is said that had he consulted his own health he would have retired some years ago, but he was persuaded to retain office in order to effect the difficult adjustments required in connexion with the Saionji and the Katsura schemes for postponing armaments outlays. The universal opinion seems to be that he has shown quite exceptional capacity, and that he deserves the gratitude of his country.

The Government has now rewarded the services of all the high officials who were responsible for the nationalization of the railways. These fortunate officials number 45, from Marquis Saionji downwards, and the rewards bestowed on them vary from gold cups to Orders of various grades. It is evident that the Japanese official world is determined to regard railway nationalization as a matter for congratulation rather than criticism.

A telegram from Nikko announces the sudden death at that place of the Reverend E. R. Woodman, one of the best known missionaries in Japan. The cause of death is said to have been apoplexy.

It is announced that the Prince Imperial of Korea will take advantage of the summer holidays to make a tour of inspection in the northern provinces and Hokkaido. His Imperial Highness, leaving Tokyo on August 1st he will be accompanied by Prince Ito, Mr. Furuya and Dr. Iwai. At the suggestion of Prince Ito the Department for Home Affairs has issued an instruction to the various localities which will be visited in the sense that as the Prince is travelling merely for purposes of instruction, all organised demonstrations of welcome are to be deprecated. People who desire to be presented when the Prince passes can not of course be restrained, but the provincial governors are asked not to take any step whatever in the way of encouraging demonstrations, and above all not to sanction any parades of school children during the heat of summer.

Referring to the fact that the Government's procedure against the socialists is condemned in some quarters as over severe, the *Kokumin Shimbun* says that what the Government objects to is a propaganda of immorality and lawlessness. It does not interfere with the free expression of opinions in the field of social economics, but it will not tolerate people who preach promiscuous intercourse, evasion of military duty, and abolition of compulsory education. Those that advocate these changes are plain enemies of their country and of public prosperity and good order. There will be no hesitation in dealing with them drastically.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a paragraph stating that an important action at law has been commenced against Mr. Asano Soichiro. At the time of the post-bellum boom, Mr. Asano organised an oil refinery, and for its purposes obtained permission to reclaim a considerable tract of land at East Suma near Kobe. He was assisted in this matter by Mr. Sato, Chief Engineer to the local Government. Some objections were raised to the work on the ground that it would impair the view, but this obstacle was overcome and 20,000 *tsubo* of land were reclaimed. It was found, however, that after the work had been completed a considerable effect was produced upon the tidal action at Noda and elsewhere, and the finale is that Mr. Asano has been sued to remove the embankment and pay a suitable compensation. The well-known barrister Mr. Ideura is acting for the plaintiff.

There is renewed talk of the building of a car ferry between Bakan and Moji. At present rates of travel, 40 cars pass southward daily and 35 northward, but the idea is that this total would be increased to 200 if a car ferry were built. There is nothing specially new in this information, but we gather that the railway authorities are bent upon the project.

An amendment is announced in the parcels post regulations of the United States, in the sequel of negotiations with Japan. According to the new figures, the contents of a parcel must not exceed 80 dollars in value and 11 pounds in weight, and the length must not exceed 3½ feet, while the aggregate of the length, breadth and depth must not exceed 6 feet.

The death is announced of Mr. Satake Eiko, a well-known artist of the Buncho School. He had been ailing for some time, and he expired from heart-failure on the 23rd inst. Mr. Satake was specially renowned for painting landscapes and figure subjects. He had reached his 75th year at the time of his decease.

The public knows that ever since March last Baron Hisaya Iwasaki has been troubled with appendicitis, and has practically been confined to his room throughout that long interval. His physicians were naturally anxious to avoid an operation, and on two occasions it seemed that their palliative treatment had been successful, but relapses followed in each instance, and it was finally decided that recourse must be had to surgery. On the afternoon of the 25th the patient was conveyed to the University Hospital, and at 9 30 a.m. on the 26th he was placed under chloroform. Dr. Sato Jr. performed the operation It lasted 32 minutes, and a little after 3 o'clock the patient recovered consciousness. The latest bulletins are satisfactory, and if there is no complication a fortnight ought to see the Baron convalescent.

Tokyo newspapers state that there is a project on foot in official circles to establish a Board of Literature (*bungei-kai-in*) which shall have for its purpose the encouragement of literature. It will in fact be a sort of academy of letters, which among other functions will examine all publications of any importance, and will attach to them either its cachet of approval or its mark of condemnation. It will also work for the encouragement of literature in general, a measure suggested by the fact that of late years there has been a conspicuous diminution in the number of applicants for admission to the College of Literature in the Imperial University. The sum which it is proposed to appropriate for the expenses of the Board is 25,000 *yen* annually.

We read in the *Jiji Shimpo* that there is no hope at present either of increasing the gauge of the Japanese railways or of constructing a harbour for Tokyo. The great advisability of both undertakings is recognised fully, but a difficulty temporarily insuperable presents itself in the matter of obtaining funds.

It appears that a new bureau is to be established in the Imperial Household Department in connexion with the education of the Korean Crown Prince. It will be called the *Hoiku fu*, and it will be presided over by Prince Ito. Viscount Suyematsu and Professor Sakurai will be on the staff, and Korea will send a high official to form one of the personnel. The expenditures of the Bureau are put at 150,000 *yen* annually, and they will be defrayed in equal parts by the Household Departments of the two countries.

It appears that the very circumstantial accounts published in Tokyo as to the establishment of an academy of literature were at least premature. One official of the Educational Department is now quoted as denying the statement *in toto*, and another is said to have declared that the arrangements can not be completed before October at soonest.

It is alleged that the Government contemplates substituting electricity for steam on the Hachioji-Kofu Railway. This would enable the time of passage to be reduced from four hours ten minutes to three hours, and would facilitate a very large increase of rolling stock.

The first reports from the Japanese Commissioners to the Seattle Exhibition are very favourable so far as concerns the sale of cheap Japanese goods. The Japanese department is said to be crowded every day, and the sales amount to about 1000 *yen* per diem. The buyers confine themselves, however, to cheap articles, anything over 3 or 4 *yen* finding few purchasers. It is hoped that the more expensive goods will be in demand when the hot weather is over and when the wealthy folks return to the city.

In reference to the internal trouble of the Aikoku-Fujin-Kwai, President Princess Iwakura and many other leading members have tendered their resignation. Consequently, a combined meeting of the directors, advisers and other members was held on the 28th inst.

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A CIVIC CONSCIOUSNESS.

WHILE the rule of paternalism has its conspicuous advantages especially when, as is the case in Japan, it is a direct outgrowth of the peculiar history and traditions of the nation, it nevertheless has its drawbacks which become as conspicuosly prominent in the change of conditions at present taking place in the Empire.

Perhaps the most notable of these drawbacks is the well nigh entire absence of public spirit, that great and vital force which, though for the most part unseen and intangible, is becoming a huge motive power in the transformation of Western communities. The reign of the idea of the solidarity of nations, a reign which is to ultimate in the abolition of war, is to day being prefigured in the strong civic consciousness now making itself felt in the leading municipalities of the Occident. These great units of influence in modern life are plainly coming to a consciousness of themselves and are thus beginniug the work which is to ultimate in the solidarity of mankind. That the wave of progress in this regard is also reaching the Orient the recent Jubilee of Yokohama may be taken as conclusive evidence, the public spirit which initiated and so successfully carried out the semi-centennial celebration marking the existence at least of the germs of an awakened civic consciousness.

A recent visitor to Birmingham, where this consciousness has been developed to a greater degree than in any other Western municipality, has noted the extraordinary change of mental atmosphere which has there taken place. While the spirit of selfish individualism has of course by no means ceased to exist, it is no longer the predominant force. The welfare of the city and of its citizens as a whole has become the leading idea and inspiration of the masses as well as of the official representatives and of the men of influence in every aphere of action. In other words the spirit of reform and betterment is in the very air.

So likewise no one can visit any municipality of any note in America without remarking upon the evident signs of the new spirit and of the changed atmosphere. A most notable example of it is a unique movement recently started in Boston, which is attracting attention chiefly by its purely non-political character and by the broad comprehensiveness of its aims. That city, perhaps more than any other in the land, has long been the home of a multitude of separate organizations, each devoted to a special reform. Now the plan is initiated to combine all these benevolent instrumentalities in a comprehensive whole for the accomplishment of the large object of uplifting the entire population and inspiring it with a wholesome civic pride. In order to concentrate effort and to impart to it the spur of definiteness, a date has been fixed for its accomplishment, the year 1915 being set forth as the time to which the citizens are to look forward as the goal of their hope in making their municipality a model city. To this end all the leading organizations, including the Chamber of Commerce, the Merchants' Association, the Churches, the Clubs, the Sanitary Departments, the leading physicians, lawyers and literary men, the charitable organizations, the masters of transportation, and the educators, are pledging their united efforts. Among the features of the definite plan thus far mapped out are provisions for expert accounting of the city's finances, the study of waste and loss, the establishment of the best conditions of health, the betterment of the relations of capital and labour, of the systems of public education, the development of transit and transportations, the establishment of neighbourhood centres for public recreation and amusements, the provision of music for the people, the enlargement of library influences, the special care of the boy element of the population and the provision of insurance for old age pensions.

By these means, which are most significantly enlisting the enthusiastic support of the leaders in every sphere of activity and for whose fruition a strong central organization has already been formed, the citizens are being led to look forward to 1915 as the date when through this arousing of the civic consciousness their Municipality will have become, through their own efforts, "the finest city in the world."

However Quixotic or prematurely ambitious the effort may appear, especially at this long range, it is at least suggestive of like lines upon which such a movement may be initiated here, where aught resembling civic consciousness has been but recently awakened.

JAPAN AND KOREA.

AT noon on the 24th instant the new Convention between Japan and Korea with respect to the administration of justice and the management of prisons in Korea, was promulgated in Tokyo. It is called a "memorandum" and is signed by the new Resident-General, Viscount SONE, and the Korean Premier Mr. YE WAN-YONG. The text is as follows:—

MEMORANDUM.

The Governments of Japan and Korea, with a view to improve the administration of justice and prisons in Korea, thereby assuring protection for persons and property of Korean subjects, as well as the subjects and citizens of foreign Powers in Korea, and also to consolidate the basis of the Korean finance, have agreed upon the following stipulations:—

Article I.—Until the systems of justice and prisons in Korea shall have been recognized as complete, the Government of Korea delegates to the Government of Japan the administration of justice and prisons.

Article II.—The Government of Japan shall appoint the officers of the Japanese Courts and Prisons in Korea from among Japanese and Korean subjects having the necessary qualifications for the posts.

Article III.—The Japanese Courts in Korea shall apply Korean laws to Korean subjects, except in cases specially provided for in agreements or in laws and ordinances.

Article IV.—The Korean local authorities and public functionaries shall, according to their respective functions, submit to the control and direction of the Japanese competent authorities in Korea, and render assistance to those authorities, in respect of the administration of justice and prisons.

Article V.—The Government of Japan shall bear all expenses connected with the administration of justice and prisons in Korea.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed and sealed and exchanged the present Memorandum, drawn up in duplicate, both in the Japanese and Korean languages.

VISCOUNT SONE ARASUKE,
Resident-General.

12 h day of the 7th month of the 42nd year of Meiji.

YE WAN-YONG,
Minister President of State.

12th day of the 7th Month of the 3rd year of Ryuki.

The document does not add much to the knowledge which the public already possessed, the matter having been managed with little of the secrecy generally attending diplomatic negotiations. It will be observed that the powers delegated to Japan are not to be permanently exercised; not in name at all events. A limit is set, namely, "until the systems of justice and prisons in Korea shall have been recognised as complete." Such a restriction may evidently be merely nominal. The judge of Korean completeness being Japan and Japan alone, it may very well be that a favourable judgment will be deferred to a very distant future. That, however, is a matter of good faith, and having always showed herself faithful in the discharge of her international engagements, we have no right to doubt Japan's sincerity now. Besides, she will have a substantial reason for desiring to divest herself of those duties as soon as possible. She is to bear all expenses connected with the administration of justice and prisons in Korea, and as that will constitute a not inconsiderable burden, we may assume that she will not needlessly postpone the pleasure of being relieved of it. An important point elucidated by the Memorandum is that Korean subjects will be eligible for seats on the bench and posts in the management of the prisons. It had been stated by a good authority that the most to which Korean subjects could aspire would be interpreterships. In practice such may prove to be the case for the present at all events, but the Koreans will find consolation in the fact that they are not conventionally discriminated against.

We find the 3rd Article somewhat ambiguous. It provides clearly enough that Japanese Courts in Kopea—and it may be noted, *en passent*, that the Courts are called "Japanese"—shall apply Korean laws to Korean subjects, but nothing is said as to the laws that are to be applied in cases of mixed nationality. Presumably the Residential Tribunals will be abolished, and cases hitherto coming before them will be tried by the new "Japanese Courts." What laws will then be applied? Doubtless these lacunæ will be filled up by subsequent regulations which do not property find a plan in the Memorandum.

Of course this measure means a substantial diminution of Korea's sovereignty. There is no concealing that fact, nor is there, so far as we can see, any disposition to conceal it. But whatever route leads most dir ec

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and most speedily to the blessing of security of life and property under good laws honestly administered, that route it is obviously Japan's duty to take. She has made herself responsible for Korea's welfare and progress.

TARIFF REVISION.

IT is devoutly to be hoped that whatever may be the duties imposed in the approaching revision of the Japanese tariff, the principle upon which it is based may be distinctly enunciated as embodying the only object for the attainment of which a customs tariff on imports can be made legitimate or in any way justified, namely, the necessity for revenue to meet the expenses of the Government, without reference to the demands of private interests or special enterprises.

The dire results of the adoption of the other basis, that of protection, as carried to its extreme in the tariff wall which America has built around its trade, should serve as an all-sufficient warning against a policy whose seeming benefits are to-day being completely overshadowed by the appalling dangers which have followed in their train. The New York financier, who, a few years ago, called protection the mother of trusts, is being recognised now by the people as the man who hit the nail upon the head, and while the progeny thus born is acknowledged to be in many ways legitimate and useful, the enormous abuses to which it has been carried, and against which the whole people are now rising in rebellion, plainly have their origin in the selfish scramble of private enterprises for government support, directly fostered by the open adoption of a protective policy. The intensity of this scramble and the extreme bitterness it has engendered recently found expression in the statement of one of the Senators "that the whole business of passing the Tariff Bill had become one continued horse trade in which the one party is a nation with its eyes bandaged, being jockeyed by a combination of traders, and cheated out of its eye-teeth." A more dispassionate, and therefore more convincing, argument against the protective policy was recently given in an address by B. S. Scudder of the International Banking Corporation before the National Association of Manufacturers, in which he sets forth the present duty of America to abandon the policy, because whatever benefits had accrued to the country from its adoption during the period of internal development, the home task was now fully completed, and the whole energy of the nation should at once be directed toward the markets of the world. He puts the situation in this way:—

> When our tariffs get so high as to become practically "prohibitive" two very disastrous consequences must ensue. Trading will cease, and the usual purchases will be diverted to countries that are willing to give a fair exchange. Then, when imports stop coming into our country, the Government's revenue from that source is cut off and a deficit takes place, so that additional internal or direct taxation must result. This is our fix to-day as a nation; and is entirely apart from the merits of that much discussed question as to why the great body of American people should be paying to certain vested interests so heavily for the privilege of living in this delightful land.
>
> The upbuilding of an artificial wealth in this country by an excessive high tariff for a time did seem attractive, but the bringing to light of the true facts has now disillusioned many conservative and patriotic citizens. My opinion is that high protection, if persisted in, will finally kill all our remaining international trade facilities. Gradually, but surely, if our present artificial system is continued, we will be driven within our own walls by the other members of the family of nations.

Here is a clear recognition of the impossibility, in the competitive struggle into which Japan as well as America has now entered, of continuing that policy of seclusion which has heretofore been the bane of both nations. No people in this world of trade and commerce can to-day live unto itself alone, and it would be a thousand pities were Japan now in any way or in any form to build again around her a second wall of seclusion.

KOREA AND THE PHILIPPINES.

THE new Korean Convention by which another and important department of the Government passes under the direct and exclusive control of Japan, can hardly fail to reawaken in the West, in some measure, the spirit of criticism which since the late war has attended every movement of the victor in the struggle.

In any fair analysis of the character of such criticism no one can fail to be struck with the similarity between it and that aroused by the acquisition of the Philippines by the great Western Republic. Apart from any consideration of the traditional and strategic considerations contributing to the ultimate dominance of Japan over the Peninsula, the two events which have of late years so changed the whole complexion of affairs in the Far East have seemed to move in parallel courses with some equally marked divergencies. In both cases they were the direct results of the fortunes of war, by which the victors were forced to adopt a policy to which there seemed to be no alternative. In both cases too the critics of the policy adopted have had all their arguments completely vitiated by their inability to suggest any decent or workable alternative, and their criticism has therefore run the risk of degenerating into mere carping. In either case no feasible plan for more successful coping with the immediate emergency has been presented or even hinted at; nothing which would not involve either a reversion to the old and wretched order of things; or far worse political complications than those which have as yet disturbed the peace of the Orient.

It is the realization of this fact which has caused the so-called anti-imperialistic movement in America to lapse into well-nigh complete desuetude, and which now leads the West to regard with so large a degree of complacency each successive move on the part of Japan to consolidate and strengthen her influuence in Korea.

In both cases too it is coming to be recognized by the fair-minded that the problems to be solved and the difficulties to be surmounted are of such a serious and deep-seated nature that in the simplest justice the factor of time should be granted in fullest measure to the Powers now essaying the giant task of regeneration and reform. The burdens they have taken up are no ordinary ones. The results of centuries of flagrant misrule are not to be corrected in a day, nor should any experiment with such end in view be judged by the slow and uncertain results attained in its mere inception.

In the case of the Philippines, the task set before the Washington Government is that of uplifting a congeries of barbarous tribes, perhaps the most heterogeneous in racial origin and character ever gathered into a domain of equal size, to a capacity for self-government, which the teaching Power itself was able to develop only by centuries of struggle, aided by unusual racial aptitude and homogeneity. And yet, tremendous as is the task thus undertaken by America, it well-nigh sinks into insignificance when compared with that which Japan is essaying. To subdue and assimilate semi-savage tribes is relatively an easy matter, inasmuch as it is one in which the world has been engaged since civilized man entered upon his career. Upon Japan, however, is now laid the far heavier burden, and she is confronted with the far more serious problem, of reviving and regenerating an ancient civilisation, become so effete by centuries of misrule and corruption that the very springs of energy and ambition have been cut off at their source. It is a task so enormous that naught, except the infinite patience of an Oriental people, could by any possibility cope with it; and that it has been essayed by Japan instead of by any of the impatient Powers of the West should be a matter for world-wide congratulation rather than for jealous criticism. In all fairness, therefore, the very amplest grant of time should be allowed before the spirit of criticism is permitted to enter the field.

MODERN EXPOSITIONS.

THERE is nothing which illustrates more clearly the spirit of commercial activity now ruling the world or which predicates more surely the continuance of the reign of peace than the numerous Expositions now being projected or in progress in different parts of the world in spite of the financial failures which have been their usual outcome. The late enterprises of the kind at Buffalo, Charleston, and Jamestown entailed a large loss on the shareholders, while the monster affair at St. Louis yielded no return save to the local pride of its promoters, who went into the field with their eyes wide open to the prospect of the loss of every dollar they invested.

Were the question of direct financial loss the only one involved, it is quite safe to say that there could be no more Expositions. It is only the conviction of the indirect gains resulting to the general

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business interests of a country or of a locality, that gives such enormous vitality to this special feature of modern commercialism. Such indirect results cannot of course be tabulated. They are manifested only in the general impulse given to trade, but it is quite evident from the eagerness with which exhibitors flock to these great Fairs, and the zeal they show to make creditable displays of their wares that there is little doubt in their minds of the value of the opportunities for trade thus afforded them. It is a most significant fact that while few cities ever attempt to repeat the experience gained from a World's Fair, there is never any diminution of the eagerness to stock one wherever on the face of the earth any community desires to have an experience of the kind of its own. It may therefore be taken as conclusively proved that as a stimulus to trade and as a means of advertisement there is no device known so efficacious as one of these great Expositions.

As to the Educational influence which they exert there can be no possible question, and in that regard there can be no more favourable localities for holding them than those which are developing into new markets for trade, Conspicuously of this description is the Alaska Yukon Exhibition at Seattle. That city on the site of what was a few years ago a trackless wilderness, has become the centre of so vast a new field for trade that even the huge region of Puget Sound, on which it bids fair to become a commercial centre rivalling in the West the metropolis of New York in the East, cannot contain its activities, but it must needs stretch out its arms to include the products which the new paradise growing up in the far-off and frozen North is contributing to its prosperity.

Of a like character and significance, though for a vastly different season, may be regarded the Anglo-Japanese Exposition to be held next year in England. Though one of the oldest of the world's markets Great Britain is still, in a conspicuous degree, untouched by many of the leading products of Japan's art and industry. While in the United States there is scarcely a city or even a town of any importance without its shops for the sale of Japanese wares, these are very rarely to be seen in the United Kingdom outside of London, where they are practically lost in the great swirl of trade. It is in this regard that the merchants of Japan should take special hold of the opportunity to be opened before them by next year's Exhibition, and that the disappointment and lack of enthusiasm resulting from the postponement of their own World's Fair should not be allowed to operate against the success of the present venture in behalf of their trade. There is at least one point which should have compelling weight in the premises, and that is the self-evident fact that for one person in Great Britain who would be likely to travel to Japan to inspect its wares, thousands will seize the opportunity for such inspection when brought to their doors.

SEEDS OF STRIFE.

(COMMUNICATED)

MORALISTS and philosophers from time immemorial, whether in the pages of Holy Writ, or in publications more mundane, have insisted upon the mischief capable of being wrought by an unscrupulous tongue. When COLERIDGE showed in *Christabel* how "whispering tongues can poison truth," he doubtless had in mind the evils which arise in private life, or in that of a community, through the muttered slanders of malice. In such cases, however, the effect produced is, in general, ephemeral and transient: truth in the end prevails over the malice of the back-biter. But when the written word is substituted for the spoken, and the same receives full publicity, there is hardly any limit which can be set to the effects of unscrupulous language. The mischief capable of being wrought by such procedure, systematically pursued, is immeasurable. We have only to refer, by way of illustration, to the notorious example of the American publicist and newspaper proprietor who boasted that he could "make" the war with Spain—and took credit to himself for his success. An somewhat analogous process, it seems to us, is in progress at the present time on the continent of Europe. We refer, in the first place, to the pamphlets and newspaper articles which appear from time to time in Germany—and, occasionally, in other continental countries—descriptive of an alleged "coming struggle," always with one and the same Power—Great Britain—and always with the same result—the destruction of her world-wide Empire, to the lasting glorification and aggrandisement of the victorious Fatherland. One of the most recent of these is a pamphlet, described by an American contemporary as "brilliant," which is now enjoying an immense circulation in Germany. It is entitled, suggestively enough, "After the Storm." The "storm" is the Armageddon of a great European war, the issue of which is that the British Empire "collapses like a house of cards," to give place to a universal German sovereignty. Prior to the outbreak of the "storm," England is represented, in flamboyant language, as having "dared to humiliate every great empire in turn"—

> "Victorious Russia was forced at the command of England to turn back before the gates of Constantinople; France met the same fate at Fashoda, where she was compelled to strike her colours; and Germany was obliged during the Boer War to submit to the holding-up and searching of her proud merchantmen by British cruisers, like the ships of any little piratical State."

But at last "just" retribution overtakes this wicked and arrogant Empire. The British fleet is destroyed off Heligoland by dynamite bombs from German airships, seconded by the guns of the German fleet, and the news of this master-stroke is conveyed to England by a German army corps. The Anglo-French *entente*, of course, proves a miserable fiasco: France is invaded and occupied by a vast German army. In her hour of trial, the friends of England become her enemies: Japan, instead of carrying out the clearly understood pledge to come to her assistance, seizes Hongkong, while Russia finds it necessary to occupy India, in order to prevent a Sepoy rising, and Italy intervenes "to save Egypt from a bloody insurrection." The self governing Dominions seize the opportunity to declare themselves independent States, while Ireland, naturally, becomes a republic. British commerce is paralysed by victorious German ships which "sweep the seas," and, with famine staring her people in the face, England is forced to submit to a humiliating peace.

Such in brief is the purport of this extraordinary pamphlet. It may be urged that a mere pamphlet does not count for much; but it is only too true that this is merely one of many such publications, and that the tone of a considerable section of the press is but little different. The *Kreuz Zeitung* of Berlin frankly reminds its countrymen that "it is nothing but the policy of the ostrich to shut our eyes to the fact that *we are constructing our fleet against England and against England alone.*" Count ERNEST VON REVENTLOW, in an article published at Berlin and devoted to the possibilities of war between England and Germany, insidiously takes the now popular line of representing the former as thirsting for such a struggle:—

> "If a desire to wage war against Germany exists, it is only natural that a favourable opportunity should be selected for doing so. The present moment is not favourable. Therefore, we advise the English to wait until the French Army and the French Navy are ready for war; until the unpreparedness emphasized by M. Izvoslky in Russia has been made good; until the Anglo-Russian friendship has become so cemented that personal influence can no longer affect it; until England is fully secure so far as India is concerned; until the English colonies are quite unanimous regarding their intention to assist in building the Imperial Navy of Great Britain; until compulsory military service has been introduced; until the faults that have shown themselves in the tubes of heavy naval cannon and other faults in the navy have been exactly determined by the Commission and have been eliminated. . . . . The present moment is really unfavourable, and this fact we leave the Imperialists to deal with. These gentlemen themselves hardly believe that England can receive, either now or for some long time to come, active assistance from France or Russia, if Germany does not desire it."

Such utterances could be multiplied *ad nauseam*, and we cannot but believe that, whatever contempt they might excite among Englishmen, the influence upon the great mass of the German people of this long continued succession of inflammatory writings, with their almost diabolical ingenuity in the perversion of facts, cannot fail to be mischievous in the extreme. There appears to be now in progress in Germany a species of educative process, by which the German citizen is being taught to look upon England as his one and natural enemy, and to regard British naval power as the sole obstacle in the way of the establishment of a Pan-Germanic hegemony. As M. GASTON DRU remarks, in the *Echo de Paris*, while discussing the same subject of Teutonic designs upon England" with a view to the setting up of a universal monarchy, "Germany is now a prey to the demon of that national character by which her destiny is controlled. . . . It would be impossible for her to avoid, even if she wished it, the struggle toward which she is rushing with such precipitancy. She is inevitably bound

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by the law of competition to the death, and in the European drama she is playing the rôle exemplified by the fate-driven hero in a Greek drama. Like *Siegfried*, Germany's favourite hero, her fatal genius has forged the unbreakable sword, and she rushes headlong to the capture of the golden ring which shall give her all power, and, recklessly blind, is destined to kindle the frightful conflagration of the political Valhalla, amid the twilight and eclipse of independent nationalities. . . . At this present moment, however, the triple *entente*, England, France, and Russia, represents the anti-Germanic sentiment of the entire world, and is quite capable of winning the cause of civilization against Germanism." This educative policy to which we have referred, this cultivating of the German mind in one fixed direction of antagonism, is however, not left to stand alone. With that practical energy characteristic of the race it is translated—chiefly through the agency of the German Navy League—into action. That large and influential body, inspired as it undoubtedly is by the naval authorities, and with an Imperial patron at its head, is definitely employed to educate public opinion and prepare the way for further increases in the German naval programme. The methods and stages by which this is done are suggestive in the highest degree. Under the Naval Act of 1906, after due agitation by the Navy League Press and Educational bureau, the tonnage of German battleships, then at the low figure of 13,000, was raised by 5,000 tons—without reducing the number to be built. In 1908, an amending law was passed shortening the effective "life" of the capital ship from 25 to 20 years, thus justifying, automatically, an increase in the new construction programme. Within the last few months it has been discovered that the latest Navy Law was framed in so elastic a form as to render possible "a more rapid development" of the fleet—the already famous "acceleration" of the German programme. We now have Admiral von Weber, at the recent meeting of the Navy League at Kiel, declaring that the Navy Act of 1908 can be stretched to include a further "development." This is none other than that the sixteen small unarmoured cruisers provided for by the Reichstag should be replaced by *battleship cruisers of the Invincible type, as soon as possible.* There is little doubt that this latest "development" of German naval strength will be carried out, as have been those which preceded it.

In view of the remarkable character of the German preparations, with their hardly veiled menace to the safety of England and her scattered Empire, it is satisfactory to learn, from telegraphic advices to hand within the last few days, that the British Government has at length conceded what clearly the will of the people demanded—that the four "contingent" Dreadnoughts should be laid down by the end of the present financial year. History and commonsense alike acquit Britain of aggressive inclinations in the matter of her Fleet. A recent writer in the *Contemporary Review* observes that England's Two-Power Navy is viewed with secret satisfaction by all non-aggressive Powers:—

> Europe in general knows well enough that our Fleet is not kept up for aggressive purposes. If any proof were required on that head our behaviour at the present moment would furnish it at once. We might settle the whole controversy by wiping the German Fleet out of existence the very next time it puts to sea. But we do not act after that fashion, and no more conclusive evidence of the sincerity of our pacific utterances could be produced than the self-restraint which we exercise. More than one statesman has admitted that the British Navy has been the balancing factor in preserving the peace of Europe.

If furthur ground for conviction were called for, it might be pointed out that there are distinct limits to the aggressive capabilities of a fleet which is not backed up by a overwhelming army—and such an army England is the last to possess. As Mr. Asquith judicially remarked, after announcing the above-mentioned decision of the Government, there is between England and Germany, at the present time, no sort of quarrel, the world over. That is true; but, in view of the seeds of strife now being so freely sown in the Fatherland, it were well for Britain and the British Empire that the day to which so many Germans look forward, when the German Fleet shall approximate in strength to that of "the strongest naval Power," should never be allowed to dawn.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, July 23.

The tendency of the market on the 23rd instant was upwards, but so many sellers were watching for an opportunity to unload that prices were held down. The Tanko shares, however, rose two points in consequence of the news that the works at Muroran had been opened successfully.

Saturday, July 24.

There is nothing to be reported about the Stock Exchange on the 24th inst. except that in the absence of all special cause for either bouyancy or depression very little business is done and prices were correspondingly slack.

Monday, July 26.

Matters continue to be dull on the Tokyo Stock Exchange owing to the hot weather and an uneasy feeling about foreign relations debt purchases, whether by investors or speculators. The movement was small either way, except in the case of the *Kanko* shares, which dropped 1.40 points.

Tuesday, July 27.

Complete dullness is the characteristic of the market at present. The listlessness of the *Doyo* (dog-days) dominates the situation, and with the exception of closing transactions at the month's end or transfers there is complete absence of business.

Wednesday, July 28.

The Stock Exchange continues to be lifeless. Prices tend steadily downwards, with a few insignificant exceptions. There is no ostensible cause, apart from the season and the month's end.

Thursday, July 29.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange was open on the 24th instant for half a day only, and on the whole an upward tendency was perceptible. The actual figures, however, barely indicate that prices were maintained. We append the quotations for September:—

	July 28th.	July 29th.	
Tanko Kisen	44.65	44.80	+ .15
Tokyo Railway	64.15	64.65	+ .50
Kei-hin Railway	63.15	63.80	+ .65
Yusen Kaisha	79.40	79.15	— .25
Toyo Kisen	15.95	16.00	+ .05
Tokyo Gas	98.50	98.85	+ .35
Tokyo Dento	92.35	92.10	— .25
Fuji Gass Spinning	108.75	108.95	+ .20
Tokyo Spinning	41.25	41.00	— .25
Kanegafuchi Spinning	101.60	101.10	— .50
Beer	75.30	75.00	— .30
Sugar	—	—	—
Hoden Oil	100.45	100.55	+ .10
Nippon Oil	100.75	100.95	+ .20
Stock Exchange	157.40	157.05	— .35

THE SPITHEAD REVIEW.

COLONIAL JOURNALISTS MUCH IMPRESSED.

The inspection of the fleet at Spithead, with the colonial journalists as the guests of honour, says a service journal, was a revelation to the visitors of the British Navy. They had read about it, they had heard of Dreadnoughts, but the appeal through the eye is always far more effective than that through any other sense, and there before them these sons of the young nations which have sprung from Britannia's loins saw a section of the Navy, a solid concrete fact. There have been larger assemblies at Spithead, but this was not a review after a general mobilization, but merely the First and Second Division of the Home fleet, with torpedo craft, gathered together with the Atlantic fleet. The same spectacle was seen the other day in Scotland, but to these visitors from the distant parts of tha Empire it was a new factor. They had never understood the scale to which the rivalry in armaments has attained, and throughout the day, in face of such an assembled force, not a word was heard of colonial cruisers and other proposals. The Dreadnoughts hit the guests in the eye. "The Empire," they argued, "ought to have more of them, and, if necessary, we must come forward and help." On the return of the delegates to Waterloo, Sir John Fisher was the recipient of a great evation—less perpaps as a tribute to his personality than as a spontaneous outburst of enthusiasm for the fleet of which he is the actual head.

TANSAN.

A Memorial signed by a number of the leading Medical men in the United States, and dealing with the virtues of the well-known mineral water "Tansan," has been presented to Congress. The fact that some ninety leading Doctors in the United States should be willing to testify publicly to the health giving and medicinal value of Tansan from Takaradzka Springs, owned by the Clifford-Wilkinson Company, and further should urge upon Congress the advisability of admitting this water duty free into the United States, may be accepted as evidence that Tansan has unique and invaluable qualities of its own.

The memorial, by the way, throws an interesting side light on the question of freight charges. It would appear that from Kobe to the inland cities of the States the freight of Tansan is nearly four times that paid by European waters from France and Germany. That Tansan should in face of this enormous difference be able to compete with the famous waters of French and German springs is yet further evidence of its striking merit.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

CHINA SEA.—SHANGHAI DISTRICT.—SOUTHERN ENTRANCE TO THE YANGTZE.—BUOYAGE OF TUNGSHA CHANNEL DISCONTINUED.

Notice is hereby given that the following Buoys marking the Tungsha Channel have been discontinued:—

Tungsha Banks Buoy, Tungsha Buoy, House Island Buoy, House Island Crossing Buoy, Kiutoan Flats Buoy.

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THE BOOKSHELF.

In Togo's Country; by HENRY B. SCHWARTZ. Cincinnati: Jennings and Graham, New York: Eaton and Mains. Kobunsha, Tokyo.

THE title of this book is both well chosen and appropriate, for it excites curiosity which the contents satisfy. Nevertheless, the reader must not expect to learn anything about the celebrated Japanese Admiral from Mr. Schwartz' volume. Its theme is not Togo himself, but Togo's native province, Satsuma. On that subject there had not previously been written anything so instructive and satisfying. Satsuma, after all, is comparatively little known. It is so far away and is supposed to have so few attractions. The latter defect, however, will not survive a perusal of Mr. Schwartz' pages, We lay down his book with a vivid recollection that Satsuma was the first place in Japan visited by Xavier and Anjiro; that it was the scene of the two greatest civil wars recorded in Japan's history, the invasion of the province by Hideyoshi and the terrible contest of 1877; that Kagoshima saw the first shots ever fired by British war-ships in Japanese waters; and that the great southern fief may be almost called the maker of new Japan. Mr. Schwartz has much to tell us about this remarkable province, and he tells it a delightfully simple, unpretending style. He gives us a great deal of information at once novel and entertaining, and we recognise that such work could not have been done by any man unless he possessed a good knowledge of the Japanese language and had resided in Satsuma. Togo's country, too, is not his only theme. He takes us on a pilgrimage to Zenko-ji—the temple which inspires the quaint old proverb, *Ushi ni hikarete Zenko ji mairi*—; he dines with us at a Japanese inn; he converses most attractively and illuminatingly on "writing with bird tracks; he conducts us to the scene of an earthquake; he pays with us a visit to Loo-choo; he tramps us through snow-clad Japan; he introduces us to the first consulate in Japan; he guides us to the "city by the jewelled shore," and he concludes with a thoughtful essay, "After the War." It is a book to be read from cover to cover, and it teaches us how much remains to be said about Japan.

Lord Ii Naosuke, by KATSUMARO NAKAMURA (translated by Shunkichi Akimoto), *Japan Times*.

THIS brochure was written expressly for the purpose of commemorating the 50th anniversary of the opening of Yokohama. The author is a well known literateur of Tokyo, and the translator has done his work admirably—so well, indeed, that we suspect the assistance of Mr. R. Masujima, who sends was the books. We are often compelled to think that the immense difficulties to be overcome by a Japanese who seeks to write grammatical English—we say nothing of idiomatic—are but faintly appreciated by the people of this country. Every day, every week, every month, there are published in Japan works—they may be newspapers, they may be periodicals, they may be books—which are quite ludicrous, so flagrantly do they offend against all the canons of syntax and style. No Englishman ventures to write Japanese; few Englishmen venture to write even French or German, but hundreds of Japanese have the courage to rush into English print. If they only knew how much injury they do to their own reputation for intelligence! It is a pleasure, therefore, to find a translator like Mr. Akimoto. One can read his work with pleasure for the sake of the information it contains, without being distracted and shocked by solecisms that would disfigure any subject. Mr. Shimada Saburo, in his memorable book, *Kaikoku Shimatsu*, published many years ago, was the first to tell the frank truth about Ii Kamon no Kami. It required no small courage to do so, for even though the result of the great statesman's apparently contumelious policy is to-day universally acknowledged to have made for his country's good, many Japanese decline to believe that anything can condone his action in signing the first treaty without the Sovereign's consent. The truth is, as has been made clear more than once, and never clearer than by Dr. Nakamura, that the great *Tairo* had to fight against a band of conspirators who possessed access to the Throne, and that he consulted the best interests of his Emperor and of Japan in the course he took. Dr. Nakamura brings out all this very distinctly. One thing, however, we can not choose but regret, namely, that he lays down his pen without attempting to trace the exact responsibility for Kamon no Kami's assassination, or to show precisely what were the motives of his assassins.

Y. M. C. A. CONFERENCE AT AOYAMA.

II.

(COMMUNICATED.)

The distinguishing feature of the young men's conference which is in session at Aoyama July 21-28, is the large number of Bible study groups and of Biblical expository addresses. A visitor to the conference any morning at 9 o'clock would think that a regular school was in session, for in nine class-rooms he would find groups of ten or twelve eager students gather abont able young professors, asking and answering questions about the life or social teachings of Jesus, or about Christ as a model teacher. For the one thing tabooed is the ordinary lecture method of instruction. Previous preparation of the lesson, free discussions, and the summarizing of the whole by the leader, are the key notes of what might be called the coöperative or seminar method of Bible study.

The most important factor in the success of the plan is the quality of the leaders. Fortunately, some of the best men in the country are giving their services, e.g. Prof. Chiba has come from Fukuoka, Prof. Yoshizaki and Messrs Sajima and Narahashi from Osaka and Kobe; and from Tokyo, Dr. Yatsu of the Imperial University, Professors Kashiwai, Yokota, Obata, and Hata. Three short courses of study have been prepared especially for the use at this conference. One of them, on the Social Significance of the Teachings of Jesus, is based upon the recent volume by the well-known social economist, Dr. Jeremiah Jenks of Cornell University.

On July 2, Rev. J. Imai of St. Andrews, Tokyo gave his second lecture on Moses' Life and Work. With fluent command of his subject, the lecturer, portraying the home, social and educational influences that help to account for Moses' character, passed to his lifework, which, from any point of view, is remarkable, and all the more so, when we consider the material he had to work on. Nothing but his mastering faith in the latent possibilities of his enslaved fellow-Hebrews and in Jehovah could have enabled him single-handed to defy Pharao, to quell insurrection and to make a nation out of a horde of serfs. His self effacement in favour of younger leaders, his political sagacity in setting up the highest standards for office holders, and his basing the nation upon a lofty religious and moral code, all testify to the towering greatness of his personality. We can well believe that the face of such a man shone as he came down from Sinai, more from inward than from outward light. And we cannot but feel that the manner of his death—in solemn majesty on Pisgah's summit, gazing afar, without a murmur, at the land he had so long striven to reach—is a fitting denouement of a grand life.

On July 22 and 23, Pres. Harada of Doshisha, fidly followed Mr. Imai's lectures with a valuable survey of Paul's Character and Letters. The speaker began by alluding to the fact that Paul's influence on Christian thought has been so powerful that it has even been asked whether he rather than Christ were not the creator of Christianity. Equally as an original thinker, a bold missionary and a religious statesman, he is unsurpassed in Christian history, no writher has ever had more readers or more deeply affected their lives. His power springs not from his rhetorical talent, nor from his activities, but from his character. He is rightly called *Saint* Paul.

Prest. Harada then showed how closely all schools of critics are agreed as to the dates of his life and letters and how his letters were all written near the close of a rich and varied life, the outcome of experience, not of speculation.

Referring to two great words in Paul's letters, law and salvation, the speaker said that in law Paul included not only formal ceremonies and rules, but the whole sweep of self salvation by merely ethical means. Salvation he conceived in no shallow or formal sense, but as the transformation of the whole man, the crucifying of the sin-saturated, self centred character, and the resurrection of a right-willed manhood, vitally attached to God.

On July 26 Rev. M. Uemura and Dr. S. L. Gulick are the Lecturers. On July 27, Dr. Sasamori speaks in the morning add Prof. E. D. Burton of Chicago in the evening.

THE BANDMANN OPERA CO.

The attendance each evening this week at the performances by the "Merry Little Maids" at the Gaiety, has shown that the Bandmann Company is popular in Yokohama, for notwithstanding the extreme heat of the last few days and the stifling and oppressive evenings, the patronage secured has been phenomenal.

On July 23 for instance the pit was crowded to excess, and even in the orchestra stalls and gallery there did not seem a vacant chair.

The alterations and improvements to the Theatre have been seen to great advantage during the last few evenings, and when the many extra doors, corridors &c., were opened to their full extent, these various openings aided considerably in diffusing air, and with the electric fans in motion kept the atmosphere fairly cool.

Towards the close of the performance a little rain fell, which cooled materially the electrically-charged atmosphere, as the thunderstorm a little previously had had very little, if any, effect in "cooling down."

As for the play a "Waltz Dream," it went with the usual successful swing of the Company, where each acted his or her part with life-like fidelity

Mr. Frank Danby, as "King Joachim," caused a continual ripple of laughter and good cheer whenever he appeared on the boards, while Mr Fred. Coyne as the "Grand Duke Lothian" acted the part to perfection, his changes of expression and attire in the various phases of the plot being superb. Niki, the "Prince Consort" in the capable hands of Mr. Arthur L. Cowen, showed this gentleman's acting to great advantage, as throughout the whole three acts he seemed to adapt himself to the various moods required—at all times a difficult performance to do with aplomb and success—while his stage presence and bearing were quite majestic and soldierly.

Miss Mabel Gregory, as the Princess Helene, carried out her part with fascinating grace, and was ably seconded in her "role" by the other ladies.

Taken altogether, it may be said the piece came to an end all too soon for the audience.

Hearty congratulations and thanks must be accorded to all for carrying out so effectively a musical comedy on such a sweltering evening, especially so as in many portions of the play, encores and recalls were the order of the day, or rather of the evening.

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, July 3, 1909.

Russia is preparing to send a separate force into Persia, to Teheran, for the purpose of protecting the lives and property of Russians and other Europeans in the event of the worst. It is knowingly false to say that any such f rce will assist the Shah, which there is no intention of doing. What is contemplated is precisely what England did at Bushire, and Russia will act, as she has all along acted, in perfect accord with the British Government. The opposition press here is, of course, against troops being sent, but it is noticeable now that the chief fear in the minds of the opposition is that any further "active intervention" by Russia in Persia will only inflame still more the hatred of the Russian name which they allege is now prevalent all over the country. But the defence of its own nationals, and others who are from the geographical situation unable to protect their own, is not the same thing as "active intervention" and we have had assurance in the activity of Russia at Tabriz that the line will not in any way be overstepped. The Russian Government fully recognises that, as an opposition organ puts it, whether the Shah gains the upper hand, or the revolutionaries, the probable result will be alike anarchy, and it is to guard Europeans from some of the worst consequences of anarchy that Russia, with the consent of England, will send troops to Teheran, unless the revolutionary hordes marching on that city can be stopped in time by friendly counsel, proceeding f om the representatives, acting together, of the two Powers charged with the supervision of order in Persia on behalf of the world in general.

The long-guarded secret of flight discovered by the Russian Tatarinov has now been divulged in the papers here. According to this account the "new principle in dynamics," referred to in a previous number of the RN. is thus applied: a parachute, or parachutes one below the other, fixed at the centre on a piston rod connected with a piston working in a cylinder which is, in its turn, attached to the parachutes by a spring. The parachute is provided with innumerable valves opening downwards. If an explosive shock (as in a motor-car engine) be applied inside the cylinder the parachutes give sufficiently firm point of resistance to enable an upward motion to be produced, during which the valves open and the parachute presents no resistance to the upward movement in air. The result will be a rise similar to that of a bird on a still day. The public have not yet had any opportunity of seeing Tatarinov actually flying, and there are many, very many, questions of interest to be settled even if the principle be accepted as feasible in practice.

At Tsaritsin on the Volga the municipality have produced, not in a first rate state of preservation, a cap worn by Peter the Great, and his formidable staff, presented to the town in 1722. In presenting the staff the redoubted Tsar and first Emperor of All the Russias, said it "liked to go over hill and dale and, at times, across the shoulders" of any that displeased His Majesty's sense of fitness, irrespective of rank or position. The staff is a formidable blackthorn about five feet long, without ornament, and the cap is an equally good illustration of the strictly practical turn of mind of Russia's great reformer.

The Russo-English Chamber of Commerce has now a membership of 379, among the newer adherents are corporations, commercial, economic and technical, commercial museums, and special schools. Up to 1/14 June the activity of the new organisation since Jan. 1/14 is indicated in the following figures: inquiries answered, Russian 900, English 180: letters despatched Russian 1,150, English 130, number of visitors 1,077.

The vexed question of the import into Russia of steel tires for railway and tramway wheels has been causing trouble for some time past to old-established English importers, owing to the fact that the Government, besides frequently changing tariffs or classification of similar products, finally forbade the Russian railways to buy abroad. Local industry seized the opportunity to put up prices, and the railways complained also of inferior quality. An arrangement has been now come to whereby 5000 tires will be supplied at reduced prices by local manufacturers, but the railways may, in future, in every case where local makers make too high demands, order, as before, from abroad, on paying the duty as usual. In other words, English tires may again command the Russian market, as there is no doubt about the opinion of those who have to use them as to the comparative value of the English and the home products, quite apart from prices.

The Polish elected members of the Upper House having addressed the Emperor with assurances of their loyalty, the Emperor has replied emphatically that he had never doubted their loyalty. The assurances were made in connection with the intention of the reactionary party to secure a non-Polish representation in the Upper House of certain Provinces which are nominally Polish, but have a considerable Russian population. This, with other vexed questions, was left over by the Upper House till the Autumn Session.

The Wilbur Wright aeroplane ordered in France by the Russian Aero-Club has safely arrived, and was yesterday transferred to the suburban resort on the sea-coast opposite Petersburg, Sestroretsk, where it will be set up, and experiments, the first of the kind in Russia, be made in flight with a "plane." The locality chosen is the experimental ground of the War Office, which last year utilised it to practise artillery in firing at captive balloons.

There are 796 cholera patients in the St. Petersburg hospitals, and a few cases have already occurred among the better classes.

It is hoped to put on the English market this year several million poods of Russian sugar.

"Khaki," since the Japanese War, has become a favourite wear for Russian officers, largely owing to its cheapness. The fashion has been rapidly adopted by officials in all the Government services, and many civilians may be seen in this serviceable material. It having been found inconvenient to have so many officials dressed like officers the Government has summarily forbidden the wearing of khaki by any but those in the military arm of the public services.

All soldiers now in garrison in Petersburg have been ordered to carry bottles filled with cold, tea, and any man discovered away from barracks without his bottle of tea is to be severely punished. The yardmen engaged in watering the streets with a hose have been ordered to cease permitting the public to drink from the hose during the operation on pain of severe penalties. Petersburg "raw," *i.e.* unboiled water, is little better than quick poison, but the common people will not believe this fact to be anything but an invention of the doctors.

The courts are still busy with the heritage of the notorious Father Gapon, who left, when he was murdered, a sum of money, about fifteen hundred pounds, deposited with the Credit Lyonnais in the name of Ribnitsky. The son, a minor, is endeavouring to secure this money, and it has now been decided that witnesses shall be heard to prove that Ribnitsky was the name used by Gapon at the time of the deposit.

According to the official reports the crops in most parts of Russia are promising, but have suffered here and there from severe hail-stones. It is added that if the rains in some districts cortinue only another week the prospects will be less promising.

St. Petersburg, July 6, 1909.

The President of the Duma, with Mlle Khomiakov, returned to Russia to-day, tired with the long round of travelling and festivity, but deeply gratified by all that has passed during the stay of the Duma members in England. The reason for the President's return before the conclusion of the visit to England is the necessity of his figuring in the historic celebration at Poltava of a great day in the annals of Russia.

M. Khomiakov has stated to an interviewer that what most of all attracted the attention of the visitors was neither the cities nor the factories or other wonderful sights of British industry, still less the magnificent receptions and feastings, but the people of England themselves. The Socialist outburst served an admirable purpose in giving relief to the rest of English Society, which is characterised as indicating "centuries of breeding."

As to the practical results of the visit M. Khomiakov declared that they depended more than anything else upon the work done in Russia by the Russians: in England the work was already done.

To-morrow the Emperor and the Imperial Family start on their thousand miles railway journey through Russia from St. Petersburg to Poltava to be present at the celebration of Peter the Great's famous victory before that ancient town. The route chosen will avoid Moscow, as it is hardly possible for a Russian Emperor to pass by the ancient Capital without alighting, and time will not allow of the delay necessary. The celebration will be in full state, and mainly consist of parades of the regiments, or their successors, that took part in the historic fight. As usual now-a-days at all State functions, the Presidents of the two Chambers have their appointed places along with the governing hierarchy of old days.

The official *Rossia* in a leader on the visit of Duma deputies to England, takes up Prof Miljukov's words about "His Majesty's Opposition" and declares that if he can persuade his party in Russia, the Constitutional Democrats (Cadets) to act up to the principle there in set forth, all Prof Miljukov's past will be wiped out and a debt of gratitude left due to him. "His Majesty's Opposition," says this paper, "means that the Opposition will drop all their fancies about a Russian Republic, socialistic or bourgeois, and will remain true subjects of their ruler." It foresees that the Cadets will now entirely break with the left, or extremist radical parties, and declare themselves openly monarchists in the English sense of that word. As a matter of fact, the Cadets, so far as independent observation in Russia has enabled an opinion to be formed, never were anything else than Monarchists in the English sense, but the state of parties and politics in Russia for some years unfortunately prevented them declaring this with the necessary straightforward plainness. By hanging back in this one point they made room for the Octobrists, who thereby got ahead of their former colleagues. It seems likely that one of the results of this English visit will be the amalgamation, long ago foretold by M. Khomiakov, of all the right-thinking capable parties, to form a satisfactory centre, as "His Majesty's Opposition" to the Government, which is, and for some time to come will probably remain, outside the Duma.

The appointment is gazetted of M. Hartwig of Belgrade, M. Budberg from Sweden to Madrid, and M. Poklevsky-Koziell from London to Teheran. As other posts remain occupied an end is now put to the oft-repeated stories of M. Izvolsky finding a refuge from the trials of his position as Minister of Foreign Affairs in the comparative ease of an Embassy.

The number of chorela patients now in hospital in St. Petersburg is close upon one thousand. Half a dozen cases have occurred among the higher classes with fatal results. To-day is announced a death that took place in a St, Petersburg hotel of a lady newly arrived. It cannot be too often repeated that a drink of St. Petersburg water, unboiled, is practically a death warrant. An investigation made in the cases brought into one hospital as to the supposed causes of the disease in every instance elicited that either the victims had been drinking "raw" water, or had eaten herring (a favourite Russian fish-dish) that had been washed in unboiled water.

On the other hand, living on boiled water is unnatural, and probably no town in Europe offers such interesting study to the specialist as St. Petersburg, quite apart from the now prevailing epidemic. A population that lives, as least as regards the better classes, entirely in artificial conditions develops many curious complaints, and every disease is helped by the absence for five months in the year of any sunlight.

The *Novoe Vremya* gives the following as a dialogue between a visitor in the Province of Vjatka and a local peasant. It illustrates the prevailing poverty and hopeless state of mind of the average muzhik. "Why aren't you sowing this year? The conditions promise a bumper harvest, and here are you sowing hardly any ground at all.'—'The field-mice have about done for us, that's why.'—'But there are measures to

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be taken against field-mice.'—'Yes, we've heard all about that: dig a trench all round, or sow millet round your corn, and so on: but who's to do it? Our people want to work each for himself and there is no working together for the common good.'—'Then why not try again this year?'—'Well we can't be bothered with all that: we don't eat millet.'—'Then sell it.'—'Too much trouble.'" And later on, when the scanty crops are found insufficient the Government will have to come in and rescue these children of nature, perhaps even appeals will be made to the charitable abroad on their behalf. The Russian muzhik is still, for the most part, especially in the agricultural regions, in that state of mind which necessitates the hand of authority over him with orders here and orders there for every little detail of his daily life—for his own salvation. So has the country been reared aforetime, and such age-old habits are not to be changed in a day. The industrial regions are almost a century in advance of the agricultural regions in culture and knowledge, for agriculture is, as practised in Russia, a very deadening occupation for the mind.

Two prisoners being conveyed by four armed soldiers by railway in the Baltic Provinces, suddenly made a dash for the carriage window and got safely out and away while the train was in motion. The wretched convoy apparently lost their heads, for the four soldiers went head-long through the windows after their men, and received considerable damage, but managed to use their rifles with effect, and eventually the two runaways were recaptured.

The news from Persia, as was always expected by those who best know the country, now indicates a state of inconceivable turmoil and chaos. It will shortly have to be acknowledged that there does not exist in Persia anything but robber hordes, and that these have taken the opportunities afforded them by the political agitation, largely worked from outside Persia, to seek wider fields for plunder. There is every reason to believe that not only have English agitators, with a cry of "freedom for the oppressed" and other formulas, been hard at work towards the same ends as the Russian revolutionaries who are so active throughout Persia, but that the emissaries of a third Great Power have been extremely active in promoting the present state of chaos. And one of the weapons used by this third Power has been the Turkish subjects and possibly the representatives of the Young Turkish Government in Persia.

England and Russia will be compelled to send in eventually such a force into Persia as will practically reconquer the country. Who is to blame?

St. Petersburg, July 8, 1909.

The Emperor left for Poltava yesterday morning, accompanied by a numerous suite. At Gatchina the Grand Duke Michael, his brother, joined His Majesty. This is the first journey the Emperor has taken in or out of Russia unaccompanied by the Empress and the Imperial family, but a railway journey of a thousand miles in the present tropical heat, to be present at a one day's military celebration of an historic event chiefly of military interest, is an undertaking that will be sufficiently trying to the strongest. The day, Saturday, will be a general holiday throughout the Russian Empire, and appropriate celebrations will take place in St. Petersburg itself.

The Chinese Mission was received in audience at Peterhof by the Emperor before he left, and had the honour of presenting the magnificent series of gifts sent by the Prince Regent in the name of the Emperor of China. Among them were ancient porcelain vases of blue and lilac colouring, with a representation of an enormous phœnix: these pieces of antique art are of priceless value. Vases of that kind of lacquer are seldom seen outside China: screens of mosaic work in precious and semi-precious stones: ancient facetted cloisonne vases with filigree work, and a curious ancient casket of the special Quan-dun lacquer. The mission was received in full state and after the audience entertained at luncheon, afterwards driving about the magnificent grounds of Peterhof before returning to St. Petersburg. Among the visits paid by the Chinese mission in St. Petersburg was one to the Exhibition of Printed Books and Periodicals, issued in Russia during the year 1908. Among the exhibits are several in Chinese, Tibetan, and Manchurian, which especially interested the visitors.

The newspapers are full of interviews with M. Khomiakov, President of the Duma, who returned from England before his colleagues in order to be present in his official capacity at the State function at Poltava. M. Khomiakov's first visit was to the Premier, M. Stolypin, who has thus been put in possession of all that was to be told of the results of this memorable visit. To the public M. Khomiakov said three things: the ancient fear of Russia in relation to India was dying hard, but was undoubtedly dying: the English generally knew absolutely nothing whatever about Russia, but now seemed anxious to learn something. Up to the present, all their impressions of a country which they seemed to think was identical with Siberia, had been obtained from two sources only, either from members of various Russian Embassies, or from a continuous stream of Russian immigrants, especially of late: the third point made by M. Khomiakov was that if this visit is to bear real fruit it must be followed, not by other similar visits, but by an interchange of visits between specialists in various branches of knowledge, industry and commerce. He advocates the foundation of some centre in England to which Russians visiting the country could go with the certainty of finding themselves well introduced and supplied with the necessary information. In Russia the Russo-English Chamber of Commerce is a step in the right direction and should extend its influence. England at this moment was consuming enormous quantities of food-stuffs from Russia without recognising the place of origin. Owing to the supineness of Russians, or their fear of a sea-voyage to England or dread of an unsympathetic reception, or other hindrances, all this enormous trade had been allowed to go through the hands of middlemen, and Englishmen now ate Russian bread-stuffs, in the belief that they came from Holland, from Denmark, from anywhere except from that country which was nothing more than a geographical expression to most Englishmen. All that could be changed, and should be changed.

The *Rossia*, speaking for the third time in a leader on the subject of the English visit, which it has all along most warmly favoured, today suggests a slightly warning note in the repeated emphasis laid on the emphatic statement that "Russia's foreign policy is the prerogative of the Emperor of Russia." Apparently this is meant as a counter-blast to the rather free expressions that have been heard of late about the extent of the political results effected by the Duma visitors in London which in some quarters are represented to have prepared the way for an Anglo-Russian Alliance. The *Rossia*, in effect, warns us, with the weight of its official status, that those matters are outside the scope of the Duma, and that anything said on this head will be premature before the visit of the Emperor to Cowes in August.

The comment of the *Slovo* on the visit is suggestive: "England is not the France of the 90's of last century (when the Franco-Russian Alliance was consummated): England will not look hopefully forward to resting on the Russian bayonet. Nor is Russia the Russia of those days. She is important to-day with a new and real strength, that of her re-awakened nationalism, the renovation of her whole fabric, and the inexhaustible potentialities which underlie the work of reconstruction now going on. It is these potentialities which are drawing England so much nearer to us, we are the Eldorado of the twentieth century, and England is hastening to offer us her experience and her knowledge."

The second Russian force to enter Persia arrived at Enzeli yesterday and should now be well on the road to Kazvin, where it will remain to await orders. If the increasingly threatening situation at Teheran should demand it, the force will march forward to the capital. But the commander is under orders on no account to exceed in any way the duty of protecting the lives and property of Europeans. He will not assist the belligerents. If the Persian Cossacks are worsted in any conflict, their Russian officer-instructors will be given asylum with the Russian troops: that is, their rights as Russian subjects will be recognised precisely as in the case of all European nationalities, but no assistance or support will be given by Russia's troops to either of the conflicting parties in Persia.

Complaints are made here that Turkey—or rather Turkish representatives in Persia—are exceeding their duties, and giving shelter not only to Europeans, many of them unworthy of the shelter of an official flag, but also to Persians engaged in the conflict on one side or the other. It is said that Turkish officials are protecting common criminals, both of Persian and of other nationalities. A saying in Russia for nearly half a century past has been "Scratch the Turk and you'll find the Englishman," in the sense established by the activity at Constantinople of Sir Stratford Canning in memorable days. That saying has been revived of late in a variant, which runs: "Scratch the Turk and you'll find the German." It is this Russian suspicion that behind the alleged irregular action of Turkish representatives in Persia stands the all-pervading influence of German ambitions that makes the situation, already sufficiently complicated, still more threatening.

The Russian Government, which recently was reported to have insisted on the St. Petersburg Municipality "sanitating" the city, has now, in face of the obstacles in the way of doing in a few days the work of a generation, slightly changed the tone of the demands. The Municipality is to do its best, but the pace will not be unduly forced. With the cholera daily extending its ravages and the weather daily becoming hotter and hotter, it is evidently felt that all organs, good and bad, as well as the indifferent, should work along as best they can. But the experts hold out no hope of St. Petersburg being again a healthy city until the enormously costly works of water supply from a clean source and some modern form of dealing with sewage to replace the present universal cesspool to-every-house system, has been carried to a successful issue.

The wife of a Russian Minister recently before the magistrate on a charge of using her fists and a billet of wood to chastise a cook-woman has now been sentenced to 10 days' imprisonment without the option of a fine.

FROZEN PIGS FROM CHINA.

In the House of Commons on July 1, Mr. T. O'Donnell asked the President of the Local Government Board "whether frozen pigs were shipped from Chinese ports for consumption in England; if so, what quantity had been landed during the past 12 months; whether there had been any inspection either in Chinese ports or at the landing ports in England to safeguard the future consumers of this meat: and whether full inquiries would be made in China regarding the feeding, killing, curing, and packing of these pigs before they were allowed to be landed."

Mr. Burns: No frozen carcases of pigs from Chinese ports have been imported into this country during the last 12 months. A packing-house and freezing establishment has, however, lately been constructed at Hankow, and a consignment from it of frozen pig carcases is expected to arrive here at the end of the present month. I have caused inquiry to be made into the matter and have obtained information from the importing firm as to the feeding, killing, curing, and packing of the pigs. On arriving in this country the consignment will become subject to the Public Health (Foreign Meat) Regulations, which I issued last year, and I have caused communication to be made to the medical officer of health of the port at which the consignment is expected to arrive, with a view to securing that a strict examination is made of the carcases in question.

Mr. Kilbride asked whether the firm established in China for the purposes of this business was English or American.

Mr. Burns: I do not know and I do not care. (Laughter.) They are all subject to inspection, and will have to toe the line so far as inspection is concerned. (Cheers and laughter.)

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YOKOHAMA.

At 4 48 a.m. on July 23 a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. It lasted for 1 minute 14 seconds.

On July 25, a fire broke out in the servants' quarter of a house at No. 822, Honmoku-cho, occupied by a foreigner. Two rooms of the premises were destroyed but the main building was saved.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended July 22nd are as follows :—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	1	3	4	1	—
Died	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	21	17	2	—	—
Died	—	6	1	1	—	—

Mr. Ono Mitsukage, President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, sent in his resignation on July 26. It has been decided that at the general meeting to be held this afternoon, Mr. Otani Kahei will be elected his successor. It is also reported that Mr. Otani will go to America in the capacity of President of the Chamber, accompanied by Mr. Soda Kinsaku, one of the officials,

On July 26, the Yokohama Municipal Office received *yen* 3,199,309.27, half of the amount of the city loan (£716,500) raised in London by the Japan Industrial Bank. The money is in the custody of the Yokohama Specie Bank.

It is reported that the ship built at the Kubota Dockyard, Kanagawa, to the order of the Japan Fisheries Association, has been named *Suisan Maru* by Prince Arisugawa, President of the Association.

It is reported that Messes. H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf., contemplate enlarging their machinery department and will engage Mr. Yamanoi Seijiro as *banto* and establish a branch office at No. 33, Akashi-machi, Tsukiji, Tokyo.

On the night of July 26, a coolie at Sakuragi-cho Itchome, was seriously wounded with a large knife when fast asleep, by one of his comrades, whom he had beaten the previous day. The assailant was caught on the spot by a number of other coolies.

On the 26th instant, when the steamer Monteagle was about to leave for Vancouver, a young Japanese among the second class passengers was discovered by the water-police, having attempted to go abroad without a passport. It is reported that he was misled by a rogue, being told that he could go to America, without a passport, if he purchased a second-class ticket.

On July 27, five sailors, two on one side and three on the other, had a fierce fight with large knives in the street of Sumiyoshi-cho, 4-chome. One of the three was seriously wounded and others injured more or less. One of the two assailants was arrested on the spot, and the other, a few hours later.

On July 28, a lighter laden with 551 bags of brown sugar valued at *yen* 2,000, suddenly foundered in front of the Chuo Soko, at Midori-cho. The ebb-tide caused her to incline so that he water rushed into the boat.

It is reported that the American competitors who are going round the world by land and sea and arrived here on the 28th instant, visited Kamakura yesterday, leaving Yokohama by the 5.30 a.m. train and left Kamakura at 8.01 a.m.

On the night of the 28th instant, a maid-servant about 18 years old was strangled at her employer's house at Saitowake, Kanagawa. The publication of further details at this stage of the proceedings is prohibited by the judicial authorities.

The Water Police Station has received a report from the British Consulate that a third-class passenger (a Japanese) on board the steamer *Asia* which arrived here on July 28, had strangled himself during the voyage. He was on his way home suffering from consumption.

At the general meeting of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce held on the 28th instant, it was unanimously decided to present to Ex-President Mr. Ono a letter of thanks with a gold cup or some similar souvenir in recognition of the distinguished services he has rendered during his tenure of office.

Yesterday morning, a man aged 57 at Chojamachi, 5-chome, shot himself with a revolver, He is said to have been ailing for some time past.

CRICKET.

An interesting match between Yokohama cricketers representing English Public Schools and "The Rest" of the Club was played on July 23. As a result of the lively hitting of both elevens, the match could not be played out during the time allotted to it, the Public Schools having made 117 for 7 wickets, when the stumps were drawn at 6.30, against the 185 previously put together by "The Rest." The following is the score :—

"THE REST."

B. Deveson, c. Bousfield, b. Gregory	24
A. G. Hearne, c. and b. Scott.....	42
E. L. Squire, b. Bousfield	20
W. D. S. Edwards, c. Gregory, b. Bousfield.....	31
W. E. Gooch, b. Foster	24
H. T. Hume, c. Strome, b. Foster	7
V. A. Hearne, c. Bousfield, b. Foster	1
W. Hayward, c A. J. Cornes, b. Gregory	3
R. Davur, l.b.w., b Gregory	5
W. A. Morris, not out	10
R. G. Bell, b. Gregory.....	5
W. J. White, c. Eddison, b. Foster.....	0
Extras	13
Total	185

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Scott	60	42	0	1
Foster.....	89	47	2	4
Gregory	84	37	2	4
Bousfield.	54	45	0	2

ENGLISH PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

A. P. Scott (Marlborough), b. Edwards.....	23
O. Strome (Hurstpierpoint), c. A. G. Hearne, b. Gooch	1
A. J. Cornes (Marlborough) b. Edwards	6
L. M. Whyte (Denstone), c. Deveson, b. Squire.	22
P. E. Bousfield (St. Paul's), c. A. G. Hearne, b. Edwards.....	7
H. C. Gregory (Eastbourne), c. Squire, b. Gooch	8
B. C. Foster (Mill Hill), not out	19
W. W. Galloway (King William's), c. A. G. Hearne, b. Edwards.....	13
E. K. Dinsdale (Dean Close), not out	1
R. C. K. Johnson (Manchester) }	
L. C. Sharman (Bedford) ..... } did not bat	
E. Eddison (Charterhouse) ..... }	
Extras	17
Total	117

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Edwards	96	28	1	4
Gooch	102	45	3	2
Hayward	42	14	1	0
Squire	36	13	1	1

On Sunday, July 25, a match was played on the Y. C. & A. C. ground, Yokohama, between elevens captained by Mr. H. T. Hume and Mr. B. C. Foster, respectively. The following are the scores.

MR. H. T. HUME'S TEAM.

A. J. Cornes, c. Sethna, b. Gooch	21
E. L. Squire, c. Gooch, b. Sethna	54
H. C. Gregory, b. Foster.....	68
W. W. Galloway, b. Foster	11
E. K. Dinsdale, run out	1
W. Hayward, c. Bell, b. Foster.....	4
W. A. Morris, c. A. G. Hearne, b. Foster.....	4
H. T. Hume, not out	5
G. W. James, b. Foster	0
Extras	19
Total	187

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Foster.....	54	34	2	5
Johnson	48	33	1	0
Gooch.....	36	32	0	1
Sethna	30	39	0	1
Bell.....	36	30	0	0

MR. B. C. FOSTER'S TEAM.

A. G. Hearne, c. Cornes, b. Gregory.....	48
R. E. Davur, b. Hayward	0
R. C. K. Johnson, c. Sub. b. Squire	1
V. A. Hearne, c. Cornes, b. Squire	10
W. E. Gooch, c. Galloway, b. Dinsdale	36
B. C. Foster, not out	29
P. R. Sethna, b. Dinsdale	0
F. H. Abbey, not out	13
H. S. Bell ..... } did not bat.	
O. T. Gillon ..... }	
Extras	17
Total, for 6 wickets	154

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Hayward	54	44	2	1
Squire	60	36	1	2
Gregory	42	40	0	1
Dinsdale	30	17	2	2

CHINESE AT DINNER IN SYDNEY.

The Consul-General for China in Australia (Mr. Lian Lan Hsun) was entertained at dinner recently, at the Chinese Merchants' Society's rooms (*Tung Wah Times* chambers), by the leading Chinese business men of the city, reports the Sydney *Daily Telegraph*. The room was packed.

The dinner was served in orthodox Oriental style, and comprised fully a dozen courses, many of which were foreign to the ordinary Australian palate. It began with roast almonds, preserved eggs, pickled chicken, and some halfdozen other comestibles (which served as appetisers), together with a liberal supply of "sam-su" (a pungent fluid distilled from rice). Steamed chicken preceded beche-de-mer; then came shark's fins, bird's nest soup (the concomitants of which cost 30s an ounce). transparent fish, chicken and ham, roast duck, essence of sweetened almonds, jam cakes, and sweetened cakes, and a variety of strange dishes. The banquet was on the lines of that given to the late Duke of Connaught when he was entertained by the Chinese residents of Hongkong.

The toasts of "The Emperor of China" and "The King of England" were given from the chair, and were received with cheers.

The Consul-General, responding to the toast of his health, said he not only looked upon the entertainment as a personal compliment, but as a tribute of loyalty to the Emperor of China. Mr. Lian was very gratified to find during the short period he had been in Sydney that the Chinese residents were of a homogeneous disposition—that they had agreed to differ, and set aside all faction rivalry in the national cause. Confucius, remarked the Consul-General, said, "When I walk along the street with two others they will serve me as my teachers. As to their good qualities, I will select them and follow them, but as to their bad qualities I will avoid them." Mr. Lian asked his fellow-countrymen to accept this teaching, and avoid all the temptations to which they might be prone or subjected. They would then command the respect and esteem of their fellow-men, and be a credit to the land of their adoption, as well as bringing honour to the land from whence they sprung.

FRENCH GUNBOAT FOR THE YANGTSZE.

There has just been landed at the International Dock, Pootung, from the M.M. steamer *Kouangsi*, says the *China Mail*, the sections of a new gunboat named the *Doudart de Lagree*, built at Nantes to the order of the French Government, for service on the upper Yangtsze river, to take the place of *The Amiral Ohy*. The new vessel will be about 150 feet in length, 30 feet beam and of very shallow draft. Her propelling machinery consists of two sets of triple expansion engines, of 500 i.h.p., twin screws, which will give her a speed of 14 knots. Her boilers are of the latest design water cooled type.

The crew will have their quarters on the lower deck while the commander and officers will be accommodated in the superstructure. Her armament will consist of 6 rapid firing guns. She will be put together by the Shanghai Dock and Engineering Co., Ltd., under the supervision of Mr. Pruno, the builders' representative.

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YOKOHAMA AMATEUR DRAMATIC SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING DECIDES ON ENSUING YEAR'S PROGRAMME AND RE-ELECTS OFFICERS.

The annual meeting of the Yokohama Amateur Dramatic Society was held in the room of the Foreign Board of Trade, on July 27: Mr. E C. Davies, president, was in the chair.

There were fifteen members present, and the Chairman submitted to them the report and accounts for the year, which indicated that the past year had been a fairly successful one considering the affairs of the society in a general sense.

The report and accounts were adopted unanimously, and the officers of the past year were re-elected—consisting of Messrs. E. C. Davies, Brady, Lewis, Cooper, Ward, Harrington, and Stewart. Mr. T. J. Harrington was elected secretary in place of Mr. A. E. Cooper, who retired.

There are 62 members on the books, which number is somewhat the same as last year, several new names having been added and several having had to be erased owing to members going home. Three successful pieces were produced during the season, the class of work reflecting very creditably on the Society and showing an improvement on that of past seasons. It was decided that three pieces shall be produced again this year—a couple of farces and a musical comedy.

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The Committee have pleasure in presenting to the members of the Society the Accounts for the last twelve months. The Society, as you will very easily see from the Accounts, although nominally in debt to the extent of *yen* 124.03 has, as an off-set against that, 20 shares in the Far Eastern Public Hall Co. worth *yen* 1,000, in addition to which the annual subscriptions for next year, which amount to nearly *yen* 300, will be collected immediately after this meeting.

The Committee regret exceedingly the result of their venture into Musical Comedy. The loss on "Dorothy"—which amounts as nearly as possible to 12 per cent. of the cost of the production—has been a very hard hit to the Society, and it remains for the consideration of future Committees of this Society to consider whether or not they should risk another Musical Comedy after the experience of "Dorothy," though it was in every respect excellently performed. As usual, the Comedies have been the stand-by of the Club, "When we were twenty-one" showing a net profit of *yen* 394.74 and "Lady Windermere's Fan"—in spite of the persecution to which it was subjected—*yen* 152.12. The Committee particularly call the attention of members to the comparatively cheap cost of staging "Lady Windermere's Fan," the production of which, from a scenic point of view, was far and away superior to anything that has ever been put on here, either by amateurs or professionals. The Charity performance of this piece shows a profit of *yen* 165.23 net, thanks to the kind assistance of everybody, which sum was handed to the Yokohama Charity Organisation. Mr. Lowson has kindly audited the accounts.

The Committee take this opportunity of expressing their very best thanks to those ladies who so kindly assisted them in their productions during the past year, and trust that the new Committee will receive equally good support next season.

The Committee regret to announce the news that Mr. C. F. McWilliams recently sent in his resignation on account of enforced absence from the port, and take this opportunity of expressing their thanks to Mr. McWilliams for the hard work and good services which he has always performed in the interests of the Society.

E. C. DAVIS, President.

"DOROTHY" ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Yen.
To Hire of Gaeity	668.87
To Costumes	1,556.25
To Scenery, Properties and Coolie Hire...	785.38
To Wigs and make-up	436.30
To Printing and Advertising	393.92
To Refreshments	287.00
To Tokyo Expenses	311.80
To Vocal Scores	21.53
To Telegrams	14.10
To Insurance	44.50
To Lamps	12.00
To Sundries	13.50
To Bijou Orchestra	34.00
To Hongkong A.D.C. Cost of book $100 @ 86	86.00
	4,655.15

Cr.	Yen
By Thwaites & Co., Cheque	3,005 36
By Sale of Books	62.60
By Tokyo performances	874 74
By Dresses purchased	164 50
By Balance to General a/c	557.95
	4,665.15

"WHEN WE WERE TWENTY-ONE."

Dr.	Yen.
To Hire of Gaiety	195.26
To Scenery and Properties	186 55
To Refreshments	50.00
To Dresses	73.84
To Printing and Advertising	227.20
To Bijou Orchestra	25.00
To Sundries	6.10
To Balance to General account	394 74
	1,158 69

Cr.	
By Thwaites & Co., Cheque	1,158.69
	1,158 69

"LADY WINDERMERE'S FAN."

Dr.	Yen.
To Hire of Gaiety	248.25
To Scenery and Properties	232.54
To Refreshments	53 13
To Dresses	75.00
To Printing and Advertising	236 10
To Bijou Orchestra	25.00
To Balance to General a/c	152 12
	1,122.14

Cr.	Yen.
By Thwaites & Co., Cheque	1,122.14
	1,122,14

CHARITY PERFORMANCE.
("Lady Windermere's Fan.")

Dr.	Yen.
To Hire of Gaiety	77.00
To Band Supper	19 00
To Cartage, furniture, floral decoration and coolie hire	68.59
To Printing and Advertising	6.25
To Balance to Charity Organization	165 23
	336.07

Cr.	
By Thwaites & Co., Cheque (and donations)	336.07
	336 07

GENERAL ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Yen.
To Wages, Saito	195.00
To Insurance	9 50
To Property Cases	19 90
To Gelatine for Lamps	17 62
To Removal of Scenery	88.00
To Hire of Rooms for Meetings	20.00
To Printing and Advertising	63.20
To Bijou Orchestra Subscription	50.00
To Purchase 20 shares Far Eastern Public Hall Co.	1,000 00
To Balance of Dorothy account	557.95
	2,021.17

Cr.	Yen.
By Balance	780.82
By Subscriptions	290.00
By F. Dep: and int. at 5 per cent. H. & S. B.C.	253.78
By Int. on current account H. & S. B.C. at 2 per cent.	25.68
By Balance of "Lady Windermere's Fan" account	152.12
By Balance of "When we were Twenty-one"	394.74
By Balance to next year	124.03
	2,021.17

G. G. BRADY,
Hon. Treasurer.

I have examined vouchers, etc. for amounts as specified and find same correct.

A. B. LOWSON,
Auditor.

YOKOHAMA ENGINEERING AND IRON-WORKS LTD.

SATISFACTORY EXPLANATION OF NON-PAYMENT OF DIVIDEND: CO'S BRIGHT OUTLOOK.

The 22nd annual general meeting of the Yokohama Engineering and Ironworks. Ltd, was held at 4 p m. yesterday, at the offices of the Co. 151, Creekside. Mr. B. C. Howard, presided, and there were also present Messrs. N. F. Smith, Clarence Griffin (representing Mr. W. F. Page) L. J. Healing, C. B. Bernard, W. K. Trysize (Manager), and R. T. Bell (Secretary.)

The Chairman, in submitting the report and accounts to the meeting said:—

The accounts have been in your hands for some days and I will ask someone to propose that they be taken as read. Before moving their adoption I wish to make some explanation regarding them As you know, we have been improving both the buildings, machinery and the general plant and this has taken a considerable outlay of cash.

Since the reorganization of the Company we have expended up to May 31st this year on buildings, plant and machinery a total sum of *yen* 240,273.77 and have written off during the same period *yen* 49,495.27 for depreciation.

The works are now completed, and as there will be no further outlay for buildings or equipment, we hope we may at our next annual meeting present you with a more cheerful report than this.

We have now an up to date engineering and boilerworks and can accept work which a couple of years ago we could not touch.

At the adjournment of this meeting all present are cordially invited to inspect the works and see for themselves just what the new plant is like.

With reference to *yen* 75,000 standing to the Credit of Reserve account, I think that it is as well to point out that this is not a Cash reserve, but has been written off from time to time, as a provision for the contingencies arising from the reconstruction of a great portion of the Works. We propose to have our property revalued shortly, when this reserve will be dealt with as may be found necessary.

You will note from the Accounts that our gross earnings are about *yen* 90,000 less than they were last year. This, however, is only to be expected taking into consideration the depressed condition of business generally, and until an improvement in this respect takes place, present appearances indicate that work will continue light for some little time to come.

Under the present conditions the directors do not consider it advisable to declare a dividend and I therefore have to recommend that it be passed, and the balance of *yen* 39,834.33 be carried forward to next account. (Hear hear).

It was agreed that the report and accounts be taken as read, and the Chairman then proposed their adoption, which was seconded by Mr. Griffin on behalf of Mr. Page.—Carried.

22ND ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

Directors:—B. C. Howard, Esq., Chairman; N. F. Smith, Esq., C. B. Bernard, Esq., and C. K.-Marshall Martin, Esq.

The Net Profit for the Year (including the sum of *yen* 29,421.19 brought forward from 31st May, 1908, after payment of an Interim Dividend of *yen* 19,500 in January last and providing for depreciation of Buildings and Machinery and Payment of Directors' and Auditors' Fees, amounts to *yen* 39,834 33 which the Directors recommend should be carried forward.

Board of Directors:—Mr. C. K.-Marshall Martin and C. B. Bernard retire by rotation in accordance with the Articles of Association, but offer themselves for re election.

Auditors:—Messrs. F. J. Hall and W. Y. Showler having resigned, Messrs. M. D. Currie and W. D. S. Edwards have been appointed to fill the vacancies; these appointments will be submitted for confirmation at the General Meeting.

B. C. HOWARD,
Chairman of the Board of Directors,
Yokohama, 20th July, 1909.

BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MAY, 1909.

LIABILITIES.

	Yen.	Yen.
To Share Capital:—		
In 10,000 shares of *yen* 50 each	500,000.00	
7,800 shares issued at *yen* 50 each		390,000.00
„ Reserve Fund		75,000.00
„ Sundry Creditors		115,177.86
„ Banking Account		36,299.74
„ Profit and Loss Account		39,834.33
		656,311.93

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ASSETS.	Yen.	Yen.
By Land Account.....	152,642.00	
„ Plant and Machinery Account	153,427.27	
„ Buildings Account	184,821.22	
„ Steam Launches Account.	25,000.00	
„ Office Furniture Account..	5,088 72	520,977.21
„ Stocks on hand as per Inventory		100,443.75
„ Sundry Debtors		34.7 7.05
„ Cash on hand		263.92
		656,311 93

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MAY, 1909.

DR.	Yen.	Yen.
To Interim Dividend of Yen 2.50 per share paid 3 th January, 1909		19,500.00
„ Depreciation Account, 5 per cent. written off Buildings, Plant and Machinery and Office Furniture Accounts	14.074 76	
„ Fire Insurance.....	4,017 40	
„ Wages and Expenses.....	217,887.57	
„ Taxes	9,7 0 7 5	
„ Rent.....	9,147.49	
„ Directors' and Auditors' Fees	1,900 co	
„ Upkeep and Repairs	6,413 67	
„ Interest.....	9,386.92	272,538 56
„ Balance Profit carried down		39,834.33
		331,872.89

1908. CR.	Yen.	Yen.
June 1.—By Balance		29,421.19
„ Transfer Fees...	7.00	
„ Gross Earnings..	302,444 70	302,451.70
		331,872.89

1909.
June 1.—By Balance brought down Yen 39,834.33

B. C. HOWARD,
Chairman of the Board of Directors.

We have examined the foregoing Accounts and Compared them with the Books and Vouchers of the Company, and certify them to be correct.

M. D. CURRIE, } Auditors.
W. D. S. EDWARDS, }

Yokohama, 14th July, 1909.

Messrs. C. B. Bernard and N. K. Marshall Martin were the two directors retiring by rotation but as they were eligible for re-election they were proposed by Mr. Tresize and seconded by Mr. Healing.— Carried.

Messrs. W. D. S Edwards and M. D. Currie, who have been acting as auditors almost since the last meeting of the shareholders (vice F. J. Hall and N. Y. Showler resigned), were re-elected for the ensuing year on the proposal of the Chair, seconded by Mr. N. F. Smith.

Prior to the closing of the meeting Mr. L. J. Healing made a few remarks about the conditions of the company and its future plans. "There is no doubt," he said, "that trade has been in a very depressed state and that accounts for the fact that we are to have no dividend for this half of the year. My impression is that the future policy of the Company should be to establish our work over a wide field, and I am convinced that we shall thus be assured of satisfactory results."

The Chairman responding, said that the directorate would lose no opportunity in the interests of the company and the shareholders might feel quite satisfied that they were being well represented.

Mr. HEALING proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the directors, the manager, Mr. Tresize and his staff for the efficient work of the half-year. There had been a tremendous amount of work to do, and they had done it in a most exemplary and efficient manner, placing the works and everything else on a very high plane.

Mr. GRIFFIN seconded—carried unanimously. Mr. B. C. Howard as chai man acknowledged the vote.

IT is reported that an order for 5 *Dashi* (procession car) being placed from the Seattle Exposition, the same will shortly he exported with the partial assistance of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce

Y.M.C.A. WORK AMONG THE KOREAN STUDENTS IN JAPAN.

The stream of Korean young life continues to flow toward the land of the Rising Sun says a Y.M.C.A. writer to the *Seoul Press*. And this is true regardless of the fact that there is a strong racial feeling between the two peoples. The Korean students are not coming to Japan because of any love for Japan, but for self protection and self-preservation. They are willing to come and sit at the feet of their conquerors for the sake of the learning they can get. Many have come to learn the secret of Japan's success. Korea is now giving herself up to the acquirement of Western civilization. She is now not only trying to learn what Japan can teach her in Korea but she is sending great numbers of her young men to Japan. There are to day seven hundred Korean students in Tokyo alone, enrolled in the various government and private schools. This is an increase of 200 over last year. Men of all ages are coming to Japan to study. Many of them are from thirty to forty years of age. There are also no less than 100 who are under 18 years of age. The average age of the total number now is about 19, as against 22 of last year. On the whole a younger class of men and boys are coming.

Of the total of seven hundred students only 81 are supported by the Korean Government, the remaining 600 being supported privately. One of the Japanese schools supports a few of the Korean students. A few are compelled to make their way while in Tokyo. The majority however, are supported by their own families or friends in Korea.

Although willing to come to Japan to learn, yet the majority of the Korean students have very little social intercourse with the Japanese. Most of these are living in boarding houses set apart especially for Korean students. So long as the strained relations exist between the Koreans and the Japanese it may be readily seen how difficult it will be for the Japanese to help the Korean students socially or spiritually. This therefore makes the Association work among them all the more necessary and urgent. There are two or three Korean Clubs among the students and these clubs publish a monthly paper which has a wide circulation in Korea. It is a very sane, helpful, and elevating publication. These clubs co-operate to the fullest extent with the Korean Association.

Mr. Kim, the Korean General Secretary, is one of the strongest personal workers I have over known, and largely as a result of his efforts nearly 100 men have decided to follow Christ. Bible Cla ses are held each week with an enrollment of 100 There are forty baptized Christians among the Korean students. Very few have connected themselves with the Japanese churches owing to racial prejudices. Mr. Kim says that no less than 100 of these students will upon their return to Korea connect themselves with the Korean churches. Mr. Kim is a man of mature years and considerable experience, and therefore is a good shepherd for the flock. It would be very desirable, however, to have a regular Korean Pastor in Seoul or a foreign Pastor who speaks Korean. We are now investigating this problem, and trust that some provision may be made by which these men may be definitely tied up to some Church. There is a great danger in not having a church to which they may connect themselves as soon as they are prepared. The immediate danger is that they are liable to consider the Young Men's Christian Assaciation, as taking the place of the Church.

In addition to the regular Bible Classes, weekly religious meetings, lectures, and socials are conducted for the students.

The educational work of the Korean Association has grown in popularity until now more than 100 students are enrolled in its classes. English, Japanese, history, mathematics, and a few other subjects are being taught in the Association Classes. The Korean Superintendent is a strong Christian man and renders valuable help to the Association. When the Association recently outgrew its classrooms in a small Japanese building, the Superintendent of Korean Students offered the Association the use of a large one-story building belonging to the Korean Government. He also offered the Association the privilege of using the large and beautiful garden of the Korean Legation, as a recreation and athletic ground. These kind offers were accepted and the students are now enjoying the privilege of using both the building for classroom purposes, and the beautiful garden as a recreation ground. We still retain the small Japanese-style building as the Headquarters of the Korean Association, where all the features of the Association are provided. There are at present about 100 members of the Korean Association. One of our greatest needs is a larger and more suitable building for the Association. The present building is inadequate for the present needs.

At the present time we have a staff of six Korean Secretaries and teachers. All of these men are developing into good workers and leaders, As a whole the Koreans are ignorant of affairs in general, but are kind and simple hearted. What Korea needs to-day is true and genuine Christian leaders I am convinced that Tokyo affords a great training for such leaders. Our experience with the men in the work of the Association has convinced us that here we have plenty of good material. The steady application of the men, their eagerness in study, and their ability to adapt themselves to new conditions, all bear testimony to capacities which if developed, will promise good things for Korea's future. Mr. Kim, our Korean Secretary, is an example of what can be done for the Koreans. His life, from the day on which he surrendered to the Master, has been a wonderful witness to the sustaining power of the Christian ideal. A firm trust in God, calmness in perplexing difficulties, and a life regulated by Christian principles, make him a power for good among the students. His influence over them is great, and we see it working among men in the altered lives and changed ideals of many of them. It is just here—lives surrendered to God, and shaped by the teaching of Jesus—that we find hope for the future of Korea.

SENDING VALUABLES BY REGISTERED POST.

EUROPEANS WHO ARE NOT ACQUAINTED WITH JAPAN'S INLAND REGULATIONS.

The *Kobe Herald* received the following communication from Mr. Kusaka Itaro, the Postmaster at the Sannomiya Office, the other day. "Our attention has been directed to a case of theft of bank-notes from a registered mail for a foreign address, in which a postman was implicated and the stolen notes were by happy chance recovered and restored to the rightful owner. I beg to point out, in this connection, for the reference of some foreigners who may not know the details of Japan's inland regulations, that while it is perfectly legal in England to send currency notes, coin, jewels, etc., by registered mail, in Japan the sending of such things as above enumerated is not allowed even in registered mail, except as mailmatter with declared value, and attempts to evade this regulation will be liable to prosecution. I venture to think that this regulation, although it may seem too severe, is formulated in order to protect the interest of senders by guaranteeing the safe transit of mails through the post.

Because the only indemnity that can be paid to the sender in case of the total loss of a registered letter is limited to Yen 10, however valuable the contents of a registered letter are and for the abstraction of the contents the sender can recover practically nothing from the Post Office, and thus the sender not only runs the risk of losing all as above, but he may also be subjected to inconvenience for the breach of regulations. On the other side, the Post Office may be placed in a difficult position for safe-guarding the mails if this regulation is not strictly observed, for we can recall an instance in which a dishonest postman destroyed lots of letters in the hope of abstracting some paper money from them. It is therefore desirable that valuable things such as notes, jewels, etc , should be posted as mail-matter with declared value, and the money order service may be utilised in sending money inland."

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TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

GENERAL RUNDLE FOR MALTA.

London, July 22.

London. — General Sir Francis Leslie Rundle has been appointed Governor of Malta.

THE PORTE'S FIRMNESS AGAINST THE POWERS.

INTERFERENCE IN CRETAN QUESTION BY GREECE WILL NOT BE TOLERATED.

Constantinople.—The Porte, replying to the note of the Protecting Powers, strongly objects to the delay in the solution of the Cretan question, and takes exception to the use in the Note of the term "supreme rights," instead of "sovereign rights."

The Sultan, in a note to the Powers, reiterates his declaration that interference by Greece in the Cretan question will not be tolerated.

EMPIRE DAY CUP.

London.—The *Daily Mail* Empire Day cup in the Rifle Shooting Competition has been won by the Bathurst Civilian Club with a score of 808.

THE "DERFFLINGER" REFLOATED.

London, July 23.

The *Derfflinger* has been refloated, apparently uninjured, 250 tons of cargo having previously been discharged. The passengers had an unpleasant night, owing to the rough sea.

FRENCH CABINET CRISIS.

NO CHANGE IN FOREIGN POLICY EXPECTED.

It appears that the hostile vote of the French Chamber was directed mainly against M. Clemenceau personally. It is understood that the new Cabinet will not involve any change of foreign policy, although the German press fear the re-advent of M. Delcasse.

SOUTH AFRICAN UNION BILL IN PARLIAMENT.

QUESTION OF ASIATICS.

Later.

The South African Union Bill has passed its first reading in the House of Lords. The South African premiers and delegates are visiting England in connexion with the passage of the Bill through the Imperial Parliament. It has been agreed, on the suggestion of Lord Crewe, that Asiatics shall be placed under the control of the Governor-General in Council, instead of under the Provincial Councils.

TSAR'S VISIT TO ENGLAND.

OPPOSED BY LABOURITES AND NATIONALISTS.

London, July 23.

The Labourites and Nationalists in the House of Commons moved a reduction of the Foreign Office estimates as a protest against the Tsar's visit. The motion was rejected by 187 to 79. Sir Edward Grey strongly deprecated the discussion in Parliament of the internal affairs of any foreign country, as such discussion must necessarily be largely based on biassed information.

FRENCH CABINET CRISIS.

M. Bourgeois having declined to form a cabinet, the duty has been undertaken by M. Briand.

Later.

Paris.—M. Aristiate Briand has been successful in forming a new cabinet, with M Pichon as Foreign Minister. The Ministries of War and Marine are still vacant.

MINISTERS FOR WAR AND MARINE.

Paris.—Admiral Bon de la Peyrere has been appointed Minister of Marine and General Brun Minister of War.

REMARKABLE DISCOVERY IN INDIA.

HUMAN BONES FOUND NEAR PESHAWUR BELIEVED TO BE THOSE OF GAUTAMA BUDDHA.

A most interesting discovery is reported from Peshawur, north-western India. It is that of a bronze casket inclosing a crystal box containing three charred human bones believed to be a portion of the remains of Gautama Buddha. The Chinese pilgrim Hiouen Thsang stated that Gautama's ashes were placed in this exact spot by the Emperor Kamshka about the commencement of the Christian era. There is little doubt of the authenticity of the discovery.

SPEEDY RETRIBUTION.

ASSASSIN OF SIR W. H. CURZON WYLLIE TRIED AND CONDEMNED TO DEATH.

London, July 24.

Madar Lal, the young Indian who assassinated Sir W. H. Curzon Wyllie on July 1, has been tried and sentenced to death. After sentence had been pronounced, the prisoner saluted the judge and said "Thank you, My Lord; I am glad to have the honour of dying for my country."

PRINCE AND PRINCESS KUNI INSPECT THE FLEET.

Prince and Princess Kuni, Ambassador Kato, and the Chinese Minister proceeded to Southend to-day, to inspect the great fleet assembled in the Thames.

H.H. PRINCE KUNI, G.C.V.O.

Prince Kuni has been gazetted a Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order.

AMALGAMATION OF BANKS.

TWO GREAT LONDON BANKS COMBINE TO FORM GREATEST GENERAL BANKING INSTITUTION IN ENGLAND.

The London and Westminster and London and County Banks have agreed to amalgamate under the title of the London County and Westminster Bank.

[On June 30, 1908, the London and Westminster Bank had a paid-up capital of £2,800,000 and a reserve fund of £1,400,000. The London and County Bank had a paid-up capital of £2,000,000 and a reserve fund of £1,600,000. The new institution will have the largest combined paid-up capital and surplus of any English bank.—ED. *J. M.*]

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENT TRAGEDY.

London, July 24.

Melbourne—after an all-night sitting in the Commonwealth Parliament the Speaker. The Hon. Sir F. W. Holder, fell in a fit on the floor at six o'clock in the morning and expired.

MELILLA MAY FALL.

GENERAL MARINA ASKS FOR 46,000 TROOPS.

Madrid.—It is stated that General Marina, who is in charge of the Spanish troops operating against the tribal attacks, is apprehensive that Melilla will be unable to hold out against the onslaughts of the tribesmen. He has asked for 40,000 troops.

Later.

In the renewed fighting in the vicinity of Melilla, the Spaniards lost four officers killed and 13 wound.

THE "DERFFLINGER" REFLOATED.

London.—The Hamburg-America S.S. *Derfflinger* has sailed.

MEDITERRANEAN POST UNNECESSARY!

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT RESIGNS HIS COMMAND.

London.—The Duke of Connaught has resigned his command of the Mediterranean Fleet. He regards the post as unnecessary, and that there is insufficient work there.

KING'S PRIZE AT BISLEY.

London.—Corporal Burr, of the London Rifle Brigade, has won the King's Prize at Bisley.

THE CHINESE RAILWAY LOAN.

STRONG TELEGRAM FROM PRESIDENT TAFT: BRITAIN'S ATTITUDE.

Tondon,—The *Times* correspondent at Peking says that the Prince Regent has summoned the whole of the Waiwupu and that his action has shown with what considerable anxiety China views the telegram from President Taft, who has indicated in friendly but unmistakable terms the right of American financiers to participate in the Hankow loan. The telegram is directly due to intrigues by the *Deutche Asiatishe Bank*, whose influence over the Hongkong-Shanghai Bank is injurious to British interests.

Many Englishmen in Peking think that the British Government should bring pressure to bear on the Hongkong-Shanghai Bank to dissuade it from associating with German intrigues.

AEROPLANE CROSSES THE ENGLISH CHANNEL.

AND LANDS GRACEFULLY BEHIND DOVER CASTLE.

London, July 26.

Calais.—The Bleriot aeroplane sailed very gaily to Dover yesterday morning. It left Sangalo during calm weather at 30 minutes past 4 and landed very gracefully at 53 minutes past 4 at the back of Dover Castle. A strong wind was prevailing at the time, and apparently assisted the progress of the machine. The destroyer accompanying was outdistanced. They lost sight of France and the escorting destroyer before sighting England.

BLERIOT LOSES HIS BEARINGS: 30 MILES IN 35 MINUTES.

Later.

Paris.—Bleriot lost his bearings in a haze and found himself off Deal. He then turned, following the coastline at a distance of about one mile. The total course was 30 miles, and the corrected time is announced to have been 35 minutes

HAVE SPANISH TROOPS SUFFERED BIG DISASTER?

CENSORSHIP OF MELILLA NEWS CAUSING NATIONAL UNEASINESS.

London, July 26.

Madrid.—There was heavy fighting at Melilla on Friday. The Spanish losses were seven officers killed and 12 wounded, the number of soldiers killed being unknown, though 250 were wounded. The Moor losses totalled 1,000. The silence of the Government and the absolute censorship that is being exercised over all news connected with the present military operations are causing great uneasiness. The conviction is gaining ground that the magnitude of the disaster is concealed.

FIVE BIG LIVERPOOL COTTON FIRES.

London.—Two more destructive cotton fires have taken place at Liverpool, making five during the past week. The damage done at one of yesterday's fires amounted to £30,000.

FRANCE TO PAY ATTENTION TO NAVAL AFFAIRS.

Paris.—It is announced that the new French Government will pursue its predecessor's policy in foreign and other affairs, especially in paying attention to the Navy.

KING ACCEPTS DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S RESIGNATION.

Later.

London.—The King has accepted the resignation of the Duke of Connaught. The resignation will take effect from August 1st.

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THEIR RUSSIAN MAJESTIES' TRIP TO CHERBOURG.

St. Petersburg.—Their Majesties the Tsar and Traritsa have sailed from Kronstadt for Cherbourg.

SEVEN DREADNOUGHTS.

GOVERNMENT DECIDES TO BUILD FOUR ADDITIONAL DREADNOUGHTS AND THE LARGEST AND MOST POWERFUL CRUISER AFLOAT.

London, July 27.

In the House of Commons, the Naval Estimates being under consideration, Mr. McKenna stated that the Government, after very anxious and careful consideration of the conditions of shipbuilding in foreign countries, had decided to ensure the completion of a second four Dreadnoughts by March, 1912. The keels will be laid down in April next. It had also been decided with a view to the protection of British commerce to replace one of the four originals by an improved cruiser, larger and more powerful than any afloat.

THE BLERIOT AEROPLANE.

UNBOUNDED ENTHUSIASM IN PARIS OVER ITS RECENT ACHIEVEMENT.

There is feverish enthusiasm in Paris over the success of the Bleriot aeroplane, and the new cabinet and its programme are relegated to the background. The general comment is that Great Britain has ceased to be an island.

FOREIGN TROOPS LEAVE CRETE.

London, July 27.

Canea.—The flags of ths Powers have been hauled down, the foreign troops embarking.

PENSION FOR THE EX-SHAH.

Reuter telegraphs from Teheran that it is understood that the Government is prepared to give the ex-Shah a pension of £5,000 annually, provided he leaves Persia immediately.

THE NAVAL CONTROVERSY.

THE GOVERNMENT SEVERELY CRITICISED.

In the House of Commons Mr. Balfour severely criticised the Government for allowing our margin of superiority to disappear and for neglecting the Mediterranean and the trade routes, although we knew that two Powers in the Mediterranean are building most powerful battleships. Mr. Asquith in reply emphasized the fact that between Germany and England there is no cause for quarrel of any sort throughout the whole world. If diplomatic relations were mutually conducted with common consideration there is no reason why such differences should arise.

TSAR AND SULTAN.

London, July 28.

St. Petersburg —It is announced that the Sultan will visit the Tsar at Livadia in September. The Tsar will return the visit in October, when *en route* to Naples for his meeting with the Italian royalties.

CRETE.

Canea.—The Greek flag has been hoisted over the fortress and the Cretan militia barracks.

THE NEW FRENCH CABINET.

The French Chamber has voted confidence in the new Cabinet by 306 votes to 46.

GOODWOOD RACES.

The result of the race for the Steward's Cup at Goodwood is:—1. Radiant; 2. The Tower; 3. Romney.

ANTI-WAR RIOTS IN SPAIN.

London, July 28.

There has been anti-war rioting in Barcelona. The rioters burned the schools and a church, and cut railways and telegraph wires. Communication with France has been interrupted.

Martial law has been proclaimed at Barcelona, Terragona and Genona.

AERONAUTIC SUCCESS.

ORVILLE WRIGHT PASSES OFFICIAL TEST.

Washington.—Orville Wright has succeeded in passing the official test at Fort Meyer. With one passenger he flew fifty miles in 72min. 48secs.

SOUTH AFRICAN FEDERATION.

The Lords have unanimously read a second time the South African Union Bill.

The South African delegates requested the Imperial Authorities that the Prince of Wales might be sent to open the Union Parliament.

THE OPIUM QUESTION.

In the Commons, on the Colonial Office vote, Mr. Laidlaw (Renfrewshire, liberal) urged a more uniform policy in dealing with the opium trade in the Colonies, and recommended that pressure be brought to bear upon the Hongkong Administration to suppress the dens there.

Colonel Seely, Under Secretary for the Colonies, said in reply that all the opium divans in Hongkong would be closed by the end of February next. The Government did not intend departing from the policy laid down, but were anxions to assist China and diminish the consumption of the drug in the Colonies.

THE JAPAN EXHIBITION.

Prince Arthur of Connaught presided at the inaugural banquet of the Japan Exhibition. His Royal Highness read a message from the King, who expressed the hope that the Japanese and British people would promote an undertaking aiming at close commerical and friendly bonds. A telegram from the Mikado was also read wishing success to the Exhibition.

Prince Arthur toasted the enhancement of Anglo-Japanese friendship, Ambassador Kato replying. The most cordial speeches were delivered, expressing confidence that the Exhibition would strengthen the good work of the Alliance. Mr. McKinnon Wood on behalf of the Government heartily welcomed the Exhibition. The Lord Mayor of London proposed success to the Japanese section, Count Mutsu replying.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE "TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

NEW GERMAN TAXES PROMULGATED.

BURDEN SHIFTED TO CONSUMERS WHEREVER POSSIBLE.

London, July 22.

Berlin.—The new taxation laws have been officially published, and the different trade organizations and retailers are busily arranging to transfer to the consumers the burden of fresh imposts on articles of popular consumption.

THE U.S. TARIFF BILL.

DUTIES ON RAW MATERIALS ALONE REMAIN TO BE DETERMINED.

London, July 23.

Washington.—The Tariff Bill Conferees have disposed of everything except the fundamental question of duties on raw materials.

M. BRIAND ACCEPTS.

WILL FORM A CABINET.

Paris.—M. Briand, ex-Minister of Justice, has undertaken the formation of a cabinet.

JAPANESE 4½ PER CENT. STOCK IN FAIR DEMAND.

London, July 24.

A fair business is being done on the stock exchange in Japanese 4½ per cents.

CAPTIVE BALLOON DESTROYED BY SHELL FIRE.

IMPORTANT EXPERIMENTS AT DARMSTADT.

Berlin.—Firing experiments with a captive balloon at a height of 1200 metres have taken place at Darmstadt. With ordinary machine guns no damage was done to the balloon, but it was destroyed with shells from a howitzer.

M. BRIAND A SOCIALIST.

London, July 24.

Paris.—M. Briand has formed a cabinet. Though a socialist, he is unfanatical, and owes his prestige to the masterly way in which he championed the bill for the separation of the Church and the State.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S ATTITUDE TO CHINA.

Peking.—A telegram from President Taft to Prince Ching emphasises the rights of American financiers to participate in the railway loan. This attitude is consequent upon intrigue by the *Deutche Asiatiche* bank, whose influence over the Hongkong-Shanghai Bank is said to be injurious to British interests in China.

SPANISH GOVERNMENT IS DETERMINED.

Madrid. — The Spanish Government's policy is to pour troops into Melilla until the resistance of the Moors is broken.

THE BATTLE OF MELILLA.

CIVILIANS CARRY AMMUNITION: RECKLESS BRAVERY OF OFFICERS.

London, July 26.

Madrid.—In a battle on the 23rd at Melilla the Moors, who numbered 16,000, desperately assaulted all the Spanish positions and lines of communication. The Spaniards, who were 18,000 strong, repelled the attack. Civilians acted as ammunition carriers and the officers were recklessly brave. Many were killed. Two battalions arrived from Madrid during the battle and marched through the enemy's lines to the firing line.

CRETE'S "EVERLASTING GRATITUDE TO ENGLAND."

Candia.—The British troops evacuated Crete simultaneously with those of the other three Powers The whole population has expressed everlasting gratitude to England.

NO RUSSIAN ALLOWANCE FOR THE EX-SHAH.

A PUNITIVE EXPEDITION POSSIBLE.

London, July 27.

St. Petersburg.—The Russian Government is not inclined to offer the ex-Shah of Persia a monetary allowance. In consequence of continued robberies by tribes on the Perso-Caucasian frontier, the Government is seriously considering the despatch of a punitive expedition.

THE BRITISH NAVAL PROGRAMME.

AMENDMENT FOR RESTRICTION OF ARMAMENTS REJECTED.

London, July 27.

In the House of Commons the Government has announced its decision to build four extra Dreadnoughts to be completed by March 1912. The Premier justified the decision by the increased German, Austrian and Italian programmes, and by the need for protection against all risks. An amendment favouring the restriction of armaments was rejected by a large majority, the Opposition supporting the Government.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, July 28.

Japanese securities are weaker.

THE EX-SHAH OBJECTS.

Teheran.—The ex-Shah objects to the

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proposed pension of £5,000 as insufficient. The Government is penniless.

POLICY OF THE FRENCH CABINET.

Paris.—The Premier declares that the Cabinet will carry out their predecessors' programme of democratic reforms, and endeavour to preserve existing foreign alliances and friendships.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

FLOODS ON S. MANCHURIA RAILWAY.

Mukden, July 27.

Owing to heavy rain in Manchuria since the 24th inst. the S. Manchuria Railway has been injured in two places, namely, between Tang-kong-tsz and Anshan-tien and between the latter place and Li-shan. Communications are interrupted. Repairs are going on.

THE KILIN-CHANCHUNG RAILWAY.

CONFERENCE REOPENED.

To-day (28th inst.) the Chinese Commissioner, Mr. Lu, and his assistant, Mr. Shi Keibun, an official of the Department of Communications, re-opened at Tientsin the Conference about the Kilin-Changchun Railway with Mr. Nonomura and Major Saito. The question immediately at issue relates to the manner of depositing the income of the Railway.

THE YALU FLOODS.

The Yalu River has been gradually rising of late and the flood suddenly increased on the 27th inst. The old town of Antung is almost submerged, and since the 17th the Japanese police offices and the settlement have been taking precautions. The Japanese residing in the old town are rendering assistance, and the Red Cross Hospital and the Sino-Japanese Charitable Union are doing everything in their power to succour the Chinese sufferers. The new town has not been injured thus far.

("DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST" SERVICE TO THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

GREAT BRITAIN.

Berlin, July 23.

The Norddeutscher Lloyd steamer *Derfflinger*, which went aground at the Needles, has been refloated without damage.

SOUTH AMERICA.

The Governments of Bolivia and Peru have come to an agreement.

FRANCE.

French troops have conquered Habesh, the capital of the district of Wadai in the Sudan.

GREECE.

The Greek Minister at Constantinople has given full assurance to the Sublime Porte of the peaceful attitude to be taken by the new Greek Cabinet. The Turkish reply to the declaration of the Protective Powers as to the Cretan question declares that the Sublime Porte is willing to enter into negotiations as to Crete under certain conditions.

ABYSSINIA.

The Empress of Abyssinia, who conducts the regency in the name of the sick Negus, is anti foreign in her government in opposition to that of the Negus.

GERMANY & U.S.

The special commercial agreement between Germany and the United States will be maintained at least until February next.

GERMANY.

Berlin, July 25th.

The Tsar and Tsaritsa, accompanied by their children, will have a meeting with Prince and Princess Heinrich of Prussia on the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal, on their journey to Cherbourg.

The Tsar and Tsaritsa will be the guests of Princess Heinrich of Prussia for two days, before going to Cherbourg on July 31st. After the meeting at Cherbourg with President Fallières they will go to Cowes and return to Peterhof on August 18th.

FRANCE.

The new French Briand Cabinet consists of the following members:—Foreign Office, M. Pichon; Public Affairs, M. Millerand; War, probably General Berun; Marine, Admiral Bon de la Peyrerra. The Policy of M. Clémenceau will be continued as to internal and external affairs.

M. Briand, the new French Premier, calls his Ministry a Republican one. A reconciliation between M. Delcassé, and M. Doumer, the President of the Chamber, has taken place.

The aviator M. Bleriot has successfully accomplished a flight with his machine over the Channel between Calais and Dover.

HOLLAND.

Lieut.-General Kool, until now Commander of the Dutch Field Army, has been nominated Minister for War.

SPAIN & MOROCCO.

The war in Morocco is very unpopular in Spain. Very severe fighting has again taken place at Melilla between the Spanish troops and the natives.

INDIA.

The bones of Buddha have been excavated at Peshawur (N.-W. India) by the Indian Archæological Department.

BRITISH GUINIA.

In British Guiana the treatment of leprosy after the methods of Dr. Deyeke, Professor at Hamburg, has been introduced.

TURKEY.

The promulgation of the Turkish Constitution has been celebrated at Constantinople with great enthusiasm, General von der Goltz-Pasha taking part, dressed in German uniform.

GREECE.

A conspiracy against the dynasty seems to exist in Greece, the new Premier Rhalis pleading for a removal of the royal members from the Army and the Navy.

FRANCE.

Berlin, July 26.

The Frenchman Bleriot, who successfully carried out a flight over the Channel from Calais to Dover with his aeroplane, covered the distance of 30 miles in 27½ minutes.

GERMANY.

The Kaiser will go to Iglau on September 8th to attend the Austrian Imperial manœuvres.

SPAIN.

Berlin, July 27.

The Special Moroccan Mission, now at Madrid, has left for home, the reason being that its sojourn in Spain is very dangerous for the present. A state of siege has been declared at Barcelona. A general strike has broken out in Catalonia as a protest against the Moroccan war.

CRETE.

The troops of the Protective Powers have left Crete.

TURKEY.

The members of the Turkish Parliament, now on a round trip through Europe, have hurriedly left London for home, the situation at Constantinople requiring their presence. The visit to Berlin has been postponed until the Reichstag has been reopened.

CHINA.

The *New York Herald* publishes an interview with King Leopold of Belgium, in which he said that China offers good prospects for economical business during the next year and that he hopes that Belgium will get her share in its development.

FRANCE.

It is rumoured that a meeting between President Fallières and King Edward will take place on August 18th.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Berlin, July 28.

The Latham aeroplane, in its second attempt to cross the Channel between Calais and Dover, has again fallen in the sea near Dover.

SPAIN.

Violent street-fights have taken place at Livadia and Barcelona. At Melilla the Spanish troops are still encountering severe fighting, with big losses, against the natives.

TURKEY.

The Sublime Porte has demanded the views of the Protective Powers as to the hissing of the Greek flag at Candia. The relations between Greece and Turkey are improving.

PERSIA.

Great Britain has again landed troops at Bushire with regard to the difficult situation in Shiraz province.

RUSSIA.

The Tsar will pay a visit to the Sultan at Constantinople at the end of September; the meeting of the monarchs will take place on board ship. Later the Tsar will meet King Immanuelo of Italy at an Italian port and return to Russia via Athens in December.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

JAPANESE CELEBRATION AT SEATTLE.

Seattle, July 21.

A celebration was held at the Japanese Building in the Exposition this afternoon on an elaborate scale. Over 2,000 guests attended the celebration and it drew a large European and American attendance. A dinner party given in the evening was a great success.

SEOUL STRIKE ENDING.

Seoul, July 22.

The electric railway service was restored as usual to-day.

SHANGHAI PALACE WIRELESS TELEGRAPH STATION.

CHINESE GOVERNMENT WANTS IT WITHDRAWN.

Shanghai, July 22.

After considerable deliberation, the British Minister, Sir John Jordan, has notified the Palace Hotel through Sir Pelham Warren, British Consul-General in Shanghai, that though the wireless telegraph in the Hotel is advantageous to both the public and the mariners, it must be withdrawn. The directors of the hotel will hold a conference to-morrow in order to consider the advisability of protesting against the instructions of the Minister.

HUNAN'S POOR ORGANIZE FOR PLUNDER.

Hankow, July 21.

In the district of Fengchau, Hunan, the famine-stricken poor have organized and are plundering rice and arms from the local government. Three battalions of infantry and one battalion of artillery have been despatched to the scene by the order of Viceroy Chin.

SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY PRESIDENT'S VISIT.

Dairen, July 25.

Mr. Nakamura, President of South Manchuria Railway Company, left for Japan suddenly this morning.

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THE MANCHURIAN QUESTION.

Peking, July 27.

The Japanese Minister had an interview with the Chinese Minister of the Wai-wu-pu yesterday in regard to the Manchurian question, when it was agreed that some settlement would be easily negotiable. The Chinese commissioners appear to lay stress upon the Pratas question.

HONAN RESIDENTS OBJECT TO RUSSIAN CAPITAL.

In reference to the introduction of foreign capital for the Hankow-Ichang Railway, the people in Honan were at first strongly opposed to the inclusion of any outside capital, though subsequently they somewhat modified their attitude. On seeing, however, that Russia was eager to participate in the Honan Railway loans, they have declared openly that they do not need foreign capital for the purposes of constructing the railway.

KOREAN BANK REGULATIONS.

Seoul, July 27.

On July 27, the *Official Gazette* promulgated the Regulations of the Korean Bank, which came into effect on the same day. The Regulations consist of 49 articles which do not largely differ from the draft previously announced. All affairs with respect to the establishing of the bank are to be entrusted to the Japanese Government, the agreement concerning which was signed on July 26 by Mr. Ye Wan-yong at the Residency-General. It will be announced in a few days.

ALLEGED ILLEGALITY REGARDING BALLOT PAPERS.

A Mayebashi telegram to the *Asahi* reports that on July 21, Mr. Yajima Hachiro, a member of the Imperial Diet; Messrs. Sekine Sakusaburo and Matsuda Sho, members of the Takasaki Municipal Council; Mr. Yajima Magosaburo, ex-member of the Takasaki Municipal Assembly; Mr. Nakayama Seibei, a scribe of the Takasaki Municipal Office; Mr. Hayakawa Genichiro, a foreign restaurant proprietor at Takasaki, and Mr. Negishi Keizaburo, a director of the *Takasaki Shimbun*, were respectively visited by judicial officers, who made domiciliary searches at their houses. As the result, all the papers and documents were confiscated and Mr. Hayakawa was arrested. It is reported that during last month when half the number of the members of the Takasaki Municipal Assembly were re-elected, anonymous letters reached the Tokyo Appeal Court, the Mayebashi Local Court and the Takasaki District Court respectively, stating that advantage being taken of the darkness of the evening, the names on the balloting-papers were read out.

Investigations were made by the authorities to trace the authors of the letters with the above mentioned results.

TO MANAGE THE "IMPERIAL."

MR. HAYASHI, A YOUNG JAPANESE, ALSO APPOINTED MANAGING DIRECTOR.

The vexed question as to who should become manager of the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo, in succession to Mr. Hans Moser, who was dismissed and who returned to his home in Switzerland several weeks ago, has been decided by the Board of Directors appointing Mr. A. Hayashi.

Mr. Hayashi is about 35 years of age, and is a curio expert with extensive English and American experience. He has been connected for a number of years with Messrs. Yamanaka & Co., of Osaka and Kyoto. He is also to be appointed Managing Director of the Company, with a view to his being better able thus to carry on the complete management and direction of the hotel's affairs.

The new manager will commence his duties in about a fortnight.

THE BY-ELECTIONS.

The results of the by-elections in the various prefectures are as follow:—

Shidzuoka prefecture:—
Mr. Ito Yozo (Seiyu)
„ Kawai Juzo (Shimpo)
Gunma prefecture:—
Mr. Nakajima Sukehachi (Anti-Seiyu)
Tochigi prefecture:—
Mr. Isobe Shiro (Seiyu)
„ Sekida Kahichiro (Shimpo)
Hiroshima prefecture:—
Mr. Sassoku Seiji (Yushin)
„ Kushimoto Kozo (Seiyu)
Saga prefecture:—
Mr. Nagano Shidzuo (Anti-Seiyu)
„ Yamaguchi Shuntaro (Seiyu)
Chiba prefecture:—
Mr. Chiba Teitaro (Seiyu)
„ Seki Kadzutomo (Shimpo)
„ Sakamaki Mojiro (Churitsu)
Kanagawa prefecture:—
Mr. Tsuchiya Daijiro (Seiyu)
Hiogo prefecture:—
Mr. Kashima Hidemaro (Shimpo)
Fukui prefecture:—
Mr. Nomura Chuji (Seiyu)

YACHTING.

The usual yacht races took place on July 26, under highly favourable conditions. In the race for yachts over 22 rating, for the Hon. Secretary's Cup, *Mary* came in first, *Maid Marion* second, and *Asagao* third, but a change in the handicap prevented the prompt ascertainment of the winner. Five 22 raters started, *Winsome* finishing first, *Elsa* second and *Edna* third. On the handicap, the first prize went to *Elsa* and the second to *Valkyrien*.

Thirteen larks started in the race for that class of boats, No. 7 coming in first, No. 4 second, and No. 11 third.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It is reported that Baron Komura, not being in good health, may resign.

It is said that Herr von Bethmann Holweg is an old college friend of the Kaiser.

It is reported that the daily receipts of the Shimbashi station amounted to an average of about *yen* 10,000 during the last few days.

Telephone communication between *Hachigome*, Yoshidaguchi and Subashiri was opened on July 28. The office hours are from 4 a.m. till 8 p.m.

The university of Edinburgh has conferred the degree of Dr. of Medicine on Mr. Gordon Munro, M.B., for his thesis on "Cancer in Japan."

The Crown Prince and Princess will spend the time at the Nikko Detached Palace from the beginning of next month until the end of the hot weather.

On July 21, one hour's delay of the trains on the Tokaido Line took place at Rokugo-mura, near Koyama Station. An engine ceased to work properly and relief had to be brought by another engine from Yamakita.

On the 25th instant, several officials and employes belonging to Nara railway Station were arrested. It is alleged that they have stolen various goods entrusted to their care, amounting in value to many thousands of *yen*.

At 10 a.m. on July 28, the German steamer *Andalusia* ran aground on a shoal off Futsu Battery, near Kannonzaki. No great damage is reported. She was towed off at 11 a.m. and arrived at Yokohama at 2 p.m. yesterday.

A Sapporo despatch says that a warder of Kabafuto Prison, named Kariyazo Bungo, was sent under guard to Sapporo on July 24. It is alleged that he has counterfeited and made use of a large number of 10 *sen* and 20 *sen* silver pieces since last Autumn, in conspiracy with one of the prisoners who is in penal servitude for life.

The petition presented to the Railway Bureau by Kyushu colliery proprietors who have sought a reduction of the rate of freight charged on coal, has been rejected on the ground that the petitioners had failed to make good their case.

According to a report published by the *Mainichi Dempo*, Governor Sufu has granted the petition presented by the foreign residents of Yokohama for a prolongation of the lease of the Cricket Ground until the end of October next.

The Railway Bureau will provide an extra excursion train for visitors to Kamakura and Enoshima every Sunday, commencing on the first Sunday of next month (August 1). It will leave Shimbashi at 6 a.m. for Kamakura and leave Fujisawa at 6 p.m. for Shimbashi.

On July 27, a man named Takeda Semasuke, of Ajiro-cho, Azabu, Tokyo, was sent under guard to the public procurator's office. It is alleged that he has swindled some *yen* 3,000 from over 6,000 men in inland districts by means of haphazard advertisements in the local press.

On the 27th instant, those officers and marines who were injured on board the battleship *Asahi* were brought to Yokosuka by the cruiser *Hashidate*. The number of men seriously and slightly injured was 3 in each case and not 1 and 4 respectively. No fatal consequences are probable.

On July 24, the *Official Gazette* promulgated the amended Parcels Post Convention between Japan and America. According to this Convention, a parcel will have the following limitations:

In value:—$80 or less.
In weight:—11 lbs. or less.
In measure of one dimension:—3 feet 6 inches or less.
In circumference taken lengthwise or breadthwise:—6 feet or less.

Rigaku-hakushi Yokoyama Matajiro, a geologist, is reported to have entered a tunnel commonly called Fuji-no-kaza-ana, at Komakadomura shinden about 5 miles south of Gotemba, which is said to have a passage to the crater of Mount Fuji. On entering the cavern, he found that the interior was very dark and damp and groups of bats frequently flew by. When he had gone about 250 yards, the Cavern became too small for further progress. According to his opinion, this cavern is one of the remaining evidences of the Lava Tunnel. The ceiling is covered with stalactites.

CORRESPONDENCE.

A COMMENT.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I refer to the article issued in your paper on the 20th instant under the heading "a Japanese Aeroplane." Should this story come to the ears of the British people, the editor of the *Hochi Shimbun* will be responsible for having disturbed the soundness of their sleep at night. The British will ever be in terror of becoming invaded at any moment by either the Germans or Japanese in their swift airships. I am rather astonished that you have copied this story without adding any remark of your own.

Yours truly, J. V. SEYFFERT.

Tokyo, July 20, 1909.

JAPANESE AEROPLANES

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I refer to a letter in to-day's issue headed "A Comment" and subscribed to by "J.V. Seyffert." Should the aeroplane story come before the notice of the German nation, the editor of the *Hochi Shimbun* will be responsible for materialising the German dreams of the Yellow Peril. The Germans will ever be in terror of being swooped down on at any moment and will doubtless lay down fresh Dreadnoughts or dirigibles for "possible needs in the Pacific" (vide Imperial utterances).

I am rather astonished that you printed your correspondent's letter without adding any remark of your own.

Yours faithfully, SCRUTATOR.

Tokyo, July 24, 1909.

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CUTICURA COMFORT

FOR LITTLE FAT FOLKS

Most grateful and comforting is a warm bath with Cuticura Soap and gentle anointings with Cuticura. This pure, sweet, economical treatment brings immediate relief and refreshing sleep to skin-tortured and disfigured little ones and rest to tired, fretted mothers. For eczemas, rashes, itchings, irritations and chafings, Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment are worth their weight in gold.

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; China, Hong Kong Drug Co.; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; Russia, Ferrein, Moscow; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The quotations for American and Chinese Raw Cotton have continued firm, but business is practically at a standstill. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. Home quotations for Cotton Piece Goods and Woollens are higher, and no large business has been done.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	39.00 to 40.00
Egyptian	47.25 to 50.70
Indian Broach	31.00 to 31.50
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 31.50

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	270.00 to 285.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 365.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.20 to 9.00
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43¼-44 in. Common to Good	4.60 to 6.20
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.25 to 7.75
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	11.00 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.20 to 2.30
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y. 0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.00
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.71
" " 2 " "	0.58 to 0.64
" " " 3 " "	0.46 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.34 to 0.39
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Business only on a small scale has been done.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y. 3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
d. Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

Owing to competition in imported oils, the market still shows some confusion. Native oils will most probably not be exempt from a slight decline.

Chester	Y. 3.79 to 3.91
Victory	3.30 to 3.70
Nonpareil	— to 4.40
Sumatra	— to 2.94
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No transactions have been done in imported sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. There have been some pretty fair transactions in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y. 240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.05
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.00

FLOUR.

Little business has been done.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	—
Flag	"	—
Royal	"	—
Trophy	"	11.00
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.60
Lion	"	12.20
Portland	"	—
Premier	"	11.60
Japanese:—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.70
Takasago	6 "	2.68
Fuji	6 "	2.70
Pine	6 "	2.70

WHEAT.

No transactions are reported and quotations are nominal.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	6.60 — 6.70
Red " " "	6.50 — 6.60
Blue Stem	6.85 — 7.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is very quiet. The business has been done little by little.

On July 29th stocks were: filatures 13,269 bales Re-reels, 1,655 bales; Kakeda, 409 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	Y. 1,100
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	1,030
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	1,040
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	945
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,025
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den	1,000
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	960
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	980
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	895
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re reels—No. 1	950
Re-reels—No. 1½	920
Re-reels—No. 2	890
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	940
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	890
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	870
Kakedas—No. 2	850

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

July	Present delivery.	July delivery.	August delivery.	September delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
23rd	927	895	—	927
24th	926	896	—	926
25th	925	895	—	926
26th	921	887	—	921
27th	914	881	890	915
28th	913	879	888	913
29th	911	873	884	912

WASTE SILK.

The market is inactive. There has been but little business done.

On July 29th stocks were: Noshi, 2,249 bales, Kibiso, 4,253 bales; and Sundry, 636 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	90 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	65 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	117 to 122
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	107 to 112
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	95 to 105
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is still weak and the quotations have gone down a little. There have been no important transactions.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.55	8.25	8.05	8.40	8.20
27″	8.40	7.95	7.90	8.00	8.10
36″	8.60	8.25	8.05	7.95	7.80

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.05	7.95	7.80	7.45
27″	8.05	7.90	7.85	7.55
36″	8.10	7.95	7.75	7.55

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.50	8.00	8.70	9.40
22½	7.95	8.60	9.70	10.60
27	—	10.40	11.40	12.80
36	—	—	14.20	15.80

COPPER.

Quotations are fluctuating.

According to a London telegram of July 28th, the quotation was £59 7.6.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 28.50—32.00

TEA.

No change in quotations.

The market is inactive. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to July 29th, the sales amounted to 7,486,800 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 224,900 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	— —
Good Medium	35 — 40
Medium	30 — 34
Good Common	27 — 29
Common	24 — 26

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is inactive and little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
July	—
August	127.50
September	127.30

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RICE.

Since last week, the market has changed somewhat for the better.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	841,909
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	118,732

Delivery.	Closing Price.
July	13.00
August	13 68
September	14 29

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*.
Superior.....	Yen 14 00
Medium	13.00
Common	12 00
Average	13 00

(Osaka.)	(Kobe.)
..... 12.95	July 12 88
August 13 41	August 13.39
September ... 13.76	September... 13.78

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama July 30.

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower, China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates unaltered, closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London —Bank T.T	s/o½@⅝
— — Bills on demand	s/o⅝
— — 4 months' sight.....	s/o⅞
— Private 4 months' sight	s/o⅞
— — 6 months' sight	s 1
Paris & Lyons —Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong Bank sight .....per $100	85¼*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83½*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87¾*
— Private 10 days' sight.....	89¼*
India —Bank sight	153½
— Private 30 days' sight	155½
America—Bank sight.....	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50¾
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅝
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London).....	23⅜

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong...	N.Y.K.	...Aki Maru	Tu. Aug. 3
Hongkong...	C. P. R.	...Em. of India 1	Tu Aug. 3
Seattle	N.Y.K.	...Tosa Maru	Th. Aug. 5
Hongkong...	P. M.	.....China 2	F Aug. 6
Europe	N. D. L.	...Goeben	Su Aug. 8
America.....	P. M.	.....Mongolia	Su Aug. 8
Hongkong ..	B. L.	.....Kumeric	Tu Aug. 10
Europe	M. M.	.....Tonkin 3	Tu. Aug. 11
America.....	T. K. K.	..Tenyo Maru 4	Sa. Aug. 14
Hongkong...	T. K. K.	...Chiyo Maru	M Aug. 16
Tacoma	B L	.....Suveric	M Aug. 16
Portland.....	P. & A.	...Henrik Ibsen	Tu. Aug. 17
Vancouver...	C. P. R.	...Em. of China	W Aug. 18

1 Left Hongkong on the 24th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 27th inst.
3 Left Singapore on the 26th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 27th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. L.	...Prinz Ludwig	Sa July 31
Shanghai ...	N Y K.	..Chikuzen Maru	Su Aug. 1
Vancouver...	C. P. R.	...Em. of India	Tu. Aug. 3
Seattle	N. Y. K.	..Aki Maru	W Aug. 4
Europe	N Y K.	..Awa Maru	W Aug. 4
America.....	P. M.	.....China	Sa. Aug. 7
Europe	M M.	.....Ernest Simons	Sa Aug. 7
Hongkong...	P. M.	.....Mongolia	M. Aug. 9
Hongkong...	N.Y.K.	...Tosa Maru	M Aug. 9
Tacoma	B. L.	.....Kumeric	W Aug. 11
Hongkong...	T. K. K.	..Tenyo Maru	Su Aug. 15
Hongkong...	B. L.	..... Suveric	Tu Aug. 17
Hongkong...	P. & A.	...Henrik Ibsen	W. Aug. 18
America.....	T. K. K.	..Chiyo Maru	W Aug. 18
Hongkong...	C. P. R.	...Em. of China	W Aug. 18
Seattle	G. N.	.....Minnesota	Th Aug 19
America.....	C. R.	.....A'ral Fourichon	F. Aug. 20
Australia ...	N. Y. K.	...Yawata Maru	Sa Aug. 21
Tacoma.....	B. & S.	... Cyclops	Su Aug. 22

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,907, M Hagino' 23rd July,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benlarig, British steamer, 2,510, A. Wallace, 23rd July.—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 23rd July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Titan, British steamer, 5,720, Robt. Day, 24th July, Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tjibodas, Dutch steamer, 2,960, P. Zwart, 25th July, —Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Howard D. Troop, British bark, 2,080, J. A. Durkee, 25th July,—New York, Kerosene Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Pinna, British tank steamer, 4,100, Fairfield, 25th July,—Peru via Honolulu, Oil.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3,953, S. Robinson, 26th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C.P.R. Co.

Soyo Maru, Japanese tank steamer, 2,230, T. Ota, 25th July.—Lobitos via Honolulu, Oil.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Prinz Luawig, German steamer, 5,704, F. von Binzer, 25th July,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Sarpedon, British steamer, 3,023, J. N. Taylor, 26th July,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General. Butterfield & Swire

Seminole, British tank steamer, 3,797, E D. Clarke, 26th July,—Hongkong via Manila, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Yeddo, Swedish steamer, 2,503, Anderson, 26th July,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,162, Girard, 27th July,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Cie.

Carnavonshire, British steamer, 2,710, Ingram, 27th July, — London via ports, General. — Samuel Samuel & Co.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 27th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 27th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. —C.P.R. Co.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 28th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Asia, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Gaukroger, 28th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 28th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. —P. M. S.S. Co.

Silesia, Austrian steamer, 3,340, E. Radonicich, 29th July,—Trieste and Fiume, General.—Heller Bros.

Andalusia, German steamer, 3,477, Block, 29th July, —Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Antilochus, British steamer, 5,776, Geo. D. Keay, 29th July,—Tacoma and Victoria, Mails and General —Butterfield & Swire.

Titania, German Navy transport, 1,248, Schaack, 27th July,—Tsingtan.

DEPARTURES.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,803, C. H. Butler, 23rd July,—Muroran, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Caledonien, French steamer, 2,100, Casanova, 24th July,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,907, W. Hagino, 24th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,366, T. Sekine, 24th July,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Titan, British steamer, 5,720, Robt. Day, 25th July, —Tacoma via Victoria, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benlarig, British steamer, 2,510, A. Wallace, 25th July,—Vladivostock.—Cornes & Co.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 25th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ashtabula, British steamer, 4,527, G. Harding, 23rd July,—Hankow via Moji, Oil.—Standard Oil Co.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3,953, S. Robinson, 26th July,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Sardinia, British steamer, 4,126, C. C. Talbot, 27th July,—Antwerp and London via ports, General — P. & O. S N. Co.

Jason, British steamer, 4,880, T. G. Steeves, 27th July,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Seminole, British Tank steamer, 3,797, H. D. Clarke, 27th July,—San Francisco, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 28th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tjibodas, Dutch steamer, 2,960, P. Zwart, 29th July, —Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Asia, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Gaukroger, 29th July,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 29th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 29th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 29th July,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Yeddo, Swedish steamer, 2,503, Andersen, 29th July,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Carnavonshire, British steamer, 2,710, Ingram, 29th July,—Marseilles, London and Leith via ports, General —Samuel Samuel & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Monteagle* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. and Mrs. H. I. Richardson and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Dean, Miss E. Melhell, Mr. P. D. Grant, Mr. A. F. Wheen, Mr. C. K. S. Cooper, Mr. M. P Walker, Miss E. C, Dicker and Miss F. Furness in cabin; Mr. Stanley Lings, Dr. Kemble, Mr. M. E. Asgar, Mr. A. J. Godfrey, Mr. J. H Seth, Dr. W. Kelly, Mr. F. L. Strong, Mrs. H. Herbst, Miss A. M. Ross, Miss A. Holley, Mr. R. H. Baxter, Mr. and Mrs. K. C. Pease and child, Mr. and Mrs. J. McIntosh, Mrs. B. Palmer and child, Mr. T. Reed, Mr. Leong Chong Ko, Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Davis and child, Mr. T. W. Kydt, Mr. and Mrs. W. Raymond, Mr. J. G. Jamieson, Mrs. S. J. Thompson, Miss M. Blake, Mrs. F. Ezra, Mr. M. Cooneilsen, Mr. A. P. Pring, Mr. and Mrs. E. K. Burgess, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Myers, Mr. C. Cameron, Capt. G. Close, Miss A. Coath, Miss V. Sargent, Mr. A. R. Mann, Dr. and Mrs. H. V. S. Myers, Mr. S. B. Hatfield, Mr. and Mrs. W. S. Mitchell, Mr. Munsey-Lew, Mr. Turpin Hsi, Mr. Chow Tsong Pah, Mr. and Mrs. C. P. Allan and 2 children, Miss G. Wilmer-Harris, Mr. A. E. Laraway. Miss A. Steele, Miss M. Steele, Mr. Brinkman, Mr. J. Rice, Miss Hettie Thomas, Mr. W. A. Whiston, Mr. E. H. Gill, Rev. W. Gates and Mr. F. F. Johnson in transit; 30 Chinese in European steerage ; 62 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Asia* from San Francisco via ports:—Mr. J. L. Dobbins, Mr. Mead Minnigerode, Mr. Lee Foh. Mr. M. Oishi, Mr. S. S. Howland, Mr. Fritz Kummer, Mrs. Toni Koennecke, Mr. S. Nishimura, Miss Clara Mosser, Mrs. S. S. Howland and Miss Susan F. Gulick. For Kobe:—Mr. J. D. Childress. For Nagasaki:—Mr. Bert Males. For Shanghai:—Miss Carrie Jewell, Mr. W. C. Sweet, Miss Mildred Martel, Mr. H. C. McKinnon, Miss Dorithy Martel and Mr. G. C. Hanson. For Hongkong:—Capt. A. Lockett, Mr. C. K. Logan, Miss Emma R. Carter. Com. J. D. McDonald, U.S.N., Mr. M. E. Gleland, Mr. Dong Wing, Mrs. Dong Wing and infant, Mr. J. Prager, Mr. Roy F. Rose, Mr. Eng Hook Fong, Mr. G. Floyd, Capt. G. H. Seaver, Mr. Jas, G. Gregory, Miss R. Holstein, Mr. G. H. Jaques, Mrs. H. D Kneedler and infant, Mrs. W. D. VanCleave, Mr. H. S. Lee, Mr. E. Freese, Mrs. Martha C. Banks, Miss Mable Bish, Miss S. L. Mason, Mr. Ching Sing, Mr. P. G. Mygatt, Mr. F. D. Pillatt, Mr. G. Eleazar, Mrs. S. J. Prager, Mrs. J. R. Edgar and infant, Mr. Leon Rosenthal, Mrs. Leon Rosenthal, Mrs. George Fuller, Mrs. G. H. Seaver and infant, Master Mark Seaver, Mr. Shun Hong, Mr. V. F. Speakman, Mrs. Kathryn Spencer, Mr. J. L. Williams and Mrs. H. S. Lee in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan* from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. J. B. Gunn, Mr. G. Saito, Mr. S. Takaki, Mr. G. Baret, Mrs. O. Diehl, Mr. O. Diehl, Mr, Mrs. Miss Ayr on, Mr. L. Seldon, Rev. A. E. Fink, Mr. Jacob Mees, Mr. S. Kondo, Mr. J. D. R. Baldwin, Mr. C. Garton, Mr. A. L Little, Mr. M. D. J. Sweenie, Mr. V. H. Stewart, Mr. W. Brown, Mr. J. J. Conway, Mr. J. Munnich, Rev. A. A. King, Mr. H L. Whitman, Dr. R. K. Noyes, Mr. S. Wilson, Mr. S. Searl, Mr. J. A. Gray, Mr. L. Plush. For Nagasaki:—Dr. and Miss Bowie. For Shanghai:—Mr. W. Binnie Tait, The Prince de Bearn, Master G. de Bearn and nurse, Miss B. de Bearn and nurse, Mr. D. H. Leavens and Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Moffatt. For Hongkong:—Mr. B. P. Dillon, Mr. E. W. Morrell, Miss S.S. Gardner, Mr. H. J. Jackman, Miss M. E. Mitchell, Mr. A. Turner, Miss M. Graff, Miss S. Collingham and Dr. M. R. Edward in cabin.

Per American steamer *Siberia* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. V. Bryan, Mrs. A. V. Bryan, Miss Bryan, Lieut. F. H, Bunton, U.S.A., Mrs. F. H. Bunton, Mrs. H. R. Baily, Mrs. J. McCallum and 2 children and native servant, Major G A. Skinner, Mrs. G. A. Skinner, Master Leslie Skinner, Miss Lucille Skinner, Miss Marion Skinner, Mrs. H. Greig and native servant, Miss Greig, Mr. J. Guggenheim, Mr. L. Kondo Mr. Y. Tomono, and Mrs. J. F. Golding. For San Francisco:—Mr. N. C. Brooks, Mr. W. B. Burt, Mrs. J Bell, Mrs. E. Dudley, Miss Anna Deulin, Mrs. Guggenheim and amah, Master Irving Guggenheim, Master

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George Guggenheim, Master Richard Guggenheim, Mr. D. W. Rose, Lieut. Geo. Castle, U.S.N., Mr. Chas Larje, Dr. L. C. Mendel, Mrs. L. C. Mendel, Miss Irene Mendel, Mr. Fred. Sommers, Miss A. M. Lausing, Mrs. Sturtevant, Mrs. J. A. Wattie and maid and Mr. Wong Quen Wah and native servant in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Caledonien* for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. P. R. Lampen, Marpulant, Mad. Gayet, 2 children and 1 amah, Mr. and Mrs. Nghien Tais Hais, with one boy and one servant, Mr. W. H. N. Palejwalla, Mr. F. G. Milligan, Mr. G. W. Krisez, Mr. Wong Chung Yen, Mr. N. Graydon, Mr. Manusset and Mr. Besnard in cabin.

Per British steamer *Monteagle* for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. C. P. Allan, Mrs. Allan, Master J. Allan, Mr. N. E. Asgar, Mrs. Basler, Mr. R. H. Baxter, Miss M. Blake, Mr. J. Brandle, Mr. E. Brinkman, Mr. E. K. Burgess, Mrs. Burgess, Mr. C. Cameron, Capt. C. G. Close, Mrs. Coquard, Mr. M. Corneilsen, Miss A. L Coath, Mr. W. T. Davis, Mrs. Davis and child, Mr. F. A. Dickhoff, Mrs. F. Ezra, Mr. L. Flagstad, Miss V. Garner, Mr. E. H. Gill, Mr. A. T. Godfrey, Rev. Z. T. Griffin, Mrs. Griffin, Mrs. S. B. Halfield, Miss Wilmer Harris, Mrs. G. A. Herbst, Miss A. H. Holley, Mr. Chas. W. Hubbard, Mr. E. Hunter, Mr. Turpin Hsi, Mr. J. G. Jamieson, Mr. F. F. Johnson, Dr. W. Kelly, Dr. Kemble, Mr. Thos. W. Kydd, Mr. A. E. Laraway, Mr. M. Lea, Mr. A. M. Learmouth, Mr. S. Lings, Mr. John McIntosh, Mrs. McIntosh, Mr. A. R. Mann, Mr. L Miles, Mr. W. S. Mitchell, Dr. H. V. S. Myers, Mrs. Myers, Mr. C. M. Myers, Mrs. C. M. Myers, Mrs. E. Neilsson, Dr. A. Owre, Mr. Chow Tsong Pah, Mrs. B. Palmer, Master J. Palmer, Mr. K. C. Pease. Mrs. Pease and child, Mr. E. Poskit, Mr. A. P. Prinz, Mr. A. Raymond, Mrs. Raymond. Mr. Thos. Reed, Mr. J. W. Rice, Miss A. M. Ross, Miss V. A. Sargent, Mr. J. H. Seth, Miss M. Steele, Miss A. Steele, Mr. W. W. Steed, Jr., Mr. F. L. Strong, Miss H. A. Thomas, Mrs. S. J. Thomson, Mr. Frank Totten, Mr. W. A. Whiston, Lieut. E. H. Yates, U.S.N, Mrs. E. H. Yates, and child, Miss L. A. Yates, Master J. W. Yates and Rev. N. P. Yates in cabin.

Per British steamer *Sardinia*, for London and Antwerp via ports:—Miss Nield, Miss Mercer, Mr. H Dufour Mr. W. J. Lewis, Capt. H. W. Green, Mr. H. L. Phillips, Mrs. Bapty, Miss Romanie, Miss M. Gregory, Miss L. Hildore, Miss E. Edwardes, Miss K. Berkbeck, Mr. and Mrs. Arnolds, Mr. F. Danby, Mr. A. Thomas, Mr. Lopez, Mr. Cowen, Mrs. Fitzgerald, Mr. Stephens, Mr. Coyne, Mr. Quintrell, Mr. Frith, Mr. Roy Smith, Misses E. & R. Keys, Misses Munro and Davis, Misses Fitzgerald and Wellington, Miss D. Mcgell and 14 children in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan* for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. C. B. Priest, Mr. Cato Aall, Mrs. Lewis and amah, Mr. and Mrs. J C. Hall, Misses Hall (2), Mr. Genges, Mr. Wheen and Capt. and Mrs. H. A. C. Baird in cabin; 1 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *Siberia* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. S. Arai, Mrs. Mary Barnes, Mr. T. B. Belfield, Mrs. T. B. Belfield, Mrs. J. Bell, Mr. M. C. Brookes, Mr. E. G. Brown, Miss Dorothy Bryan, Mr. William B. Burt, Mr. Ernest D. Burton. Miss M. E. Burton, Lieut. Guy W. S. Castle, Miss H. V. Clarkson, Mr. Carl Critchett, Mrs. Carl Critchett and infant, Master Critchett, Mr. Morris L. Dolt, Miss Anna Doulin, Mrs. E. Dudley, Lieut Otto Ebert, Mrs. F. E. Fahnestock, Mr. T. Field, Mrs T. Field, Mrs. Forbis, Miss Forbis, Mrs. J. Guggenheim and infant, 2 children and amah, Mr. G. Howard, Mr. Adolph Hupe, Mr. A. Jackson, Mrs. A. Jackson, Mr. M. Kant, Mr. T. Kokado, Miss Annie Kooisera, Miss H. M. Lansing Mr. Chas. Lorje, Mr. F. J. Luepke, Mr. Bernhard Martin, Mrs. Bernhard Martin, Mr. W. H. McInerney, Miss E. D. McLaurin, Dr. L. C. Mendel, Mrs. L. C. Mendel, Miss I. Mendel, Mr. S. Murata, Mr. T. Nakahashi, Mr. L. Nommensen, Miss F. O'Meara, Mr. Wm. Phelan, Mr. Wm. Plotz, Mr. Ralph Potter, Mr. Horace G. Reed, Dr. C. E. Riggs, Mr. D. W. Rose, Mr. K. Shibahara, Mr. Earl Smith, Mrs. J. W. Smith, Mr Fred Sommers. Mrs. J. Sturtevant, Mrs. L. K. Thomas, Dr. R. Thurnwald, Mrs. J. Mattie and maid, Mr. Sigmund Weiss, Mrs. H. J. Whitley, Mr. J. C. Wilbur, Mrs. J. C Wilbur and Mr. Wong Quin Wah and native servant in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Monteagle*, for Vancouver:—

TEA.

From	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hongkong	1,461	—	—	1,268	—	2,729
Foochow	250	—	—	50	—	300
Keelung	461	—	12,915	75	—	13,461
Shanghai	1,447	2,750	5,920	5	—	10,112
Kobe	290	—	573	411	—	1,274
Shimidzu	1,788	—	1,328	—	—	3,116
Yokohama	1,923	588	—	196	—	2,707
Total	7,620	3,338	20,736	2,005	—	33,699

SILK.

From.	New York.	Easton.	South M'chester.	Montreal.	San Francisco.	Total. Bales.
H'kong & Canton	75	—	—	—	—	75
Shanghai	58	—	—	—	—	78
Yokohama	401	—	—	15	—	416
Total	534	—	—	15	—	495

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Caledonien*:—

	Raw. Marseilles Option	Raw. Lyon.	Raw. Moscow	Raw. Milan.	Waste. France.	Waste. Italy	Waste. Trieste.	Waste. Pesaro
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	148	—	—	—	17	—	—	—
Sieber, & Co	83	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	53	—	—	—	4	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co	40	70	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hara Yushutsuten	35	—	25	—	—	—	—	—
Boyer, Mazet Guillee & Co	30	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber Wolff & Co.	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pila & Co.	—	53	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Strahler & Co.	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co.	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kitto Gomei Kaisha		14	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	464	177	25	—	21	—	—	—

Per British steamer *Sardinia* for London and Antwerp via ports:—

	England	Waste Silk France.	Trieste.	Bombay
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	29	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	—	15	10	—
Total	29	15	10	—

Silk shippers by *Titan*, for Tacoma, on the 26th July:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	70
China & Japan Trading Co.,	40
F. Strahler & Co.	15
L. Mottet	10
Nabholz & Co.	10
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	321
Kitto Gomei Kaisha	134
Total	600

Silk shippers by *Monteagle*, for Vancouver, B.C., on the 26th July:—

	Bales.
F. Strahler & Co.	50
Bavier & Co.	*25
Jewett & Bent	25
Vivanti Bros.	20
H Bernardin & Co.	10
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	286
Total	416

* Douppionies.

Taking

BOVRIL

means fortifying yourself against disease.

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發行所 橫濱市山下町五十五番
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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 7TH, 1909.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Chinese committee has now collected $201,200 towards the Hongkong University scheme.

BARON IWASAKI is reported to have left the hospital, the progress made by the illustrious patient being very favourable.

ON the 1st instant, the resignation tendered by Princess Iwakura, Chairwoman of the A koku Fujin Kai, was acceded to by President Princess Kan-in.

ON August 4, the 13th anniversary of the death of Count Goto was celebrated at the temporary hall of the Zojoji, Tokyo. Besides the family of the deceased, Count Itagaki, Viscount Fukuoka, Vice-Admiral Shimamura and many other men of distinction attended the ceremony.

TELEPHONIC communication between Subashiri and the summit of Fuji was opened on the 4th instant.

ON August 2, a forest burnt for 9 hours at Nagashimo-mura, Minami-Shidara-gori, Aichi prefecture. The area destroyed by fire covers about 36 acres.

DR. KITASATO, Head of the Epidemic Investigation Institute, has had conferred upon him by the German Emperor the Second Order of Merit with the Star Crest.

HIS MAJESTY the Emperor spent the greater part of Sunday in the Official Palace, inspecting from time to time the reports of the Osaka fire furnished by the Minister for Home Affairs.

THE remains of the Russians who fell in battles near the Japan Sea during the late war have been sent from Saseho to Nagasaki by the warship *Iwate*, where they are to be reinterred.

ON July 31, Mr. Nakamura Shinjiro, M.P. for Kanagawa prefecture, was arrested on suspicion of having infringed the election law at the time of the bye election of Mr. Tsuchiya Daijiro.

ON the 1st instant, the fire that occurred at Akatsuka-mura, Nishi-Kambara-gori, Niigata prefecture, burnt down about 100 houses, including the Post Office and one Shinto shrine. Ten casualties are reported.

THE head palace eunuch at Peking has in a memorial to the Throne reported that there are about 500 of the palace eunuchs who were habitual opium smokers, that have now all been cured of the forbidden habit.

AN Osaka telephone message reports that Barons Mitsui and Iwasaki have each contributed *yen* 20,000 towards the fire relief fund. Mr. Chiff (?), President of Kuhn (?) Lobe (?) Company of New York, has contributed *yen* 2,000, also.

THE steamer *Urajio Maru* (900 tons) which ran aground on a shoal a few days ago at Myojin Point on the Gulf of Aomori, has been towed off by the torpedo-destroyer *Akebono* sent to the rescue from the Ominato Fortress. No great damage is reported.

A SAPPORO despatch reports that on July 31, the steamer *Bazan Maru* caught fire. It seems to have been caused by putting new coal upon the remains of burnt coal left warm which was placed in front of the coal bunker. The damage is valued at over *yen* 15,000. No casualty is reported.

THE Peking Police have published in the papers a notice that any person who sends to the station a rat will be rewarded with one cent, and have established a special department in the Government Hospital under a returned medical student from England, for the examination of rats with a view to exterminating these terrible transmitters of plague.

LORD KITCHENER will arrive in Hongkong by the French mail on September 27th and will leave for he North about two days later by a P. and O. steamer, says a Hongkong paper. During his stay, he will be a guest at Government House and hopes to visit Macao and Canton as well as to inspect the defences of Hongkong.

IN the country cricket matches played on July 22nd, 23rd and 24th, Somersetshire beat Middlesex at Lord's by five wickets; the Australians defeated Derbyshire at Derby by ten wickets; Kent beat Surrey at Blackheath by an innings and 62 runs; Sussex defeated Worcestershire at Eastbourne by ten wickets; Notts beat Gloucestershire at Nottingham by 182 runs; Yorkshire defeated Warwickshire at Leeds by five wickets; and the match between Essex and Lancashire at Leyton was drawn.—*N.-C. Daily News*.

A MIYAZAKI telegram reports that owing to the storm which raged there till the morning of August 230 houses at Mimitsu-mura, Koyu-gori have been washed away and 5 persons are missing at Tsuno mura and Nanuki-mura in consequence of bridges having collapsed. The Gokase River has risen to the height of 19 feet, and over 700 houses were submerged.

ON August 2, about 600 houses in the town of Niigata were destroyed by fire which broke out in a theatre at Furu-machi. Two hospitals and two Buddhist temples were burnt down. One policeman was killed and several others were injured. Another fire took place on the same day at Nishi Kora-mura, Inugami-gori, Omi province. Some 250 houses were burnt down, but no casualties are reported.

A LECTURE course will be given in the Karuizawa Auditorium on August 9th, 10th, 13th and 14th, at 10 a.m. each day, on "The Fundamentals of the Christian Religion from the Scientific View Point," by Prof J. Y. G. Rodger, Ph., D., of the American University Union, Washington, D.C. Graduate of Yale and Union Theological Seminary, New York. The lecturer was four years in graduate work in Harvard, Edinburgh and Leipzic and he now holds the California chair of the science of religion founded by the University Union.

IN consequence of the fact that since the Russo-Japanese war foreign power and influence have daily become greater and China's sovereign rights have been gradually dwindling away in Manchuria, as is proved by the Eastern Chinese and South Manchurian Railways, the Board of War, says the *Shanghai Times*, has recently wired the new Viceroy H.E. Hsi Liang, requesting him to consult with the Governors of Kirin and Heilungkiang with a view to re organizing the army and enlarging the Sungari and Heilungkiang Squadrons for the better protection of Chinese interests.

THE Chinese Government has lately held several conferences to discuss the question of Thibetan Reform. At the last meeting says the *Shanghai Times*, a certain Prince proposed that Thibet should be governed from Peking, but a Grand Councillor urged that that should not be done until the Szechuan-Hankow and Szechuan-Thibet Railways are completed as Thibet is too far away at present, and that in the meantime more capable and enlightened officials should be sent to help in the administration and the work of constructing those two railways be pushed on as speedily as possible. The majority of the members voted for the latter proposal.

IT had been proposed by Governor Chen Tsao-chang, of Kirin, says the *China Gazette*, that Tungkuan, outside the city of Kirin, provincial capital of Kirin, should be opened to foreign commerce, because it is at one end of the Kirin-Changchun Railway. The proposition was brought at the time to the notice of the Throne, and after many months' delay, the Imperial Government is said to have authorised the Board of Finance to issue Taels 700 000, on condition that the Provincial Treasury of Kirin should supply Taels 300,000, making a total of one million taels, which amount will be placed at the disposal of the Governor to defray expenses necessarily incurred in carrying the proposition into effect.

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THE JITSUGYO SHINKO-KAI.

Saturday, July 31.

The previously announced meeting of Cabinet Ministers and leading men of affairs took place at the Bankers Club on the 30th instant. The object of this meeting, as our readers know, was to hear the reports of various committees appointed at the previous meeting for the purpose of investigating economic questions. The first report was read by Mr. Toyokawa of the Mitsu Bishi Bank. It offered an explanation of the absence of a sufficient spirit of enterprise among the people, to which defect the compilers of the report attributed the comparative slowness of Japan's material development. Agriculture, Mr. Toyokawa said, has hitherto been the chief employment of the Japanese people, but experience shows that Japan must rely chiefly upon her industries. Every reasonable means ought therefore to be taken to encourage manufacturing enterprises. There is however, a palpable blemish in the present system. When a man reclaims a piece of land he enjoys exemption from taxation for 15 years, which concession has undoubtedly a most encouraging effect. But when an industry is started its period of exemption from taxation is only three years, and, moreover, in case of extending the business or enlarging the premises no respite whatever from additional taxes is given. Further it is not an uncommon practice for prefects and local officials to compel newly started industries to make large contributions to charitable undertakings. The report went on to say that in every Western country there are palpable signs of large expansions of electric enterprise, and the study of electric science is everywhere making great progress. But Japan is palpably behind the times in this matter. There is not even a chair of electric chemistry in the Imperial University.

The next report presented had reference to sericulture It pointed out that the total production of silk in the world is 370 million catties, and that 150 millions of that total are furnished by Japan. There can be no second opinion therefore as to the immense importance of this industry, yet it often happens that Japanese silk is inferior in quality to even the Chinese product, to say nothing of the French and the Italian. It is evidently most essential that this question should be carefully considered, and that every possible method should be adopted to improve the quality of Japanese silk and to obtain uniformity.

References were also made to the problem of industrial apprentices, but the comments on this subject are not quoted. A strong protest was made, however, against the manner of levying business tax. The case of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Company was specially cited. That Company has taken steps to lay aside a reserve on account of its superannuated or incapacitated employees, and the authorities levied business tax on the fund just as if it were so much net profit.

Naturally the question of the textile fabrics tax was taken up. The committee appointed to investigate this matter reported that the tax itself is bad, and ought to be abolished, but that if the financial conditions rendered that impossible, steps should be at least taken to reform the methods followed in levying the tax. Technical details were given but they need not be repeated here.

Another strong point had reference to inequalities in the import tariff, notably in the case of cotton yarns and cotton textiles. The duty in the case of the former is 15 per cent. *ad valor em* and in the case of the latter only 5 per cent. It is intolerable that the semi-manufactured material should have to pay three times as much duty as the manufactured.

There appears to have been quite an animated discussion about the question of duties on raw sugar and manufactured sugar, but what opinions were expressed Tokyo journals do not state.

The meeting broke up at half-past eleven. There were 30 persons present, including nearly all the leading business men of Tokyo, and the Cabinet was represented by Marquis Katsura, Count Komura and Baron Oura as well as several Vice-Ministers.

Sunday, August 1.

Later intelligence gives the gist of the views expressed by Government officials at the meeting of the above Society on the 30th ultimo. With regard to the tax on textile fabrics, Mr. Wakatsuki, Vice-Minister of Finance, is reported as saying that the tax brings in a revenue of 23 millions per annum and that its abolition is therefore not likely to be undertaken. Moreover the complaint made by the weavers is, not that the tax itself is excessive, but that the manner of levying it is troublesome and vexatious. The Government will therefore adopt measures to remove this cause of complaint.

The Prime Minister spoke with reference to the tariff revision. He said that revision would be effected in 1911, but that he was not yet in a position to make any detailed statement, inasmuch as he had not yet received any report from the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs. He could promise, however, that as soon as ever he possessed the necessary information, he would communicate it to the Society. One word, however, he desired to take this opportunity of saying, namely, that they must not expect the new tariff to be strongly and widely protected. What they must chiefly look forward to was the country's recovery of its tariff autonomy.

Mr. Toyokawa formulated a very pertinent question about the sugar industry. He pointed out that while sugar refining companies in Formosa were doing an excellent business, some of them paying a dividend of even 40 per cent., those in Japan proper find themselves in a very different position. The largest of them had failed signally, and its failure had been attended by the catastrophe of Dr. Sakawa's suicide. It seemed impossible to avoid the conclusion that an unequal distribution of Government favours must be responsible in part at any rate for this signal difference. Moreover instability of the Government's policy made business men hesitate to invest capital even in the Formosan enterprise.

Marquis Katsura declared that he was much pleased to hear this question formulated, and he called upon Mr. Wakatsuki to reply. Mr. Wakatsuki then rose and stated that there certainly had been some discrimination in favour of the Formosa sugar. Investigation made by him when he assumed office had shown that such was the case, and steps have been taken to enforce the law strictly, and to avoid all favouritism. At the same time it was to be noted that the sugar produced in Formosa, Riukiu, and Oshima did not yet suffice to supply the 500 million catties required every year by the people of Japan. The deficiency was made up by sugar from Java, and against that competition the Government thought it right to afford some protection.

We may mention in this context that according to the *Kokumin Shimbun* an agreement has been concluded through the exertions of Mr. Toyama Raita and Fujita Shiro between the Formosa producers and the Japanese refiners, who have hitherto regarded each other as enemies. The details of the arrangement are not very clearly stated, but we gather that its gist is that the Formosan producers will hereafter confine themselves to supplying the refineries in Japan, and will refrain from exporting the partially refined sugar which has hitherto been undertaxed by the customs.

CHIENTAO.

Sunday, August 1.

It appears that there is in Mukden a journal called the *Higashi Sansho Daily News*, a Chinese publication, which adopts the accursed habit of the yellow press in preferring sensational falsehoods to sober truth. The intelligence published by this paper is said to have been the cause of the despatch of a battalion of troops to Chientao, and the pernicious newspaper appears to have immediately reported that this force was sent in consequence of a collision between the Japanese and the Chinese in the Chientao region. The officer commanding at Mukden, however, denies that the troops were sent for any such reason and declares that there despatch was quite independent of any disturbance.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent, however, telegraphs in an alarmist strain. So far as we can discern, he seems to have gathered up and pieced together several items of stale news, which taken collectively make a formidable showing. There is nothing tangible in the story. It amounts to a general statement that things are unquiet and that ever since the disturbance on the 17th ultimo the attitude of the Chinese has been menacing. What seems to be pretty certain, however, is that a boycott of Japanese goods coming from Chyoujin has been organised by the Chinese, and that a proclamation has been issued vetoing the export of millet.

THE QUESTION OF RAILWAYS IN MANCHURIA.

One result certainly has been achieved by China's methods of negotiating with Japan. It is an unfortunate result, but there is no gainsaying the fact that Japan has learned to distrust her neighbour completely. This is vividly illustrated by the story of the Kilin-Changchun negotiations. It appears that Japan has conceded the points demanded by China, the principal of which was that, if the earnings of the Railway were lodged with the Specie Bank, the latter should agree to pay interest on the money. This was the only feature of the negotiations that remained unsettled, and now that Japan has yielded, there ought not to be the slightest doubt as to China's attitude. It is precisely here, however, that the distrust comes in. The Japanese evidently do not believe that China has not yet reconciled herself to the building of the line, and that any concessions on their part will soften the recalcitrant Power's obduracy. If this is true of the Kilin-Changchun Railway, it is true in a still greater degree of the Mukden-Antung. In that direction there does not seem to be the smallest hope of agreement, but it is evidently thought that the Japanese Government will not take final action until after China has plainly shown her hand in the matter of the much simpler Kilin-Changchun question.

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THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

About this, the burning question of the day, there are conflicting rumours. One account says that Mr. Consul-General Koike had an interview on the 27th inst. with Viceroy Hsi, but that owing to the Viceroy's indisposition, it was arranged that the further conferences should be entrusted to Governor Ting. Accordingly on the 28th inst. the latter official met Mr. Koike, and their conference is said to have indicated that China's mood has become more placable.

On the other hand, Dairen telegraphs in an altogether different sense. It says that the Chinese authorities have doubled the force of 500 police already on duty in the regions through which the railway would pass, and have also organised several bands of 30 or 40 soldiers each who are disguised as coolies. They have further despatched a number of spies to the districts, with instructions to circulate rumours injurious to the Japanese. This news looks very like a belated replica of similar intelligence received two day previously from a different quarter.

The *Chuo Shimbun* writes a circumstantial account of the progress of events. It says that after abandoning the arbitration proposal China approached Japan seeking to re-open the negotiations, but the Japanese Government made it an essential that the reconstruction of the line should be accepted from the outset as a treaty right, other problems being subserved to that. There the matter rested for some time until on the 27th inst. Mr. Liang of the Waiwupu in Peking approached the Japanese Minister and proposed to re-open the conferences. Mr. Ijuin's reply was that unless China set out by admitting Japan's right to reconstruct the line, all conferences must prove futile. On the same day Viceroy Hsi approached Mr. Consul-General Koike in Mukden with a similar proposal and received a practically identical answer. Things remain there, and if China does not make some emphatic move within the next few days Japan will present an ultimatum. As for the actual commencement of work on the line, it is not likely to take place sooner than the middle of August in any circumstances.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has an interesting article which, however, is more or less a replica of editorial opinions expressed by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* some time ago and attributed originally to Mr. Yamaza, then chief of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office and now Councillor of the Japanese Embassy in London. Briefly stated this view is that the Mukden-Antung Railway is comparatively useless, and that Japan's wisest policy would be to abandon that road and to recognise Chinese sovereignty in Chientao on condition that rights of residence and mining should be granted to Korean subjects and that a railway from Kilin through Chientao to the Tumen River should be linked up with the Japanese line from Chyonjin to the Chientao frontier.

PRATAS ISLAND.

Friday, July 30.

It is confidently stated in Tokyo that the Chinese Appraisers have raised no objection to Mr. Nishizawa's account of money expended on Pratas Island. They are content that he should receive what he asks for, but, on the other hand, they demand that from the sum shall be deducted the value of the phosphates and other products taken from the island by his employees. Nothing is said as to the actual figure asked for by the Chinese, but their ready acquiescence in Mr. Nishizawa's estimate suggests that they contemplate a pretty tall demand on their own account. In fact they in turn may ask for half a million, in which case the negotiations would enter a distinctly new phase.

Saturday, July 31.

The demand preferred on the Chinese side by way of compensation for the products hitherto taken from Pratas Island in connexion with Mr. Nishizawa's enterprise is reported to be 107,000 *yen*. Assuming that the Chinese propose this amount as a set off to Mr. Nishizawa's appraisment of his own expenditures it would follow that the net payment to Mr. Nishizawa will be 330,000 *yen*, by no means an inconsiderable sum.

Tuesday, August 3.

We gather from the writings of the *Jiji Shimpo* that the demand made by Mr. Nishizawa to compensate him for capital invested and expenses incurred in connexion with Pratas Island was so much in excess of his real outlays, that the progress of the negotiations has received a check. Our contemporary says that the officials of the Foreign Office in Tokyo had not made any investigation of Mr. Nishizawa's figures. There was no occasion for them to investigate, seeing that the Foreign Office did not in any way endorse the estimate, but merely put it forward as a guide for the commissioners sent by the two Powers to make an examination *in loco*. When, however, these commissioners found that half a million *yen* bore no reasonable ratio to the outlays actually made, the Chinese Commissioner was emboldened to prefer a demand on his country's account for the products carried away from the Island by Mr. Nishizawa, and for the alleged destruction of the Chinese fishermen's property. This has thrown back the whole negotiations, and it is not now known when they are likely to terminate.

Later.

Some merchants in Canton have apparently been expressing themselves strongly on the Pratas Island affair. The Japanese proposals for the settlement of the difficulty, they maintain, are altogether too absurd; and the indemnity, in particular, is put at a ridiculous figure. The bearing of these merchants towards the Japanese traders has been such as to affect the business carried on by the latter, while the attitude of the Viceroy of the Province is described as very firm. In short, there are no signs of any mood for concessions on the part of the Chinese, and thus the solution of this small but troublous question is no nearer in sight.

KOREA.

Friday, July 30.

There has been a cordial interchange of telegrapic messages between the Emperors of Japan and Korea with regard to the establishment of the Hoiku-fu which is to superintend the education of the Crown Prince of Korea.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent emphatically denies the talk about the resignations of the Ministers of Education and Finance in Seoul. It appears that the whole story had its origin in the sickness of these officials, and that there is nothing whatever in the shape of a Cabinet crisis.

It is stated that the Establishment Committee of the new Central Bank in Korea will consist of 34 persons, including two Koreans, The Japanese members will be chosen from among the leading bankers and business men of the four cities and the two ports.

Saturday, July 31.

The Imperial Rescript abolishing the Department of War in Seoul is to be published to-day, 31st. It provides for the pensioning of certain officers and for the transfer of the present Minister of War to the control of the new Guards Bureau, which latter is to be called *shinyei fu*, not *shuyei-fu*, as was originally announced. The Guards are to consist of one battalion of infantry and one troop of cavalry.

It will be remembered that a statement was published some time ago to the effect that a barracks was in course of construction at Nannam in northern Korea. A telegram to the *Mainichi Dempo* now says that steps will be at once taken to construct a good road between that place and Chyonjin, the present route being little more than a track.

A Japanese who has just arrived in Seoul from Chientao represents that his countrymen in the latter region are very discontented with the arbitrary procedure of the Chinese local officials and the temporising policy pursued by the Japanese commander.

Dismal accounts continue to be received of the loss of life and property caused by floods in the Tadong River. Much debris of houses and many corpses are said to have been washed down from the upper reaches of the river but no damage has been suffered at Chinnampo, which lies near the mouth of the river.

Sunday, August 1.

On the 31st ultimo an Imperial decree was issued in Korea in the sense that until the material development of the country attains dimensions such as shall call for an increase of the military forces the Department of War and the Military School shall be abolished, and the only troops maintained shall be a body-guard controlled from a bureau in the Household Department, the necessary complement of officers being educated by the Japanese. The Minister of War loses his portfolio and becomes head of the *Shiuvei-fu*, and handsome solatiums have been given to the officers and officials whose services are dispensed with. Everything seems to be passing quietly, though of course due precautions have been taken to guard against disturbance.

THE HODEN OIL COMPANY.

The shares of the Hoden Oil Company showed a veritable debacle on the 31st ultimo. They fell by over 6 points, and dragged the whole market down in their weight. It will be remembered that the affairs of this Company become a subject of much talk in March last, in consequence of accusations brought against the Directors by Mr. Yamagishi of the well known firm of Meiji-ya. Mr. Yamagishi's charges were that the directors had violated the law in their manner of acquiring certain properties, and had enriched themselves frandulently at the Company's expense. The Directors took action against Mr. Yamagishi, but ultimately withdrew their complaint, and the matter seemed to have ended there. The public procurator, however, was not satisfied. He took up the case, and Mr. Yamagishi has now re-affirmed his original charges, so that the whole question is brought once more upon the *tapis*. There is talk of another edition of the sugar scandal, but this will probably prove an exaggerated view.

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HONGCHOU.

A long account is published by the *Jiji Shimpo* of a plan said to have been originated by the people of Canton and to have received the whole-hearted support of his Excellency, Mr. Chang, formerly Viceroy of the two Kwang and now Viceroy of Pehchili. The idea was to make a free port at Hongchou, which would probably prove a formidable competitor primarity of Macao and ultimately of Hongkong. The reasons assigned for this forecast reflect very little credit on Chinese administration. They are that Chinese subjects who have amassed fortunes by hard work abroad, do not venture to return and settle down in their own country, because they know that what with the extortions of officialdom and the scheming of private individuals, they will soon be deprived of their money. Consequently they heve no choice except to settle at Macao or Hongkong, where there are good laws justly administered. Were a free port established at Hongchou they would settle there in preference, and thus Macao and Hongkong would both be deprived of their prosperity for the benefit of Hongchou. We do not in the least see how this would follow, since Hongchou, even though it were a free port, would still continue to be under Chinese jurisdiction, and would therefore afford no better protection to life and property than any other part of China does at present. That is the story, however, and it is added that the project has been very warmly taken up by the Chinese residents of Canton, several of whom have offered to subscribe 10,000 *yen* each towards the amount—170,000 or 180,000 dollars—required for equipping the proposed free port. The Peking Government is said to have approved the idea so far as the opening of Hongchu is concerned, but to have objected to the free port proposal as unprecedented and likely to embarrass the customs.

In this context the *Nichi Nichi* quotes a Japanese who has just returned from Canton as saying that German influence is at the back of this affair as it was also at the back of the *Tatsu Maru* boycott, of the Fushan complication and of the Macao delimitation boycott. Germany's back is pretty broad, as it needs to be if it has to bear all the charges formulated these times.

THE KILIN-CHANGCHUN RAILWAY.

After their first meeting with the Japanese Commissioners on the 26th inst., the Chinese who are engaged in negotiating the Kilin-Changchun Railway question left Tientsin for Peking in order to consult the Chinese Board of Communications with reference to the Japanese proposals. It was expected that the second conference would take place on the 29th inst., but inasmuch as it is now evident that Mr. Wu and his colleague have to submit everything to Peking, and are not invested with any plenipotentiary authority, it seems probable that the conclusion of the Convention will be more or less delayed.

There are conflicting accounts with regard to the progress of the negotiations about the Kilin-Changchun Railway. According to the *Asahi's* correspondent the last conference, held on the 31st inst. resulted in a final settlement of all points at issue, but according to the *Mainichi Dempo's* correspondent the Chinese commissioners have to refer the result to Peking and some days must pass still before a final decision is reached.

THE TANKO KISEN KAISHA.

The share holders of the Tanko Kisen Kaisha held their ordinary general meeting on the 1st inst., and passed the accounts for the half-year ended on the 30th of June, the dividend being declared at the rate of 6½ per cent. per annum. The President, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, warned the shareholders that they must be prepared for a not more favourable result next half-year. The Company had paid out to the Seikosho, as its share of the capital, more than 5½ million *yen*, and had also expended 630,000 on the iron foundry. The former work was progressing satisfoctorily, but was not likely to become a paying enterprise until the year after next; and as for the Seitetsujo (the Wanishi Iron Foundry) it had only just proved itself successful in the matter of production, and its paying properties remain to be proved. Turning to the coal mining business which is the Company's chief occupation, Mr. Inouye said that the production could not well be reduced, although over 400,000 tons had been accumulated at the various mines. The best way to meet the situation was to diminish expenses, and with that object in view sweeping reductions of staff had been made in May, with the result that the personnel had been diminished by 508 men, and considerable economies had been effected in the direction of other outlays. He trusted that the result of all this would be to enable the directors to declare a somewhat greater dividend next half-year. The Company had realized over 370,000 *yen* on the sale of bonds received from the Government in connexion with the nationalization of the railways, and it still had a considerable block to dispose of, so that on this account an appreciable sum would appear in the next report. Turning to the Seikosha, Mr. Inouye said that portions of the works had already been completed and tested, and certain orders had been received which the Company was now engaged in filling. In brief, several of the workshops etc. etc. would be finished by May next and the whole would be in operating order by the end of 1910. Mr. Inouye spoke in very glowing terms of the Wanishi Foundary which is to supply iron for the use of the Seikosho and for other purposes. He explained that the smelting of sand iron had never previously been attempted in Japan, and is indeed very rare in foreign countries. But the projectors of the Wanishi Works had been sanguine from the first, and the result recently obtained had fully justified their confidence, for he was prepared to say that in point of quality and cheapness alike the iron produced would compare favourably with that obtained anywhere else in Japan.

REORGANISATION.

Hitherto there has existed in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce a Bureau called the Shoko-kyoku, which, as its name implies, has had to deal with all matters relating to commerce and industry. Experience has now shown, however, that owing to the rapid development of Japanese economics it is necessary to divide the duties of this Bureau, and an official announcement has accordingly been made that henceforth there shall be two bureaux, namely the Bureau of Commercial Affairs (Shomu-kyoku), and the Bureau of Industrial Affairs, (Komu-kyoku). The former will have to deal with all affairs relating to trade and insurance and the latter with all affairs relating to industry and weights and measures. To show the necessity that exists for this division of labour certain figures are adduced. Everybody is cognisant of the great tradal development that has taken place during the past few years, but in other directions the rate of growth has not been so palpable without recourse to statistics. These show that in the matter of insurance, for example, the amount of the policies written in 1901 was 2,665,000 *yen* whereas in 1908 it was 36,112,000 *yen*, and that the premia collected in the former year totalled 9,854,000 *yen* and in the latter year 35,198,000 *yen*. The development of exchanges, chambers of commeice and mercantile companies needs no demonstration. Turning to industrial enterprises we find that they numbered 7,085 in 1901 with employees aggregating 412,205, paid up capital totalling 122 millions and reserves of 11,640,000 *yen*. In 1907 these figures had grown to, factories 10,938; employees 643,292; paid up capital 381,810,000 *yen* and reserves 64,560,000 *yen*. The time has fully come for enacting laws to regulate the relations between employers and employed and for the better control of the whole economic system. The much talked-of Factory Law (*Kojo Hoan*) will be introduced, it is said, in the next session of the Diet.

GAMBLING AND SPECULATION.

The successful efforts of Governor Hughes, of New York, to put an end to gambling at horse races having been almost precisely coincident with a similar movement here in Japan, and there as here the question having been at once raised as to wherein the methods of the stock-market differ in any essential from those of the race course, the verdict of a committee of able and distinguished men appointed by the Governor some six months ago to report upon that very question should be of interest on this side of the globe. The mercantile community and the theoretical reformers alike were looking for a thoroughly practical as well as unbiassed report based upon a common sense view of the situation. And they got it. With the exception of some minor recommendations for the cure of evils arising from "corners" and "curbs," the general subject of speculation, or forecasting of values was held by the committee to be entirely legitimate and a necessary incident of productive operations. Instead of creating factitious values it tends to steady fluctuations in prices, which might otherwise become violent and disastrous. Like every other good thing it is subject to abuse, but there being no hard and fast line to be drawn between it and gambling all warnings against its dangers must necessarily be left to be heeded by the intelligence of those engaging in it.

"Margin-trading" and "short-selling" are also given a clean bill of health as well as dealing in 'futures,'" the latter being declared to be "an indispensable part of the world's commercial machinery, by which prices are, as far as possible, equalized throughout the year to the advantage of both producer and consumer."

The only subject of animadversion in the whole report, apart from the minor suggestions in the way of reform above mentioned, is the fact of the ignorant "lambs" would persist in entering a field in which they have no knowledge, and who blindly entrust their funds to the manipulators of the remorseless machine which knows no pity or sentiment of any kind and which is run solely by the motive power of human selfishness.

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"JAPAN" OR "NIPPON."

The following interesting and clever communicated article appears in the *Japan Times* of the 29th inst.

That this question could be of any importance seems to be incomprehensive to a foreigner. But to what a degree it excites the mind of the upgrowing and upgrown Japanese youth proves the fact, that two *soshis* committed last year a technical assault on a foreign instructor in a High School during a lesson as he refused to pass in an English composition the words "Nipponeze and Nipponkai" (as contrary to English custom) unless the Mombusho gave the order that these words should be taught in the foreign language lessons in all Japanese schools. And more peculiar still was the attitude of the director, who although a lawyer by profession, silently sided with the "handy" argument of the two students and did not even compel them to apologize for their bad behaviour as they possessed so little formal politeness to do so unasked.

Before all, it is quite a common occurrence to translate geographical terms of names of nations; so for instance the English say "Germans," the French "Allemands" the Russians "Njemets" etc for "Deutsche" and more geographical names are translated in the Japanese language than in any European. So a Japanese has least of all a right to complain, if foreigners translate some of them and say "Mount Fuji, Japan Sea" instead of "Fuji-san, Nipponkai." Westerners have an additional reason to translate such words as san, kai and numerous others; for these words have in the Japanese language half a dozen or more different meanings, which a European would have to guess as the romaji word gives him no clue whether "san" means "mountain, divination, calculation, plan, birth, production, property, eulogy, husband, woman, medicinal power and acid. While the Japanese word "kai" can mean the figure 5, the explanation, stair, oars, rice gruel, profit, use, reward, shell of a crustacea, a gorge, revision, substitute, ears of grain, feeding of animals etc.

Further the two words "Japan" and "Nippon" are two different pronunciations of the same Chinese character, meaning "sacred" without any difference in the sense. The East was regarded as sacred by many ancient nations as for instance by the Jews still at the time of Christ, which is a remainder of the asteric worship, and which is also the origin of the present day custom in most Christian churches to build the altar toward the East. The Chinese believed in ancient time, that sacred or divine people lived in the East, and as the Japanese adopted in the VIth Century of our Era the Buddhism and the art of writing from the Chinese, they conferred upon themselves this name. Siebold and other early writers on Japan in the last century used the word "Nippon," which was later on dropped as inaccurate as it is the special name of one of the three main islands.

The alleged reason why the young Japanese patriots object to the word "Japan" is, that now after the Russian war they ought to have another name as a World-Power and further on account of the similarity in sound with the words "to jabber, to Jap and japanning."

The first is not a reason open to discussion. It is true, the United States of North America took their present name after the war of Independence and the German Empire in 1871, but in both cases entirely new states or rather unions of states were created. While there is no precedent in modern history that a country changed its name after a victorious war.

Secondly, the words, "to jabber and to Jap" are of Old French origin and neither of the two has any connection whatsoever with the word "Japan." But most of the Japanese students are as ignorant of the history of the English language as they are touchy and believe that these two words are derived from the name of their country. While only a European ignoramus could attempt a pun upon the phonetic similarity of these words and "Japan," as it would be void of any wit, for the Japanese are known abroad all over the world as silent observers and not as talkers.

That "Japanning" i.e. varnishing in the Japanese fashion is used in the English language should be rather complimentary to any Japanese as it refers to the inimitable fine old Japanese lacquer-work which Europeans tried in vain to imitate. If modern Japanese lacquer is no more up to its old reputation and if Japanese national pride has grown as much, foreigners are not to be blamed for it.—Do Englishmen, outside a lunatic asylum, feel offended that one calls a substitute for silver "Britannia metal," or Continental people that another cheap alloy is called "German silver," or that one speaks of "taking French leave" although it is regarded rather as impolite in private English company!

If the Imperial Japanese Government wishes to make a change it has only to use henceforth the words "Nippon and Nipponese" in all official documents, and every foreigner would use it for politeness sake so long as he lives in this country in the same way as one uses the Japanese nengo instead of the Christian era here, or as one has adopted the name "Tokyo" for "Yedo" about forty years ago.

But it is more than doubtful that this change from "Japan" into "Nippon" in European languages would be quite to the taste of the modern young Japanese patriots, on account of the phonetic similarity with the Teutonic syllable "nipp," which is derived from the Old English root "neap" and means "small" in the German and Dutch languages, viz. "die Nippflut=the neaptide" and die Nippsachen= small valueless curios," In addition to that, there exist the English homonyms "to nip=to make smaller, to destroy," for instance in the phrase "to nip in the bud" and in the English schoolboy term "the nipper," signifying a cheeky small fellow. In the Standard Dictionary of 1898 it is defined as "a lad of about fifteen years of age, a boy assistant to a gang of navvies, a satirist, a petty thief, or pick-pocket etc." while in J. Wright's English Dialect Dictionary, vol. IV of 1903 it is defined as "a sharp, quick person, a wily person or animal, a sharper, anything excellent of its kind, a stunner." Both words are derived according to Skeat's Etymological dictionary from the old Teutonic root "kneipan=to pinch, to cut off."

While the French newspapers, who are always on the alert to coin witty new words, use the word "Nippon" already sometimes, but in a sarcastic sense, viz. "les Nipponais," even "les Nipponiais et la Nipponiaiserie" as for instance in critising in August of last year the action of the Japanese Consul-General, in Shanghai, who dismissed the charge against several Japanese sailors, although two British constables had given sworn evidence that they had assaulted some Chinese.

At a large Student-Meeting, held in Tokyo in the summer of 1907, the motion to change the name from "Japan" into "Nippon" was carried, but the foreigners present, who supported it, must have been either very ignorant of their own mother tongue or sycophants, for no friend of Japan could advocate for above reasons the use of the word "Nipponese," if "Japanese" gives already offence to young Japan.

But which name might not? For the syllabic sounds of human speech are rather limited, so that a phonetic similarity with one or the other word is unavoidable. The name of Japan," "Toyoashiwaranochinkinonigaihoakinomizuhonokuni" would have the great advantage that it would have no homonyms in any language on earth except perhaps in the Malayassy, wellknown for its long words,

The wish to dictate to us foreigners how to speak our mother tongue shows the domineering character of the half-educated Japanese schoolboy autocrats, who impute to us foreigners an ironic malafide, where no offense is meant. Fancy, what would the very same Japanese youth say, if a foreigner requested them to use other words in the Japanese language for "Igirisu, Doitsu, Fransu a. c" as the last syllable "su" sounds like the Ablative Singular of the Latin word "sus=the pig" (in the Attic and Homeric Greek "hus and sus)! For the Japanese syllable "su" has as much connection with the Latin Ablativ "su" as the words "Japanese and to jabber" i.e. none. at all; but a European jingo might give in addition to the phonetic coincidence the plausible reason for his request, that we Europeans are known in the Mohamedan Print under the approbrious epithet of "porkeaters."

We were not aware that the word "Nippon" has the meaning of "sacred." It is true that a vague legend exists which attributes to the Chinese of a remote date an idea that the land of the immortals lay somewhere in the vicinity of the Japanese Islands, but in later and yet sufficiently ancient times, the Chinese gave to Japan a name to which the Japanese naturally object and which had long fallen out of use until it was revived by the Chinese during the War of 1904 5. As for the word "Nippon" its meaning according to the characters with which it is written is, "origin of the sun," which expression is freely rendered "Land of the Rising Sun." The writer in the *Japan Times* says that the Japanese conferred this name upon themselves, but that is a theory which a little reflection renders difficult to endorse. Mr. Aston has justly pointed out that there was no more reason for the Japanese to call their country the "land of sunrise" than there was to call it the "land of sunset." In Japanese eyes the sun sets on the horizon of his islands just as certainly as it rises on their horizon. The strong probability seems to be that the term was first devised by the people of a country lying westward of Japan, since from their point of view the Japanese Islands would appear to be situated in the direction of sunrise. We have sometimes thought that the peculiarly opalesque character of the Japanese atmosphere might have suggested the name "Nippon," but that is mere conjecture. At all events the name "Japan" is a Dutch corruption of "Nippon," and that the Japanese should not like to use it in speaking of their own country is intelligible enough.

A QUESTION OF EXCHANGE.

The celebrated Mr. Suzuki Kyugoro, who in 1906 7 made a big fortune by transactions on the Stock Exchange, has become the central figure, in a curious complication. It appears that he formed a project of buying up a large block of the Kyoto Exchange shares, but when his purchases reached the neighbourhood of 1600, the managing directors of the Exchange suddenly raised the bargain money from 20 to 70 *yen*. Mr. Suzuki has preferred a formal complaint against this action. He has submitted a petition to the newly created Bureau of Commercial Affairs in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. His case is that these sudden augmentations of bargain money are measures applicable only to cases where extravagant speculation is taking place with consequently violent movements in the share market. There is nothing of the kind in the situation at Kyoto. Since Mr. Suzuki began his buying transactions, the price of the shares has not appreciated more than 10 *yen* and they are now quoted at from 230 to 240 *yen*. During the great *post bellum* boom of 1906-7 the Tokyo Stock Exchange shares rose to over 700 *yen*, and the bargain money was 100 *yen*. Compared with these figures 70 *yen* is an extravagant amount of bargain money to demand for a share quoted at only 240 *yen*, and Mr. Suzuki insists that the directors are scheming, first, to interefere with his operations of purchase, and secondly, to promote their own interests as sellers.

THE THREE ELECTRIC APPARATUS COMPANIES.

It was stated some time ago in these columns that arrangements had been virtually concluded for the purposes of an amalgamation of the General Electric Company of America and the two Japanese Companies, Shibaura Seisakujo and the Tokyo Denki Kaisha. But according to the latest intelligence these negotiations have suddenly met with an apparently fatal obstacle. Under the original agreement the monopoly of selling in China the electric apparatus manufactured by the apparatus concern would have been in the hands of the Mitsui Company, which owns the Shibaura Seisakujo. But owing to the programme recently inaugurated by American capitalists for investing capital in Chinese industries, it becomes impossible to concede this monopoly to the Mitsui, and the General Electric Company has therefore withdrawn from the compact, as it was perfectly entitled to do. Tokyo journals state that Mr. Uyehara of the Mitsui Company, who is about to start for America, will endeavour to induce the General Electric Company to reconsider its decision.

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FIRE IN OSAKA.

There has been a terrible conflagration in Osaka. It broke out at 4 40 a.m. in a factory in Kushiu machi and had not been extinguished up to 1 a.m. on the following day. Of course the houses, owing to the long continued dry weather, were like tinder, and unfortunately a strong wind happened to be blowing. The hydrants also yielded but a poor supply of water, and although the military were turned out they could not accomplish anything until recourse was had to blowing up houses in the path of the flames. At this moment of writing (8, a.m. 1st inst.), the principal buildings reported as destroyed are the Kitahama Bank, the offices of the Kuwabara Maunfacturing Company, the offices of the Ujigawa Hydro-Electric Power Company, the Appeal Court, the High Commercial School, the Chamber of Commerce, the Dojima Stock Exchange and the office of the *Osaka Shimpo*. It is believed that more than 10,000 houses have been burned and that several hundreds of lives have been lost.

A telegram to the *Yamato Shimbun* despatched from Osaka on the 1st inst. at 3 a.m. says that the flames had not yet been extinguished and that the conflagration seemed likely to continue until it reached the bank of the Ujigawa. Of course the losses to the Insurance offices will be very heavy, but as yet no accurate estimate can be formed. The Nippon and the Tokyo Fire Insurance Companies, however, are reported to have issued policies to the extent of two or three hundred thousand *yen* each. It is said that there has not been such a fire since the days of Oshiwo Hehachiro.

The area of the blaze covered over two miles, extending to Umeda Station in the north, and to the Funatsu Bridge in the west. A telegram despatched at 11 p.m. on Saturday night states that the whole of the north ward seemed to have been eaten up by the flames The houses burned down number about 10,000. At 7 p.m. the Osaka Post Office at Nakanoshima suspended all post and telegraphic affairs.

Later.

The latest news is that the fire was with difficulty got under at 8 a.m. on the day following its outbreak, having lasted 26 hours. A change of wind to the north-east saved a large part of the threatened quarter. Only two factories seem to have been destroyed, namely, the Fukushima and the Nippon Spinning hills. The statement that the Chamber of Commerce was burned turns out to be erroneous: the Fujita Company's building was mistaken for the Chamber. It is estimated that the number of houses destroyed will be found to reach 20,000, and that the monetary loss will exceed 3 millions of *yen*.

The probable amount of the losses resulting from the Osaka fire given previously as 3 millions of *yen* was a printer's error for 30 millions. Even the latter figure, however, is far short of the estimates published by Japanese journals, which put the loss at anything from 50 to 100 millions. As for the insurance offices, the heaviest hit is said to be the Nippon, which has its headquarters in Osaka and which, it is expected, will have to pay out more than a million. The next sufferer is the Tokyo Fire Insurance Company, which is thought to be involved to the extent of nearly a million, and the Meiji, Kyodo, and Yokohama follow with 500,000 each. On the whole, the losses of the insurances offices are expected to total 5 millions. Of course, if they pay up promptly, the sufferings of the unfortunate citizens will be considerably alleviated, but there is already ominous talk of inability to meet this sudden obligation. In English ears the sums involved sound, after all, comparatively petty. No insurance office conducted on sound business principles ought to find any difficulty in paying out £100,000. The reserves of the Nippon and the Tokyo Companies must greatly exceed these figures. It goes without saying that the Electric Light Company and the Gas Company will suffer conspicuously, for they have no insurance, and they will lose a large part of their income for a considerable time. The only redeeming feature of the calamity is that the fire was limited to the northern quarter of the city, and thus the factories emerged intact. It will be remembered that the Fukushima and Nippon Spinning Companies were reported to have been destroyed, but it now turns out that the former escaped altogether and that the latter suffered only partially. Altogether 32 streets were destroyed, and the area devastated by the flames was about 22 square miles. Doubtless when it comes to re-building the city, the question of widening the streets will be seriously considered. In Osaka many of the busiest streets were so narrow that two *jinrik shas* could scarcely pass each other, and of course, when a conflagration establishes itself amid such conditions, to check it is virtually impossible. The *Asahi Shimbun's* intelligence speaks of the bankruptcy of four or five thousand merchants as inevitable.

RELIEF FUND.

We are glad to announce that, on hearing of the terrible fire at Osaka, the summer residents at Karuizawa raised within twelve hours over *yen* 1,000 for the relief of the sufferers through this great calamity, and we gladly open our columns for a similar purpose. The Rev. R. A. McCorkle and the Rev. George Gleason (Secretary of the Osaka Y.M.C.A.) have proceeded to the distressed city to supervise the distribution of relief, and subscuptions may be sent either to this Office or to those gentlemen direct. Packages of clothing and similar necessaries will be gladly received for distribution at the Y.M.C.A. Building, Tosabori, 2 chome, Osaka; or by Mrs. Van Petten, 221 Bluff Yokohama.

We beg to acknowledge the receipt of *yen* 10.00 from "L.C.B." on behalf of the sufferers from the Osaka fire.

CROWDS OF HOMELESS PEOPLE IN THE RICEFIELDS: OVER 15,000 HOUSES BURNED TO ASHES

The houses destroyed by the fire during last week-end number 15,390, including many public buildings.

Among the Insurance Co.'s the Nippon and the Tokyo Fire Insurance Companies will sustain the greatest amount of loss. The largest policy issued is *yen* 600,000, on the Yasuda Soko.

The proprietor of the factory where the fire originated, named Tamada Shotaro, is said to have become half demented. He saved his family only with difficulty. According to his statement, a lamp hanging by the side of a pillar in the kitchen fell on a tin of kerosene oil, and instantly the fire took hold of a score of Japanese umbrellas just above the kitchen range and the faggots placed underneath it. As he ran into an inner room to save his family, the whole house became filled with flames.

The rice fields stretching along the railway lines between Fukushima and Noda are filled with enormous crowds of refugees who are without food, many of whom seem seem in danger of starving to death.

Temporary shelters have been established by the Municipal and the military authorities in various places of the city, where the injured and the starved are being relieved with all possible alacrity.

Owing to the conflagration, telephonic communication with Kobe, Hiroshima and other western districts has been interrupted since 6.30 p.m. on July 31. The Kyoto and the Nagoya lines are also much interrupted.

Postal savings deposits are being paid under a special method as quickly as is humanly possible. Those who have lost their pass-books and seals are having their deposits refunded to them like the rest, simply on certification of one way or another.

Pickles, salt fish and dried vegetables are in great demand, and the price of salt fish has advanced 20 per cent.

Many of the refugees, who were active and far-seeing enough to try and save their furniture by removing it to places of supposed safety finally lost it through having again to take flight in consequence of the fierce onward course of the flames.

A number of contractors have already commenced to rebuild the burned bridges.

The *Osaka Asahi* opened a relief fund in its issue of August 1st, and the money contributed amounted to 10,889 *yen* at 3 p.m. on the same day.

PANIC STRICKEN WOMEN AND CHILDREN.

At noon says the *Kobe Herald*, the fire was attacking Tenjin-bashi-suji, 2-chome. If the firemen failed to extinguish if by the time it reached Horikawa, no limit could be put to the havoc which might be wrought. Up to that time only one fireman had been severely injured, but five others were slightly hurt, and three soldiers had been rendered unconscious. The confusion prevailing in the affected part of the City is described as entirely beyond description. Women with children on their backs were running through the streets shrieking piteously, and numbers of roughs were adding to the disorder. About 2,000 of the Osaka police were engaged to their utmost capacity in endeavouring to maintain order and assist the firemen. At 10.50 the Minamimori-machi Post Office was burnt down. The Fujitagami, the houses of Koeoike and Sumitomo, and the O.S.K. sent labourers to the aid of the firemen.

A representative of the *Kobe Herald* who was sent to Osaka returned as the paper was going to press. He stated that a gale was still blowing and the fire continued to burn fiercely. He was of opinion that some two thousand houses had been destroyed when he left. The entire water supply of the City had been cut off. When he left the scene the military were clearing a zone to arrest the further progress of the fire.

THE LOSSES OF THE INSURANCE OFFICES.

Evidently some newspapers have confounded the total policies granted by the chief insurance offices with their total liabilities in connexion with the recent fire. Thus it has been affirmed that some of the offices will have to pay as much as 30 or 40 million *yen*. The fact is that, so far as can now be ascertained, no office will have to pay more than a million *yen*.

It need hardly be said that the market prices of the chief insurance company's shares have suffered heavily. The Meiji Kasai Hoken Kaisha is conspicuous in this respect. Its shares, which were quoted at over 250 *yen* on the 31st of July, showed a decline of from 50 to 60 *yen* on the 2nd of August. Next on the list in point of depreciation were the shares of the Nippon, which fell nearly 12 *yen*. The other three of the five great companies suffered a decline of from 4.50 to 5.50 *yen*. Of course, the whole share market has been more or less demoralized by the incident. It may be assumed, however, that these figures are the outcome of the first moment of panic. The five principal leading insurance offices have about 5¼ million *yen* deposited in the banks, and they will be able to pay the total of 3½ millions for which they have now become liable without throwing any quantity of securities upon the market.

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JAPAN AND ENGLAND.

According to a lengthy editorial in the *Hochi Shimbun*, some misunderstandings are alleged in certain quarters to have arisen between the signatory Powers of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. It is represented by these trouble-seekers that no little resentment has been aroused in British financial circles—or such, at least, as are represented by the *Economist*, *Standard* and *Globe*, the tone of whose writings is alleged to be distinctly antagonistic to Japan—by the fact that British capital was kept out of the loan for the Hankow railway. That the financing of this undertaking should have fallen into German hands is attributed, curiously enough, to Japanese machinations. It is argued on the British side, says our contemporary, that personal and commercial relations are quite distinct from political, and should not be allowed to affect them in one way or another. Such, however, is not the case in practice. If cordial relations do not exist between the individual members of two nations, their political relations are bound to be adversely affected sooner or later. While such is not the case in this country, it would appear to be so to some extent in China. It is satisfactory to note that Mr. Chirol, after his comprehensive tour in the Far East, was able to declare that no solid ground existed for any such misunderstanding, but it would be still more satisfactory were both Governments to agree upon a common line of action and co-operation with regard to China.

To which we may add that too much weight need not be attached to the opinions of organs which are obviously swayed by financial interest; and that nothing would afford the British Government greater satisfaction than to know that Japan's policy in China was one and the same with their own.

A CURIOUS QUESTION.

We read in the *Yamato Shimbun* that Mr. Yoshikawa Masayoshi, an eminent Christian, recently addressed a letter to Mr. Yokoi Tokiwo, who is now awaiting the result of his appeal from the judgment delivered by the Tokyo Local Court in connexion with the sugar scandal. Mr. Yoshikawa urged in this letter that Mr. Yokoi should commit suicide, and that his position dictated such a step from five points of view, namely, from the point of view first, of a man of learning; secondly, of an educationist; thirdly of a religionist; fourthly, of a politician, and fifthly, of a filial son in deference to the memory of his great father, Yokoi Shonan. This letter was treated very calmly by its recipient. He replied simply that the Christian religion to which he belongs does not sanction suicide. This answer completely silenced Mr. Yoshikawa. The *Yamato* discusses the question at some length. It appears to admit that suicide is a crime and must be included as a crime in any hard and fast list of ethical terms. But it holds that there are times when suicide becomes a duty, and when its moral effects far outweigh its technical blameworthiness. We gather, however, that the real purpose of the *Yamato's* writing is to create a prejudice against Christianity on the ground that its doctrines can not be reconciled with *Bushido*. This is a question which opens the door to endless discussion. We confine ourselves to noting that the matter has been brought upon the tapis in this unequivocal manner.

CHINA.

News from Peking is to the effect that the above line has suffered extensive damages from floods. The roadway was built nominally under the direction of a British engineer, but the work was really done mainly by the Chinese themselves, and the bridges, tunnels, embankments and culverts are all said to be of a very faulty character. It was fully expected that they would suffer badly if anything unusual happened, and that expectation has now been verified.

A telegram from Shanghai says that the Chinese newspapers in that city publish a positive statement to the effect that a grave difference of opinion has occurred between Russia and Japan at Changchun and that war is imminent between the two Powers. This is indeed a bolt from the blue.

It is reported from Kilin that the water continues to rise in the Sungari River; that 1000 lives have been lost; that several thousands of houses have been washed away and that all the timber stacked on the banks of the river has been swept down by the current. The whole of northern Manchuria appears to be involved in the inundations. Large tracks of the Amur region are said to have suffered much injury.

The deadlock over the Mukden-Antung railway still continues, but in the best-informed circles there is believed to be no ground for alarm. Now that Japan has taken up a firm and unequivocal attitude on this question, Chinese statesmen will doubtless recognize the unwisdom of persisting in any attitude even remotely remembling one of obstructiveness. The more sensational section of the Japanese press, it is true, is endeavouring to make the most of those elements of gravity which the situation undoubtedly possesses, but in higher circles calmer views prevail. China will be required to adhere to the spirit of her international undertakings, and there is little reason to doubt that in due course she will gracefully fall in with them.

THE SUGAR COMPANY.

The future of this company seems to be still hanging in the balance. Our readers know that the Directors have not yet succeeded in effecting any arrangement with Mr. Suzuki, one of the principal creditors, and it is now stated that the Fujimoto Bank has decided to take an independent line in pressing its claim of over a million *yen* against the Company. Were the claim satisfied the Bank would find itself once more on its feet, but it is not supposed that the Company has any means of satisfying such a demand. It would obviously be extremely bad policy on the part of either Mr. Suzuki or the Bank to drive the Company into liquidation, and we assume therefore that extreme steps will be avoided.

The affair of the Sugar Company receive discusssion at the hands of President Fujiyama. How to restore order out of the chaos is the burden of his remarks to a representative of the *Asahi*. Four measures, in particular, are called for as of primary importance—first, the reduction of the consumption-tax; secondly, the reduction of the amount of the Company's capital; thirdly, the adjustment of the debentures and issue of preferential debentures; and lastly, the cutting down of expenditure. Nevertheless, Mr. Fujiyama makes no effort to minimise the difficulties of the task, which, he frankly admits, are great indeed.

SOCIALISM IN JAPAN.

We invite attention to the following extracts:—

Japan Mail, July 26.

Referring to the fact that the Government's procedure against the socialists is condemned in some quarters as over severe, the *Kokumin Shimbun* says that what the Government objects to is a propaganda of immorality and lawessness. It does not interfere with the free expression of opinions in the field of social economics, but it will not tolerate people who preach promiscuous intercourse, evasion of military duty, and abolition of compulsory education. Those that advocate these changes are plain enemies of their country and of public prosperity and good order. There will be no hesitation in dealing with them drastically.

Japan Herald, July 29.

That socialists preach the abolition of compulsory education, in Japan or anywhere else, is curious reading; the chief objection which thinking people have to the doctrine being its tendency to increase the power of Government in everything that tends to level and uniformize people, and of these means the most powerful is compulsory education to a fixed standard. As for the charge of preaching promiscuous intercourse, it is simply a clumsy slander of a Government organ to fix this charge on Socialists as a class, who are just as moral as any other members of the community. The simple fact is that the Government knows that the spread of Socialistic views would upset the hopelessly antiquated views of sovereignty and Government authority which are still orthodox in this country, and that therefore Socialism is to be combated by every means at the disposal of Government, by police force, by military force, by suppression and by slander, the last of which may in some circumstances be the most efficient weapon of all.

We desire to point out that in our epitome of the *Kokumin Shimbun's* article not one word was said against "socialists as a class." No attempt was made "to fix on them a charge of preaching promiscuous intercourse." The Tokyo journal's utterances and our precis of them referred explicitly and differentially to such among the socialists as do preach that bestial doctrine. The men and women arrested in Tokyo, a very small number—have been convicted of advocating not only promiscuous intercourse between the sexes, but also evasion of military duty and abolition of compulsory education. It is not for a moment hinted that all socialists advocate such doctrines, nor could any one save—Mr. Honeythunder read such a sense into the words of our precis. Apart from that misrepresentation, however, we can not but express astonishment that a foreign journal published in Yokohama should deliberately announce a propaganda against the Japanese Government in the interests of socialism. The *Japan Herald's* language is absolutely unequivocal. "The spread of socialistic views," it declares, would upset *the hopelessly antiquated views of sovereignty and Government authority which are still orthodox in this country*, and therefore socialism is to be combatted by every means at the disposal of Government, by police force, by military force, by suppression and by slander." The italics are our, but the whole paragraph is a most outspoken defence of socialism and a most unreserved attack upon the Throne of Japan.

Hitherto the Brazilian Government has welcomed the Japanese emigrants, promising to grant them £8 sterling subsidy per man. Owing to the change in the presidency, however, the promise has been cancelled. Moreover, emigration conditions are not now so satisfactory.

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THE CHINESE CONSTITUTION.

Mr. Li Chaku, formerly Chinese Representative in Japan, who has been for the past three years in Japan, studying questions of constitutional government, is now about to return to Peking. He is quoted by the *Jiji Shimpo* as saying that there are great difficulties in China's path with reference to this question of the Constitution. She has to decide, in the first place, what powers shall be delegated to the provincial assemblies, and in what manner the exercise of these powers can be harmonized with the authority of the Viceroys and Governors. In the second place, there is the question of taxation. At present this important function of administration is entrusted solely to Viceroys and Governors, and of course uniformity of procedure is sacrificed. It has to be determined what steps shall be taken to place the function in the hands of the Central Government to achieve uniformity. Mr. Li speaks next of the bicameral system. He does not approve of it. To him it appears that the Upper House in Japan consists mainly of members who are not at all qualified to discharge legislative duties, while, on the other hand, the existence of such a Chamber greatly widens the range of the Cabinet's responsibility. A Ministry in Japan has to be responsible to the Emperor, to the House of Representatives, and to the Chamber of Peers, to say nothing of the Elder Statesmen and the Privy Council. There is no necessity, in Mr. Li's opinion, for more than one Chamber, if the manner of electing its members is such as to secure genuine representatives of the nation's intelligence. At the same time, this authority is evidently a great admirer of the Elder Statesmen, and he thinks that the want of such advisers is a serious defect in the Chinese polity.

BAT AND BALL.

While the mastery of the bat over the ball is now so well established as to be universally recognized, it is only to old cricketers, or at least old lovers of the game, that the fact appeals with its fullest significance. We recall, as we write, a match played in the early sixties between England and Surrey, then the premier county, in which England scored in the first innings the enormous total, as was then considered, of 503, of which Hayward made 112 and Carpenter 94. This huge and almost unprecedented score excited the keenest interest throughout the entire cricket world. But what happened on the 22nd of last month? On that day, three total scores, each considerably exceeding the one we have recalled, were made on English cricket grounds, without exciting a word of more than the most ordinary comment. At Brighton, Sussex made 536, including one individual century, against Cambridge University; at Reigate, Oxford University made 577, including three individual centuries, against Surrey; and at Catford, Kent made 593, including one double and one single century, against Gloucestershire. Of course, a strong eleven will sometimes be disposed of for a small score, as in certain recent matches where Gloucestershire were all out for 44 and on another occasion for 61, Middlesex for 47, Warwickshire for 64, Nottinghamshire and Yorkshire each for 69, and even the redoubtable Australians for 83. These, however, are merely the glorious uncertainties of cricket. As a rule large scores are counted upon, and while up to within the last few years first-class matches always began either on Monday or Thursday, and were allowed only three days, four days are now frequently allotted to a single match. Our cricket readers are doubtless aware that it has been proposed to add a fourth wicket to the three the batsman now has to defend. It seems hardly likely, however, that recourse will be had to so drastic a remedy as that of increasing by one half the area to be defended, which would necessarily result from the addition of a fourth wicket, unless the wickets were placed closer together. Nor can a satisfactory solution be found in the arbitrary limiting of either individual or total scores, for that would rob cricket of half its excitement, both to players and spectators. The difficulty of placing bat and ball on terms more nearly approaching equality is clearly one not easily to be surmounted, but it will have to be grappled with, and the decision of the Marylebone Club, whenever the question comes up for settlement, will be awaited with the liveliest interest by cricketers all the world over.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

It is noticeable that there has been since January last a rapid development of the transactions in public securities on the Tokyo Stock Exchange. The actual figures month by month have been as follow:—

	Yen.
January	793,000
February	1,213,000
March	659,000
April	2,011,0 0
May	2,217,000
June	3,039,000
July	5,936,0 0

This great activity in the market for State securities always syncronises with corresponding stagnation in the market for shares. The *Chuo Shimbun* quotes Mr. Matsuoka, a managing director of the Tokyo Stock Exchange, as saying that such a state of affairs indicates a plethora of floating capital which the banks are driven to invest in State bonds. He expects that in August, when the Government's financial policy is anounced, and when the prospects of the rice crop can be clearly estimated, the market price of these bonds will rise to the neigh bourhood of 100, and the interest they pay being thus reduced, people will direct their attention once more to companies' shares. It is thus Mr. Matsuoka's opinion that September will witness considerable briskness in the share market.

There is nothing to be said about the market on the 31st ultimo except that the general inertia of the past few days was strongly accentuated by rumours connected with the Hoden Oil Company. Selling was all the order of the day, and it looks as though a period of depression had again set in. We append the quotations for September:—

	July 29th.	July 31st.	
Tanko Kisen	44.80	43 90	— .90
Tokyo Railway	64 65	63 95	— .70
Kei-hin Railway	63.80	—	.—
Yusen Kaisha	79.15	78.30	— .85
Toyo Kisen	16.00	15.50	— .50
Tokyo Gas	98.85	97.55	—1.30
Tokyo Dento	92.10	92.30	+ .20
Fuji Gass Spinning	108.95	107.90	—1.05
Tokyo Spinning	41.00	40.10	— .90
Kanegafuchi Spinning	101.10	100.60	— .50
Beer	75.00	74.05	— .95
Sugar	—	—	.—
Hoden Oil	100.55	94.20	—6.35
Nippon Oil	100.95	98.65	—2.30
Stock Exchange	157.05	156.80	— .25

DEMOCRACY AND FEUDALISM.

It is interesting to note that, harping upon the axiom that the rich are growing richer, which by the way is just as true of the poor, the American press is to advance the idea that in the billionaire age, with the tendency to concentration of capital now so marked a feature of American life, the result will be the creation of an industrial feudalism to which the democracy of the country will sooner or later find itself subjected, and under which it will groan more grievously than did the peasants of the Middle Ages under their feudal lords, the only ray of hope lying in the probability that it will be a despotism tempered by a certain benevolence on the part of the new barons, who have learned how Carnegie works the system and who will still discontent by princely public benefactions. Such a course being calculated to prove demoralizing and destructive of the people's self-respect, "collectivism," a word which is now rife as a substitute for the wofully misused term Socialism, is put forward as the real remedy.

This is, however, one of the numerous cases in which the remedy is far worse than the disease, the narrow minds advocating it overlooking the fact that "collectivism," as the labour unions have demonstrated, is the very worst foe of freedom and more subversive of the principle of democracy, than any number of industrial barons or of the trusts they control could possibly be. Everything that has yet been proposed in the line of collectivism, it should be noted, has been, not in the interests of freedom, but rather of restriction and regulation, in governmental interference and control of public utilities with all the baneful corruption, political trickery and increase of expense to which such control always leads. The danger from trusts, it is ever asserted, lies in the destruction of competition, but under governmental control, which is what "collectivism" means, it is impossible to find any element of the stimulation or fostering of competition. Upon the latter is laid an iron hand far more destructive than that of any number of robber barons.

The only way to manage or to control the trusts is to cease mothering them, or in other words, by removing from them the fostering care of governmental protection. Nothing is more certain than that in America the protective policy is doomed. When that comes to pass, the trusts, in order to survive, will have to serve the community in really efficient and economical ways, instead of depending upon the government to fool the public and keep it quiet.

THE WEATHER.

Saturday, July 31.

The predicted change in the weather is becoming a certainty. Telegrams from the south show that the centre of depression, located a few days ago on the south of Formosa has begun to move slowly to the northeast and on the morning of the 30th ultimo it had reached the Riukyu archipelago. Heavy rain fell that day in Kyushu, and according to present appearances the storm will sweep up the east coast of Japan, following the tracks of the centre of elevation which is now moving out into the Pacific. The west coast of Japan is not expected to suffer. The arrival of this storm will probably break the back of the extremely hot weather, though the *doyo* season has still several days to run.

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OBNOXIOUS ADVERTISING.

From the point of view of the avoidance of daily friction and annoyance, a far more important question than that of foreign wars is apt to arise near home. Among such is that of the rights of the private citizen as against the public nuisance known as the advertising man, against whom there ought to be started a vigorous crusade.

The special form of the nuisance in this country grows out of the marked tendency of the Japanese, in their adoption of Western features, to select at the outset the worst and most objectionable forms thereof. Just as in their choice of foreign colours, while their taste in regard to their own shades is almost perfect, they somehow hit upon the harshest and crudest which the West offers, so the way in which they proceed to ruin the picturesque beauty of their country along the lines by which foreigners usually travel, out-Herod's Herod in its ugliness. The hideosities which almost shut out the view all along the line of railway between Yokohama and Tokyo are especially abhorrent, and can have no other effect than to disgust and bitterly disappoint the traveller who has heard so much of the superior taste of the Japanese.

The correction of this glaring and vulgar disfigurement of choice bits of landscape, so long permitted, is of course in the hands of the people, and what has been done to abolish or modify similar nuisances in other countries can be done here. Our own impulse on beholding such horrors is that of the boycotter, pure and simple. It is the resolve never in any circumstances to purchase aught which has to depend for its sale upon such outragings of the public and offences to the eye. Were a like feeling to pervade the community, the nuisance might speedily be abated.

There are, moreover, legal methods which have proved measurably effective. One which has operated favourably in the West is the passage of a law prohibiting the erection of signs advertising matters not pertaining to the property on which they are placed. This regulation has found special favour in summer-resort towns where unmutilated scenery gives additional cash and taxable value to the community. To bring about such a desirable result, however, it is absolutely necessary to educate that public opinion without which all laws become inoperative. Fret and fume as we may, it is difficult to help ourselves or even for communities in which an evil is manifest, to help themselves except through the creation of an active public sentiment. Nothing but that can prevent the owners of rural property from conspiring with the advertising fiend to disfigure it for a consideration. Whether such a public sentiment can be aroused here in Japan, or whether some way can be found for the government to lay its strong hand upon the growing nuisance, to abate or abolish it, remains to be seen.

TAKING RISKS.

The great conflagration at Osaka, the largest in the number of buildings destroyed which has been known for many years, and incomparably the most disastrous in the values annihilated, furnishes an instructive example of the inveterate disposition of man to take risks and despise warnings. With full knowledge of the dangers arising from its narrow streets, a danger which Tokyo has long employed itself in averting; entirely cognisant of the inadequacy of is water supply and its fire apparatus, the old story has been repeated, and a huge section of the city reputed to be the most enterprising metropolis of the nation has been swept out of existence. And the worst of it all is that possibly even now the warnings embodied in the disaster will not be heard or heeded. San Francisco, now about to celebrate her rejuvenation, has not, in the construction of the new city, either widened its fire-swept streets, or reduced the height of its sky-scrapers; and so, likewise, the devastated and ever quaking regions of Italy are being repopulated probably with in much carelessness as ever. The Japanese in the north have planted their villages on the sites only a few years ago overwhelmed by the tidal wave. Thirty-storeyed buildings are being put up in American cities which have been rocked by earthquakes, on the mere chance that enough will be made out of them to make them pay well before the reeling earth overthrows them.

The simple truth is that ordinary human nature is far more daring than it is timid; and, so long as humanity endures, it will continue to take enormous risks even in the presence of known dangers. It is not the craven thing that it is commonly represented to be, any more than it is the corrupt thing which theologians have so long pictured it.

THE WORSHIP OF LITERALISM.

While in Japanese legal procedure much danger is liable to ensue from the ancient worship of literalism, and the tendency to ignore the spirit of the law through the undue attention to detail which marks the Oriental mind, the substitution of brand-new codes for those of the elder time has the great advantage of permitting no harking back to long forgotten and obsolete laws still remaining on the statutes. Only the other day an actor in England secured acquittal for a flagrant offence on the plea that according to the description of his calling in an old law he was classed among rogues and vagabonds and was therefore exempt from the operation of the particular law under which he was indicted.

From time to time the citizens of New England have experienced a rude awakening to the fact that the old blue laws of that region are still possessed of vitality. Having been permitted to remain upon the statute books all that is needed is to have an official with a sufficient sense of humour to put them into full force and operation; with the result that now and them on Sundays no candy, sodawater nor fruit can be bought and no barber shop, even in a hotel can be availed of by the unshaved.

Of course it is a question whether it is worth while to dig and delve into the musty records of the past in order to give a final quietus to either legal or theological absurdities, or whether it is better to let them lie in "innocuous desuetude." The majesty of the law is certainly not enhanced by exposing to the public gaze the monstrosities which have been its outcome.

RUSSIA'S PERSIAN INTERESTS.

The wholly free hand with which Russia is operating in Persia, evidently in consonance with her *entente* with Great Britain, of course suggests the query whether its ultimate outcome will not be the granting to the great Mother Power its long coveted outset upon the Persian Gulf. From every point of view this would be a consummation most devoutly to be wished. That it would solidify an *entente* which in view of Great Britain's somewhat strained present relations with Germany is of far-reaching importance, goes almost without saying, but it is in its larger relations to the future peace of the world that such a concession on the part of England becomes of vital importance. Everyone knows that had it not been for the policy adopted by the Western Powers to keep Russia from the southern seas, thus forcing her to seek an ice-free port on her extreme Eastern border, the late war in the Orient never would have happened, and now it is beginning to dawn upon these Powers that the old counsel of "inveterate and unyielding hostility to Russian expansion" is not merely unwise but impossible. Russia herself cannot by any possibility prevent that which follows the order of nature, nothing, indeed, short of the destruction of the vital principle of nationality can prevent it. As well put a boy in a strait-jacket and say he shall not grow. In time the jacket gives way, or the boy dies. Russia is not going to die, consequently she is going to expand, and not all the "invetorate and unyielding hostility" of all the Powers is going to prevent it.

HIGHER WAGES ASSOCIATION.

In the pages of the *Pacific Commercial Advertiser* of Honolulu we find the following interesting description of the organisation of the Japanese who are on strike in Honolulu:—

It appears from late developments that the organization of the strikers is military. The whole body, several thousand strong, is divided into squads of twenty, each captained by an intelligent man who is responsible for his charges to the Higher Wage Association. The roll is called in the various camps twice a day and if a man is absent he must be accounted for. When he wants to go anywhere outside the city he receives a pass with a time-limit. One of these passes has been translated and it helps to show how methodical the management of the strike has become. The pass is inscribed: "Permit to go out of town." The further text is as follows: "Kumikichi Sato, Kumicho (officer above a few men), Hikotara Harata (man under officer). The above named men are granted traveling permission, good for this day only." The signature is that of the Higher Wage Association. When these men went into the country they were met by pickets who inspected the passes as sentries do on the other lines of an army. The system has become so perfect that it has practically stopped desertions to the sugar fields.

The commissariat also shows the influence of Japanese army training. Supplies are purchased through bidders, the mess is well furnished, the meals are regularly served, housing is carefully looked after. The finances seem to be properly administered. There is plenty of money and it is said to be spent with judgment and under a workable plan of accountability.

A system of court-martial is in vogue by which offenders against the rules of the Higher Wage Association are arrested and tried. The Territorial courts have dealt with these to some extent, but it is doubtful if their power has really reached the system. It certainly has not stopped the picketing or given the reluctant strikers confidence in a legal safeguard should they choose to return to work.

It is worthy of note, in this connection, that bodies of strikers have been strategically placed in camps all over the city. This may simply have happened so; or it may be the natural acceptance of a plan made long ago by others than the Higher Wage Association to meet quite a different set of circumstances, possibly arising.

This we need hardly remark, is a serious state of things. It is against public policy to have an organization of the kind described acting within the limits of any American state or territory; yet it is possible that, so long as it commits no overt acts as a body and avoids responsibility for the unlawful acts of individual members, it can not be legally broken up. But we will venture no opinion on that point. It is a matter for the lawyers and the courts.

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AN IMPERIAL SQUADRON.

As with the sittings of the Imperial Defence Committee in London at the present time the question of Imperial Defence is very much to the fore, a suggestion recently advanced by Mr. Archibald Hurd in the *Fortnightly Review* will not be devoid of interest. Mr. Hurd, who has attained some prominence as a writer on naval questions, proposes that the Colonies and the Mother Country should combine to form an "Imperial squadron *d'elite*," to consist of eight battleship-cruisers of the *Invincible* type. These vessels, it will be remembered, differ from the *Dreadnought* simply in that they are of 4-5 knots greater speed, and in that they carry eight 12-inch guns, capable of being trained and fired in any direction, whereas the *Dreadnought* is supplied with ten of these heavy weapons, only eight of which, however, can be brought to bear on a given object simultaneously. It is suggested that Canada, Australia, South Africa and India should supply one each of these mighty cruisers, while the Mother Country would provide four. These vessels would form an Imperial Squadron "ready to go anywhere and do anything." "It would be," says Mr. Hurd, "under the control of the several divisions of the Empire, acting through what would be, in effect if not in name, an Imperial General Staff, working in close co-operation with the Board of Admiralty. The crews of these vessels would be picked men in fair proportions from the several States and from home waters, thus affording not only the best opportunities for training for the seamen of the Colonies, but also laying the foundations of an intimate spirit of comradeship, and bringing the people of the distant Dominions into closer touch with one another. The only objection which such a scheme would offer is that the privileges of serving in this special squadron would be so great as to give rise to jealousy among the crews of less favoured fleets.

CRICKET IN ENGLAND.

The large attendances at Lords and other cricket grounds, and the great interest shown over the Australian Test Matches, are clear evidence that the noble national game is not losing its hold upon the English people and that, to those who understand it, cricket has parted with none of its attractiveness. The victory of the Australians in the third Test Match created no surprise. Indeed, the team chosen comes in for severe criticism from all quarters; while the Australian eleven is held to be far inferior to any that has yet visited the old country. Says the *Outlook*, a propos of the English defeat at Lords:—

> Though our visitors fielded admirably and Mr. Armstrong bowled finely on the concluding morning, yet the victorious side had far less to do with the success than the English Selection Committee. Since Tennyson wrote "someone has blundered" there has not been such an example of crass folly in the world of sport. To leave well alone was the obvious policy after the English success at Birmingham. Instead, the selectors literally botched the entire side, leaving out the two match-winning cricketers of the day and retaining players of the most moderate calibre. No English county has so weak an attack as the one that was sent into the field to represent the national bowling. The way in which the selectors presented the match to the opponents will cause a great cleaning of the Augean cricket pitch. Handsomely as the Australians won, they have still to prove they are not the weakest team that ever came from the Antipodes to England. Our so-called test-side would not have tested Essex, Derbyshire, or Hampshire.

The fourth Test Match, as mentioned in our issue yesterday, resulted in even draw, so that the fifth encounter will be looked forward to with special interest.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY.

The *Mainichi Dempo* has a singular paragraph about the much-discussed project for obtaining electric power from the head waters of the Oi-gawa. It has just been discovered, our contemporary says, that the river freezes solid every year at the point constituting the intake, and that not a drop of water could be obtained in January and February. This fact is spoken of by the *Mainichi Dempo* as something which ought to have been easily foreseen, considering that the fall of water is 3,500 ft. Precisely. It ought to have been easily foreseen, and if our contemporary is naive enough to suppose that any competent English or American engineers overlooked such a vital element in a technical project, we do not think it would get any of its readers to be equally prejudiced. Meanwhile we note that the *Mainichi Dempo* speaks of this discovery as fatal to the Anglo-Japanese Company, and plaintively remarks that the dispensations of nature refuse to be regulated by the hand of man.

THE TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

A great deal of attention is at present directed to the affairs of this Company. Its shares (40 *yen* paid up) are quoted at 15.50 *yen* and it is said to be without funds to meet its foreign debt of 2 million *yen* which will soon have to be repaid. An extraordinary general meeting has been announced for the 12th inst, but the principal shareholders are to hold a special meeting to-day, for the purpose of coming to some understanding, their apprehension being that unless the line of settlement be clearly mapped out before the 12th inst., the meeting on the later date will prove a turbulent affair. The Company's paid up capital amounts to over 8 million *yen* and its debentures and liabilities aggregate 9 millions, so that its condition becomes a matter of very serious importance. There appears to be a great deal of discontent with the management of Mr. Asano.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The three directors of the Naigai Kasai Hoken-Kaisha have been duly committed for trial on a charge of fraud, a *prima facie* case having been proved against them at the magisterial inquiry. It appears that one of their performances was to write as paid the installments on shares held by themselves, and then to represent that this money had been dispersed to meet losses on policies. This method of robbing the Company sounds simple enough but evidently could not long elude discovery. The fire at Hakodate proved the occasion for a grand exposure, and the three men are now in prison awaiting trial. It must be confessed that Japanese commercial morality has exposed itself to many attacks in the sequel of the *post bellum* boom.

The German paper of Shanghai was to publish on the 30th inst. an article of a character highly sympathetic with Japan. Several leading Tokyo journals report the intention and relate that the German newspaper's view is that the Japanese press should widely discuss the judicial changes recently effected in Korea as a basis for the restoration of that country's judicial autonomy, and that the German Government should do everything in its power to assist Japan in pursuing that policy. It is very pleasant to find the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* writing in such a strain. That journal used to be remarkable for its anti-Japanese tone and we have often heard leading German residents regret the fact.

It is stated that the Osaka Harbour Works have now been completed so far as the sea-front is concerned. The outlay has been 11 million *yen*. The next thing to be done is to build the dock and the warehouses. For these purposes the sum of 8 million *yen* is needed, but arrangements for finding it are said to have been made by the capitalists of the city. The only feature of this great scheme which seems likely to lag is the railway. That has to be built by the Railway Board and the cost is estimated at 7 million *yen*, which will have to be sanctioned by the Diet.

We are sincerely glad to be able to report that Baron Iwasaki is in a fair way to convalescence. Tokyo newspapers report that all the conditions since the operation have been eminently favourable, and that on the 29th inst. his physicians pronounced him practically out of danger.

Prince and Princess Nashimoto returned to Tokyo on the 29th inst. after nearly three years' absence in Europe, where they received a most cordial welcome from all the Courts and peoples.

The formation of a society for the purpose of aeronautic investigations in Japan is announced. It is to have the long name of Rinji Gunyo Kikyu Kenkiu-kai (Temporary Military Balloon Investigation Society). It is to consist of 20 members, selected from officers on the active list of the Army and Navy, and from men of science in general. The selection of the president and members will be made by the Minister of State for War with the approval of the Cabinet. Nothing is definitely stated as to the provision of funds, but apparently the duty of financing the enterprise will devolve upon the Departments of War and the Navy.

The law for the hypothecation of railways having been extended to trams the Kei-Hin Electric Railway has been enabled, it is said to complete the loan of 2 million *yen* obtained for it through the agency of Messrs. Sale & Frazar Ld. The actual sum that will come into the Company's hands is put at 1,820,000 *yen*, and out of that amount 1,300,000 *yen* will be devoted to paying off a high-interest-bearing debt of the Company. A further sum of 30,000 *yen* will be spent upon an iron bridge over the Rokugo River, and 30,000 will go to doubling the line at Haneda. The remainder of the money is to be spent upon improving the line and the rolling stock.

Some objection has been taken to the appointment of Koreans as officials in the Korean Courts, on the ground that such action constitutes a breach of the Constitution. Public Procurator-General Kokubu, however, points out that, under Article 2 of the new Convention between Japan and Korea the Japanese Government is at liberty to employ qualified Korean subjects as court or prison officials, and that there is nothing either in the letter or in the spirit of that agreement to inhibit such procedure.

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THE DIVIDED PHILIPPINE QUESTION.

RUMOURS are current in regard to the policy now pursued by the American commanders in the turbulent southern islands of the Philippine Archipelago, which would seem to indicate that the fierce Malay blood there predominating has to be subjected to drastic treatment closely resembling that which General KITCHENER found himself forced to apply to the fanatical Arab whose ferocity welcomed death in preference to any helping hand put forth to save him.

In a recent editorial, we adverted to the fact that the chief feature in the great problem confronting American rule in the Philippines is the number of tribes or race elements with which it has to deal, making it seem probable that even the wonderful assimilative power of American institutions will be found inadequate to meet the peculiar conditions. There is, however, the illumining feature once pointed out by President SCHURMANN, formerly the head of the Philippine Commission, that this diversity of racial elements is confined almost exclusively to the southern islands, whereas there is a substantial homogeneity existing in the north, rendering it at least possible to establish a nationality there. There are no "tribes" of any kind in Luzon or the Visayas except some harmless Indians in the mountain and remote regions. Practically the entire population of the section named is civilized and Christianized like that of Cuba or the South American States. The only difference is that Spain, though diffusing the use of Spanish, did not succeed in eradicating the native language or dialects of the people, who, however, are all of the same race, profess the same faith, and live under the same economic and social conditions. It may be said with perfect truth that if such differences of language were a bar to the attainment of nationality we should have to break up Canada and Switzerland, while Austria, Russia and Great Britain could never have come into existence. Over all of these, indeed, Luzon and the Visayas have the advantage of a population educated by a single race, a population which though speaking various dialects, yet possess in Spanish a common medium of communication, as was Latin to the mediœval communities of Europe.

If this be true, it will be seen at once that the problem before the American government is greatly simplified, the question as to what policy should be adopted for the northern islands becoming entirely distinct from that to be pursued toward the southern islands of the group. But in either case it should be noted that the element of time must still be the leading factor in the process of development. Undoubtedly the people of the northern Philippines are far better fitted for self government than are those of the lower latitudes, but still the statement of that fact is merely a comparative one. The stormy and even yet troublous experiences of the Spanish-American Republics, and notably the existing conditions in Cuba, pointing to the coming necessity for its absorption by its present protector, ought to be a sufficient warning against the premature establishment of either nationality or statehood even in that part of the group best fitted for it.

As to the ultimate fate of the people of the southern islands, constituting as they do the uncivilised and unassimilable elements of the population, every intelligent student of racial problems must come to the conclusion that it will be a fate similar to that of the North American Indians, tempered perhaps by the awakened conscience of the American people but greatly hastened by the rapid growth of modern commercialism.

THE AMERICAN TARIFF STRUGGLE.

SATURDAY'S cable announcing that President TAFT had issued his ultimatum to Congress to the effect that he would veto any Tariff Bill which did not provide for low rates on lumber, gloves and hosiery, confirms the impression of late steadily growing upon the American people that they have a President who, with a marvellous geniality of disposition, is also possessed of a rigid backbone, and will insist upon redeeming the pledges made by the party electing him.

There are doubtless many other schedules in the new bill on which the Conference Committee has already made material concessions to the Presidential demand for a lowering of duties in order to permit him honourably to sign the measure, there being special reasons why the high protectionists are making their final fight on the items specified in the cable despatch. The demands of the latter on the gloves and hosiery schedules have constituted during the long discussion the most flagrant example of the direct robbery of the consumer at the hands of one of those impudent "infant industries" which have become the *enfants terribles* of American politics, while the duty on lumber has come to assume a special significance from an industrial as well as from a political point of view.

One of the leading policies of the Roosevelt administration to the furtherance of which President TAFT specially pledged himself was the preservation of the national resources, chief stress being laid upon the reckless rate at which the country's forests are being destroyed, a vital factor in such destruction being the practical prohibition of the introduction of foreign lumber. Apart therefore from the fundamental duty of redeeming his pledges in the interest of the consumer there is for the President the additional incentive of a great public obligation laid upon him to defeat the machinations of a trust so supremely selfish as to aim at the destruction of that one of the country's resources upon which its future chiefly depends and which already requires the most careful conservation to prevent the land from becoming ultimately a treeless desert and subject to devastating floods.

The lumber schedule has also a far reaching political significance inasmuch as while the Democratic party platform framed at Denver last summer embodied a special demand for the admission of this article free of duty. One of the most flagrant examples of recreancy to platform pledges has been witnessed during the tariff struggle in Congress, a majority of the Southern Democratic members having voted, in obedience to those local interests which so constantly ignore every vestige of principle, with the high protectionists in favour of the retention of the lumber duty. From the merely political point of view therefore, and from motives of the best party policy, President TAFT'S stand in the matter evinces the soundness of his judgment. The shameless recreancy of the opposition party to the last remnant of the principles upon which it was founded has evidently, for him, solved the difficulty in which he was placed in seeming to bring about the disruption of the party which elected him.

IRRELIGION IN AMERICAN COLLEGES.

SOME sensation has recently been created in the United States by an article in the *Cosmopolitan* Magazine containing charges which strike at the foundations of American life. If it be true that education derives its importance from the fact that "the boy is father to the man"—and there certainly is much truth in the homely paradox—then the question of the instruction, moral and otherwise, which is presented to the young man at college, when he is about to take up the heritage of his manhood and become an active member of body politic, is of at least equal moment. The article in question, which bears the sensational but inconsequential title of "Blasting at Rock of Ages," contains categorical statements, supported by the quoted opinions of the professors in a dozen colleges "from Cambridge to California," to the effect that American colleges as a whole are nests of heresy, irreligion and laxity in morals. An editorial note in the same issue summarizes the gist of the article as follows:—

"Out of the curricula of American colleges a dynamic movement is upheaving ancient foundations and promising a way for revolutionary thought and life. Those who are not in close touch with the great colleges of the country will be astonished to learn the creeds being fostered by the faculties of our great universities. In hundreds of class-rooms it is being taught daily that the Decalogue is no more sacred than a syllabus; that the home as an institution is doomed; that there are no absolute evils; that immorality is simply an act in contravention of society's accepted standards; that democracy is a failure and the Declaration of Independence only spectacular rhetoric; that the change from one religion to another is like getting a new hat; that moral precepts are passing shibboleths; that conceptions of right and wrong are as unstable as styles of dress; that wide stairways are open between social levels, but that to the climber children are encumbrances; that the sole effect of prolificacy is to fill tiny graves; and that there can be and are holier alliances without the marriage bond than within it. These are some of the revolutionary and sensational teachings submitted with academic warrant to the minds of hundreds of thousands of students in the United States."

From this somewhat alarming *resumé*—assuming it to be correctly based—it will appear not only that the religious sense is in

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danger of destruction and that the laws of morality are being set at nought, but that an utter disregard of the principles of sociology—which, one might have supposed, would appeal as a science to men of science—is also being inculcated in those who will be the fathers of the American people of to-morrow. We lay stress upon the third of those indictments, not because its intrinsic importance exceeds that of either of the others, but because the questions with which it deals must possess particular interest for all concerned in the future of the American nation. If there is one thing America needs more than another—with its diversities of race, its colour question, its divorce problems, its race-suicide—it is the wide inculcation of and adherence, to the best tenets of sociology. Yet we find such tampering with marriage relations as is suggested by the remark of a Professor at Yale University—"Both pair-marriages and democracy are produced by the condition of society and both are transitory;" or by that of a lecturer in Wisconsin who is said to regard the restriction of the birth-rate as "a movement at bottom salutary." A Columbia professor goes so far as to say that "it is not right to set up a technical legal relationship as morally superior to the spontaneous preference of a man and a woman." If such mischievous precepts are imbibed by all the best among the youth of America, who can predict anything but disaster for the future? As to the religious and moral side of the question, there appears to be some ground for the contention advanced by the New York *Freeman's Journal* that these universities and colleges are "poisoning the intellectual wells of the country," and that if such teachings are allowed to continue indefinitely, there "must spread far and wide an intellectual and moral plague which will inevitably work havoc with all that has made us great as a people. Our political institutions would be injuriously affected if the teachings now prevalent in so many universities and colleges should be carried into practice." Thus, Mr. FRANK W. BLACKMAR is said to instil into the minds of his pupils the insidious suggestion that "the standards of right perpetually change in social life." We shall doubtless have the same authority declaring ere long that every man should be a law into himself. Mr. E. L. EARP, of Syracuse, opines that "it is unscientific and absurd to imagine that God ever turned stone-mason and chiselled commandments on a rock," while Mr. SIMON PATTEN observes—whether in cynical jest or in real earnest, is hard to tell—that "Society owes its debt to the wealthy and far-seeing citizenry that paves and lights and polices the road to Jericho." The tone of these sayings leaves even more to be desired than the sentiments they set out to express, and this ugly feature, no doubt, has increased the alarm caused by their publication, coupled with the fact that they have received no repudiation or qualification since the date of their appearance in print. In fact Mr. BOLCE, the writer of the article in the *Cosmopolitan*, has found a seconder in the person of Bishop MCFAUL, who publicly declared, at the commencement exercises of the St. Francis Xavier Roman Catholic College in New York, "that Harvard, Princeton and Yale are undermining faith and teaching immorality." The Bishop is further reported in the New York *World* to have said:—

"If the Catholics who are sending their sons to these universities knew of the rascality, immorality, and the disrespect for woman-kind that is being taught in these institutions, they would tear down the buildings. . . . There are families in this country that are sacrificing their Catholic faith and their church-taught morality in their fanatic and lunatic desire to get into society. That's why they send their sons to Harvard, Princeton, and Yale; they want to get into society through the associates their children meet at these institutions."

"All sorts of unorthodox theories quite opposed to Christianity," says the same ecclesiastic in a subsequent interview, "are set before the students impartially;" and he complains bitterly of a book written by Professor G. B. FOSTER, of Chicago University, in which that instructor of youth states that God is a myth; that man made God in his own image, not that God made man in his image; that Jesus was a child of his time, and that to copy him now would be fatal; that the Bible is the petrified remains of the Christian religion, and that we are not fallen angels but developed animals."

Now, if these various statements correctly represent the religious and moral atmosphere of American colleges—and, when every allowance is made for possible exaggeration or misrepresentation, there would appear be some truth in the charges preferred—there should be no hesitation or delay in taking measures to purge that atmosphere of its pernicious properties. There is in America already too much materialism, too much of the worship of Mammon, to allow the coming generation to grow up amid noxious vapours of selfishness and infidelity. It is to be feared that doctrines of the kind alleged to be disseminated by these professors would find in the present state of American social and political life only too congenial a soil in which to flourish, to the lasting detriment of the race. The hope of America, with its incessant stream of alien immigration, its congeries of well-nigh innumerable nationalities and creeds, lies in the youth of the true American stock. It is of the profoundest importance that these should be, and should remain, in every sense, America's best—that no blight should overtake the flower of the nation's manhood. "Train up a child," said the wisest of kings, "in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it." If the professors at present in charge of American colleges cannot do this, no time should be lost in finding people who can.

THE PRESIDENT'S TRIUMPH.

ACCORDING to the cable despatches of yesterday, President TAFT has won a notable triumph, and the immense power of his office, with a man of nerve and backbone in its chair, has been as notably displayed. After four long months of what seemed to be a debate, but was really a registering of the votes of a Congress subservient to the will of the special interests fostered by the protective system, the great legislative body of the nation sees its work negatived and its plans overthrown at the dictation of the Executive. And all this without the slightest infringement by the latter of its prerogatives or of its constitutional rights. Simply by letting it be distinctly understood that whatever Congress might do at the behest of the special interests, he would not put his signature to any measure which was not a clear and definite response to the popular demand for a revision downwards in the interests of the consumers, the one-man power has again won a signal triumph in the history of American Democracy.

Yet, as has been the case in all such instances in the political annals of the country, there is no one-man power in the lead which of itself could be in the least degree operative. Even President LINCOLN, amid the stress and turmoil of war, and with all the power vested in him as Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, never made a move or insisted upon a policy without being absolutely sure that in each and every case he had the people at his back, and that the power of the nation itself was urging him to action along the lines of his own decisions. So, too, in the present case, this urging was unmistakeable, and the triumph is therefore that of the people themselves. Nothing could be more evident than the trend of sentiment which followed the passage of the Senate Tariff Bill, in flagrant disregard of the pledges of the dominant party, as well as of the will of the people registered in the vote for its continuance in power. The one question discussed by the entire press of the nation was whether the President would sign or veto the measure, the sole argument for the former action being, not the merits of the bill itself, but the disturbance to business which a veto would involve. Now, to the astonishment and delight of the whole country, the President has taken neither course, but has dictated to Congress a new bill which he can honourably sign and which accords with the people's demands.

By so doing he has not only won a conspicuous triumph, but he has carried the country through one of the most serious crises in its political history. Had the dominant party been permitted this time to flaunt its ante-election pledges, a tremendous impetus would have been given to the growing popular distrust of any and all parties, or in other words, to representative government itself. As the San Francisco *Argonaut* puts it, the danger now is, with the public mind inclined to distrust, that there will arise a situation through the default of the Republican party in the matter of its tariff pledges, that will lead to a demoralizing personalism in national poli-

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tics—to a system fundamentally weak as our own traditional system has been fundamentally strong. Something, too, ought to be said of the manner in which President TAFT, in winning his notable triumph, has revealed his own winning personality, presenting as it does so vivid a contrast to that of his equally forceful predecessor. Suave and gracious, and ready to yield in small matters, as he appears to all who come into contact with him, his dauntless courage in the face of any question involving principle, known as it has been to his intimates throughout his whole career, has been signally tested in the sight of the entire country, now resting in solid assurance that in the guidance of their ship-of-state the nation has its strong man at the helm.

WESTERN IGNORANCE OF THE ORIENT.

A RECENT visitor to the West reports that, being looked upon as somewhat of an authority upon Japan, the most frequent question asked him in America was whether the Japanese really understood, with reference to the San Francisco imbroglio, the relations between the States and the Federal Government, and the difficulty in which the latter was involved in controlling independent action on the part of any one of the former. His reply was that, so far as the intelligent classes of Japan were concerned, they being the only ones worth considering in such a matter, they doubtless knew more about the political constitutions and affairs of all Western governments than the Americans knew about any, possibly, even of their own.

The slightest consideration of the prime peculiarity of Japan's modern history will amply serve to justify the statement, however extreme on first sight it may appear. From the moment she entered upon her new career the study of Western nations, and especially of their forms of government, has been her chief concern in order to learn the sources of their power and prosperity, whereas America, as notably, prior to her very recent advent as a world Power, had her attention confined almost exclusively to home affairs, thinking and caring nothing for "abroad."

Not only in regard to governmental matters, but also in every sphere and department of Western life, is Japan equipped with thorough knowledge, no year having passed without the sending thither of intelligent Government emissaries, gifted with special powers of observation and trained in the careful attention to detail which so conspicuously marks the Oriental mind.

In the strongest possible contrast to the intimate knowledge thus gained, is the profound ignorance still prevailing in the West as to Oriental conditions, in spite of the stream of presumably intelligent travel hitherward. That ignorance is so dense, in comparison with the results obtained by Japan's experts scattered throughout the Occidental world, simply because of the difference between the trained observer and the average traveller or the chance correspondent steeped in either sensationalism or prejudice, that the West to-day is dependent for its information about Japan upon huge deductions from small groups of facts, hasty generalizations upon chance incidents, and the itch of correspondents for dramatic effects, which form the chief pabulum furnished the Occident by those who journey in the Orient, and even by many who dwell here and are regarded, simply because of that fact, as trustworthy authorities.

The case, however, much as it is to be deplored, is not an isolated or peculiar one. The active actual ignorance prevailing on this score finds its counterpart in many another and even more conspicuous instance. America itself, for example, has been in the limelight of modern regard for two centuries, while Japan has attracted attention for only a fourth of that period; and yet, in spite of all the means which have been furnished for intercommunication and intimate knowledge, among all the thousands of travellers who have visited the Republic and written of its conditions and characteristics, there have resulted therefrom only two books of illuminating quality, or of thorough intelligent and dispassionate treatment, by which outsiders can gain a fair idea of the genius and spirit of American institutions or of the character of the people who have grown up under them. DE TOQUEVILLE'S "Democracy in America" and BRYCE'S "American Commonwealth" stand to-day as the sole correctives of the gross and inveterate misconceptions so long prevailing concerning the Republic, the deplorable outcome of the impressions and observations of the "intelligent" traveller.

THE MONROE DOCTRINE AND ITS MAINTENANCE.

(COMMUNICATED)

IN 1823, through the medium of a historic, if ponderous, Message to Congress, President MONROE ear-marked for Americans, and Spanish Americans, an entire Continent. The message, though nominally addressed to the members of the national Parliament at Washington, was in reality addressed to the European Powers. These were told, for all time, to keep "hands off" Central and South America. The Spanish republics occupying that extensive section of the world's surface were to be left to work out their destinies undisturbed, and any interference with them would be regarded by the United States as a manifestation of an "unfriendly disposition." The declaration of this virtual Protectorate was, ninety years ago, a matter of comparative indifference to the rest of the world. The only Power with a tendency to colonial development already had her hands full with extensive and unexploited possessions in various parts of the globe. Europe was slowly recovering from a period of prolonged and exhausting strife. The fever of commercial and territorial expansion had not yet descended upon the nations. But it would be idle to maintain that the conditions which obtained nearly a century since remain the same to-day. The bloodless struggle for territory which reached a climax in the partition of Africa a decade ago can not be said to have ended. The overcrowded nations of the Continent, quite apart from the promptings of ambition, must continue to look with growing concern for suitable land-space for their surplus populations, and if more than one of them casts a questioning eye on the Latin States south of Panama, and on the document which marks that vast preserve, it is no matter for surprise.

The fundamental fact underlying the whole situation is that the maintenance of this Monroe Doctrine—whose wisdom or unwisdom, whose justifiability or otherwise, may be left on one side—depends ultimately upon force, the force of sea-power. Were any first-class Power, possessing a fleet unquestionably superior to that of the United States, to defy that doctrine to-morrow, its propounder and defender could do no more than look on in impotence. There is only one Power in a position to take such action to-day, and that is Great Britain. However, as Captain MAHAN has pointed out, and as the vast majority of his countrymen will agree, the naval supremacy of England is not, nor ever has been, used for purposes of aggression. Further, in the improbable event of some British statesman making unwarrantable use of this immense influence in contravention of American interests, the Great Republic possesses, in the long and undefended frontier of Canada, a means of exercising a countervailing pressure. "But," adds the great naval expert, "the long history of international contention, not to speak of kindlier relations and recent memory of good offices done us, make it as sure as anything future can be that Great Britain can have no wish to contravene our historic policy known as the Monroe Doctrine." But it is not to the present alone that we must look: prudent men of affairs will have a care to the red refulgence of the future sky. It is at least as probable as not that the Monroe Doctrine will go by the board at no very distant date. In the first place, there is a Power—apart from England—who is, or will shortly be, in a position to challenge that Doctrine, and it is the same Power that is now obsessed, both by ambition for territorial and commercial aggrandisement, and by the natural need for expansion over seas. Add to this the knowledge, common to the world at large, that the Power in question is pushing on with feverish haste the construction of a fleet far greater that her apparent needs demand, and the gravity of the situation thus created should be at least as obvious to Americans as it is to the British people. Ten years ago the Monroe Doctrine passed through a serious crisis, when the fleet of England stood between the United States and a European coalition. Who can say

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when a similar crisis may again arise? When one speculates upon the object for which the new German navy is intended, who shall say that it is designed rather to wrest the supremacy of the seas from England than to call in question the validity of the Monroe Doctrine? At any rate, the hard-headed Teuton will have no difficulty in deciding which is the easier task. Despite the indifference affected by the average American towards the struggle now in progress in European waters for the mastery of the ocean, the issue of that struggle is of profound concern to the Great Republic, as the unprecedented growth of the German navy itself is charged with menace for the future of South America. In this context, a correspondent of the London *Spectator* puts forward the following hypothesis—"Suppose that when Germany's preparations are made, she should pick a quarrel with England, and that the United States decides to look on. Suppose that at this crisis some Machiavellian German diplomatist says to England: 'We don't really mean to attack your supremacy, but if we do, your "consins" will, as you see, look on and let you fight for your Empire. Don't interfere with us in what we want to do in South America, and we will not try to undermine your present position." The case is worth considering, both by those who underestimate the heights and depths of German diplomatic ambition, and by those who, like the *Springfield Republican*, construe the statements occasionally found in English papers, that a Teutonic naval hegemony would mean disaster to the United States, into appeals for aid on the part of England against the German danger. When all to the contrary has been said, there is not a sober-thinking American who will not admit that the supremacy of the sea is, in England's hands, and with respect to the peace of the world, in the safest possible keeping; and if the historic policy of the States towards the South American continent is to be maintained against all likely comers, it were well that neither the invincible optimism of Americans in general, nor their equally invincible ignorance of political affairs outside of their own country, should prevent them from making due provision for that force upon which the Monroe Doctrine ultimately rests.

THE NEW ALIGNMENT OF AMERICAN PARTIES.

It being out of the question for the cable service to give us the details of the changes made in the multitudinous and complicated schedules of the new American Tariff just passed by Congress, the mail advices concerning the measure will be awaited with great interest. In the meantime, there is room for much conjecture as to the general situation, the most recent wire indicating that the outcome of the long debate forebodes the disruption of the dominant party held responsible for the make-up of the bill. While this is possible in view of the fact that, upon such a dominant issue as the tariff has become, both the present political organizations are about evenly divided, it is yet by no means an easy thing in America to bring about a new alignment or to organize new parties. In such a matter not only the tremendous force of party loyalty must be taken into account, growing as it has out of the fiercest contentions upon the vital issues of the past, and therefore having behind it the stimulus of tradition, but also the sectional character of the original dividing line, the battle being less than the world-old struggle between the Northern and the Southern blood, will be likely to prove an important factor in perpetuating the present alignment. While therefore it is probable that there will be an immense shifting of votes from the one side to the other on the new issue, it is highly probable that the old party names will be retained.

It is in this regard that the political history of America presents the strongest possible contrast to that of Japan. Here new parties spring into existence whenever in the old ones dissension become rife on the pettiest questions of detail, with the result that the great motive power of the nation, the sentiment of loyalty, becomes in political life almost wholly inoperative. The sense of proportion, too, developed as it has been to an extraordinary degree in English and American political strife, keeps the mind of the people fixed upon the dominating issue before the public to the almost complete exclusion of minor questions, these not being permitted in any degree to obscure the real point of contention. It is thus that the loyalty of all the members of the two great contending hosts is secured, and while the battle assumes a commanding dignity the keen interest of the entire nation is centred upon its great political struggles. There is a vital lesson in all this to be learned by Japan, where new parties spring into being every month, bearing the seeds of their own speedy dissolution in the lack of any sense of proportion on the part of its members, who because of differences of opinion upon even the pettiest of details, deem it their duty to retire from the field and "flock all alone."

In America there is another feature in its political strife which of recent years has assumed commanding importance. While the two great parties have been from time to time openly deployed upon the battlefield, a third, nameless and without organization, has again and again intervened and turned the tide of victory to the one side or to the other. In other words, the independent voters, holding the balance of power, proved a potent force in correcting any abuse of privilege of which the dominant party has been at any time guilty. Again and again, this body of "free American citizens" has administered its corrective without fear or favour, and in every general election for the last twenty-five years the chief anxiety of the party in power has been to conciliate or attract this independent vote which stands ready with sovereign power to rebuke any excess or usurpation on the part of the organization holding the reins of government. In fact, in the development of the principle of party government, which has attained so high a degree of progress in America, there are practically three parties in the field. It is upon the action of the third, that one which is without either name or organisation, but which is made up of citizens of commanding intelligence, that the interest of the country, and especially of the leaders of the organised posts, will be centred in the elections which next year will decide the political complexion of the new Congress.

A NEEDED CORRECTIVE.

It is worthy of note that the Western papers, secular as well as religious, are dwelling upon the unusually brilliant prospect now opening before the workers in the missionary field of Japan, that field having come to be for some reason regarded as just now fully ripe for the harvest of conversion to Christianity.

In a dully apathetic world like this in which we are living, needing as it does so wofully the influence of great enthusiasms to rouse it from its lethargy, it may seem specially ungracious to say a word calculated to check any sincere enthusiast absorbed in the task of its regeneration. But there are such things as undue hopes, and when these fail, there are inevitable the bitter disappointments and reactions which should be carefully guarded against. It should therefore be fairly stated, in view of the prospect with which the Western press seems just now to be glowing, that reasons exist calculated greatly to temper the new-born hope, reasons applying with special force to conditions obtaining in this Empire.

One of these reasons is that conversion is a far greater word, and connotes an infinitely more difficult work, than the missionaries themselves ever seem to realize. Its results cannot by any possibility be expressed in statistics, for mere numbers do not count, in a work which aims at changing the vital current of the thought of an empire. While conversion means essentially such a change of thought, all effort to influence the unthinking and unthoughtful multitude is labour absolutely thrown away. The very history of Christianity itself is a proof of this statement, it having gained no missionary triumph worthy of the name since it changed the vital current of the thought of Europe by means of such peerless thinkers and scholars as its Paul, Chrysostom, and Jerome.

Of special force is this consideration in the case of an empire like Japan, whose thinkers have been for centuries so steeped in the teachings of rationalism that they are unapproachable by any new religion save that which is based upon purely rational grounds. Precisely the same consideration

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holds good also with reference to the popular Buddhist beliefs which it is proposed to supplant. Any real or effective strife between Christianity and Buddhism here must be upon the ground of the systems of thought which underlie them. Upon this scholarly strife, and on this alone, rests the final issue.

It may perhaps be deemed a pity that so much devoted effort as has already been expended in the Orient, has been practically thrown away through the failure of the great mission boards to realize the essential to success, namely the sending of an army of its best thinkers and scholars to cope with the intelligence of the lands they would convert to their own way of thought; but it is to be considered that in this regard such has been the history of all efforts of the kind. Great enthusiams have always been at the outset blundering enthusiasms. The only difference in this especial case is that the blundering has been so persistent and inveterate through the blindness of religious zeal, intent upon the impossible task of winning a victory without taking the slightest cognizance of the practical conditions of success.

Aside from the broad ground thus adduced there is another and special reason for seeking to temper the expectation now apparently aroused in the West. As Lafcadio Hearn once so clearly pointed out, "never within modern history has Christendom been able to force the acceptance of its doctrines upon a people able to maintain any hope of national existence. The nominal success of missions among savage tribes or the vanishing Maori races only prove the rule." If this be true, and it can scarcely be disputed, it would involve instead of the realization of the hope now being held out to the West, the complete vanishing of the prospect of converting an Empire in which the consciousness of a national existence, the dream of national glory, the stimulus of patriotic pride, the passion of loyalty, are the very breath of life to its people.

On the other hand, and curiously enough on the self-same ground, there is ample justification for the enthusiasm now being shown in the mission field of Korea, where the hope of a separate national existence is fast becoming dimmed. Were the mission boards, taught by the failures of the past, inspired now to adopt the only means by which the vital current of thought in a people can be changed, and were they to send there hereafter, to reinforce the present band of workers, only men of mental light and leading, they might find there a field ripe for the harvest.

CUSTOMS APPEALS.

The Minister for Finance passed a decision on August 2 on an appeal lodged by the China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd., No. 89, Yamashita-cho. The firm imported "Telephone Plate" on which the Yokohama Customs imposed 30 per cent. *ad val.* duty in accordance with No. 367 of the statutory tariff. The contention of the importers was that the goods should be dealt with under No. 451, which provides for 20 per cent. *ad val.* duty. The appeal was dismissed on the ground that the article was not regarded as a part of the telephone apparatus.

WHY NOT THE BAND ERE NOW?

During the hot evenings of these midsummer days, when the moon is shining brightly and nature is calm and people are inclined for wakeful repose, one could wish for no finer pleasure than the strains of some well-attuned band in a well-chosen retreat, or public resort.

During the past few months several local enthusiasts, notably Mr. C. Murray Duff and Professor Griffith, have worked hard to provide Yokohama with such an organization; and their efforts have met with considerable appreciation and support, especially from the German and other Continental residents. This support however, does not appear to have been shared by the British community as much as the promoters anticipated, and as much, indeed, as they were justified in anticipating. This slackness, in view of the enthusiastic talk that has been heard from time to time, is unaccountable. It is hardly creditable to a well developed locality like Yokohama that it cannot raise a band! The musicians are here—in Yokohama and Tokyo. They can begin at once.

Then why not? "Simply," as Professor Griffith, the director, puts it—"simply because we need about another 50 subscribers, at 6 *yen* per annum each, in addition to the 300 or 400 that we have already got. Our people are all thoroughly accomplished musicians. We intend to produce the best music, and we can appeal to practically all musical tastes. But we must have *a few more supporters.*"

Where are these additional supporters? They ought to be forthcoming. It is time we made it possible for this band to be an accomplished fact, ere the summer is over.

A PUBLIC-SPIRITED LETTER.

A GENTLEMAN WILL PARTIALLY GUARANTEE MARGIN OF REQUISITE FUNDS FOR YOKOHAMA BAND: WHO ELSE?

The spirit of Yokohama is a worthy one, even if it be often somnolent. It throbbed into partial wakefulness, the other day—as the British Lion is wont to do when a foreign nation treads upon more than the proverbial inch of its tail—in response to a comment in the *Japan Mail* upon the lackadaisical manner in which Yokohama was viewing a proposition the realisation of which would be not only entertaining but edifying. Several enthusiastic spirits, who are also accomplished musicians, a short while ago hinted at the communal and other benefits which would accrue from a public band; and advanced a step further by seriously planning its inception. The fee was to be 6 *yen* per subscriber, per annum. Local Continental lovers of music jumped at the idea, and a few members of the British community, not to be outclassed in musically appreciative capacity, tardily followed suit.

Thus some three or four hundred subscribers gradually swelled the lists of Mr. C. Murray Duff, one of the principal promoters, and Professor Griffith, who was suggested as, and will be a thoroughly capable, "director."

Fifty more subscribers were required. We mentioned this fact, and incidentally mentioned the possibility of the proposed band shortly becoming an accomplished fact. We have now the pleasure of adding that the required number of additional supporters will probably be forthcoming. Responses during the past few days have been more numerous, and the following letter is especially promising:

To C. MURRAY DUFF, Esq., Yokohama.

DEAR SIR,—A paragraph in the *Japan Mail* of the 31st July indicated that the subscription list for the proposed band for Yokohama is still incomplete, and that fifty more subseribers, at *yen* 6 each, are required to form a guarantee fund for its establishment. If this movement should fail from want of support it will be a source of real regret, for to my knowledge a well-conducted band is a continual pleasure to a community, young and old, and should receive support from everybody.

In my judgment one performance of the band will bring in immediately an increased number of subscribers; and I make this proposition. Can you induce five other members of the community to join with me in a guarantee of fifty subscribers at *yen* 6 each, *yen* 300, to complete the required number; and if at the end of the year, or within a certain time, the subscription list is not augmented by fully fifty subscribers, the guarantors will pay the difference, not exceeding three hundred *yen*? If this proposition can be carried into effect, the band should be organised immediately with every prospect of success.

You may make whatever use you think fit of this letter.

Yours faithfully, W. H. TALBOT.

Yokohama, 2nd August, 1909.

The gentleman whose name is signed below this letter is a public well-wisher, as the spirit of his epistle indicates, and is to be congratulated upon his active interest in the musical scheme now brought so prominently before the community.

Why not the Bluff Gardens, on some quiet, warm evening, in the very near future, for the first public appearance of "The Yokohama Band?"

IN THE TAJ GARDEN.

"Alas that Spring should vanish with the rose
And Love's sweet-scented manuscript should close." (Omar Khayyam.)

Rose from an Indian Garden,
Gathered so long ago!
When the great moon shone on the gleaming domes
And the marble courts below;
And we walked alone on those grassy paths
Where Spring's late-born roses grow.

He plucked you and whispered gaily
"A rose for a rose to wear,"
While the honeyed scent of the Babul
Hung sweet on the silent air.
But mingling with its fragrance
Came the luckless jasmin's breath,
Where the calm Taj rose an Eternal sign
Of Love's smile in the face of Death.

Rose from an Indian Garden,
Withered so long ago!
Love seemed so near and Death so far
On those rose-twined paths below.
Like children we feared no sorrow,
Like children we knew no care,
Though the scent of the luckless jasmin
Hung thick on the silent air.

There's a grave on a lonely frontier,
A grave where no roses grow.
Where my Love and my Life lie buried
With the Spring-times of long ago.
His jewelled Taj is the Heaven
Which echoes not to the cries
Of the grief-broken voice of the mourner
Afar from the land where he lies.

Rose from an Indian garden!
When you and I shall stand
In the garden of deathless roses
Somewhere in a better land;
And his kiss shall re-open mine eyelids
And your petals revive 'neath his breath,
We shall know that Love immortal
May smile in the face of Death.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The last ten days of July saw an increase of 1 1/10 per cent in the export of raw silk, while there was a diminution of 2 7/10 in the import of raw cotton and rice. The balance turned out in favour of imports by *yen* 239,000. The actual figures are as follow:—

	Yen.
Imports	11,786,000
Exports	11,547,000
Excess of Imports	239,000

The figures for the total trade from the 1st January to the 31st of July were as follow:—

	Yen.	Comparison with 1908.
Imports	246,140,000	— 42,179,000
Exports	215,431,000	+ 11,319,000
Excess of Imports	30,709,000	

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The commercial and industrial magazines are discussing the revision of the tariff very earnestly. But, speaking generally, the writing is characterized by great vagueness. In the June 15th. number of the *Taiheiyō* (The Pacific), however, we find an article penned by Mr. Nakabashi Tokugorō, President of the Osaka Shōsen Kaisha, which expresses the following opinions:—(1) *The Japanese Government should publish without delay a draft of the new treaty.* The public to-day, including all the various Chambers of Commerce, is indulging in vague generalities on this subject for the simple reason that it has nothing definite to go on. The opinions of business men on this momentous question should carry great weight with the authorities, but up to the present the business world has been kept in the dark by the Government as to what measures are contemplated. (2) *The fundamental principle that should govern our tariff policy.* No country in the world to-day approves of extreme forms of free-trade or protection. Every country is largely guided by its own special circumstances and relation to foreign Powers in deciding on the tariff that it enforces. It is guided by its own permanent interests. But one thing that should carry great weight in deciding on a tariff is the nature of a country's exports and imports and the state of the countries from which the principal articles come. Now it is a fact worth noting that two-thirds of our foreign trade is with China, Korea and the South Pacific Islands and only one third of it with Europe and America. If, guided by considerations connected with our trade with Europe and America, we raise our import taxes to high figures, we shall seriously injure our trade with the above-named countries. The drawing up of a protective tariff is a very delicate business. Unless great care is taken the attempt to protect some industries injures a number of others which are dependent on imported articles. (3) *Beware of revolutionizing the whole money market.* Sudden fundamental changes in a country's tariff policy may cause great confusion in the money market and involve serious losses. It takes a country some little time to adjust itself to new conditions even if they are not very different from the old ones, but when the reforms are very radical the consequences are often most serious.

In the *Taiheiyō* Dr. Soeda Juichi urges the further introduction of foreign capital with a view of rendering money as cheap here as it is in the West. He regards with no alarm at all the rapid rate at which foreign loans have been contracted since the war, and he thinks that the protests of the banks against borrowing money abroad are quite unreasonable and only aim at keeping up the present high rates of interest here.

* * *

In the *Jitsugyō no Nihon* (Business Japan) Mr. Yasuda Zenzaburō the head of the Yasuda Ginkō, writes out the use that has been made in his bank of Middle School graduates. He says that formerly the Bank employed a good many Primary School graduates, but found them insufficiently educated. It then tried graduates of High Commercial Schools and the Universities, but these students failed to adapt themselves to the positions in which they were placed and seemed to be somewhat over-educated. Two years ago the Bank began to employ Middle School students and is highly gratified will the results. Applicants for employment are required to pass a written examinations held in Tōkyō once a year. The candidates for each of the examinations hitherto held have numbered over 200, the highest number being 270. Out of these only 20 students are chosen. This year the examination was held in the Hall of the Meiji Daigaku on May 9th. Out of over 200 candidates 60 passed the written examination, but 40 of these were subsequently rejected for various reasons. All employees of the Bank are examined by a Doctor and rejected if suffering from serious complaints. The subjects in which the students are examined are mathematics (including arithmetic and algebra), Japanese and Chinese literature, handwriting, Japanese Composition and English. Among these composition in Japanese carries great weight.

As for the English language, since they have little use for it in the Bank, we do not attach much importance to it except as a test of the general ability of students. Even if a student passes the written examination creditably, if it is found that he has been brought up in a family whose ways are objectionable, he is rejected. Accepted candidates are required to have two guarantors, one in Tōkyō, who must be somebody paying over 10 *yen* a year income tax, and a parent or guardian belonging to the candidate's native place. As a result of the examinations we have held we have found that most of the graduates of Middle schools have little assimilative power and have no notion of how to apply the knowledge they have acquired. Unless the examination questions resemble those they have been accustomed to they don't know how to answer them. The simplest arithmetical problems were only answered correctly by two or three students out of over 200, merely because they required a little original thinking. The truth of most of the Middle School students is utter inability to apply the knowledge they have acquired. What we desire in our employees is capacity for learning and general adaptability rather than extensive acquaintance with book knowledge. The Middle school students are mostly wanting in commonsense in using the knowledge they have acquired. There are two things to which we pay considerable attention in the selection of employees, one is conversational power, and the other is attractiveness of manner. In a bank both of these are of great importance, especially the latter.

Writing in the *Jitsugyō no Nihon* on Tōkyō Japanese traders as compared with those of Ōsaka Mr. G. Hiraga makes the following points:—(1) *The Ōsaka traders are smarter and more enterprising than the Tōkyō merchants.*—In Ōsaka business men lay in a stock of goods for which there is no immediate urgent demand. If they don't get rid of them in Ōsaka, they send them to other places. In Tōkyō only things for which there is regular demand are as a rule kept in stock. (2) *There is no comparison between the extent of the influence of the Ōsaka and the Tōkyō traders taken as a whole. Ōsaka is miles ahead.*—This is largely the result of the enterprising spirit of the Ōsaka men. Most of this business is not carried on in the city itself. They have agencies in Chūgoku, Shikoku, Kyūshū, Formosa, Korea, China, the South Pacific Islands and even in India. Both as purchasers and sellers they surpass the Tōkyō men everywhere. Even in the northern part of Japan, right up to Hokkaidō, their agents are quite as numerous as those sent from Tōkyō. The extensive connections of the Ōsaka big merchants emboldens them to lay in a large stock of goods, knowing that if they are not needed in one place they will be required in another. (3) *Osaka has facilities for big business transactions that Tōkyō does not possess.* For years past Ōsaka has been doing business on an altogether bigger scale than Tōkyō. While Tōkyō contents itself will small purchases of goods in immediate demand whose market price is fixed, Ōsaka makes large purchases of articles for which there is no immediate demand. The Osaka merchants have organized an elaborate agency for bringing sellers of goods into contact with purchasers. Their brokerage arrangements are very perfect compared with those of Tōkyō. (4) *Credit transactions are very numerous in Ōsaka. The brokerage charges on these are very low.* The Osaka merchants attach great importance to the development of credit and many of their largest transactions are based on it. The commission in these transactions, though low, satisfies the brokers on account of their number (5) *The reason why Osaka goods are cheaper than those of Tōkyō.* It is well known thoroughout Japan that Ōsaka goods are considered inferior to those of Tōkyō. "An Ōsaka article" implies that the article is cheap and bad. Low prices and inferior quality in most cases go together. The exigencies of trade have forced the Ōsaka factories to turn out cheap and inferior articles. (*a*) Ōsaka is competing with Germany, which manufactures cheap, inferior articles by the thousand, many of which find their way to this Country. (*b*) Ōsaka sends a large number of things to countries where cheapness is the one essential condition of extensive sale. In trade the supply in controlled by the demand. Neither the Chinese, the Koreans nor the Indians will purchase high-priced goods. Hence the policy adopted by Ōsaka in this matter. (6) *Red sandal-wood desks that cost 17 or 18 yen in Osaka Cost 30 yen in Tōkyō.* To look at these desks they seem to be alike, but when used the Ōsaka desk is found to be quite inferior. The wood warps and the desk becomes useless. The Tōkyō desks, on the other hand, are well made and last any number of years. (7) *The Osaka maker aims at cheapness, the Tōkyō maker at good quality.* Because this is so the Ōsaka man will haggle for the reduction of prices till he gets an article at the figure he wants. But the Tōkyō business man shows a workman a pattern and allows him to estimate what its production will cost and makes no attempt to beat the man down. His charge for the article is naturally influenced by the cost of production. The invariable beating down that goes on in Osaka inevitably leads to the manufacture of inferior things. The writer of the article we have quoted from has resided 15 years in Ōsaka and the above is a record of his impressions.

In the *To-A-no Hikari*, Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō's organ, Dr. Hattori discusses the attitude of the Chinese to Western Civilisation. He says that certain Chinese writers maintain that there is nothing specially new to the Chinese in our Western science and political institutions. They assert that physics was studied by the ancient Chinese, that in optics they made considerable progress, that even constitutional government, or something very like it, existed prior even to the (周) *chou* age. Dr. Hattori quotes these opinions for the purpose of showing that it is very unlikely that the world will witness anything like a repetition of the French revolution in China. Changes will take place gradually. China is not likely to break with her past altogether. But the notion that there was anything in ancient China which really corresponded to modern science is untenable. Flight though the air was attempted in China as elsewhere, but ended in failure from lack of the knowledge that we now possess. That the knowledge which the Chinese have now begun to appropriate from Occidental countries is in every sense new to Celestials can not be denied says Dr. Hattori. Nevertheless what is somewhat remarkable is the absence of wonder or great excitement in the minds of Chinese when they come into contact with Western civilisation. There was a time when Japan fairly went crazy over European ideas, ways and inventions, when she seemed to have lost all respect for her ancient modes of life and thinking, There is none of this to-day. China no longer mocks at Western ways as she did some 10 years ago, but neither is she so infatuated with Western civilisation as to under-estimate the value of her own traditious. She is displaying great moderation and caution in the introduction of new knowledge. It is a remarkable thing that along with the opening of schools for teaching Western science, history and politics, quite a number of schools have recently been opened whose object is the study of ancient books. These schools bear the title of 古學堂, Kogakudō.

It must not be overlooked that for centuries China had connection with the outside world both by land and by sea. With some Occidental theories and certain branches of learning they seem to have been acquainted for a considerable time. But with the exception of mathematics they made little use of the knowledge acquired. And as for mathematics, it was always studied in connection with astronomy, and of the other numerous methods of applying it familiar to Occidentals the Chinese were profoundly ignorant. The books on Western learning brought to China by the Jesuit missionaries seem to have

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attracted little attention among the Chinese. The feeling to-day is that the Chinese can not do better than begin with the study of medicine, as we did here in Japan. The health of the nation is of primary importance and nothing in the whole country is more backward than knowledge of the art of healing. A good deal is being done in this direction, but for a long time to come the supply of duly qualified doctors will be insufficient. The history of China in past centuries tends to show that neither Western Science, Christianity nor Buddhism have affected her very deeply. There was a time when Christianity was held by Chinese scholars, but in recent times converts are almost wholly confined to the lower orders (*Sono nochi kono oshie wo hōzuru mono ga ippan ni kagiru yō na arisama de atte, &c.*) These Christians form a separate community and their influence on the customs, ideas and lives of the mind of the Chinese is very small. Hitherto China has shown herself to be anything but amenable to foreign influence of any kind. That of change has come over her is undoubtedly true, but that she will follow in our wake at a rapid rate, unreservedly is most improbable.

The question of how far the education of women should be carried in Japan has by no means been settled. The subject is constantly under discussion in various magazines and newspapers. In an article entitled "Concerning Women's Universities" from the pen of Mr. Shimoda Jirō, which appears in the June number of the *To-A-no-Hikari* the following views are expressed:—In this country there is much difference of opinion as to the position that women should occupy *vis à vis* men, and this necessarily influences men's views on the higher education of women. It is felt pretty generally that to give a woman a taste for learned subjects is apt to make her discontented with domestic duties. In some cases in all countries where high-class female education has been tried to a certain extent this has undoubtedly been the case. For this reason the women who undergo high training should always be few in number. In almost all Western countries Universities are thrown open to women. Germany has some 20 universities which are attended by both men and women. Eventually Japan will no doubt follow suit in this matter, but as yet no adequate preparation has been made for taking this step. The schools which are necessary to prepare a girl for a University course, do not exist and the numerous women's magazines that appear every month, considered as reading matter, are on a very low level intellectually. Topics which are discussed in periodicals designed for men are carefully excluded from these organs on the supposition that they are beyond the comprehension of women. And in this country very few women read magazines written for men, nor do they read high-class books. At present there seems to be a strong prejudice against mixing the sexes in schools and universities. There are no rules existing for the control of social intercourse between the sexes that would saction their attending the same classes in a University, and it is difficult to say when public opinion on this subject will progress far enough to allow of this. Hence there is a special need for women's universities here that does not exist in Europe and America. As for the raising of the position of women and conferring on her the rights she enjoys in the West, owing to the powerful influence of Confucianism and Buddhism in this country, it is bound to be very slow work.

* * *

Some five years ago a fortnightly business magazine called *Jitsugyō no Yokohama* was started. It seems to have received a fair amount of support from businessmen. In the June 1st number there was an article on the tea industry, which began in the Ansei era. It is stated that at the beginning of the Meiji era tea sold at 2 *yen* a *kwamme*, so the price has not changed much since that time, according to the writerof the article. He notes the fact that Japanese tea is now cultivated in America to a certain extent, but he is of opinion that this will not seriously interfere will the tea trade here for many years to come. Dr. Soeda Juichi, President of the Industrial Bank, writes on the Sugar Refining Company scandal. He thinks that the prosecution going on can only have a good effect on the money market generally. It will cause the public to be on the alert against fraud and wild speculation. The idea that the troubles which have overtaken this Company will be felt in other companies which are managed differently is a mistaken one Dr. Soeda thinks. The steps hitherto taken by the Company to restore the confidence of the public have not been very successful. Baron Shibusawa has done his best, but neither the elder statemen nor the Government have done any thing to better the situation. The Company's first duty is to select directors who have the entire confidence of the public. These men should be trusted to do all that it is possible to do to save the Company from absolute ruin.

* * *

A number of articles dealing with the High Commercial School trouble appeared in the June *Taiyō*. From them we make a few extracts, which will suffice to show how the matter is regarded by the well known scholars who deal with the subject. In a short essay entitled Five Great Causes of School Disturbances Dr. K. Ume says:—School Disturbances all ever the country are becoming very common. My own experience as a teacher and connection with schools have led me to think that there are 5 great causes of the commotion complained of (1) *Unsuitable men are appointed as Directors.* Unless a Director inspires respect among the students, when even a small difficulty occurs he is powerless to smooth matters over. The students ignore him. In addition to this a Director must be known by the students as a kind-hearted man who is ready to consider any supposed grievances that they may have and to give them good advice. (2) *Most of the students attending schools are altogether wanting in consideration.* They have neither foresight nor forethought. It concerns them little as to what evil consequences their conduct may produce. They act from youthful impulse only. (3) *Disturbances are often either instigated or backed by the teachers.* The object of the teachers in acting thus is to get the Director dismissed or to effect some other change in the school which will benefit them. Such teachers welcome disturbances for their on selfish end. (4) *The parents of pupils act very thoughtlessly in dealing with disturbances caused by their children.* Instead of discouraging the promoters of agitation, instead of receiving their accounts of grievances with caution and reserve, they too often manifest strong sympathy with their boys and spur them on to violent action of some kind. The parents as a rule only hear the boy's side of the qnestion in dispute and then set themselves against the school authorities. (5) *The newspapers do much harm when reporting school disturbances by the tone they adopt and by exaggerated statements whose only object it is to create a sensation.* Constant newspaper notices of commotion tends to increase its strength. A great many papers side with the students when they come into conflict with the school authorities.

Baron Makino, the late Minister of Education, writing in the *Taiyō* on the same subject, observes:—Wherever there are school disturbances it is almost invariably found that there is friction between the Director and the teachers or between the various teachers. Of this disunion in the faculties of the schools the pupils make adroit use. It is astonishing how soon students find out the state of feeling between the different teachers. In the Higher Commercial School it is quite evident that the action of the teachers is largely responsible for the dimensions which the agitation reached. The question of the future status of the school was plainly not one for the students now attending it to settle. The teachers are no doubt in favour of the creation of an independent Commercial University. They could have taken steps to make their views known to the authorities in a quiet and dignified manner. The practice of secretly encouraging school strikes as a means of forcing compliance with their wishes is most objectionable from whatever point of view it be regarded. Whatever may be the future status of the school, it certainly will not affect the present students; so that the teachers might well have been expected to point this out to them and to urge them to refrain from extreme measures. But this they did not do. It was for them to insist that questions of administration of this kind can not be settled by the decision or the action of students.

On the desirability of creating a Commercial University on an independent footing I have grave doubts. The nations which are must successful in commerce certainly do not owe that success to academic training. The aim of German, English and American ordinary schools has been to cultivate general sharpness of wits and common-sense in the boys. With these qualities well developed young men have entered the business world and have succeeded admirably. The English merchants all over the world had little academic training of a technical kind to commence with. And as regards the German men of business who swarm in all parts of the globe they are graduates of gymnasia and nothing more. Most of them have not attended Commercial schools. So that it seems to me we are attaching too much importance to academic training and academic honours as a preparation for an active business life. There is at present a strong tendency in this country to pay too much attention to technical education and to neglect the culture of those mental qualities the possession of which accounts for the rapidity with which other nations have progressed in industry and commerce. As for the controversy over the Commercial School question it largely concerns a name rather than a reality. The agitation is out of all proportion to its alleged object.

* * *

On June 16th a new business magazine called *Jitsugyō no Tenchi* was published in Tōkyō. It contains the usual congratulatory epistles and a fair number of very readable articles. One of these compares the facilities for auditing accounts and the laws bearing thereon in England with what exists in this country and urges the Government to take steps to remedy the present unsatisfactory state of affairs. This magazine discusses a number of business principles. It assumes a lofty and independent tone. There is an article by Dr. J. Soeda entitled *Lifelong Benefactors* and another by Mr. Ōkura Kihachirō, entitled "The Division of my Property after my death and Inheritance." From the latter we make the following extracts:" I am now 73 years of age. When I was only 18 I started life in Tōkyō with 20 *yen* as capital, money that I received from my elder sister when I left Shibata, Echigo, my native place. As may be imagined, I have not reached my present position as a capitalist without passing through much trouble. On certain enterprises that I undertook I even staked my life. To-day the whole thing seems like a long dream. One principle I have kept to through thick and thin, and that is to go my own way despite what people say, never to turn aside from any course on which I have determined on account of ridicule or opposition. A man's real reputation can not be decided on till after his death (*Kwan wo oute sadamaru mono de*). I an content to wait for the verdict of posterity on my actions. If asked to state to what I attribute the success I have achieved, I would note seven special points to which I paid attention. (1) *I have carefully avoided speculation.* From very early days I felt a strong objection to dealing in stocks, though my contemporaries Messrs. Amenomiya Keijirō and Ito Hei made a great deal of money by speculation. In the West speculations on the Exchange are not regarded as real business. (2) *I have always endeavoured to do work that would in some way benefit the State.* As is known to the public I have supplied material for the Army and served the Government in various other ways. (3) *It has always been my aim to benefit others while benefiting myself, to combine altruism with egoism.* Acting on this principle, in Tōkyō, Ōsaka and Korea I have established Commercial schools, whence I trust will issue a number of Ōkuras in the days to come. These will perpetuate my name and spirit in the world. (*Ikunin ka no Ōkura ni yotte kono Kihachirō no seishin ga*

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kōsei made mo nokoshitsutaerarerru no de aru). (4) *What I have done has not been for the sake of making a reputation or receiving marks of honour.* I have no desire to be made a baron nor to have other honours conferred on me. It is a sufficient satisfaction to me to know that I am doing what I consider to be right and beneficial to others. (5) *I have never tried to live above my station in life.* There are people who try to ape the ways of those above them. This I have carefully avoided. (6) *I believe in putting life and spirit into everything done.* Though over 70, I have no intention of retiring from active life as long as I have a leg to stand on. (7) *It is strength of purpose that insures success in most enterprises.* If a man is determind to carry a thing through, difficulties are soon overcome. There is nothing to equal the power of will in the worker.

My son and heir, Kishichirō, has been carefully educated. He is a graduate of the Imperial University and has studied abroad. Moreover, he knows well the principles which I have observed in carrying on business. I propose to leave the business only in his hands, conferring on him sufficient capital to enable him to carry it on. The property I have accumulated I shall divide among my other relatives. I have already made a will which gives to each person concerned a certain amount. One of the provisions of the will is that if any person raises a dispute over the will, that person is to forfiet the property bequeathed to him or her. I do not intend to follow the usual practice of bequeathing property orally just before death.*

THE BOOKSHELF.

As Others See Us.—A Study of Progress in the United States. By JOHN GRAHAM BROOKS, Author of "The Social Unrest." New York: The Macmillan Company, 1909.

THIS book, while full of interest, is decidedly perplexing. Opinion as opposite as the poles confront each other in every chapter. Sometimes the author attempts to strike a balance between them. At other times he leaves the reader to do this for himself. The earliest quotation given is from William Priest's travels, published in 1802 and the latest passages quoted are from books which appeared in 1906. Over 50 English writers are quoted, some 30 French and 18 German authors. The headings of the Chapters will suffice to give an idea of the plan of the work. They are as follows:—I., The Problem Opened. II., Concerning our Critics. III., Who is the American? IV., Our Talent for Bragging. V., Some other Peculialities. VI., American Sensitiveness. VII., The Mother Country as a Critic. IX., Higher Criticism. X., Our French Visitors. XI., Democracy and Manners. XII., Our Monopoly of Wit. XIII., Our Greatest Critic. XIV., A Philosopher as Mediator. XV., A Socialist Critic. XVI., XVII., Signs of Progress. Among the writers quoted some went to the United States with the object of discovering objectionable features in American life and institutions. One English lecturer writes "I really went out there (to the U. States) for the express purpose of showing what a mess they are making of it." The testimony of such writers is naturally discounted by Mr. Brooks. Other writers, among the French especially, visited the U. States with the desire to discover new weapons for attacking England and hence the praise they heap on everything American carries no great weight with it.

In Chapter III entitled "Who is the American?" Mr. Brooks shows that it is by no means an easy matter to determine what are the physical and mental characteristics common to all Americans. A clever German journalist, a correspondent of the *Cologne Gazette*, is quoted. He paid four visits to the States. His first clearly conceived image of the American was that he was "Sharp-visaged, nervous, lank and restless." After his second visit this group of objectives was abandoned and others were substituted, only to be dropped in their turn at a later date. He thought that after his third trip he could describe American character. "The American, he said, "is resourceful, inventive and supreme in the pursuit of material ends." But after his fourth trip he said "This trip has knocked out the final attempt with the others. I have thrown them all over like a lot of rubbish. I now don't know what the American is, and I don't believe any one else knows." The difficulty of defining an American is caused by the great mixture of races which took place, more especially in the latter half of the last century. Boston was originally Puritan; "to-day it is Catholic. It has nearly 30 nationalities." New York is the chief Jewish City in the world. It will very soon have a million Hebrews. In American cities there are little Polands and little Italys, and in Lowell, Massachusetts. one may find himself in a Greece that is not even little. Mr. Brooks tells us that after asking a great many people what one quality could be fixed on as essentially American, he found the opinion of the majority to be that adaptibility was that quality. But he then proceeds to point out that the Jew is far more adaptable than any American of English lineage.

Among the opinions quoted there are some very funny ones. A French writer asserts that America owes her commercial greatness to her women. In the words of Mr Brooks:—"It is not primarily the man, but the American woman who commands the business initiative. The root of all our commercial greatness is her ambition. Because her heart is set on those first neccessities—the luxuries and superfluities—for that reason the railroads, stock-exchanges, mills, and mines are driven at white heat. It is man's business to work all the wonders of our business world in order that wifely expectations may not go unsatisfied. We thus get at the real origin of the much-noted American deference to woman." Among the quotations made one of the most racy is taken from Emily Faithful's "Three Visits to the United States" (1884). In a speech made by a certain Mr. Skinner two generations ago in favour of woman's rights this anti-male outburst occurred:—"Miss President, feller wimmen, and male trash generally, I am here to-day for the purpose of discussing woman's rights, recussing her wrongs, and cussing the men.

"I believe sexes were created perfectly equal, with the woman a little more equal than the man.

"I believe that the world to-day would be happier if man never existed.

"As a success man is a failure, and I bless my stars my mother was a woman (*Applause.*)

"I not only maintain those principles, but maintain a thriftless husband besides.

"They say man was created first—well, s'pose he war. Arn't first experiments always failures?

"The only decent thing about man was a rib, and that went to make something better (*Applause.*)

"And they throw into our faces about taking an apple. I'll bet five dollars that Adam boosted her up the tree, and only gave her the core.

"And what did he do when he was found out? True to his masculine instincts, he sneaked behind Eve, and said, 'Twan't me; 't'was her,' and woman had to father everything, and mother it too.

"What we want is the ballot, and the ballot we're bound to have, if we have have to let down our back hair, and swim in a sea of gore!"

The writer whom Mr. Brooks designates America's "greatest critic" is James Bryce, whose "American Commonweath" is used as a text-book in some American Schools. The latest edition of this work appeared in 1888. Mr. Bryce paid three visits to America. The first in 1870, the last in 1883-1884. In the minds of a very large number of thoughtful Americans Mr. Bryce's work occupies higher rank than any book penned by a foreigner. One American scholar is quoted by Mr. Brooks as saying that "he knew no single study that so effectively helped an American to know his own country as he ought to know it, as *The American Commonwealth*." No sensible American takes offence at what Bryce says against certain weaknesses and defects in American political institutions, sentiments and practices. The reason is that Bryce makes it quite clear to his readers that he is fond of America and Americans. It is the same in this country. The Japanese will listen patiently and even deferentially to any strictures passed on their ways and doings by those foreigners who are known to sympathize with the nation in its onward progress. Bryce says some very strong things on America and its legislature. He shows especially how little intellectual courage these is to be found among politicians. Congressman Littlefield is reported as saying, "If these is anything more cowardly than one Congressman, it is two Congressmen. It is a humiliating fact that the House of Representatives is the most cowardly political body in the United States. It is not even equal to the ordinary State Legislature. The ordinary Congressman, when he is elected, gets the notion that there is a career before him. It is almost impossible to get any member of Congress to vote against any proposition that seems to imperil his chances of return."

Is it the optimism which pervades Mr. Bryce's book that accounts for its popularity in America? Perhaps so. But even Mr. Brooks seems to doubt whether the facts which Mr. Bryce has collected justify the optimism which we have learnt to associate with all normal Americans. Politics have been subjected to private interests. Insurance companies and all sorts of other companies have been mismanaged. Dr. Albert Shaw, who is no alarmist, writes of American railroads: "We have a small and select population of plutocrats who control our railroads and have somehow managed to put into their private pockets some hundreds of thousands of millions of dollars through their ability to skin the cream off the country's prosperity. Yet Mr. Bryce is of opinion and the majority of educated Americans are of opinion that all will come right in the end. Mr. Brooks sees endless signs of progress and the purification and elevation of public sentiment. There he dwells on his last two chapters. On the whole Mr. Brooks himself is optimistic. It is a kind of religious faith with him as with others, but occasionally he has misgivings. In one place he says:—"We may believe as a matter of faith, never so stoutly, that all is to come right, but Mr. Bryce's volumes scarcely contain the reasons for his optimism, apart from his faith and good-will." Mr. Brooks is of opinion that there is at present a very general awakening to a sense of the dangers which threaten the country. His entertaining book thus closes:—"In the long list of the century's critics there is scarcely a volume which does not directly or indirectly, willingly or unwillingly, bear witness to this slow rise in social purpose to free ourselves from industrial and political tyrananies. Twenty years ago, one of these censors used words with which I gladly close this study. Though they apply quite as fitly to other nations, we can well afford to take the hint they offer. 'If the American should once become possessed of a little genuine humility, a humility without loss of courage or self-respect, if he lost a little hardness in his self-confidence and became more teachable, his mastery in the art of self-government would easily lead the world.'"

W.D.

CANADA AND THE NAVY.

A "BABY" NAVY NOT WANTED.

In an article on the recent Naval Review at Spithead, which it regards as pointing to the wisdom of naval concentration, the Montreal *Star* says that the Colonials will not desire to have a baby navy of their own when they know that this baby navy will be only of problematical use in Imperial defence, and suggests that the British Government should do the building, manning, equipping, and managing of the fleet, and that Canada should guarantee interest on a specific sum to be spent in Canada's name, with favourable terms for Canadian naval recruits, and that she should also have the option of taking over the ships thus provided on payment of their cost. The *Star* adds:—"Politicians in both camps are stupidly afraid of Quebec, but Quebec's true interests are to support the British Empire.

* A very common Japanese habit up till recent times. The practice of leaving written wills is growing increasingly common at the present time.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB'S 109 MILE OCEAN RACE.

MR. LAFFIN'S BOAT "MARY" WINS BY FEW MINUTES IN CLEVERLY SAILED RACE.

Keen enthusiasm was displayed by a goodly sprinkling of members of the Yacht Club and the Rowing Club, when the five boats got away on their ocean race of 109 miles, promptly at 3 o'clock on Saturday afternoon last, for the *Rudder Cup* presented by T. Fleming Esq., of New York.

There were nine entires, but four boats did not start.

COMPETITORS.

	(Handicap). h.	m.	s.
Mary (Messrs. Catto, Laffin, Martyr, J. Kaufner, Alan Smith and three Japanese)	1	57	00
Naniwa (Mr. Boyes)	3	36	00
Aborigine (Messrs. A. E. Cooper, Franklin, Bethell & Katsch)	4	42	00
Asagao (Messrs. Mason and Brockhurst	5	23	00
Valkyrien (Mr. Clausen)	6	3	00

Course:—Start between two mark boats off the Bund, through the Harbour Entrance, round the Hommoku Lighted Buoy (S) round Hatsu Shima (P) return round the Hommoku Lighted Buoy (P) and finish at the Harbour Entrance. Distance, 109¾ miles.

After a brilliantly sailed race, lasting 22 hours 17 minutes Mr. T. M. Laffin's cutter *Mary*, rated 38½, passed the harbour entrance at 1-17 on Sunday afternoon, every member of the crew in excellent condition but ready for the most dreamless of sleep.

When the handicap time had expired—7.20 p.m. on Sunday evening, no other boat had as yet burned her flare at the harbour entrance The *Valkyrien*, sailed by Mr. Clausen, was supposed to be some five minutes behind time, but up to going to press no definite details were ascertainable. Indeed, it was conjectured from hearsay that the other competitors had finished at Uraga.

THE MARY'S RUN.

Mary made a fairly good start, drawing past *Aborigine* (first over the line) and at the Harbour Entrance lead from *Valkyrien* by just over 2 minutes, she then went about, pointing up to the Honmoku Buoy. When about half way there, a heavy rain squall came on, and killed the wind. For the next hour, all the yachts were scattered, chasing sundry light and fickle breezes, but eventually *Mary* got round the buoy at 3.53 p.m. with a faint E.S.E. wind. At 4.20 p.m. Widow Buoy abeam. Repeated showers came on until 4.30, when she sighted a schooner coming for her dead ahead by the forts, before the wind, wing and wing. At 4.50 she picked up a light S.S.E. wind, which lasted till 5.05, when being taken aback with a sudden shift, she went about, and promptly lost the wind altogether. At 5.40 on port tack: light S.E. breeze. At 5.55 put about, heading E. by S. At 6.15, about again to port tack, breeze improving. At 6.30 Forts Nos. 1 and 2 in line abeam, wind better. She then made a short hitch to clear Kannon-zaki, and had the light abeam at 7.12 p.m.; she was off Kurihama at 8.30 and set spinnaker to a very faint N.E. wind. S.E. swell. At 8.35 wind E.N.E. Sagami Light abeam at 9.32 p.m. Gybed at 9.42, set spinnaker to starboard. At 10.15 the wind shifted to N.E. Messrs. Laffin and Catto turned in at 10.30. Changed watch at 12.30; breeze improving, took off spinnaker. *Mary* going fast. Bar 29.92.

Sunday, 1st August. At 1.40 a.m. the *Mary* sighted Hatsushima on the weather bow and fook in jib topsail. At 2 a.m. Island abeam to port; rounded and showed red flare.

Cleared the Island at 2.20 a.m. close hauled on port tack. Set small jibtopsail. At 2.55 sighted *Naniwa* abeam to windward making for the Island. At 3.5 a.m. heavy rain. Cleared at 4 a.m. good E.N.E. Wind Going fast. At 5 30 a.m. the fall of topmast backstay parted and topmast carried away. Went about, and by 6 a.m. had all the raffle cleared away: heading for Sagami on starboard tack. At 7 the wind headed *Mary*, and at 8 a.m. she was hung up on foul tide between Jogashima and Sagami, with hardly any wind. She lost more on the tide than she made on the wind, till at 9 a.m. the wind came stronger from E., and she at once began to travel again. Sagami beam at 9 20, *Mary* was now going home fast. Sighted *Cygnet*. Passed the Plymouth Rocks at 10.5, Uraga at 10.16, and Kannonzaki at 10.28. Had forts Nos. 1 & 2 in line abeam at 11.03: set spinnaker: wind S S E. Ran up the Bay with the wind gradually failing. Passed Harbour Entrance at 1.17 p.m.

From *Mary's* time, at 1.18 p.m. the handicaps were:—

	p.m.		p.m.
Naniwa:	3 36 = 4.53	*Aborigine*,	4.42 = 5.59
Asagao:	5.53 = 5.40	*Valkyrien*,	6.03 = 7.20

GRAND HOTEL, LTD.

SEMI-ANNUAL MEETING.

At the ordinary semi-annual meeting of the Grand Hotel Ltd., hold at the Hotel on July 30th, the subjoined report and accounts were presented and approved. The Chairman (Mr. D. H. Blake) in the course of his remarks observed that the shareholders had cause to congratulate themselves on the efficient and economical working of the Hotel, as evidenced by the increased profits. Mr. Blake referred sympathetically to the recent resignation of Dr. C. H. H. Hall from the Chairmanship of the Board after a long term of service in that capacity, and moved the adoption of the report and accounts as submitted. Mr. B. C. Howard seconded, and the motion was carried *nem. con.* The officers of the Board having been already elected—in January last—there was no other business before the meeting, which adjourned after the customary vote of thanks to the Chairman had been put and acknowledged.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The Profit and Loss Account and Statement of Assets and Liabilities, for the half year ended June 30th, 1909, accompany this Report.

The net profit for the half year, after providing for general expenses, Directors' and Auditors' fees, and bad or doubtful debts, amounts to Yen 27,639.93, which it is proposed to apply as follows:—

	Yen.
In payment of a dividend of Yen 400 per share for the half-year	20,000.00
Set aside for repairs and renewals	2,905.78
For depreciation of furniture	1,640.24
Written off New Buildings Account	3,087.91

The business depression referred to in our last semi-annual report has continued throughout the period under review; but, notwithstanding this condition, the Company has been able to make a very satisfactory showing, and the Directors feel that the result of the working for the last six months gives cause for congratulation.

There has been no change either in the Directorate or the Management during the period.

It is proposed that the dividend shall be paid on the 31st day of July, 1909, on which date warrants will be issued.

D. H. BLAKE, C. H. H. HALL, } Directors.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON 30TH JUNE, 1909.

Liabilities.	Yen.
Capital, 5,000 Shares of Yen 100 each	500,000.00
Debentures	10,000.00
Reserve Fund	10,000.00
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, Overdraft	9,907.63
Sundry Creditors	17,146.01
Unclaimed Dividends	136.00
Kurumaya Security Fund	200.00
Profit and Loss Account	27,639.93
	575,029.57
Assets.	
Buildings	223,000.00
Grounds	173,500.00
New Buildings	53,087.91
Furniture	76,646.24
Electric Light Plant	10,811.00
Steam Launch	3,500.00
Wines in Stock	11,834.81
Provisions in Stock	2,220.56
Cigars and Cigarettes in Stock	368.29
Miscellaneous Stock	1,059.20
Fire Insurance, Value of running Policies	7,293.06
Cash in hand	2,154.06
Sundry Debtors	9,554.24
	575,929.57

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT:—30TH JUNE, 1909.

Dr.	Yen.
To General Expenses	31,650.82
„ Insurance Account	4,695.97
„ Taxes	2,283.45
„ Directors' and Auditors' Fees	1,333.33
„ Interest	1,135.88
„ Repairs and Improvements	1,700 83
„ Balance available for division	27,639.93
To be dealt with as under:—	
Dividend at Yen 4 per share..20,000.00	
Set aside to meet necessary repairs and renewals 2,905.78	
Written off Furniture Account 1,646 24	
Written off New Buildings Account 3,087.91	

Cr.	Yen.
By Transferred from Working Account	67,449.14
„ Rent Account	1,410.00
„ Sundry Reidts	1,341.07
„ Unclaimed Dividends	170.00

Yokohama, 30th June, 1909.

C. F. HEINLEIN, G. W. COLTON, } Directors.

We have examined and audited the Books and Accounts of the Grand Hotel, Limited, for the half-year ended 30th June, 1909, and we beg to report that the above Balance-Sheet and Profit & Loss Account are (subject to our previous remarks are "New Buildings Account") properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's Affairs as shown by the Books of the Company.

In accordance with the Companies Act, 1907, we also hereby certify that we have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required.

PEARSON, MACKIE AND DEMPSTER, Chartered Accountants.

Yokohama, 20th July, 1909.

BASEBALL.

Y. C. & A. C. BEAT ALL YOKOHAMA BY 8 TO 2.

The Y. C. & A. C. comfortably defeated "All Yokohama," in the baseball match played on the Recreation ground, on Saturday afternoon last. There was some smart hitting at times and a good deal of enthusiasm prevailed on both side. Y. C. and A. C. scored 8 to their opponents' 2. The new white uniforms of the Y. C. and A. C. men were admired. The following are the details:—

Y. C. & A. C.		All Yokohama.
Dickie	P.	Fujiki
Walker	C	Masuda
Da Costa	1B	Ishikawa
Tomeya	2B	Kurimoto
Correa	3B	Hirooka
Benedict	SS	Yamada
DaCosta	RF	Okawara
McChesney	CF	Yendo
O'Connell	LF	Mukai

Scores:—

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Tl.
Y. C. & A. C.	1	1	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	—8
All Yokohama	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	—2

THE REPORT OF THE JAVA-JAPAN LINE.

In the annual report of the Java-China-Japan Line, says the *Kobe Herald*, it is observed that the fleet has remained unchanged. The expectation that 1908 would bring an improvement in China and in Japan has not been realised. The carriage to China and especially to Shanghai decreased—a consequence of the general depression in trade and the low dollar exchange, and it was the same with Japan. However, a development of the passenger traffic is to be observed, and especially of the carriage of coolies from Buliton and Banca to Hongkong and back. Owing to less cargo on the outward voyages the number of chartered vessels decreased, but there is some increase on the homeward voyages. Saigon was touched by sundry vessels of the company in order to obtain a share in the shipments of rice to Java. A dividend of 3 per cent. can be declared on the paid-up capital. The profit made in 1908 was fl.434,904 (fl.464,286 in 1907), and the net profit fl.94,225. Considering that in 1907 only fl.1,809 net was earned, the company had certainly a better result in 1908.

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OUR LONDON LETTER.

London, July 1.

Lord Curzon, who is the Chancellor of the University of Oxford, has recently published a pamphlet in which he has set forth at length what he believes to be the true principles and methods of University Reform.

Whether his action is conspicuous for its loyalty, or for the humbler virtue of good taste, is not to be discussed here.

Lord Curzon's work is remarkable for its energy, its daring, its tone of management, its modern business qualities. It is a most topical document, full of signs of the times. It is written from a point of view which at present is very fashionable and very harmful, it contains a principle which, though popular, cannot be regarded as otherwise than pernicious. It is founded upon a modern myth, that of the heroic "Poor Man." A writer in *Blackwood's Magazine* for June puts the case thus: "The prime hero of the twentieth century is the 'Poor Man.' He has taken the place once held by the Knight of the Round Table. He is Sir Galahad, brave as a lion, spotless as a dove. The glass of fashion and the mould of form, he engrosses all the virtues of the human race, and alone among men is entitled to universal respect. It matters not that his head is as empty as his pocket. He is noble, he is intelligent, he is supreme. Is he not poor? And does not poverty, honest poverty, carry with it something better than mere brains or common energy? At first sight it looks as though the 'Poor Man'—we use the term in its modern and political sense—were the creature of philanthropy. The romance of sacrifice and generosity seems to cling about him. This is but an amiable legend. The 'Poor Man' was born on the hustings, and the Millionaire is his godfather. A general election has proved him numerous and Mr. Carnegie has duly blessed him as the Saviour of Society."

Lord Curzon's idea is to offer the "Poor Man" a university career. The doors of Oxford are to be opened wide to him, no examination whatever is to stand in his way. So far the University has been more occupied in "helping real liberty than in compensating real poverty." This it seems is not enough: "The 'Poor Man' is to be sent to Oxford, not because he possesses ability, not because he will get any profit when he gets there, but because he is poor. An uncomfortable childhood, we are told, merits compensation, and compensation is to be sought and found in colleges which were founded to instruct those who wish to learn, not to solace those who have fallen by the way. In other words, Oxford is regarded by Lord Curzon and his friends as a vast workhouse, where a sojourn is not an opportunity of learning but a sort of consolation prize in the race of life." This would be a pitiable state of things, if ever it were brought about, weakening and degrading to the "Poor Man" and to the University alike. Lord Curzon wishes to make working men agitators at Oxford. Another suggestion of his is the training there of business men. "I should like to see," he says, "a substantial two years' course with instruction in Modern History, Commercial Geography, Political Economy, the methods of Accounting and the Principles of Exchange, culminating in a Diploma, specially constructed for the requirements of a business career." It is not surprising to find that Lord Curzon is a stern opposer of compulsory Greek, it is part and parcel of his point of view, but his opinion upon the question of "Degrees for Women" calls for comment. He believes that women should have degrees, and yet he says, "I am not in sympathy with the proposal that women should become Members of Convocation, or of Congregation, or should sit upon the governing bodies of the Universities." Here Lord Curzon is illogical. Let him and other lighthearted champions of Woman's Cause at large, consider the encroachment of women upon the Universities, and then, considering, take warning. In the first place, women camped themselves in the neighbourhood of Universities and begged with proper humbleness and lowliness for permission to attend lectures. Their request was generously granted. They were grateful, they were entirely satisfied. For a very little while there was peace. But this was only the beginning. Soon they raised their voices and asked, this time rather more boldly, to be examined with the men. They were thus examined. Then they said: "We are hardly and unjustly treated: of what use is it to us to be taught and examined, if we are not given our proper places in the class lists and shewn to all the world to be equal competitors with the men?" They were given their places in the class lists. Then they murmured loudly: "We have done men's work, passed examinations, it is publicly admitted that we are their equals, therefore we demand regular degrees, not as a favour but as a right." Suppose degrees to be granted to women, will they rest satisfied then? Not at all. They will quite logically insist upon becoming members of the governing bodies of the University. Then, having the degree and the vote, why should fellowships be denied them? Nay! much more, having progressed thus far, is there any reason why they should not one day find themselves in the majority? Then they would have things their own way with a vengeance, and it is perfectly possible that they might consider it a duty to rid Oxford of the men who now infest it.

All this is not so absurd as it sounds. There is abroad an extraordinary spirit of undiluted selfishness. It holds all the country in bondage, it inspires both sexes, all ages, every class. It is so strong that it makes nothing of justice and morality; it is so ruthless that it sweeps away the useful and tender amenities, the charming airs and graces of life. Lord Curzon's pamphlet illustrates the working of this new and lamentable influence. He upholds the demands of certain classes for advantages and privileges which they passionately desire to possess, but which they have done nothing (and it is proposed that they shall continue to do nothing) to deserve. Answered that Oxford does not undertake, and has never undertaken to provide what these men need, Lord Curzon at once demands that she should alter her constitution and lower her ideals, and why? So that the "Poor Man" should have exactly what he desires without paying anything for it. Next comes the Business Man. Lord Curzon suggests that Oxford should help him to make money for himself as quickly and as easily as possible. The University is the patron of learning, the guardian of pure scholarship; it fosters poetry, art, philosophy and other things not useful in the modern sense, that is to say, not immediately marketable. Its Chancellor would turn it into a sort of Department Stores, an intellectual Selfridge's, where all might come and buy, and some might even go away without paying the bill. It is a conception not merely materialistic, but absolutely dishonest. As for the women, they say that they did what they have done for the cause of education for its own sake. This is manifestly untrue. A University for Women, the only proper solution, has been offered them, and they have brushed the offer aside with scorn. "What they have wanted always is not a Woman's University, but a Man's University: they have persistently striven to lay hands upon what was not intended for their use." In these latter days women become horribly changed. They are discontented, self-seeking, unreserved. They have cast aside their own legitimate weapons and are losing their powers. They seem to be bereft of their wits, for they go about crying "Give, give," like the daughters of the horse leach; they are tactless, and weary men; they are forgetting the things that "Every woman knows," they are seceding from the true woman's creed that "women are as good as men and far better too, but keep the secret from the men—the dears." They are abandoning the attitude in which helplessness and the protective, the maternal, instinct are so strangely mingled; that attitude compounded of weakness and of strength which is powerful to command man's tenderness, his respect. They are losing subtlety, and cultivating a simple and ugly selfishness, most unhappily for the Nation.

To be amused, to be comfortable, to be popular, to have one's own way, and to live one's own life, that is the universal cry. To have plenty of money to spend, to have rich and expensive food to eat, fashionable clothes to wear, to have carriages and motors to go about in, to have absolute liberty, continual excitement, to have no responsibility, no discipline, no mental or spiritual effort—that is the universal ambition. No moderately observant person living in or near London but must have been impressed by the sort of social life that has been in progress there during the last two or three months. England, this Spring, has been face to face with a national danger, the gravity of which it is impossible to exaggerate. That danger still confronts her. The situation remains full of doubt and difficulty. Have these facts dimmed the brilliance of the London Season? Not a whit. Morning, noon and night has Pleasure been pursued by her eager votaries. Ascot has followed Epsom. Hurlingham, Ranelagh and the River are always with us. There has been the "Pageant," the Horse Show and the White City. There have been garden parties, dinner parties, luncheon, balls and receptions by the thousand, attended by old people with one foot in the grave, by men in the prime of life who might have been more honourably employed, by young men and by fresh young women just out of the schoolroom. And for a great number of these this is life, this is the solid part of existence. Esthetics are cultivated by an exhaustive study of hats, or the latest thing in socks and waistcoats, or by devotion to the *Billikin*, a horrible little effigy with nothing to recommend it but its grotesque hideousness, invented in America and sold with huge success on this side of the Atlantic, voted "perfectly twee" and "awfully lucky." By way of serious intellectual exercise, there is always Bridge and Poker Patience, to say nothing of the fashionable "Puzzles" that have captivated the imaginations of our highest society. These are things made out of wood and paper. According to the daily papers, Dukes and Duchesses spend hours over them, and a woman is making a fortune by selling them in Bond Street.

This sort of thing is not confined to a single section of society. A large proportion of working-class men are either agitators or slackers, that is to say, they are either aggressively or stolidly selfish. Shop girls, factory girls and servant girls loudly demand more liberty, more "outings," more wages to fritter away in cheap finery, unwholesome food and unedifying amusements. The very children insist on "extra holidays" from the National Schools, and get them too, and spend them in many cases in quite unrestrained idleness, developing into naughtiness. Their parents bitterly resent any attempt at guidance or advice in their connection. Although the children are educated free of charge, often medically attended free, fed and clothed in a great measure by charity, the parents are not sensible of the slightest feeling of gratitude or obligation. They grumble, in effect, "These things are done for us, and little enough too." The school curriculum does not come up to their requirements, old age pensions do not operate sufficiently extensively, they do not "hold" with the isolation of infectious diseases or with anything the Parish Doctor says, and Mary Jane gets jam instead of marmalade at the free hospital. They do not hold either with going for soldiers, and they "ain't afraid of the Germans."

The Middle Classes, so often singled out as England's stand-by, are in no better case. They are blind to their Country's needs, occupied in a mad rush and struggle for money, pleasure and fashion. They imitate the class above them, copying their futilities and their indiscretions with characteristic thoroughness and lack of humour, masters of the elephantine touch. Domesticity is out of favour, religion is at a discount, it is not smart. To be really intellectual entails far too much effort, therefore a pose is adopted which is quite easily slipped on. A magazine for the current month has the following: "Since an unhappy Act of Parliament made education imperative, the people's ideal of 'literature' has been a journal, which, to a vast collection of snippets and stories, adds some sort of ill-disguised lottery that promises a fortune even to the fool. Thus time is killed and the common feeling of greed pleasantly indulged. How could the graver forms of literature survive this insidious competition? They also are at a discount; the

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same is too true of Art, of Music, of the Drama. Here too the very children are fed with sugared husks. The young aud enthusiastic are deprived of their mental food. A little girl described as fond of reading was asked to name her favourite books. She said, "On Monday comes out *Comic Cuts*, on Tuesday *Lots of Fun*, on Wednesday *Ally Sloper's Half-Holiday*, on Thursday *Butterflies*, on Friday *Chips*, on Suturday *Sketchy Bits*, and on Monday *Comic Cuts* again, and I like them all!" Have we fallen so low as to treat our children thus; thus lightly to regard the mind of a child and trifle with a thing so delicate, so imaginative, so religious?

There is a new fashionable disease, a nervous complaint called Neurasthenia. It appears to have ousted other things. Even Appendicitis has dropped to a secondary place. The prevalence of neurasthenia is not surprising. Our way of life is not conducive to steady nerves. But the disease has a particular symptom which is ominous. "New Rotters," as someone has named its victims, are obsessed with an unconscious (or partly unconscious) deep-rooted and all embracing selfishness. They can think of nothing, love nothing, pity nothing, but themselves. They consider all things in direct relation to themselves and their troubles, and are of all men the most miserable. They become incapable of the smallest measure of self-sacrifice, it is the greatest mental agony for them to do anything they do not wish to do. This insidious complaint of the brain (for that it is, and as that it should be definitely treated) does not confine itself to the middle-aged and disillusioned. Most frequently it attacks the young, fresh and gracious members of the community. Its rapid deterioration of the character and its significance in regard to the national life of the Country are too horrible to dwell upon. Yet it is merely an exaggerated form of the universal self-seeking spirit.

Statesmen, Soldiers, Prophets, Poets warn England of her danger. Will England listen? Mr. Rudyard Kipling published a poem the other day in the *Morning Post*. It is called the *City of Brass*, and is crushing in its pessimism and black condemnation. Thus are described the citizens of that city:

"They replied to their well wishers' fears, to their enemies' laughter,
Saying: 'Peace.' We have fashioned a god which shall save us hereafter.
We ascribe all dominion to man in his factions conferring,
And have given to numbers the name of the Wisdom Unerring.'
They said: 'Who has hate in the soul? Who has envied his neighbour?
Let him rise and control both that man and his labour.'
They said: 'Who is eaten by sloth? Whose unthrift has destroyed him?
He shall levy a tribute from all because none have employed him.'
They said: 'Who has toiled? Who has striven and gathered possession?
Let him be spoiled, he hath given full proof of transgression.'
They said: 'Who is irked by the law? Though we may not remove it
If he lend us his aid in this raid, we will set him above it'
So the robber did judgment again, on such as displeased him,
The slayer too boasted his slain and the judges released him. . . .

When they were fullest of wine and most flagrant in error,
Out of the Sea rose a sign—out of Heaven a terror,
Then they saw, then they heard, then they knew, for none troubled to hide it,
That a host had prepared their destruction, but still they denied it.
They denied what they dared not abide if it came to the trial,
But the sword that was forged while they lied, did not heed their denial,
It drove home, and no time was allowed to the crowd that was driven,
The preposterous minded were cowed, they thought time would be given.
There was no need of a steed or a lance to pursue them,
It was decreed their own deed and not chance should undo them.
The tares they had laughingly sown were ripe to the reaping,
The trust they had leagued to disown was removed from their keeping.
The eaters of other men's bread, the exempted from hardship,
The excusers of impotence fled, abdicating their wardship,
For the hate they had taught through the State brought the State no defender,
And it passed from the roll of the nations in headlong surrender.

OUR ST PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, July 10th, 1909.

To day is the two-hundredth anniversary of the Battle of Poltava, which Peter the Great regarded as the "resurrection of Russia". It has been a favourite theme of late here to draw parallels between the position of Russia in those days and in these. Certain resemblances are remarkably striking. The Tsar of 1709 was the greatest reformer of his country: his august successor to-day is the greatest reformer of his day. Peter the Great had suffered serious, even painful, defeats before he won the victory at Poltava: Nicholas II. has a painful defeat behind him. Peter was threatened by attack from without which, if successful, would have dismembered Russia: it was assisted by revolt from within. At Poltava he crushed for ever all opposition from without, and revolt within, but, still more important for our days, he won by his successes in arms the power to carry through those stupendous home reforms which were so bitterly opposed by the "genuine Russian people", the Black Gang, of Peter's day, even as the still wider reforms of the present Emperor are being opposed by the same wrong-headed class in our own day.

The Imperial order to the Army and Navy issued to-day by the Emperor as strikingly suggests the parallel between the Russia of 1709 and the Russia of to-day as do the articles of the newspapers. The following passages deserve notice: "The foundation of the safety and happiness of our country—the victory of Poltava came only after many years of hard work, of persistent struggle, and of unexpected failures, with which the well-meant enterprise and brilliant plans of the Great Tsar were met. May the present celebration of that victory foreshadow for us those successes which ever worthily crown our labours for throne and country. May Army and Fleet find in this thought encouragement in the labours, the re-ordering and renovation according to the principles by Us indicated and by Us defined. May these days remind all that of a surety the temporary trials to which we have been subjected by a Higher Power, will as always in the annals of the Russian Tsardom, be followed by the day of victory and of a new birth."

Only by reading this Imperial order together with the history of Poltava, and all it meant for Russia; can the full meaning be appreciated. The great Russian Reformer of the twentieth century celebrates the day which marked the culmination of the glory of the great Reformer of the eighteenth century. Now, as then, all other successes to be won by nations rest upon armed force as an ultima ratio.

The anniversary is being celebrated in St Petersburg by a grand naval display of small warships anchored in the Neva and beflagged, and by a military display, but principally by a gorgeous church procession of the cross, and the opening of two monuments, a school, the laying of the foundation stone for a new bridge across the Neva, and the general rejoicing of a public holiday.

The words in the Imperial Order "by Us indicated and Us defined" are taken to signify the firm intention of the Emperor to permit no more interference with the affairs of the Army or Navy by the Duma and the Upper House. This is a concession to the services, but cannot fairly be interpreteted as a reactionary step. In affect it states no more than than the Head of the State is the Head of the fighting forces—a position obtaining in all countries.

The Chinese Special Embassy leaves St. Petersburg to-night after a stay of a week favoured by splendid weather. The gorgeous siken robes of the members have attracted oattentitn and admiration as they drive about the strees, making purchases in the shops etc.

Following upon the successful visit to England of members of the Duma, during which much ground has been gained for an Anglo-Russian commercial rapprochement, come numerous indications that the financial and commercial worlds are again setting to work in earnest here. I understand that before very longr there is a likelihood that a long felt want fo Englishmen will at length be realised, namely, the establishment in Russia of a Bank devoted to British interests. The French have two banks here, besides their interests in several others, and the Germans, of course, have scores of banks in Russia. England, whose trade relations with Russia have always been important, has never had any bank to which the Britisher could safely go with the assurance of getting the best information to be had for his particular purposes. Of course tremendous opposition is to be had for his particular purposes. Of course tremendous opposition is to be expected from the hitherto all-powerful German influences, headed by the *Deutscher Bank*, but it will be a great pity if the German opposition receives support, as has been the case aforetime, from London. While the Germans have all along worked pretty solidly together in their invasion of Russia financially and commercially, the English groups who have awakened to the importance of Russian enterprise in the present new conditions have always been hampered by opposition either emanating from home-rivals or deriving no small part of its weight from the co-operation of British rivals. It is becoming daily clearer that every step taken by England in Russia will be more than ever strongly opposed by the German consolidated phalanx, which should therefore be left to fight its own battles without deriving any support from London. A typical instance of what is going on is the recent railway loan provided by a London Bank in co-operation with the Russo-Chinese Bank. I hear that the German combination has now arranged to absorb this latter bank, whereby the position of the London Bank in its dealings in Russia will doubtless be considerably weakened.

The cholera in St. Petersburg continues to rise in intensity, due largely no doubt to the continued heat. In the ten days that have passed since its recrudescence there have been 1942 cases and 672 deaths. These figures do not include the "suspects," nor some of the cases in the outlying parts of the city. Yesterday and to-day one hundred deaths have occurred from cholera.

Contrary to all former experiences in cholera epidemics St. Petersburg, instead of having the cholera brought to it from the Volga is now sending cholera broadcast over the Empire, and several large towns are taking precautionary measures against arrivals from the capital. There is no particular alarm in St. Petersburg, but the better classes are taking extreme care.

The "taxi" has now become quite a favourite institution in the streets of St. Petersburg, and the municipality has seized upon the novelty as a source of new income. Up to 500 taxis are to be allowed for the present, and they will pay ten shillings per horse power annually to the town, which will also fix the fares. At present these are at the rate af about eightpence for the first ten minutes, and fivepence for the next and succeeding periods of ten minntes, but these rates may be altered after four months if experience shows the desirability of change. The taxi company is to pay in to the municipality, besides the above impost per horse-power, a lump sum of four thousand pounds "for the right of using the public streets."

It is now certain that the wheat production of Russia this year will be well above the average, and the railways are being warned to be prepared for a large export. The climatic conditions, hail,

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excessive or deficient rain etc., have affected adversely those areas chiefly which do not grow wheat for export, but rye and oats for the home consumer.

Moscow is again under water from excessive rains, and hardly as yet enjoyed any Summer weather. St. Petersburg, on the contrary, has had continuous heat and fine weather with only very occasional showers. At present the heat is tropical.

St. Petersburg, July 17, 1909.

The King and Queen of Denmark have arrived at Peterhof where a State Banquet of 260 covers took place yesterday in their honour, toasts of cordial friendship being exchanged between the Emperor and the King. The King of Denmark wore the uniform of his Russian Regiment, the Sumsky Dragoons. The Emperor has been created an Admiral of the Danish Fleet. Besides their Danish Majesties and the two Danish princesses, there are now also at Peterhof as guests of the entire Russian Imperial Family there united, the Queen of the Hellenes, Princess Victoria of Battenburg and Princess Xenia Chernogorskaja.

M. Stolipin returned yesterday from a visit to the Provinces of Ekatorinoslav and Orel, where he has made a special inspection of a large district laid out in small holdings under the recently passed Agrarian Bill (the so-called "9/22 Nov. 1906 Bill"). Over three hundred farms were inspected, averaging about 20 acres each. The provisions of this Agrarian Bill, which passed the Duma only this year, were actually put in force three years ago immediately on its promulgation as an Imperial decree. The farms in the districts inspected have therefore had time to produce some results, which are reported to be highly gratifying and to have fully proved the efficacy of the great reform initiated by M. Stolipin, namely the abolition of the old time land system of ownership in common, and its replacement by a system of individual proprietorship. The scheme met with strong and persistent opposition, but the Government wisely remained firm, and the opposition press is reduced now to the necessity of the suggesting that M. Stolipin merely visited a little corner of tne vast area of Russia, that this corner is of course working admirably, but that it is no safe sample of the general condition of country at large. But the immense reach of the reform for which M. Stolipin made himself responsible cannot fairly be expected to cover the vast expanse of the Russian Empire in a single generation, to say nothing of a few months only. It is sufficient to note that a sound beginning has been made of bringing down to the muzhik that science which the large landed proprietor has long practised, namely, to cultivate less area thoroughly well, and avoid the time-honoured practice in Russia of exhausting the land year after year and then seeking relief in demands for new allotments, re-division of the soil etc. The Russian Commune was originally, and not so very long ago as history reckons time, instituted to facilitate collection of taxes in bygone days of more primitive methods. It has disappeared from the world everywhere else but in Russia, and now Russia has decreed the needful change. Henceforth the muzhik will be taught and encouraged to pursue the intensive method of agriculture instead of the old extensive, exhaustive process. The holdings visited by the Premier were already in full operation, with rotation of crops, proper irrigation, sowing of clover and other crops intended to enrich the soil with nitrogenous life. Side by side with the "emigration" to Siberia of half a million peasants every year, this gradual change of the home Provinces of Russia from communal ownership to individual free holders is going on steadily. What results should the world outisde Russia look for in the next decade or so? Intensification of agricultural methods at home will, it is hoped, again make Russia the granary of Europe. The opening up of thousands of square miles in Siberia to cultivation will in course of time mean still more. The two together cry aloud for the serious attention of the whole civilised world. If Russia has been strong in the mistaken past, what will be her position in the world when she begins to reap the fruits of those reforms other European nations have been enjoying for generations and centuries past? The regeneration of one-sixth of the land area of the globe is the greatest question in the world to-day, and happy those who see its force betimes!

Events in Persia move with a rapidity to be dealt with only by the telegraph. The Shah and his family are now refugees in the Russian Embassy, and the surrender of their arms by the Persian Cossacks has been arranged on terms that seem fair, unless indeed this admirable force be not employed to police the capital and prevent the excesses of that dangerous Teheran mob which has run away with good beginnings on former occasions and landed the authorities, of whatever political opinions, in the difficulties which invariably ensue from the worst passions of an angry mob coming into play, especially an Oriental mob in a capital like Teheran.

The *Novoe Vremia*, universally recognised in Russia as a pretty accurate weathercock for every change of wind in those circles that once exclusively pulled the wires of government, gives to-day another slight indication. In a leading article it deplores the degeneration of modern France, compares the figures of population, and finds that within no long time France will by the laws of nature, apart from any other considerations, drop to the rank of a second-class Power in Europe. This outburst appears to be in reply to French revelations of past misdoings of the secret police of Russia. Taken together with the *Novoe Vremia's* "provocative" correspondence and leaders on Persian affairs, the hints of the weathercock are significant.

There are over 1100 cholera patients in hospital in St. Petersburg city and the number of cases is increasing in the surrounding country, while town after town is being added to the number of those that have got their infection from the capital.

Two of the twelve women who escaped from prison at Moscow a few days ago have been re-captured. They were dressed in men's clothes with hair cropped, and attracted the attention of a smart policeman by their appearance and their unmasculine tones of voice as they endeavoured to hire a cabman in the outskirts of the town. It appears that the inspector in charge of the wards was drunk on the eventful night of the escape. The conniving woman-warder had duplicate keys to the cells made from wax moulds, and the rest was easy. Eleven of the escaped were politicals, and two of them girls who had been sentenced to death for complicity in the awful attempt upon the life of Stolipin some years ago on the Aptekarsky Island, when thirty people lost their lives but the present Premier was unscathed. They were afterwards reprieved and committed to penal servitude in Siberia for life.

The Congress of Booksellers and Publishers, the first held in Russia, continues its meetings at St. Petersburg. Apart from purely practical business matters discussed, the main question has been that of the inadequate regulations governing the application of the Censure Laws. It appears that no proper means are taken to inform booksellers what books are from time to time arbitrarily declared "illegal," and cases have not been uncommon of booksellers having to go to prison for selling books to-day that were perfectly legal the day before yesterday. In short, Russian booksellers complain that the police deal with them not as mere tradesmen, but in every case treat them as if they were agitators of some revolutionary party. The Chief of the Department of the Censure, M. Bellegarde, was present during a portion of the debates in the Congress yesterday.

It is explained that the accident to the battleship "Slava" ("Glory") which grazed a rock as it entered a home port (Libau), is explained by the fact that the buoys which mark the fairway are removed perforce for the winter, and the authorities have not yet found time to replace them all up to date, though the port has been open already some four or five months.

The Russo English Chamber of Commerce will entertain the Duma members who visited England at a grand banquet this Autumn on the opening of the next session, when the members, now widely scattered up and down the Empire, will once more reassemble in St. Petersburg.

CRICKET.

Y. C. & A. C. *vs.* P. AND O. "SYRIA."

Beautiful weather favoured the Bank Holiday match between these elevens, at the Recreation Ground. The local team ran up a neat score of 171, against the visitors' 59 and 55 for two innings. B. Deveson and N. Hayward were particularly clever with the bat, their 74 and 54 respectively being cheered heartily by the spectators.

P. AND O. SYRIA.

1ST INNINGS.

W. F. Budgen, b. Hume	16
D. C. Haycraft, c. Squire, b. Foster	0
G. E. Henning, c. Hayward, b. Squire	6
Dr. G. T. Tennent, b. Foster	1
A. Meredith, b. Hearne	20
E. H. Orrin, b. Hearne	0
D. Cochrane, b Hume	0
A. Filler, c. Foster, b. Hume	2
B. Bannerman, c. Dinsdale, b. Hume	4
A. T. G odman, not out	3
J. Kirkham, run out	2
Extras	5
	59

2ND INNINGS.

b. Hayward	33
b. Dinsdale	8
b. Squire	6
b. Squire	0
b. Squire	0
b. Abby	0
b. Hayward	0
b. Abbey	5
c. Hume, b Foster	2
b. Squire	2
b. Hayward	0
Extra	1
Total	55

Y. C. & A. C.

B. Deveson, Retired	74
G. Neville, c. Filler	8
W. Hayward, Retired	54
O. T. Gillon, c. Budgen, b. Cochrane	0
E. Eddison, b. Filler	15
F. H. Abbey, b. Filler	2
H. T. Hume, not out	8
V. Hearne, not out	4
E. K. Dinsdale, E. L. Squire, B. C. Foster — did not bat.	
Extras	6
	171

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

Y. C. & A. C.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Budgen	18	26	0	0
Tennent	12	22	0	0
Meredith	18	31	0	0
Filler	48	30	0	3
Bannerman	12	15	0	0
Heming	30	33	0	0
Cochrane	18	18	0	1

P. & O. "SYRIA."

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Squire	24	13	1	2
Foster	18	11	0	1
V. Hearne	24	11	0	2
Hume	29	20	0	4
Dinsdale	6	0	1	0
	B.	R.	M.	W.
Dinsdale	18	14	0	1
Squire	24	12	0	3
F. H. Abby	36	14	0	1
Hayward	30	13	0	2
Foster	2	0	0	2

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SIGNAL STATIONS, INLAND SEA.

Signal stations will be established at certain places on the Inland Sea coast, where either warning signals or tide signals, or both, will be given to vessels passing there, in accordance with the following regulations:—

The positions of the signal stations, the date on which they will be opened, etc., will be notified in due course.

Art. I.—Warning signals will be given as to the movements of vessels in the vicinity of the signal stations. This provision, however, is not applicable to cases where special stipulations are made for different signal stations and to sailing vessels

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not fully rigged, which are not sailing in a fleet, or to craft propelled by oars.

Art. II.—Warning signals are divided into three kinds, and will be made by showing certain white symbols on the warning signal towers painted black in the daytime, and by exhibiting certain lights on the same towers at night.

annexed diagrams.)

I. In the daytime.—By showing a round symbol on the front tower.

At night.—By showing a fixed white light on the same tower.

II. In the Daytime.—By showing a triangular symbol on the middle tower.

At night.—By showing an occulting red light on the same tower

III. In the Daytime.—By showing a square symbol on the rear tower.

At Night.—By showing a fixed red light on the same tower.

N.B.—By the "front tower" is meant the tower situated on the watch-house of the signal station: the "middle tower" refers to the one immediately in rear of the front tower; and the "rear tower" the last one.

Art. III.—Tide signals are of four kinds, and in the daytime the signals will be made by turning the white painted lever, whice is on the top of a post painted with a round plate, painted red, at one end, and a rectangular plate, painted black, at the other end; while at night the signals will be made by displaying a light from the tide signal tower painted white.

I. In the Daytime.—By turning the lever to about 30 degrees downward from the vertical line, with the rectangular plate upwards.

At Night.—By showing an occulting white light at irregular intervals.

II. In the Daytime.—By turning the lever to about 70 degrees downward from the vertical line, with the rectangular plate upwards.

At Night.—By showing an occulting white light at regular intervals.

III. In the Daytime.—By turning the lever to about 30 degrees downward from the vertical line, with the round plate upwards.

At Night.—By showing an alternating red and white light at irregular intervals.

IV. In the daytime.—By turning the lever to about 70 degrees downward from the vertical line, with the round plate upwards.

At Night.—By showing an alternating red and white light at regular intervals.

Art. IV.—The time during which the tide is running in one direction will, for the purposes of signalling, be divided into three periods, namely:—

The first division of time shall be known as "the first period," the second as "the middle period," and the third as "the last period,"

Art. V.—When the signals can not be given owing to a breakdown of the apparatus or other causes, the following signals will be given:—

When the warning signals can not be made:—

In the daytime.—By hoisting a signal flag "W" at the flagstaff.

At Night.—By showing a red light on both the front and rear towers.

When the tide signals can not be made:—

In the daytime.—By turning the lever upright with the round plate upwards.

At Night.—By showing a green light from the tide signal tower.

Art. VI.—Signal stations from which no tide signals are given will be indicated by an occulting white light from the middle tower.

This provision, however, shall not apply to cases where the warning signals mentioned in Art. II are made, or where a light is shown according to the provisions of the preceding Article.

Art. VII.—In case an accident occurs in the fair way, or when there is any danger to vessels passing, or when other circumstances necessitate a signal being given to a passing vessel, such signals may be shown only in the daytime from the signal stations according to the rules of the International Code of Signals.

In accordance with the provisions of Notification No. 673 of the Department of Communications, July 1909, and the following regulations, signal stations will be established at Hesaki, Hino-yama-shita, Akasaka, and Daiba-hana, in the Shimonoseki Strait, where signals will be shown on and after August 15th, 1909.

Art. I.—At the Hesaki Signal Station and the Daiba-hana Signal Station, both warning and tide signals will be shown, and at the Hino yama-shita Signal Station and the Akasaka Signal Station warning signals only shall be displayed.

Art. II.—No warning signal will be given regarding the movements of the following vesse's:—

1.—Steamers running between Shimonoseki and Moji only.

2.—Steam launches, motor launches, and small steamers navigating in the Shimonoseki Strait and vicinity.

Art. III.—Explanations of the warning signals are given in the annexed statement.

Art. IV.—Tide signals indicate the "periods" of the current at Hayatomo-seto, their meanings being as follows:—

I. The first or the last period of the easterly current.

II. The middle period of the easterly current.

III. The first or the last period of the westerly current.

IV. The middle period of the westerly current.

Art. V.—The "easterly current" mentioned in the preceding Article means a current flowing along the Shimonoseki Strait towards Suwō-nada from the direction of Genkai-nada, and the "westerly current," one flowing along the same Strait towards Genkai-nada from the direction of Suwō-nada.

According to the provisions of Notification No. 673 of the Department of Communications, July 1909, and the following regulations, a signal station will be established at Nakato-shima, in the Kurushima Strait, where tide signals will be exhibited on and after August 15th, 1909.

Art. I.—The signals indicate the periods of the current flowing along the west side of Nakato-shima, in Chu-suido (Yawata seto), their meanings being as follows:—

First kind—The first or the last period of the southerly current.

Second kind—The middle period of the southerly current.

Third kind—The first or the last period of the northerly current.

Fourth kind—The middle period of the northerly current.

Art. II.—The "southerly current" mentioned in the preceding Article means a current flowing towards Hiuchi-nada from the direction of Aki-nada, and the "northerly current," means one flowing towards Aki-nada from the direction of Hiuchi-nada.

LIGHTS FROM DAIBA-HANA LIGHTHOUSE AND NAKATO-SHIMA LIGHTHOUSE TO BE DISCONTINUED.

Notice is hereby given by the Department of Communications that the light from Daiba-hana Lighthouse on Takenoko-jima at the west entrance to Shimonoseki Strait, and the light from Nakato-shima Lighthouse on Nakato-shima in Kurushima Strait will be permanently discontinued on August 15th 1909.

YOKOHAMA.

The city loan of *yen* 3,199,309.27, raised in London, has been deposited in the Japan Hyphothec Bank and Wakao Bank of Yokohama in the following terms:—

The Japan Hyphothec Bank ..... *yen* 2,800,000 at 5 ½ p r cent per annum on condition that the amount should be left there for 2½ years.

The Wakao Bank .....*yen* 140,000 at 5 per cent per annum, the amount being left there for 2 years, with corresponding security by the bank.

The remainder has been deposited on current account.

The launch *Eagle*, belonging to Messrs. Helm & Co., which rendered services in towing off the steamer *Andalusia* on July 29, unfortunately met with an accident and was sunk, owing to a tow-rope accident. An engineer was injured. The sunken vessel is being re-floated by means of a crane.

On July 30, a well-to-do farmer named Hikojiro Ichikawa, at Kawasaki-cho, Kanagawa, struck his wife and younger sister with an axe. It appears that he and his sister have been suffering from leprosy, a and few days ago he assembled his relatives in his house and told them that he wished to go on a pilgrimage for the atonement of his sins. He was, however, advised to wait until the rice season is over, and he thus suspected that they did not intend ever to consent to his desire, and he determined to kill himself and all his family, rather than that they should live in shame. The wife is expected to recover, but not his sister.

When the down train from Shimbashi was approaching Higashi Kanagawa station, on July 30, a third-class passenger aged about 25, who was standing just outside a carriage, fell on the railroad and was run over. He was identified as a Kyoto man returning from Tokyo.

Mr. Yada Ginbei, an experienced detective, who has been in the employ of the Water Police Station for 23 years, was relieved at his own request on July 31. He is reported to have received various kinds of rewards over 300 times during his tenure of office, and on his present final retirement a splendid silver cup was presented him by the staffs of the station.

On the 30th ultimo, a sailor of the Naval Harbour Department named Kawano Minoru, was passing along the beach of Kugotado, when he discovered a boy of ten who was about to drown, and saved him instantly.

A few days ago, a young apprentice to a barber at Minami-Yoshida-machi, attempted suicide by taking a cup of carbolic acid solution for disinfecting purposes. He was, however, discovered in time, and is now undergoing medical treatment.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended July 29th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	5	2	3	—	—
Died	—	2	—	—	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	38	17	2	—	—
Died	—	6	2	1	—	—

On Angust 1, a sampan *sendo* and his son of 15 took a passenger to the steamer *Shinshiu Maru*, and while waiting the return of the guest by the stern of the ship, the steamer began to move. The sampan was upset and the two men were thrown into the water. The father was saved but the son was drowned, being struck by a blade of the propeller.

It is reported that the extension of the Yokohama Water Works will be commenced on the 1st of October next. After the completion of the work, there will be sufficient water to supply a population of 800,000 to 1,000,000.

It has been decided that two new fire-engines, one discharging 300 gallons of water per minute and the other, 150 gallons, will be bought for the Isezaki-cho and the Tobe Police Stations respectively.

It is reported that the trouble between the Municipal Office and the lessees at Nigiwai-cho and Nagashima-cho has become more serious. Even though the former has made a concession of the ground rent for the past 5 years for the evacuation of the land, the latter is unreasonably requesting much more compensation for removal.

A NEW YORK telegram received by the *Yokohama Boyeki* states, that on the 1st instant, Mr. Win, the Chinese Vice-Consul in that city, was shot by a Japanese cook named Matsuda Un (?) at the gate of the Consulate. His life is in danger. The assailant was instantly arrested. The outrage is said to have originated in Matsuda's asking for a loan. He pleaded that his assault was committed in legal defence.

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THE CAPITAL OF KOREA.

EXTRACTS FROM AN AMERICAN CORRESPONDENT'S LETTERS.

Mr. Frank G. Carpenter, the well-known American correspondent, has furnished the *Seoul Press* with a series of interesting letters, which he wrote not long ago from Seoul to thirty-five of the leading journals in the United States. We quote from the letters as follows :—

I want to tell you what the Japanese are doing in Korea. They have taken the Hermit Kingdom by the neck, and are shaking its dry bones into action. They are establishing courts, abolishing squeezing and reorganizing the finances. They propose to build roads, to reforest the mountains, to open the mines and to turn this half-barren country into a garden. All these things are in their beginnings, but a start has been made and signs of progress are everywhere to be seen.

The capital, Seoul, is fast becoming a new city. When I came here twenty years ago the trip from the seaport, Chemulpo, took over twelve hours, and I had to have a pony and eight men to bring myself and wife to the walls. I rode the pony and madame came in a chair, borne on the shoulders of four coolies, with a relay of four others to help them. Toward the end of the journey we had to push on for fear we might not get to Seoul before the gates closed. The city is surrounded by a massive wall nine miles in length and thirty feet high At that time this wall was entered only by gates, and these were closed at night by heavy doors plated with iron, which were not opened again until the next day. We got in just in time to see the gates close. There was no hotel, and we had to be met by the soldiers of our legation, and were quartered there during our stay.

* * *

The city still has its walls, but the gates now stand open day and night, and an electric street car line runs through two of them and on out into the country. An electric light globe prevents the closing of the one which we entered, and another gate has proved too small to accommodate the traffic and has been cut out by the Japanese, wide roads being made through the walls on each side. The gate itself, which is a temple-like structure with a double roof of heavy tiles, has been faced with stone; and it is now proposed to put a commercial museum in the soldiers' guardroom above it. In that old gate all the industries of new Korea will be shown side by side with those of other nations, and the people will thus be taught the various methods of manufacture and sale.

As we came into Seoul that night we could see the signal fires blazing on the mountains which surround the city, and were told that they were the last of the long series of watch fires built upon the hills of the other parts of Korea to notify the King that the country was quiet and all was at peace. To-day there are watch fires no longer, but in their place Korea has its wireless telegraph stations and the capital is covered with telephone wires. One of the oldest buildings of the palace, in which the emperor now lives, has been turned into a telephone booth, and Japanese "hello girls" sit there and take messages from all parts of the city. There are telegraph wires to every large village, with more than two thousand miles of line open, and cables across to Japan.

The old Seoul was pitch dark at night. The laws were that the ordinary man should not go about after dark, only officials and foreigners and their servants being permitted to do so. Women were never seen on the streets in the daytime, and the night was supposed to be their time for calling. When we went out we took the keso of the legation to carry our lantern, and this consisted of a framework, holding a candle with a red, white and blue gauze cloth thrown over it. The Seoul of to-day is fairly well lighted. Many of the stores keep open during the evening, and most of the houses have an oil lamp or an electric light globe at their front gate. Looking down the wide main streets of the city makes one think of one of the larger towns of our country, for the lights alone are to be seen, and the low one-story buildings are lost in the darkness.

* * *

Seoul has now an electric car line run by Americans. It was put in long before the Japanese took hold of the government, and about half of the stock belongs to the retired Emperor, who has refused to sell out to the Japanese capitalists. The Koreans are now patronizing the road. At first they said it was magic, and a mob destroyed some of the cars. Their theory was that the line would prevent the spirits giving them rain. They said the cars were boats, and that the gods, looking down from the skies, seeing them swimming to and fro through the streets, would say: "The e people need no rain, for their city is swimming in water."

A somewhat similar feeling prevailed as to the magic in the telephone and telegraph systems. Many of the Korean women, knowing that speech went over the wires, thought the poles must contain spirits and that the sound buzzing on the wires was their voices. Indeed, some said their prayers to the telephone poles at the time.

Have you ever heard of Chin Go-Kai? It is a section of Seoul which contains 20,000 Japanese people. It has big official buildings, many two-story houses and long streets of stores, which would be a credit to Tokyo. Some of the stores have plateglass windows, and nearly all carry large stocks of goods. Here everything is clean. The road ways are swept and most of them are as smooth as a floor. There are banks, brick school buildings, a post office and all sorts of business establishments.

At one side of this section is a great frame office structure devoted to the resident-general, who governs Korea, with the emperor as the nominal head; and back of it is the home of this high official, with a thousand acres or more of Nam-san mountain about it. The old mountain had lain there a wilderness for thousands of years. It had seen the wall built more than 500 years ago, and had watched the generations rise and fall from then until now. It remained for the Japanese to make it a beautiful park. They have cut roads through the pines and have built many pavilions, until now it is one of nature's most beautiful gardens.

I had the good fortune to be invited to a garden party given there by the resident-general the other day. More than 2,000 of the high-class Koreans and Japanese officials were present. His excellency received us out in the open, and there were lunchrooms and tea-houses throughout the grounds whose waiters were beautiful Japanese maidens. At the close we had dinner in a great tent, covering tables sufficient to seat the two thousand guests, and the Japanese military band sang a song composed by Viscount Sone in honour of the occasion.

THE FOURTH TEST MATCH.

A DRAWN GAME.

London July 26.—The Fourth Test Match was begun at Manchester to day. There was a storm on Sunday night and to-day the weather was dull, with intermittent sunshine. There was an attendance of 20,000 spectators. The Australians batted first, on a difficult wicket, and were all dismissed for a total of 147 runs. W. W. Armstrong (32) was the highest scorer, and S E Gregory (21) and M. A. Noble (17) were next in order; while the tail-end—A. Cotter (17), H Carter (13) and F. Laver (11)—also did well in the circumstances. S. F. Barnes and C Blythe divided the wickets equally, the former taking five for 56 and the latter five for 63 runs. In the early part of England's first innings, J. T. Tyldesley (15) and R. H. Spooner (25) batted well, but of the remaining batsmen only A. C. MacLaren (16) and A. A. Lilley (26 not out) reached double figures. The innings closed for a total of 119 runs, which gave the Australians a lead of 28 on the first innings. For the Australians, F. Laver bowled with remarkable success, taking eight wickets at a cost of only 31 runs.

London, July 27.—The Australians began their second innings to-day. S. E. Gregory was dismissed aftet scoring five, but W. Bardsley (35) carried the total to 77 before the former lost his wicket. No further play was possible, on account of rain.

London, July 28.—Yesterday rain fell continuously for nine hours. To-day the weather was sunny and the Australians continued their second innings on a soft, but drying, wicket. There was an attendance of 12,000 spectators. The overnight not-out, C. G. Macartney, carried his score to 51, and V. F. Ransford (54 not out), V. Trumper (48) and W. W. Armstrong (30) also made valuable contributions. With a total of 279 for 9 wickets, the Australians declared their innings at an end, thus setting England the task of getting 308 runs to win. For England, W. Rhodes obtained five wickets at a cost of 83 runs. R. H. Spooner (58) and P. F Warner (25) made a good start in England's second innings, and though J. T. Tyldesley was dismissed after scoring 11, the total stood at 108 for three wickets when play ceased, the match resulting in a fairly even draw. For Australia, A. J. Hopkins took two wickets for 31 runs and F. Laver one for 25.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATION OF KOREA.

A representative of the *Keijo Nippo* has had an interview with Mr. Kuratomi, Vice-Minister of Korean Justice, says the *Seoul Press*, with regard to the transference of judiciary administration by Korea to Japan, and represents him as having expressed himself to the following effect :—

The entrusting of the judiciary administration by a protégé to its suzerain is not a new thing. As a matter of fact France has been and is taking charge of part of the judiciary administration both of Tunis and Indo-China.

By virtue of Article III of the Memorandum it goes without saying that the Japanese courts will apply Korean laws to Korean subjects. But as is stated in the same Article "in cases specially provided for in agreements or in laws or ordinances" not only will Japanese laws be applied but Korean laws, which are now in the course of preparation by the Codes Investigation Bureau, may be amended or added to so as to suit the purpose of the Convention.

One instance, where Japanese laws are being applied to Korean subjects, is the law relating to patents and trade-marks. It is possible such exceptional cases will be created by the conclusion of agreements or the issuance of ordinances. What will be considered as coming under these exceptional cases, however, the Vice-Minister is not now in a position to tell.

The judiciary organisation, now to be altered as a result of the new Convention, must be made a more thorough one than the one at present in existence, which is a two-fold system consisting of the Residency Court and the Korean Court. In view of the fact that even the three-fold system now in force in Korea is often criticised as imperfect, a thorough amendment of the judiciary system must necessarily be made.

ENGLAND'S ROLLER SKATING FAD.

Some extraordinary figures have come to hand in regard to recent English investments, says a Canadian paper.

England has recently caught the roller skating craze and rinks have sprung up all over the United Kingdom. Fully 120 of these joint-stock undertakings have been put on the market. The share capital of these ventures amounts to close on £895,000, but as many of them also issue debentures it is safe to say that the total sum involved is well over a million pounds.

London so far has eleven roller skating concerns. Manchester has six, and Leeds and Burnley have three each.

Many of the concerns have already paid dividends at the rate of from 10 to 90 per cent. a year, but the financial papers are now warning investors to go slow, as the craze is liable to subside as quickly as it came into existence.

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THE JAPAN INDUSTRIAL BANK.

On the 3rd instant, the shareholders of the Japan Industrial Bank held the 15th ordinary general meeting and an extraordinary general meeting at the bank building. Mr. Sakamoto, manager of the Imperial Treasury Bureau, Mr. Katsuda, Head of the Financial Bureau and Mr. Hashimoto, a supervising official of the Financial Department attended the meeting. President Mr. Soyeda taking the Chairman's seat, delivered an address relating to the general condition of the economical circle in Japan and to various items in connection with the business of the bank during the first half of this year. All the proceedings were passed with unanimous approval of the shareholders. Afterwards, at the extraordinary general meeting Messrs. Murata, Iwai, Wakao and Ohashi were elected as the candidates to fill the vacancies of two directors, Mr. Banno resigned and Mr. Kaneko deceased, and Mr. Banno was elected to be the successor of Baron Shibusawa, who had surrendered his port folio of auditorship. It was also decided that some rewards will be presented to Mr. Banno, ex-director, and to the family of the decessed director Mr. Kaneko, the amount of which was to be fixed by the Chairman.

THE ACCOUNTS	YEN.
Profit in this half year	2,112,902
Transferred from last half year	63,823
Total	2,176,725
Losses in this half year	1,251,277
Net Profit	925,448
Reserve fund for losses	109,000
" " " balancing the dividends.	27,000
The First Dividend (5 per cent. per annum)	406,250
Bonus for the directors	25,000
The Second Dividend (3 per cent. per annum)	243,750
Special Reserve fund	50,000
Transferred to next half year	64,448
	925 448

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE Foreign Minister, Count Komura, returned to Tokyo on July 30.

CHAMBERLAIN Hinonishi was sent to Osaka yesterday to inspect the scene of the disaster there.

A KASHIWAZAKI (Echigo) despatch says that the thermometer read 100° F. on July 29th. The crop is expected to be favourable.

ON the 4th instant the thermometers in Osaka and Kyoto read 99.3° F. and 99° F. respectively—the greatest heat recorded so far this summer.

A NAGOYA telegram says that the officials of the Nagoya Electric Company have gone on strike. On the 1st instant, the strikers numbered as many as 190.

ON the 30th ultimo, a fire damp explosion took place at No. 1 pit, Yubari colliery, Hokkaido. One workman was killed and seven others were injured.

THE forest fires in Aomori prefecture were extinguished on the 29th inst. after burning for 11 days. The exact amount of damage is not yet reported.

MR. MANO, acting principal of the Tokyo Commercial School, is reported to have accepted the offer of the Minister of Education to become the principal.

ON August 3, a middle-aged man threw himself in front of an electric car coming from Tokyo, when it was running near Sudzugamori. He was instantly killed, his head being shattered.

ON July 30, the organization of the Extraordinary Military Aeronatic Scientific Research Society was sactioned and promulgated. The ordinance came into effect on the day of promulgation.

SOME 80 school-boys of the Omiya Preliminary School, Fuji-gori, Shidzuoka prefecture, have ascended Mount Fuji under the protection of 7 teachers. The boys were from 12 to 14 years of age, and none of themlagged behind the main-body.

MISS MAY SUTTON, of Pasadena, the champion tennis player of the world, will marry Harry B. Hall, banker and capitalist of Mexico City, according to an announcement made in San Francisco. The date for the wedding has not been set.

ON July 30, the Korean Crown Prince accompanied by Prince Ito and several Korean dignitaries, paid a visit to the Imperial Court to bid farewell to the Emperor and Empress before setting out on the tour to the north-eastern districts.

A NIKOLAIVSK despatch reports that, on July 25, the Russian warship *Khamchadal* left for Okhotsk, taking on board a judge and some other officials. Their object was to investigate matters relating to the attack by Japanese on the Giliak (?) at Shantarski Islands.

SIGNOR GATTI-CASEADEZIE, of the Metropolitian opera, New York, and Otto H. Kahn have signed a new contract with Enrico Caruso, the tenor, extending his engagement for three years, Caruso's services for the New York Metropolitan are thus assured for five years to come.

LORD CHELMSFORD, the Governor of New South Wales, recently congratulated the country upon the prosperity of the State, the bounteous rains, the steady augmentation in the volume of exports, the growth of the manufacturing industries, and the satisfactory condition of the finances of the State.

ABOUT noon on the 1st instant, when the people in Osaka were just beginning to feel somewhat relieved to see the fire got under, another blaze broke out at Amijima, near Sakura-no-miya. The fire brigades, however, were entirely exhausted, and none of them went to put out the new fire. It was, however, extinguished after burning down only two houses.

AT 10,30 on July 31, according to the *Kobe Herald*, the Kobe Meteorological Office issued a notice to the effect that the North-Easterly gale which had prevailed since Friday was expected to continue until yesterday. The position of low pressure (746 m.m. or 29.37 ins.) was off the East of the Foochoo Islands.

ON the 29th instant, two young girls threw themselves into the water from the eastern side of the Ryogoku Bridge. Fortunately they were saved by several teachers of swimming who happened to pass by. It is alleged that these girls resolved to drown themselves on account of having been severely scolded by their employer.

ON the afternoon of the 4th instant, a woman named Takenaka Tei unintentionally injured her younger sister, who is under medical treatment at the Toyama Hospital, Tokyo. The elder admonished the younger for her habitual misconduct and tried in vain to take her home. Despite her counsel, however, the younger would not consent to her advice. At length, Tei unsheathed a short sword to cut off a tuft of her sister's hair in order to make her repent; and in doing so inflicted a slight injury.

NOTWITHSTANDING the fact that the Tsaochow-Swatow Railway Company had repeatedly been ordered by the Board of Posts and Communications to discharge as soon as possible all foreign engineers in favour of the Chinese, the Railway, says the *China Gazette*, continues to give employment to an excessive number of Japanese. Recently the Board has received fresh complaints and so it has become very suspicious. A deputy has therefore been despatched to Swatow to make most thorough investigations of the general administration of the affairs of that company.

A SAN FRANCISCO message of July 28 to the *Mainichi* recalls that the Japanese and many other Governments have already decided to send warships to attend the coming celebration of the rebuilding of San Francisco and states that the Chinese Government has now also decided to send a warship. It appears that negotiations on the subject have been in progress for some time owing to the fact that under the Chinese Exclusion Law the Chinese bluejackets could not land. Eventually, the American Government instructed Mr. North, the Director of the Immigration Bureau at San Francisco, to treat the Chinese bluejackets in the same way as the bluejackets of other Powers, with the result mentioned above.

THE steamer *No. 15 Kwannon Maru* (1,537 tons) which left Dairen on the 23rd ult. for Moji, laden with beans, bean-cakes, etc., met with an accident on the evening of the following day, when she was running near Takeshima. It was so foggy that she ran into the crevice of a rock and the outside covering of the star-board side was pierced through. She, however, having made temporary repairs, arrived at Moji on the 25th, where she discharged all her cargo. Soon after, she left for the Oaki Dockyard at Minami-Shinagawa, Tokyo, to make proper repairs.

A MOVEMENT which may develop worldwide significance is being started among the 15,000 Scandinavians of Spokane, Washington. Its purpose is to promote a league or federation embracing the governments of Denmark, Norway and Sweden to preserve the interests of these nations against the encroachments of more powerful neighbours. One means proposed to advance the campaign is to extend the Scandinavian brotherhood to all parts of the United States and enlist the aid of other Scandinavian orders in developing sentiment favouring the proposed league.

ON July 29, a general meeting of the Tokyo Artificial Manure Company was held and a dividend of 10 per cent. per annum declared. An extraordinary general meeting followed, at which Baron Shibusawa, Director and Chairman, and Mr. Inumaru, Managing-director, delivered a short speech respectively, stating that they tendered their resignations. Messrs. Tsuruhara and Murai were the nominees of Baron Shibusawa to fill the vacancy of Managing-director. It was also decided that the two retiring directors should be rewarded for their services, out of the reserve fund.

REPORTS from Chemulpo say that on the 26th July Mr. Wada, Director of the Chemulpo Meteorological Observatory, collected a number of relics of the Stone Age in the grounds of his official house at Hakkeiyen, after digging for two hours only. It appears that after the establishment of the observatory on the top of Euonngponghy hill in 1902, he came to the conclusion that the place was a shell-mound from the shells which had frequently been found at the top, notwithstanding that it was about 230 feet above the sea-level. He has since been making occasional observations, and being convinced in his idea, has made the experimental excavation as above said. The relics discovered consisted of axes, arrow-heads and swords, all made of stone, besides a number of fragments of earthenware.

AT the general meeting of the Hokkaido Tanko Kisen Kaisha held on 1st instant, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro delivered a speech on the present conditions in connection with collieries, shipping, electric lighting and the manufacture of timber, iron and steel, and about the adjustment of bonds. The reward for services rendered by the resigning auditor, Mr. Uyemura Chosaburo, was assessed at *yen* 7,000. Mr. Watanabe Chifuyu was elected as his successor. Afterwards Mr. Amenomiya Keijiro, who has been on a tour of inspection throughout Hokkaido, explained that the output of coal and output of manufactured iron has an important influence on public affairs and that the present enterprises of the company indicate still brighter prospects.

THE ACCOUNTS.	Yen.
Profit of this half year	881,665
Transferred from last half year	131,300
Total	1,012,965
Reserve Fund	45,000
Bonus	22,040
Dividend (6½ per cent per annum).	688,680
Transferred to next half year	257,245
Total	1,012,965

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CORRESPONDENCE.

IRRELIGION IN AMERICAN COLLEGES.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The leading editorial with the above caption appearing in your issue of Aug. 3rd, I regret to observe, follows the same lines as the absurd and misleading article in the *Cosmopolitan*, uses the same methods as those employed by its writer and arrives at the same conclusions. The quotations from the utterances of leading American University professors, torn from their context, after the ruthless fashion with which the Bible is commonly treated, are culled with the usual muck-raking care and set in order to show that the American seats of learning are nests of "heresy, irreligion and laxity of morals."

As to the first two items of this triple charge they may safely be dismissed until some one well tell us what is meant by "heresy" and "irreligion" in this modern day. If by the first is meant, as by all intelligent men it is taken to mean, namely dissent from this or that theological belief current in the Dark Ages and then grafted upon the popular faith, then the charge of heresy becomes simply a tribute to the intelligence of the American teachers. If by irreligion is meant likewise the loosening of the hold of dogma in religious teaching, again the charge becomes a word of praise.

As to teaching leading to either a decline in genuine religious feeling or to laxity of morals, the gulf which separates the theoretical conclusions of the muck-raking writer in the *Cosmopolitan* as to what ought to be the results of the Professors' heresies and what have actually been and now are their fruits, is wonderfully inpressive in its width and depth.

Since President Eliot forty years ago abolished the last vestige of the reign of dogma from the University of which he then took charge and made its motto, "Veritas" his sole object in its development, it is the testimony of every one who knows any thing of the conditions of College sentiment there, that never in its history has there been manifest so deep and strong a current of religious life or so much religious activity even along many of the lines of traditional faith.

As to laxity of morals, it may be interesting to know that half a century ago precisely the same timid fears as to the results of the doctrinal and moral heresies proclaimed at that day. How futile were such fears may be judged from the fact that of one Harvard class of more than a hundred men then sent out into the world only two have failed to meet the moral judgment of the world in which they have lived.

As for the teachers themselves, they hold to their appointed tasks in American Colleges, which task is the work of investigation and the search for truth, not the bolstering up of traditions and conventions. That task is left entirely to the theological seminaries.

The demand implied in the *Cosmopolitan* article and echoed in the editorial commenting upon it, being a demand for the dismissal of heretics and the substitution of more orthodox teachers, might well be met as it was the other day in a Baptist Convention in Chicago, when it was moved to dismiss one of the members for the crime of having written a heretical book. In the midst of the heated discussion the son of the writer of the book, a lad of seventeen, cast a sudden coldness over the meeting by simply rising and saying, "Why don't you review the book instead of the man?"

I am yours, &c.

A M.K.

[It seems to us that (so far as we are concerned) our correspondent "doth protest too much." We merely reviewed the article in the *Cosmopolitan*, and the remarks of Bishop McFaul, much in the apostolic vein of "Men and brethren, are these things so?" Any first-hand repudiation of Mr. Bolce's charges—though, strangely enough, none has as yet appeared—would afford us the deepest satisfaction; but, if they cannot be repudiated, then the situation is of such a character as fully to warrant our calling attention thereto.—Ed. *J.M.*]

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—When charges are made against the manner in which the leading American universities are conducted, is it not worth while to consider against whom such charges are really made? The men responsible for the training of students at Harvard, Yale, and Princeton, are working under the direction of Dr. Lowell, Dr. Hadley, and Dr. Woodrow Wilson; and it is not very extravagant to say that a great number of those teachers have had their own training under their present leader or their predecessors—Dr. Eliot of Harvard, Dr. Porter of Yale, or Drs. McCosh and Patton of Princeton. In this connection the addresses of Dr. Wilson to the alumni of Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and New York, in which he pled so earnestly for a pure moral life as leading to energy and probity in civic life, and as the object and aim of all university teaching, are worth noting. In the past few months has the President of Princeton been preaching what he did not teach? And when the President of the United States called on the support of his fellow almuni of Yale in the arduous task in front of him, did he suppose he was addressi g men unable to understand him, and unfit to follow after the high ideals he pointed out? The very character of the preparatory Schools which take their tone from such institutions as Phillip Andover and Exeter, St. Paul's, and Lawrenceville show the care taken by American parents, and what capable guides are the directors of these institutions which prepare students for these so-called "universities where lax morals are taught." What a thorough paced conspiracy agains· virtue—from Maine to Leland Stanford! Just what is the ideal of the writer of the *Cosmopolitan* w·uld be interesting to know. Is it an atmosphere of Berlin r Heidelberg? or would the "Latin Quarter" of Paris be more morally purifying as a true university environment? One would be tempted to think that apart from a little sectarian tinge the issue raised against the universities is a reflex of the fear that the controversy over pragmatism—which to many savours somewhat of the old doctrine that "the end justifies the means, and the devil take the hindmost"—may creep into them. Which is a rather extravagant view of pragmatism, seeing that its parentage is traced to such a stanchly moral and shining light as Dr. William James. Bishop McFaul's charges can readily be met by pleading prejudice. He is well known to be deeply interested in the Universities and schools for which the Roman Catholic Church is pecul arly responsible. The Bishop doubtless from his point of view is right in regarding the morals and religion taught at Harvard, Yale, and Princeton, as undesirable. All these institutions are notably influenced by New England Congregationalism. Princeton is an out and out Presbyterian University. Now twenty years ago these charges made against the University (then College) would flatly have been untrue. And frequent printed reports and communications received in the intervening years lead the writer to believe that what has long been a tradition at Princeton is still accentuated—viz. the attention given to student morality. Trifling matters illustrate this watchfulness over student welfare—the prohibition, now existing for many years, of any student games in the large cities, and the increased care given to the Glee Club trips of the students. The one moral issue now at Princeton seems to be the question of the students Clubs. There is no secrecy about these organizations, which have Professors of the University in their membership. But it is feared that the esprit de corps, which necessarily fosters a spirit of honour among the students in support of their particular organization, is too narrow and grows at the expense of the University spirit. This is certainly a very local issue and one not raising questions of "lax morals" or teaching in the University in which so recently Dr. Francis Patton and James Ormond were lecturing on ethics and moral Philosophy. With apology for trespassing on your attention.

I am, respectfully yours,

JAMES S. de BENNEVILLE.

BEARING FALSE WITNESS.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The latest trumpet-blast of mingled conceit and vituperation from that one of your contemporaries which should be called the "Japan Daily Self-advertiser" finds you unmoved. That is as it should be. The walls of Jericho are standing yet. But as a humble member of the newspaper reading public I beg to record my opinion of the monstrous effrontery and objectionable methods of the journal referred to, whose attitude (as shown in the unspeakable article which besmirched its columns a few days ago) is "Lo! I, even I only, am a newspaper: the others (so called) could not exist, were it not for the telegrams and what not they must perforce purloin from me!"

Sir, one is led to wonder how many persons, ignorant of what goes on behind the scenes, this self-complacent specimen of yellow journalism flatters itself that it succeeds in gulling. If any such there be, the number is rapidly diminishing. There are too many men about who were once engaged upon its oft-altered and much-reduced staff for the secrets of its prison-house not to be noised abroad. These men have confirmed long held suspicions as to those wonderful cable-services—a few words expanded into the fourth of a column—those editorials lifted "by arrangement" from sundry English papers, or without acknowledgment at all, and palmed off on the public as the product of the *Advertiser's* editorial brain; that phenomenal circulation swollen by such simple processes as giving away the paper in return for an advertisement, or for nothing at all; those widespread intimations accepted at heavy discount rates despite an agreement as to certain fixed charges, and so on. You sir, have for many years supplied us with excellent telegraphic news through your Reuter service, which we believe you long had on an exclusive basis, by paying, as was generally understood, a monopoly price, until by some other "arrangement" your contemporary laid grasping hands on them. These, with your special *Asahi* service, the telegrams from German sources and those, duly acknowledged, from the Japanese papers, form altogether as good a summary of the current news of the world as one could wish. Yet this unscrupulous and boastful journal would like the public to believe that, were it not for ITSELF, you would have nothing! This big talk is out of tune with a notice in the self-same paper that a well-known millinery establishment is about to occupy the ground floor of that magnificent building once destined for the great journal's exclusive use! I protest against this unscrupulous blackening of all the newspapers by one brazen sheet.

This, Mr. Editor, is a wicked world, and it is to be feared that the community here can not set up a claim to be above the average. Men who have lived here many years, quietly going about their business, are appalled at the amount of underhand traducing and sly tale-bearing that goes on, either for the sake of some petty gain or out of pure spite; and it is heart-breaking to see one of the l·cal papers publicly taking to the same low game. Believing as we do that "all liars (of whom traducers are the chief) shall have their part in the lake that burneth with brimstone and fire," is it not right that such people should be overtaken by just retribution before they quit their present sphere of malignant activity—leaving the world the purer for their departure? "Let the truth prevail," say I, in this, as in every, case; and enclosing my card, beg to remain,

"OLD SUBSCRIBER."

Yokohama, August 5th.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service.)

BRITISH MINERS MAY STRIKE.

OVERWHELMING MAJORITY DECIDES TO SUPPORT SCOTTISH COLLEAGUES.

London, July 29.

The ballot of the British Miners' Federation on the question of a national strike in support of the Scottish coal miners has resulted in favour of a strike. The majority was overwhelming.

SPANISH AGITATORS WILL BE PITILESSLY SUPPRESSED.

RIGOROUS CENSORSHIP STILL IN OPERATION.

Madrid.—The Government is exercising the most rigorous suppression of news. An official *communique*, describing the fatal fighting in the towns bordering upon Catalonia, declares that agitators endeavouring to stir up a revolution in Spain will be pitilesssly suppressed.

DESTROYER CUTS THROUGH PORTSMOUTH BOOM.

The destroyer *Ferret*, which had been specially strengthened, charged and cut through the defence boom in Portsmouth Harbour as though the obstacle were no stronger than a cobweb. The boom consisted of massive baulks of timber with steel entanglements. The *Ferret* was only slightly damaged.

JAPAN'S LOVE OF THE ARTS OF PEACE.

WILL BE SHOWN AT ANGLO-JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

Later.

At the inaugural banquet of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition, Count Mutsu, responding to the Lord Mayor, said that Japan would do her utmost to give an impetus to Japanese exports to Britain and hoped to show at the forthcoming exhibition some of the finest works illustrative of the art and skill of ancient and modern Japanese masters. Particular efforts would be made to show the beauties of Japanese landscape gardening. Above all, the exhibition would certainly augment the knowledge each country possessed

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of the other, and would prove Japan's devotion to the arts of peace.

BRITISH EMPIRE CLUB.

The British Empire Club's inaugural banquet was held at the Guildhall yesterday. The Duke of Devonshire presided over a brilliant assemblage.

THE OPPOSITION TO THE AMERICAN FINANCIERS.

HINTS AT INTRIGUE ARE SCOUTED.

Reuter learns that the strictures passed at Peking in reference to the negotiations of Americans for participation in the loan are unendorsed by financial interests in London. Ideas of intrigue are repudiated. Even if attempts to sow dissension had been made, the intimacy of the Anglo-American groups would have prevented success. Hopes of a compromise are in nowise abandoned.

MARTIAL LAW THROUGHOUT SPAIN.

WHOLE SPANISH DETACHMENT SURPRISED AND WIPED OUT.

Madrid —Fighting was resumed at Melilla on Tuesday. General Pintos and several officers were killed. Details of Thursday's fighting show that a Spanish detachment was surprised in a ravine and completely wiped out by the Moors. The Spaniards lost 80 killed and 320 wounded.

Owing to the anti-war riots martial law has been declared throughout the whole of Spain.

THE BATTLE AT MELILLA.

London, July 30.

Melilla.—Tuesday's battle began by the Moors cutting the railway and threatening to isolate the Spanish outposts. The Spanish casualties were 1,000 killed, including many officers, and from 1,500 to 2,000 wounded.

THE CONDITION OF BARCELONA.

The condition of Barcelona is terrible. Barricades have been thrown across the principal arteries. Five convents are in flames. The troops are shelling the barricades amid scenes of bloodshed.

U. S. TARIFF BILL.

London, July 30.

Washington.—The conference of the Committee of the Senate and House of Representatives has signed the Tariff Bill and acquiesced in President Taft's demand for a reduction of the duties on gloves and lumber and the freedom of hides.

SPAIN'S ANTI-WAR FEELING.

Madrid.—An anti-war demonstration has taken place outside King Alfonso's palace at Madrid.

It is officially announced in Madrid that the main body of rebels in Barcelona, driven into a corner by cavalry and bombarded by artillery, surrendered after heavy losses. Only a few small bands in the neighbouring villages remain.

The situation at Melilla is described in Madrid as of the most critical nature. General Marina has demanded reinforcements of 75,000 men.

July 31.

Madrid.—Despite all reassuring statements here, a generally pessimistic view prevails regarding the outcome of the Moroccan war.

Queens Victoria and Christina are visiting Bayonne on the French frontier. It is stated that the length of their stay depends on the course of events, but that they are prepared for every contingency.

MAN OF-WAR IN ACTION.

Later.

Madrid.—A Spanish cruiser with big guns is raking Mount Gurugu, the stronghold of the Moors dominating Melilla. The Moors lost 100 killed on Tuesday, and a proportionate number wounded.

TERRIBLE CONDITIONS AT BARCELONA.

Later.

Madrid.—The refugees from Barcelona declare that the revolutionaries have burned all the convents and that the fortress bombarded the Rambla and other promenades. The dead are variously estimated to number between 400 and 1,000.

NEW FRENCH CABINET DECIDES ON RADICAL CHANGES.

Paris.—The French Cabinet has decided on radical changes on an unprecedented scale in the higher personnel of naval administration and in the number of new appointments to the posts of commanders afloat.

COAL DISPUTE SETTLED.

London.—The coal dispute has been settled by the coalowners conceding the minimum wage demanded by the men.

EARTHQUAKE IN MEXICO.

London August 1.

A severe earthquake has destroyed Chilpancingo, Chilpa and half of Acapulco. Hundreds of fatalities have occurred. Enormous damage has also been done at Iguala, in Guerrero.

[The province of Guerrero borders on the Pacific, lying southwards from the metropolitan province of Mexico.—Ed *J.M.*]

CHINESE PORK FOR LONDON MARKET.

A first consignment of nearly 5,000 frozen carcases of Chinese pigs for the London market has arrived. They are being minutely examined by the Officer of Health. The examination will last some days.

THE TSAR AT CHERBOURG.

The Tsar and Tsarina are at Cherbourg, where they have reviewed the French Fleet.

ORDER IS PARAMOUNT IN BARCELONA.

London, August 2.

Madrid.—The authorities have clearly triumphed at Barcelona, which is gradually quietening down. The official reports say that order has been restored in the disturbed districts of Catalonia, Aragon, and Vizcaya.

NORMAL CONDITIONS SUPERVENING.

Later.

Madrid. — Barcelona is reassuming its normal conditions. Whole sections of the City have, however, been razed to the ground by artillery. The officer commanding the Royalist troops estimates that 1,000 people have been killed and 2,500 sent to hospital.

REPUBLICAN DEMONSTRATIONS OVER CONFERENCE TARIFF BILL'S ADOPTION.

Washington.—The House of Representatives has adopted the Conference Tariff Bill by 195 votes to 173. The figures evoked Republican demonstrations.

THE RUSSIAN ROYAL TOUR.

St. Petersburg.—Their Majesties the Tsar and Tsaritza left Chenbourg this morning. Elaborate preparations for their protection were made afloat and ashore. At the banquet prior to their departure the most cordial toasts were exchanged, in which both the Tsar and the President dwelt upon the immutable friendship of the allies, which was a permanent guarantee of peace.

TURKEY STILL PROTESTING: ANGER GROWING.

Constantinople.—The resentment of Turkey at the hoisting of the Greek flag in Crete is at danger pitch. The Porte is protesting emphatically to the Powers to the effect that the act of hoisting the flag on July 28th seriously embittered the Turkish public. Strong steps are imminent at Athens.

RATIONAL APPLICATION OF PROTECTIVE THEORY IN AMERICA.

London, August 3.

New York.—Eighteen Republican members of the House voted against the Tariff Bill. The New York *Tribune* says that the Bill can only be regarded as an attempt to to eliminate unnecessary protection and pave the way for a national application of the protective theory.

DUKE OF CONNAUGHT TO RESIGN ARMY COUNCIL PRESIDENCY.

London.—It is reported that the Army Council has requested the Duke of Connaught to resign from the Presidency of the Board of Selection dealing with promotions owing to his resignation of the command of the Mediterranean Squadron.

THE HOKKAIDO BISHOPRIC.

London —The Archbishop of Canterbury bas appointed the Rev. Walter Andrews to the Bishopric of the Hokkaido,

EASTERN CRUISE OF U. S. A. MEN-OF-WAR.

Washington.—Eight armoured cruisers, under the Command of Rear-Admiral Sebree, will leave San Francisco on September 5. They will call at Honolulu, Admiralty Island, and Manila, and then separate, two each proceeding to Hongkong, Unsung, Kobe and Yokohama, and will reassemble at Yokohama in January and return to San Francisco.

CITY OF OSAKA LOAN.

London.—The City of Osaka Loan is quoted at 2 per cent. discount.

FORESTER-WALKER FOR MEDITERRANEAN.

London.—General Sir Frederick Forestier-Walker has been appointed High Commissioner in the Mediterranean, and he will also retain the command at Gibraltar.

RUSSIAN VISITORS' ARRIVAL.

London.—Their Russian Majesties arrived at Cowes on board the *Standart*, escorted by British and Russian warships. The King and Queen greeted them in the most cordial fashion.

TSAR AND KING EDWARD AT COWES.

IMPERIAL VISITOR IMPRESSED BY BRITAIN'S HUGH FLEETS.

London.—At the banquet on the Royal yacht *Standart* King Edward and the Tsar exchanged the most cordial of toasts King Edward said he was glad that the Tsar had now an opportunity of seeing perhaps the most powerful and largest fleet that had ever assembled. He trusted that His Imperial Majesty would never regard these ships as symbols of war. They were for the protection of Britain's coasts and commerce and above all fot the maintenance of peace.

The Tsar, replying, said he was deeply impressed at the grand sight of the Home and Atlantic Fleets, which were full testimouep to England's greatness.

AN IMPERIAL MEETING CANARD.

London.—The Foreign office has issued the most emphatic denial of the Vienna story republished in a Berlin paper implying that the meeting of the King and the Emperor Francis Joseph at Ischol in 1908 was unfriendly owing to the King's raising the question of Naval armaments. The foreign office says the meeting served to accentuate the long standing friendly relations of the two sovereigns, who parted on the most affectionate of terms,

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PORTUGAL'S KING TO VISIT ENGLAND.

Lisbon.—King Manuel of Portugal, on the invitation of King Edward, will visit England in a few weeks.

BRITAIN IS BUILDING AIRSHIPS.

London.—Mr. Haldane has introduced supplementary military estimates for £78,000 for aeronautics. He said that Messrs. Vickers, Sons, and Maxim, were building a rigid airship, at the very least as big as the Zeppelin vessel, to carry 20 men. It would be ready by Spring. A non-rigid airship was also being built at Albershot. Two foreign dirigibles and two aeroplanes had been ordered.

M. ISVOLSKY ON PERSIA AND CRETE.

St. Petersburg.—In an interview M. Isvolsky says that Russia will recall all her troops from Persia immediately order is permanently restored. He believes the constant Cretan trouble will now be finally settled satisfactorily to all parties.

M. ISVOLSKY AND ANGLO-RUSSIAN FRIENDSHIP.

London, August 4.

M. Isvolsky, interviewed by the *Daily Telegraph*, at Cowes, said that he regards the growing Anglo-Russian friendship as the most powerful guarantee of European peace and the peace of the whole world.

DR. LALCACA'S HEROISM.

Mr. Buchanan, replying to Mr. Keir Hardie, said that Government was considering the recognition of the heroism of Dr. Lalcaca in endeavouring to save Sir Curzon Wyllie's life

CHINESE PORK FOR LONDON.

August 5.

The London salesmen who examined the Chinese pigs in cold storage report that the meat is in very good condition, likewise the poultry and eggs. If the condition and quality of the present shipment be maintained, there is a good future for this trade.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

The question of the Duke of Connaught's resignation from the Presidency of the Selection Board is causing much talk in military circles.

GERMAN RAILWAY DIRECTOR CASHIERED.

The Times correspondent at Peking telegraphs that Herr Liteshone(?), Director of the German section of the Tientsin-Pakan Railway, has been cashiered as the result of the discovery of bank frauds and corruption in connection with this line.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

TROUBLED SPAIN.

London, June 29.

Madrid.—The desperate rioting which has occurred at Barcelona as a protest against the military operations in North Africa is causing fears that the anarchists will give orders for activity elsewhere, Martial law is therefore proclaimed everywhere, the Government being determined to suppress excess.

Later.

Barcelona.—Fighting continues between the police and the demonstrators, many being killed and wounded.

It is reported that the Premier intends to resign and that he will be succeeded by a soldier.

THE U.S TARIFF BILL.

New York.—Confusion regarding the Tariff Bill prevails at Washington. The President opposes the duties on lumber, gloves and hosiery, agreed upon by the Tariff Conference, and is disinclined to yield.

THE BUSINESS OF A GOVERNMENT.

Paris.—The new Premier's statement that the business of the Government is to govern pleases the public, who welcome his strong, independent personality.

FRENCH NAVAL REFORM.

Paris.—All the chiefs of the Ministry of Marine have been removed and their places filled by nominees of the new Minister. Such complete reconstruction is unprecedented.

DON JAIME OF BOURBON MAY LEAD THE REBELLION.

London, July 31.

Madrid—Sanguinary conflicts are incessant at Barcelona. The streets are being swept with artillery. About 9,000 armed revolutionaries have formed a committee of public safety. The Carlist leaders are expecting the arrival of the Pretender Don Jaime of Bourbon to lead the rebellion.

THE TOTAL SPANISH LOSSES.

London, August 2.

Madrid.—The total Spanish losses since July 9 amount to about 1,090 officers and men and the Moors, about 2,000. The Barcelona disturbances have ceased and the shops are reopening.

THE BALANCE OF POWER IS SATISFACTORY.

Paris.—Entire satisfaction is felt in connection with the Tsar's visit to Cherbourg. The speeches at the banquet voiced profoundly pacific sentiments. The Foreign Minister declares that everybody is satisfied at the existing balance of power in Europe.

TARIFF BILL REPORT CAUSES FOREBODINGS.

New York.—The narrow majority whereby the House adopted the report of the Tariff Conference is causing forebodings as to the political effect on the Republican party.

BIG U. S. A. FLEET FOR PACIFIC COAST.

London, July 3.

The Navy Department at Washington has ordered eight armoured cruisers to leave San Francisco on Sept. 5 and to call at Honolulu and Manila, two then proceeding to Hongkong, two to Unsung, two to Kobe and two to Yokohama, until January.

The *New York Herald* says the formation of a fleet of sixteen armoured cruisers, to be permanently stationed on the Pacific coast, is contemplated.

THE EX-SHAH CAUSES DISQUIETUDE.

Teheran.—It is freely remarked that it will be wise to arrange the question of the pecuniary settlement on the ex-Shah and bundle him out of the country at once, as his presence causes disquietude.

In St. Petersburg it is officially declared that General Liakoff and other Russian officers will remain in the service of the Persian Government and shall do all that is possible to retain the best relations between Persia and Russia.

EUROPEAN EQUILIBRIUM SAFE SAYS ISVOLSKY.

Paris.—M. Isvolsky, interviewed by journalists at Cherbourg, emphasized Russia's peaceful policy both in the Far East and in the Balkans. There was no reason to believe that the European equilibrium would be upset. The Anglo-Russian understanding had solved the Persian difficulty.

OSAKAS LOWER ON LONDON 'CHANGE.

London, August 4.

There is a good demand on the Stock Exchange for Japanese and Russian Bonds. Osakas have gone down on account of the terrible fire there.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, August 5.

On the Stock Exchange Osaka securities recovered sharply.

THE EX-SHAH.

Teheran.—The Ex-Shah receives a pension of £15,000 and starts for Russia in a fortnight.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

Melilla.—A line of block houses is being built along the railway. The blocked portions of the line have been restored. The Moors are resuming hostilities.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

SPAIN.

Berlin, July 29.

All rights of the Constitution in Spain have have been cancelled by the Government. Barcelona is cut off from all railway and postal connection. Several convents have been burnt by the populace. At Melilla the officers of the Army are falling in great numbers.

FRANCE.

President Faillières will not go to Marienbad during this season.

CRETE.

The Protective Powers have communicated to the Sublime Porte, that they disclaim all responsibility for the hissing at the Greek flag in Crete.

GERMANY.

The 500 years' celebration of the University of Leipzig has been carried out in a very brilliant manner.

PERSIA.

English artillery has left for Shiraz. The rumour that Russian troops have left for Teheran is not based on facts.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Berlin, July 30.

The English squadron will visit Lisbon and Gibraltar.

FRANCE.

President Fallieres has mitigated the punishment of the Casablanca deserters.

GERMANY.

The meeting between the Kaiser and the Tsar will take place at Swinemünde or Kiel on the return of the latter, about August 7th.

MOROCCO.

The Kabyles have advanced on Melilla.

SPAIN.

Riots have occurred at Barcelona. The troops have shelled the rioters.

M. Pichon declares that Spain has not sought a quarrel with Morocco.

SUPPRESSING THE BARCELONA RIOTS.

Berlin, July 31.

The revolutionaries at Barcelona are beginning to surrender to the troops. The Government will take the strongest measures for suppressing the riot, especially with regard to the attacks upon convents.

The situation in Spain has improved. The Consuls-General of Italy, Great Britain and Austria have required from their respective Governments the sending of warships for protection of their nationals.

SERIOUS EARTHQUAKE IN MEXICO.

Berlin, August 1.

A very severe earthquake has taken place in Mexico, by which much damage was caused.

SOUTH-WEST AFRICA.

Berlin, July 31.

The discovery of a new diamond field in South-West Africa is officially announced.

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ZEPPELIN'S LATEST FEAT.

Berlin, August 1.

Count Zeppelin, starting with his repaired airship from Friedrichshafen, has safely arrived, and landed at the Exhibition Park at Frankfurt this morning after a very stormy voyage of twelve hours. He was enthusiastically welcomed by the populace.

THE DUAL ALLIANCE AND PEACE.

The Czar, proposing a toast on the occasion of his meeting with President Fallieres at Cherbourg, emphasized the importance of the Franco-Russian Alliance for the maintenance of European peace.

A REGENT FOR PERSIA.

A full understanding has been arrived at between Russia and Great Britain as to the institution of a Regent in Persia.

THE CASABLANCA AFFAIR.

The deserters of the French Foreign Legion, through whom the Franco-German Casablanca incident was caused, have been fully pardoned by the French authorities, which act has been very favourably received in Germany.

INTERNATIONAL AERONAUTICS.

The summoning of an international aeronautic conference has been proposed by France.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with Yokohama dates up to July 15th, arrived at Berlin on July 30th.

AMERICAN IMPERIALISM.

The United States Senate has passed a Bill providing an appropriation of $100,000 for furthering American commercial interests in China and South America.

ANNAMESE PIRATES.

The French authorities in Annam have empowered the Mandarin of Honan to carry out a strong campaign against the pirates in his district.

AUSTRIA.

Berlin, August 2.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new German Chancellor, will go to Vienna at the end of September to present himself to Emperor Francis Joseph and to Freiherr von Aehrenthal, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs.

TURKEY.

Negotiations as to the coming visit of the Tsar to Constantinople are still continuing.

UNITED STATES.

President Taft has signed the new Treaty of Patent Rights between Germany and the United States, to be enforced immediately.

FRANCE.

The toasts which have been exchanged between President Fallières and the Tsar on the occasion of the meeting at Cherbourg, as well as the expressions of M. Pichon and M. Iswolski, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of France and Russia, are of a very peaceful nature. Iswolski, being interviewed, said that Russia must maintain in the future friendly relations to Germany. Negotiations have been held at the meeting as to a change of the Franco-Russian Treaty of Commerce.

The summoning of an international aeronautic conference has been proposed by France.

GERMANY.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg has received the French Chargé d'Affaires at Berlin, who expressed to him the thanks of M. Pichon for the congratulation of the Chancellor as to his remaining in office on the occasion of the change of Cabinet. Herr von Bethmann expressed the wish of maintaining good relations between Germany and France.

MEXICO.

The city of Acapulco in Mexico (State of Guerrero) has been completely destroyed by the already reported severe earthquake.

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 4.

The Kaiser will again meet the Tsar on the high seas, on which occasion no Minister will be present.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg will afterwards go to Swinemünde to report to the Kaiser.

The University of Berlin, which will celebrate in 1910 the centenary of its foundation in 1810, enters the year of its jubilee under the rectorship of Professor Erich Schmidt, the well known scholar of German Literature.

The steamer *Seestern*, which is attached to the Government in the German Colony at New Guinea, is missing and is probably lost.

Count Zeppelin, on his return voyage to Friedrichshafen, was surprised by a violent squall at Cologne and was forced to return to Frankfurt.

At the Vogelwiese, near Dresden, a plain on which a big public fête is celebrated every year, a great fire has broken out, by which 50 persons have been more or less injured.

SPAIN.

The Carlists in Spain, adherents to the party of the pretender to the throne, declare that they will neither raise a civil war, nor stir up opposition to the war in Morocco.

The general strike which had been planned in Spain is regarded as having failed.

FRANCE.

Berlin, August 4.

President Fallières and M. Pichon, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, have made very satisfactory declarations to the Ministerial Council as to the consolidation of the European situation by the visit of the Tsar to Cherbourg.

MOROCCO.

Mulai Hafid has nominated special officials for the Er-Rif district in Morocco, who are entrusted to mediate between the Spaniards and the natives.

SWEDEN.

A general strike is imminent in Sweden.

GREAT BRITAIN.

King Edward has invited King Manuel of Portugal to pay a visit to London.

TURKEY.

A political *entente cordiale* between Turkey and Bulgaria is being prepared.

CATALONIAN "HOME RULE."

A movement for separation from Spain is being raised in Catalonia, and a guerilla war against the Government has been started.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

STEAMSHIP CO.'S DISSENSION AT 'FRISCO.

San Francisco, July 28.

On July 27, Mr. Apelli(?), Manager of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha Branch here, left for Japan. The *Call* has vigorously attacked the disposition of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company towards the Toyo Kisen Kaisha and has reported that Mr. Apelli's(?) business in Japan is to cancel the agreement relating to the cooperation of these two companies. On the other hand, Mr. Shemelin(?), Vice-President of the Pacific Mail, has declared that the Toyo Kisen is powerless to effect anything without the aid of his company.

A HARBIN CUSTOMS' CONTROVERSY.

Harbin, July 29.

The Harbin Customs authorities have sought to receive payment twice on goods for which duty had been paid at Pagrachinaya(?) Customs. The European merchants have declined to pay the same, on the ground that the regulations of the Harbin Customs are not distinct, while the Chinese importers only have been levied on their goods as above mentioned. Accordingly, the Chinese merchants have presented a petition to the Department of Agriculture and Industry and to Viceroy Hsu to treat them the same as the Europeans.

KOREAN CROWN PRINCE'S EDUCATION.

Seoul, July 29.

The Korean Emperor has sent a telegram of thanks of the Emperor of Japan for the education of the Korean Crown Prince. It was cordially answered by wire, to-day.

REBEL RINGLEADERS ARRESTED.

On July 28, two rebel ringleaders Ligengo and Lishubun were arrested at the southern district of Zenra-do and Ryusan respectively.

SPANISH CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS SUSPENDED.

San Francisco, July 28.

The Spanish ministry, after a council in the Royal presence, has proclaimed martial law thoughout the country, and has also suspended the rights of the people granted by the Constitution. Such drastic steps indicate the intensity of the internal revolutionary movement at present prevailing.

VLADIVOSTOCK WELCOMES JAPANESE TOURISTS.

Vladivostock, August 2.

A party of Japanese tourists has arrived here. They have been received with unprecedented welcome by the officials and the people of Russia.

SEOUL MILITARY OFFICERS SCHOOL DISSOLVED.

Seoul, August 2.

The Principal of the Military Officers' School has dissolved the school in obedience to an Imperial order. There are 45 students, 40 of whom desire to study in Japan.

EDUCATION AND FINANCE MINISTERS WILL NOT RESIGN.

Seoul, August 3.

The Ministers of State for Education and for Finance have agreed not to resign, in compliance with the wishes of the Premier. They attended the cabinet council yesterday.

Despite official denials regarding the disturbance at Chientao, the reports given by eyewitnesses states that the Chinese sentry is strictly interrogating every passer-by, and that the boycott is increasing. The Japanese Consul at Kilin will deal with the matter in a few days.

SHANGHAI WILL SEND FUNDS FOR RELIEF.

Shanghai, August 3.

The *Mercury*, in its leading article, advises the foreign residents here to make contributions towards the relief-fund on behalf of the Osaka people.

A committee of Japanese residents has begun to raise a fund for the same purpose.

AMERICA'S SYMPATHY WITH OSAKA.

The general public in America is expressing deep sympathy with the townspeople of Osaka in the recent conflagration. The *San Francisco Chronicle* declared in its to-day's issue that as the Japanese were the first to contribute to the earthquake relief-fund, the Americans, and especially the people of San Francisco, should remit a reciprocating contribution on the present occasion.

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DECORATION FOR MR. CHEN.

Peking, August 4.

Mr. Chen, Viceroy of Hokwang, is to be decorated by the Japanese Emperor with the First Order of Merit and the Order of the Rising Sun, for exertions towards the friendly relationship between Japan and China. The Japanese Consul, Mr. Takahashi, will visit him on the 6th instant to present the Order.

FUNERAL OF SIR W. CURZON WYLLIE.

AN IMPRESSIVE SCENE.

The Times, describing the funeral of Sir Curzon Wyllie, which took place at St. Paul's Church, Onslow Square, London, and at Richmond Cemetery, says that circumstances showed how deeply all classes of the community have been stirred by the crime, and how strong is the desire to show sympathy with Lady Wyllie in the terrible blow inflicted upon her. The house of Lady Wyllie in Onslow Square is close to the church, and quite an hour before the service began crowds had assembled about the square to witness the funeral Admission to the church was confined to friends of Sir Curzon Wyllie and to members of the congregation of St. Paul's, but when the funeral cortege arrived the church was filled in every part.

The King was represented by Sir Dighton Probyn, the Prince of Wales by Mr. E. Wallington, the Duke of Connaught by Major Murray, Prince and Princess Christian by Major Evans Martin, Lord Kitchener by Major General Hubert Hamilton, and the Prime Minister by his private secretary, Mr. Vaughan Nash. Lord and Lady Morley arrived early, and the Lord Chamberlain, Lord Althorp, also represented in person a department with which Curzon Wyllie had constant official communication. There were also present Lord Midleton (formerly Secretary of State for India) and Lady Midleton, Lord Curzon of Kedleston, Lord George Hamilton (formerly Secretary for India) and Lady George Hamilton, Lord MacDonnell, and Lord Lamington. The principal mourners were Lady Wyllie, Miss Wyllie (sister), and other relatives. In addition to Lord Morley, a number of the colleagues of Sir Curzon Wyllie at the India Office and members of their families attended the service.

The coffin, covered by the Union Jack, was conveyed to the church gates in an open hearse, followed by the carriages with the mourners. Although there had been an intimation that Lady Wyllie desired that flowers should not be sent, a great number of beautiful wreaths had arrived at the house. Some of these were laid upon the coffin and the remainder were placed upon the hearse. As some friends were precluded by the intimation from sending wreaths, it is Lady Wyllie's desire that no list should be given. It may be permissible to mention, however, that the messengers of the India Office subscribed for and sent a wreath for the grave of one whom they held in affectionate regard. A wreath was also sent from Sir Curzon Wyllie's fellow Old Marlburians with flowers woven in the colours of the school—red, blue, and white.

ATLANTIC LINERS AND AMERICAN MAILS.

The devices which have been resorted to for saving time in the transmission of mails between New York and London are innumerable. Competition of the keenest description is on record between the Liverpool and Southampton routes, resulting in the saving of hours and even days. Now the White Star liners have taken to calling at Holyhead, as the Cunarders are accustomed to do at Queenstown, with the same object.

The liner *Cedric* landed its passengers and mails at Holyhead for the first time, on the last Saturday in June, thus saving the several hours which would have been needed to have taken them to Liverpool. The mails reached London the same night, instead of at midday the following day.

EXPERT FAILED TO CURE HIS ECZEMA

Had Suffered Six Years—Face Badly Affected—Dared Not Go Out when Air Was Raw—Cuticura Proved Only Remedy—Also Cured Ringworm on Girl's Arm.

CUTICURA REMEDIES TWICE SUCCESSFUL

"I found three cakes of Cuticura Soap, one box of Cuticura Ointment and two bottles of Cuticura Resolvent ample to clear me of eczema, with which I had suffered for six years. It was the face principally that was affected and latterly I scarcely dared show myself out of doors if there was the least rawness in the air. I tried two or three doctors, also a chemist who was supposed to be an expert on eczema, but they did not seem to cure me permanently. Also the same box of Cuticura Ointment cured a pretty bad case of ringworm on a girl's arm that I persuaded her to allow me to dress with it. G. L. Monro, Burrow Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale, May 11, 1907."

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

MOTHERS

Of Skin-tortured and Disfigured Babies Should Know

That warm baths with Cuticura Soap and gentle anointings with Cuticura, the great Skin Cure, afford instant relief, permit rest and sleep, and point to a speedy, permanent, and economical cure of torturing, disfiguring eczemas, rashes, itchings, irritations, inflammations, and chafings of infants and children, and afford rest and comfort to worried, worn-out parents, when all else fails. Guaranteed absolutely pure and may be used from the hour of birth.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour of Infants, Children, and Adults consists of Cuticura Soap to Cleanse the Skin, Cuticura Ointment to Heal the Skin, and Cuticura Resolvent or Cuticura Resolvent Pills (Chocolate Coated) to Purify the Blood. A Single Set often Cures. Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Capetown, Natal, etc.; Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Owing to the high prices of American Cotton, business is still practically at a standstill. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is firm, and actual transactions are light. The Woollen business has assumed a better tone.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	39.00 to 40.00
Egyptian	47.25 to 50.70
Indian Broach	31.00 to 31.50
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 31.50

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	270.00 to 280.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 360.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	11.00 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.00
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.71
" " 2 " "	0.58 to 0.64
" " 3 " "	0.46 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.34 to 0.39
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Business in Bars is extremely dull. The prices of Galvanized Sheets has declined.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
d. Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet.

Chester	Y.3.66 to 3.89
Victory	3.20 to 3.60
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No transactions have been done in imported sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. There have been some pretty fair transactions in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.05
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.00

FLOUR.

The quotations have dropped since last week. The sales for September shipment have been made on a very small scale.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	10.75
Flag	"	10.65
Royal	"	10.35
Trophy	"	10.35
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.35
Lion	"	11.45
Portland	"	10.45
Premier	"	10.35
Japanese:—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.70
Takasago	6 "	2.68
Fuji	6 "	2.70
Pine	6 "	2.70

WHEAT.

No transactions are reported and quotations are nominal.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	6.60 — 6.70
Red " " "	6.50 — 6.60
Blue Stem	6.85 — 7.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is very quiet. The business has been done little by little.

On August 5th stocks were: filatures 18,104 bales Re-reels, 2,134 bales; Kakeda, 662 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	Y.1,100
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	1,030
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	1,040
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	945

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Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,025
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	1,000
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	900
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	980
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	895
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	950
Re-reels—No. 1½	920
Re-reels—No. 2	890
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra... ...	940
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1 ...	890
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	870
Kakedas—No. 2	850

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

July	Present delivery.	August delivery.	September delivery.	October delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
30th.....	913	—	888	915
31st..... ...	—	—	—	—
August				
1st	913	880	915	—
2nd	920	882	—	921
3rd	927	887	—	927
4th	928	895	—	929
5th	927	890	916	926

WASTE SILK.

The market is inactive. There has been but little business done.

On August 5th stocks were: Noshi, 2,684 bales, Kibiso, 5,309 bales; and Sundry, 552 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	90 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	65 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	117 to 122
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium...	107 to 112
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	95 to 105
Rereel—Fair...	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is still weak. There have been no important transactions.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.55	8.25	8.05	8.40	8.20
27"	8.40	7.95	7.90	8.00	8 10
36"	8.60	8.25	8.05	7.95	7 80

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.05	7.95	7 80	7.45
27"	8.05	7.90	7.85	7 55
36"	8.10	7.95	7.75	7.55

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½.....	7.50	8.00	8.70	9 40
22½.....	7.95	8.60	9.70	10.60
27	—	10.40	11.40	12 80
36	—	—	14.20	15.80

COPPER.

Quotations are fluctuating.

According to a London telegram of August 5th, the quotation was £59 12.6.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43 50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38 50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47 00—50.00
Ore	" 28.50—32.00

RICE.

The quotations have advanced. No great change in the market.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	760,922
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	113,284

Delivery.	Closing Price.
August	14.13
September	14 53
October	14 63

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku.*
Superior.....	Yen 14.90
Medium	13 90
Common	12 90
Average	13 90

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
August	—	August	13.70
September ...	—	September...	14.12
October	—	October.....	14 05

TEA.

No change in quotations.

The market is inactive. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to August 5th, the sales amounted to 7,729,500 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 213,200 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y.	—	—
Choice		—	—
Finest...		—	—
Fine		—	—
Good Medium	35	—	40
Medium	30	—	34
Good Common	27	—	29
Common	24	—	26

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The quotations show a tendency of gradual advance. A little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
August	129.00
September.....	128.00
October.....	127.25

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Aug. 6

London Silver unchanged. China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates unaltered, closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London Bank T.T	2/0 19/32@5/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0 5/16
— — 4 months' sight.....	2/0 11/32
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 3/8
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight.....per $100	85¼*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83¼*
Shanghai—Bank sight	88*
— Private 10 days' sight.....	89½*
India—Bank sight	153½
— Private 30 days' sight	155½
America—Bank sight.....	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51@⅛
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London).....	23¼

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.	
Europe .....N. D. L.		Goeben	Su	Aug. 8
America.....P. M.		Mongolia	Su	Aug. 8
Hongkong ..B. L		Kumeric	Tu	Aug. 10
Europe .....M. M.		Tonkin 1	W.	Aug. 11
Hongkong...P. M.		Manchuria	W	Aug. 11
Hongkong...P. & A.		Selja	F.	Aug. 13
America.....T. K. K.		Tenyo Maru 2	Sa.	Aug. 14
Hongkong...T. K. K.		Chiyo Maru	M	Aug. 16
Seattle .....N.Y.K.		Shinano Maru 3	M.	Aug. 16
Tacoma.....B. L		Suveric	M	Aug. 16
Hongkong...N.Y.K.		Iyo Maru	Tu.	Aug. 17
Portland.....P. & A.		Henrik Ibsen	Tu.	Aug. 17
Hongkong...G. N.		Minnesota 4	Tu	Aug. 17
Vancouver...C. P. R.		Em. of China	W	Aug. 18
Hongkong...C. P. R.		Em. of Japan	Tu	Aug. 24

1 Left Singapore on the 26th ult.
2 Left San Francisco on the 27th ult.
3 Left Seattle on the 31st ult
4 Left Hongkong on the 2nd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date	
America.....P. M.		China	Sa.	Aug. 7
Europe .....M. M.		Ernest Simons	Sa	Aug. 7
Shanghai ...N. Y. K.		Yamaguchi M.	Su	Aug. 8
Hongkong...P. M.		Mongolia	M.	Aug. 9
Hongkong...N. Y. K.		Tosa Maru	M	Aug. 9
Tacoma .....B. L		Kumeric	W	Aug. 11
Europe .....N. Y. K.		Mishima Maru	W	Aug. 11
Europe .....N. D. L.		Goeben	Sa	Aug. 14
Hongkong...T. K. K.		Tenyo Maru	Su	Aug. 15
Hongkong...B. L		Suveric	Tu	Aug. 17
Hongkong...P. & A.		Henrik Ibsen	W.	Aug. 18
America.....T. K. K.		Chiyo Maru	W	Aug. 18
Hongkong...C. P. R.		Em. of China	W	Aug. 18
Seattle .....G. N.		Minnesota	Th	Aug 19
America.....C. R.		A'tal Fouriehon	F.	Aug. 20
Australia ...N. Y. K.		Yawata Maru	Sa	Aug. 21
Tacoma.....B. & S.		Cyclops	Su	Aug. 22
Vancouver...C. P. R.		Em. of Japan	Tu	Aug. 24
Portland.....P. & A.		Rygja	F.	Aug. 27
Seattle .....N. Y. K.		Kaga Maru	W	Sept. 1

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Syria, British steamer, 4,191, D. C. Gregor, 30th July,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S. N. Co.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 30th July,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Laertes, British steamer, 2,904, Evans, 1st Aug.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham, 1st Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,803, C. H. Butler, 2nd Aug.,—Muroran, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gregory Apcar, British steamer, 2,960, G. H. Belson, 2nd July,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Arakawa, 4th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 3,186, D. E. Friele, 4th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Benclench, British steamer, 2,679, Geo. McMillan, 5th Aug.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, K. Sato, 5th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Atsuta Maru, Japanese steamer, W. Thompson, 5th Aug.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hun Sang, Korean steamer, 796, J. S. Gundersen, 5th Aug.,—Chemulpo, General.—Japanese.

DEPARTURES.

Indrawadi, British steamer, 3,369, W. Gray Williams 30th July,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Prinz Luawig, German steamer, 5,704, F. von Binzer, 31st July,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Tahoma, U.S. Revenue Cutter, 1,000, Quinan, 31st July,—Attan (Aleusian Island.)

Andalusia, German steamer, 3,477, Block, 31st July,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Silesia, Austrian steamer, 3,340, E. Radonicich, 31st July,—Trieste and Fiume, General.—Heller Bros.

Antilochus, British steamer, 5,776, Geo. D. Keay, 1st Aug.,—Genoa, Marseilles and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. Wada, 1st Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham, 3rd Aug.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Titania, German Navy Transport, 1,248, H. Schaack, 3rd Aug.,—Hakodate.

Gregory Apcar, British steamer, 2,960, G. H. Belson, 3rd Aug.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co

Sarpedon, British steamer, 3,023, J. N. Taylor, 4th Aug.,—Genoa, Marseilles and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,912, A. Keith 4th, Aug.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 5th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, K. Sato, 5th Aug.,—Seattle, Wash., via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Sudzuki, 4th Aug.,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Asia* for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. J. D. Childress, Mr. Bert Males, Miss C. Jewell, Miss Dorothy Martel, Miss Mildred Martel, Mrs M. C. Banks, Miss Marbel Bish, Misss Emma R. Carter, Mr. Ching Sing, Mr. M. E. Cleland, Mr. Dong Wing and infant, Mr. G. Fleazar, Mrs. John R. Edgar and infant, Mr. Eng Hook Fong Mr. C. Floyd, Mrs Geo. Fuller, Mr James G. Gregory, Miss R. Holstein, Mr. Geo. H. Jaques, Mrs. H. D. Kneedler and infant, Mr. H. S. Lee, Mrs. H. S. Lee, Mr. H. C. McKinnon Mr. W. C. Sweet, Mr. G. C. Hauson, Capt. A. Lockett, Mr. C. H. Logan, Miss L. S. Mason, Com. J. D. McDonald, U.S.N., Mr. P. G. Mygatt, Mr. F. D. Pillatt, Mr. J. Preger, Mr. Roy F. Rose, Mr. Leon Rosenthal, Capt. Geo. H. Seaver, Mrs. Geo. H. Seaver and infant, Master Mark Seaver, Mr. Shun Hong, Mr. A. F. Speakman, Mrs. K. Spencer, Mrs. W. D. Van Cleaxe, Mr. John

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L. Williams, Mr. E. Freese and Mr. Geo. H. Corse, Jr., in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—Mr. A. J. Johnson, Mr. F. McDonald, Mr. Lewis Peck, Mr. Geo. Bowack, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. K. Johnson, Miss Powell and native servant, Mrs. J. O. B. Harman, infant and amah, Miss Dinsdale and sister, Mr. W. Gallaway and 45 Chinese in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. B. Kerkhoff, Mr. A. H. Johnson, Lady Bredon, Miss Bredon, Miss C. E. Porter, Mr. J. C. Conglas, Mr. R. E. S. Gregson, Mr. W. Moss, Mr. Frank West, Mr. G. Molliet, Mr. Hall, Mr. C. O. Major, Mr. Byrne, and Mr. C. L. Sundoff in cabin; Mr. Chun Kan in Asiatic second class. For Vancouver B.C.:—Mr. and Mrs. J. M. McCaffrey, infant and maid, Mr. Owang King, Mr. Chung Den Son, Mr. H. B. Hickman, Mr. A. E. Green, Mr. J. Hall Brulton, Mrs. Geo. Gross, Mr. Henry Desselle, Mrs. J. C. Ginkel, Mr. H. Kouyoumjian, Mr. D. Young, Mr. G. E. Wilde, Dr. F. L. Hawes Pott, Judge F. S. A. Bourne, Mrs. Bourne, Miss Bourne, Mrs. M. Ikeda, Comdr. J. M. Orchard and Miss Orchard in cabin; 44 Chinese in Asiatic 2nd class; 345 Chinese in steerage.

Per American steamer *China* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. R. Clark, Capt. A. T. Easton, Mr. M. Kirkwood, Mrs. M. Kirkwood, Miss M. F. Ladd, Mr. G. B. Pattison, Mr. E. G. Jardan, Mr. A. L. Tayler, Mr. and Mrs. Tegner and servant and Mr. S. Warning. For Honolulu:—Mr. B. A. Clarke, Mr. Chan Nee Kwan and Mrs. Chan Shee. For San Francisco:—Mr. J. Brask, Capt. F. A. Brown and son, Mr. J. W. Creighton, Mr. C. Coulthard, Mr. F. C. Bowles wife and child, Mrs. R. M. Coauard, Mr. S. Catardine, Miss Mabell Chuff, Miss Evelyn Chifford, Mr. Nee Wen Chin, Mrs. Otto Dolling, Master E. C. Drollete, Mr. N. A. Dukes, Mr. Aage Enna, Mr. Chen Ling Fang, Mr. N. Haskim, Mr. J. A. Higgins, Mr. W. T. Hendricks, Mr. L. Hermann, Mrs. L. Hermann, Mrs. P. Hayden, Miss Lan Ting Hin, Mrs. A. M. Howe, Mr. Wong Gang Huo, Mr. Hn Gao Hsi, Miss Virginia Jameson, Miss Lois Jameson, Miss Edna Jameson, Mr. H. M. Johnson, Mr. Fei Hsing Jen, Mr. Yueng Love, Mrs. Lorne Lyts, Miss Hazel McGraw, Mrs. D. McDuffie, Mr. H. W. Meyer, Miss Lee Nook, Mrs. M. E. Pearson, Mrs. G. M. Prentiss, Mr. Vicente Auiogue, Mrs. Wong Shee, Mr. B. Saimamoto, Mr. C. L. Stokes, Mr. A. E. Tillston, Mrs. S. C. Todd, Miss Henrietta Wade, Mr. Tsen Shao Yuen and Mr. S. Yamaga in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Prinz Ludwig* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—Mr. A. Baltensberger, Mrs. Selig, Mr. Gensen, Mr. M. Russell, Master W and E. Russell, Mr. S. de Neuman, Mr. G. H. Purcell, Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Lovsted, Mr. H. G. A. Lovsted, Mr. H. G. A. Leveson, Mr. Leon Feval, Mrs. Monti Baldini, Mr. Ang. Altschueler, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Elliot, Misses D. & F. Elliott, Oberstleutnant von Barfus, Miss von Barfus, Mr. Hausmann, Miss A. E. Fitz Henry, Mr. Ernst P. Franke, Mr. and Mrs. and Miss C. R. P. Collaco, Miss Florence Tassell, Mr. H. Bardrick, Mr. W. T. Bardrick Jr., Mr. V. Sadervasser, Mrs. Sen Takeshi, Mr. Ip Hin Wa, Mr. C. C. Mein, Mr. W. S. Sun, Mr. I. B. Tong, Mr. L. S. Chan, Mr. C. A. Neff and Mr. H. A. Ensworth in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India* for Vancouver, B.C.:—Judge F. S. A. Bourne, Mrs. Bourne, Miss Bourne, Mr. Geo. K. Hall, Mrs. E. E. Capehart, Mr. P. Cohen, Mr. H. A. Cowper, Mrs. Georgia Cross, Mr. H. Deseille, Mr. C. C. Fitzmorris, Mrs. J. A. Ginkel, Mr. A. E. Green, Mr. H. B. Hickman, Mrs. M. Ikeda, Mr. Owang King, Mr. H. K. Kouyoumjian, Comdr. H. S. Knapp, U.S.N., Mr. W. C. Kruger, Mr. J. McCaffrey, Mrs. McCaffrey and infant, Mr. B. Morris, Mr. H. Murphy, Comdr. J. M. Orchard, U.S.N., Miss Orchard Dr. F. L. Hawks Pott, Mr. C. H. G. Ross, Rev. T. E. Edgerton, Mrs. Shore, Mr. Cheong Din Son, Miss M. L. Spence, Mrs. West, Mr. G. G. E. Wilde and Mr. D. M. Young in cabin,

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of India* for Vancouver:—

TEA.

From	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hongkong ...		—	—	619	6	625
Foochow.....	261	335	2	830	—	1,428
Shanghai.....	2,382	733	4,477	—	—	7,592
Kobe	471	445	—	—	—	916
Yokohama ...	1,790	638	427	—	—	2,855
Total	4,904	2,151	4,906	1,449	6	13,416

SILK.

From.	New York.	Easton.	South M'chester.	Montreal.	San Francisco	Total. Bales.
H'kong & Canton	260	—	—	—	—	260
Shanghai	138	—	—	—	—	138
Yokohama	1,192	12	45	—	—	1,250
Total	1,591	12	45	—	—	1,648

By Royal Warrant
to H.M. THE KING.

LEA & PERRINS'

SAUCE

gives a delightfully appetizing flavour to all Meat Dishes, Fish, Soup, Game, Cheese and Salad, and assists digestion.

The Original & Genuine Worcestershire.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—

	Raw Silk. France.	Waste Silk France.	Waste Silk Triestes	Peignes. France.
Sulzer Rudolph & Co..	66	—	—	—
Otto Streuli	10	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	4	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.....	38	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent.....	40	—	—	—
Hara Yushitsuten...	10	—	—	—
Jardine Matheson & Co.	62	—	—	—
	230	—	—	—

Per German steamer *Prinz Ludwig* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—

	RAW. Genoa. Option.	Lyon.	Marseilles	Milan	WASTE. Lyons.	Marseilles	Trieste.	M'chester.
Sulzer Rudolph & Co	294	—	—	—	—	8	—	—
Siber Wolff & Co....	80	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Strahler & Co....	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co .	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
DellOro & Co.....	—	—	—	—	—	14	—	—
Sieber & Co.....	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	411	40	—	—	—	22	—	—

LIST OF RAW SILK SHIPPERS FROM 1ST JULY, 1909, TO 31ST JULY, 1909.

Firms	To Eur Bales	To Ame Bales.	Total. Bales.
Bavier & Co.	—	100	100
H. Bernardin & Co.	—	15	15
Boyer, Mazet, Gouilliee & Co. ...	30	10	10
Carlowitz & Co.	20	—	20
China and Japan Trading Co. ...	—	456	456
Jardine Matheson & Co.	152	50	202
Jewett and Bent	94	91	185
Cl. Eymard	10	—	10
P. Dourille & Co.	—	—	—
L. Mottet	10	22	32
Nabholz & Co.	98	415	513
Pila & Co.	166	35	201
Siber, Wolff & Co.	181	301	482
Sieber & Co.	144	—	144
F. Strahler & Co.	30	340	370
Otto Streuli	215	—	215
Sulzer, Rudolph & Co.	829	20	849
Varenne & Co.	—	—	—
Vivanti Bros.	—	432	432
Hara Yushutsuten	70	115	185
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	14	1,302	1,316
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	—	2,761	2,761
Total	2,063	6,465	8,528

20 bales shipped to America by Bavier & Co. are "Douppioni" silk.

10 bales shipped to America by Boyer, Mazet, Gouilliee & Co. are "Douppioni" silk.

(毎土曜日一回發行)
編輯人兼發行人 エフ ブリンクリー
印刷人兼印刷人 イ アルース ミットフオールド
發行所 橫濱市山下町五十五番
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The Japan Weekly Mail:

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 14TH, 1909.

BIRTH.

On the 5th inst, at 51 Cavendish Road, London, N W. to Mr. and Mrs. BERTRAM, R. BERRICK, a Son. (By Cable.)

MARRIAGES.

MITCHELL-THOMPSON — MCEACHARN. — On Tuesday, July 6th, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, MADELEINE, daughter of Sir Malcolm and Lady MCEACHARN, of Overstone Park, Northampton, to Mr. WILLIAM MITCHELL-THOMSON.

LOONEN—MORSS—À Paris, le 3 Juin, 1909, Monsieur ROBERT LOONEN, le fils de Monsieur et Madame LOONEN, avec Mademoiselle JOSÉPHINE MORSS.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THEIR Majesties the Emperor and the Empress have given *yen* 12,000 to relieve the poor in Osaka.

ON August 5, a furious storm raged near Enoshima and the long pier there was swept away by the waves. It will be restored in a few days.

ON August 5, the sale of the *Shinsei* (Vol. 20 No. 7) was prohibited by the Minister for Home Affairs on the ground of its deleterious effect upon public morals.

THE Nagasaki Chamber of Commerce is reported to have received a message from New York that 800 American sightseers will visit Japan by the end of this year on board the steamer *Cleaveland*.

MESSRS. MURATA and IWAI, who were among the four candidates for the directors of the Japan Industrial Bank at the extraordinary general meeting held on the 3rd instant, have formally been appointed the same.

WHILST the Japanese manure dealers are enterprising in alliance to export beans and bean-cakes from Manchuria on a large scale, the German merchants show signs of being in great competition with the Japanese in these lines.

IT is reported that the Japanese business men who are to visit America will leave Yokohama for San Francisco on the 19th instant. The party consists of 3 ladies and 16 gentlemen from Tokyo, 8 gentlemen from Osaka, and 3 gentlemen each from Kyoto, Yokohama, Kobe and Nagoya.

THE charge for press telegrams by wireless telegraph having been reduced to *sen* 60 per 50 letters, steamship owners will be allowed the same privilege for telegrams addressed to vessels for the purpose of notifying passengers in general, provided that the sanction of the Authorities is obtained beforehand.

THE property known as No. 213, Bluff, comprising 574 *tsubo* of land and the buildings thereon, was offered for auction this week at the offices of Messrs Jno. W. Hall. Bidding commenced at *yen* 10,000 and, after some spirited offers, the lot was knocked down at *yen* 14,600, Mr. Solomon being the purchaser.

TWO ice-dealers in Yotsuya, Tokyo, were discovered on the 7th instant to have put on sale ice containing sand, and 5,000 lbs. of the same in each shop was thrown away by order of the Police authorities. The ice is alleged to have been manufactured by the Suwa Ice Factory at Iida machi, Kojimachi-ku and the Hamashige Ice Factory and Tsukido cho, Ushigome-ku.

THE Berlin correspondent of the London *Globe* writes:—Dispatches received here privately from Peking indicate that German offers in connection with the proposed naval construction are being well received by the authorities. Tenders have already been received by the Government from fourteen foreign firms, representative of Germany, Great Britain, France, and the United States; but there appears to be good reason for stating the Germany will obtain, at any rate, a large portion of the work. It is as yet uncertain exactly how much money is proposed to be spent on the new Fleet.

MR. FISHER UNWIN sends us particulars of three new novels recently included in his "Colonial Library." They are Mr. de Vere Stacpoole's *Pools of Silence*, which forms, with *The Blue Lagoon* and *The Crimson Azaleas*, "a trilogy of remarkable books dealing with the tropics in the East"; *The Traitor's Wife*, a tale of the struggle of talent and character against family position and influence, by Mr. W. H. Williamson; and *Henry in Search of a Wife* by Mr. A. Courlander, a humorous tale forming a complete change from his earlier works, which had won for this writer a reputation for grimness.

IT is reported that during the last few days, the Nikko visitors have daily numbered some 350 Japanese and over 100 foreigners. As compared with last year, there is some increase in foreigners, while Japanese decreased by about 100. Princes Kwacho and Fushimi and the Ambassadors of France, Italy and Austria and many other high dignitaries, Japanese and European, are among the sojourners.

ON and after the 15th instant, the Railway Board will charge as follow on every kind of gun-powder :—

Weight.	Charges for Transportation.	Charges for loading and unloading.
10 *kin* or less	Sen 1½ per mile	Sen 10
Over 10 to 20 *kin*...	„ 2 „	„ 10
Over 20 to 30 *kin*...	„ 2½ „	„ 10
Over 30 to 40 *kin*...	„ 3 „	„ 10
Over 40 to 50 *kin*...	„ 3½ „	„ 10

All kinds of fire-works come under the above.

A LITTLE before a quarter to four on Saturday morning last, says the *Kobe Herald*, a sharp shock of earthquake, the most severe for several years past, was experienced at Kobe. As the seisimograph at the Kobe Observatory had previously been slightly damaged, an accurate record could not be obtained, but the officials inform us that the vibration commenced at 3.41'.30" and lasted 30 seconds. The tremor was sudden and acute, the breadth of the vibration being about 3 millimetres. It is supposed to have originated in the vicinity of Kobe or Osaka, and was most felt at those cities.

THE new chief of the London Fire Brigade, in succession to Captain Hamilton, will, it is said, be Commander Cowper, of H.M.S. *Spartiate*. Commander Baron Valentine de Mornay Cowper, who is forty-four years of age, has had twenty-nine years' continuous service on board men-of-war. He commanded the *Plover* during the rebellion in the Southern Philippines in 1899, and for his work received the thanks of Admiral Dewey and of the American Government. He was in command of the *Plover* during the Boxer rising, and made a successful expedition against Chinese pirates in 1900.

TWO foreigners, according to the *N.-C. Daily News*, have fallen victims to that scourge of the East, cholera morbus One of the victims was Mr. Wynn Hérl, first officer of the Standard Oil S.S. *Hudson*, who was taken ill on board his ship and died the same day, shortly after his admission to the Isolation Hospital. The other victim was the well-known swimmer, Mr. J. Gibson, who after playing with much success in a waterpolo match on Friday, July 30th, was taken ill in the course of the night and died in the General Hospital at 9 30 the following morning. Mr. Gibson was also an employee of the Standard Oil Co.

OVER 100 Japanese emigrants returned home from Peru on the 7th instant by the steamer *America Maru*. According to their statement, as soon as they landed there, a climatic disease broke out among them. Moreover, the rate of wages was lower than they expected, and many of them were often out of employment. On the other hand, there is a charity hospital in Peru, where anybody is allowed to undergo medical treatment free of charge. Most of the Japanese who were without occupation entered the hospital on the plea of illness, and eventually the authorities were obliged to restrict the number of patients.

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THE SITUATION IN THE FAR EAST.

It is well to place on record two facts clearly alleged by the *Kokumin Shimbun*. The first is that by the beginning of April last the survey of the proposed new route for the Mukden-Antung Railway was actually carried to completion. In speaking of this survey, we refer to the joint examination by Chinese and Japanese experts, as provided for in the Convention. In other words, up to the beginning of April the Chinese had shown themselves entirely willing to carry out the obligations imposed upon them by the Peking Treaty of 1905. At that point, however, an unaccountable delay occurred, and the next phase of the affair was that, on the 24th of June, China officially conveyed to the Japanese Government an extraordinary statement, showing plainly that she did not intend to agree to any reconstruction of the line such as should fit it for discharging the functions of a properly equipped railway. Since the receipt of that astonishing document, Japan has been doing everything in her power to bring about a change in China's attitude. But up to the present, complete failure has been the result, and unless China changes her mind within the next few days, Japan will be reluctantly obliged to commence the improvement of the line without further reference to her neighbour.

To us the situation seems exceedingly embarrassing, because, although it is easy enough for the Japanese to commence the work of reconstruction, it is equally easy for the Chinese local authorities to place almost insuperable difficulties in the way. So long as the road adheres to the present track, there will be no special difficulty, since the ordinary highways need not be used for transporting materials. But in certain places the present route is wholly unsuited for a permanent line, and any deviation would necessitate the purchase of land, against which the Chinese Government is understood to have issued a secret injunction.

Of course, there need be no apprehension of war between the two Powers; but, as even the most chauvinistic of the Tokyo press observe, all kinds of petty squabbles will be created; the smooth relations between the two Empires will be disturbed, and all the trouble that Japan has been taking during the past year to establish the best possible relations with her neighbour will be rendered abortive.

There is always the boycott in the distance, but we are inclined to agree with Japanese newspapers that not much cause for apprehension exists in this direction. China has been using the boycott a little too freely. Several countries have suffered at her hands, and the world now sees, what most of us close onlookers saw long ago, namely, that it is in the common interest of all nations to prevent resort to this uncivilized weapon. We imagine therefore that if China employs the boycott in connexion with the Mukden-Antung Railway, Japan will not be the only Power to protest.

Since the above was in type the *Kokumin Shimbun* has published a précis of the ten demands suddenly preferred by China on the 24th of June. They may be summed up into three counts:—First, that Japan must not post any troops along the Mukden-Antung line; secondly, that she must not exercise any administrative control within the zones of the line; and thirdly, that she must not reconstruct the line. Japan was astounded by this *volte face* on the part of China, and endeavoured in every possible way to induce Peking to listen to reason. But the Chinese statesmen persistently fell back upon side issues, and at last the Japanese Government, on the 27th of July, intimated that it must insist upon the main question of the reconstruction of the line being discussed on its own merits, apart from all collateral problems. But even in the face of this declaration, China continues to give inconclusive answers, and all the efforts of the Japanese Minister in Peking prove futile to bring about any result.

China seems to be relying simply upon the pettifogging contention that the word used in the Treaty is "improvement," not "reconstruction." Her elder statesmen know very well that such an argument will not hold water, but they hesitate to obey the dictates of reason in the presence of public opinion. It is alleged that the Japanese engineers have divided the line into 14 sections, and have made arrangements to commence work upon the whole 14 simultaneously. Nevertheless, whatever expedition be made, the work can not be completed under two and a half years.

It appears to be now thought that there will be no difficulty in purchasing the necessary land from Chinese owners. They are only too anxious to sell, fully recognising, as they do, the greatly increased value which their property will acquire from the building of the line.

The only thing that now remains in doubt is the date when Japan will present her ultimatum to China. To-day (9th inst.) is confidently mentioned in several quarters. It is to be noted, however, that there will be no rupture of relations between the two Empires. Japan will merely intimate that she has commenced the reconstruction of the line, and will accompany the intimation with a statement that she desires earnestly to preserve her friendship with China, and even to increase it; and that if the Peking Government has any proposals to advance with reference to the railway, they will be readily listened to.

THE MUKDEN ANTUNG RAILWAY.

It appears that the survey for the reconstruction of the Mukden-Antung Railway was not absolutely completed by the end of last April. The final 20 miles at the Mukden end were left out, inasmuch as the Japanese engineers desired a complete change of route at that part, and consequently it was proposed by Japan that the work of reconstruction should be proceeded with on the remaining sections, the survey of which had been finished. China, however, would not agree to this proposal; and suddenly, on the 24th of June, as already stated in these columns, a communication was received from the Peking Government declaring that the Treaty did not contemplate more than the improvement of the line as it already existed, and that there must be no change of route or widening of gauge. In the next place, Japan must at once withdraw all the railway guards posted by her on the route, and the same course must be pursued with regard to all her policemen. In fact, China gave something very like an ultimatum and emphatically refused to entertain any of Japan's ideas with regard to the interpretation of the Treaty. Naturally Japan construed this action as a deliberate attempt to deny her treaty rights, and took steps to explain to the Chinese Government that the latter's views about the improvement of the Railway could not possibly be reconciled with the Treaty stipulation that the road was to be made fit for carrying most chandise of all nations. Nevertheless, merrepresentations were couched in the these friendly terms, and everything possible was done to prevent any impairment of the relations between the two Empires. But China never yielded an iota, and it ultimately became plain that, at the then rate of procedure, the Railway would never be improved at all. Therefore Japan was obliged reluctantly to proceed with the work without waiting for China's consent.

It appears that the exact length of the line is 180 miles, and that the gauge at present is 2 ft. 6 in. The road being intended originally for military purposes solely, every possible effort was made to avoid tunnelling or bridging, and it resulted that there were many curves so sharp as not to be negotiable at more than the pace of a man walking. Neither could night travelling be attempted, and in no circumstances could a train be composed of more than two or three carriages, while often only one could be drawn at a time. All this meant that two full days were required for traversing the whole distance, whereas 9 hours will suffice when the road is properly graded, when bridges and tunnels are constructed and when the gauge is widened to that of the present Korean and South Manchurian systems.

With regard to this new line as forming the link in the transcontinental route, it is stated, that with the exception of 122 miles *viâ* Tsushima, the whole route to Europe will then be overland and that several hours will be gained as compared with the journey by either Harbin or Dairen.

The *Mainichi Dempo* states that there will be little deviation from the existing route except at a mountain called Fuktsen-ling, where an extensive piece of tunnelling will have to be made in order to straighten out the tortuous line now pursued. The last 20 miles at the Mukden end belong to a category different from that of the remainder of the road, and are not included in the 14 sections upon which work has already been commenced.

His Excellency General Viscount Terauchi is said to have issued an Instruction to General Viscount Oshima, Commander-in-chief of the Japanese forces in Manchuria. The Instruction is couched in very explicit terms. It expresses much regret thot Japan has been obliged to commence work on the Railway without being able to come to a previous agreement with China, but it declares that the incident is not to be regarded in any sense as a rupture of the friendly relations between the two countries, nor is it to be made the occasion for anything like a military demonstration. On the contrary, the Japanese troops are to be collectively and individually informed that their conduct must be throughly circumspect and consistent with the best traditions of the Japanese army.

It may be worth while to place on record the exact dates of the important incidents which took place on the 6th inst. At half-past two on that day Mr. Ijuin presented Japan's ultimatum to the Waiwupu. At six in the evening his telegram reached Tokyo announcing that he had sent in the ultimatum, and at 11 o'clock that night the Japanese Prime Minister issued formal sanction for the commencement of construction on the line.

We read in the *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Mainichi* that the *Shanghai Mercury* and the German newspaper of that Settlement write in a strain favourable to Japan, and that the former journal expresses a hope that

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Great Britian will follow Japan's example in adopting towards China a policy with some backbone in it.

The Chinese Government is naturally much perturbed, and steps have been taken, it is said, to summon Viceroy Tuan and Mr. Na Tung to the capital without delay.

The *Asahi Shimbun*'s Peking correspondent sends an interesting item of news, namely, that the Department of posts and Telegraphs gave its consent on the 5th inst. to the terms elaborated by the Japanese and Chinese Commissioners with reference to the Kilin-Changchun Railway. This, it will be observed, was on the very day prior to the presentation of Japan's ultimatum about the Mukden-Antung line. Doubtless the latter incident will prevent the taking of the formal steps which alone were necessary to complete the Kilin-Changchun Agreement.

It appears that work was commenced simultaneously at the north and south of the Huh-kin ling tunnel on the Mukden-Antung Railway on the afternoon of the 2nd inst. The local inhabitants entered some protest against the trampling of their crops by navvies, but they were placated by assurances that due compensation would be made. It is reported that the police are showing some disposition to prevent Chinese labourers from entering the service of the Japanese, but this obstruction does not appear to be of a very formidable nature.

RECONSTRUCTION BEGUN: OFFICIAL STATEMENT.

The following official statement explanatory of Japan's position with regard to the Antung-Mukden Railway question was issued by the Foreign Office on Saturday. It is virtually an ultimatum.

During the late war Japan built, for military purposes, a light railway between Antung and Mukden. The line was hastily and necessarily imperfectly constructed, and was wholly unsuited and insufficient for ordinary commercial purposes. But when the South Manchurian line passed into the hands of the Imperial Government, the necessity for a connecting link between that line and the Korean system become apparent.

Accordingly, by Article VI. of the Arrangement complementary to the Treaty of Peking of 1905, it was agreed that Japan not only had the right to maintain the military line in question, but so to improve it as to make it fit for the conveyance of commercial and industrial goods of all nations, or in other words, to convert the purely military line into a commercial railway.

The objections of China, on the one hand, to the fulfilment of the treaty stipulations above mentioned, on what must be regarded as frivolous and inconsequential grounds, and the necessity under which Japan labours on the other, to carry out, under all circumstances, the contemplated improvement of the line in question, make it entirely proper for Japan, in taking independent action in the matter, to explain the situation which calls for such action.

The existing Antung-Mukden military railway has a total length of 188 miles and a gauge of 2 feet 6 inches. To avoid the construction of tunnels and bridges, for which there was no time, the line was given many wide detours and steep gradients, and short and sharp curves. In consequence of these defects there is naturally frequent danger of derailment. The hauling capacity of the engines is necessarily very small. Three or four small passenger or freight cars constitute a maximum train, and on some portions of the line where the grades are steep, trains have to be divided into two or more separate hauls. The speed capacity of the engines is also necessarily very low, and as travel on the line by night is impracticable, the transit between Antung and Mukden requires two full days.

It was in order to provide for the removal of these imperfections and to make the road not only available but efficient for the commercial requirements to which it was to be devoted after it had ceased to be necessary for military purposes, that the improvement stipulation was inserted in the complementary Arrangement of 1905.

By the opening of the Mukden-Antung-Fusan line another route will be established for intercontinental intercourse between Europe, on the one hand, and Japan and the Far East generally, on the other. The new route will have the advantage of reducing the sea voyage to ten hours. But in order to make the route effective and useful, it is necessary that it shall have the same gauge and efficiency as the Korean and the South Manchurian Railway systems, of which the route under consideration will be the connecting link. The improvements which are absolutely essential include the boring of tunnels; the building of bridges; the straightening and grading of the line, and the changing of the gauge to the standard used in the connecting Korean and South Manchurian systems. With these improvements, the distance will be shortened; the time of transit between Antung and Mukden reduced from two full days to eight or nine hours, and the general efficiency of the line will be established. Without them, the railway will remain, as at present, entirely useless for commercial purposes.

Accordingly, private negotiations were at the outset carried on with China, with a view to make the Antung-Mukden railway available as speedily as possible, as a connecting link between the Korean and South Manchurian systems in the great inter-continental trunk line. But this method of procedure having proved abortive, the Imperial Government, in January last, officially proposed to China that commissioners be dispatched to survey the line. This proposal having been agreed to, the Japanese and Chinese Commissioners made, and agreed upon, a joint survey of the proposed route, with the exception of a small section, some 20 miles in length, between Mukden and Chenhsiang-tun. This work was completed early in April, and steps were immediately taken to report the result to the Chinese Government.

As the route between Mukden and Chenhsiang-tun remained to be discussed between the two Governments, the Imperial Government, in order to prevent unnecessary delay, proposed to commence work on that portion of the line east of Chen-hsiang-tun which had been duly surveyed, leaving the Mukden-Chen-hsiang-tun section for subsequent examination and adjustment, and they announced their desire to begin the purchase of the land required for railway purposes.

But China, having recourse to her well-known policy of obstruction and procrastination, evaded the just and reasonable demand of Japan, and raised collateral questions regarding the police authority in the railway zones and the withdrawal of railway guards. The Imperial Government, appealing to the principles of justice and right reason, repeatedly urged China to accede to their demands. Finally, on the 24th June last, China sent a reply which, if concurred in, would wholly nullify the provisions of the Arrangement of 1905 on the subject of the Antung-Mukden line, and utterly destroy the value of the railway. Disregarding the survey agreed to by the Commissioners of the two Governments, that reply, besides reviving the question of police authority and railway guards, and raising other immaterial issues which would appropriately lend themselves to separate and independent negotiations, declares that the work of improvement must be confined to the existing track, and that no broadening of the gauge can be permitted.

The Imperial Government, reluctant to take measures tending to impair the good relations between the two countries, have, up to this time, limited their action to an endeavour to induce China to reconsider her untenable position, and to adopt a course consistent with the manifest intention of the Parties to the Engagement of 1905. Already more than a month has elapsed since the note of June 24th was received, and China still maintains an unyielding and unaccommodating attitude which gives no promise of anything but vain and unprofitable negotiations.

In this situation, the Imperial Government are compelled to take action independent of the Chinese Authorities, to proceed to carry out the necessary work of reconstruction and improvement, according to their treaty rights and in harmony with the survey of the Commissioners of the two Governments.

The following brief additional explanation accompanies the foregoing Communique:—

The Japanese Government, desiring to speedily reconstruct the Antung-Mukden railway line in co-operation with the Chinese Government, in view of its urgent necessity, has been continuing the negotiations with the latter since this spring. China's answer, however, failed to meet the points raised, and as the Japanese Government realised that there was no hope of obtaining the co operation of China for the speedy reconstruction of the line, it notified the Chinese Government on the 6th inst., though the Japanese Minister in Peking, to the effect that Japan would commence the reconstruction of the line in accordance with her rights stipulated in the Treaty, without waiting for the co-operation of China.

ORIENTAL RACE PRIDE.

It is interesting to note that, as somewhat compensatory to the reaction against the Japanese which set in after the Russian war, there has lately arisen in the West a strong tendency to exalt the character of the Chinese, the praise of the virtues of the latter having become the frequent theme of the Occidental press.

Apart from the invidiousness of the comparison in the interest of which this theme is pursued, it is certainly a great point gained when the West shows an inclination to commend anything Oriental. Much comment for example is being laid upon the racial pride marking the demeanour of the Chinese, a factor in national life of prime importance in estimating the real strength and stability of any nation. This admission is reassuring, to say the least, as abjectness has heretofore been the chief count in the indictment brought by the rest against all "heathen" peoples of the Far Orient.

To those who have formed their conception of Chinese character from the coolies and washermen of American cities, or from the hardly less abject and obsequious servants of the Chinese ports, dominated by greed of gain under the stimulus of foreign influence, the idea of a "proud China" has heretofore been simply unthinkable, and self-respect has been the last thing dreamed of in the Western estimate of Chinese characteristics. And yet, according to the testimony of those who know them best, there are few peoples upon the globe over whom such motives have so great and abiding an influence. It is upon this point indeed that Occidentals have hitherto invariably and persistently misjudged all Orientals, taking the impassiveness in which they have been educated for the spirit of abjectness and indifference. Certainly no one has made the slightest intelligent study of the Japanese character who would not concede national and race pride to be its distinguishing feature, and self-respect a feeling not here to be safely outraged. When historically analyzed too, the race pride of this, as well as of the neighbouring continental Empire, it should be observed, is a pride based not on warlike achievements, the main ingredient of the Western article, but upon age-long proficiency in the arts of peace. The Chinese especially can look down upon the blood-stained nations of the West from a pinnacle of pre-eminence which exists as yet only in the latter's dream of a final millenium.

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HAWAII.

Affairs in Hawaii appear to be settling down quietly. According to the *Jiji*, the efforts of those people who wish to carry the strike to the extreme limit have failed, becaused many of the workmen have returned to then work and are being well treated by the planters. While no special agreement has been arrived at with respect to increase of wages, the attitude of the planters is conciliatory and this policy has already brought about excellent results.

The Japanese Consul General at Honolulu is said to have reported to his Government, under date of the 4th inst., that the tendency at present is almost entirely in favour of returning to work. Those who have already returned are experiencing excellent treatment from the planters, and it is now thought that if the Higher Wages Association were out of the way, the situation would at once resolve itself amicably.

Meanwhile a telegram from Mr. Vice-Consul Iwaya in Manila says that the attempt to obtain a large number of emigrants in the Philippines for the purpose of replacing the Japanese in Hawaii has proved a failure. The reason assigned is not clear, but the fact is positively stated.

It is reported that Brazil also is about to legislate against Japanese emigrants.

A very brief telegram from San Francisco to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that on the 5th inst. the strike in Hawaii came to an end by the surrender of the strikers, who have all returned quietly to their work. We regard this as an unequivocally good piece of news. There is always a great danger that such demonstrations may lead to acts of violence, and indeed that they have that tendency has been proved by the experience of almost every country. Happily, however, this strike in Hawaii has not been disfigured by any acts of lawlessness, and the surrender now made by the men will doubtless conduce much more to their ultimate interests than the continuance of the strike could possibly have done.

It would appear after all that the strikes in Hawaii have ended in a manner conducive to the interests both of the employed and the employers. The former had learned that even a strong combination is not competent to shake the resolve of the employers, and the latter had discovered that the Japanese are a remarkably orderly kind of people, while, at the same time, they have the good sense to see when they are beaten. The progress of events and their finale have entirely justified the attitude maintained by Mr. Consul General Ueno throughout, and we are therefore warranted in placing faith in his last report, which says in effect that both the planters and the labourers have conceived a new respect for each other, and that the plantation hands will receive more consideration hereafter.

At the date of our latest advices the trial of the Japanese arraigned for conspiring to interrupt the course of business has not yet ended. There appears to be some want of confidence in the integrity of the jury empanelled to try the case, and it is thought not unlikely that a second trial will be required. Should another jury be found to disagree, the accused will be acquitted *de facto*. Mr. Shiba, a principal witness for the prosecution, seems to have borne the ordeal of cross examination for a whole week and to have acquitted himself so as to win universal applause.

Our own accounts say that the strike has done "untold harm" in Hawaii, but whether this refers to the losses suffered by the planters or to the general situation we are not yet informed.

FOREIGN OPINION AND THE CHINESE COMPLICATION.

We are not surprised to learn that Japan's action with regard to the Mukden-Antung Railway is generally approved in the West. It could scarcely be condemned. Japan is certainly not altogether free from blame. The fact that she has at present so many enemies must be more or less due to her own mismanagement. But in this business of the Railway she has simply insisted upon the practical recognition of her plain treaty rights, and has declined to be played fast and loose with, week after week and month after month. *The Times* expresses what we believe will be the view of all impartial Englishmen, and indeed it is understood that Japan adopted the precaution of communicating the facts to all the foreign Powers and ascertaining their opinions before she resorted to extreme measures. On the other hand, there will certainly be a good deal of sympathy with China. It would seem, so far as we can judge, that the Prince Regent was ignorant of the course in which events were trending, and that until three days before Japan's ultimatum he had no idea of the gravity of the situation. If that be so, the Chinese Legation in Tokyo must have signally failed to post its Government as to the tendency of Japanese public opinion. The only exit from the dilemma now seems to be that one or two high Chinese officials should be made scapegoats, and the impression is that that fate will overtake Prince Chin, Viceroy Hsu, and the present Minister of the Waiwupu, Mr. Liang.

This incident has afforded a favourable opportunity for disproving the existence of anti-Japanese feeling in the United States. We have been frequently asked to believe of late that the Washington Government was disposed to associate itself with China against Japan, but the telegrams show that no such idea suggests itself at this juncture. America is just as impartial as Great Britain in her view of the situation, and the Washington Government does not evince the slighest disposition to espouse China's side in the discussion.

FOREIGN CAPITAL.

An illuminating article in the current number of the *North American Review* marshals in a striking way the statistics of the amounts which the leading nations of the world are investing in each other, as pointing to the near approach of the time when their interests will be so closely involved and intertwined that all thoughts of war between any two of them will become impossible, simply upon the ground of self-interest.

It is the light of such benefit, apart from all considerations of mere commercial enterprise and the impulse given to such effort by directing toward it the flow of capital, that it becomes greatly important for Japan to share in the trend of things by attracting that flow hitherward. Unfortunately there are in this particular case difficulties which only time can remove. One of these, the factor of distance, is indeed in process of rapid disappearance. Investors very naturally like to keep their property as nearly as possible under their own eyes, and to know from direct observation how it is being managed. To send it half way round the globe is therefore a somewhat staggering proposition, and only they who have a great superfluity for which cannot find a field nearer home, or they who are ready to take large risks for the sake of large returns, are likely to make the venture. The vast majority of smaller investors are like the old woman who, having passed all her life in the solitude of a prairie home, said she wouldn't care to live in New York because it was so "fur off." But the multiplication and rapidity of the means of communication, with the resultant shrivelling of the world's size, are swiftly overcoming all objections upon this old score. Japan is not so far away from New York to-day as was Washington a century ago, and the amount of New York capital now actually being invested in lands then unknown is already beyond computation.

Japan's chief difficulty lies in the fact that though she has indeed taken her place politically among the Powers of the world, she is still commercially outside of the world. The business of the West is based upon a vast and complicated system of credit, whereas this empire, its merchants under the old regime having been put at the bottom of the social scale, and its business having been therefore carried on upon the principle of universal distrust, is necessarily, in some degree, still outside the pale of the mercantile world of to-day. It may be granted that this difficulty is a merely sentimental one, but there is no power in the realm of trade so tremendous as that of sentiment. Herein lies Japan's greatest present commercial drawback, but herein lies also her mightest future resource. She has only to bring to bear upon her trade the power of that sentiment of honour which has for centuries been the glory of the *Samurai* spirit, and the day cannot then be far distant when, commercially as well as politically, she may stand among the nations as a shining exemplar of mercantile honour and integrity.

CHIENTAO.

It is now admitted, says the *Jiji Shimpo*, that there have been sundry petty collisions during the past few months between Chinese troops and Japanese gendarmes in Chientao, but it is not admitted, in fact it is explicitly denied, that the situation has become at all alarming. Moreover, the recent alleged despatch of the *Kibin Maru* to Chyonjing for the purpose of transporting additional gendarmes is now declared to have been entirely false.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent writes none the less in a disquieting tone. He affirms that the house of Colonel Saito is practically surrounded by Chinese soldiers who examine everything and everybody passing in and out of the Japanese Commander's residence. He further affirms that the Chinese are building a road from Chutzchieh to Hoiryong, and that the boycott at Hunchun is developing strength. With regard to this boycott the Japanese Consul is expected soon to make a strong protest, but in the meanwhile the Japanese residents are accusing their country's officials of being altogether too lenient.

Meanwhile the Japanese are engaged in constructing a road—not a railway—which is intended to establish communications between Hoiryong and Chientao. The distance from Chyongjin to Lungcheng, where the Japanese headquarters are, is 45 *ri* (113 miles), and the first section as far as Hoiryong, which is about midway, is expected to be soon completed.

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JAPANESE AND CHINESE RELATIONS.

With the exception of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, practically all the important journals of Tokyo write in a distinctly alarmist strain about the Mukden-Antung Railway. They insist that Japan has exhausted all the resources of patience, and that nothing now remains for her except to abandon the idea of diplomatic agreement and to proceed without it. They allege that unquestionably the visit paid to Karuizawa by the Prime Minister was for the purpose of consulting with Marquis Saionji in order to secure the coöperation of the *Seiyu-kai*, and they add that the Government in Tokyo, having submitted a clear statement of its procedure and intentions to the principal Western Powers, received on the 3rd instant their expressions of approval. A very few days will suffice therefore to see the situation resolved by a Japanese ultimatum, or by the actual commencement of work on the Antung-Mukden line.

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, however, writes in a very different strain. It declines altogether to decipher any element of danger in the situation. What is happening, it says, is merely some discussion between neighbouring countries, whose frontiers having become conterminous, they have naturally many points of discussion. It is all in the day's work, and there is no reason whatever to be perturbed about it.

The *Chuo Shimbun* quotes an anonymous military official who is inclined to take much exception to what he calls the Government's yielding policy. He alleges that when Viscount Terauchi was Minister of War, all the questions concerning the two Empires were lumped together and submitted as a subject of conference with China, which course would doubtless have resulted in a speedy settlement. The Japanese Representative in Peking, however, allowed himself to be befooled by the Chinese into treating each question on a separate basis, and thus details of a troublesome and interminable character were developed.

YOUNG MEN IN THE FAR EAST.

A noted Baptist minister and evangelist, the Rev. F. B. Meyer, has been recording in the *British Weekly*, the leading British Nonconformist organ, his impressions of a visit to a Far Eastern Settlement—that of Penang. The reverend gentleman seems to have been particularly moved by the moral dangers which beset young men in the East, for he writes:—"We dispense with preliminaries, and I begin to talk about the enormous temptations that these Eastern cities present to young manhood. Rudyard Kipling hardly exaggerated when he said that the Ten Commandments are apparently not binding as soon as the traveller leaves Aden. . . . The Church is keen on missions for the heathen—when will she begin to care for her own sons? Seven suicides have taken place here, within a few months—another was reported yesterday—of young Britishers, who began life with good promise, but who, as soon as they reached these shores, went at a pace that wrecked soul and body. I cannot say exactly what I mean, nor indicate the awful ravages wrought by sin; but those who know will read between the lines. Rank after rank of young life is mown down by the pestilence that walketh in darkness; and generally the brightest fall first. The Y.M.C.A. ought to have paid a secretary and commanding premises, whereas they have only a boarding-house, with accommodation for nine young men. . . ."

Mr. Meyer then describes his experiences in personal observation of the evils he denounces:—

> In the company of two fine and earnest men, the health officer and the sanitary inspector, I spent two or three hours one night in investigating the condition of morals in the Chinese, Japanese, and Indian quarters of the city. Opium dens, and houses of evil resort, and places for cocaine and morphine injection, were successively visited. On this page I must leave the curtain undrawn, but my eyes might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people! This land needs noble women and Christian homes, but not of the type where Sabbath desecration, bridge, and fancy-dress balls are the rule."

The reverend gentleman makes some scathing remarks on the standards of living set up by the foreign community of the settlement in question, which, he avers, is largely responsible for the lamentable results in the cases of many of the young men coming under their influence. The Rev. F. B. Meyer's strictures recall those of a well known American divine who described a much larger foreign community in this part of the world as "a sink of iniquity." A man invariably places himself in an invidious position who, after a flying visit to a place, takes upon himself to criticize its mode of life; but on behalf of Mr. Meyer (whose zeal and earnestness no one who knows his work in England can think of denying) it may be urged that evils of the kind he deals with do not require for their discovery a prolonged period of residence. We do not know enough of the Penang community to be in a position to say whether it has been criticised with undue severity, or whether it is typical of Far Eastern communities in general; but the fact remains that life in the Far East is of such a character as to exert a pernicious influence on many young men; and the question is—for how much of youthful error is the foreign section of the population, as a whole, responsible by the tone it has created and the example it sets?

PRINCE ITO.

At a banquet given in his honour by Mr. Kawashima and the people of Sapporo on the 9th inst., Prince Ito is reported as having spoken in his usual sagacious strain. He recalled the fact that Japan had done everything in her power to avert the necessity of war with Russia about Korea, and that, in the sequel of that war, her duties as chief preserver of the peace of the East had been greatly augmented. She was now on terms of hearty friendship with Russia. The territories of the two countries were separated only by a very narrow strip of water, and Russia had granted to Japanese subjects fishing privileges which it should be Japan's business to enjoy in the most unselfish manner possible, so as to avoid all injury to Russia's interests. Turning to Korea, the Prince said that events had shown the total impossibility of her standing independent. Japan had been obliged to assume a protectorate over her, but this Empire should endeavour to occupy that position in the manner least irksome and most beneficial for the Koreans. With regard to the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, its effect was to extend Japan's duties as far as India, and England's duties as far as the whole of Japan's dominions. To carry out such a compact, the exertions of the nation at large were needed in addition to those of its officials, and anything that tended to the detriment of the Alliance would impair Japan's sovereign status and might even affect her very existence.

THE FINANCIAL LEAVEN IN POLITICS.

The Western Press is naturally having a good deal of fun over the late insistence of the Washington Government upon the "right" of a New York syndicate to participate in a plan for loaning foreign capital to China for the construction of her new railroads. One editor, commenting upon the emulous generosity of Uncle Sam and his determination not to be outdone by Great Britain and Germany, remarks that "a loan is thicker than water" while the staid *New York Evening Post* says that the rush of the nations up to bewildered China with the announcement that she really must borrow some money from each of them, scarcely seems like a scene from real life."

An entirely different and far more serious complexion is put upon the matter by Mr. John Foord, the secretary of the American Asiatic Association, who in the current number of the journal of the Association, after giving the history of the earlier concessions in railway building given by the Chinese Government to a purely American syndicate, and showing how the American financial interests involved in that initial scheme had an unquestioned right to be consulted in the later negotiations on the same lines, enters upon the larger aspects of the intimate relations between finance and international politics, with special reference to the peculiar conditions now existing in China. He says:—

> It is very much in the interests of China itself that a Power so deeply concerned in maintaining the integrity of the Empire, and so absolutely destitute of any desire for territorial aggrandizement at its expense, as the United States, should be a party to negotiations which may have an important bearing on the future control of Chinese finances. The dismemberment of China, which has so far been able to resist military force and diplomatic fraud, might easily be the sequel of craftily laid schemes calculated to prepare the way for national bankruptcy. Whatever may have been the case ten years ago, it is at least axiomatic to-day that no form of international pressure or control can be applied to China in which our Government is not a participant. How closely identified American interests are with those of the peoples on the opposite shore of the Pacific is apprehended by no man more clearly than by the present President of the United States. There can hardly be a doubt that the attitude of the Department of State in regard to these railway loans was assumed at the promptings of President Taft, and it may be held as equally certain that the financial group who have declared their readiness to be sponsor for the flotation of Chinese securities in this country have the assurance of the President that they may confidently count on the strength and influence of this Government being behind any enterprise which they may undertake. The awakened public interest in matters Chinese which has attended this new diplomatic departure has been fanned by newspaper methods calculated to excite amusement, if not derision, abroad. But the net result has been so far a solid gain in the popular understanding of certain great international issues, and of one of the questions on which the history of the world during the twentieth century is destined to turn.

THE EAST ASIA KOGYO KAISHA.

One of the chief projectors of the above Company, Mr. Yamato, is quoted as ridiculing the criticism that a million *yen* is much too small a capital for such an enterprise. He says that a million *yen* does not begin to represent the funds which the Company can at any moment command if need for money arise. In fact, this sum of a million *yen* may be regarded simply as a fund to meet expenses. We gather also from Mr. Yamamoto's statement that the question of the adherence of the two great firms, the Mitsu Bishi and the Sumitomo, is not yet settled, but that, according to present appearances, they are likely to join.

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THE DAI NIPPON SUGAR COMPANY.

It does not appear that a clear exit from its difficulties has yet been found for the Dai Nippon Sugar Company. The two troubles threatening the Company are that Mr. Suzuki of Kobe may refuse to refrain from extreme measures, and that the Fujimoto Bank may insist upon immediate payment of the Company's debt to it. Recently Mr. Kaneko, Manager of the Suzuki Firm, came to Tokyo and had a conference with Mr. Toyama, of the Sugar Company; but no basis of agreement could be elaborated. Mr. Toyama does not appear to have anything to propose except concessions on the part of the Suzuki Firm, and they were concessions of a nature which did not commend itself to Mr. Kaneko. Everything therefore is again reduced to a state of uncertainty, for unless Mr. Suzuki agrees to a compromise of some sort the Fujimoto Bank will certainly not hold off any longer. We do not for our own part see what either of these creditors could hope to gain by forcing the Sugar Company into liquidation, and we are therefore inclined to think that some kind of arrangement will ultimately be effected.

On the 7th instant, Mr. Fujiyama, President of the Japan Sugar Company, and Mr. Kaneko, the representative of Messrs. Sudzuki Shoten of Kobe, had an interview for about 20 minutes, apparently in a most friendly way. After some talk over the pending question, Mr. Kaneko told Mr. Fujiyama that it will be of no avail to endeavour to ignore the decided connection between the rights of both the creditor firms, and that it is more advisable first to settle the financial affairs with the other creditor, and then Messrs. Sudzuki Shoten will not be niggardly in giving some help to the Sugar Company. He added that Messrs. Sudzuki Shoten have the ordinary sense of obligation and humanity, even though they are the slaves of business.

So far the negotiations have ended in failure, both in form and in fact.

Tokyo newspapers report that the conference between the directors of the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company and Mr. Kaneko, representing Mr. Suzuki's firm at Kobe, has ended unfavourably for the Company. The Osaka newspapers and, indeed, some of the Tokyo also, have had a great many hard things to say about Mr. Suzuki, but we can not discover any valid reason for condemning him. However that may be, the situation now is very unfavourable for the Sugar Company, and it is difficult to see what arrangements will be found possible.

Mr. Fuiiyama, President of the Japan Sugar Company, says, according to the *Asahi*:—

"The financial condition of the Nitto Kaisha is not so much in disorder as the creditors may suppose. The company still possesses assets amounting in all to about *yen* 1,000,000, which can be properly arranged with the approval of the Financial Department as well as that of the creditors. Even as to the working capital, it is not difficult to find means out of the above resources, if the creditors raise no opposition. The only methods that can be adopted for the financial adjustment are to decrease the amount of capital, to issue preferential shares and to redeem the debts by yearly instalments. We will propose at the next meeting of the creditors the draft that, we believe, will prove most advantageous to the shareholders as well as the creditors, sparing no efforts towards the recovery of the company. If the creditors will not make any concessions and take an obstructive line, I will manfully resign my post. I am expecting to settle the matter smoothly at the next meeting of the creditors. It is not necessary to run after Mr. Kaneko in order to ask for the re-consideration of Messrs. Suzuki's position.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER.

We related in a previous issue that the three Hydro-Electric Power Companies were all anxiously bidding for the custom of the Tokyo Railway Company. The latter Company entered originally into an agreement with the Anglo-Japanese Hydro-Electric Syndicate, which contemplates getting water from the Oigawa, but owing to delay on the Syndicate's part, the agreement lapsed, and the supply of electric power to the Railway Company became open for competition. The competitors were the Oigawa Syndicate, the Kinugawa Company and Agatsuma River Company. It is now stated that the Tokyo Railway Company recently sent experts to examine the respective advantages and disadvantages of these three projects, and that the verdict has been emphatically unfavourable to the Agatsuma Company, of which Mr. Asano Soichiro is the chief promoter. The experts found that a tunnel 3 miles 27 chains long would have to be built to obtain water from this river, and that the work would take at least 6 years, to say nothing of the enormous expense. The question remains therefore between the Oi-gawa and the Kinugawa.

In the *Shogyo Shimpo* we find a calculation intended to show that if all the hydro-electric power companies now planned come into existence, they will not find nearly sufficient employment for the electricity they supply. There are five companies, and the programme is that each should supply 100,000 kilowats; but supposing that they supply only 70,000 each, we should still have a total of 350,000. On the other hand, if the consumption of all the companies using electricity in Tokyo Hakone, Yokohama and Odawara be computed, the resulting total is only 85,000 kilowats. Even if this latter figure were doubled, the supply would largely exceed the demand. The *Shogyo* recommends as the only feasible remedy that the hydro-electric companies should combine forces.

THE REIGN OF MEDIOCRITY.

The death of George Meredith, the last survivor of the Victorian era in letters, and the fact that the corresponding period of literary pre-eminence in America is fast drawing to its close with few or no successors to its fame appearing or likely to appear, have raised in the Western press the oft repeated cry that the age of greatness has passed, and that the coming reign of mediority is at hand.

In the chief cause adduced for the change that is being witnessed, namely, that in these modern days everything is being measured by the standard of money, or in other words that the spirit of commercialism is dulling the brains of the world, there is doubtless much weight; but it nevertheless should be said that in neither England nor America is sufficient consideration given to the fact that greatness is an essentially relative term, and that the seeming lack of conspicuous genius may be an index of the raising of the masses to a far higher level of thought and attainment than that upon which they lived in the days of the "great" men. Seeing that it is now supremely difficult for any man to stand head and shoulders above a crowd whose own stature has grown to lofty proportions, there is suggested the question, not perhaps in the cases of all who in the past have lifted themselves above mediocrity, whether the famous names in history could by any possibility attain like preeminence to-day. There were doubtless "giants in those days," because the conditions then prevailing made it a comparatively easy thing for a few to become conspicuous; but in the immeasurable betterment and enlightenment of the masses not only has the demand for "greatness" become materially limited, but also the possibilities for its attainment are in like degree diminished. It may indeed be that we are doomed to a coming reign of mediocrity, but should that mediocrity itself be of a high character there are but slender reasons for regret at the disappearance of the old order. A democracy has its compensations, plainly visible even while the glamour and charm of the old aristocracy still wield their influence.

ANOTHER ADVANCE IN RAILROADING.

The development of electric traction in the subways of modern cities, with its consequent elimination of the smoke, cinder and gas annoyances which had before constituted the chief drawbacks to underground travel, would seem to be only a first step in the change which is passing over the whole field of railway management. The day appears to be even near at hand when over the whole vast network of surface roads girding all civilized lands the motive power of electricity will be substituted for that of steam, the advantages of the former becoming so manifestly patent as to be at present absorbing the attention of all railway magnates.

The result of such a change are likely to be more far-reaching than is generally imagined, as it will doubtless involve a railway service over long distances closely resembling the accommodation now being furnished the public by the city tram-car lines. In other words, it may lead to the substitution of single cars at frequent intervals for the long trains now being run only at stated times and at intervals which force all travellers to abject slavery to the clock. In this connection it is interesting to note a prophecy made thirty years ago by a leading railway administrator, now recalled by the San Francisco *Argonaut*, his statement being that the a b c of transportation, regarded scientifically had by no means been developed. "The future of railroads," he went on to say, is surely the single car as distinct from the trains. You may live to see trunk lines operated precisely like street-car systems in our cities—single cars, one following the other at brief intervals, thus establishing for the passenger service a schedule which cannot possibly be maintained with trains of cars."

COUNT HAYASHI'S VIEWS.

In the *Asahi Shimbun* we find a very interesting expression of views attributed to Count Hayashi. The Count says that it is always the best plan with China to stand in the position of defendant. If one is in the position of plaintiff, one merely exposes oneself to all sorts of evasions and delays. Japan has now placed herself right for pursuing the campaign successfully. She has shifted the onus of complaint to China's shoulders. The Count further regards it as a great mistake to openly pursue what is called the "benevolent policy" towards China. That is the policy which China herself openly adopted in dealing with tributary States on her borders, and when she finds herself treated in such a fashion by a foreign Power like Japan, she feels insulted rather than propitiated.

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DISCRETIONARY POWERS OF JUDGES.

It is quite natural to suppose in view of the entirely inadequate compensation of the occupants of the Japanese bench, coupled with the youth of its average occupant, the seat being regarded here as the beginning of a lawyer's career, instead of, as in the West the result of long and honoured experience in his profession, that there should be exhibited thereon a woful lack of the discretion so essential in deciding upon the merits of the cases brought before the tribunals of justice.

When to this grievous short-coming there is added not only a code which permits little or no range for discretion, but a habit of hide-bound subservience to red-tape fostered by that inveterate insistence upon details and trifles which forms so characteristic a feature of the Oriental mind we must expect to be frequently confronted by decisions which to the Western mind, seem utterly extraordinary and unwarranted.

In this connection it is interesting to note just now, that in striking contrast to the absence of range for the exercise of discretionary powers by the judicial authorities here, is the extraordinarily wide range which has recently been given to judges in the West. In some of the states of the American Republic the plan of indeterminate sentences has been adopted, in accordance with the modern theory that the reform of the offender and not the spirit of revenge is the prime object of the state in its relation to offendrs against the law. In other words justice in the West has at last come to consider the individual more than the crime. When a penalty is rigidly fixed by statute, the crime becomes the only point in view and the claims and circumstances of the individual are ignored, as seems to be the case in the East.

ABRIDGED MONROEISM.

Anent what has already been said in these columns as to the new aspect of the Monroe Doctrine in view of the difficulties in which the United States might become involved in essaying the task of protecting the entire Western Continent from foreign aggression, it may be recalled that some years ago, the same question was mooted, coupled with the recommendation that as the Spanish Republics of the South might be naturally expected to lose under that doctrine the spirit of self dependence so essential to national life and well-being, it might become advisable to cut off from its operation the entire section at the point where the Isthmian Canal is now being excavated. Indeed if such performances as the recent doings of Castro in Venezuela should become the fashion in any great degree throughout the Southern peninsula it may become wise to limit the application of Monroeism to a region where it can be made defensible and proper. Such a region is to be found in the West Indies, in the Caribbean Sea and in Central America. Here the United States have important interests recognized as vastly superior to those of other nations. Through it will soon pass the great future line of east and west travel with the Republic's West Indian possessions on one flank, and Hawaii and the Philippines on the other. Were the United States to confine its policy of exclusiveness to this field it would be within its obvious and natural rights.

In such case not only would the European Powers be willing to recognise its exclusive attitude, but they would be also more prone to accept a general, though modified, claim to primacy throughout the hemisphere, and to make all proper concestions to the sensibilities and interests of their most powerful neighbour in whatever enterprise circumstances and the natural trend of conditions might involve them in the Western World.

THE NEW FIELD FOR HEROISM.

It is an encouraging sign of the times in this day of craze for armaments that while the pomp and circumstance of martial sway still has undue influence upon the masses, and the hero of the slaughter field is fêted as is none other, it is nevertheless beginning to be realized in how many other ways glory can be gained and the quality of strenuousness developed. No one can read the popular magazines of the United States to-day without being struck by the fact that it is in the light of the growth of the tremendous energies of modern industrialism rather than of war that the nation is to-day contemplating its future and preparing to crown its heroes. The literature of the day is exalting not the men who are marching at the head of battalions, but those who are organizing and controlling vast industries, and wielding the power of concentrated capital. Nor is it the leaders alone in this new field whose praises are being sounded. The humbler workers under them, such for example as the engineers who, through the darkness of the night with their hands upon the levers and with their tremendous responsibilities alone in view, carry out the orders of their superiors, come in for no small share of the popular regard.

With all the talk about the physical and moral degeneracy which is to ensue upon the decline of the war spirit, there can be no lack of strenuousness, and no diminution in the ranks of heroes, while the stupendous organizations of modern commercialism, and the no less stupendous machinery by which they are carried on, afford an arena for the development of the courage, pluck and steadfastness of soul which are the stuff of which heroes are made.

FINANCE.

The *Jiji Shimpo* says that the three leading principles adopted by the Government in framing the next budget are, first, re-adjustment of taxation; secondly, increase of the Sinking Fund; and thirdly, an addition of 30 per cent. to the salaries of officials. One of the means for achieving these purposes will be reduction of office expenses. It is thought that five million *yen* can be saved in that way, and as the total sum now devoted to payment of official salaries is 45 or 46 million *yen* annually, it is evident that, taking the above reduction into account, a sum of less than 10 million *yen* will suffice for the proposed increment of 30 per cent. As for the re-adjustment of taxation, the main object kept in view will be equalization of burdens, even at cost of a considerable lessening of income. According to present calculations, the State's revenue will suffer on this account to the extent of 12 or 13 millions. With regard to the Sinking Fund, the addition made to it is intended to be 10 millions, and it thus results that under the above three headings a total of 32 or 33 million *yen* will be required. As for the source from which money is to be obtained for these purposes, we do not find anything very definite. Reliance appears to be placed solely upon the natural increase of the State's income.

CHINA'S FACE.

The great question is how to save China's face. She seems to be perfectly willing now to do what is just and reasonable, but she very naturally desires to be saved from humiliation. The only palpable way of accomplishing that is for Japan to suspend for a brief period the re-construction work on the Mukden-Antung line. If that could be done, it would certainly go far to restore China's dignity. At first sight, one can not but think that to cease the work just after it has been begun would savour of childishness. Yet if China's heart is set upon such an exit from the dilemma, it would be very much in Japan's own interests to adopt that course. What is quite certain is, we venture to think, that China would agree to endorse every moderate demand made by Japan, if the latter agreed to suspend the work, and that there need not be the slightest apprehension of a deadlock again arising. The matter is well worthy of consideration, and since nothing is more desirable than that the two neighbours should emerge from this trouble without any residue of rancour, we sincerely hope that the Japanese Government will see its way to accede to China's wishes.

EMIGRATION TO PERU.

The *America Maru*, of the Toyo S.S. Company, has just returned to Japan after her first subsidized visit to Peru and Mexico. She does not bring at all encouraging reports. It appears that Japanese emigrants landing in Peru are almost immediately attacked by maladies indigenous in the place, and also that the rate of wages obtainable is much less than was originally reported. A hospital has been established at Lima and medical services are given to sick Japanese gratis. The place is said to be crowed with immigrants, several of whom are making it a refuge from the embarrassment of finding no work. The *America* brought back about a hundred returning emigrants. She also reports that at the isthmus of Tuantepec, where a flourishing business was expected to be done by establishing connexion between the steamer and the railway, no preparations had been made, nor did the railway officials show any activity whatever.

THE YALU LUMBER COMPANY.

Tokyo journals agree in stating that the Yalu Lumber Company's operations have ended in failure. The year of cōoperative official working has now nearly passed, and the time is at hand when the business of the Company will have to be handed over to private hands. It was expected that the enterprise would have proved a model of international success, but our contemporaries call it a model of international failure. They allege that, of the three millions of *yen* forming the Company's capital, one million has been completely expended and the other two millions are lying idle in the bank.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

It is stated by the *Shogyo Shimpo* and other journals that the Railway Board is by no means convinced as to the liability of the Tokyo Railway Company to contribute to the funds of the Municipality a portion of the money set aside every year on account of depreciation. The officials of the Board, it is said, have asked for an application in due form, to which they will give an answer accompanied by a statement of reasons.

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OPINION ON THE OSAKA FIRE.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* writes optimistically about the results of the Osaka fire. It says that there will be no hitch on the part of the insurance offices in paying up their policies, which aggregate 5 million *yen*. Thus the sum which the Osaka people will have to take out of their pockets in order to restore normal conditions will be about 15 million *yen*. Some persons predict that this loss will cause the banks to raise their rate of interest, and will produce another wave of commercial depression. But all experience shows, according to the *Shogyo*, that fires in Japan have precisely the opposite effect. Their influence operates in the direction of encouraging trade and industry. Besides, Osaka's loss on this occasion represents only two-thirds of the annual growth of the city in normal times, and a decrease or an increase in the rice harvest to the extent of 2 million *koku* would have far more effect upon the money market.

The actual municipal losses caused by the recent fire in Osaka are reported as follow :—

Area of the site, 3,69,438 tsubo, (about 1/10 of the whole North ward and about 1/50 of the whole city.

Number of the houses, 11,365, (about 1/25 of the whole number of the houses in the city.)

Extension of the site, 1840 *ken* in length (East to West) and 40 to 300 *ken* in width (North to South.)

	Yen.
Bridges (18, estimated at)	88,000
Public Roads and Drains	17,000
Public Garden and Building	1,000
Sakura-bashi (Electric Railroad)	5,200
Electric Wire	1,200
Booking office of Electric Railway Co.	200
Machinery etc. in Dojima Detached Office-of the above	56,000
Commercial	118,000
Damages to public sanitation	3,000
Alarm-bells and their stands	450
Municipal Office	86,348
North Ward Office	45,000
Preliminary Schools	276,000
Total	697,398

TEMPORARY RICE EXCHANGE PREMISES OPENED.

The temporary premises of the Dejima Rice Exchange, which was burned in the conflagration, were opened yesterday on the former site, says the *Kobe Herald* of the 10th inst. Great activity prevails.

The dried rice and tinned beef sent by the War Department for the relief of the sufferers were examined yesterday at the Nakanoshima Public Hall in the presence of Fucho and City officials. They will at first be served out for tiffin only, but eventually they will be distributed twice a day, in the place of the fresh rice and other rations now being given.

The Honorary Treasurer of the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade's Fund acknowledges with thanks the following further subscriptions:—

	Yen.
Already acknowledged	7,605
H. & W. Greer (Japan) Ltd	100
Canadian Pacific Railway Co.	50
Suome & Co.	25
	7,780

Up to Monday evening, the subscriptions to the relief fund for the fire sufferers started by the *Asahi* and *Mainichi* had reached *yen* 300,142.235.

WORK ON THE PANAMA CANAL.

An interesting article appears in the *Pall Mall Magazine* descriptive of a visit to the Panama Canal. The author, Mr. William Archer, tells of precautions taken against the deadly mosquito, of houses all screened with mosquito gauze, and of the sedulous care with which, after a shower of rain, the pools are all treated with petroleum to destroy the breeding beds of that insect pest. He mentions also the Commissary Store, in which nothing is bought for money; everything is paid for by coupons of various values, and everything is supplied virtually at cost price. He then goes on to describe the Culebra Cut as follows :—

Unquestionably the Cut is a wonderful spectacle, a tremendous demonstration of human and mechanical energy.

It is simply the transformation of a mountain into a valley. Imagine all the biggest railway cuttings you have ever seen ranged into a sort of giant stairway, along the two sides of a great prism-shaped valley; and imagine all these cuttings, at a dozen different levels, being daily and hourly deepened by an army of machines and men. The activity is enormous Here we have whole companies of drills of various kinds boring the rock to be charged with dynamite; a little farther on we pause at a given signal, and presently come five or six detonations, one after the other, like a sharp discharge of artillery. The usual charge is about three hundred pounds; but on one occasion twenty-three tons were used in a single explosion to blow away a whole hillside. When the ground has been loosened, or "fired," as they call it, along comes that mammoth earth-eater, the steam-shovel, with its attendant train of dirt-cars, digs its shining steel teeth into the hillside, and munches it up at the rate of five cubic yards to a mouthful. These giant mouthfuls it spits out again one by one into the flat "Lidgertwood" cars on the adjoining track, five or six mouthfuls (I forget the exact number) constituting a carload.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

CHANGE IN THE RATE: TO GO INTO EFFECT ON AND AFTER AUGUST 13TH, 42ND YEAR OF MEIJI.

The Directors of The Bank of Japan yesterday issued a memorandum embodying changes in the rate, which will go into operation on August 13 (42nd year of Meiji). The following is a summarised translation, which we obtained at a late hour last night.

Rate of interest on loans and of discount on bills with securities other than Government bonds...1.8 *sen* (per *yen* 100 per day).

Rate of discount on local commercial bills, and of interests on loans and of discount on bills with Government bonds as securities....1.6 *sen* (per *yen* 100 per day).

Rate of discount on inland commercial bills .....1.9 *sen* (per *yen* 100 per day).

Rate of interest on advances on current accounts and on correspondents' accounts .....1.9 *sen* (per *yen* 100 per day).

THE TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

At the meeting of the principal shareholders of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha on the 2nd inst., the gist of the resolutions adopted seems to have been simply economy of expenditures. The large staff of foreign employees in the Company's San Francisco office will be reduced to 3 or 4, and other retrenchments which are not explicitly stated will be effected. This Company has certainly been very hard hit by the commercial depression, and all the exertions of its directors will be needed to keep it on its feet.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It is stated that the Taxation Bureau of the Department of Finance is working very hard, in spite of the hot weather, to elaborate the details of a bill for reducing taxation, the bill to be submitted to the next session of the Diet. The total sum involved is said to to be something over 10 million *yen*, and the reductions are to be effected in the income tax, the business, the transit tax and the sugar consumption tax.

The *Asahi Shimbun* gives some interesting figures with reference to the growth of the export trade in beans from Manchuria. It appears that up to last year the Mitsui Firm never exported more than 250 tons, whereas during the six months ended 30th of June last, this one Company exported 260,000 tons, namely 129,000 by Dairen and 131,000 by Vladivostock. During the same period, foreign firms exported 162,000 tons, namely, 57,000 from Dairen and 105,000 from Vladivostock. It is expected that the total this year will aggregate nearly 1½ million tons. Of course the price has been greatly affected by this demand. Thus, whereas a picul used to cost 1.40 *yen*, it has now risen to 2.30 *yen*, and the price of beancake in Japan has gone up from 90 *sen* to 1.20 *yen*.

It is stated that the authorities of the Railway Board have decided to offer very large reductions—from 50 to 70 per cent. is spoken of — to parties of factory hands, male or female, who desire to travel to points outside Tokyo during the hot weather in order to get a breath of mountain or sea air. The only restrictions imposed are that at least 50 persons must combine for the purpose, and their destination must not be less than 10 miles from Tokyo. It would be of course necessary that they should be franked by their employers.

The following figures, which we take from the *Hochi Shimbun*, show the growth of deposits in postal savings banks during the past few years :—

	Depositors.	Yen.
1904	5,006	43,151,000
1905	5,943	56,213,000
1906	7,414	81,939,000
1907	8,077	97,699,000
1908	8,885	112,141,000
1909 (Up to June)	9,050	114,376,000

The prospects of the rice crop are said to be exceptionally good. It is thought that the harvest will considerably exceed that of last year, which was already a very fine yield. The first official estimate will be published in a few days.

The terrible position of a mother who has brought about the death of her illegitimate child has formed the theme of many a powerful story—of which Sir Walter Scott's *Heart of Midlothian* and George Eliot's *Adam Bede* are perhaps the most notable examples. This subject of tragedy, a writer in the *Sphere* points out, will no longer be possible, as a bill has just gone through the House of Lords which does away with the *necessity* in future of a judge passing the death sentence upon girl-mothers tried for infanticide. The position of a woman in such a case has always gained a large measure of popular sympathy, doubtless because, with their innate sense of justice, the people perceive that no small share of moral responsibility for the crime lies with the partner of her guilt. The spirits of the creators of Effie Deans and Hetty Sorrel will find in this new measure just cause for joy.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has an interesting note about the competition between Vladivostock and Dairen as places of export for Manchurian produce. From statistics published by our contemporary we learn that during the first six months of the current year the produce exported from Vladivostock totalled 153,648 tons, and the produce from Dairen 588,797 tons, the advantage thus being on the side of Dairen to the extent of 435,149 tons. If, however, we turn to exports destined for foreign countries, we find that Vladivostock is a formidable competitor of Dairen. Thus,

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between the 17th of last December and the 23rd of June, Vladivostock exported 143,738 tons against Dairen's 152,273 tons.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that, owing to the prevailing depression in the maritime carrying trade, no less than 300 ship's officers and about 1000 sailors are thrown out of employment in Yokohama and Kobe alone. During the War there was a keen demand for officers of merchantmen, and they were engaged without being obliged to satisfy the full standard of seamanship. These men were of course the first to fall out of employment, and it is not uncommon nowadays to see an officer serving for 40 or 50 *yen* a month, whereas he formerly received 150 or 300.

It appears that a project has been started for engaging a troupe of Japanese actors and actresses to perform at the King's Theatre in London during the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition. The *Hochi Shimbun* says that the commission has been given to Mr. Kawakami, and that the only difficulty is to fulfil the condition that one-half of the number must be women. It would be impossible to find 25 actresses in Japan capable of undertaking such an engagement.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The Cage, by HAROLD BEGBIE, Hodder and Stoughton, London.

WE confess to a sense of irritation when a title of a book is chosen rather to attract the reader than to give an idea of the contents of the book, or when a story follows a line at variance with its title. In the present case, despite the frontispiece of a caged female and a sub-title taken from Montaigne to the effect that marriage "may be compared to a cage: the birds without despaire to get in, and those within despaire to get out," we have only the story of a woman who married a brute, left him and then, five years later (the brute having reformed in the meanwhile) returns to her husband. For a time, it is true, she wanted to "get out," having found in another the love of her life and a true mate for her soul; but the sense of duty prevails, and the lover is banished into the night of a loveless life. Thus while Anne, the heroine of the story, is certainly "caged," yet, having escaped for a while, she returns of her own free will; and the book tells of no other "bird" who despaired either to get out or to get in. The author leaves us in doubt as to his own views on the question of matrimony. In one place he makes one of his characters refer to the Act of 1857 as "a pernicious, ill-considered and bigoted enactment, condemned by every intelligent man who has studied it," and adds:—

"The number of men and women whose husbands are incarcerated in lunatic asylums, and who can get no release from their impossible union, is something like sixty thousand. The children of the husbands are denied step-mothers; the children of the wives are denied breadwinners. I do not know whether this state of things commends itself to the religious conscience; but I can say with confidence that science regards it as irrational, dangerous and against the best interest of the State.....

"The Act makes it comparatively easy to get a separation order. These separation orders do not allow of re-marriage. The number annually granted in this country is somewhere in the neighbourhood of ten thousand separation orders, affecting twenty thousand human beings. Now, a very little reflection should be sufficient to make even an ordinarily obtuse intellect cognisant of the grave situation produced by separating every year twenty thousand men and women, and forbidding them ever to marry again. If their relations justify separation, their humanity justifies re-marriage."

Nevertheless, in the end the heroine, even before she learns of the reformation of her husband, and convinced as she is of her love for Napier, the real hero of the story, is made to surrender herself, on religious grounds, to the lifelong sacrifice involved in a return to "the cage." However, when all is said and done, the tale is a powerfully written and absorbing one, which should commend itself to every reader in search of a novel above the average, and concerning itself with the larger issues of life.

The White Sister, by F. MARION CRAWFORD, London, MacMillan & Co.

MR. CRAWFORD'S novels need no introduction in the land which has known, and learned to appreciate, his accomplished sister. We have only to say that *The White Sister* is up to the high literary and dramatic level of Mr. Crawford's earlier stories, and that the scene is laid in the Italy he knew and described so well, for our readers to be assured that in this delightful and romantic tale of a high-born maiden's passion for a brave but penniless officer—a passion which the vows of her sisterhood, taken in the belief of the lover's death, do not prevent from happy realization—they will find all that the admirers of Mr. Crawford's work have learned to expect.

WANTED.

The world wants men—large-hearted, manly men;
Men who shall join its chorus and prolong
The psalm of labour and the song of love.

The times want scholars—scholars who shall shape
The doubtful destinies of dubious years,
And land the Ark that bears our country's good
Safe on some peaceful Ararat at last.

The age wants heroes—heroes who shall dare
To struggle in the solid ranks of truth;
To clutch the monster error by the throat;
To bear opinion to a loftier seat;
To blot the era of oppression out,
And lead a universal freedom in.

And heaven wants souls—fresh and capacious souls,
To taste its raptures and expand like flowers
Beneath the glory of its Central Sun;
It wants fresh souls, not lean and shrivelled ones—
It wants fresh souls, my brother—give it thine.

If thou, indeed, will act as man should act;
If thou, indeed, will be what scholars should;
If thou wilt be a hero, and will strive
To help thy fellow and exalt thyself—
Thy feet, at last, shall stand on jasper floors;
Thy heart, at last, shall seem a thousand hearts,
Each single heart with myriad raptures filled;
While thou shalt sit with princes and with kings,
Rich in the jewel of a ransomed soul.

—ANSON G. CHESTER.

AN OSAKA telegram reports that the market prices of timbers and planks, which have risen on account of the late fire, have been almost restored to the quotations prior to the calamity. Quantities of these commodities have been introduced there from Kii province and Hokkaido.

JAPAN AND CHINA.

NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE RESUMED.

On August 7, says the *Asahi*, the Chinese Government gave Japan an answer through the Japanese Minister at Peking and the Chinese Minister at Tokyo that, as the negotiations relating to the re-construction of the Antung-Mukden railway will be continued with a view to a compromise, the temporary suspension of the progress of the work is desirable; and that, as to other pending questions, further negotiations will be entered upon and the agreement of the Kirin-Changchun railway loans already negotiated will soon be signed.

Against the above, Minister Ijuin at Peking gave the following reply to China on the 9th instant, in accordance with telegraphic instructions from the Japanese Government:—

1.—In respect of the Antung-Mukden Railway question, negotiations are concluded, excepting in connection with the line between Mukden and Chensiang tun. The only thing now left is whether China will accede to the Japanese proposal or not, and there is no necessity for suspending the work. As to the line between Mukden and Chensiang-tun, Japan will agree to resume negotiations.

2.—As to other pending questions, including the signing of the Kirin-Changshan Agreement, Japan will accede to their proposed settlement with pleasure.

It would appear that the Chinese Authorities in the districts along the railway line have received instructions from the Peking Government, for they refrain from impeding the work of reconstruction, which is now progressing rapidly.

GIST OF CHINA'S REPLY.

A report received by the *Asahi* on the morning of August 10 states that though the Chinese Government entirely agrees with Japan as far as the re-construction of the Antung-Mukden Railway is concerned, it will not make any concession on the questions of police authority and garrisons.

YOKOHAMA TO IMPROVE FIRE BRIGADE EQUIPMENT.

IMMEDIATE PURCHASE OF A "MERRY WEATHER" FROM MESSRS. ANDREWS & GEORGE.

The Osaka fire has re-awakened the municipality of Yokohama, in common with those of other towns, to the possibilities of a similar conflagration occurring locally. Recognizing the inadequacy of the present equipment against fire, the City Assembly some time ago voted an appropriation of 7,000 *yen* for improvements, but the matter was not carried to a conclusion. The Osaka blaze, however, again drew the attention of the authorities to the subject, and also that of the Yokohama Fire Insurance Co., who, naturally, would be financial sufferers to a considerable extent were a conflagration of anything like the dimensions of that at Osaka to occur in these regions. The Company consequently urged the municipality to reinvestigate the matter, and generously donated a sum of 5,000 *yen* towards necessary expenditure, with the *proviso* that the municipality would purchase a *Merry-weather* engine from Messrs. Andrews & George, Ltd. The Assembly met on Saturday last and unanimously passed a bill for the expenditure of 12,216 *yen* for two fire engines, of 300 and 150 gallons capacity respectively, and other contingent necessities of equipment.

Not intending that the matter should further be delayed, the Mayor, Mr. Mitsuhashi, in company with other City officials, attended the testing of a new 300 gallons engine on the ground of the Fire Brigade at Satsuma cho, on Monday last, at about 11 o'clock.

Mr. Andrews, of the company mentioned, explained the details of the operations of the engine, which has a fine appearance and is of the most approved type, and the Mayor and other authorities expressed thorough satisfaction.

The purchase of this engine will be effected at once, at a price of 6,000 *yen*.

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AMERICAN RELIEF FOR OSAKA.

IT is extremely gratifying to note that a movement has been started in San Francisco for the relief of the sufferers by the great conflagration in a substantial contribution. As there is every reason to expect, in view of the traditional character of a city whose generous impulses, no more than its sublime courage, could be checked by its own overwhelming calamity, its present action will go far to allay any feeling which which may still be existent here, arising out of recent anti-Japanese action in that particular locality. Of course the Japanese Government, in common with the intelligence of the country, has all along known and fully appreciated the political difficulties under which that labour-union-ridden city has been suffering, these having proved a far greater check to her rebuilding and rejuvenation than the earthquake and fire themselves; and when now the tidings come that the true heart of the city beats in its old-time generous sympathy for misfortune, this whole nation may be able to learn its real character, and to appreciate the underlying cause of what has seemed to its eyes the turning of the tide of American sympathy against Japan. In other words, the people here will come to learn that in America anti-Japanese feeling is so far from being national that it is not even local, but confined to an ignorant foreign element which has for the time being gained political ascendancy in a small section of the national domain. On this point it is additionally gratifying to note that the sympathy for the sufferers in the Osaka calamity is by no means confined to San Francisco but is wide spread throughout the nation, and there is much reason to hope that the movement for relief will result in a substantial contribution on the part of the entire country. A leading factor likely to contribute much influence to this end is the growing indignation of the intelligent classes in the Republic against the persistent machinations of its yellow press in the fomentation of ill feeling toward Japan. There being no greater insult to be launched against a people than the misrepresentation of its better sentiment by an inferior class of its own citizens, which has earned the contempt of the whole country, that sort of insult is just now being keenly felt, and it is therefore probable that the opportunity at present offered to repudiate the misrepresentation lately fastened upon the nation by its sensation-loving newspapers will be laid hold of and utilised.

Contributing to the same end is the growing conviction, aroused by these ever recurring disasters, of the solidarity of the world and the increasing strength of the bond uniting the nations together and destined, earlier than most people now think, to render obsolete even Dreadnoughts. Only a little while ago there was being awakened in America an anti-Italian sentiment, fostered by the evils arising from the hordes of labourers of that nationality massing themselves in the leading cities of the country. But Messina fell, and the wave of sympathy aroused found expression not only in a most princely contribution for relief, but also in the evanishment of the nascent ill feeling toward the suffering nation, there being no two countries now more closely drawn together in cordial bonds of amity than Italy and the Western Republic. And so likewise, whatever may be the actual contribution of America toward the relief of Osaka in dollars and cents, and in the estimation of that, of course, the comparative magnitude of the two disasters must be taken into account, the greater contribution is sure to follow in the vast strengthening of the traditional bond of sincere friendship which has always united America and Japan.

In a still larger sense the contribution which these calamities bring about to the growing religious faith of mankind, in the very face of the fears of timid sectaries about the advance of heresy and irreligion, is becoming patent to every thinking mind. The immediate effect of calamity is to shake faith in the Power reigning at the heart of things, and to raise questions as to the responsibility for the evil existent in the world. But the ultimate result is on the side of the largest and most confident optimism. The world's attention is finally centred on the generous sympathy, service, heroic endeavour and self-sacrifice evoked by all such disasters. Within a few hours of their happening, millions of people have sent, or sought for means of sending, their sympathy enriched by substance, and the solidarity of nations, the unity of mankind have been illustrated in a manner unprecedented in history. Nay, such disasters not merely give occasion for the manifestation of these great virtues, they create them, and thereby solve completely the world-old problem of the existence of evil, mankind now beginning to realise that things could not possibly, under any power, even that of Omnipotence, be otherwise than they are; that there could be no generosity in life if there were no need of gifts; no sympathy if there were no sorrow, no courage if there were no dangers, no patience if there were no burdens.

EAST AND WEST.

WE observe that some newspapers published in this part of the world are beginning to suggest that Spanish military prowess is defective because of the difficulties experienced in dealing with the Moors. But the truth is that one of the striking features of modern times is the comparative weakness of Western troops in contact with Eastern nations. This lesson has been taught ever since 1885. The French were the first to teach it. Their encounter with the Black Flags in Annam caused many people at the time to wonder whether troops which had long enjoyed the reputation of being among the very best in the world must now be placed in the second rank, owing to some defect the causes of which were not apparent. France had scarcely ceased to furnish food for marvel, however, when the world saw squares of English infantry crushed in the Soudan by Arab charges, and then people began to ask themselves whether England also was among the decadent countries. The Spaniards in Manila furnished the next example, and not their least severe critics were Englishmen, who, when the United States took the Filipinos in hand, predicted that the latter would fare very differently now, when they were confronted by Anglo-Saxon rifles. The event, however, did not altogether justify that boastful forecast, and thus the Spaniards were more or less rehabilitated. Then followed the Italians in Abyssinia. That disaster had no bright side, and it left the wiseacres shaking their heads over Italy as they had already shaken them over France, England, and Spain. After that came the most signal example of all, Russia against Japan. But, after all, the Russian soldier fought so splendidly in that war that, although defeated, his belligerent reputation did not suffer at all. Nevertheless it was again a signal example of the East against the West, to the flagrant discomfiture of the latter. The next demonstrator was Germany in South West Africa. She had as much trouble with a little tribe, the Hereros, as England had in conquering the greater part of India, and the onlookers then began to ask themselves whether Germany also had lost something of her cunning in war. Now, finally, we have the Spaniards again on the stage. They are experiencing serious difficulty in quelling the Moors; and shallow critics, forgetting the history of the past quarter of a century, are venturing to point the finger of scorn at the decadent Spaniards. In our opinion there is no question whatever of decadence. The West crushed the East in former times wholly by superiority of armaments and discipline. There was nothing to choose between the two in respect of the other qualities that go to make a fighting man. But now Oriental races, almost without exception, have learned the tactics and equipped themselves with the weapons of the Occident; and no advantage remains to the latter except a prestige which the events of the past five and twenty years have tended to weaken seriously. The Spaniards are probably as fine fighters as they ever were in their palmiest days, but the Moors against whom they have now to contend are not only second to none in point of fanatic bravery, but also inferior to few in the matter of equipment and discipline. What we have to do is to sympathise with Spain, instead of criticising her.

A JAPANESE OBJECT LESSON.

APART from the political and commercial interests involved in the decided stand which Japan has taken in the matter of the

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Antung-Mukden railway there are important economic considerations which ought to be kept in view and which alone would go far to justify the step. Not only has it been taken from the imperative necessity of unifying the guage of a great railway system distined to have an important and even compelling influence upon the development of a region destined to fill a large place in the future history of the Far Orient, but it is also vitally essential to the success of the line which in the interests of the preservation of Chinese sovereignty in Manchuria, Japan at great cost and in the face of unusual engineering difficulties laid down throughout the entire length of the peninsula of Korea even while she was engaged in carrying on her gigantic struggle with Russia.

That line of railway, aside from its commercial relations, presents to-day a most instructive object lesson of the silent means by which this Empire is pursuing its destined task in the regeneration of the Far Orient from the effects of its age-long slumber. Every traveller in Korea before the day of the Road dwelt with pathetic pitifulness upon the evidences of the misery presented by the appearance of the Korean towns, and even of the Capital itself, the cities of the land being mere collections of abodes which in any other country could hardly be dignified by the name of dog kennels, bearing mute witness to the well-nigh complete degeneration of a race from which, under the influence of governmental corruption and misrule, nearly every semblance of ambition and self-respect had vanished. Now to-day no traveller can pass along the railway line without noting the signs of the marvellous transformation in this regard which is being silently wrought. Around each and every station on the line is seen a group of dainty, clean, and wholesome Japanese dwellings, forming not only a conspicuous contrast to the hovels surrounding them, but constituting the most effective object lesson that could be imagined for the stimulation of that self-respect of which the Koreans stand so greatly in need.

The continued working of such an influence as this and the increase of its activity by every possible means would of itself constitute a most convincing argument in favour of the action now being taken by Japan for the future development of the line. Subject to the severest criticism as this empire has been for the seemingly high-handed course of procedure adopted in the task of the regeneration of Korea the single fact adduced ought to go far in the way of tempering such criticism. In the initial stages of the occupation of the peninsula by Japan the inevitable disease incident upon the opening of every new region, namely, the influx of the dregs of colonist population, brought into the country a horde of prospectors, adventurers and soldiers of fortune such as gravitate to every new mining camp and town in America. These, in this particular instance, while the Japanese government was engaged in its tremendous struggle with Russia, must needs have been allowed free sway, or at least to have been subjected to the lightest control, in view of the all absorbing and more important task in hand. The gravest discredit therefore seemed to attach to the new protectorate of the land, a discredit by no means yet done away with. But that the influences which brought it about are being shorn of their power, and that the era of real regeneration and development has dawned is amply evidenced by the silent influence of such a fact as that we have adduced, coupled as it is with the many others incident to the better class of the Japanese populations to which the privilege of emigrating to the peninsula is now rigidly limited. Toward such a consummation the development of the road becomes a commanding necessity, and as the regeneration of Manchuria by the same means as those now at work in Korea are of little less importance, the shortsightedness of Chinese policy in placing obstacles in the way of Japan's endeavour would seem to be in every way unaccountable.

THE SIN OF FEMALE SUFFRAGE.

I.

ARGUMENTS for and against the question of the political enfranchisement of women continue to occupy much space in English and American periodicals, but in the majority of cases the two most obvious features of the problem receive the least attention. They are studiously avoided by the advocates of woman suffrage, while, for reasons not far to seek, the opponents of female enfranchisement hesitate to lay stress upon them. Nevertheless, they constitute, for all time, the fundamental aspects of the matter; and it is advisable—nay, necessary—that attention should be concentrated upon them to the exclusion of what are, comparatively speaking, side-issues, and that they should receive, as they deserve to receive, the fullest and most candid treatment. These two aspects of the question may be described, respectively, as the racial and the economic sides of the Women Suffrage question; and, in comparison with their vital importance, all other aspects of this great issue sink into insignificance.

The racial aspect of woman suffrage, upon which the sociologist looks with a critical eye, embodies in itself a score of questions instinct with interest for the future welfare of humanity at large, as well as for that of each of its national units. The moment we enquire upon what section of womankind the boon of the franchise is to descend, the perils which beset the question begin to appear. Unless, in England for example, the mad policy of universal adult suffrage be let loose upon the nation, it is clear that the vote must be given on what has come to be known as the "restricted" basis. On this reckoning, married women—who alone, when all is said and done, are fulfilling the true functions of their sex, and, in the vast majority of cases, are doing it nobly—these married women, we repeat, with a very few exceptions, will remain unenfranchised. They will be represented—if this "restricted" suffrage comes to pass—by a body of women without real experience and knowledge of life, whose chief emotion, in very many instances, is envy or hatred of men, "whose gospel is sex-war and a scorn of wifehood and motherhood." In other words, the women who are bearing—and all honour to them—"the heat and burden of the day," whose lives are being devoted to bringing up their children to be worthy citizens of the Empire, are to be penalized for the performance of their highest duties. A premium will thus be set upon spinsterhood, to the derogation of the married state and to the detriment of the race. On the other hand, if by an elaborate reconstitution of the present electoral law, married women receive the franchise, there would speedily arise the unseemly spectacle of political discord in the family, of wife opposed to husband, of a house divided against itself. But stronger objections to Woman Suffrage are raised on moral and religious grounds by an American writer who enlarges upon its *essential immorality*. "Woman's suffrage," says Mr. ALEXANDER HARVEY in *Moods*, "is the negation of Christ's teaching. It is a departure from the ideal perceived by the moral sense and therefore, speaking in terms of theology, a sin." The writer proceeds to explain his position thus:—

> "The fundamental characteristic of Christ's teaching is his assumption of the moral inequality of the sexes. Christ's ideal was essentially the perfect man. He never taught the perfect woman. He sedulously addressed himself to men as such. He carefully indicated, in all that he taught, his own belief that woman, as woman, is incapable of morality, incapable of any course of conduct corresponding to the ideal set forth in the Sermon on the Mount. The 'maleness' of moral conduct is the central ethical idea of Jesus everywhere."

The object of modern woman—the vote-seeking woman, proceeds Mr. HARVEY, is the feminisation of man. "She has feminised the teachings of Jesus by inducing the institutional Church to place her on a level with man morally. She is seeking to feminise democracy by inducing the law-makers to place her on a level with man politically." Granted that this is the motive underlying the "Woman's Rights" crusade, wherein, we may ask, lies the danger to the race? Does it not lie in the sociological truth that national life depends upon virility? When a nation loses that first of qualities, it ceases to count among the kindreds of the earth, and suffers national death. What was the secret of Rome's prostration at the feet of the barbarians, of Greece before the Italian conquerors, of the Persians before the Macedonian phalanx? Was it not, in every case, that the reign of effeminacy had been set up on the soft foundations of luxury and voluptuous ease? Before the untarnished virility of the Huns and Goths, the sons of the feminised voluptuaries of the "Mistress of the Earth" went down to night and death. And as the wiles of CLEOPATRA lost ANTONY an Empire, so, with those that preceded it, the strength

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of their defenders sapped by the insidious peril of feminization, they fell a prey to conquerors less versed in the arts—and vices—of civilisation, but their superiors in the primal qualities of manhood. The lessons of history are as capable of application to this enlightened age, despite changed customs and altered standards of convention. The forms taken by the process of womanisation may be different, but the principle and the consequences remain the same. The contemporary form of the peril—the domination of the virile element in a race by the effeminate—is the agitation for Woman Suffrage. A civilisation that is not broad based on the strong ethics of nature and of Christ will not endure in this age of national rivalry more keen than war.

II.

In a previous article we drew attention to the sin (speaking in terms of theology) of political enfranchisement for women, on the grounds of morality as inculcated by the teachings of Christ, and to the certain consequences of physical and moral deterioration which confront a people 'feminised' out of their natural virility. In all questions concerning national life and vigour, the present counts for little, the past for nothing. "Nature," as Dr. Saleeby truly points out, "'intent on life to come,' never cared for the past, or gave a verdict on that reckoning." That nation will live, and that nation only, which, unwrapped in selfish enjoyment of the passing hour, has an eye to the welfare of posterity, and has learnt "*to regard the land of its fathers as the land of its children, and to direct all its efforts accordingly.*" This profoundly true principle is of the deepest concern to the British race, whose responsibilities already far exceed those delegated to any one people in the whole history of mankind, but whose physical condition, both as to numbers and as to the quality of its component individuals, is deemed by the highest authorities to be barely adequate to the task before it. Those responsibilities are steadily increasing, but the men and women who have to meet that increase—what of them? Mr. Francis Galton, "the father of Eugenics," says that, "judging from the results of inquiries into the teeth, hearing, eyesight and malformations of children in Board schools, and from the continuous increase of insanity and feeblemindness," they are deteriorating, and that the increase of population is not *pari passu* with the increase of responsibility. The distinguished scientist administers a well deserved rebuke to the "specious inference" drawn by Lord Halsbury at the luncheon given to Lieutenant Shackleton by the Royal Societies Club. The Lord Chancellor's legal erudition did not prevent him from falling into that common error of logic—so generally attributed to the feminine mind—of arguing from the particular to the universal, for he said, according to the report in *The Times*, that, "in view of what Mr. Shackleton had gone through, it was impossible to believe in the supposed deterioration of the British race." Were the nation composed of Lieutenant Shackletons, the Chancellor's confidence might be justified: but, unfortunately, it is not. Nor does the popularity of athletics prove much, for, as Mr. Galton observes, "it is one thing to acclaim successful athletes, which any mob of weaklings can do, as at a cricket or football match; it is quite another thing to be an athlete oneself." Sir Martin Conway complains in a letter to *The Times*, that "the birth-rate of the fitter is diminishing year by year, and we calmly sit by and watch the consequent degeneration of our race with idle hands. . . . We take the human rubbish that emerges, and give it compulsory education, Housing Acts, inspection of all sorts, and at all seasons, at the expense of the fitter classes, and imagine that satisfactory results will ensue." The fact is that the British race is faced with the gravest peril that can confront a nation at any period of its existence—the peril of physical deterioration; but its rulers and the vast mass of the people themselves are concerned with such inconsequential matters as the breeding of horses and dogs, that question of religion in the schools which provokes "a perennial exhibition of irreligion," and the question of the parliamentary vote for women who do not wish to be women. We submit therefore that, in the face of the approaching crisis in the national life, the adoption of any measure which would, or might, interfere in the smallest degree with the production and condition of the generation which will have to bear the brunt of that crisis, is a deed of the wildest folly. In our opinion, the parliamentary enfranchisement of women is such a measure. A single instance in illustration of our meaning is afforded by a letter which appeared in a Manchester paper a few months ago from "An Earnest Member of the Mother's Union":—

> "Will you allow me to offer a protest against militant suffragists who are young mothers and have children of tender years at home offering themselves, and being accepted, as members of a deputation to London, it being considered as a probability that the conduct of the deputation may lead to imprisonment, which will deprive their little ones of a mother's care for a month or weeks?"

How many little ones, it is permissible to ask, will suffer neglect, loss of maternal instruction, loss of a mother's love, when thousands of enfranchised female suffragists leave hearth and home for the political booth? And how will the race, now being weighed in the balance of the nations, support the loss of thousands of future citizens through women who should have borne them embracing politics instead of motherhood as their calling in life? The immediate and certain effect of female enfranchisement would be an increase in the number of unmarried women. That in itself shoul l suffice to settle the question, and rule it out of the sphere of practical politics. In the days to come, whether to hold and develop her world-wide heritage or to speak with her enemies in the gate—enemies jealous of her vast possessions, England will need every son she can raise. A host of suffragettes will avail her little in the inevitable struggle for existence—a struggle in which, through the ruling of Nature's irrevocable law, the fittest only will survive. What the British nation most urgently wants, whether at the heart of the Empire or in the remotest of its Dominions across the seas, is not female political orators, nor spinster M.P.'s, but matrons presiding over happy homes, mothers whose strong and numerous progeny shall stand a living witness of their service to the State. To deny that need, to avert that desired and necessary end, for such a baneful, baleful boon as the parliamentary vote, is to commit against the nation and the Empire, against our forefathers and against posterity, the unpardonable sin.

III.

On quite other grounds that those of religion, morality, sociology or national requirements, the principle of female enfranchisement can be shown to constitute a departure from those which have made the British nation what it is—a transgression from the plain path of national rectitude. We refer to the economic aspect of the question. "Adam Smith," remarks the writer from whom we have already quoted, "founded political economy on the basis of the human male as the dominant force; but the political economy of to-day finds woman the cause of causes in production, consumption, distribution and exchange. . . . The submergence of economic man by economic woman is the greatest catastrophe of American life. . . . The despotism of our economics has been feminised, not by the capitalist, but by the influences which sway him. Side by side with a feminised Church flourishes a feminised economics. This feminisation reaches its climax in the United States, where even culture is a female process. The submergence of economic man by economic woman, besides regulating the law of supply and demand, is therefore a fundamental social fact." While this is undoubtedly true in a special degree of American social life, it is also true of every nation where the modern so-called "society" woman flaps her costly butterfly-wings. The fundamental need of "society" is apparel, and the fundamental idea—an absolutely immoral idea—is that of denoting social grades and classes by means of the character and costliness of bodily garments, borne out by a collateral degree of ostentatious display. In short, social standing is measured almost entirely by the character of the garments which cover up the bodies of modern, civilised womankind. Man to-day creates little demand for fine clothes, fine houses or fine food. These demands are almost entirely the economic creation of woman. The economic process is now primarily a female process, for the economic woman has done more to bring about the existing relations of demand to supply than was ever possible in the heyday of economic

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man's importance. "If not biologically, at any rate economically, man is an appendage to woman. . . . Man's economic relation to his environment consists principally in feeble efforts to adjust himself to economic woman. This is the key to the wage-earner's insignificance in economic processes."

Instructive conclusions may be gained from a comparison of the statistics of those industries which cater to the tastes and demands of women with those industries which cater primarily to the tastes and demands of men. The amount of capital invested in the manufacture of articles of feminine wear is just four times the amount of capital invested in the manufacture of articles of masculine attire. Similarly, "the extent to which industrial depression is dependent upon economic woman is illustrated by the 'slump' in the diamond market. Economic woman so stimulated the mining of those stones that she reacted against them on the ground of their 'vulgarity.' They have ceased to be fashionable to the extent anticipated by South African speculators. Diamonds are a glut in the plutocratic market, and a vast capital is temporarily idle, awaiting the whim of economic woman." Again, just as, economic woman, has created the effective demand for automobiles, for splendid hotels, for expensive apparel, and for all the adjuncts to what passes for life in a civilised land, so she is responsible for the cruel contrasts between the modes of existence in different social strata which are not merely intensified by economic woman, but exist because of her. . . . As to the poor man's wife, it is probable that she may spend upon her clothes less than her husband spends upon his own, but the fact remains that the average woman is more of a factor in the regulation of supply and demand than any three average men combined. In short "economic woman is the great consumer. She is a producer to a considerable extent, but her consumption so vastly exceeds her production—using the terms in their economic sense—that if every woman in the land became a wage-earner the equation would remain unresolved. . . . From the point of view of distribution, again—the third factor in the orthodox political economy—woman profits enormously at the expense of man, while exchange is merely one additional means of facilitating the development of economic woman."

In the light of these truths, the granting of full political liberty to women—accompanied as it would undoubtedly be by an increase in the number of wage-earning and unmarried woman—assumes a new and grave complexion. The greatest need of society to-day, if the claims of social justice are to be heeded, is the defeminisation of economic processes. The Church has already been feminised, to its immeasurable loss: democracy is threatened with emasculation: mankind, economically speaking, is dominated by the claims of femininity. But were woman to obtain ascendancy at the ballot-box, her potentialities for mischief would be increased a thousand fold. The woman-ridden State—morally, economically, politically submerged in feminine influence—would indeed become, in a very brief space of time, as history reckons, a Sick Man among the nations of the world, face to face with final extinction. No, let the woman who pines for publicity, who feels that she has received a call to the hustings, who has not enough in her home life to occupy her, or whom physical disabilities preclude from the marriage state—let such a woman find an outlet for her energies in the municipal arena. Surely here is an enormous field for women "yearning for a sphere," for women of education, leisure, and money, which includes organisation, administration, questions of finance, education, housing and health, the care of the young, the crippled, and the old. Yet what do we find after all the years which have elapsed since women received full civic recognition? We find that this vast field is practically neglected. And, as as regards voting at municipal elections, we find only *one per cent* of women with the right to vote exercising that right. These things being so, why should women, merely out of a desire to be "equal" with men—that misleading description of a case in which comparison, let alone equality, is physically impossible — why should women, already gifted with civic rights and liberties, resemble the daughters of the horse-leach in its cry "Give! give!" Why should women, upon whom Nature has placed the honourable burden of the race to come, cast away their proudest heritage for a privilege of doubtful value? There is no reason—no reason that can for one moment compare with the unalterable values of Life as laid down by the Creator of all things, visible and invisible. Let heaven and earth be saved from the would-be masculine women; let posterity be preserved from such a catastrophe as the substitution of mannish spinsters for prolific matrons. Let women strive after the ideal of that good woman "whose price is above rubies," because, in addition to all her domestic virtues and household abilities, "the heart of her husband (*who is known in the gates, when he sitteth among the elders of the land*) doth safely trust in her, and whose children shall rise up to call her blessed."

A PROTEST.

WE really must enter a gentle protest against the attempts made by the *Japan Post* and the *Japan Herald* to convict us of anti-German feeling. We are not anti-German. We have never been anti-German. We decline to be saddled with any such character. Were any specific evidence adduced in support of the charge, we should not decline to treat it seriously. But at present we are compelled to say—while disavowing all desire to give offence—that our contemporaries' phantasies appear to be the only witnesses against us. Thus, in a recent issue, having reproduced certain statements made in China to Germany's discredit, we expressed the hope that German shoulders might prove broad enough to support all the accusations and complaints brought against her at present in the Orient. Such an expression of hope does not suggest the smallest particle of ill-will. It might, with absolute propriety, be addressed to one's best friend. Yet the *Deutsche Japan Post* replied "Thank you kindly! We can carry them all and still have a German fist free to hold under the noses of any snarlers and gratuitous advice-givers of the class of the *Mail*." It is not usual to find such language in the columns of ordinary newspapers. They do not rise to such a high standard of graceful courtesy. We are constrained to think that the *Deutsche Japan Post* is unique among German journals, and certainly we place too much faith in German commonsense and discernment to imagine that a harmless comment like that made by us is in danger of any such flagrant misconstruction.

We turn now to the *Japan Herald*. That journal devotes the greater part of a leading article to prove that a misconstruction of a Reuter's telegram on our part was a deliberate attempt to asperse Germany. The telegram should have read "Li Te-shun, Director of the German section of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway, has been cashiered as the result of the discovery of bank frauds and corruption in connexion with the line." It was, however, deciphered by us as follows:—"Herr LITESHONE(?), Director of the German section of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway, has been cashiered etc. etc." This very comprehensible error on the part of the member of our staff who read the telegram—an error obviously due to mutilation, as the note of interrogation appended by us clearly showed—is declared by the *Japan Herald* to be "due to prejudiced intention and is denounced as a malicious and mischievous alteration." In other words, the *Japan Herald* believes that an editor can be at once so unscrupulous and so reckless as to deliberately change the text of a telegram for the purpose of creating a momentarily unfavourable impression against a great State. It is proverbially believed that a man's suspicions are dictated by his own practice and that they furnish an index of his own moral code. We decline to endorse that aphorism in the present case. We decline to imagine that the editor of the *Japan Herald* could possibly be guilty of the grossly fraudulent procedure ascribed by him to the editor of the *Japan Mail*.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

CHINA'S friends can not but wish that she had adopted her present mood six months earlier. It would really seem that at seasons she falls into a somnolent condition towards foreign affairs, and that a severe shock of some kind is necessary to rouse her. We have always had entire faith in China's common sense. Her swee

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reasonableness, extolled so unequivocally by one of her most acute interpreters, the late Mr. A. Michie, forces itself upon the attention of every student of her history. But side by side with this characteristic there seems to be a besetting tendency to trust in time. The result is that the Government in Peking often finds itself obliged to scramble in an undignified manner out of situations into which it would never have fallen had it been guided by its own common sense. In the present instance, what seems to have happened is that the officials directly charged with the conduct of the Japanese negotiations were anxious to postpone a decision as long as possible, being convinced that Japan could not afford to assume a peremptory demeanour, and being hopeful that the passage of weeks and months might soften the rights-recovery mania which they dread so much to inflame. The former part of their calculation might very well have been verified by events. Japan is exceedingly unpopular at present in all Western communities, whether inside or outside the Far East. There prevails a singularly tenacious conviction that she is inflamed by aggressive desires; that she aims at the hegemony of East Asia, and that she will shrink from no appeal either to extortion or to force for the purpose of achieving that object. In the presence of such suspicions the slightest show of impatience on Japan's part is sure to be misinterpreted, and therefore the Chinese counted that she would shrink from anything like strong diplomacy. As to the rights-recovery mania, however, it is evidently a factor to which foreign States can not be expected to pay any deference. They must assert their rights, whatever be the temper of irresponsible Chinese subjects, though of course friendship for China may fairly be expected to prompt the utmost leniency. The result of trusting too much to Japan's embarrassments and shrinking too much from a manly course has been that China has found herself confronted by a dilemma from which she can not emerge without loss of face. She can not appeal to the sword. The occasion is altogether too paltry for anything of that kind. She can not suffer Japan's operations in Manchuria to continue without recognition. That would be a palpable surrender of her Sovereignty. Her only resource therefore lies precisely in the step she has taken; namely, a declaration of her complete willingness to comply with her treaty obligations, and the request that Japan will suspend work on the Mukden-Antung Railway until a fresh conference can be held. It is out of the question, however, that Japan should acquiesce in the latter proposal. When she set thousands of navvies to work upon the Mukden-Antung line, she was not playing any game of grab, but was acting in obedience to the imperative necessity of the situation. To suspend the work now, after less than a week, would be childish. Thus there is no completely satisfactory exit for China. She will have to make scapegoats of officials who have plunged her into this mess. It is not merely that she is obliged to bow her head to Japan. There is a more far-reaching consideration, namely, that the strong arm is likely to be imported hereafter into all complications between her and foreign Powers. As for Japan, she has certainly played her cards adroitly. She has completely disarmed hostile opinion and has won the approval of the Occident by frankly taking Western Governments into her confidence. At the same time we are forcibly reminded of the admirably prescient statesmanship which negotiated the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and the *Ententes* with Russia and France. Japan can now always count on a friendly hearing before the diplomatic tribunals in London, Paris, St. Petersburg and, we may add, Washington.

A remarkable feature of the present situation is the docility shown by the Chinese people. The rights-recovery party have raised no clamour whatever about the Mukden-Antung Railway affair, and the Cantonese Independence Coterie have not even begun to talk of the boycott. How is this to be interpreted? Of course, it will occur to everybody that the strict censorship to which the press is subjected has much to do with keeping a nation calm. That is undoubtedly true. But by whom is the censorship enforced? By the central and local officials. It seems to follow therefore—does it not?—that the Chinese Government can keep the people quiet when it chooses to do so. If this be one of the genuine lessons taught by the incident, foreign Powers will not be slow to learn it and to utilize their education hereafter. Hitherto the rights-recovery party and the patriots in South China have been a convenient obstacle to the liberal progress of all negotiations with foreign States. But apparently these factors need not be any longer reckoned with, and China will find her stock of excuses proportionately diminished. If we add the information now again afforded, namely, that a display of genuine determination has more effect in Peking than any other method of argument, it will be apparent that China's diplomatic position is not improved by recent events. On the other hand, the greatest credit is due to her for the conciliatory and friendly mood she has displayed in the presence of an occasion which must have severely tried her sense of dignity.

We observe from telegraphic summaries in the *Jiji Shimpo* and the *Maiuchi Dempo* that the *North-China Daily News* is on the whole unfavourable to Japan's action. Shanghai English newspapers, happily unlike the majority of their comtemporaries in Japan, show a strong and most praiseworthy disposition to defend the country whose hospitality they enjoy. In this instance, the *North-China Daily News* seems to find fault with Japan on the ground that she acted too precipitately. Our contemporary thinks that longer notice should have been given, and that a delay of a few weeks would not have mattered in the end. Doubtless this criticism is based on the assumption that the ultimatum handed in to the Waiwupu was presented on the very day when the construction of the line actually commenced. But surely that is a mere matter of form. The *N.-C. Daily News* must be well aware that active negotiations had been going on ever since the 24th of June, and that China must have been again and again informed that unless she changed her attitude the Japanese Government would be compelled to take the law into its own hands. There is a limit to patience, and that limit was reached and passed long before Japan presented her final communication in Peking. Our Shanghai contemporary appears further to condemn Japan's procedure as unbecoming to a Power which has voluntarily placed itself among the defenders of China's integrity. As to that, the answer seems to us to be very simple. Great Britain was undoubtedly consulted before Japan took this step, and we may fairly assume that the English Government did not discover anything inconsistent with the maintenance of China's integrity.

The *Shanghai Times* also is opposed to Japan's action, but it apparently writes in a much stronger strain than its local contemporary the *N.-C. Daily News*. It is quoted as saying that if England, growing weary about the negotiations for the Suchow-Hanchow Railway, had proceeded to construct the line in defiance of China, not a single respectable English newspaper would have been found to defend such conduct. The *Shanghai Times* goes so far as to imply that Japan has been virtually guilty of an act of theft since she has appropriated an article before its price had been agreed upon. But surely our contemporary does not mean to seriously compare the Mukden-Antung Railway with the Suchow-Hanchow line? It is quite unnecessary to detail the points of flagrant difference. As to the charge of purloining goods while their price is still under negotiation, such an accusation betrays a signal want of valid argument, and we see no occasion to expatiate upon its extravagance. The Mukden-Antung Railway is actually Japan's property, held under lease, and what China has hitherto been doing is not discussing the price of the line, but condemning Japan to continue running it at a heavy loss.

THE REAL "WHITE MAN'S BURDEN."

IN view of the fact that the rage for interference in the internal affairs of other nations has become an almost universal feature of political policy, there would seem to be at present a necessity for reversing the meaning of Kipling's famous phrase in order to correct the undue and extravagant impetus given by it to outside effort, instead of to the primal duty of minding one's own business. That the policy of mere selfish isolation

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is neither wise nor possible, and that under modern international conditions it is becoming less and less possible every day, does not in the least militate against the full observance by any nation of the fundamental duty of minding its own affairs, and of allowing other people to do likewise. Nations are like individuals, and neither can plead the excuse that because home cares and duties grow boresome and commonplace and distasteful their best and highest life must be in some foreign field. And yet precisely that sentiment is largely operative to day in international policy. It is the story of Borrioboolah Gha transferred from the home of the Jellabys to the councils of the Powers. Combined with national ambitions and the consuming fever of imperialism, it results that the virtue of minding one's own business has well nigh become extinct in the relations existing between the stronger and the weaker states. Everything gives way to the supposed divine command to go into every nation and preach some exotic gospel until there is scarcely any great Power on the face of the earth to-day which is not smitten with the excitement of the imagined duty of imposing the blessings of its civilization, or of its special political isms, upon other peoples. It matters not that history has invariably shown the gradual decadence and final extinction of the races and peoples to whom such blessings have been successfully extended, nor does the almost universal failure of missions as to the prime object for which they are organized, the spread of their special dogmas, seem to have taught the world anything whatsoever. On the contrary the superior nations, each under the stimulus of the belief that the fatherland has the sole right to the name of God's country, have become practically a vast missionary force bent on going forth into strange lands to impose upon them their own institutions and customs, because forsooth it is their duty to make their civilization felt.

Such is the great "burden" deemed to be laid upon the shoulders of the "white man" of our day, whereas the far more evident and pressing duty confronts him to perfect his own civilization, and above all to be sure that it is worthy of the name, before he assumes any right, still less any duty, to inflict it upon others. The whole question of missions has thus a far greater breadth and bearing than is generally imagined, and until the crying evils and hideous shames and flaunting vices which disgrace the centres of Western civilization are done away with, it is not alone against the emissaries of this or that petty sect or ism that a bar should be put to their flight from home duties. The "white man's burden," the only burden which nature and common sense have laid upon him, is in his social, political, and international, as well as in his religious relations, to mind his own business, and to mind it well.

OSAKA Y. M. C. A. FIRE RELIEF.

August 7, 1909.

Almost before the fire had been got under control, Mr. Sajima, the Secretary of the Osaka Y. M. C. A., had planned to open relief work. A telegram sent to the foreign community at Karuizawa resulted in a subscription of *yen* 1500, being collected by Monday night. From the summer residents at Gotemba *yen* 330, has been sent in, and from Takayama near Sendai a collection of *yen* 117, arrived. Including gifts from Japanese sources a total of *yen* 3,121, has been received. On Friday the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade appropriated *yen* 1,000, to the Y. M. C. A. fund, so that a total of over *yen* 4,000, is now in hand. Letters of appeal have also been sent to 678 Japanese churches. Seeing from foreign cables that money is being raised abroad, telegrams were sent to London, New York, Melbourne, and Shanghai informing the young Men's Christian Associations of the work being done here, and that contributions would be received. A cable was also sent to the Japanese at Seattle.

Beginning on Tuesday morning, visiting committees representing all the Christian forces of the city, were sent out to the houses where refugees were reported to have crowded in. To those in due need tickets were given out which could be exchanged at the Y.M.C.A. for food, clothing or household utensils, according to the need of each person. At first food was in great demand, but after the municipal relief quarters were in running order the Association has confined its efforts largely to the supply of household utensils and clothing. This sort of relief has been greatly appreciated, and crowds of needy people have besieged the Association building from morning till night. One old man who formerly was a government official reported the sad tale that he lost his all by the fire, that his daughter was dying with tuberculosis, and that his wife was ill, so that he was unable to keep on with his work. Many women with little children who had escaped with scanty clothes on their back were also objects of charitable relief.

Up to Saturday night 1346 families, numbering 3618 persons, had received relief of some sort. Twenty-seven bushels of rice and 971 articles of food were given out. In addition to this 1880 pieces of clothing and 2456 articles of household furniture, mostly cooking utensils, had been distributed.

Rev. M. Weakley, an Osaka Missionary, brought from Hiei San near Kyoto ten tents large enough to accommodate two families each. When the visiting committee found that in some 4½ mat rooms five persons were packed in, and in one 3 mat room six persons were living it was decided to set up these tents on a vacant lot near the place where refugees were the most crowded. By to-night four tents are in running order.

Quantities of clothing have been contributed by citizens. Every day a cart preceded by a drum and banners goes through the street distributing handbills describing the work, and collecting gifts of all sorts. Also groups of workers are boarding the trains near Osaka distributing announcements, while collectors stand in the station receiving the gifts.

To avoid duplicating the work of other agencies the Y. M. C. A. sends investigators about to the other selief stations. If money allows, an effort will be made to supply with their tools the poor who have trades, so that they may at once become self supporting.

PRESBYTERIAN MISSION MEETING.

The twenty-fifth annual meeting of the West Japan Mission of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A., has just been held at Karuizawa. The reports of the work were, on the whole, very encouraging. While the number of baptisms were fully as large as in the past, a falling off in the attendance at Girls' Schools was reported. As is the case with other Mission Schools, as well as with Government Girls' Schools, this was attributed to the hard times and to the general dissatisfaction with the results of girls' education in Japan. A conservative note, such as appeared in a recent *Mail* editorial, was heard once or twice in regard to the whole situation.

It was the unanimous voice of the Mission that a tremendous task is still before the Missions in Japan. To meet in some measure that task, an immediate call was made for four families and four single ladies. Eight families and eight single ladies were asked as a second installment. At the same time, without specifying numbers, it was pointed out that the great mass of the population in the towns and villages were yet untouched by Christianity, and that a large force of missionaries and Japanese workers would be required to evangelize the masses. A representative committee was appointed to fully investigate the amount of village work now done, the methods to be employed, and the prospects for the future.

Few changes were made in the location of the missionaries. Miss Garvin goes to Hiroshima, and Miss Hall is soon to return to Osaka. Miss Moore's resignation will take effect next April, but Miss Dooley a new worker, is expected in October. Miss Dooley will reside in Kanazawa, Rev. J. C. and Mrs. Worley are to have charge of the Matsuyama field, but will continue to live in Osaka for the present.

Rev. Dr. D. A. Murray and Rev. W. F. Hereford will represent the Mission on the Standing Committee of Cooperating Missions.

A Board of Trustees was elected to manage the affairs of the Osaka School for Training Christian Workers, better known as Dr. Murray's Dendo Doshikwan.

Little was heard of the question of cooperation, which so strenuously agitated the Mission a year or two ago, except in the reports of the Joint Committees on Cooperation, and in the adjustment of appropriations and estimates to the new conditions. In accord with the actions of the Joint Committees, most of the increased appropriations was used in the opening new out-stations at Tsuruga, Himeji, Fushimi, (Yoshida) Kyoto, (Ryojo) Kure, and to reinforce the work about the Shimonoseki Straits.

The Relief Fund for Mission Workers is steadily growing, and even though the fund is small, it serves to drive away from the minds of our faithful Japanese co-workers some of the anxiety for the rainy day and the future all unknown.

A committee is arranging for the visit of Rev. Dr. A. J. Brown. Conferences will be held with missionaries at Karuizawa in connection with the Council of Missions, and with the Japanese both al Tokyo and Osaka. Dr. Brown comes out not only as representative of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, but also as Chairman of the Committee on Comity of the Conference of all the Boards in the U.S. and Canada, He is also Chairman of the American Executive Committee on the World's Missionary Conference, which is to be held in Edinburgh in June, 1910. His wish is to confer about the adjustment caused by "the vast intellectual, social, commercial and political changes, which are so swiftly taking place in Asia."

During the meeting, word came of the Osaka fire, and about *yen* 330 was subscribed in a few minutes and added to the amount raised by the other foreigners in Karuizawa.

A unique and pleasant social evening, as well as a lunch in the grove about Dr. Murray's cottage, was much enjoyed,

BASEBALL.

CLOSE CONTEST FOR SATURDAY.

The winning gait, that the Y.C. and A.C. base ball nine have now obtained, has not been stopped, as they were again successful on Tuesday last against the "All Yokohama" team, winning an exciting game by the close score of 1 to 0 in a seven inning match.

To-day at four o'clock, the third game of the series against Waseda University will be played.

The Y. C. and A. C. have won both the preceding contests, and this match will show the team that will represent Waseda as the very best that could be obtained out of their large number of students. Both sides are confident.

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Peterburg, July 20, 1009.

The Shah of Persia has been deposed and his twelve-year old son now reigns in his stead. The Governments of Great Britain and of Russia have recognised the new ruler, who, indeed, was officially recognised by them as heir to the throne two years ago. The ex Shah, by seeking refuge in a foreign Embassy, *ipso facto*, according to Persian usage, ceased to rule. He will be escorted out of Persia whenever he so desires by Russia, with leave to choose his future residence where he may please. It is said he favours Tiflis as a future residence, but possibly the ancient palace at Kaluga, successively occupied by exi ed Eastern potentates past, may be chosen instead.

The dynasty remains, a Kajar Prince is acting as regent, and his political beliefs may be gathered from the fact that the deposed Shah put him in prison after the dismissal of the Mejlis of last year on account of his alleged "liberal" tendencies. The change has been made without bloodshed, thanks largely to the vigorous efforts of the representatives of Russia and Great Britain, and doubtless chiefly to the knowledge that an adequate Russian force of all arms was ready within eighty miles of the capital to prevent excesses.

Colonel Liakhov, with such of his Persian Cossacks who have remained true to their leader, is now in the employ of the new Government, and the policing of Teheran has been entrusted to a Russian revolutionary whose pseudonym is Ephraim, an active member of the revolutionary party in the Caucasus during the years of trouble. He is reported to be now acting in perfect accord with Col. Liakhov, and the first object to be attained is to prevent any further looting and to recover such goods as have already suffered from the customary practices of Persian troops on either side.

The Russian troops will remain at Kazvin until it is certain that all likelihood of an outbreak of disorder at Teheran has passed. They will then return to Russia. Presumably this date will not be before the new Mejlis is formed, and that is expected to be in about a fortnight.

The new Shah, a twelve-year old boy, has been for some years under the tutelage of a Russian, and speaks Russian with fair fluency. Of his disposition and character such stories as are available are hardly of the best promise. A Russian observer spent some time last year in Teheran on an official mission and had frequent opportunities of learning from personal acquaintance and from palace gossip of the day all that can be known of an Eastern ruler. The young Shah Ahmed Mirza is described by this authority as a boy of violent passions, fond of torturing his slaves, and with a greed for gold and jewels unnaturally developed for his age, the whole being summed up in the words "notwithstanding an outer polish of European training the (present Shah) is a typical oriental despot." The stories of his treatment of his Russian instructors probably suggested, while they certainly bear out, this brief characterisation.

Five sailors from Russian battleships, on furlough in the Province of Pskov, being caught by peasants drinking from a village well, were severely handled by them on suspicion of "poisoning their well with cholera." This is the muzhiks' understanding of Government measures to stay the spread of the present epidemic. The sailors were in uniform, therefore servants of the Government, therefore not to be trusted near the water used for drinking by muzhiks! Such appears to be the line of argument, which in other districts has already resulted in the destruction by angry mobs of cholera barracks, the doctors fleeing for their lives. It is difficult in Russia to do good where most needed.

M. Menshikov in the *Novoe Vremja* commences a series of articles the object of which appears to be to prove that Russia must return to the embrace of absolutist Germany and cut adrift from further friendship with England. How this policy is reconciled with the Franco-Russian Alliance is M. Menshikov's own secret as yet, but this prophet of Anglo-phobism and one of the principal mainstays of the *Novoe Vremja* has much to say that is of interest. For example the following about modern armies: "Universal service has spoiled all armies out of all recognition. In point of fact there are no fighting armies at all in Europe, but only militia forces, whose capacity for fighting has hitherto been tested only in Manchuria. Not only war itself, but even the military career, has ceased to be a profession: it is no more than a temporary corvée which leaves hardly any traces of military value on the soldiers that undergo it. Officers, it is true, continue to bear the names of the ranks that existed in the days of Frederick the Great and Napoleon, but both in France and in Germany, and everywhere else, these men are not officers but only bourgeois, *intelligentia* (i.e. not working at manual labour), who wear epaulets and find it increasingly difficult year by year to deal with the unbridled sons of democracy in the ranks."

Ten cases of smallpox were registered yesterday in St. Petersburg, where the cholera continues with little abatement caused by the change in the weather.

An interesting book just published here contains the secret correspondence between the British Ambassador, Sir Charles H. Williams, and the Grand Duchess Catherine, afterwards Empress of Russia. The text is in French, with a Russian translation. The correspondence covers the years 1756 and 1757 and consists of 70 letters of the future Empress and 87 of the British Ambassador. Neither signed their names to their letters, and the Ambassador complains that every letter received by him bore traces of having been opened en route. The collection is from the Imperial archives and published by permission of the Emperor.

A Siberian paper publishes details of trouble that has arisen between Japanese and Russians on the Shantar Islands in the Far East. Three Japanese were killed after attempting treacherously, it is alleged, to dispose of their rivals. Reprisals are feared from other Japanese on the island, whose numbers exceed those of Russian exploiters of the local fisheries. A German explorer, known to have been on the island, has also not been heard of for some time, and fears for his safety are aroused.

A Congress of monks is being held at the St. Sergius Laura, near Moscow. The members have been specially selected for the purpose of the Congress by the Holy Synod, but it is reported a serious schism has already occurred among them. The question of the disposition of the enormous monastic revenues, the lion's share of which are now appropriated to themselves by the higher ranks of the ecclesiastical hierarchy, while the real monks are subjected to unequal discipline and the establishments starved, thereby hindering their proper objects as nurseries of religious and charitable culture, occupied the first two sittings without any solution being arrived at.

An article in the *Rêch* draws attention to the acknowledged insanitary condition of Russian barracks, even in the Capital. From figures given it appears that nearly six per cent. of the recruits die of preventible disease in their first year's service, nearly 5 per cent. in the second, 4 per cent. in the third, and three and one half per cent. in the fourth year of service. For illness no less than 47 per cent. are dismissed the ranks during the first year's service, about 31 per cent. temporarily, 16 per cent. altogether. The causes chiefly alleged are faulty construction, insanitary arrangements, and especially criminal shortage of fuel resulting in a continuous low temperature, which in a Russian winter speedily induces various fatal diseases.

St. Petersburg, July 22nd., 1909.

Their Danish Majesties left Peterhof on Tuesday evening, crossed to Kronstadt and there went aboard the Danish ships in waiting to convey them home.

The newly appointed Russian Ambassador to the Porte, M. Nicholas Charikov, has reached Constantinople. M. Charikov was partly educated in Edinburgh and has evinced the interest he takes in his Scottish reminiscences by the publication of a monumental work on the career in Russia of those numerous Scottish emigrants who in the days of Peter the Great and subsequently have arrived at eminence in the public services of the Russian Emperors. The work is enriched with portraits and facsimiles of the quaint script in which the letters of those days were mostly written.

The *Rêch* continues its revelations of the insanitary state of the military barracks in Russia. It says that owing to an entire absence of any provision for isolation of infectious cases, for example, the horrible disease of the eyes, trachoma, there are no fewer than 665 infantry battalions (out of 745) that count trachomatous soldiers in the ranks, living along with those still healthy.

The Committee appointed to consider the amelioration of the Russian Railway services has declared that it will be necssary to revise the laws affecting railways There is one aspect of these laws which has long proved a hindrance to the entrance of British capital into that department which would above all others benefit by the introduction of English ways of working. The present regulations, with the intention of keeping out the class of enterprising but penniless concession-hunters, require a large amount of capital to be locked up for an indefinite period unproductively as a guarantee of good faith in the form of deposits with the Russian Goverment. This particular regulation is resented as vexatious by firms of long-standing solid repute.

British steamships plying between London, Hull and St Petersburg now bring sufficient water to last the round voyage. Visitors to the ships at St Petersburg port look upon a drink of English water, the first water they have tasted for months, or maybe years, unboiled, as quite a luxury!

It is reported from Moscow that a group of local bankers is about to visit London to find financial support for a scheme connected with the foundation of a Commercial Bank in Moscow for the purpose of lending money to industrial concerns—a duty that has hitherto been adequately, not to say lavishly, performed by the Russian State Bank.

The Russo Chinese Bank, which was associated with the London & Midland Bank in a recent Russian railway loan, has now come into the orbit of the German financial group in Russia and is being utilised by them as a stalking horse to secure, nominally for Russian interests, a portion of the railway loans in southern China.

The Congress of Monks, or Black Clergy Congress, now assembled at the Laura of St. Sergius near Moscow, is bitterly criticised by the opposition press, which connects it with the scandalous "missionary congress" at Kiev of last year. The latter resolved itself into practically a Black Gang propaganda meeting. It is said that the selection of the very few representatives arbitrarily summoned by the Holy Synod to take part in the Black Clergy Congress indicates similar tendencies.

A horrible criminal of the Jack the Ripper type has been apprehended in the Province of Vladimir. The man came begging of a woman in the village of Smerdov. Noticing blood on his hands she shrieked and some muzhiks searched the man. In his pocket was found a blood-stained knife and two human ears with woman's ear-rings still in them. The peasants set upon the monster until he confessed, when they took him to the scene of his crime in a neighbouring wood. The body of a woman horribly cut about and with ears missing was found. By this time the police had arrived, and after a tussle succeeded in saving the wretch from the lynching which the enraged peasants were prepared, in Russian fashion, to administer. The word "lynch" is used in Russian, but it indicates an informal "doing to death," the death of a mad dog at the hands of a frightened but angry crowd—there is no hanging or shooting in a Russian "lynching."

A terrible fire occurred at the Tentelev Chemical Works on the outskirts of St. Petersburg at an early hour this morning. The works are extensive, and among other stores the most dangerous were some 500 tons of benzoline. The entire fire-brigade forces of the city were summoned, besides outlying local volunteer brigades. Most of the benzoline was saved, but a massive stone building containing in three cisterns of copper ten tons of the chemical took fire and exploded. One fireman was killed, another fatally injured, twelve seriously burnt, while eighteen bystanders of the

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general public and volunteer helpers were more or less injured by the gigantic explosion. A curious feature of the fire was that nearly all the firemen and many of the public returned home with the soles burnt off their boots from the acids of various kinds freely flowing about the yard.

The "Committee for the Strengthening of the Fleet," a sort of Russian Navy League, which has already collected and spent on providing ships over a million and a half sterling, has decided to proceed at once with the construction of a 500-ton submarine, four times larger than any at present existing, and a 36-knot torpedo-cruiser of 1500 tons The new ships are to be built at the Putilov Works on the Neva, and the term of construction has been fixed at 28 months.

The Viceroy of the Caucasus, Count Vorontsov-Dashkov, is urging the establishment of a quicker route between Tiflis and St. Petersburg, by way of Poti-Theodosia, and an "express" steamer service between those two ports on the Black Sea.

For the seventh time in succession the "extraordinary defence," *i.e*, the highest and most stringent form of martial law short of a "state of war," has just been renewed for St. Petersburg city and province for another period of six months. The prevalence of the cholera and other dangerous epidemics may partly account for this dash to the hopes of those who confidently expected that the northern capital would be released from martial law at last, as the "premier capital," Moscow, has already been.

Heroic methods are proposed for dealing with the Neva water-supply to fight the cholera. It is proposed to kill all bacteria by liberal use of chloride of lime, the deleterious effects of this to be afterwards neutralised by the addition, before drinking the water, of various salts, which will improve the water from the point of view of health, the Neva naturally lacking those salts which are necessary to build up a healthy frame.

The first aerial flights in Russia are to be made about the end of August, by which time several planes ordered and built in France will have been put together. The last of them, the "Rossia," has just arrived, packed for transit in a number of boxes which are now in course of conveyance to the trial park of the Military Ballooning School.

St. Petersburg, July 24th, 1909.

Negotiations have been concluded between a powerful group of London financiers and the directors of the Union Russian Bank whereby in all probability British enterprise in Russia will at last be provided with the means of really getting to the inside of Russian commercial life. The French, the Germans, especially the latter, and, broadly speaking, the Jewish influence in both countries, have long held sway in the domain of international commerce in Russia, and one of the chief sources of their far-reaching power has been the existence of numerous banking establishments which have enabled their supporters to pull all the wires of every enterprise worth while for many years back in the Russian Empire. I understand that, although the preliminary papers have been signed in due form, there are still some formalities to be gone through, but it is satisfactory to note that a beginning has been made and in the right direction. For all those intimate details of business information of which sound enterprises are built by cautious men, the Englishman has had to go hitherto for what he wants to some bank under French or German, and generally Franco-German or Jewish, control. It is only human nature if these establishments reserve all their best information and the bulk of their wide reaching influence for the service of those who are nearer akin to them in blood and interests than is the average Britisher, whether banker or contractor or merchant. But the new Russia is tiring of the old methods, which were suitable enough to the old condition of things, but are less welcome to a people who have already taken their first steps along the path of freedom and recognise that the old principle of "If you don'tlie, None will buy!" is not nearly so sound a one as the English belief about honesty being the best policy.

The Russian Government has done, and will do, all in its power in reason to encourage British enterprise in Russia: the policy of a close economic tie between the two nations, a policy dictated by the respective superfluities and needs of either, is the policy that now has the the fullest support of all parties and classes in Russia, and is beginning to make headway even in slow moving England. The political relations of the states of the world at the present moment distinctly favour the realisation of this policy. Russia has a population of not far short of two hundred millions of men, mostly white men, and all men rapidly awakening to the possibilities of a new form of life under the new form of government. Such an awakening is inevitably accompanied by the sense of new needs, efforts after a higher culture, and all these needs must, for some time to come be supplied by the foreigner. England has never before had so admirable a chance of commanding the economic situation in Russia, and no country in the world can so well satisfy the wants of England in raw materials of every kind as Russia. She holds one-sixth of the land-surface of the globe, most of which stupendous area is rich in the natural products of the soil, from wheat to cotton and tea and tobacco, or in those still more valuable products below the surface. For many years to come Russia will be helpless to adequately exploit her own natural wealth, for she must expend all the available wealth of the country in reorganising every existing institution to fit it for the new consitutional *regime*. Barely able to cope with her expenditure under a despotism Russia can never hope to cope with it for many years to come under the more expensive demands of a constitutional form of rule. Therefore is the present the opportunity of the British capitalist, whose enterprise of to day will be repaid an hundred-fold before Russia regains her equilibrium under the new and still unfamiliar forms. It is moreover important to England in a much higher and deeper sense that Russia should be helped over the days of uncertainty by England and not by any or all of her rivals in the world.

M. Stolîpin, on the decision of the Committee of Ministers, has at length taken firm measures with the St. Petersburg Municipality in the matter of the cholera. For over a year the Municipality has done absolutely nothing to save the lives of the citizens. Even the paltry palliative of moving the outflow of the sewage from above the intake of the water-supply service pipes in the Neva to some spot below that intake was, after many weeks of shilly-shallying, finally negatived by the City Council apparently on the plea that it was not a radical cure for the insanitary condition of the town. The Government Committee made experiments of a primitive fashion. They dyed chemically a quantity of sawdust, passed it through the sewers into the Neva, and found that as expected, it flowed in a steady stream directly into the water-supply pipes through the intake in the Neva. After this there was nothing more to be said. The Government has ordered the sewage to be collected at a spot some distance down stream from the water-intake, and will provide the money for this not very costly undertaking in the form of a loan to the city. English, French and German firms are all tendering one against the other for the huge undertaking of providing modern sewers for St. Petersburg, but the matter will apparently not be decided for some months to come, which means that actual work must be deferred over yet another Winter. Meanwhile St. Petersburg continues to send cholera to all points of the compass, and town after town is daily added to the list of those infected by passengers from the Capital of the Empire.

The Emperor and Empress with the Imperial children leave for Cherbourg to-night or to-morrow. The festivities at Cherbourg will be of a purely marine type, but I understand that at Cowes their Majesties will certainly go ashore. On the return journey a visit will be paid to the brother of the Empress in her old home at Hesse Darmstadt, and it is expected that the Emperor William will take the opportunity of having a further interview with the Emperor of Russia. On their return to Russia their Majesties will proceed to Livadia for the Autumn.

One of those annual accidents, but of a more fatal character than usual, occurred yesterday to a house in process of building in St. Petersburg. A whole wing, already six stories high, suddenly collapsed and buried thirty workmen in the ruins: one was taken out dead and six others are in a hopeless condition. Two yard men were killed on the spot while passing the falling house. The cause is alleged to be the usual one of utilising old materials and scamping the work.

M. Menshikov, the *enfant terrible* of Russian publicists, whose lucubrations occupy the most prominent position in the *Novoe Vremya*, to-day concludes his remarkable essay against any *rapprochement* between Russia and England. He would like to see the Russian Army brought to the same pitch of perfection as a fighting machine as the German Army is supposed to be. If any alliances are necessary after that, he says, it can only be against the overwhelming power of an awakened China. But probably China will dissolve into many smaller states. If it does not—but here one really must quote textually—"against the Chinese hegemony in Asia we can enter into an alliance (sic) with India as soon as it falls away from England, for which we shall probably not have to wait long now." It is difficult to see why a leading organ like the *Novoe Vremya* gives prominence to such propositions at the present moment, but it must be remembered that the *Novoe Vremya* has been trying for long past to hamper the Russian Foreign Minister in all his ways, and seems very little nice about the choice of methods to attain this personal end.

A Moscow paper has received a telegram from Kharbin to the effect that there is a revolution in Tibet caused by the attempt of the Chinese officials recently sent thither to reduce Tibet to its ancient allegiance by over-hasty and harsh measures. "A revolution in Tibet!" Truly it is time the great Powers of the earth made up their minds upon the joint policy to be carried out for another decade to come.

CUSTOMS APPEALS.

The Minister for Finance passed a decision on August 3 on an appeal lodged by Messrs. Yonei Shoten, No. 15, Kitanagasa-dori Sanchome, Kobe. The firm imported "Copper Tube Plate" on which the Kobe Customs imposed the duty of *yen* 11 per 100 *kin* in accordance with No. 369 of the statutory tariff. The contention of the importers was that the goods should he dealt with under No. 43 of the Japanese, German Conventional tariff, which provides for 5 per cent. *ad val.* duty. The appeal was dismissed on the ground that the article was not regarded as a part of a railway engine.

The Minister for Finance passed a decision on August 4 on an appeal of the Yokohama Branch of Messrs. John Hadon & Co.(?), No. 90-c, Yamashita-cho. The firm imported a "Screw Embossing Press" and "Gas Heating Plate." The Yokohama Customs ordered the importers to pay 30 per cent. *ad val.* duty for the former in accordance with No. 406 of the statutory tariff, and 15 per cent. *ad val.* duty for the latter in accordance with 456 of the statutory tariff. The firm asked for 5 per cent. duty to be levied as provided in No. 35 of the Japanese-French Conventional Tariff. The Minister for Finance decided to impose 5 per cent. duty on the "Screw Embossing Press" under No. 35 of the Japanese-French Conventional Tariff, and dismissed the appeal on "Gas Heating Plate" on the ground that the article was too simple to be called a machine.

The minister for Finance passed a decision on August 5 on an appeal lodged by Messrs. A. Cameron & Co., No. 93, Edo-machi, Kobe. The firm imported two cases of "Flax and Cotton Mixtures." The Kobe Customs ordered the importers to pay 30 per cent. *ad val.* duty in accordance with No. 274 of the statutary tariff, while the firm asked for 10 per cent. duty as provided in No. 36 of the Anglo-Japanese Conventional Tariff. The appeal was dismissed on the ground that the "Linen Tissues" mentioned in No. 36 of the Anglo-Japanese Conuentional Tariff cannot be understood to contain "Flax and Cotton mixtures."

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THE AERIAL BATTLESHIP.

By Carl Dienstbach and T. R. MacMechen.

"*Heard the heavens fill with shouting and there rain'd a ghastly dew*
From the nation's airy navies grappling in the central blue."

By the courtesy of the editor of *McClure's Magazine* we are able to quote from an article of striking interest which appears in the August number, entitled "The Aërial Battleship"—by Carl Dienstbach and T. R. MacMechen. It is illustrated with drawings by G. A. Coffin.

In the fall of 1908, say the authors, the third airship built by Count Ferdinand von Zeppelin was bought by the German government, officially commissioned as a war-ship, and given a military crew. On May 29, 30, and 31 his fifth and last ship, the Zeppelin II., made, without landing, a flight of thirty-six hours, covering 850 miles. This flight would have carried it from German soil to London, Paris, Vienna, or Stockholm, and back again. In secret trials by the German government during March, a rapid-firing gun, capable of throwing nearly sixty 1.9-inch shells a minute, was fired with entire success from the deck of the Zeppelin I. This means the end of armies within the next ten years. The situation, about which there is now the densest popular ignorance, should be understood.

A savage very naturally would consider a ship of iron a physical impossibility. He is accustomed only to rafts. Our present civilization is in exactly the same position with regard to the navigation of the air; it is accustomed only to balloons. A Zeppelin airship is not a balloon, but a true ship—exactly corresponding to an iron ocean ship. It has a strong, rigid hull; it is sustained by displacing more than its own weight in the fluid that supports it; it will sink only if it leaks badly. Neither the airship nor the iron ocean ship is in the slightest of danger of sinking, except by grounding or collision.

Count Zeppelin had completed his first rigid airship—a structure 384 feet long—in 1900 and the fact now confronts us that a new instrument for the general service of civilization has arrived. Its uses, as distinct from those of ships upon water, can be clearly and definitely seen. Water being eight hundred times heavier than air, airships will never compete with steamships as freight-carriers. For exactly the same reason, they will develop double or triple the speed of the ship in the water; they will do this driven by engines of less than two per cent. of the power of the steamer, and their lighter material will allow them to be built at within fifteen per cent. of the cost and time that are required for the building of a first-class ocean steamer of the same length. The Zeppelin II.—446 feet long and the largest airship in existence—cost less than $250,000, has a speed of thirty five miles an hour, and is driven by two separate engines of 200 combined horse-power, less than that of two racing automobiles.

The present shelter-houses will be given up, and the airships will land and be moored, when not in use, to aërial wharves sufficiently high so that by slightly tilting the sterns of the ships in the air they will be kept from thrashing against the ground. Moored in this way, they will ride out the heaviest storms with perfect safety.

From the beginning, it has been perfectly evident that the first important use of these craft would be as warships, and the chief discussion of them in Europe, where alone the development has been followed intelligently, has concerned their employment for this purpose. The French, not having a rigid type from which guns can be fired advantageously, have proposed the dropping of explosives from their cars. But the German military experts, immediately after taking over the Zeppelin I., conceived the idea of using rapid-fire guns, and asked their gun-makers to prepare special airship artillery. The Krupps produced their gun this spring. These shells are similar to those of the well-known mountain batteries, transported by pack-animals, which were used in the Russo-Japanese War. They are very efficient missiles, bursting into a shower of small, sharp fragments, which cover a space some fifty feet square.

* * *

A new machine of war has arrived. It will be a ship as large and eventually much larger than present ocean battleships. It will fight from the height of a mile above the earth, and will manœuvre, during battle, at a rate of sixty or sixty-five miles an hour. The winds at this elevation average over twenty four miles an hour, and on brisk days often reach thirty. The aërial battleships will move to windward, and sweep down these winds when passing over the enemy. In this way they can direct an absolutely certain fire upon the earth, while they are themselves practically out of danger.

The general discussion of experts for a number of years has established a so-called "zone of safety." This is about 1,650 yards (nearly a mile) above the surface of the earth. The reason for adopting this level was that here the airship is out of range of the military rifle, which constitutes its chief danger. Artillery fire is left as its only possible danger.

European gunmakers have been working on specially artillery for shooting at airships. The most successful type has been produced by the Krupps. This is planned so that it can fire at an angle of seventy-five degrees into the air

However, discussion has developed the fact that with the best of mechanism it would be practically impossible to hit these airships at any range that they would approach in battle.

On the other hand, nothing alive on the ground can escape the fire of an ai ship. It will be armed with rapid-fire guns, carrying shells, but its chief reliance in fighting infantry or cavalry will be upon the machine rifle. With this weapon it can turn a stream of four hundred bullets a minute on any troops within two miles, exactly as a man turns the stream of a garden hose against a tree. Its gunners can see any object on the ground with a perfect clearness, impossible of realization by any one who has not flown in a balloon. They can thus mark the striking of bullets perfectly. And the range of their guns is nearly doubled on account of their position. The fire of an airship will annihilate infantry and cavalry beneath it, as surely as the hand of God. It will not be directed long at any coherent body which could be called troops. Human nature forbids the possibility of men remaining to be shot down like rats in a pit.

Some idea of the wholesale murder of troops possible with machine rifles can be had from the battle of Omdurman in Upper Egypt on September 2, 1898, when the English killed over 11,000 and wounded 16,000 of the Mahdi's troops, most of them in the course of three short charges.

In destroying troops on the ground the airship will take no serious risk. Its position makes it practically omniscient, so far as the movements of its enemy on the ground are concerned. Only prepared artillery can possibly hit it; therefore it will attack only when artillery is not ready. It will work to windward at a low level; then rise into the high winds of the "zone of safety," and swoop over unprotected bodies of infantry and cavalry with the speed of an express train. Or at night it will swing searchlights (steadied by wind-vanes and electrically focussed) hundreds of feet below its car, and fire from the dark above on a well-illuminated mark. Manœuvring will play the greatest part in its development as a fighting machine, and in general its tactics will be that of jiu-jitsu—a quick and sudden blow at a vital part, with no possibility of return.

An aërial ship 510 feet long and 51 feet wide could carry a dozen men a mile high in the air over a radius of five hundred miles and back; that is, it could reach every principal capital of Europe from the borders of German territory and return. It could, in addition, devote at least five tons of cargo weight to arms and ammunition. This could include ten machine rifles, each equipped with ammunition enough for a full hour's work, and two machine guns of the type built for the Zeppelin I., with two hundred shells for each weapon. Two and a half tons of dynamite torpedoes could be substituted for half of the machine guns and their ammunition, if it were desired to attack fortifications or cities. Forty craft of this kind could be built and armed at the cost of one Dreadnought battleship. The moment they are launched, the standing armies of Europe become an anachronism.

Something over a year ago Major Baden-Powell, of the British Government Balloon Corps, commented on the fourth airship, built by Count Zeppelin, as follows:

"A dozen Dreadnoughts [battleships] would be absolutely helpless if charged with the task of preventing a squadron of air cruisers from gliding above them and reaching the British coast. These air cruisers will probably soon be able to mount machine guns of lighter construction; thus they will be able to attack without having to carry missiles which are too heavy for their [present] carrying power."

The weapons against battleship would be large aërial torpedoes, filled with high explosives. It has been popularly assumed that missiles of this kind would be simply dropped from the airship. This would be ridiculous. No possible aim can be secured by dropping any object down through a mile or more of air, filled with conflicting cross currents. The aërial torpedo will be fired from a long, light tube, by compressed air or some similar means, with sufficient force to give it some initial speed, and a rotation which will keep.

It is true that the battleship on sea, like the fort on land, would be the most dangerous enemy of the airship. Each can be fitted with specially constructed high-powered airship guns, which could be held always in readiness.

It has also been demonstrated that an airship can be steered electrically by a man swung in a car a hundred feet below it. By this means the airships can remain absolutely hidden in the cloud, while its navigator in the car directs its movements.

The moment civilized nations begin to construct aërial fleets, a race in building larger structures will begin, which will make the present rivalry in increasing the size of battleships appear trifling. The airship need attain no extreme size to fight against enemies on the ground; the contest is too unequal. On the other hand, the value of the airship for fighting other ships in the air will depend directly upon its lifting power. Air battles will be won by the ships whose fire hits the others first. So the struggle between nations will be to construct ships capable of carrying the most powerful artillery possible, and, at the same time, capable of the excessive speed needed. Manœuvring qualities, which stand scarcely second to gunnery, will help to decide these fights. For both these purposes, size and carrying power are imperative. Many of the most competent students believe that a quarter of a mile is a conservative estimate of the size that these ships will attain in a few years. And, theoretically, there is every reason to expect this.

A ship the length of the steamer *Mauretania*—that is, 790 feet long—can quite certainly be expected within the next few years. Such an airship would have a total displacement or lifting power of 125 tons. She could cruise to any part of Europe from Germany, and return, without landing, at the rate of thirty-five miles an hour; and remain three quarters of the time in the battle position of 1,650 yards. Properly husbanding her fuel, she could remain in the air for more than a week, probably two, without securing more supplies. She could also devote at least twenty tons to arms and ammunition.

Up to the present time war has been a conflict of armed populations. It is now to be a duel between fighting-machines, operated by trained experts. This means the end of the military world as we have known it. National power is no longer to be founded on the mass of fighting males. It becomes a great struggle of intellect, dependent directly on national progress in the mechanical arts and national wealth. Russia and Asia are put in a new position, and the threat of the Yellow Peril is postponed for years, if not for ever.

The alignment for the new warfare has already begun along the French and German frontier. The Zeppelin I. has been stationed at the military fortress of Metz; the Zeppelin II. has been assigned to the fortress of Cologne; and it is announced that the next warship to be turned out

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at the Zeppelin plant will have its home port at Mainz.

In France, the popular interest in preparation for aërial warfare is not less than in Germany. The Aërial League, a great national body like Germany's, is working on a great propaganda for educating the French people as to the necessity of rapid development of the art for use in war. And the French government has subsidized a line of four airships, which will begin, within a year, to make regular trips between Paris and Nancy, near the German frontier—a distance of about one hundred miles.

The greatest apprehension naturally exists in England, a nation whose strength has been developed for centuries behind the physical barriers of the sea. With the opening of the highway of the air for warships, her position, and the position of the great kingdom she has built across the earth by the power of her navy, is suddenly changed.

That the new machine of war will cause great changes in the history of nations cannot be doubted—if aërial warfare is permitted to exist. But will it be permitted? War a mile above the earth, between corps of artillery firing into huge bodies of inflammable gas, where the defeated plunge down to the ground a mass of charred plup, will become a thing too spectacularly horrible for conception. Will civilization permit it to exist? Or does this new machine mean the end of war?

CRICKET.

"MARRIED VS. SINGLE"

This time-honoured encounter, played on Saturday, August 7, on the Y. C. and A. C. ground in fine but hot weather, resulted in a draw in favour of the "Single" men. Cornes (38) and Sharman (32) batted well for the Benedicts, while Bousfield (50) and Buckle (42) were the chief scorers for the "Singles." The full score was as follows:—

MARRIED.

A. J. Cornes, c. Stanford, b. Buckle	38
H. C. Gregory, b. Squire	10
B. C. Foster, c. Hearne, b. Squire	10
W. D. S. Edwards, b. Squire	0
W. E. Gooch, b. Dinsdale	14
L. C. Sharman, not out	33
Dr. Wheeler, c. Strome, b. Hayward	0
W. Y. Showler, b. Squire	1
F. O. Stuart, c. Bousfield, b. Scott	8
L. J. Healing, st. Galloway, b. Scott	3
E. Eddison, c. Scott, b. Squire	1
G. H. May, b. Squire	14
O. T. Gillon, b. Buckle	1
W. Graham, c. Dinsdale, b. Scott	0
F. A. da Silva, c. Dinsdale, b. Scott	7
Extras	15
Total	155

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Squire	102	62	3	6
Bousfield	72	28	4	—
Hayward	42	8	2	1
Dinsdale	24	3	3	1
Scott	71	27	2	4
Buckle	42	12	2	2

SINGLE.

B. Deveson, c. Foster, b. Edwards	14
E. L. Squire, b. Gooch	2
P. E. Bousfield, c. and b. Foster	50
N. Buckle, c. and b. Foster	42
L. M. Whyte, not out	18
S. G. Stanford, c. Sharman, b. Foster	3
W. W. Galloway, not out	1
V. Hearne, W. Hayward, H. T. Hume, O. Strome, E. K. Dinsdale, W. A. Morris, W. Buxton, A. P. Scott } did not bat.	
Extras	10
Total	140

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Edwards	54	22	3	1
Gooch	42	18	—	1
Foster	54	44	—	3
Gregory	48	46	—	—

Y. C. & A. C. VS. P. & O. S.S. "SYRIA."

The return match played on Sunday, August 8, between these two teams resulted, like the first one, in a comparatively easy victory for the home team. Parr and Budgen, with 32 and 21 respectively, were the top scorers for the visitors, while for the Y. C. & A. C. Stanford made nearly half the runs totalled for his side, his capital score of 90 including ten 4's and three 6's. For the visitors Cox and Budgen took 3 wickets each for 64 and 54 runs, respectively, and Henning 2 for 40; while for the local men Squire and Foster captured 3 wickets each for 30 and 37 runs respectively. Four men in all were run out—which, considering the heat, is not a little remarkable.

S.S. "SYRIA."

E. Fair, b. Squire	0
W. F. Budgen, c. Stanford, b. Foster	21
A. Meredith, b. Foster	17
Dr. E. Wright, b. Dinsdale	0
P. A. Cox, b. Foster	20
E. V. D. Parr, b. Squire	32
G. E. Henning, c. Strome, b. Squire	9
J. Davie, run out	1
A. V. Goodrum, run out	0
B. Buxton, not out	5
D. Cochrane, b. Sethna	1
Extras	10
Total	116

Y. C. & A. C.

E. K. Dinsdale, c. and b. Budgen	8
O. Strome, b. Budgen	11
W. G. Morris, c. Parr, b. Cox	2
H. T. Hume, c. and b. Cox	5
N. Buckle, run out	16
S. G. Stanford, run out	90
F. H. Abbey, b. Cox	4
B. C. Foster, b. Henning	34
E. L. Squire, c. Cox, b. Henning	14
P. R. Sethna, not out	5
F. R. da Silva, b. Budgen	4
Extras	8
Total	201

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

FORMOSA.—ENTRANCE TO HŌKO HARBOUR.

The Governor-General of Formosa (Count S. Sakuma) requests us to intimate that on and after the 15th inst., the existing beacon on Fuon, mouth of Hōko Harbour, Pescadores Island, will be altered to a Lighted Beacon, and a Fixed Red Light will be shown from it.

The lantern of the beacon is fixed at the top of an Iron Staff, painted Red, and the centre of the Light will be 26½ feet high up from the base. The Light will illuminate 253 degrees of the horizon from N. 53 deg. W., through north, east and south, to S. 20 deg. W. The bearings are magnetic and from seaward.

The intensity of the Light will be a little under 100 candles. The Light will be 34½ feet high above high water and visible in clear weather at a distance of 6 nautical miles.

The Light is to be kept burning day and night by self-feeding arrangement, without attendance of a keeper, and should it go out by accident, there may be some delay before relighting it. Mariners are hereby cautioned accordingly.

"WILD AND WHIRLWIND" WRITING.

The *Kobe Herald* of the 5th inst. makes the following reference to the "singular leading article appropriately headed 'It is to Laugh,' in which Wednesday's *Japan Advertiser* accused all its contemporaries published in English at Tokyo, Yokohama, and Kobe, without exception, of lifting its special telegrams without acknowledgment, and, moreover, of adopting 'ingenious methods' to cover up the origin of the news and avoid crediting the struggling *Advertiser*," and adds:

"Its Editor ought to know better than to indulge in indiscriminate and random accusations against the entire foreign press of Japan because in some cases he may have a legitimate grievance. This is not the only wild and whirlwind "leader" our Tokyo contemporary has lately published; a few days ago it gave prominence to an extraordinary lecture to the foreign residents of this country on the taxation question. Let us hope that cooler counsels will prevail at its office when the 'Doyo' has passed away."

THE AGE FOR A LAWN TENNIS CHAMPION.

At what age may a lawn tennis player be considered to be at the zenith of his power? This question is being discussed in *Lawn Tennis*, in view of there being so many veterans playing at Home this year a better game than they ever played in their lives. The journal in question says two first-class players were discussing the subject the other day, and both plumped for thirty as the ideal age for "getting the most out of the game." At that age, it was affirmed, a player was not only physically fit and able to undergo the strenuous ordeal of a five-set match without blowing and puffing in the fifth set, but his experience of the game ought to have given him the essential knowledge of tactics. Then are given the age of past champions at the time they won the blue riband at Wimbledon for the first time as follows:—

Date.	Name.	Age.
1891	W. Baddeley	19
1897	R. F. Doherty	23
1893	J. Pim	24
1902	H. L. Doherty	26
1896	H. S. Mahony	29
1907	N. F. Brookes	30
1901	A. W. Gore	33

Taking these figures, the average age for championship merit works out at 26, which is the age at which H. L. Doherty began his five-year reign of supremacy. Ernest Renshaw was 27 when he won the title in 1888, and Willie Renshaw, the "father" of lawn tennis, was 20 when he secured the honour for the first time. On the other hand, Gore, the present champion, was twice as old as either Baddeley or W. Renshaw at their first victory when he won the championship for the second time. When one man can win the highest honour of the game at 19 and another at 40, there is room for argument. Frank Riseley, by the way, was 26 when he first won the All-Comers' Singles, and 25 when, with S. H. Smith, he first won the Doubles Championship by defeating the Dohertys.

A PARADISE IN HAKONE.

There is a small village called Moto-Hakone-mura, by Lake Ashi in the Hakone mountains. During many years after the Meiji Restoration, the villagers led a miseable life when a portion of land in the village was purchased by the Imperial Household at *yen* 50,000 on account of having discovered a hot spring there. Subsequently, the money was changed into public bonds, shares and deposits in a bank and rice-fields in a neighbouring village. The villagers not being satisfied with these properties, have bought a number of young *Sugi* and *Hinoki* trees with the interest they gained, and since then they have yearly bought 50,000 young shoots of the same kinds, which have at length numbered 750,000. These trees will become a large forest in 20 or 30 years, which may be estimated at over a million *yen*. In this way, the people of this village are all free from the land-tax, and their property is increasing day by day.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

SHANGHAI SERVICE.

Hitherto the Yokohama-Shanghai service of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has been maintained with the following steamers:—*Chikuzen Maru*, *Yamaguchi Maru*, *Chikugo Maru*, *Kosai Maru*, *Hakuai Maru*, and *Kasuga Maru*, the first three being despatched alternately on Sundays, and the other three on Thursdays.

We are now informed by the Company that from the 8th instant, the *Yamaguchi Maru* will be withdrawn from the line, and the service will be maintained twice a week, as before, with the five remaining vessels. Commencing with the *Hakuai Maru* on Sunday, the 29th instant, the sailings will be on Sundays and Thursdays alternately in the following order:—*Hakuai Maru*, *Kasuga Maru*, *Chikuzen Maru*, *Chikugo Maru*, and *Kosai Maru*.

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YOKOHAMA.

Mr. Miyagawa Tomoatsu, who has rendered good services as a member of the prefectural assembly and in several other public offices, passed away on the 5th instant.

On August 7, an emergency municipal council was held. The matter relating to the expense of despatching Mr. Hara, Head Engineer of the Water Works, to Europe and America, and the other matter as to the purchasing of two fire-engines, were passed in their original forms.

On the 6th instant, the British tank steamer *El Lobo*, chartered in Peru by the Hoden Sekiyu Kaisha, arrived in this port, laden with 5,900 tons of oil.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended August 5th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—		9	—	—	—
Died	—	—	2	—	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	21	12	2	—	—
Died	—	5	3	—	—	—

The Water Police Station received, on August 8, a report from the Captain of the steamer *America Maru*, which entered this port on the same day, that an ex-sailor of the steamer *Hongkong Maru*, who had killed one of his comrades on the 28th of June last, threw himself into the sea on July 13, soon after he had been transferred from the *Hongkong Maru* to the *America Maru*.

On August 8, a rice-dealer at Uchida-cho 4-chome, tried to remove the rust on a shell with a hammer, when the shell suddenly exploded with a terrible force. The man's right-hand fingers were shattered to pieces and he became unconscious.

An old servant named Kenji, who is employed by Mr. Naganwa, of Hinode-cho, Itchome, has been robbed of *yen* 96 by a pickpocket on his way home from the One-hundreth Bank.

Early on the morning of the 10th instant, a young woman was discovered lying dead on the railroad near Sakuragi-cho San-chome. She seems to have been run over. The body was so disfigured that it could not be identified.

On the 10th instant, a clerk of the Yokohama Gas Bureau named Yoshida Yoshikata was dismissed, and Mr. Ikeda Yeijiro, Head of the general affairs section, was transferred to the Section of Education in the municipal office. It is alleged that Yoshida has embezzled some 2,000 *yen* of the official money since the year before last. The Gas Bureau issued a few days ago a long warning letter stating that receipts not having the seal of the acting revenue-officer will be valueless.

THE POLICEMAN'S SWORD.

It is lately rumoured, says the *Jiji Shimpo*, that the Railway Board will make its officials wear a uniform. We cannot see what efficacy there is in this move. But if the government goes so far as to attend to such a trifling thing as the costume of such officials, we should endeavour to say a few words about the improvement of the costume of the policeman. To wear a long sword is totally useless, and is simply the survival of an ancient custom of the military regime. In England and America, a policeman wears nothing of this kind. In England, a policeman carries a short baton inside his coat, but it is rarely seen by others. The policeman's sword is not only unnecessary, but it has often been the cause of accidents; as for instance, in the case of the Hibiya Park disturbances at the time of the Russo-Japanese war, and in the case of the affair at Otsu many years ago. The sword does not protect the people, but on the contrary it often injures them. The policeman being one that should be very intimate with the people, such an instrument should be discarded.

DEPRESSION IN GERMAN CITIES.

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY IS SAID TO BE AT A LOW EBB.

[From Consular and Trade Reports.]

Consul George Nicolas Iffi of Nuremberg supplies the following statistics showing the effect of a year of industrial depression on the populations of the leading German cities:

Few German cities show any marked increase in population during the year 1908. Nuremberg was more prosperous than most of them, but must thank its birth-rate excess for practically all of its increase in population. Some of the leading industrial and trade centres show actual losses during the year. Berlin, the capital of the empire, and a city which for years grew at a rate only exceeded by that of some of the boom cities of the United States, is one of the latter. The population of Berlin at the close of the year 1907 was 2,111,316; at the close of the year 1908 it was only 2,105,042, a net loss in population of 4419. The vital statistics of the city show an excess of births over deaths of 16,415, but this was more than overbalanced by a net loss by emigration of 20,834. In the month of March, 1908, a month of great industrial activity and good demand for labour, no less than 30,208 residents of Berlin left that city for new fields.

The population of Nuremberg at the close of the year 1907 was 311,651; at the close of the year 1908 it was 316,176, an increase of 4525. During the year there were 10,044 births and 5600 deaths, which gives a natural increase of 4444—practically the entire increase in population. This increase, 1.45 per cent, was much below 3.34 per cent., the average for the last thirty years of the city's history. The wage earning portion of the population (number of persons subject to assessment for sick benefit insurance, less these reported unfit for work) at the end of the year 1907 was 106,300, and at the close of 1908, 101,863—a loss of 4437 for the year.

The year 1909 has started with still further losses in this part of Nuremberg's population, the wage earners numbering on March 1, 1909, 101,080 (65,934 males and 35,146 females), as compared with 102,227 (68,269 males and 34,008 females) on March 1, 1908. These figures do not indicate that any industrial revival has as yet set in. Figures from other industrial centres indicate similar or even still less satisfactory conditions.

TRAINING THE CHINESE ARMY.

The Yunnan-fu correspondent of the *S. C. Morning Post* has some very unflattering things to say of the Chinese army,—at least of the soldiery in his part of the Empire. He writes:—"The training is allegedly on the lines laid down in the German army, but the rank and file are mostly in the hands of incompetent officers, men who probably having bought their positions, have had, and certainly possess, but scant field training themselves. One evening last week, I rode out to the magnificent training ground, a vast piece of levelled turf just out of the city, covering many acres, and watched for an hour some thousand or more men undergoing their daily drill. Typical tin soldiery, and a military sham. Only with the merest notion of matters military were most of the men conversant, and alike in ordinary marching—when it was most difficult for them even to maintain regularity of step—or in more complicated drilling, there was a lack of the right spirit, no go, no gusto—scores and scores of them running around doing something, going through a routine, with the knowledge that when it was finished they would get their rice and be happy. Everyone who possesses but a rudimentary knowledge of the Chinese knows that he troubles most about the two meals every day should bring him—and this seems to be the pervading line of thought of seven-eighths of the men I saw at drill. Officers, strutting about in peacock fashion, with a sword dangling at their side, showed no inclination to enforce order, and the rank and file knew, so that the disorder and haphazardness of the whole thing was absolutely mutual."

MR. O'BRIEN SEES NO WAR CLOUD OVER JAPAN.

U.S AMBASSADOR TO THIS COUNTRY DECLARES RELATIONS ARE VERY FRIENDLY.

Thomas J. O'Brien, United States ambassador to Japan, who has just arrived here from the orient on the liner Mongolia, says the *San Francisco Call* of a few weeks back, declared that the relations between Japan and the United States were never in less danger of being strained than they are at this moment. Of the alleged proposed abrogation of the treaty between the States and and Japan he knew nothing. he said, and did not believe that the treaty, its renewal or abrogation had been given a thought either by the authorities at Washington or by the Japanese government.

"Most of Japan's treaties," he said, "expire, I believe, in 1911. There is some question as to whether the treaty with the United States expires in 1911 or 1912, but as far as I know the subject of the treaty has received no consideration. It is true that there has been a desire expressed in some quarters in Japan to enter into a commercial treaty with the United States, but whatever agitation there may have been in this direction has been of a purely unofficial nature. Our present treaty with Japan is political altogether, and if it expired tomorrow it could be renewed, for anything I know to the contrary, on exactly the same conditions.

"Japan will not ask for any change in the present immigration laws. Japan is committed to the policy of discouraging emigration to the United States and the Japanese Government has never questioned our right to exclude her coolies.

"Most of the alleged 'strains' in America's relations with Japan have been of newspaper origin and have had no actual existence. Japan has its yellow journals as well as America and they can be just as ridiculous in Japan as in America, and are equally unimportant.

"The Japanese government was greatly pleased at the reception accorded the training squadron on the Pacific coast. At Honolulu I discussed the strike situation with the Japanese consul and can say that the situation is not at all serious. The men are 'out' on, I think, two plantations and the planters are well equipped to take care of themselves. The thing will wear itself out before long.

"Lastly, and emphatically, there will be no war with Japan, and if, as I am told by the young gentlemen from Mr. Hearst's paper, we are sending a fleet of cruisers to Japan, the Japanese will be very pleased, I am sure, to receive and entertain them as, honored guests."

Mr. O'Brien was asked if he placed any significance upon the fact that the army was extending and improving the fortifications of Frisco.

"Yes," he answered, "I do. Years ago this government declared itself in favour of progress and improvement and this activity you speak of is significant as meaning that the good work is still going on."

Mr. O'Brien will return to Tokyo in about three months. He will join Mrs. O'Brien at Brussels and they will go back to Tokyo by way of the trans Siberian railroad.

STORMS OFF THE SOUTHERN COASTS.

On the 6th instant, 89 fishermen of Kawanoishi-mura Nishi-umagori, Iyo province, were fishing at the Nishi tamari offing, near Tsukinada-mura, Handa-gori, Tosa province, when they were overtaken by a storm. Over 70 of them are missing. The governor of the prefecture asked the Kure Naval Station to despatch a man-of-war to assist in the search for bodies.

Thirty fishermen of Nishisotomiura-mura, Minami-uwa-gori in the same prefecture were missing on the 5th instant at the Susaki Offing, Kochi prefecture.

An Oita telegram reports that owing to a storm on the 6th instant at Sayegi and its vicinity, 10 houses were blown down, 10 persons were drowned, one was crushed to death, two are missing; cattle were drowned, and one steamship was driven ashore.

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AIRSHIP MYSTERY SOLVED.

THE PHANTOM MATERIALIZES : ENGLISHMAN'S SUCCESS.

It will be remembered that some three months ago the apparition of an unknown airship caused some sensation and alarm in the East of England and in South Wales. Much fun was made of British timidity, Germans laughed at Britain's attack of "spionitis" and an American professor enlarged upon England's "emotional insanity." However the 'phantom" airship has materialized and a *Daily News* representative has interviewed its inventor. The airship, it is stated, is at present lying in a private yard, little more than an hour's motor ride from London. Dr M. B. Boyd, the owner and inventor, has been perfecting his invention for eight years, but only began his trials in March last. He continued them by night with the utmost secrecy throughout April and May. If Dr. Boyd has accomplished, adds, the journal, all that he claims to have done—and he states that he has plenty of witnesses and documents to prove it—England has little cause to fear falling behind in the race for aerial supremacy.

In the interview Dr. Boyd stated that in May he began to travel long distances, and his achievements became sufficiently known to be exaggerated by rumour. On May 18 came news from Belfast that inhabitants had witnessed "the flight of a dark body bearing a brilliant light, which passed over the city at a great height."

ACRO S THE IRISH CHANNEL.

"That was the occasion when we accomplished our longest flight," said Dr. Boyd. "On that night we flew across the Irish Channel, and I have plenty of proof of the fact. Where we crossed the distance from shore to shore is about ninety miles. We accomplished the journey in one night, in one long continuous flight, and we attained an average speed of thirty-two miles an hour.

"Unlike the usual form of airship, it has no car suspended from the envelope, neither is the envelope exactly cigar-shaped, but rather oval, and is divided into three separate bags. The works are placed in between them, the motors having a closed-in compartment to themselves at the end. From each side extend wings like an aeroplane.

FEATURES OF THE SHIP.

"The ship is 120 feet long, and has engines of 300 horse power—a great difference from the Zeppelin airship, which is 446 feet long, and has engines of only 220 h.-p. Another feature is the number of propellers. There are four on the machine at present, and these can be increased to any number up to thirty-two."

During his eight years of experimenting Dr. Boyd has spent upwards of £20,000, and the reasons of his now making public these particulars are that the secret can scarcely be kept much longer, and that the time has arrived when stronger shoulders should carry the burden. He added that he had submitted his invention to the War Office, and that he was increasing its length and having engines of over 500 horse power.

MYSTERIOUS APPEARANCE.

Another feature of the airship is that it is equipped with three pairs of wheels, so that when on the ground it can be driven along like a huge motor car. This fact accounts for the story of Mr. C. Lethbridge, the showman of Cardiff, who, when crossing Caerphilly Mountain on the night of May 18, "distinctly saw what looked like a couple of wheels on the bottom of a little carriage, and at the tail end of it was a fan whirling away as you hear a motor car do."

"That possibly was our airship that he saw," said Dr. Boyd, with a certain smile, and he went on to speak of the amusement with which he read the accounts of other people who had seen the "scare ship" "It was our airship that was seen by the signalman at Cardiff Docks on the same night, and by the good people of Northampton on the night of May 15. We were also responsible for the astonishment created a week previously among Great Eastern Railway porters within ten miles of London. It will be remembered how Cooper, one of the men, spoke of having seen 'a strange-looking object about half-past three in the morning which seemed to us to be an airship."

Considering the number of trials we made," commented Dr. Boyd, "and the places we went to—north, south, east, and west—it seems remarkable that we were not sighted more often."

Dr. Boyd carried two powerful acetylene lamps to light him on his way, and but for these, as he says, it is doubtful if he would have been seen at all.

The War Office has promised to supply him with a shed on Salisbury Plain, where he can continue his aeroplane trials.

Dr. Boyd's programme includes a non-stop trip to Paris from the neighbourhood of London in his airship; and a flight across the English Channel in a biplane.

RUSSIA IN THE FAR EAST.

SHE IS RE-SHAPING HER POLICY AFTER THE LATE WAR.

At the meeting of the Anglo-Russian Literary Society at the Imperial Institute last month.. Mr. Lancelot F. Lawton read a paper on Russia in the Far East." Mr. E. A. Cazalet presided, and in introducing the lecturer mentioned that Mr. Lawton had been for several years Special Correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* in the Far East.

Mr. Lawton, in the course of his paper, said that the events of the Russo-Japanese War had necessitated the re-shaping of Russian policy in the Far East. The immediate outcome was the revival of the scheme for constructing a railway along the great Amur River in order to establish communication through territory indisputably Russian with the uttermost regions of Eastern Siberia. The line which, it was expected, would be completed within ten years, would be about 1,500 miles in length. Russia would thus possess a railway exclusively her own from Moscow to Vladivostock, which in point of length would rival the great Cape to Cairo system. From this main artery would spring many important branch systems, and then would be begun in earnest the long retarded development of Eastern Siberia. The territories which the line must inevitably develop contained illimitable resources. Large tracts of the country would be converted into grain fields, they might be expected some day to equal those of Western America. In order to render secure the development of Siberia the expenditure of such a large sum on the construction of the railway could be justified on strategic grounds. It should not be forgotten that the Portsmouth Treaty precluded the use of the Chinese Eastern Railway for the transport of troops and munitions, and that in thirty years' time China would have the option of repurchasing the whole Manchurian system.

Consequently it had become an urgent necessity that Russia should provide herself with an all-Russian route to the Far East. Were not she to take this precaution the Eastern provinces would present a ready prey to any enemy landing on their shores. The popular clamour raised in Japan at the conclusion of the recent war for insistence upon the cession of the maritime provinces, and the disarmament of Vladivostock, was duly noted by Russian statesmen, and before the ink was dry upon the Treaty of Peace the survey of the Amur Railway was commenced. Russia had profited to an enormous extent by the lessons of the disatrous campaign. There was no longer that reckless squandering of money and that fatuous disregard for consequences both of which were such marked features of the ante-bellum adventure in Manchuria. Efforts were being made to populate and to develop the vast regions of Eastern Siberia, Russia at last realised that her position could only be assured by the promotion of prosperity and not by millitary aggression alone. Nor was she likely to be again caught unawares as in 1904.

Vladivostock, already one of the strongest fortresses in the world, was being rendered in the strictest sense of the word, impregnable. It contained three years' supplies for its garrison, and docks were being constructed capable of accommodating ships of the *Dreadnought* class. Japan, on her side, was displaying marked activity. When the ships already laid down were completed, she would be fourth among the navies of the world in the matter of *Dreadnoughts*. Moreover, in 1915, when the Anglo-Japanese Alliance expired, she would have completed a vast programme of armaments, and would be stronger on land and sea than ever she was. These considerations, apart from the commercial activity of Japan, which extended far north the Siberian seaboard and the frontier of Korea, justified the policy which Russia was pursuing. It should be borne in mind that the cultivation of harmonius relations between Russia and the Anglo-Saxon race was the best guarantee that peace would be preserved in the Far East. In the matter of Asiatic immigration and commercial competition the interests of Russia, the United States, and the British Empire were alike threatened.

MR. MEREDITH'S WILL.

The will of Mr George Meredith bears date 29th August, 1902, with a codicial dated 15th July, 1905, the two together containing rather less than 2,000 words, and the executors are his son Mr. Wm. Maxse Meredith, of Woodside, Fleet, Hants, Viscount Morley of Blackburn, of Flowermead. Wimbledon Park, and Mr. John Croft Deverell, of Pixham Firs, Dorking, to whom probate has been granted and Mr. Justin Vulliamy, who has renounced probate.

Mr. Meredith left 25 guineas to each of the executors who shall act in the trusts of his will, £1,000 each to his son, William Maxse Meredith, and his daughter, Mrs. Marie Eveleen Sturgis, £250 to his nurse, Adelaide Nicholls, £45 to his housemaid, Frances Yeoman; £20 to his cook, Annie May (if respectively still in his service), and he had left £150 to his gardener, Frank Cole, but he revoked this bequest by codicil, stating that he had already made adequate provision for him.

He left his household and personal effects and all MSS., whether prose or verse, to his son and daughter in equal shares, and the residue of his property as to one-half, upon trust for his son, Wm. Maxse Meredith, for life, with remainder to his wife, Margaret (Daisy) Meredith, for life, and ultimate remainder to the children of his son, whom failing, to follow the trusts of the other half, which he left upon trust for his daughter, Mrs. Marie Eveleen Sturgis, for life, with remainder to her issue. The trustees are directed to realise the whole of his residuary estate, including copyrights and American literary rights, but have power to postpone such realisation in their discretion.

THE GUN OF THE FUTURE.

A Kiel correspondent writes to a China exchange :—

The armament of the battleships of the *Nassau* class shows clearly that the German Admiralty intends to develop the "big gun" theory. Thus the guns of 23 centimetres will be increased to three times as many as those carried by the *Deutschland* type of battleship, but at the same time the calibre and the number of the medium guns, and also of the lighter guns will be reduced. Instead of fourteen 17 centim. guns, the new battleships will carry twelve of 15 centim. and only sixteen 8.8 centim. guns instead of twenty. The German Naval experts consider that these guns will be sufficient for warding off attacks by torpedo-boats.

The bores of the new 28 centim. guns will increase from 40 to 50 calibres. There has been an increase in the cost of the armaments, and instead of £395,000, the new guns, 38 in number, on each of the *Nassau* and *Deutschland* types of warship, will cost £675,000. and this will mean an immense increase of strength in firing. The increase in the size of the guns is paralleled by the great increase in displacement; thus, the first battleships built by Germany in the "seventies," those of the *Baden* class, had a displacement of 7,400 tons, while the *Nassau* class of to-day have a displacement of 18,500 tons.

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CURZON WYLLIE'S MURDERER TYPICAL OF A SCHOOL OF ASSASSINS.

The *Advocate of India*, Bombay, commenting upon the recent assassination of Sir W. Curzon-Wyllie, says:—Here, where crime even of this detestable character has been so rife of late the shock is not so heavy. The experience of anarchism with which this country has been so sorely tried has rendered it less unexpected. But in England people will realise, perhaps for the first time, and with startling suddeness, the true nature of the deadly menace with which the Government of India has to cope. It is not for any one in this country to recommend the steps which should be taken in England to destroy the spirit of wickedness which is finding expression in such foul acts. We have long ago protested against a legalised system, which offers cover to some of the greatest scoundrels who walk this earth. But so long as the poison of anarchism did not actually touch the Englishman in his own country he did not seem to care where else it spread. This brutal murder has been a rude awakening. When two men, one of whom has been a distinguished servant of the Crown, are shot down and murdered in a public hall by one of the emissaries of Indian anarchism, and when it is realised that the murderer is typical of a school of assassins who are being nourished and protected within the folds of English society there is naturally a great outcry for the extirpation of this moral and social plague. The pity is that murders are necessary to startle our people into a recognition of the weakness and foolishness of their own laws. Hitherto, when dimly conscious that all was not right with their sacred legal customs they have been content with the pious reflection that the law is an ass—as if that absolved them from any obligation to move further in the matter. But surely we are now in sight of the end of acquiescence in a legal system which allows England to be not only the asylum, but the nursery, of the seaditionmonger and the assassin. The crime demonstrates once for all the fatally pernicious influence of the India House.

———

Further particulars to hand regarding the murder of Sir Curzon Wyllie, say that among those who were present at the assassination was Dr. John Rollen, formerly of the Bombay Civil Service and honorary secretary of the East Indian Association. In an interview Dr. Pollen gave a startling account of the assassin's relations with Sir Curzon Wyllie. "Dhingria," he said "is a Hindu from the Punjaub, and before him his brothers had been students in England at one time under Miss Beck, and knew Sir Curzon Wyllie. Some time ago his brothers wrote to Sir Curzon begging him to look after Dhingria as they feared he was getting into evil company in London. Sir Curzon had inquired for him, but had not been able to find his address. Sir Curzon was always the kindest of the kind and did very much more than his official duty required to help the native students in every way he could. There could have been no personal ill-feeling against Sir Curzon"

Miss Beck, secretary of the National Indian Association, which arranged the "At Home," and whose headquarters are at Caxton Hall, said that she thought the prisoner's conduct could only be explained by sedition or that Dhingria had some grievance against Sir Curzon Wyllie.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

AT 10.30 a.m. on August 10, Count Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, made a report to the Emperor in connection with the Chinese question.

ON August 10, the Tokyo Local Court sentenced the compiler of the *Fujin-Sekai* to pay *yen* 100 as penalty, and the publisher, the compiler and the author of the *Jiyu-Shiso yen* 70 each.

ON the 7th instant, a *Taimatsu-Nagashi* (torch-light floating on the water) was held at Enoshima. A large number of spectators assembled there from Katase, Kamakura, Oiso and many other districts to view this strange sight. It is reported that next Saturday evening, various kinds of fireworks will be fired in addition to the *Taimatsu-Nagashi*.

A NAGASAKI telegram says that a man who has counterfeited and circulated several hundred Russian rouble notes, has been arrested near Shimabara-Hizen.

ON August 9, a fire took place on the top of Mount Koya. One temple and fourteen ordinary houses were destroyed before the fire was put out. No casualities are reported.

THEIR Majesties the Emperor and the Empress have bestowed *yen* 500 on the Fourth Division in Osaka in acknowledgment of services rendered at the time of the recent fire.

THE new U. S. Consuls Messrs. George H. Scidmore, Carl F. Deichman and Samuel C. Reat of Kobe, Nagasaki and Tamsui, respectively received their exequaturs on the 6th instant.

ON August 5, when 707 unpaid shares (*yen* 25 per share) of the Ninety-second Bank, were disposed of by public sale at the Fukui District Court, the bid was adjusted at one *sen* a share.

ON the night of August 10, 24,000. *yen* which had been put in a safe in the Horonai Colliery Office belonging to the Tanko Kisen Kaisha, Hokkaido, was lost. The money was in the custody of a clerk named Iijima.

THE hottest period of summer has now normllay ended. It is however, meteorologically reported that there will be no great change in the atmospheric phenomena, and a continuance of the heat is to be expected for the present.

AN Oita despatch reports that owing to stormy weather, the tramway service between Oita and Beppu has been suspended. The banks of rivers have broken down and a number of houses and rice-fields have consequently been submerged.

A MAN named Matsunaga Ichizo and a woman Kanamura Haru, of Yototera-machi, Ushigome, Tokyo, who have been tried in the Tokyo Local Court for having killed 12 adopted children, have been sentenced to three years' major imprisonment.

IT is reported that since the 9th instant a storm has been raging in the neighbourhood of Formosa. Some hundreds of houses have been submerged in various districts. The railway service has been suspended owing to floods, one carriage being upset near Takow.

ON the 7th instant, a fire broke out at Sakuma-mura, Iwata-gori, Shidzuoka prefecture. Owing to a strong wind, 132 houses (about ⅓ of the whole village) including many public buildings, were burnt down. One man died and ten others were injured more or less seriously.

ON the 4th instant, an explosion of powder occurred in a magazine at Kotaka mura, Ibo-gori, Hiogo prefecture. The magazine belonged to a powder-dealer named Yamamura Seisuke, at Tatsuno, of the same prefecture. No casualty is reported. The cause is yet unknown.

MR. IBRIE, (?) manager of the San Francisco Branch Office of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, is expected to arrive here today by the steamer *Tenyo Maru*. He will make a report to the Head Office on the conclusion of the agreement with the Mexican government in connection with the South American navigation

IT is reported that, in Tokyo, the number of those who have delayed the payment of business-tax for the first quarter of this year is over 12,000. The municipal office will obtain an extraordinary income amounting to some *yen* 40,000 on account of commission at 4/10 per cent. for collection of the above.

IT is reported from Nagaoka that the Hoden Kerosine Oil Company will call for the payment of the new shares in preperation of the amalgamation of the *Kokuyu Hanbaisho*. Some alarming rumours having lately been spread about the present condition of the company, the directors have sought to explain matters to the members of the Press who are, however, incredulous. The shareholders are complaining of great losses caused by the lowering of the rate of dividend.

A KOCHI telegram reports that about 800 fishermen in Hata-gori, who went out on the 5th and 6th instant for collection of corals on board some 100 boats, have met with a storm and none have returned. The governor of the prefecture has asked the Naval Department to despatch a man-of-war in search of the missing people.

ON the 10th instant, the Tokyo Appeal Court passed judgment on those ex members of the Diet who were involved in the Nitto affairs. Sato Torajiro and Ozawa Aijiro received a verdict of "not guilty," and the request for postponement of the execution of sentence on behalf of Yokoi Tokio, Ezaki Reiji and Kanzaki Tozo was rejected.

A SENDAI telegram reports that owing to rainfall on August 10, the climate changed with such remarkable rapidity that the thermometer read 20° C. on August 11. A continuance of such unseasonable weather will operate very deleteriously on the crops. The Utsunomiya and Chiba despatches also state that the weather has been very bad in those districts, since the 10th instant.

ON August 9 the Okayama Local Court passed judgment in the paper-currency forgery case. The two ring leaders were sentenced to 15 years' and 12 years' penal servitude, respectively. Over 20 accomplices were given sentences varying from 10 years to 10 months, among whom a member of the prefectural assembly named Sugiyama Kanichi, was sentenced to one year.

A KASHIWAZAKI (Echigo) telegram reports that, on account of the long-continued drought, all the vegetables in the fields of Echigo province have withered and many rice-fields are cracked. Since the beginning of the *doyo*, only one shower has fallen and the thermometer has indicated over 100° F. for the last few days. At the present moment, there is no prospect of rainfall.

ON the afternoon of the 5th instant, about 50 villains broke into the office of the Oriental Printing Company at Atago-cho Nichome, Tokyo. It is alleged that on that morning one of the workmen who was in close connection with the master of these men, was struck by an official of the company with a wooden box. They gave one official a drubbing, while on their part, over 10 men were arrested.

A UTSUNOMIYA despatch states that in virtue of the establishment of a copper refinery in the Ashio Copper Mine at Kiyotaki, Nikko, the number of the houses there has increased by 500 and the population by 2,500, whilst the leaves of plants in the surrounding forests have lost their green colour and all the trees are withering owing to smoke-poisoning. Moreover, the poison, it is apprehended, will find its way into the Otani River.

A REPORT received by the South Manchuria Railway Company states that the settlement about the Kilin-Changchun railway seems unpromising owing to the firm attitude of the Chinese Government, and that China is in more serious attitude as regards the question of the Mukden-Antung line. The garrisons in the vicinity of the latter show a strikingly opposing attitude against the Japanese, though it is unknown whether they were instructed by the central government, or by the local Governor.

THE new Viceroy of Manchuria, H. E. Isi Liang, who has just completed a tour of inspection in Kirin, started for Hehlungkiang on August 8. His Excellency's policy in regard to Kirin, says the *Shanghai Times*, is understood to be as follows:—That the Viceroy and the Governor may in future act independently of each other except in important matters when they are to consult together; that Commercial ports should be opened as soon as possible; that the independence of the Law Courts should be established and more Courts

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of Law opened in the districts; that four hundred thousand taels should be raised to develop the uncultivated land at Fengmeishan; that the Army should be organized next year and a Budget prepared by the Financial Commissioner every year.

PROBATE has just been granted of the will of Mr. George Meredith, O.M., of Boxhill, Surrey, the poet and novelist, who died May 18 last, aged eighty-one years, leaving estate valued for probate as £32,359 3s. 10d., of which the net personalty has been sworn at £32,185 3s. Lord Morley is one of the executors. Meredith's brilliant contemporary and friend Swinburne, who died April 10, aged seventy-two years, left £24,282; Robert Browning, who died in 1893, left £18,775; the late Lord Tennyson, who died in 1892, aged eighty-three, left £57,206; and William Morris, poet, artist, and Socialist, who died 1896, aged sixty-two, left £55,069.

THE draft rules for the conveyance of explosives and dangerous goods by goods trains which have been drawn up by the Indian Railways Conference Association in consultation with the Chief Inspector of Explosives, has for some time been under consideration by the Railway Board. The opportunity will be taken to consider whether the explosive rules can not be assimilated with those in force on English Railways and specific rules framed for the carriage of explosives and dangerous goods by passenger train, whether the property of Government or otherwise, and the maximum in amount of explosives that may be carried on a train or in a van. The question of bringing inflammable liquid and corrosive acids under Government supervision will also be considered.

THE following, which appears in the *Captain*, should appeal to motorists:—Let U be the driver of a motor-car and let V be the velocity of the car. If a sufficiently high value be given to V it will finally reach PC. V will instantly=O. For low values of V, PC may be neglected; but if V be high it is usually best to square PC, for, by Euclid (Book II.) PC by £ s. d.|| (PC)². If value of £. s. d. be sufficiently great, PC, will vanish and V may be extended indefinitely. But should the difference between U and PC be very great JP may be substituted for PC, in which case the problem is very difficult of solution, because no value of £. s. d. has yet been found to effect the elimination of JP (JP.)². is, in fact, an impossible quantity.

THE Canadian team made a great beginning at the Bisley meeting on July 15 by capturing the Mackinnon trophy and incidentally giving one of the greatest exhibitions of rifle shooting on record. This is the eighth time that the cup has been shot for under present conditions, and the highest score up to the present had been that made in 1907 by England. 1513. Canada won by 1609. Transvaal finished in second place, 95 points behind. The scores were:—

Country.	800	900	1000	Total.
Canada	547	549	519	1609
Transvaal	536	530	448	1514
England	531	512	449	1492
Scotland	536	512	444	1492
Natal	506	507	478	1491
Ireland	517	492	439	1448
Guernsey	505	501	440	1445
S. Rhodesta	516	476	428	1420
India	469	474	396	1339

CONSIDERABLE distress prevails among both skilled and unskilled workers, many of whom are leaving for Australia, according to the latest New Zealand exchanges. Replying to a deputation which asked the Government to provide work for the unemployed, Mr. Millar, Acting Minister of Finance, said that the country was faced with a difficult problem Last year the works fund was aided by £800,000 from the revenue; this year the fund would receive little, if any, assistance from the revenue The Government had been spending at the rate of £2,400,000 a year on works, but this year only £1,400,000 was available. It was impossible, with the means available, to find work for all the unemployed. He proposed next session to introduce a Bill for insurance against unemployment on the model of the scheme recently outlined by Mr. Churchill in the House of Commons. At present 130,000 people, or nearly one-seventh of the population, are in distress.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BEARING FALSE WITNESS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—I read with much pleasure the able letter of "Old Subscriber" in your issue of this morning and am glad that some one has at last had the courage to take the self-advertising journal to task and do it so effectively as your correspondent. Ever since I saw the scurrilous article in question—and one or two of the same kind before—I have been wondering how long it would be before the public grew sick of seeing a paper perpetually singing its own praises, while at the same time abusing its rivals—the worst of whom is probably a good deal better than that journal itself in the very matter of which it has the "brass" to complain. Well, they are heartily sick of it now, any way: and I hope this offending, and now offensive, journal will "go, and sin no more," either against truth or good taste.

I also agree cordially with "Old Subscriber's" just reference to the amount of malignant gossip which goes on in this place. Yokohama has an unenviable reputation for this particular form of uncharitableness and small-mindedness. Men and women of character and commonsense should decline to listen to slanders on their neighbours, whether true or otherwise, and should give purveyors of libel the cold shoulder. Doubtless the numbers of this class of people, when they found no market for their disgusting "wares," would soon show a falling off. Christian Charity would then have a look in—which it can hardly be said to have now, and the place would be all the better for it.

I am, Sir, yours truly, "WELL WISHER."

Yokohama, August 6th, 1909.

"OLD SUBSCRIBER'S" PROTEST.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—The expected has happened. The *Advertiser*, in keeping with the reputation for effrontery and malversation of facts it has gained for itself, now represents my letter as an "attack."

Sir, the *Advertiser's* article of the 4th inst. was the attack. My letter was a humble attempt at defence. But for the *Advertiser's* outrageous charges my letter would never have been written. For, disgusted as many newspaper readers are, in common with myself, at previous articles of a similar kind which have appeared in that journal, these are things of the past, and nothing was to be gained by bringing them up. My object in writing was perfectly sincere—*viz.*, to do what might be possible towards stopping the uttering of malicious slander. That there is more than enough of this kind of thing among individuals in this place every unbiassed student of its social characteristics will readily admit: that a newspaper should complicate matters by assuming the rôle of a public slanderer gives any member of the community, interested in the community's welfare, a right (moral, legal and everything else) to protest against this lowering of public standards.

I hold no brief, sir, for the Yokohama papers, still less for the one in which my protest appeared, being perfectly aware that the opinions therein expressed are not the opinions of the Editor of this or any of the other maligned journals. It is equally obvious that he is not responsible for the said opinions. But I do say that, as one who has subscribed to the *Japan Mail* from the very first day of a lengthy period of residence here—longer by a good deal than that of anybody on the *Advertiser's* present staff—I object to the blackguarding of the *Mail*, in particular, and of the other papers, in general. That mine was a just and timely protest is implied by the fact of its reproduction in the *Herald* of the same evening, while I note that no less than three of the other papers attacked are occupying themselves with the *Advertiser's* slanderous ebullitions. If the accusations preferred by that journal were not so serious, the situation would possess an element of the ridiculous, in that, after roundly accusing all its contemporaries of stealing, the *Advertiser*, when they object, complains that it is being "attacked."

Further, I may add that my letter has a very great advantage over the article which defaced the *Advertiser* the other day—to wit, that whereas that article was to a large extent absolutely false, the statements contained in my letter are absolutely true. I can give the *Advertiser*, or any one else, chapter and verse for each of them, on information as first hand as any that journal can procure. The *Advertiser* did not make sure of its facts before it committed them to paper: *I did.* Its expenses already being so great I should not recommend it to add to them by legal fees: it would be more to the point for its libelled contemporaries to think about that.

I submit Sir, that the object of the *Advertiser* in publishing its article was deliberate and mischievous—viz. to create the impression that there is only one newspaper in Japan—the J. D. Self-advertiser—and that all the rest are—THIEVES! It would have been an excellent advertisement, no doubt, if it had come off, and might have brought a rush of subscribers to save the situation and the *Advertiser's* "face." But it has been a miserable failure, as was right it should. The public are not *all* such fools as that "enterprising" journal thinks. *Veritas vincet!*

Yours truly, OLD SUBSCRIBER.

Yokohama, August 8th.

[We have published "Old Subscriber's" letter because we think our correspondent is entitled to prevent his position, as a correspondent, from being misrepresented. While we by no means endorse all that he says, and are of opinion that his former letter was perhaps unnecessarily strong, it is clear that our Tokyo contemporary has brought the retort upon itself. Its accusations were not of the kind that one self-respecting journal is wont to make at the expense of another. However, we beg to intimate that this correspondence must now cease.—ED. *J.M.*]

MR. BERRY'S FALSE STATEMENTS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—In the *Weekly Mail* of July 10th you publish a letter from the Rev. Arthur D. Berry which contains several glaringly false statements that I can not allow to remain uncontradicted.

Mr. Berry says, "Mr. Dening attempts to prove that he is right by giving a long text of disconnected passages from Dr. Takagi's speech before the Y.M.C.A., as reported in the Kaitakusha." This is quite untrue. I gave no disconnected passages for Dr. Takagi's speech in the article referred to, but a passage of considerable length, which was acurately transliterated from the Kaitakusha and accurately translated. Nothing Dr. Takagi said before or after he made the remarks quoted contradicted or modified in any way these observations.

(2) In the Religious Summary of April 3rd my own beliefs are not given at all. They differ very seriously from those of Messrs. Schiller and Aoki and yet Mr. Berry says "Mr. Dening gives his own partisan views at length." A greater falsehood was never penned. Every review of the tendency of religious thought in Japan based on 30 years study is stupidly regarded by Mr. Berry as necessarily biassed by the writer's own beliefs. Does Mr. Berry know what these beliefs are? Certainly not, I should say. All that he dislikes in the Summaries he puts down as "Dening's opinion."

(3) Mr. Berry says:—'Mr. Dening goes on to disparage the moral character of missionaries in general and the character of the wives of missionaries." Another unpardonable falsehood. What I said the public knows. It is in substance this. While claiming that their belief lifts them to a higher moral pedestal than such men as Huxley and the late Sir Leslie Stephen and a vast array of conscientious agnostics, *in practice*, in speech, in *controversy*, in their dealings with people generally a great many missionaries and their wives show that the moral standard they observe is many grades below that maintained by sceptics and agnostics. This is the opinion of almost every unbiassed person living in this country who is in a position to pronounce judgment on the point.

On the clever trimming to which Dr. Takagi has resorted and on the lessons in the art of trimming which Mr. Berry gives your readers in his letter, I will not comment. The world is full of trimmers, and men of Mr. Berry's school of thought no doubt find it quite impossible to make out an honest case for mediœval belief. This kind of thing will go on for another century or more yet. The world moves slowly.

I am Yours, etc., WALTER DENING.

Honolulu, July 23rd, 1909.

A HAWKER OF OBSCENITY.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—I am sure no decent Japanese wishes to see Yokohama attain a certain kind of notoriety such as characterises Port Said, but a Japanese in this port has engaged in a course which if it became sufficiently wide-spread would in time tend to that undesirable result. He endeavours to obtrude upon people's attention in the street pictures of a disgustingly obscene nature, and I would suggest that a plain-clothes policeman keep a look-out for him in Tokiwa-cho and Isezaki-cho, with a view to bringing

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this plague centre of immorality to book, for his own sake and that of those whom he may be thus prevented from contaminating.

Thanking you in advance for the insertion of this letter, and enclosing my card.

Faithfully, OBSERVER.

Yokohama, August 12th, 1909.

LANGFELDT & CO., LIMITED.

ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACC UNTS.

To be presented to the general meeting to be held on August 17).

The statement of Assets and Liabilities, and Profit and Loss Account for the half year ended 30th June, 1909, accompany this report.

The working of the half year shows a net Profit of *yen* 2126.30.

As a result of the reduction of Capital to *yen* 100.000 and after making due provision for bad debts, depreciation of Stock and Plant, there remains a sum of *yen* 21,296.63 for division.

This amount it is proposed to deal with as follows:—

	Yen.
To pay a Dividend of 5 per cent. for the half-year	5,000.00
To place to special Reserve	10,000.00
and to carry forward to a new account...	6,296.63
	21,296.63

D. H. BLAKE, V. R. BOWDEN, M. F. BENGEN, C. B. BERNARD } Directors.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES ON THE 30TH JUNE, 1909.

ASSETS.

Merchandise in Stock	145,257.56
Plant, Fixtures and Furniture	3,000.00
Sundry Debtors	21,903.76
Fire Insurance, Value of Running Policies	390.00
Cash in hand	748.86
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank	4,617.06
Steam Launch	4,500.00
	180,417 24

LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Capital 2000 Shares ¥50	100,000.00
Sundry Creditors	58,640.45
Suspense account	482.16
Special Reserve	10,000.00
Balance, 30th June, 1909	11,296.63
	180,417.24

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT ON 30TH JUNE 1909.

DR.

	Yen.
Jan. 1st, 1909. To Balance carried forward from December 31st, 1908	2,038 97
June 30th. To Expenses, Wages and Rent Account	12,038 77
,, Fire Insurance Account	532.28
,, Interest account	541.68
,, Directors' Fees	500.00
,, Auditor's Fees	150.00
,, Balance available for division	21,296.63
To be dealt with as under:— Dividend 5,000.00	
To amount transferred to Special Reserve account. 10,000.00	
Balance 6,296 63	
	37,098.33

CR.	Yen.
June, 30th. By Gross Profit	37,098 33
July, 1st 1909. By Balance carried forward to new a/c..	6,296.63

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 9th, August, 1909.

D. H. BLAKE, V. R. BOWDEN, M. F. BENGEN, C. B. BERNARD, } Directors.

I have examined the foregoing accounts and compared them with the Books and Vouchers of the Company and certify them to be in accordance therewith.

W. D. S. EDWARDS, Auditor.

Yokohama, 9th August, 19 9.

THE INDUSTRIAL BANK OF JAPAN.

15TH HALF-YEARLY REPORT.

We have received from the Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd. (Nippon Kogyo Ginko) the appended report,—the 15th half-yearly—which was adopted last week at the general meeting held at the Head Office, Tokyo.

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.

Gentlemen:—The president has now to submit to you the Balance-Sheet and Profit and Loss Account of the Bank for the half-year ended 30th June, 1909.

The Net Profits for that period, including *yen* 63,823.021, balance brought forward from last account, after making necessary payments and deductions, amount to *yen* 925,448.150.

Out of the net profits, *yen* 109,000 was transferred to the Reserve Against Losses, and *yen* 27,000 to the Dividend Equalization Reserve. After making these transfers, I recommend the payment of *yen* 406,250 as a First Dividend at the rate of 5 per cen. per annum. The amount now available is *yen* 383.108.150 out of which *yen* 25,000 will be appropriated for Remuneration of the Officers, and a sum of *yen* 243,750 will be paid as a Second Dividend at the rate of 3 per cent. per annum, besides *yen* 50,0 0 being transferred to the Special Reserve. The Balance *yen* 64,448.150 is to be carried forward.

JUICHI SOYEDA, Chairman.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 30TH JUNE, 1909.

DR.

	Yen.
To Capital viz., 350,000 shares of 50 *yen* each	17,500,000.000
To Debentures issued:—	
3rd issue 6 per cent ... 2,840,000.000	
4th issue 5 per cent ... 790,000.000	
5th issue 5 per cent ... 900,000,000	
6th issue 5 per cent ... 940,000,000	
7th issue 4 per cent ... 1,000,000,000	
8th issue 5½ per cent.. 1,500,000.000	
10th issue 6½ per cent.. 1,350,000.000	
11th issue 6½ per cent.. 2,485,000.000	
13th issue 5 per cent ...19,526,000.000	
14th issue 5½ per cent.. 2,000,000.000	
	33.331,000.000
To Unclaimed Interest on Debentures.	702,132,770
To Deposits:—	
Fixed Deposit 2,777,924 160	
Current Account 854,013.372	
Special Current Account 361,515.240	
Special Deposit.....4.935,780.890	
	8,929,233.662
To Reserves:—	
Reserve Against Losses. 667,000.000	
Dividend Equalization Reserve 331,000.000	
Special Reserve..... 180,000 000	
	1,178,000.000
To Dividend unclaimed	9,083 304
To Net Profit for the Half Year	925.448.150
To Funds in Trust and other Sums due by the Bank	954.464.910
Total	63,529,362.796

CR.	Yen.
By Cash on hand and at Bankers ...	732,700.886
By Money at Call and Short notice...	1,258,916 800
By Loans	26,807,486 800
By Bills discounted	5,019,394 400
By National Loan Bonds:—	
Special Imperial 5 per cent Loan Bonds... 2,461,017.600	
Imperial 5 per cent Loan Bonds..... 13.4 3.000	
Ko Ro Imperial 5 per Loan Bonds (Railway Purchase Bonds) 1, 19,688.500	
	3.494.119.100
By Local Loan Bonds (Tochigi Prefectural Loan Bonds, etc.)	13,502.409.2:5
By Treasury Bills	38.00,000.000
By Debentures (Debentures of Fuji Paper Manufacturing Co, etc.)	4.437.479 000
By Capital not paid up	1,250,000.000
By Advances made in Trust	710.6:5
By Funds for Miscellaneous Account.	1,294.883..78
By Diffence on Subscription of Debentures	1,796,069 441
By Sundry Account	109 202
By Bank Premises, Furniture and Safes	135.013.719
Total	63,529,362 796

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

For the half-year ended 30th June, 1909.

DR.

	Yen.
To Current Expenses, Interests, etc...	1,251,276.699
To Reserve Fund	136,000.000
To Dividend	650,000.000
To Remuneration to Officers	25,000.000
To The Special Reserve	50,000.000
To Balance carried forward to next account	64,448.150
	2,176,724 849

CR.

	Yen.
By Amount of Gross Profits for the half-year ended 30th June, 1909, including *yen* 63.823.021, Balance of Profit and Loss Account, 31st December, 1908	2,176,724.849
	2,176.724 849

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS.

We have compared the above Statement with the Books, Vouchers and Securities at the Head Office, and with the Return from the Branch, and have found the same to be correct.

(Signed) Baron EIICHI SHIBUSAWA, KIHACHIRO OKURA, KAHEI OTANI } Auditors.

Tokyo, 3rd June, 1909.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

THE CRETAN QUESTION.

London, August 5.

The Cretan question threatens to become acute. Turkey is determined not to abate one jot of her rights.

Greece in replying to the Porte's demand for the withdrawal of her gendarmerie and militia officers, stated that the question is in the hands of the Protecting Powers.

It is understood that, failing compliance with the Turkish demand, vigorous action will follow.

ST. PETERSBURG IMPRESSED.

The toasts at Cowes, especially the references to the Duma, have created a profound impression in St. Petersburg. It is pointed out that, for the first time in history, the Russian monarch appears as a Constitutional Sovereign.

LABOUR TROUBLES IN SWEDEN.

August 6.

Serious troubles have broken out in Sweden. Beginning with all the principal trades they have now extended to the tramway men and State-telegraph linesmen. A hundred thousand men are affected. Tourists have left the cities and the public are making large purchases of arms.

MOROCCO.

The Spanish artillery aided by balloons are working havoc among the tribesmen at Melilla.

RUSSIAN VISIT OVER: A GREAT SUCCESS.

London, August 6.

London.—The Russian sovereigns have left England and have sailed for home. Their visit is regarded as having been a great success politically and socially.

EXCITEMENT IN TURKEY: PORTE WILL ACT IN FOUR DAYS.

Constantinople.—There is much excitement throughout Turkey concerning Crete. It reported that the Porte will wait four days and will then peremptorily demand the recall of the Greek officers.

THE ANTUNG-MUKDEN RAILWAY CRISIS.

"THE TIMES" ON JAPAN'S ACTION.

London, August 7.

Reuter learns that the Japanese Minister at Peking has informed the Chinese Govern-

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ment that Japan is going to proceed independently with the reconstruction work of the Antung-Mukden Railway in accordance with treaty rights, without waiting for Chinese co-operation.

August 8.

The Times, commenting on Japan's action with regard to the reconstruction of the Antung-Mukden railway, considers that it is not surprising that Japan should have lost patience in face of Chinese obstruction. The position held by the Japanese in South Manchuria is one of the few solid compensations for the sacrifices of a war without which China would not possess the authority she now uses against Japanese interests. There will be little disposition in England to cavil at Japan's action, but there will be widespread regret at the increase of tension. It is urgently necessary to the interests of both nations to restore the relations existing immediately after the war. Japan's rivals, it is to be feared, will be only too glad to create difficulties for her by supporting Chinese obstruction.

THE STRIKE IN SWEDEN.

London, August 7.

The strike in Sweden has become general, 250,000 men being now involved. The food supply is threatened.

THE TSAR'S VISIT.

The Tsar has sent a message to the British nation through Reuter expressing himself aas deeply impressed by the reception accorded him. The attitude of the British statesmen, people and Press, he thinks, augurs well for the future.

U.S. TARIFF BILL.

The Tariff Bill has passed the Senate and has been signed by President Taft.

OPIUM CONFERENCE AND INDIAN REVENUE.

In the debate on the Indian Budget, the Master of Elibank assured the House, on behalf of Lord Morley, that the matters raised by the International Opium Conference have his most careful and sympathetic attention. At the same time he warned the House that the anticipated surplus of £230,000 in the Indian revenue might not be realized owing to a possible diminution in the receipts from opium.

LORD KITCHENER.

A GREAT COMMAND IN VIEW.

It is officially announced that General Lord Kitchener will be created a Field Marshal on vacating the Indian command. He will assume the post of High Commissioner of the Mediterranean after his tour in the Far East.

Later.

The papers believe that the announcement of Lord Kitchener's promotion to the rank of Field Marshal foreshadows his appointment to the head of the forces of the Empire when these have been coördinated.

THE MEDITERRANEAN COMMAND.

General Sir Forestier-Walker's appointment as High Commissioner of the Mediterranean, announced on the 4th inst., is only temporary. The appointment of Lord Kitchener will give the Mediterranean command its proper place in the general scheme of Imperial Defence, in view of important new developments. When he comes home from the East, Lord Kitchener will have a seat on the Committee of Imperial Defence.

CHINESE PORK.

A few Chinese pigs have been placed on the market and fetched from 4½d. to 5d. a pound, a fair price considering the unporklike weather.

KAISER MEETS TSAR ON KIEL CANAL.

London, August 9.

Berlin.—The Kaiser, returning from his northern tour on Saturday, met the Tsar on the Kiel Canal.

THE IMPERIAL DEFENCE CONFERENCE.

London.—The Imperial Defence Conference is making substantial progress. A subcommittee of military experts presided over by General Sir W. G. Nicholson is working out the technical details.

The delegates of the various Dominions are consulting separately with the Admiralty on Naval matters.

"WILL TAKE A PROLONGED LEAVE."

SUBTLE THREAT BY TURKISH MINISTER AT ATHENS.

Athens.—The Turkish Minister here has verbally demanded that Greece shall disclaim any ambitions in Crete, and has requested a reply within a reasonable time. "Otherwise," the message proceeds, "the Minister will take a prolonged leave."

THE SHAH TO HAVE PENSION OF £15,000.

Teheran.—Reuter's correspondent here understands that the ex-Shah has consented to leave Persia on the 19th inst. on condition that he receives an annuity of £15,000.

ENGLISH PRESIDENT FOR NATIONAL BANK OF TURKEY.

London.—At the request of His Majesty's Government, General Sir Henry Babington Smith has accepted the presidency of the National Bank of Turkey, wherein it is understood that Lord Revelstoke, Sir Alexander Henderson, and Sir Ernest Cassel are interested.

[Sir H. Babington Smith's former position as British representative on the Council of the Administration of the Ottoman Public Debt in 1901 is doubtless his chief qualification for his present post. He was decorated by the late Sultan in 1903.—ED. *J.M.*]

TURCO GREEK TENSION IS ACUTE.

London, August 9.

The Turco-Greek tension in Crete is extremely acute and is engrossing the attention of the Powers. Turkey is reiterating her demands, and Greece is simply repeating her reply that the question of the future of Crete is in the hands of the Protecting Powers.

GREECE DESIRES FRIENDSHIP WITH TURKEY.

ATTITUDE OF "THE TWO CENTRAL POWERS."

London, August 10.

Constantinople.—Greece's reply to the Porte asserts a desire for the friendliest and closest relations with Turkey, and draws attention to Grecian enthusiasm over the new *régime* in Turkey. Greece trusts that there will be a frank understanding with regard to the Cretan dispute, and that all misunderstanding's will be dissipated.

It is semi-officially declared at Vienna that although the settlement remains in the hands of the Protecting Powers the two central European Powers deem it fit to intervene when the object is to preserve peace. Germany counsels moderation both at Constantinople and Athens.

AUSTRIA INTERVENES.

Vienna.—The Austrian Ambassador at Constantinople at the request of Greece, has intervened in favour of peace, pointing out the dangers of complications between the warlike Turks and Greeks.

PEACEFUL PROSPECTS IMPROVING

DESPITE HOSTILE INFLUENCES AT WORK.

August 11.

The prospects of a peaceful settlement of the Cretan question are improving. There is a strong feeling at Constantinople that the Government is acting under pressure of strong encouraging demonstrations hostile to Greece and in favour of war.

CHINESE PORK NOT LIKED IN ENGLAND.

London, August 10.

Chinese pork, especially in the neighbourhoods where there is a good deal of other pork sold, is found to be almost unsaleable, owing to prejudice.

BRITAIN'S JULY TRADE INCREASES.

During July the imports to Great Britain showed an increase of £3,547,573 and the exports an increase of £1,781,515. Cotton exports increased by the value of £523,717 and wool to the amount of £374,633.

CHINA-JAPAN DISPUTE DISQUIETS RUSSIA.

WHO IS ENDEAVOURING TO EFFECT PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

St. Petersburg.—The China-Japan dispute is exercising a disquieting effect in political circles. It is stated that Russia is endeavouring, both in Tokyo and Peking, to secure a peaceful solution of the outstanding issues.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

A CLAUSE DROPPED.

In the resumed debate on the Budget the Government has intimated that it omits Clause 12 of the Finance Bill, providing for a tax on "ungotten" minerals, and will substitute an alternate clause later which, it is believed, will be a tax on existing royalties.

Later.

Sir Edward Grey, speaking at Leeds, defended the Budget as just and reasonable, as providing security against external aggression and internal discontent.

The Commons have had a 15 hours sitting, debating the land clauses of the Budget. Numerous amendments were put forward, but were defeated by large majorities.

THE KING.

The King has started for Marienbad.

ITALIAN AERONAUT CROSSES THE ALPS IN A BALLOON.

Rome.—Captain Spelterini, the Italian aeronaut, accompanied by three passengers, has crossed the Alps in a balloon from Chamonix, when he reached a maximum height of 17,000 feet.

UNDEVELOPED LAND WILL BE TAXED.

London, August 11.

London.—The House of Commons, by 223 votes to 119, has adopted clause 10 of the Finance Bill taxing undeveloped land.

GREATER BRITAIN WILL DEFEND HERSELF.

ALL PARTS OF BRITISH EMPIRE UNANIMOUS AT IMPERIAL CONFERENCE.

London, August 12.

London.—Reuter learns that the Imperial Defence Conference has reached a point in its deliberations which embodies some of the most far-reaching and elaborate decisions. Important differences, instead of proving stumbling blocks to a conclusion of a uniform scheme, have been surmounted with remarkable unanimity. All parts of the British Empire were represented, and all the delegates expressed their respective country's

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intention of taking a fair and adequate shore in the cost and burden of naval defence.

KING EDWARD AND FRANZ JOSEF ARE FRIENDS.

Vienna.—The *Tremdenblatt*, the organ of the Austrian Foreign Office, heartily welcomes King Edward to Marienbad, and describes the reports of the coolness of King Edward and Emperor Franz Josef as baseless.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

BARCELONA BECOMES TRANQUIL.

London, August 4.

Madrid.—Barcelona has become tranquil again and work has been resumed.

ANGLO-FRENCH RUSSIAN ENTENTE.

AMIABLE SPEECHES BY TSAR AND KING; A CORDIAL FRENCH PRESS.

Paris.—The speeches of the Tsar and King Edward are causing special satisfaction. All the leading newspapers are emphasizing the advantage to France of an Anglo-Russian Agreement and are rejoicing at the disappointment of malicious people who had asserted that Anglo-French friendship had been ruptured in Morocco and that Anglo-Russian rivalry in Asia, would never cease.

The *Times* expresses confidence that the new system of Government to be embodied by the granting of a constitution by the Tsar will overcome all besetting dangers and obstacles.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

London, August 7.

The Times deeply regrets the disquieting condition of the Chino-Japanese negotiations, particularly the changed attitude of China towards Japan. In view of the large economic, political and strategic issues behind the disputed matters, *The Times* urges that the differences should be arranged. The supreme interest of both countries is to maintain undisturbed peace in the Far East.

AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IN THE HANKOW LOAN.

New York.—The negotiations for American participation in the Hankow Loan are proceeding smoothly. The bankers are confident that an equal share with the British, Germans and French will be secured by direct arrangement with the Chinese Government, which admits the justice of the American claim.

THE BARCELONA RIOTS.

FURTHER DETAILS.

Madrid.—Reports of the recent outbreak at Barcelona show a strong anti-clerical character. Incendiaries, including many women, carrying revolvers, straw and petroleum, attacked the churches, monasteries and convents. Many monks and nuns were murdered, tortured or outraged, and many charitable institutions were destroyed. Five thousand children have been rendered homeless.

THE LABOUR TROUBLES IN SWEDEN.

Stockholm.—In consequence of the labour troubles, all traffic has been suspended. The public houses and provision shops are for the most part closed. The army is partially mobilized. Railway stations are occupied and a special police force has been enrolled. The strikers are subsidized by Labourites in Norway, Denmark and Sweden.

Later.

Despite their exemption by the Labour Federation, the gas and electric workers have joined the general strike. Troops accompany milkmen and market-gardeners into the city. The strikers are urging the railway men and printers to join. Government intervention is declared to be useless.

THE UBIQUITOUS KAISER.

Later.

Berlin.—The Emperor is now at Kiel Canal to meet the Tsar on his return from England. The High Sea Fleet will be present.

CANADA, AUSTRALIA AND JAPAN.

The Canadian Minister of Marine, now in England, deeply appreciates the action of the Japanese Government in restricting immigration. Canada thinks that Australians will do well to undertake seriously the question of local defence, as Japan will sooner or later east eyes on Australia.

THE RAILWAY CRISIS.

The Times says that nobody is surprised at, and her friends will be unlikely to take amiss, Japan's decision regarding the Manchuria railway. Despite some mistakes made by the Japanese, it must be remembered that their position in South Manchuria is one of their few solid compensations for heavy sacrifices in war. The great journal warns China not to attempt to play off other Powers against Japan—a policy which would involve dangerous difficulties. China's best guide and friend on the path of reform should be Japan.

THE FAR-EASTERN DISPUTE.

SUSPICIONS IN RUSSIA: OFFICIAL QUARTERS ARE HOPEFUL.

London, August 9.

London.—Japanese quotations on the Stock Exchange are slightly lower, in consequence of the dispute with China.

The St. Petersburg *Novoe Vremya* says that the Japanese Note challenges China to declare war. China will find that her position at the issue of the conflict, if she yields, will soon be similar to that of Korea.

Considerable suspicion is manifested in some quarters that behind Japan is the influence of a foreign power desirous of engaging the attention of Russia in the Far East. In official circles, however, there is a comparatively hopeful feeling of peaceful efforts being triumphant in Peking and Tokyo.

THE ANTUNG-MUKDEN RAILWAY.

ITS IMPORTANCE TO JAPAN.

London, August 9.

The Times Special Correspondent lately in the Far East emphasizes the importance of Japanese reconstruction of the Antung-Mukden railway, and points out that Japan is bound to consider the possibility of Russia's resuming her old forward policy in the Far East.

THE STRIKE IN SWEDEN.

London, August 10.

Stockholm.—In consequence of the strike all the newspapers are unable to appear. Great efforts are being made to induce the railway men to join.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

St. Petersburg.—The danger of trouble in the Far East is now considered to have been definitely avoided.

THE CRETAN CRISIS.

Constantinople.—The Ambassadors of the Protecting Powers have urged the Porte to observe moderation towards Greece.

BARCELONA STILL DISTURBED.

Barcelona.—Preparations for a general protest against the detention of prisoners taken in the recent riots are reported. The Captain-General has declared for rigorous repression, and the instant shooting of pillagers.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

August 11.

Chinese and Japanese bonds have improved.

THE MOROCCAN WAR.

Melilla.—A fresh division of troops has arrived. The balloon reports the presence of about 25,000 tribesmen in the mountains.

BARON TAKAHIRA.

New York.—Baron Takahira has started for Tokyo to assist in the negotiations for a new commercial agreement.

CRETANS ANGRY AT HAVING TO LOWER GREEK FLAG.

London, August 12.

Candia—Cretans generally are greatly irritated at the decision of the four Powers to re-occupy the country unless the Greek flag is lowered. They unanimously declare that they would rather perish than submit to such pressure.

MELILLA IS NOW IMPREGNABLE.

Madrid.—The defences of Melilla are stated to be now strong enough to repel any Moorish attack that could be made against it. The batteries daily search all points of the enemy's positions over a radius of five miles.

JAPANESE QUOTATIONS FIRM.

London.—Japanese quotations on the Stock Exchange are firm and in good demand.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 5.

Professor Luigi Brentao, the famous scholar of national economy at the University of Munich, has gone to Berlin and paid visits to the Crown Prince, the Chancellor and to Herr von Schoen, the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

The barristers of Prince Eulenburg declare that he has not written any memoirs.

The Eucharistic Congress has been opened at Cologne by Bishop Cardinal Vannutelli oi Porto and St. Rufina.

Count Zeppelin has arrived with his airship at Cologne from Frankfurt.

AUSTRIA.

The visit of King Edward to Ischal, where he intended to meet Emperor Francis Joseph, has been postponed.

CRETE.

The Cretan question has become very critical. Extraordinary preparations are being made by Turkey, which have caused great anxiety at Athens.

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 6.

A military airship has carried out manœuvres lasting 16 hours between Berlin and Apolda and back to Berlin. This is regarded as a splendid success.

GREECE.

Greece protests against the holding of anti-Hellenistic meetings at Salonika, the hauling down of the Greek flag and the expulsion of Greek officers from Crete, which actions are stated to come under the jurisdiction of the Protective Powers. The latter are beginning to get very anxious as to the outcome of the whole Cretan question. The war spirit is steadily increasing in Turkey.

BULGARIA.

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria will pay a visit to the Sultan in September.

UNITED STATES.

President Taft has signed the new Tariff Law. The session of the Congress has deen adjourned.

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GERMANY.

Berlin, August 7.

The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* welcomes the Tsar and the Tsaritza on the occasion of their passing through German territory on their way back to Russia, in very cordial terms. It says that the new meeting between the Tsar and the Kaiser has the same object as the meetings at Cherbourg and Cowes.

The Eucharistic Congress at Cologne has sent a telegram of homage to the Kaiser, which was responded to by His Majesty in very cordial telegrams to Cardinal Fisher and Bishop Cardinal Vannutelli, the Envoy of the Pope.

GENERAL VON DER GOLTZ.

Berlin, August 8.

General von der Goltz Pasha, the Instructor-General of the Turkish Army, has returned to Germany from his first tour of inspection and has been very cordially welcomed by the German Press. He says that his general impressions of the state of the Turkish army are excellent.

TSAR AND KAISER.

The meeting between the Tsar and the Kaiser has taken place on the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal.

TURKEY.

Berlin, August 7.

Turkey demands from Greece a written declaration by which the latter renounces officially all connection with the Hellenistic agitation in Macedonia and at Crete; otherwise the Turkish Minister would be recalled from Athens. Greece has appealed for the mediation of the Protective Powers.

Berlin, August 8.

The *Koelnische Zeitung* comments upon the appeal of Greece to the Powers for maintaining peace. Germany ought to press upon the Governments of Turkey and Greece for the preservation of peace and ought to advise them not to urge affairs to a crisis. Severe complications are expected and the breaking out of war between the countries is not unexpected. Nevertheless the universal efforts of the Powers for maintenance of peace have somewhat quieted the spirit at Constantinople and Athens. The Sublime Porte has asked the Committee of the Young Turks to join its efforts for quieting the spirit of the populace. Grand Vizier Hilmi Pasha declares that Turkey will only exercise its autonomy over Crete as she does over Samos. The reply of Greece to the last Note of Turkey is expected on Monday.

HOLLAND.

Berlin, August 7.

The Kaiser and the Kaiserin have carried out the already announced visit to Count Bentinck. They were welcomed on the Dutch frontier by officers specially sent by Queen Wilhelmina.

SERVIA.

King Peter of Servia is reported to be suffering from a chronic disease of the arterial system.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Lord Kitchener has resigned the post of Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army and will return to England via Japan and Australia. Afterwards he will be appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Mediterranean forces for carrying out a full reorganization in the interest of the defence of the Empire.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to July 22nd, arrived at Berlin on August 6th.

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 9.

The meeting between the Tsar and the Kaiser was of a most cordial character, the populace cheering the Tsar and the Tsaritsa very enthusiastically, when passing through the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal.

GREECE AND TURKEY.

The reply of Greece to the Turkish Note as to the Cretan question does not renounce the Greek claims to Crete, as had been demanded by Turkey, but refers only to the mediation of the Protective Powers. Germany and Austria confine themselves to friendly proposals for the maintenance of peace, without touching the peculiar points of the Cretan question. The representatives of the Protective Powers are preparing an intervention for the preservation of peace. British battleships have left Gibraltar for Crete.

SWEDEN.

The Government of Sweden advises both parties in the general strike to make concessions.

UNITED STATES.

The Government of the United States has given notice to Germany of the annulment of the German-American Commercial Treaty on February 7th, 1910.

FRANCE.

A railway disaster has taken place at Longjumeau (near Paris) in France, by which 15 persons were killed.

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 10.

The visit of the Kaiser and the Kaiserin to Count Bentinck in Holland has passed very cordially, a very friendly telegram being sent by their Majesties to Queen Wilhelmina.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new German Chancellor, will go to Rome in November and present himself to the King and the Pope.

PORTUGAL.

The betrothal of King Manuel of Portugal to a British Princess on the occasion of his coming visit to England is being prepared.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Press hopes that the meeting between the Tsar and the Sultan at Constantinople will bring about a solution of the Dardanelles question, the Grand Vizier having given a very friendly declaration in this respect.

CRETE.

The Greek reply to the Turkish Note emphasises the loyalty of Greece to Turkey and declines all participation in the movement for annexation of Crete. Great excitement is prevailing at Crete because the Protective Powers have forbidden the hissing at the Greek flag.

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 11.

The Kaiser and the Kaiserin, after the meeting with the Tsar and Tsaritza, at the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal, have gone to Château Wilhelmshoehe, near Cassel.

The *Weiner Fremdenblatt*, writing on the arrival of King Edward at Marienbad, states that there is no ill-feeling between the two monarchs.

Herr von Einem, the Prussian Minister for War, has resigned has post and been appointed Commander of the 7th Army Corps.

TURKEY.

The policy of Austria and England makes for the maintenance of peace at Constantinople in spite of the warlike spirit that prevails at Salonika. The German and Austrian Governments refuse, however, to unite in the settling of the peculiar points of the Crete question.

DARDANELLES QUESTION.

The report as to the settlement of the Dardenelles question, which had been launched by the Russian Government, has been received favourably in Austria. Freiherr von Aehrenthal, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, has declared his agreement in principle, provided that a new settlement of the whole question is decided upon.

HOLLAND.

The Dutch Government proposes the sending out of a German-Dutch expedition for fixing the frontier between German and Dutch New Guinea.

ITALY.

The Italian aeronaut Spelterini has carried out a successful flight over Mont Blanc and the Valaisan (Wallis) Alps.

UNITED STATES.

The United States is preparing an expedition for the exploration of the South Sea Islands.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

BRAZIL-CHINA ARBITRATION AGREEMENT.

Peking, August 5.

The Arbitration Agreement between China and Brazil was ratified on August 3. The agreement follows the example of that concluded last year between China and America.

ANOTHER PRATAS CONFERENCE.

Canton, August 5.

In reference to the Pratas Island question, a long conference was held to-day between the Japanese Consul and the Chinese delegate. Mr. Nishizawa is still here awaiting settlement of the matter.

ANTUNG-MUKDEN QUESTION.

Peking, August 6.

At 2.15 this afternoon, Mr. Ijuin, the Japanese Minister at Peking, notified the Wai-wu-pu, in accordance with instructions received from the home government, that the Japanese Government, taking note of the attitude of the Chinese Government in connection with the reconstruction of the Mukden-Antung Railway, and relying on the necessity of improving world communication, will execute the work of re-construction, without expecting the co-operation of China.

DISMANTLING OF WIRELESS TELEGRAPH.

Shanghai, August 7.

The Palace Hotel has commenced to dismantle its wireless telegraph apparatus for the present, whilst its protest is maintained. The general manager of the Hotel is expected to start for London in order to furnish the Department for Foreign Affairs with a report relating to the matter.

The English paper of this city is strongly supporting the maintenance of the Hotel service.

STRIKERS RETURN TO WORK.

San Francisco, August 6.

The Japanese strikers in Hawaii returned to their work unconditionally on August 5.

TSAR'S VISIT TO NAVAL REVIEW.

The Tsar is expected to leave Cowes for Keil to-morrow, to attend the naval review of the German Squadron under the command of Admiral Heinrich. The Squadron consists of 16 battleships and 14 cruisers.

YONGAMPHO'S DEVELOPMENTS.

Seoul, August 7.

The situation of Yongampho is an im-

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portant position incident to the connection of Manchuria and Korea and further facilities for communication between land and sea are necessary. The harbour works are being financed to the extent of 5,000,000 *yen*.

YALU BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS.

The iron bridge over the Yalu River is to be altered so that it can be freely opened and closed. The middle part is to be apportioned for the railway and both the sides, for the footway. The compilation of the work will take 2½ years, estimated at *yen* 3,000,000, and the bridge will be 20 feet above the river.

THE REGENT'S PACIFIC NATURE.

Peking, August 8.

The Prince Regent has all along desired to settle pending questions peacefully, while the Wai-wu-pu has not disclosed the real state of the negotiations. Three days prior to the notice of the Japanese Minister at Peking being given to the Wai-wu-pu, he was informed of the state of things. He is taking great pains to conclude the affair peacefully.

STRONG PRESS CENSURESHIP IN CHINA.

On account of important affairs under consideration by the Chinese Ministry having been divulged to the press, the Authorities have strictly enforced the Press Law announced last summer and all papers must now undergo official inspection on the midnight preceding the day of issue. Chinese papers in Peking have published a declaration of opposition to such despotic treatment.

PEKING DIPLOMATS APPROVE JAPAN'S POLICY.

Peking, August 7.

It appears that the diplomatic corps in this city approve the management of Japan in connection with the Antung-Mukden Railway question.

TO WELCOME JAPANESE VISITORS TO VLADIVOSTOCK.

Vladivostock, August 8.

The municipal assembly here has elected three principal citizens as a permanent reception committee for Japanese visitors. They are the chief of the Advocates' Association, the Ex-Manager of the Vladivostock Branch of the Russo-Chinese Bank and the Head of the Library respectively.

CHOLERA IN ST. PETERSBURG DIMINISHES.

Harbin, August 9.

On August 5, 37 new cases of cholera were reported in St. Petersburg, 27 of which proved fatal. A gradual diminution is shown.

THE PRINCE REGENT ENJOINS A SETTLEMENT.

A RIGID PRESS CENSORSHIP.

Shanghai, August 9.

It is rumoured that the Prince Regent has ordered Mr. Shih, Viceroy of Tungshan, to commence at once the negotiations with Japan in connection with the Antung-Mukden Railway, and to devote his energies towards the settlement of the affair in a way satisfactory to both parties. The Viceroy has prohibited the press from publishing anything whatever relating to the matter until the final decision is made. All the papers, except the *Shimbun-ho* and the *Shanghai Times*, are observing silence.

CHINA CONFORMING IN THE RAILWAY DISPUTE.

Peking, August 10.

China's proposals in connection with the Antung-Mukden Railway conform with the wishes of the Japanese Government. The question is expected to be settled to-day The Japanese Government has acceded to China's proposal and the former has despatched the official documents to the latter.

CHINESE EMPEROR'S DONATIONS.

Haukow, August 10.

The Chinese Emperor has given 60,000 *taels* of silver to relieve the sufferers from the floods in Hupeh, and also has sanctioned the disbursement of 200,000 *taels* from the provincial treasury towards the relief-fund.

CHIENTAO QUESTION PRECEDES RAILWAY DISPUTE.

Antung, August 10.

There are signs that some of the Chinese troops despatched from Mukden to reinforce those at Chientao have proceeded there *via* Kirin, while the rest still remain at Kirin. The Chinese Government, as it seems, considers the Chientao question more important than that of the Antung-Mukden Railway.

CHINESE INFANTRY MAY MOVE.

Mukden, August 10.

A regiment of the Chinese infantry which has been preparing to proceed to Chientao is expected to leave here in a day or two.

RESIDENCY-GENERALTO CONTROL JUDICIAL POWERS.

Seoul, August 10.

In reference to the power of the judiciary, the Residency-General is making an investigation to organise a special bureau under the direct control of the Residency-General. A comprehensive plan will be made public within a few days.

CHINESE ENLISTMENT OF FOREIGN RESIDENTS' SYMPATHY.

Peking, August 11.

The negotiations in respect of the reconstruction of the Antung-Mukden railway have advanced one stage towards a conclusion, whilst it is daily reported, in order to enlist the sympathy of the foreign residents in Peking in connectiou with the Chientao and other pending questions, that Japan is acting tyranically.

The *Yeiji Shimbun* and the *Peking Nippo* are refering to the growing prevalence of anti-Japanese sympathies.

RAILWAY OPERATIONS ARE PROGRESSING GENERALLY.

Dairen, August 21.

The work of the Antung-Mukden line is progressing in three separate divisions. The attitude of the Chinese Government and the Chinese people is very quiet.

ENGLISHMEN AT CRICKET.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Here's where the lads of the village cricket:
I was a lad not wide from here:
Couldn't I whip off the bail from the wicket?
Like an old world those days appear.

It is in accord with the fitness of things that Meredith's Juggling Jerry should have been a wicket-keeper, and, to judge by his manner of talking, a Surrey man, born not far from the Kentish border. Anybody able to keep for the swift rustical erratic bowlers of the ancient village greens, now nearly all p'oughed up or built over, of that countryside, could have become an expert juggler in a very little while. These lines and other allusions to the game of games in the Meredithian chronicles of English country life, which stick like burrs in the memory, might well move one to attempt a brief history of the evolving and involving of the crowd at cricket. Such a history would include, of course, Nyren's incomparable picture of the Hambledon spectators, the old farmers leaning forward on their tall staves and the deep boom'ng cries of "Titch an' turn! Titch an' turn!" whenever one of the antique worthies made a big hit. Nobody paid gate money to see the sport on Broad Halfpenny. But it is to be feared—or hoped—that everybody with a few spare (coins, gold or silver, or Lacedæmonian bronze, had his bet on the issue. To be hoped? Anyhow it is more becoming to bet on the result of a cricket match, keenly watched from beginning to end, than to back a horse in a far away unseen race with an elusive bookmaker, which is the custom of the latter-day working man, an easy prey of the small betting man whose covert is the nearest pot-house. Moreover, in the days of the Hambledon men the wager was always an expression of local patriotism. It would have been accounted an unneighbourly thing to back strangers ("foreigners," as the people of a Lancashire town call the inhabitants of the next eddy in the country's population, three or four miles away) with good home-made money. Crowds of the Hambledon type are still found assembled about certain upland cricket grounds in Lancashire and Yorkshire, where you will always see at least one sound bowler on a side—some home-grown "professor" who ought to be asked, so his neighbours think, to play for the county.

Then, to return to the question of history-making, the famous scene on the cricket field in "Evan Harrington" would be included by the philosophic annalist. Meredith tells us very little about the cricket, but yet contrives, subtly, in wondrous wise to give an impression of contagious enthusiasm. There are no such cricket matches in the Wessex of Hardy's novels, and that is a very great pity—for there would be good talk between overs among the players. The lesser Victorian novelists have sometimes brought in a cricket match, more often than not in order to give the hero an opportunity of scoring a century. But I cannot remember any description of the kind which reveals the personality of the assemblage of spectato s. So that the historian, who aspired to trace the psychological origin and growth of the monstrous crowds—genial monsters but none the less Cyclopean—to be seen at Lord's and Old Trafford and the Oval and other popular playing fields, would find a plentiful lack of documentary material. And a search through the files of popular newspapers would be for him a waste of time and labour. The modern journalist is too much concerned with paraphrasing the score-sheet and recording impertinences about the players (whom he addresses by their diminished Christian names, as if he owned them) to have time for a study of the crowd. It is true that he himself is often—too often—a *reductio ad absurdum* of the crowd in its undisciplined moods. Even then he is not particularly interesting or instructive, since there does not appear in him the prodigious mystery of ten thousand thinking like one—suddenly thinking, it may be, that nobody is getting his money's worth.

The crowd at Lord's seldom gives one the impression of a single personality. To begin with, the pavilion dominates it like a schoolmaster who is able and willing to maintain discipline. To those who sit in the Mound stand, where the most homogeneous portion of the assemblage is packed away and the atmosphere of unanimity is most often apparent, the windows of the pavilion are bland eyes with critically uplifted eyebrows, The spectator knows that there is a brain behind these unflinching eyes on great occasions—the generations of those who know the game by hand as well as by heart are all represented there, the champions of the nearer and further past come and go like passing thoughts of great days and deeds, the long-experienced observer whispers their names—and he will not, cannot, let himself go until he has the approval of the pavilion. Let any visitor to Lord's note how often applause begins there, afterwards becoming a full circle of cheers. Thus the pavilion's presence tends to reduce the crowd at Lord's to an inclusive collection of individuals, an impersonal array of items and atoms. That is why there is really no "barracking" in the true sense of the term at Lord's. Occasionally there is a noisy demonstration, but careful observation

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generally shows that it originates not in active animosity against the players but in the very natural desire of a group of individuals to indulge in a little "ragging" by way of enlivening a dreary hour of dull cricket. I am told on high authority that the first instances of so-called "barracking" at Lord's were inspired by the wish to get a rise out of—well, it is better to leave out the name, which is always affectionately recalled. Though its origin is forgotten this harmless, almost laudable, tradition is maintained. Fortunately or unfortunately, an unseemly noise once it has been started is almost certain to make the circuit of the ground, and its occurrence is apt to be resented by those who, knowing not the sweet uses of decent unseemliness, think it is intended to hurt their feelings—which is seldom or never the case at Lord's. These remarks on the crowd at the Delphi of the game of games are written from the sitting point of a spectator in the Mound stand, and must not be taken too seriously. But I am not the only observer who thinks that the crowd at Lord's is an impersonal thing compared with those seen—and felt—at Old Trafford or the Oval on a Saturday afternoon or Bank Holiday.

At Old Trafford the pavilion is nothing more than a clock-case, so the speak, for the mass of the spectators. If every window thereof were thronged with the shadows of great names, not a man in the crowd would look that way for a lead in cheering or jeering. On no other country ground in the kingdom is the percentage of the ignorant and indifferent so small or so rigorously suppressed. Every ball that is bowled, every stroke that is made or attempted, every incident or accident in the field—every act of the players is watched and understood and criticized. The Old Trafford crowd has a trick of thinking aloud, which I have not noticed elsewhere. His first appearance before this critical, outspoken assembly is a tremendous ordeal for a young cricketer, though—always provided he has no visible affectations—he will be treated with rough kindliness. "I feel as if I was playing under a microscope," said a young batsman to the writer after his first innings at Old Trafford. He was a willing, straight-forward youth, the crowd liked him at sight, and did not even groan when he was caught at third man from a shockingly pokey stroke. His obvious stage-fright was rather a compliment to the shrewd critics in cloth caps; no doubt they took that into consideration. Afterwards he did rather well, and his good fielding—bad fielding is the unpardonable sin with the Old Trafford spectators—kept him in the eleven for a time. It is a real privilege to sit among the sixpenny freeholders and hear their comments on the *funera nefunera* of the game when, as they will say, "We are playing Yorkshire." You will find that they have nearly all played cricket themselves, and, if they have given it up, it is because they are not "wick" enough to hold their own with a younger generation.

Sometimes the younger generation is brought along—a solid lad with opinions of his own on the way so-and-so "frames" for a score, who shares his dad's lunch, sandwiches in a newspaper and bottles of pop or beer. A great good-humour is a characteristic of the Old Trafford crowd. But woe betide the fielder who misses a catch or otherwise offends them. He incurs the nickname of "Sloppy" (or some other objectionable label) for the rest of the afternoon, and the little lads between their fathers' knees shout out "Tha gawmless go-oby!" when pursuit of the ball brings him within earshot It is most unpleasant to field out in the "country," as more than one Yorkshireman knows, if you have lost your safe pair of hands for a time. Any little affectation in a new member of their eleven is punished by a dropping fire of merciless chaff. On one occasion an Old Blue came out to field in his blazer, the weather being dank and chilly, and the crowd began telling him—in many Doric phrases, each more humorous than the last—that he had been stealing a lady's jacket, or what-not. Finally his bare-headed captain told him to take it off. In subsequent matches he was asked what had become of his stripes, and when he smiled in reply the crowd would laugh thunderously. There is no doubt that the personality of the Old Trafford crowd is that of the typical Lancashire man, who is a very "complete chap," in Nyren's phrase, and has a whole-hearted contempt for half-measures and mere prettiness, and also prefers solidity to elegance in his cricketers. It is a patriotic creature, but does not allow its patriotism to prevent a genial appreciation of the competent "foreigner," even if he comes from the other side of the Pennines.

An excess of patriotism is perhaps the chief fault of the Oval crowd, which knows much more about the subtleties of cricket than was the case ten or twenty years ago. The followers of Surrey's star become bored and inattentive if their men are not making runs rapidly or reaping a speedy crop of wickets. In former days their attitude was that of the spectators of professional football. If the visiting eleven got the upper hand, the Oval soon became an unpeopled wilderness; in the event of a closely-contested match there was a disposition to jeer at the visitors in the hope of putting them off their game, which was unsportsmanlike conduct. Umpires were treated like the referee who gives an unpopular decision at a third rate exhibition of spectacular Association, and veritable riots—foolish rebellions against Fate—were not unknown. It was said in the North that the Surrey spectators knew less about cricket than any other crowd in the kingdom, and thought they knew more. They were largely drawn from the mean streets of South London, that wen like outgrowth of the metropolis, and very few of them had ever handled bat or ball. In recent years, however there has been a great change for the better; to-day the Surrey crowd is a civilized assemblage, almost super-civilized in parts. Unquestionably the Oval has been one of the humanizing influences in the life of South London; the games there have been object-lessons in the advantages of self-imposed discipline. There was from the very first a sprinkling of enlightened enthusiasts among the Surrey crowd. These represented the *débris*, as it were, of the little gatherings of lovers of cricket who resorted to the village playing-fields—some of them notable nurseries of professionals—which were swallowed up by the southward extension of Greater London. For many years, however, they were lost in a mob of hooligans, bumptious and ignorant and neurotic, who watched cricket in the "win, tie, or wrangle" spirit.

Here, as elsewhere, a tradition of better things has survived, and in the end has leavened the whole lump. To-day there is no more amiable crowd than that which resorts to the Oval. No doubt it loves victory more than cricket. But its patriotism, howsoever crude and illogical, no longer prevents it from applauding a fine stroke or clever catch by an opponent. The axioms of sportsmanship have been learned by heart; the result will follow with the efflux of time and the provision of more playing-fields for the boys and young men living in the dreary labyrinths of South London streets. It would be unfair to expect from the Oval spectators that ripe knowledge of cricket and love of the game for the game's sake which are characteristics of the Old Trafford crowd. Perhaps it is uncharitable to dwell on the peculiarities, rooted in ignorance rather than indifference, of the humbler frequenters of the Oval. But I cannot refrain from mentioning one of these curious traits. The favourite batsman of the Surrey crowd is invariably the player who gets—or seems to get—his runs by mysterious methods. Abel's popularity was a case in point. He certainly had a somewhat surreptitious manner; he looked as if he knew more than the average cricketer about horseflesh; nobody would have been surprised to see a straw sticking out of his mouth. But his methods of scoring runs were plain and straightforward enough; he was among the most obvious of artists. Yet the Surrey spectators always believed that he tricked the bowlers out of his runs, compiling centuries by means of "ikey little ways" which he had invented himself for their beguiling. Of course, they admired—and still admire—Ajax the smiter lustily defying the lightning deliveries of the opposing fast bowler, as loudly as the apparently wily Odysseus. It is to the credit of the Oval that the poet Craig (to whom we wish a speedy recovery) first practised his craft there. Truth to tell, his blameless stuff is but doggerel—you must needs praise the way he plods after his rhymes—and is no more to be called literature than the pictures in the pavement gallery outside Lord's can be called art. But he sells his artless stuff most artistically and is rich in repartees which suggest the broomhandle blows of Punch in his show. "I could write poems as bad as yours," said a spectator, withholding his penny. "Yes, but could you sell them like me?" was the sufficient reply. It is a sad pity that some of our minor poets do not attach themselves to the nation's playing grounds and celebrate the immortal moments of the athlete's career in comely verse. There is room for a latter-day Pindar on any county cricket-ground.—*The Times.*

THE NAVAL PERIL.

SIR G. ARMSTRONG AND THE FIRST SEA LORD.

Sir George Armstrong, the prospective Unionist candidate for Pembroke Boroughs, speaking recently at the opening of a Conservative Club at Milford Haven, said the duty of Sea Lords was to give unbiassed, conscientious, and untrammelled advice to the First Lord and the Government regarding the requirements of the Fleet. Until the present First Sea Lord came upon the scene the country had no reason to suspect that Sea Lords allowed their judgment to be influenced by the party in power, but what did we see now?

We had a First Sea Lord who by his own showing, had allowed himself to be a willing tool of the Government in their policy of economy and had occasionally gone so far as to take credit to himself for such conduct.

There has come into my possession (added Sir George) a document printed in March, 1906, of which 25 copies were issued, in which the First Sea Lord takes credit to himself for having effected many economies, among them seven millions at Rosyth. When setting out this particular economy he used the following words, "Don't spur a willing horse."

The fact that 25 copies only were printed shows, if we take the Government's excuse hitherto in regard to these documents, that this particular one was only meant for the First Lord himself and for purposes of reference. Therefore what does this document mean? It can only mean that Sir John Fisher takes credit to himself for having effected economies which, as we now know, have brought this country to a most perilous position, and also that the First Sea Lord is a willing tool in the hands of the Government in their claims of economy, and that both he and they are equally culpable in this monstrous policy. They, Sir John Fisher and the Government, stand revealed in the lurid light of this document in their true colours.

Continuing, he maintained that nothing more was needed to bring home to the country the manner in which their most vital interests had been betrayed during the past three years. The evidence supplied in those dreadfully pregnant words, "Don't spur a willing horse" showed that therein lay the reason for the practical cessation of work at Rosyth since the Government came into power, the reason of the refusal of the Admiralty to co-operate with private enterprise in 1906, and the reason why we stood in such a perilous position to-day.

THE Admiralty Press arrangements during the recent Thames Pageant and the Review at Spithead were placed in the hands of a post-captain. This work, requiring as it does special qualifications, has hitherto been in the energetic hands of an officer of commander's rank. But in view of the heavy Press work falling upon the latter officer in connection with recent events, it has been found desirable to add to the staff of the Admiralty Press Bureau. In the near future, if the present *régime* continues, it may be necessary still further to increase the scope and ramifications of this important Admiralty department by placing an admiral at its head.

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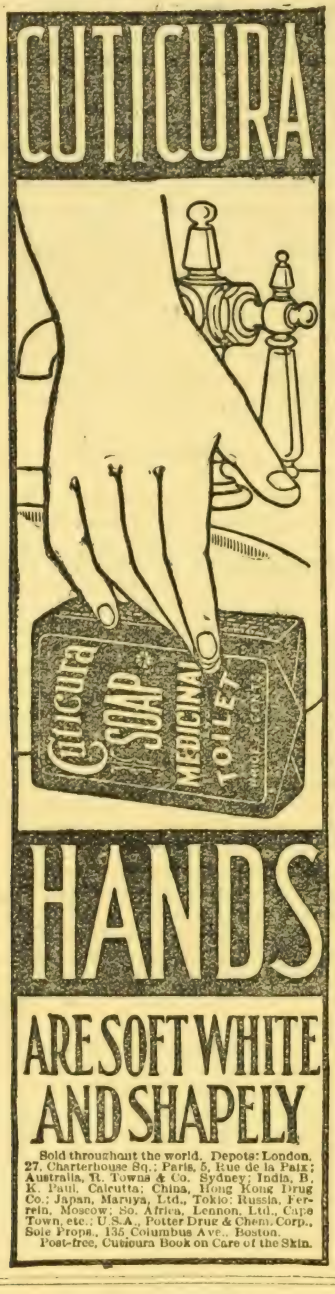

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton Business in the cotton trade is still practically at a standstill. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is firm, and actual transactions are light. The Woollen business has assumed a better tone.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	39.00 to 40.00
Egyptian	47.25 to 50.70
Indian Broach	31.00 to 31.50
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 31.50

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	270.00 to 280.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 360.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch. PER PIECE.	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	11.00 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	V.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.00
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.71
" " 2 " "	0.58 to 0.64
" " 3 " "	0.46 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.34 to 0.39
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Business in Bars is extremely dull. The prices of Galvanized Sheets has declined.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanized Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
do Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet.

Chester	Y.3.66 to 3.89
Victory	3.20 to 3.60
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No transactions have been done in imported sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. There have been some pretty fair transactions in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y 240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.05
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.00

FLOUR.

Owing to high prices at home, there will be no goods on the market for the present. The sales for September and October shipments have been made on a very small scale.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	11.12
Flag	"	—
Royal	"	—
Trophy	"	—
Red Seal	4 sacks	—
Lion	"	12.20
Portland	"	—
Premier	"	11.60
Japanese:—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.70
Takasago	6 "	—
Fuji	6 "	2.73
Pine	6 "	2.70

WHEAT.

No transactions are reported and quotations are nominal.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	6.60 — 6.70
Red " "	6.50 — 6.60
Blue Stem	6.85 — 7.00

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is very quiet. The business has been done little by little.

On August 12th stocks were: filatures 18,922 bales Re-reels, 2,889 bales; Kakeda, 725 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	V 1,100
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	1,030
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	1,040
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	945
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,025
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	1,000
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	900
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	980
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	895
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	950
Re-reels—No. 1½	920
Re-reels—No. 2	890
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	940
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	890
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	870
Kakedas—No. 2	850

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

August	Present delivery.	August delivery.	September delivery.	October delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
6th	923	890	915	925
7th	923	885	—	924
8th	—	—	—	—
9th	921	880	911	922
10th	920	—	—	920
11th	921	880	—	921
12th	921	—	910	—

WASTE SILK.

The market is firm and shows a tendency to business.

On August 12th stocks were: Noshi, 4,068 bales, Kibiso, 5,444 bales; and Sundry, 556 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	90 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	65 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	117 to 122
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	107 to 112
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	95 to 105
Reree'—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is still weak. There ha e been no important transactions.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.50	8.15	8.00	8.30	8.10
27"	8.40	7.95	8.00	8.00	8.05
36"	8.70	8.20	8.00	7.85	7.85

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.15	8.00	7.85	7.50
27"	8.10	8.00	7.95	7.60
36"	8.15	8.05	7.85	7.65

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.60	8.10	8.80	9.50
22½	8.00	8.70	9.80	10.70
27	9.10	10.50	11.50	12.90
36	—	12.80	14.30	15.80

COPPER.

The quotations at home have advanced considerably. In consequence, the market shows some activity.

According to a London telegram of August 11th, the quotation was £61.2.6.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

The quotations fluctuate on a large scale, owing to changeable weather.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	698.4 3
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	110,881

Delivery.	Closing Price.
August	13.78
September	14.35
October	14.75

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku.*
Superior	Yen 14.80
Medium	13.80
Common	12.80
Average	13.80

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
August	13.64	August	—
September	13.87	September	13.96
October	13.94	October	13.96

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TEA.

No change in quotations.

The market is inactive. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to August 12th, the sales amounted to 7,923,500 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 210,300 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y.	—	—
Choice	—	—	
Finest	—	—	
Fine	—	—	
Good Medium	35	—	40
Medium	30	—	34
Good Common	27	—	29
Common	24	—	26

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The quotations fluctuate a little. A little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
August	128.30
September.....	127.80
October.....	126.95

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Aug. 13

London silver unchanged China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates all unaltered, closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London	—Bank T.T	s/o½@$\frac{9}{16}$
—	— Bills on demand	s/o$\frac{9}{16}$
—	— 4 months' sight.....	s/o$\frac{11}{16}$
—	Private 4 months' sight	s o⅞
—	— 6 months' sight	s 1
Paris & Lyons	—Bank sight	257½
—	Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong	—Bank sight .....per $100	85¾*
—	Private 10 days, sight do	83¾*
Shanghai	—Bank sight	87¼*
—	Private 10 days' sight.....	89¼*
India	—Bank sight	153¼
	Private 30 days' sight	155¼
America	—Bank sight.....	49¾
—	Private 30 days' sight	50⅜
—	Private 4 months' sight	51@⅜
Germany	—Bank sight	209
—	Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London).....		23½

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer.		Date
Hongkong...	P. & A....	Selja	F.	Aug. 13
America.....	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru 1	Sa.	Aug. 14
Hongkong...	T. K. K....	Chiyo Maru 2	M	Aug. 16
Seattle	N. Y. K....	Shinano Maru 3	M	Aug. 16
Tacoma	B. L	Suveric	M	Aug. 16
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Iyo Maru	Tu.	Aug. 17
Portland.....	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	Tu.	Aug. 17
Hongkong...	G. N.....	Minnesota 4	Tu	Aug. 17
Vancouver...	C. P. R....	Em. of China 5	W	Aug. 18
Europe	N. D. L...	Buelow	Su	Aug. 22
America.....	P. M.....	Korea 7	Su	Aug. 23
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	Tu	Aug. 24
Europe	M. M.....	Australien	Th.	Aug. 26
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Asia	F	Aug. 27
Hongkong...	B. L	Aymeric	M	Sept. 6

1 Left San Francisco on the 27th ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 7th inst.
3 Left Seattle on the 31st ult
4 Left Hongkong on the 2nd inst.
5 Left Vancouver on the 4th inst.
6 Left San Francisco on the 5th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.		Date
Europe	N. D. L...	Goeben	Sa	Aug. 14
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru	Su.	Aug. 15
Shanghai ...	N. Y. K..	Chikugo Maru	Su	Aug. 15
Tacoma	O. S. S....	Fitzpatrick	M.	Aug. 16
Hongkong...	B. L	Suveric	Tu	Aug. 17
America.....	C. R.....	A'ral Fourichon	Tu	Aug. 17
Europe	N. Y. K...	Tamba Maru	W	Aug. 18
Hongkong ..	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	W.	Aug. 18
America.....	T. K. K...	Chiyo Maru	W	Aug. 18
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of China	W.	Aug. 18
Hongkong...	N. Y. K....	Shinano Maru	Th	Aug. 19
Seattle	G. N.....	Minnesota	Th.	Aug. 19
Australia ...	N. Y. K....	Yawata Maru	Sa	Aug. 21
Europe	M. M.....	Tonkin	Sa	Aug. 21
Tacoma.....	B. & S....	Cyclops	Su	Aug. 22
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Korea	M.	Aug. 23
Vancouver...	C. P. R..	Em. of Japan	Tu	Aug. 24
Portland.....	P. & A....	Rygja	F.	Aug. 27
America.....	P. M.....	Asia	Sa.	Aug. 28
Seattle	N. Y. K..	Kaga Maru	W	Sept. 1
Tacoma	B. L	Aymeric	W	Sept. 8

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Keelung Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,669, Yamamoto, 5th Aug.,—Tairen, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, T. Harrison, 5th Aug.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Saxonia, German steamer, 3,316, Bahle, 6th Aug.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

El Lobo, British tank steamer, N. O. Gray, 6th Aug., —Lobitos, O.I.—Cornes & Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 7th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,460, A. G. Stevens, 8th Aug.,—South America via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Goeben, German steamer, 5,151, B. Wilhelmi, 8th Aug.,—Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8,700, Henry E. Morton, 8th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,837, R. Takeda, 8th Aug.,—Antwerp and London via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taito Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,246, 9th Aug.,—Takao, General. Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 3,047, R. L. Daniel, 9th Aug.,—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Elax, British steamer, 2,612, J. Milner, 10th Aug.,—Singapore, Oil—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kutsang, British steamer, 3,110, R. D. Bradley, 10th Aug.,—Calcutta via ports, General —Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Ogawa, 10th Aug.,—Takao, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Pingsuey, British steamer, 4,150, J. Barber, 11th Aug.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General. Butterfield & Swire.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, Read, 11th Aug.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 11th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,327, Charbonnel, 11th Aug.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 11th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumeric, British steamer, 4,006, James Mathie, 11th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General. —Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Nikko Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,434, M. Yagi, 12th Aug.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shokwa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,904, Kosuzu, 11th Aug.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Manchuria, American steamer, 8,750, A. Dixon, 12th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Galveston, U. S. cruiser, 3,200, Captain Hoogewerff, 6th Aug.,—Chefoo.

Bencleuch, British steamer 2,679, Geo. McMillan, 6th Aug.,—Vladivostock, General.—Cornes & Co.

China, American steamer, 3,186, D. E. Friele, 7th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,162, Girard, 7th Aug.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Cie.

Saxonia, German steamer, 3,316, Bahle, 8th Aug.,—Marseilles, Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Han Sang, Korean steamer, 796, J. S. Gundersen, 8th Aug.,—Moji, Ballast.—Japanese.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Arakawa, 8th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8,700, Henry E. Morton, 9th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, T. Harrison, 9th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Atsuta Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,284, Wm. Thoupsen, 9th Aug.,—Nagasaki via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Laertes, British steamer, 2,904, Evans, 10th Aug.,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Syria, British steamer, 4,191, D. C. Gregor, 10th Aug.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—P. & O S.N. Co.

Carmarthenshire, British steamer, 3,047, R. L. Daniel, 10th Aug.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Mishima Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,270, A. E. Moses, 11th Aug.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,460, Hinokuma, 11th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irizawa, 12th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kutsang, British steamer, 3,110, R. D. Bradley, 12th Aug.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Elax, British steamer, 2,612, J. Milner, 12th Aug.,—Taketoyo, Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kumeric, British steamer, 4,006, James Mathie, 12th Aug.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 12th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Manchuria, American steamer, 8,750, A. Dixon, 12th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Ogawa, 12th Aug.—Takao, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Mongolia* from San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. H. Abegg, Mr. A. Danelsberg, Mr. T. Fukui, Miss Anna L. Hill, Mr. T. Hirose. Mrs. T. Hirose, infant and maid, Rev. Clay MacCauley, Mrs. Chas. E. Miller, Mr. J. B. Powles, Miss Lena M. Reddington, Rev. Dr. Reiners, Mr. K. Sato, Miss Irene Schweer, Mr. A. W. Skinner, Mrs. A. W. Skinner, Rev. W. Stoecke, Bishop Seth Ward, Mr. Seth Ward Jr., Mr. B Westermann, Mr. F. S. Morse, Mr. N. W. Alulue, Mrs. F. S. Morse, Mr. P. Guegelmann, Mrs. L. A. Hicks, Mrs. Nina A. Morris, Mrs. R. C. Thayer, Miss A. A. Bridge, Miss J. Francis, Mr. N. Dimitrieff Mr. W. E, Knight and Mr. Julius Moeller. For Kobe.—Mr. R. T. Evans, Mrs. A. G. Welbon and infant, Miss V. L. Snook, Master Henry Welbon, Mr. A. G. Welbon and Miss Barbara Welbon. For Nagasaki :—Mr. Roy Anderson and Miss C. Andersen. For Manila :—Mr. F. R. Adams, Mrs. F. R. Adams, Mr. A. Alcazar, Mr. A Anguelles, Miss Clement Asturias, Mr. Pastor Avisado, Mr. A. de las Alas, Miss B. Babcock, Mrs. J. R. Babcock, Mrs. J. R. Babcock, Mr. H. E. Balentine, Mr. S. Bautista, Mrs. I. P. Campbell, Miss Nellie Campbell, Mrs. Louise B. Crossfield, Hon. Chas. B. Elliot, Mr. P. Gomez, Mr. A. Gibson, Miss F. Grayum, Mrs. C. W. Hillman, Mrs. Chas. Jarman and infant, Miss Lina Jarman, Miss M. A. Lewis, Miss F. I. Lewis, Mr. A. J. MacDonald, Miss Miriam Myers, Mr. Chas. J. Nelson, Miss M. A. O'Brien, Mrs. R. O'Connor, Mrs. A. Pond, Mr. Wickham Quinan, Miss J. N. Reardon, Mr. J. D. G. Rodgers, Mr. P. Sanchez, Mr. S. P. Stewart, Mr. Harry M. Smith, Surgeon E. R. Stitt, U.S.N., Mrs. E. R. Stitt, Master Edward Stitt, Miss Mary Stitt, Miss Emma Stitt, Mr. Russell Trace, Mrs R. Trace and infant, Mr. R. H. Wardell, Mrs. R. H. Wardell, Mr. J. Ma Menendez and Miss Pilar Elumba. For Hongkong :—Mr. F. A. Allen, Mr. Gabe Cohn, Mrs. Gabe Cohn, Master Paul Cohn, Mrs. C. C. Cohn, infant and servant, Mr. J. B. Hoffmann, Mr. Wm. M. Milne, Mrs. Wm. M. Milne, Mr. Quan Kai, Mr. Quan Yaid, Mr. R. C. Thayer, Mr. J. E. Ward, Mrs. J. E. Ward, Mr. Fong Toon, Miss Fong Yet, Mrs. Fong Toon and infant and Master Fong Geong in cabin.

Per American steamer *Manchuria* from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. Yang Kay, Capt. R. E Wyllie, Mrs. R. E. Wyllie, Mr. E. H. Dunning, Mr. E Grosser, Mrs. W. N. Hughes, Mr. A. R. Hagen, Mr. D. L. Gleson, Miss Sybil Howard, Mr. P. Kaemmerer, Mr. H. Morris, Miss W. Morris, Miss N. Morris, Mrs. Lewis and amah, Miss Page, Mrs. E. J. Peabody, Mr. E. J. Peabody and P. K. Condict. For Honolulu :—Mr. W. C. Lyon. For San Francisco :—Mr. I. Fr sher, Mr. H. Duthie, Mr. F. F. Smith, Mr. C. F, Heuser, Mrs. M. W. Creagh, Master Merrick W. Creagh, Mrs. Ng A. L. Kwai, Mrs A. H. Holliday, Dr. J. Pettyjohn, Mrs. J. Pettyjohn, Mr. T. G. White, Mrs. J. L. Hendry, Master John Hendry, Miss Alice Parker, Mr. M. J. Strong, Mrs. M. J. Strong and Mrs. W. Hickman in cabi

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons* for Marseille via ports :—Mr. W.W. Wilson and one boy, Mr. Oscar Teenwissen, Mr. Y. Takebayashi, Mr. P. C. Sethna, Mrs. P. C. Sethna, Mr. Schellhorn, Mr. J. H. Sharp, Mr. Thomerean Lamotte, Mr. Burke Homan, Mr. Gopaldas, Mr. Hosamall, Mr. Hotchand, Fieres Crepin and Mr. Yamada in cabin.

Per American steamer *China* for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. Hugh L. Anderson, Miss M. L. Anderson, Miss A. E. Bachelder, Mr. F. C. Bowles, Mrs. F. C. Bowles and infant, Mr. J. Brask, Capt. F. A. Brown, Mrs. F. A. Brown and son, Miss Mary

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Campbell, Mr. S. Catardine, Mrs. S. Catardine, Miss Stella Chambers, Mr. Chan Nee Kwan, Mrs. Chan Shee, Mr. Chin Ling Fang, Miss M. Chubb, Mr. B. A. Clarke, Miss E. Clifford, Mrs. R. M. Coquard, Mr. G. Coulthard, Mr. J. W. Creighton, Mrs. Otto Dolling, Master E. C. Drollette, Mr. Newton A. Dukes, Mr. Aage Enna, Mr. Fei Hoing Jen, Mrs. Gilbert, Miss Rose Goldenberg, Mrs. William Harris, Miss Ruth Harris, Mr. N. Haskim, Mrs. P. Hayden, Mr. W. T. Hendricks, Mr. L. Hermann, Mrs. L. Hermann, Mr. J. A. Higgins, Mr. H. Hornstein, Mr. S. Hornstein, Mrs. A. M. Howe, Mr. Hu Gao Hsi, Mr. K. Ishikawa, Mr. K. Iwahashi, Miss V. Jameson, Miss L. Jameson, Miss E. Jameson, Mr. H. M. Johnson, Mr. F. G. Jordan, Mr. A. Keller, Miss Maud Kinney, Miss Lan Ting Hin, Miss Lee Nook, Mr. E. B. Leonard, Mrs. Lewis, Miss M. H. Lewis, Miss Little, Mr. A. Lukacs, Mrs. Lorrie Lyts, Mrs. A. McDuffie and infant, Miss H. McGraw, Mr. H. W. Meyer, Mr. Nee Wen Chin, Mr. D. E. Newell, Mrs. D. E Newell, Mr. A. La C. Nicolle, Mr. K. Oka, Mrs. K. Oka, Mr. M. E. Pearson, Mrs. G. M. Prentiss, Mr. Quiogue, Mr. L. Ruostan, Mrs. M. L. Ryan and infant, Master Paul Ryan, Mr. B. Shimamoto, Miss Carrie Shumway, Mr. Rowland Snelling, Mr. C. L. Stokes, Miss M. Thomas, Mr. A. E. Tilston, Mrs. S. C. Todd, Miss E. L. Treat, Mr. Tsen Shao Yuen, Miss H. Wade, Miss Westermann, Mrs. Wilson, Mr. Won Gang Huo, Mrs. Wong Shee, Mr. Woo Kok San, Mr. S. Yamaga and Mr. Yueng Lup in cabin.

Per American steamer *Mongolia* for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Rich T. Evans, Miss V. L. Snook, Mr. Roy Anderson, Mr. F. R. Adams, Mrs. F. R. Adams, Mr. A. Alcazar, Mr. A. Arguelles, Miss C. Asturrias, Mr. Paster Avisado, Mr. A. de las Alas, Miss B. Babcock, Mrs. J. R. Babcock, Mr. H. E. Balchtine, Mr. S. Bautista, Mrs. I. P. Campbell, Miss N. Campbell, Mrs. L. B. Clossfield, Hon. Chas. B. Elliott, Miss P. Ellumba, Mr. P. Gomez, Mr. A. Gibson, Miss F. Grayum, Mrs. C. W. Hillman, Mrs. Chas. Jarman and infant, Miss J. L. Jarman, Mr. F. H. Allen, Mr. G. Cohn, Mrs. G. Cohn, Master P. Cohn, Mrs. Chas. C. Cohn, infant & servant, Mr. J. D. Hoffman, Mr. R. C. Thayer, Mr. J. E. Ward, Mrs. J. E. Ward, Master Fong Geong, Mr. E. Owen, Mrs. Garcia, Mr. Garcia, Dr. Valdez and wife, Mrs. E. Prieto and daughter, Mr. D. Tuoson and servant, Mrs. D. Tuoson and daughter, Hon. B. Legarda and child, Mr. A. G. Welbon, Mrs. A. G. Welbon and infant, Master H. Welbon, Miss B. Welbon, Miss C. Anderson, Miss M. A Lewis, Miss F. I. Lewis, Mr. A. J. McDonald, Miss M. Myers, Mr. Chas. J. Nelson, Miss M. A. O'Brien, Mrs. R. O'Conner, Mrs. A. Pond, Mr. W. Quinan, Miss J. N. Reardon, Mr. J. D. G. Rodgers, Mr. P. Sanchez, Mr. S. P. Stewart, Mr. H. M. Smith, Surgeon Ed. R. Stitt, Master Ed. Stitt, Miss Mary Stitt, Miss Emma Stitt, Mr. R. Trace, Mrs. R. Trace and infant, Mr. R. H. Wardell, Mr. Wm. M. Milne, Mrs. Wm. M. Milne, Mr. Quan Kai, Mr. Quan Yaid, Mr. Fong Toon, Mrs. Fong Toon and infant, Miss Fong Yet, Mrs. J. S. Fair, child, infant and amah, Lt. and Mrs. J. B. Corey, Mrs. D. Russell, Mr. W. O. Hall and Mr. S. F. Armstrong in cabin.

Per British steamer *Syria* for London and Antwerp via ports:—Mrs. Worth and child and Miss L Baird in cabin.

Per American steamer *Manchuria* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss E. M. Arnott, Mr W. H. Ashhurst, Mrs. H. Ashhurst, Miss Weedon Cooke, Mrs. H. E. Cotton, Mrs. M. W. Creagh, son and amah, Dr. Wm. R. Du Bose, Med. Insp., U.S.N., Mrs. Wm. R. Du Bose, Miss Helene Du Bose, Miss Kate Du Bose, Mr. H. Duhie, Mr. E. B. Fosnacht, Mr. W. Fox, Mr. I. Frasher, Mrs. J. F. Golding, Miss C. F. Harrison, Mrs. J. L. Hendry, Master John Hendry, Master Robert Hendry, Mr. C. F. Heuster, Mrs. W. Hickman, Mr. L. Y. Hitchcock, Mrs. A. H. Holliday, Mr. Morris Lawson, Miss Mabel Lee, Mr. W. C. Lyon, Mr. A. J. McElroy, Rev. P. E. McGee, Mr. Thorpe Nesbit, Madam Armino Om, Miss Alice Parker, Master A. Parker, Dr. J. Pettyjohn, Mrs. J. Pettyjohn, Mr. W. Brooke Rawle, Mrs. W. Brooke Rawle and maid, Mr. R. D. Read, Mr. D. C. Ruigh, Mrs. D. C. Ruigh and child, Mr. Leo Salingor, Mr. F. Schopflocher, Major G. A. Skinner, Mrs. G. A. Skinner, Miss Marian Skinner, Miss Lucille Skinner, Master Leslie Skinner, Mr. F. F. Smith, Mr. M J Strong, Mrs. M. J. Strong, Mr. L. O Sussdorff and Mr. T. G. White in cabin.

CARGO.

Per American steamer *Kumeric* for Victoria and Tacoma:—

From.	TEA. Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total Packages
Keelung	—	—	10,503	10	—	10,513
Foochow.....	230	1,568	—	155	—	1,953
Shanghai.....	420	4,969	2,530	1098	—	9,017
Kobe	365	955	—	—	—	1,321
Yokohama ...	1,961	3,682	41	—	—	5,684
Shimidzu.....	1,410	1,145	556	—	—	3,111
Total ...	4,385	12,319	1,3630	1 263	—	31,598

SILK.

	New York.	Eastern.	Other Cities.	Total
Yokohama.....	178	..... —	..... —	 178
Total	178	..... —	..... —	 178

SILK SHIPPERS.

Silk shippers by *Aki Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., on the 5th Aug.:—

	Bales.
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	55
Jewett and Bent	43
Vivanti Bros.....	40
Pila & Co.....	15
F. Strahler & Co.....	10
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	246
Kito Gomei Kaisha.....	191
Total	600

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Ernest Simons*:—

	Raw. Marseilles Option	Lyon.	Moscow	Milan.	Waste. France.	Sw'land	Trieste.	Peignes
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	190	—	—	—	8	—	—	—
Sieber, & Co	123	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	117	—	—	—	22	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.....	100	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber Wolff & Co...	71	98	10	—	11	3	—	—
L. Mettet	40	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hara Yushutsuten .	35	—	15	—	—	—	—	—
Pila & Co.....	—	66	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co. ...	—	30	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Strahler & Co....	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.....	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total.....	681	224	25	—	41	3	—	—

Per British steamer *Syria* for London and Antwerp via ports:—

	Waste Silk England	France.	Trieste.	Bombay.
Cornes & Co.....	—	12	—	—
Total	—	12	—	—

Silk shippers by *China*, for San Francisco on the 7th August:—

	Bales.
Siber, Wolff & Co.	120
Bavier & Co.....	110
F. Strahler & Co.....	90
Pila & Co.....	80
Nabholz & Co.....	40
Vivanti Bros.....	31
China & Japan Trading Co., ...	25
H Bernardin & Co.....	10
Varenne & Co.....	10
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	311
Kito Gomei Kaisha.....	57
Total	884

(毎土曜日一回發行)
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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 21ST, 1909.

DEATH.

RUBATTEL.—At Soochow, China, on August 10th, 1909, LOUIS RUBATTEL, a native of Switzerland, aged 47 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

WE understand that a branch office of the International Banking Corporation will shortly be opened at Hankow.

IT is reported that the Korean Crown PRINCE will return from his tour in the Northern districts to Tokyo on the 23rd instant.

IT is reported that the lepers in the Ikan in at Meguro, Tokyo, will be quartered at Higashimurayama mura, Kitatama-gori, from the beginning of next month.

PRINCE IWAKURA, Minister of the Imperial Household, has been ordered by the Emperor to entertain Baron Shibusawa and all the other businessmen who are to visit America, at the Shiba Detached Palace on the 17th instant. An Imperial command will be delivered on the occasion.

IT is reported that the Kobe Marine and Fire Insurance Company completed on the 13th inst the payment of all the insurance money in connection with the Osaka fire.

ON August 16 a girl of four was killed by an electric-car running at Yushima Rokuchome, Tokyo, and the car was derailed. The conductor and the driver were taken into custody.

ON August 12, the public procurator of the Tokyo Local Court entered an appeal in connection with the sentence passed on the author and the publisher of the socialistic *Jiyu Shiso*, on the 10th instant

ON the 11th instant, a boy of four was injured by a motor-car in which Mr. Asano Soichiro was travelling. The father of the injured boy is reported to have complained of the attitude of Mr. Asano.

RESIDENT-GENERAL Viscount Sone is reported to have almost completely been restored to health. He is, however, still looking after the official business at his residence, in accordance with the advice of the physician.

FREE trade between America and the Philippine Islands came in effect on August 6. On the other hand, sugar and tobacco, which are imported from other countries to the Philippines, are saddled with a heavy duty.

IT is reported that the Tokyo Municipal Assembly has decided to present 2000 cherry-trees, each of about 10 feet in height, to America. They will be planted in a recreation ground on the bank of the Potomac River in Washington.

A NAGASAKI telegram reports that several slight shocks of earthquake were repeated in the districts near Onsendake on the 17th and 18th instant. There was no general alarm, but a few foreign sojourners left the place in apprehension of danger.

THE Japanese Consul at Kirin reports that owing to heavy rain in the districts there on the 24th and 25th ultimo, the lumber swept away by the flood amount to no less than *yen* 40,000, and 70 to 80 persons were drowned. Over 300 houses were submerged.

WE are informed by the officials of the local branch of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China, that the Bank has opened an agency at Klang, Selangor, Federated Malay States. The town of Klang is centrally situated in the Selangor Rubber Planting Districts.

ACCORDING to Mr. Iki, an expert belonging to the Geological Investigation Association of Tokyo, the nature of the soil in the districts of Omi and Mino, where the recent earthquake happened, is the most fragile in Japan. Those districts are therefore very liable to shocks.

ON the afternoon of the 11th inst., in perfect weather and amid the most pleasant surroundings, says the *Nagasaki Press*, the marriage of Captain Shelfeeff, Fortress Commander of the Russian Fortress Artillery, and of the Vladivostock garrison, to Miss Christina Wilson, daughter of the late Captain J. Wilson of the N.Y.K, and later of the Stevedorage firm of that name, was solemnized at the Russian Church, Minamiyamate, Nagasaki. The ceremony, which was according to to the Russian Orthodox Ritual, commenced at three o'clock, the Reverend M. Takai officiating. The service was, to the uninitiated, both a lengthy and beautiful one, and of a most impressive nature.

ACCORDING to the *London and China Express*, the statement has been made by friends of Sir Robert Hart that there is not the slightest probability of this distinguished public servant returning to China, even after the termination of his extended leave of absence. Sir Robert has placed himself unreservedly in the hands of his medical advisers, and as they remain obdurate he has decided to abide by their decision and relinquish his great work in the Far East.

WE beg to draw the attention of our readers to the fact that, as will be seen by a glance at our advisement colums, the Hippodrome Circus and Menagerie, which has been performing so successfully in Tokyo has arrived in Yokohama. The opening performance is fixed for Thursday evening the 19th, while matinees will be given each Wednesday and Sunday. This circus is quite the largest thing of its kind to visit Yokohama and no resident should miss the opportunity of seeing a thoroughly interesting show.

THE second pair of "tubes" under the Hudson connecting Manhattan and Jersey City, was opened for traffic last month, the first train making the run in 2½ minutes, to the accompaniment of a tremendous din from the whistles of steamers on the river above. The first pair of tunnels was opened 17 months ago, and the third pair, which is being built for the Pennsylvania Railway, is nearing completion. Thus the natural barrier to the growth of New York westward is being overcome, to the credit of modern engineering and to the relief of the overcrowded city.

MORE than seventy per cent. of all the people in Russia over nine years of age can neither read nor write, remarks the *California Christian Advocate*. Russia spends about six cents per capita for education and about one dollar per capita for battleships and naval equipment. If Russia should disband her army and educate her citizenship she would be much stronger. Japan, by sinking the Russian fleet, has shown to Russia and to the world that it is possible for a nation to get along for a while at least without a navy. The report is that Russia is about to open 143,000 primary schools.

IT is reported, says the *Seoul Press*, that there are at present throughout the country about 2080 miles of police telephone wires, the annual expenditure for the same standing at 55,000 *yen* or about 26.90 *yen* per mile. In order to promote facility of communication for the policing of the country, as well as for the suppression of the insurrection, the authorities concerned have decided to construct new telephone lines to the length of 500 miles at a cost of 70,000 *yen*. The expenditure for the construction will be defrayed from the reserve fund.

SPEAKING at some festivities at Mold, Flintshire last month, in connection with the marriage of his eldest son, Mr. H. R. Mansfield, M.P. for Spalding and a well known employer of labour and local preacher in Leicestershire, criticised the present Church of England form of marriage service. He was glad to notice, he said, that in the service at the Mold Presbyterian Chapel the word "obey" was not used. Although the bride promised many things, she did not promise to obey her future husband. He thought that it was about time they got rid of this barbaric piece of mediævalism.

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CHINA AND JAPAN.

There is evidently a strong disposition in Japan, if we may judge from the language of the newspapers, to devise some means of saving China's "face" in connexion with the Mukden-Antung Railway problem, but as yet no feasible plan has been proposed. Meanwhile everything seems to turn upon China's choice of an official to conduct the negotiations. It is felt that the Viceroy of Manchuria can not well undertake the task, in view of the stalwart attitude hitherto maintained by him. Mr. Na Tung will probably be the *deus ex machina*.

Only one Chinese paper has thus far commented on the situation. It is a Shanghai journal, and, as a matter of course, it supports its own country's side of the argument. But its views are not convincing. It sets out by saying that Japan, having fought to check Russian aggression in Manchuria, is now herself treading in Russian tracks and accurately following Russia's example. Moreover, Japan has already received ample compensation for the sacrificed blood and treasure, but what the nature of that compensation is our Shanghai contemporary does not say, not does it, when accusing Japan of following Russia's footsteps, take any note of the vital fact that, whereas Manchuria was once in the possession of Russian troops, it is now in China's possession as the result of Japan's exertions. Then it goes on to analyse Japan's designs, attributing this Antung-Mukden Railway to her apprehension that in the inevitable renewal of her struggle with Russia she would be unable to mass a sufficient force in Manchuria without the aid of such a road. Finally it laments that all the other Western Powers interested in obtaining railway concessions from China will now follow Japan's pernicious example, and the partition of China will be the result—a result by which Japan will profit largely. In short, the Shanghai journal seeks to arouse Russian hostility to Japan, and fails altogether to distinguish between the treaty rights of Japan and the purely arbitrary ambitions of other States, if there be any such ambitions.

Tokyo papers report that the English journals published in Hongkong are one and all favourable to Japan in this matter. Very likely they are. They doubtless remember that England is Japan's ally, and that Japan has had England's approval in the course she is now pursuing.

Probably when the accounts are fully made up, the only English paper published in Japan which is radically hostile to Japan will be found to be the *Japan Chronicle*. That journal is much perturbed when any one accuses it of hostility to the country whose hospitality it enjoys. The public, however, judges by deeds not by words, by practice not by professions; and the public agrees that inveterate hostility, veiled under a specious mask of impartial criticism, is the ultimate attitude of the *Japan Chronicle* in all questions of any moment to this country.

The question continues to be how to find a means of saving China's face. We may fairly assume that Japan is just as anxious to accomplish this as is China herself. Meanwhile the talk of suspending the operations of railway construction for the purpose of holding a new conference ceases to heard, and things appear to be now tending towards some substantial concession made by Japan in another direction.

The Viceroy of Manchuria is said to have declined to be saddled with the responsibility of having brought about the present crisis. He declares, it is reported, that be acted throughout in strict accord with instructions received from the Waiwupu, and as he enjoyed no discretion in the process, so he must now be acquitted of blame for the result.

As for the progress of the work of reconstruction, it appears to be satisfactory. The Chinese local officials are said to be abstaining from all opposition, and Chinese subjects are freely taking part in the labour. At the Huhkien-ling tunnel there seems to be some difficulty with the Chinese coolies, but it is not attributed to interference on the part of the local authorities.

It may well be supposed that the building of the Mukden-Antung line has given a great impetus to the prosperity of Antung. That city had as many as 40,000 Japanese subjects during the course of the war, but owing to the subsequent depressed state of trade, to the depreciation of silver and to the delay in commencing the reconstruction of the railway, the Japanese residents gradually fell away to seven or eight thousand. Now, however, everything is bustle and activity and settlers are flocking back to the city.

There appears to be little doubt that an amicable resumption of negotiations has been agreed upon between China and Japan, but beyond that nothing certain can be affirmed. The indications suggest that the Chinese Government, by yielding with a good grace as to the Mukden-Antung Railway, hopes to obtain from Japan concessions in other directions. Abstention from posting of railway guards is said to be one of the concessions which Peking is disposed to ask for, but we do not see how Japan can yield that point. No railway in Manchuria, not even the lines in the south, can be said to enjoy security against raids by the Hunghutsz, and if the Antung-Mukden road were unprotected, neither would passengers risk this line now by travelling on it nor would merchants entrust their goods to it. These railway guards are an absolute necessity. It is quite unreasonable to confound them with troops posted for purposes of military occupation, and until the Chinese Government recognises that distinction it is hard to see how the negotiations can proceed favourably.

The *Shanghai National Review* publishes what professes to be a copy of the statement presented by the Chinese Government to the Foreign Powers through its Representatives abroad on the 11th instant. The statement commences by alleging that the Japanese allowed the conventionally fixed period of 3½ years to elapse without making any move in the direction of converting the line. In fact, they took no step until the spring of the current year. (The Japanese Government, on the contrary, alleges that the question has been under discussion since 1907.—ED. *J.M.*). Nevertheless, China, being anxious to raise no difficulties with her neighbour, did not insist upon this point, and accordingly commissioners were sent to make a joint survey of the proposed changes. But China required that if the gauge was changed, it should be made the same as that of the Peking-Mukden railway, and further required that Japan should not post any troops along the line. The Chinese Government was therefore much surprised when, on the 6th inst. it received an ultimatum through the Japanese Representative in spite of the fact that the negotiations were in progress. (How is this to be reconciled with the Japanese assertion that on the 24th of June China addressed a note to Japan declaring that the repairs must be restricted to merely superficial operations? ED. *J.M.*) Therefore the Waiwupu immediation replied that although there did not appear to be any industrial or commercial occasion for widening the gauge, nevertheless if Japan wished to do so no objection would be raised provided that the other changes should be of a purely technical character. (The gist of the *communiqué* seems to have been somewhat mutilated in wiring). Moreover there must be no increase of the Japanese railway guards or police in Manchuria, and the duty of protecting the Mukden-Antung road must be entrusted to China. Finally the Waiwupu declined to be in any sense responsible for the delay hitherto concerned. It pointed out that the fault in this respect lay with Japan, who had failed to take any practical step within the prescribed time. China would have been justified in altogether declining to consider the question, but her friendship to Japan had restrained her from taking that course, yet Japan had not hesitated to appeal to her superior force.

It would not be fair to the Chinese Government to assume that the above is an accurate rendering of its note to Mr. Ijuin. For the Japanese Foreign Office has distinctly alleged that the Waiwupu's despatch of last June was a complete refusal to sanction the reconstruction of the line, and that subsequently to that despatch no further negotiations were found possible. It will be well to await an authentic *precis* of the Chinese note. This is all the more necessary because, in its concluding paragraph, the Chinese Government uses language such as is seldom heard in Diplomatic communications. It avers—or is said to aver—that although Japan declares the Mukden-Antung Railway to be for commercial purposes, the Chinese Government believes it to be for military purposes, and it adds that Japan's encroachments upon China's sovereignty in defiance of treaty can not be forgotten. Finally, the note says that in view of the increase gradually made by Japan in her military forces in Manchuria, China cannot agree to the posting of guards along the Mukden-Antung road, and that had Japan waived this point the question of reconstruction would have been settled long ago. (Surely this last assertion is a confirmation of what we have been learning in Japan for the past twelve-months, namely, that China persisted in confounding the two questions of railway guards and reconstruction? And in what respect has Japan increased her military forces in Manchuria? We can not but think that the *Shanghai National Review* is misinformed. The only talk there has been of increasing troops is on China's part in Chientao.

The English journals seem to be unanimously in favour of Japan, and the French journals adopt a similar, though less pronounced, tone.

So far as appearances go at present, things are proceeding quietly with regard to the Mukden-Antung Railway. Chinese landowners in the vicinity of the line showed some disposition at first to give trouble, but they completely changed their demeanour when they were informed that all just claims would be fully considered and due compensation given. Workmen also, who were inclined at the outset to ab tain from tendering their services, are now said to be seeking employment in abundant numbers. As for the idea that China looks for concessions from the Japanese Goverment

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in consideration of her own complaisance in this matter, it seems to be thought in Japan that no such course is called for. The re-construction of the Mukden-Antung Railway is not being carried out in consequence of any concession made by China. It is a simple implementing of a treaty-right secured three and a half years ago, and when China does simply what she is bound to do by convention, she can not reasonably ask to be paid for her generosity. Concerning the contention advanced by some vernacular newspapers in China to the effect that Japan's action in this instance will open the door to all sorts of aggressions by foreign Powers, it is justly pointed out that there can not be a precedent without some degree of analogy. A foreign power can not reasonably claim that the satisfaction of Japan's treaty-rights qualifies it to ask for something which is not a treaty right at all.

Reference may be made here to a somewhat inexplicable article in the *Mainichi Dempo*, which journal charges the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs with a discreditably invertebrate policy. It alleges that whereas Japan based her ultimatum to China on the hypothesis of Peking's insincerity, she allowed herself to be persuaded in 24 hours that Peking was sincere, and she accordingly opened negotiations for a compromise. Apart from our contemporary's vague statement, there is no evidence that Count Komura has done anything of the sort, and therefore it appears to us that this accusation must be regarded as a momentary vertigo on the part of the Tokyo journal.

There seems to be still some misunderstanding about the interpretation of the 6th Article of the Peking Treaty of 1905. The phraseology of the Article might easily have been clearer, but it does not in any way bind Japan to complete the reconstruction of the Railway within a period of 3 years (inclusive of one year for the repatriation of the troops) from the date of the signature of the Treaty. What it does is to guarantee that the right of the Chinese Government to buy up the Railway shall not be deferred for more than 15 years from the date of the completion of re-construction, assuming such completion to be effected within 3 years. To make this quite clear, the Treaty fixes the year 1,924 (namely, the 49th year of Kwanghsu) as the latest date when China's right shall become operative. It does not by any means fix the date when Japan's right of re-construction terminates. Japan may defer the work of re-construction as long as she pleases, but at whatever time she undertakes it, she is bound to recognise China's right of purchase in the year 1924.

A Mukden newspaper is writing strongly in favour of a boycott, but it is a wholly uninfluential journal, and its tirades are not likely to produce any effect.

Rumour says that there is some uneasiness in Russia about Japan's procedure in Manchuria. An idea prevails among the St. Petersburg public that Japan is about to construct a naval port on the Tumen River, and this is regarded as a breach of the Portsmouth Treaty. We in Japan are quite ignorant of any such intention as that here ascribed to the Japanese. It is possible, however, that the Russians may be making some mistake about the exact locality of Chyongjin; but even there there, has not been any talk of a naval port: all that is contemplated is a good commercial harbour.

We read in the *Jiji Shimpo* that there is in contemplation a project for establishing a port at an island called Shishijima, near Yongampo, in the Yalu. The idea is that Dairen and Newchwang are already quite insufficient in the matter of shipping facilities for the Three Eastern Provinces, and that this will be especially true after the Mukden-Antung line develops the resources and taps the wealth of the regions traversed by it. To build a good harbour at the island in question—which is said to be free from ice all the year round—and to connect it by rail with the Mukden-Antung line would involve an outlay of 6 million *yen*.

At the eleventh hour China seems to have shown the reasonableness which is certainly a trait of her national character. The world will give her full credit for good sense. It is true that the question was never of a serious character, and that China was not in a position to appeal to any weapon stronger than controversy. But she might very easily have retired to her tent and left the Japanese to construct the railway as best they could, at the same time issuing orders to her local officials to make things as unpleasant as possible. A decidedly embarrassing situation would thus have been created, and might very well have led to troublesome consequences. But China has put this temptation behind her back, and has chosen the temperate and friendly course. She deserves to be warmly applauded, although it must be confessed that the whole complication was due to her vexatious procrastination. The petty details of the question remain to be adjusted, but a conference has been appointed to sit in Mukden and no trouble may be apprehended.

It is evident, however, that China, while giving way about the re-construction question, is seeking to save her face by means of the railway-guard problem. She is evidently treating the former affair as a mere bagatelle compared with the latter, and is thus seeking to create the impression that she would never have objected to re-construction had not the posting of guards been a collateral issue. That is perhaps the wisest diplomacy she can pursue, but it is somewhat vitiated by the fact that she was several times invited by the Japanese Government to do exactly what she has now agreed to do, namely, to treat the two questions as entirely separate. There may still be some trouble if China obstinately refuses to agree to the posting of any guards, but we do not think that she will adopt any such course.

Now that the question of re-construction of the Mukden-Antung line has been amicably settled, it seems not improbable that the Japanese Government will make some concession as to the question of policing the line. The obvious course would be to employ Chinese police as well as Japanese, and since the sole purpose of the Japanese Government is to protect the road against outrages by Hunghutsz, there can be no cogent reason against such a plan, while, on the other hand, it would greatly soften the situation for China.

The financial arrangements with regard to the Kilin-Changchun and the Mukden-Hsinmintun Railways have now been practically arranged. The amount of Japan's disbursement on account of the former is 2,150,000 *yen*, and on account of the latter 320,000 *yen*. Both loans carry 5 per cent. interest, and the bonds are to be taken at 93. In the case of the Kilin Changchun line the loan is to remain unredeemed for five years and to be thereafter redeemed in 20 years. In the case of the other line there is no unredeemed period, and re-payment is to be effected in 18 years.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a leading article on the subject of the above two Railways. It says that Japan had made great concessions in connexion with them. Originally she was to have been part owner of the Changchun-Kilin line, but she has entirely waived that right and has agreed merely to be China's creditor for the cost of construction, the actual building to be done by the Chinese and the line to be hypothecated to Japan for the amount of the loan. As to the Mukden-Hsinmintun Railway, Japan, having come into possession of it as a military road after the Russian retreat, sold it for 1,600,000 *yen* to the Chinese Government, one half of which amount is understood to have been paid up by China and the remainder to have been lent by Japan on the security of the road. The sum of 320,000 *yen* mentioned above is one half of the cost of converting the line into a permanent track, China paying the other half herself. On the whole therefore Japan's lien on the line amounts to 1,120,000 *yen*

An interesting piece of news is telegraphed to the *Asahi Shimbun* from Mukden. It is to the effect that the Chinese Chamber of Commerce in that city gave a banquet to some 40 of the leading Japanese merchants and residents on the 18th inst., and assured their guests that the Chinese would not have anything to do with the boycott.

Tokyo newspapers state that on the 13th inst. a conference took place at Canton with regard to the Pratas Island affair. The Chinese Commissioner was prevented by illness from attending, but he sent a representative who, on China's behalf, is said to have preferred very moderate demands.

It seems that the answer presented by the Chinese Government to Japan on the 13th inst. refers to the survey of the last 20 miles of the Antung-Mukden Railway on the Mukden side. So at least we interpret the message, in view of the fact that the survey of the remaining portions of the line is understood to have been completed last April. Further the details of the arrangement of the reconstruction of the line have still to be discussed, and this will be done at Mukden, where a conference is said to have been opened on the same day between Viceroy Hsu and Mr. Consul-General Koike.

After all, we gather from the telegrams that there is no justification for the fear originally expressed that in consequence of Japan's action with regard to the Mukden-Antung Railway the settlement of the other problems pending between her and China would be indefinitely postponed. By this time the Japanese Representatives of the South Manchuria Railway have probably signed the Convention in Tientsin.

The Hunghutsz seem to be determined that their quiescence shall not furnish an evidence of the justice of the Chinese Government's contention that railway guards may be dispensed with along the Mukden-Antung Railway. They have made their appearance in great force in the neighbourhood of Telisu, where they fired a volley at a railway train. Happily no damage was done, but such incidents forcibly contradict the Chinese official theory.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has an interesting paragraph. It says that the *Hosho Maru* from Hongkong, which has just reached Nagasaki, brings news that the Chinese in Hongkong and Canton show perfect unconcern towards the question of the Mukden-Antung Railway. Moreover the number of coolies who are waiting to proceed to America, are said to be now anxious

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to obtain employment on the above Railway. The *Shogyo's* comment on this news is—"what a big country!"

Quoting a military authority, the *Mainichi Dempo* alleges that China has nominally three and a half divisions of troops in Manchuria. These are the Third, the Fifth, the Seventh and the mixed Division. Of the Third Division one regiment is stationed at Kilin, one at Changtu, and two at Changchun. With regard to the mixed Division, it has two regiments at Mukden, one at Kinchow and one at Hsinmintun, while the remaining division and a half are quartered mainly at Mukden. These troops are by no means up to their full strength, and they are very poorly trained, so that their military capacity is comparatively small.

THE PRESIDENT AND THE TARIFF BILL.

We note that one of our morning contemporaries in its issue of the 11th inst. speaks editorially of "the Senate Bill which the President has just signed." No one who has any knowledge of legislative procedure in the American Congress, and certainly no one who has followed the virulent discussion in the American press over this particular measure, could possibly make such a blunder, and it must therefore be attributed to a slip of the editorial pen.

The President did not sign the Senate Bill, nor anything like it. He signed a bill which, perhaps more than any other that has ever passed Congress, was virtually dictated from the White House, or in other words by the Executive himself.

The method of proceedure when the two Houses of Congress do not agree upon the provisions of a measure is to appoint a joint committee of conference who report upon the compromises upon which it has agreed, its report often constituting a practically new measure which both Houses generally accept, as they would the results of an arbitration.

The outcome in the case of the Tariff Bill well illustrates this peculiar system of checks and balances in use to guard against unwise action. The Lower House had spent months in framing its bill, which was then passed to the Senate for amendments, the latter in this case amounting to a complete transformation of the tariff schedules, then it went to the Conference Committee. In this particular Conference there happened to be one "silent partner" not a member of either House, nor officially a member of the Committee itself. But every important vote was taken with a realizing sense of the power of W. H. Taft to undo the work of that Committee at one stroke. It was the power of the Executive, used as it never has been before, which framed as well as gave force to the new American tariff. And yet there was no dictatorship in his action, nor aught of usurpation of authority, nor trenching upon the prerogatives of the legislative branch of the Government. He simply asserted his authority as the titular head of his party, and forced the leaders of that party to keep its pledges to the country. It was his own Bill, framed in accord with such pledges, that he signed.

The chorus of praise with which almost the entire American press, without distinction of party, greeted President Taft's preliminary intimation of his action upon the Tariff Bill, foreshadows the greater acclaim which must needs have followed his victory in shaping it for its final passage. The occasion for showing his hand was furnished by a visit to the White House of a score of Congressmen who waited upon him to urge the claims of their respective districts for the protection of the special industries therein established. The substance of his reply, as well as the manner of it, was eminently characteristic of the man, and straightway revealed to the people the sort of President they had placed in the Executive Chair. In the most forceful and yet inpressing, genial way, he seized upon the occasion to deliver a calm, dispassionated and eminently judicial statement of his attitude upon the whole subject. As the representative of the entire nation he reminded his visitors of the difference between his position and that of any representative of a district or section of the country, and gave them clearly to understand that the interests of the entire nation were the sole object of his concern. With the same imperturbable geniality he made it as clearly understood that as the chosen leader of his political party he deemed it his bounden duty to see to it that that party, being in power, should redeem its anti-election pledges made to the people. In other words, he served plain notice upon the allocates of special interests that the tariff was no longer a local but a national issue, and upon the political bosses that a master of statecraft superior to them all was in the Executive chair. And all this was done in a way constituting perhaps in all modern history the finest illustration of the iron hand in the velvet glove.

In other and most notable ways has the President made his influence felt in valuable contributions to the matter under discussion. He has pointed out to the hide-bound protectionists the vital danger to the country arising from the dependence of its industries upon the national treasury, to the detriment of the national virtues of skill, ingenuity, and enterprise, which rightly should be the chief factors in competitive rivalry with other nations.

In consonance with this idea the President has also greatly added to the educational value of the discussion, besides furnishing the entering wedge for the final destruction of the protective system, by his advocacy of substitute means of raising revenue for the nation's expenses. To this end he has, in a special message to Congress, recommended the adoption of an amendment to the Constitution permitting the levy of an income tax and suggested that in the meantime a tax, be laid upon the net earnings of corporations, both measures having been, in all probability, incorporated in the Tariff Bill which recently became law.

FOREIGN OPINION.

St. Petersburg seems to be taking a somewhat nervous view of Japan's action in Manchuria. Telegrams say that public opinion in that city tends to believe that Japan has sinister designs, and that in reconstructing the Antung Mukden Railway she is violating the Portsmouth Treaty. This latter assertion has reference, we presume, to the fact that Japan and Russia are pledged not to use for military purposes the lines owned by them in Manchuria.

With the exception of two Chinese papers the Germans of Peking preserve a discreet silence with regard to the polical crisis, but the Government officials are said to be doing everything in their power to foster among foreigners a feeling of hostility to Japan by charging the latter with various acts of arbitrariness in Manchuria.

CHIENTAO.

There has been a great deal of talk in Japanese newspapers about an unquiet state of affairs in Chientao from a short time previous to the present crisis. The reports were more or less contradictory and obviously exaggerated, so that we place little credence in them. But their persistence furnishes ground for anxiety. A collision seems to have actually taken place on the 10th inst. between some Chinese soldiers and Japanese gendarmes, and the latter had two slightly wounded, while the Chinese did not suffer at all. It is affirmed that the attitude of the Chinese is hostile and aggressive.

Lieut.-General Murata, who served for a considerable time in Korea while holding the rank of Major-General, has now been appointed Inspector of Fortifications in the Tokyo district. He has just returned to Japan for the purpose of assuming the functions of this new office, and is quoted as saying that nothing serious need be dreaded from the petty troubles now occurring in Chientao. He attributes the unquiet state of affairs to the mismanagement of the Chinese officials, and he says that until the main question is settled these petty quarrels are sure to take place.

We read in the *Asahi Shimbun* that in answer to representations made by the Japanese Government the Waiwupu has strenuously denied that any increase of Chinese troops has been made since the arrival of Mr. Wu in Chientao, or that any provocation whatever has been given from the Chinese side. This latter statement is at variance with Lieut.-General Murata's assertion, namely, that the aggressors are invariably Chinese.

KOREA.

A telegram from Shimonoseki to the *Mainichi Dempo* dated the 16th inst. says that the abolition of the Korean Department of Justice as arranged by treaty is to be effected about the middle of next month. The new codes of criminal and civil laws, now in process of compilation will not be finished until next year, and in the meanwhile the courts will follow Korean custom in adjudicating Korean cases, Japanese custom being observed otherwise.

We read in Tokyo papers that the budget of the Residency-General for next fiscal year has been compiled. It shows 2 million *yen* as the expenses of the Residency-General; 3 million as lent to Korea —it may be here noted that the accounts of Japan's loans to Korea which have hitherto been kept by the Finance Department in Tokyo are now to be transferred to the Residency General—; 3½ millions on account of expenditures of courts of law and Convention, and some other items which bring the total to 10 million *yen*. Among the expenditures of the Residency-General there are considerable increases under the heading of aids to education and to navigation.

The *Mainichi Dempo* has a paragraph on the subject of railways in Korea. It says that in order to develop Korea and northern Manchuria roads are required from Chyongjin to Kilin *viâ* Hoiryong, and from Gensan to Seoul or Pyongyang as well as some branches. The whole of this work is expected to involve an outlay of 500 million *yen*, and the idea is to raise this money in Japan. That is what the *Mainichi Dempo* says, but we suspect its figures to be at fault.

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THE REDUCTION OF INTEREST BY THE BANK OF JAPAN.

The reduction of its rate of interest by 2 *rin* daily on the part of the Bank of Japan is explained to be due to several causes. One is that the new American tariff has now been settled and that it will cause no inconvenience whatever to Japanese trade. Another is that plentiful stores of gold are now accumulated in the various central banks, and the tradal prospects look bright everywhere, Japan not excepted. As to the questions pending between China and Japan, which have proved of late a source of uneasiness in the business world, they are now in a fair way to be settled without Japan having to make any considerable sacrifice. Then there is the fact that the silk and rice crops promise to be well above the average and that great ease prevails in the domestic money market, while in Europe also the political horizon seems to be clear.

This reduction of interest was proclaimed in the afternoon of the 12th inst. and therefore there was no time for it to produce any effect on the share market that day.

The lowering of its rate by the Bank of Japan produced a marked upward effect upon the stock market on Friday, the shares of the exchange itself rising 4.50 points.

The lowering of its rate of interest by the Bank of Japan has attacted much attention. The new rate is 1.6 *sen* per diem, or 5.84 per annum. The cheapest rate quoted by the Bank during the present century has not been lower than this. Even in 1906, when everything was so prosperous, and credit was so good, the Bank's rate was 1.8 *sen* per diem. The cheapest rate on record was in 1893 from the 30th of May to the 1st of September: the figure then was 1.3 *sen* daily. It had stood at 1.35 *sen* in 1886, but these last two figures are records. The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that the Government will issue its next batch of Treasury bills, namely, 10 million *yen* at 1.2 *sen* per diem, *i.e.*, 4.38 per annum, and that even at such a low price plenty of subscribers will be found. The question now is what the private banks will do. In the natural course of events they would lower their rates at once. But there is a difficulty in the path, inasmuch as the Postal Savings Bank allows 5.4 per cent. on deposits, and if the private banks go much below that figure all the floating capital of the country will be drawn to the postal banks. The officials of the Finance Department are said to explain that although the Postal Bank allows 5.4 per cent., it pays nothing during the month of deposit and the month of withdrawal, so that its net figure is very much lower than the above. This explanation is not regarded as satisfactory, and it is thought that the Postal Bank will have to lower its rate without delay, in which event all the private banks will follow suit.

The chief reason for the surprise created by the Bank of Japan's action is said to be that the *bon* season, according to the old calendar, is just about to commence, and there was a natural expectation that no financial step of the kind would be taken until the conclusion of that season. Consequently the effect produced by the Government's action is all the more marked. It has to be remembered also that some 20 million *yen* of foreign money is on the point of entering municipal treasuries; that 8 millions will be paid out in September in the shape of interest of State bonds, and that in October the Treasury will redeem 20 million *yen* worth of these securities. A further fall in the rate of interest may therefore be confidently anticipated. The Osaka banks are said to have practically decided that they will reduce their rate on fixed deposits to 4.5 per cent. Their disposition is to reduce it to 4, but they consider that such a step would be too sharp.

The effect upon State securities has been that the 5 per cents. which had hitherto been quoted at 93 and a fraction have risen to the neighbourhood of 96. All shares also are tending steadily upwards.

AMERICA'S OUTLYING POSSESSIONS.

The political status of the outlying regions which recent years have added to the domain of the Western Republic, and which have brought upon it whatever reproach attaches to the modern idea of imperialism, would seem to be just now in process of rapid development.

At the outset of the acquirement of the distant islands the Government was confronted with the seemingly insuperable difficulty of including their inhabitants under any of the categories recognized by the organic law of the Republic. The ultimate aim of their possession having been announced as the task of fitting their people for self-Government, and the problems of such wardship proving to be entirely novel, it was inevitable that much floundering would follow from the initial attempts to solve them. The chief of those problems arose from the impossibility of designating the political status of the islanders, there being no word in the entire range of the dictionary to express or describe it. These people were not citizens of the Republic, it being unwise, under existing conditions to invest them with that dignity. They were not colonists, the nation having no colonies nor needing any. Nor were they subjects, the very name Republic negating the possibility of that designation. Their status being thus anomalous it became illogical and the troubles arising from trying to conduct any business or to build any government upon an irrational basis proved of course inevitable. Hence the initial chaos which marked the efforts of the Washington government in its imperialistic role.

A semblance of order is however, now being worked out of this chaos. Porto Rico and Hawaii have practically assumed the status of territories, the last of the tracts under that designation included in the old domain of the Republic, Arizona and New Mexico, being about to assume the dignity, of States of the Union. Lying as they do in comparatively close proximity to the nation's coast, it is safe to predict that Porto Rico and the Hawaiian group will follow suit at no very distant date and become integral parts of the Republic.

Alaska, the next outlying domain in the order of distance, is rapidly assuming such economic importance that its government, heretofore left almost entirely to any form which its denizens might choose to adopt, is now attracting the direct attention of Congress. It has for sometime past been merely in the hands of the Federal judges. It was hoped that President Taft could make a visit there this season in order to recommend to Congress a form of government suited to the peculiar local conditions, but the journey was of course rendered impossible by the delay in passing the Tariff Bill. In the meanwhile he has appointed a Governor of the territory, and there are indications that a full territorial government will be provided for Alaska at the next session of Congress.

The Philippines, as the most distant and by far the most intractable of the new possessions, have proved the hardest nut to crack, and the anomalous political status of their inhabitants, it is to be feared, must continue for a long time to come. A decided step in advance however has been gained, thanks to the manly stand taken upon the Tariff Bill, by President Taft, by establishing the principle of free trade between the islands and the United States, that measure, besides being dictated by every consideration of justice and common sense, being the first attempt to provide a strictly logical bond between the protecting country and its ward.

THE SUGAR SCANDAL.

Mr. Usui Tetsuo, who so far as the amount of money that has passed through his hands is concerned may be called the chief offender in the bribery affair, has now bowed his head to the judgment of the Appeal Court and published a sort of confession, which appears to us to be chiefly remarkable for its invertebrate character. He says, in effect, that the money he received was regarded by him as a legitimate subscription to be applied to the propagandism of his political views. The Courts of Law, however, have decided that he could not have accepted such money without some consciousness of corruption, and in that fact his guilt consists. He adds that he appealed from the judgment of the lower tribunal wholly because he thought that by acquiescing he might injure the cause of his comrades, but the Appeal Court having now given its decision, there is no occasion to carry the case further.

This document, which is certainly not remarkable for ingenuousness, is expected to greatly injure whatever reputation remained to Mr. Usui. The Japanese public had been disposed to condone his offence on the ground that he accepted the whole blame himself, and carefully refrained from divulging the names of any of those to whom he had handed a share of the spoils. In fact, a Tokyo newspaper published a cartoon in which he was represented as the Saviour bearing his cross in silence, while his disciples worshipped around him. Had he adhered to that attitude, he would now stand better in the opinion of his countrymen.

THE CHINESE STUDENTS IN TOKYO.

The Chinese students in Tokyo have, on more than one occasion, shown a strong disposition to meddle in political affairs, and no one will be surprised to learn that they have given way to this mood on the present occasion. Their unanimously adopted resolutions would, if carried into practice, inevitably involve the two neighbouring Empires in war. They do not pause to think of that or to reflect upon the disasters that must overtake their country if it entered into an armed contest with Japan. Their absorbing idea is no surrender, whatever be the cost. They are said to have elected three of their number, who are to proceed to Dairen, Peking and Shanghai for the purpose of organising a boycott of Japanese goods throughout the length and breadth of China. We are strongly of the opinion that the Chinese Government should be held responsible if any such organisation be effected. It is extravagant to imagine that a country's trade and commerce are to be made the playthings of irresponsible politicians.

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THE CENTRAL BANK OF KOREA.

The period of existence granted by the charter of the Central Bank of Korea is 50 years from the date of registration, with a prospect of extension at the end of that term. There is to be a president whose term of service is five years and who will be assisted by three directors serving for three years, and two managing directors serving for two years. The capital is 10 million *yen* in hundred *yen* shares, all of which must be registered in the name of their owners. The scope of the Bank's business seems to be much more extended than is usually the case with a central bank: it will practically perform all the functions of an ordinary bank. With regard to royalty the Bank has to pay to the Government one half of everything that it earns above a nett profit of 12 per cent. For the purposes of the Bank's business the Korean Government is to lend it 1½ million *yen* without interest. This money will lie unredeemed for five years, and will thereafter be paid back in 10 years by annual instalments.

An establishment committee of 5 persons, namely, two Koreans and three Japanese, are to meet at the residence of the Minister of Finance under the presidency of Baron Matsuo, Governor of the Bank of Japan. Three millions of the capital are to be subscribed by the Korean Government and the remaining 7 millions will be offered to the Korean and Japanese public, but of course the great bulk of it will be subscribed by the Japanese.

On the 15th inst. the statutes of the above Bank were promulgated in Seoul. Their contents have already been foreshadowed, but we may recall the facts that the shares can not be owned by anyone except a Chinese or a Japanese subject; that for the time being the directors are to be Japanese; that until 6 per cent. is paid upon all shares held by the public, the shares of the Korean Government do not become entitled to a dividend; and that during five years from the date of its establishment the Bank's non-official shareholders will be guaranteed 6 per cent. interest.

A FISCAL QUESTION.

Some time ago we stated that the Korean Government had issued a decree abolishing all export and import duties on goods travelling between Chyongjin and Hunchun, which latter place, as we have already explained, is within Chinese dominions near the Russo-Chinese frontier on the left bank of the Tumen River. The decree has hitherto remained without practical results, the Korean Government having failed to issue the necessary operative regulations. We now find in the *Chuo Shimbun* an allegation that the delay is due to a protest offered by the Foreign Office in Tokyo, which insists that it is out of the question for Korea off her own bat to make customs rules applicable to goods travelling from the disputed territory in Chientao to an unquestionable part of the Chinese realm. The Resident-General, at whose instance the decree is said to have been issued, originally is quoted by the *Chuo* as objecting that questions of trade and politics should be kept entirely apart, and as asserting that the legislation in question is strictly within China's rights. We (*Japan Mail*) do not believe that any such position has been assumed by the Resident-General, but such is the explicit statement of the *Chuo Shimbun*.

THE HARVESTS.

One has but to note the splendidly vigorous appearance of the rice fields in this vicinity to justify the belief that if the same conditions hold throughout the country an abundant harvest is in store for the empire's chief staple. There would seem to be now only the contingency of wild weather during the brief critical season of flowering which can possibly disappoint the nation's annual hope, upon which so much depends. As the interdependence of the world's peoples is also each year becoming more manifest it is reassuring likewise to note that the prospects of bountiful harvests in all the great agricultural centres is unusually favourable. What an enormous factor in the restoration and growth of prosperity this consideration has become, and what it means to the entire world of trade may be estimated from the fact that a mere fraction of a "crop per cent." one way or the other becomes an enormous figure when calculated upon the total wealth, eight billions of dollars gold, expected to come out of the ground in an average year.

In the United States the corn crop is estimated to bring this season the stupendous sum of two billions for the American farmer. It is the banner year for that staple.

Cotton, the backbone of American export trade, according to the latest Government report will be well up to the average in spite of the fact that the acreage is about four and a half per cent. less than last year.

Wheat, oats, and barley combined, according to the same report, will be the largest within five years, although here again the acreage in the case of wheat is the lowest but one in that period; while the prices to be realized by the farmers will be unprecedentedly high if anything like the present market quotations hold for the next few weeks.

AN EXCELLENT EDUCATIONAL ORGAN.

Lying before us is number 8 of the 16th volume of the *Chugwai Eiji Shimbun*, a monthly journal devoted to the study of English. We never see a copy of this periodical without admiring the discernment, linguistic ability and enterprise of the proprietor and editor, Mr. Y. Isobe. The publication consists of no less than 30 pages, every one of them crammed with useful information and exercises for the benefit of Japanese students of Engligh. The periodical contains about five pages of extracts from foreign local journals, to each of which are appended notes explanatory of all the different idioms, with sometimes full translations. Then follows a series of exercises consisting of short well-chosen sentences, and then a number of sentences for the student to correct, which last lesson is amongst the most useful that can be given to a student. Then we have five columns of a dictionary which is in course of compilation for the service of persons in trade. Each word is accompanied by illustrative examples, and when finished the whole will be an invaluable addition to the lexicography of Japan. The rest of the periodical is made up of excerpts from classical authors and contemporary writers, and to these also exhaustive notes or full translations are appended. In short, the *Chugwai Eiji Shimbun* should prove an immense aid to all earnest learners of the English language. With all this, a single copy of the journal costs only 10 *sen*, and the yearly subscription is the ridiculously small sum of 1.15 *yen*.

FACTORY CONDITIONS IN JAPAN AND AMERICA.

Criticisms have been so freely vented upon Japanese methods in the conduct of their great manufacturing concerns, especially in the matter of the proper care and conservation of the machinery employed, that it is reassuring to note the improvement in this regard in other lands, inasmuch as this nation has the reputation of "catching on" with much swiftness to the new ideas coming into vogue in the West. What a French writer, M. Benoit-Levy has to say in a recent number of *La Revue* concerning conditions observed in a recent inspection of factories in America may serve to open the eyes of this nation upon points hitherto neglected, but now shown to be of immense value.

One thing which specially impressed him was the extreme care being bestowed upon the perfection of the machines themselves, even to the minutest detail, and also the readiness with which an entirely new tool or machine is cast aside when another is invented a little more powerful or a little more precise. So great insistance is laid upon this feature that all the chief manufacturing concerns of the country, in their annual statements of their business, make the provision for such outlay a huge item in their accounts, often to the effect of a material shrinkage of dividends. That they find it good business so to do ought to have a salutary effect, when known here in Japan, to check the craze for big dividends obtained only by the lack of provision for the upkeep of the plant.

It is, however, the immense improvement being shown in America in the care bestowed upon the human machines employed in the factories, which most excited the admiration of the visitor from France. The old saying that "philanthropy has no place in business" is now being completely disproved from the business point of view, or in other words it has been discovered that philanthropy pays. M. Benoit-Levy relates incidents observed in a model factory at Dayton, Ohio:—

> One day the president of this establishment saw one of his workwomen warming her meagre noonday pittance on a radiator. "A girl who eats under such conditions cannot work well," he said to himself. "She will think more of her stomach than of her task. Will it not be cheaper for me to install low-priced restaurants?"
>
> Another day he noticed that certain female operatives were poorly provided as regards seating accommodation, or were without seats altogether. Orders were given that all the workwomen be provided with seats, the fact being palpable that moments lost in complaining of fatigue might profitably be devoted to work. Also, elevators were installed for the young girls employed on the sixth floor, in order to save the ten minutes which they habitually took to recover their breath when mounting the stairs; sanitary lavatories and bathrooms were constructed, courses of physical culture were instituted, together with lessons in hygiene,—in short there was created a centre of recreation, on the theory that healthful distractions tend to divert the mind of the operative from grievances real or imaginary, social revolt, etc.

In the motive of all this, be it observed there is no limit of mere sentiment. It is all cold calculation of results in hard cash, and the outcome, it has been found, is the production of such results.

If only a moiety of what we are told of the hardships and sufferings of the operatives in some of the Japanese manufacturing establishments is true, it behoves their managers to take note of the great source of revenue of which they are depriving those establishments by their neglect of the human machines placed in their care.

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NIKKO.

Nikko, the glory of Japan, has changed much during the past ten years. Not that the buzzing of phonographs and the tinkling of musical boxes are to be heard in the intervals of the booming of the grand old bells. That is indeed perceptible enough, but it is an alteration which does not force itself upon one's attention when one passes beyond the precincts of the village and the temples. The striking alteration is in the natural features of the locality. Floods and storms have torn away, and are constantly tearing away, big fragments of landscape. The disastrous typhoon of 1901 wrought signal mischief and the even fiercer gale of last spring accentuated the damage. The ravages of the tornado were mostly confined to the immediate vicinity of the river-course. Paths were swept away, rocks undermined and roads obliterated. There is no longer a Dai-nichi-do. That beautiful spot, which for centuries had delighted visitors, has disappeared. The place thereof knows it no more. Gamman-ga-fuchi is a dilapidated wreck. The site where the much frequented tea-house stood is now marked by an eddy in the Daiya-gawa, and several of the moss-clothed Buddhas are prostrate or headless. As for Shika-yama, the barriers that once gave it privacy have been removed, it is true, but the paths are so strewn with rocks and buried in undergrowth as to be no longer serviceable, and the same may be said of the favourite old mountain-track to Makura-no-taki. As for the road to Chusen-ji, it is carried over long trestle-bridges of the most fragile nature, and its continued career as a highway can not be very prolonged. It is an absorbing and onerous problem for the inhabitants to preserve communications with not merely the neighbourhood that gives Nikko much of its charm but even with the outer world. State aid can not be extended to the preservation of roads in such an essentially rural district, yet at many places along the course of the Daiya-gawa, it has been found necessary either to dispense with roads altogether or to protect them against the potentialities of the torrent by means of stone parapets, sometimes 20 feet high, and by break-waters correspondingly solid. Whence funds are obtainable for such costly constructions, it is hard to conceive, and one's perplexity is mingled with admiration for the enterprise of the people, who, for all their apparent poverty, are ready to subscribe great sums for these purposes. It is not roads or the river-banks alone that have suffered, however. The noble old cryptomeria succumbed in considerable number to the violence of last May's hurricane. The impression produced by their fate is that the agent of destruction was curiously capricious. Magnificent cedars, sound to the core, have been uprooted and torn away from the companionship of comparatively fragile companions, without any discernible cause for their special overthrow. They are not missed, however, so far as the aspect of the forests is concerned. These splendid phalanxes of towering trees show no deterioration of massive grandeur. Their branches already touch over the bodies of their prostrate comrades. Meanwhile the voice of the water-falls is as resonant as ever, and the glorious mausolea have lost nothing of their sober splendour. As for the hotels and the curio-shops, they bear eloquent testimony to the prosperity that Nikko derives from its foreign visitors. Kanaya's hotel is an institution of which any place might be proud; with its large accommodation, its charming situation, its spacious pleasure grounds, its excellent cuisine, its own installation of electric lights, and, last but not least, its well-trained staff of female servants. The curio shops may be said to line both sides of the street almost the whole way from the railway. Evidently tourists still labour under the delusion that Nikko is a birth-place of works of art, whereas the fact that objects of virtu are assembled there for sale is simply a consequence of the presence of tourists. Tokyo, Kyoto and Osaka send curios to such places as Nikko and Miyanoshita because globe-trotters congregate there. There is no other reason, and a very sufficient reason it is, since the tourist's convenience is consulted and the curio-dealer finds custom.

THE DELEGATION OF BUSINESS MEN TO THE UNITED STATES.

A wholly new precedent was established on the 17th inst. when, by special order of the Emperor, the business men, over 30 in number, who are to proceed to the United States, were banquetted at the Shiba Detached Palace. The Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household acted as host in the absence of Prince Iwakura, and the Cabinet was represented by Marquis Katsura, Baron Oura and Count Komura. The Vice-Minister made a brief speech referring to the Emperor's gracious condescension, and Marquis Katsura took the same line. He told his hearers that the Sovereign's solicitude on account of commercial affairs might fairly be inferred from this honour paid to the delegates. Baron Shibusawa made a suitable reply on behalf of the guests.

A luncheon has been given, as previously announced, to the party of the business men who are to visit America, at the Imperial Detached Palace at Shiba. There were present 34 members of the party (excluding ladies) on one side, and on the other, the Minister of Finance, Marquis Katsura, the Foreign Minister Count Komura, the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce Baron Oura, the Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, Viscount Watanabe and the Private Secretary of the Minister of the Imperial Household, Mr. Kondo. When they were all seated at table, the Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, representing the Minister of the Imperial Household, stood up and stated that His Majesty the Emperor, being notified by the Minister of Finance of the business men's visit to America, in compliance with the invitation of the American Chambers of Commerce, had instructed that the present luncheon be given. Then Marquis Katsura delivered an address as follows:—

"The Gracious Imperial Will bestowed to-day on the party of the business-men who are to visit America easily proves how His Majesty is always anxious for the development of business. It is almost unnecessary to mention that the relations between Japan and America are becoming more and more friendly, and the visit of these business-men to America will futher improve the intimacy of the two nations. The responsibility of these business-men is extremely great. We sincerely hope that they will perfectly discharge their function, keeping in mind the Will of His Majesty. Hoping all are well, we beg to express our thanks in having the honour of attending this luncheon."

In reply to this, Baron Shibusawa as the spokesman, thanking the Imperial graciousness stated that he who does not understand English and is old in age will endeavour to discharge his function with as much determination as if he is in military service. Not only he himself but all the other numbers of the party will surely discharge the duty with the same resolution. After the luncheon, a silver vase was presented to each member of the party, and they left the palace at 2 p.m.

The business men of Tokyo and five other cities, who are going on a visit to America, arrived at Yokohama Station at 11.05 a.m. on Thursday last, accompanied by the members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, the directors of various banks of Tokyo, the leading members of commercial and industrial circles, the leading journalists and a large number of ladies and gentlemen. They were cordially welcomed by the members of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce and a number of friends and relatives at the platform, and visited the Yokohama Association Building, the Horaiya Hotel, the Chitose and other hotels separately, where they took luncheon. At about 12.30 p.m., many of them appeared on the newly reclaimed ground in the compound of the Custom House, in the company of their friends and families, together with many hundreds of other people. There were frequent shouts of "Banzai!"

The departing ladies and gentlemen got into the launches provided by the Customs and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and went on board the *Minnesota* shortly before 3 p.m. Among the crowds who saw the party off were the Secretaries of the local government, the Mayor of the city, the members of the municipal and Prefectural Assemblies and a number of leading persons.

At 3 o'clock, as the steamer weighed anchor, the *Minnesota's* band struck up and the great vessel left the harbour escorted by a number of small boats crowded with friends and relatives.

THE NAVY.

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, says that by the spring of next year the Japanese Navy will receive an addition of four first-class fighting ships, their displacements aggregating 68,390 tons. Two of them, namely, the line of battleship *Satsuma* (19,350 tons) and the first-class armoured cruiser *Ibuki* will join the fleet in a week or ten days. The two others, namely, the *Aki*, line of battleship (19,800 tons), and the *Kurama*, first-class cruiser, will not have been completed and finished their trials before the spring. The *Satsuma* has been greatly improved since her first plan was drawn, and she is now fully up to the *Dreadnought* standard, besides having special features suggested by Japan's experience in the War. The *Aki* is a still finer vessel, and the first-class cruisers *Ibuki* and *Kurama* are of the *Invincible* type. In addition to the above, two first-class line-of-battleships, namely, the *Settsu* and the *Kawachi*, are now in course of construction at Yokosuka and Kure on the slips vacated by the *Satsuma* and the *Aki*. They will be of a higher type even than the *Dreadnought*.

THE REVD. DOCTOR LLOYD ON BUDDHISM.

We beg to call attention to the communication from Mr. H. H. Coates, which we publish to-day, with reference to a course of lectures to be delivered this fall by the Reverend Doctor Lloyd on the doctrines of Shinran *Shōnin*, the immortal founder of the great Shin Sect of Buddhism. Dr. Lloyd is now the most eminent living authority on everything connected with the creed of Shakya Muni, and he has the gift of presenting the fruits of his profound researches in a most attractive form. All really thoughtful men have learned to appreciate that Buddhism has much to teach the Western world, but for a stranger to get at the real inwardness of its doctrines is a task demanding study such as few men are qualified to give. We all sit at Doctor Lloyd's feet in this matter, and the promised course of lectures can not but attract a large audience.

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THE EARTHQUAKE OF THE 14TH.

It is some time since an earthquake so destructive as that of Saturday afternoon has visited Japan—indeed, one must go back, for a parallel, to the great Gifu-Aichi earthquake of 1891. The districts affected by the two shocks are, almost identical though fortunately—while full details are not yet available, and will not be for several days to come—the losses, whether of life or property, to be set to the account of Saturday's shock fall far below those of the catastrophe of 1891.

The Omi-Gifu district, marking the belt of low-lying land which runs across west-central Japan, shares with the Tokyo-Yokohama district the unenviable distinction of being the most unstable part of the Empire. Lake Biwa, whose eastern shores were severely shaken in Saturday's disturbance, undoubtedly owes its origin to such seismic fractures and displacements as gave rise to the formation of the Messina Straits and made of Sicily an Island. Indeed, the well-known Mount Ibuki, which overlooks the lake, appears to mark as nearly as possible the epicentrum of Saturday's earthquake. The long-continued vibrations—according to the record of the seismometer in the Tokyo Observatory, they appear to have lasted altogether an hour and a half—seem to have produced an extensive landslide on the mountain, several villages at the base of the mountain being buried in the debris. Most of the casualties occurred in this locality. According to the latest reports, these amount, throughout the Shiga and Gifu prefectures, to some 40 killed and upwards of a hundred injured. The direction of the earth-movement was generally south-west to north east.

The shock was, naturally, felt much more strongly in Kobe than here, the more violent vibrations lasting fully five minutes. Many of the foreign residents rushed out of their houses, but no casualties are reported. A panic occurred at a the Hongwanji Temple, Kyoto, where a congregation of over a thousand people were assembled; and in the stampede some thirty persons received more or less severe injuries. The railway between Sekigahara and Kashiwahara was blocked by the falling in of a tunnel, as well as by distortion of the line; and traffic on the Tokaido was seriously impeded for a time.

According to Professor Omori, of the Imperial University, the earthquake experienced on the 14th inst. had its centre on the west of Ibuki-yama on the confines of Omi and Mino at a distance of 103 kilometres from Tokyo. Ibuki-yama crumbled away more or less, but although the shock had such marked effects locally, it was hardly felt at all in Tokyo. Compared with the great earthquake of 1891 its ratio of force was 1 to 4, but it was about equal to the earthquake of 1901 which had its centre in the sea off Kyushū and which threw down two factory chimneys in Osaka. The shocks lasted altogether for an hour and a half, but their intensity was exhausted in the first three minutes, and the greatest lateral movement was 13 mm. alike in a north-south and east-west direction. Between the years 1827 and 1830 there were eight destructive shocks of earthquake. Of these one each took place in May, June and July, four in August and one in September. Hence it appears that August is the period of greatest activity during the year. Altogether, the records show that summer is the season for earthquakes in Japan, not winter, which fact Professor Omori attributes to the state of the atmosphere.

DAMAGE AND LOSS OF LIFE.

At 3.32 p.m. on August 14, a fairly strong shock of earthquake was recorded in Yokohama. It lasted for 3 minutes 42 seconds. At 5.43 p.m., another oscillation which was very slight continued for 1 minute 14 seconds.

The shock seems to have been extensive, and was most formidably felt in Gifu. A number of houses in Fuwa gori and Ibi-gori were demolished and numerous casualties are reported. The railway service between Sekigahara and Kashiwara was interrupted. Telegraph reports at 9 p m. said that shocks were still recurrent.

In Osaka, Kyoto, Otsu, Hakone, and Nagoya, the shock was so severe that many houses sustained damages and in some places fires broke out.

Professor Omori, the well-known seismologist, states that, according to observations made in the Imperial Observatory, Tokyo, the earthquake began at 50 seconds past 3.30 p.m. on the 14th instant. The centre was 301 kilometres distant from Tokyo, namely, on the boundary between Omi and Mino Provinces, where the Ibuki range rises. In view of the fact that two chimneys were broken in Tokyo on the occasion of the terrible earthquake of 1891 in that district, the present earthquake is less violent, being equal in severity to about a quarter of the great earthquake, as the present one was felt in Tokyo only moderately. The present shock, however, must be said to have been an unusually severe seismic disturbance. It lasted about one hour and a half, as indicated by the seismometer.

Details of the earthquake, received from the various prefectures, are subjoined.

SHIGA PREFECTURE:—In the districts of Sakata, Higashi-Asai and Ika, the earthquake shocks on the 14th instant were severe. In Higashi-Asai, 415 houses were demolished and 913 partly-destroyed and 74 casualties are reported. The Nagahama Station Building totally collapsed. A landslip took place near the base of Mount Ibuki, destroying several villages and blocking the highway.

GIFU PREFECTURE:—On the night of the 14th instant, a landslip occurred near the Hydro-electric Power House in Gifu, and the Police Authorities prohibited the use of lamps, the whole city in consequence being in a state of darkness.

AICHI PREFECTURE:—In Aichi-gori, the Japan Porcelain Manufacturing Company suffered considerable losses from the earthquake. Over 10 casualties are reported.

SHIMA PROVINCE:—On the 14th instant, the coast of Namikiri, Shima-gori, was visited by tidal waves, and a strong shock of earthquake was felt. It is said that there was a large number of casualties, but the details are as yet unknown.

MIYAZAKI PREFECTURE:—Storms have prevailed since the 29th ultimo. Over 100 casualties are reported. Many hundreds of houses and bridges have been swept away by floods. A wide extent of fields and forests has been devastated. The damage sustained in various districts of the southern part of the prefecture is estimated at 2,500,000 *yen* to 3,000,000 *yen*.

The Minister for Home Affairs has telegraphed to the Governor of Shiga Prefecture that the Emperor is very anxious about the late disasters in Omi Province. The Minister yesterday furnished reports in person to His Majesty relating to the actual condition of the damaged districts.

The Shiga Branch of the Japan Red Cross Society has telegraphed to the Head Office in Tokyo, to despatch two surgeons and ten nurses to the districts of Higashi-Asai and Nagahama on behalf of the sufferers there.

RAILWAY COMMUNICATION PARTIALLY RESTORED.

The interruption of the railway service between Sekigahara and Kashiwara was partially removed at 3 a.m. last Sunday. The trains were able to run on a single track at a speed of three miles an hour. The railway track in the vicinity of the Imasu Tunnel is damaged by fissures.

According to the latests reports, since the morning of August 16, Mount Ibuki and the mountain ranges near Toragozen-mura, Omi, where the recent shock of earthquake was most severely felt, have been wrapped with dark clouds, as if threatening the villagers with rainfall. The villagers are growing impatient to find shelters.

A person who was travelling by train alongside Mount Ibuki at the time of the first severe shock says it was shrouded in masses of dust or sand which appeared almost like smoke. In the neighbourhood of the mountain shocks occurred twice or thrice an hour up to 7 o'clock last evening, together with rumblings, and the people were in great fear of an eruption, although the mountain is not regarded as a volcano. It is reported from Nagahama that a person who was at Torahime at the time of the earthquake saw a white mass resembling dust or smoke at the foot of Mount Ibuki. He attributed it to a great hill slide at the source of the Otomi river in Taiheiji, Ibuki mura, Sakata District.

The total damage in Shiga Prefecture was, as far as is known:—31 persons killed; 168 injured; 20 temples collapsed and 59 were badly damaged; 470 houses were demolished and 1,367 were badly damaged; 636 other buildings were destroyed and 992 others sustained serious damage. It is reported from Nagahama that the area which suffered damage in the vicinity of Lake Biwa extended from a hill at the back of Higashi-Kusano-mura, on the boundary of Mino and Omi provinces to Dairi-mura on the coast of Lake Biwa, traversing the Higashi-Asahi District for a distance of about 10 miles From South to North the damaged area extended about five miles, reaching to the boundary between the Sakata and Ikao Districts. All the places within this area suffered more or less with the exception of two villages, Higashi Kusano-mura and Kami Kusano, which lie in valleys between hills. The vibrations appear to have travelled from East to West, as the houses which collapsed fell in that direction and those which pointed from East to West suffered much less than those lying North and South.

In Hikone and Sekigahara, the vibrations have not yet been quietened. The people in these districts are all taking refuge in the open air, using tents or oil-paper as a roof. The only light they have is from lanterns lighted with candles. In Nagoya, there were four oscillations on the night of the 15th and five on the 16th. The front gate of the Observatory is always crowded with people from different directions to make enquiries about the weather, and prospects of rain after the long-continued drought.

Thirteen shocks were felt at Kyoto, all of them mild except the first one, which was experienced at 3h. 31' 26" on the 14, and two fairly strong shocks on the night of the 15th.

A special correspondent despatched to the scene of tha disaster by the Osaka *Asahi* reports that Torahime station (the station next to Nagahama on the Hokuriku line of the Government Railway) was demolished, only one small building remaining. The scene in that vicinity is described as one of utter desolation. Walking from Torashime to Hayami-mura, the correspondent found that not a single house was intact. At the Torahime station the telegraphic apparatus has been recovered from the débris and is being worked, but all other equipment is buried, the officials not even having a punch to notch passengers' tickets. Great confusion prevailed as many injurred persons were being conveyed by rail to Nagahama or Hikone. The traffic is, however, not interfered with.

The governor of Shiga prefecture has told a journalist that the materials for building temporary shelters being insufficient, he has asked the War Minister to let the sufferers have those timbers which have been left unused in building the barracks at Imadzu.

Mr. Sugiyama, a Councillor of the Home Department has been ordered to proceed to the afflicted district in Omi and Mino provinces to inspect their condition.

Hikone:—Since the first occurence of the earthquake on the 14th there have been 63 shocks until 10 a.m. on the 17th, 35 of which were scarcely felt.

Rigaku-Hakushi Imamura and two others belonging to the Earthquake Prevention Investigation Association of the Department of Education, have arrived here to make investigation.

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Otsu :—According to the investigations made by the Shiga Prefectural Government, 5,152 persons are being relieved, who occupied 786 houses before the calamity.

Gifu :—The damages sustained at Kasuga-mura, Ibi-gori, Gifu prefecture may be said to be rather more serious than at Toragozen-mura, in Omi. The road leading from that village to Kasuga-dani (about 5 miles) is totally blockaded. Two persons were instantly killed and many scores more or less severely injured. Most of the houses being straw-roofed, only a few were demolished, whilst an innumerable number of them were slanted. In different parts of the banks of the Ibi River, the ground fell in, and the people thereabouts are threatened with an inundation.

EXTENT OF THE LANDSLIDE.

A telephone message from a representative of the *Kobe Shimbun* states that on the part of Mount Ibuki known as Kusaki a landslide about 200 yards in width occurred for a distance of some 6 miles. At another part of the mountain there was a slide 600 yards wide and four miles in length and another 120 yards wide and five miles in extent. At the time these slides occurred, there were loud rumblings, and dense masses of earth and dust rose into the air.

FURTHER STATEMENT BY DR. OMORI.

The *Kobe Herald* publishes a further statement by Dr. Omori which appeared in the *Osaka Mainichi*. He is reported as saying that there has been a succession of small shocks since the severe shock on the 14th, so that some people fear that another heavy tremor may occur. A succession of minor shocks is, however, the ordinary accompaniment of a severe earthquake. The stronger the principal shock, the more numerous are the subsequent shocks, these becoming gradually less frequent as time passes. Sometimes these shocks continue to occur at intervals for years after the disturbance in which they have their origin. According to investigation made by Dr. Omori and other seismologists, there were 3,365 shocks in the two years which followed the great earthquake in the districts of Owari and Mino in 1891, ten of which were strong ones. Dr. Omori has established, in fact, that the number of subsequent shocks can be mathematically calculated. By this means it was reckoned that the number of shocks to follow the earthquake of 1891 should be 4,000. As stated, over 3 300 of these have been recorded, and it is calculated that even 40 years hence there will still be a feeble shock once a month as a reminder of that disaster This is not, Dr. Omori says, a mere theory, but a mathematical rule that has been verified by experience, predictions based on it having been most accurately fulfilled since he made known the rule after the disturbance in 1891. As instances, Dr. Omori mentioned earthquake which occurred in Kumamoto, Kagoshima and other districts some years ago. Consequently it will be quite possible in the case of the earthquake which has just been experienced to the North of Lake Biwa to correctly foretell the number of the subsequent shocks and the number of years over which they will extend. As to the rumblings accompanying big earthquakes, Dr. Omori said that these are also a kind of subsequent shocks and are generally most noticeable in the vicinity of the origin of the disturbance. These rumbling, which are subterranean, are never indications of a volcanic eruption and should not give rise to any fear. Not infrequently there are somewhat severe tremors among the subsequent shocks, but these are never of a disastrous nature. There is, indeed, no exception to this rule in the whole history of seismic disturbances of Japan. The people in the affected districts can therefore be quite easy in their minds.

The Central Meteorological Observatory in Tokyo, has received the following further reports of earthquake of the 15th inst. :

Osaka :—A slight shock at 8.24 p.m.

Hikone :—An up and down vibration at 8.36 p.m.

Kobe :—A shock at 8 25 p.m. and another slight one at 9.28 p.m.

At 8.28 p.m. on August 15, a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. It lasted for only 23 seconds. Quite a sharp shock, lasting for nearly a minute, occurred at 9.5 last evening (the 16th).

AN "ADVANCED" PROFESSOR.

When we referred some time ago to the irreligious tendencies of certain professors in American colleges, it was urged that the teachings in question could not fairly be judged from a stray sentence or two divorced from its context. That is, of course, a perfectly legitimate criticism, and we therefore submit some of the opinions of one of the said professors, on one of the points at issue, and expressed at greater length. We are afraid that the greater continuity of the extract does not suggest a more charitable view of this particular professor's doctrines, on the score of "unconventional alliances between the sexes."

"It is not right," says Professor Giddings, of Columbia University, "to set up a technical legal relationship, an economic convenience, or a circumstance of social conventionality as morally superior to the spontaneous preference of a man and woman who know, and whose friends know, that they love each other."

"The whole or a part of this doctrine," Professor Giddings teaches, "has been held and taught by some of the best men and women that yet lived. Dante foretold it in his 'Vita Nuova.' Petrarch proclaimed it in his fidelity to Laura. John Milton, the sanest, as he was the greatest, of Puritans, iterated and reiterated it in his famous tract on divorce, which no ecclesiastic with a self-respecting regard for his own intellectual reputation has ever dared to try to answer. Shelley and Goethe preached it in both their words and deeds. Richard Wagner stood for it unflinchingly throughout life, and gave it expression in the imperishable music of 'Tristan and Isolde.' John Stuart Mill, a calm-minded philosopher, held fast to to it through his relations with Mrs. Taylor, when his cherished friends cut him dead because of it. George Eliot proclaimed her loyalty to by a life of very quiet but effective defiance of Mrs. Grundy and all her British matrons. And Herbert Spencer carefully formulated it in his autobiography."

DEATH OF MR. SASAKI.

We regret exceedingly to announce that Mr. Bumbi Sasaki, Professor in the Higher Commercial School at Yamaguchi and formerly on the staff of this journal, died early on the morning of the 10th inst. at Itsukaichi, in Hiroshima Prefecture, where he had been staying for some weeks on account of his failing health. Mr. Sasaki was one of those Japanese, happily not rare, who to great ability and untiring assiduity add genuine nobility of character. He was a man absolutely incapable of an ungenerous or dishonourable act, and loyalty in every relation of life came to him intuitively. For many years he suffered from chronic dyspepsia, and at one time he seemed to have made a thorough recovery by recourse to the starvation cure. The disease, however, reasserted itself and finally carried him off. Being a man of essentially modest and retiring disposition, his circle of friends was not large, but by all who had the honour to know him his death will be most sincerely regretted.

THE TO-A KOGYO KAISHA.

This Company has at length been formed after considerable delay. The Mitsui family take 1000 shares, Baron K. Iwasaki 500, Mr. Okura 500 and Mr. Furukawa 400. The remainder have been subscribed for in smaller quantities by a number of leading business men. Our readers will remember that this is the Company which purposes to supply materials for the construction of Chinese railways, and which was delayed in its early stages by hesitation on the part of the Iwasaki family to join. It is expected that Mr. Furuichi will be president, while Messrs. Shiraiwa and Odagiri, formerly Japanese Consul-General in Shanghai, will be among the directors.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

There is again talk of raising the fare on the Tokyo Railway and we find the *Hochi Shimbun* again inveighing against such an idea, but adducing no arguments of an intelligible character. The *Hochi* seems to think that it is a sin for a company to seek a fair price for a fair service. It would condemn the Railway Company to wait patiently until some lucky chance increases its revenue to something like a reasonable figure. Such ideas of business morality are at once interesting and entertaining.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It appears that a combination has been formed between English, German and Russian merchants to exploit the lumber in the forests on the east of the maritime province. Hitherto the Japanese Company in Hokkaido has rested secure in the assumption that the timber of the maritime province could not complete with that of Hokkaido in the matter of cost. This belief, however, appears to have been rudely dispelled for already two ships laden with lumber from the maritime province have entered Kiachow. It is evident that the Japanese will have to "sit up" or they will lose this important trade. A maritime province is said to produce oak admirably suitable for railway sleepers.

The War Department has been offering for sale 70,000 rifles and 70 million cartridges taken in the war. The price demanded is a million *yen* and the transaction was supposed to have been recently concluded in favour of Mr. Matsui of Tokyo, who offered 1,050,000 *yen*. But the bid proved abortive, as Matsui was unable to put up the 10 per cent. required by the *Rikugun-sho* within 3 days. There seems to have been some very dirty work in connexion with this transaction. The idea was to sell the arms and ammunition to Turkey or to the Chinese insurgents.

It is alleged that the Naval Department Authorities have decided to make a new naval port at Toba in Ise Bay. The work will require 3½ years, but the resulting addition to Japan's coast-defences would be very considerable. Experts say that if Kami-Shima were fortified, it would constitute a more efficient defence for Ise Bay that any provision now made for Tokyo Bay.

It is stated that a coral reef of great value has been discovered off Koshiki-jima in Kagoshima. The reef is at a depth of 56 fathoms, and the colours are red, peach-red and white. Experts are of opinion that the reef extends from the Goto Islands to Kagoshima. There is said to be considerable excitement in the district.

Among the vistors brought by the *Chiyo Maru* on the 17th inst., is Mr. J. M. Sinclair, Commercial Agent for the Government of the State of Victoria, Australia. Mr. Sinclair has taken charge of the Office of the Victorian Government in Shanghai,

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and will visit this country from time to time, with a view to the opening of business relations. After a week in Yokohama, he intends to proceed to Kobe, and subsequently through Korea and Manchuria, to study the development of those countries. As will be seen from an advertisement which appears elsewhere in this issue, Mr. Sinclair will be glad to see merchants of this community and make their acquaintance. We wish him every success in his undertakings.

The *Chuo Shimbun* says that the spring crop of silk this year is 10 per cent. greater than that of last year; the summer crop, 5 per cent. greater, and the autumn crop, probably 15 per cent. greater.

It is stated that the Kei-hin Railway Company will not be able to carry out one of the principal objects which it had in view in negotiating a foreign loan of 2 million *yen*, namely, the extention of its line to Aoyama. The *Mainichi Dempo*, from which we take this assertion, says that although the Company will be able to pay off its high-interest-bearing debts, it will have to economize for two or three years and be content with small dividends until its foundations are absolutely secure. Meanwhile as only 19 years remain of the period of its charter, a corresponding change has been necessitated in the terms of its foreign loan.

It appears from statements published by the *Jiji Shimpo* that the great bridge over the Yalu at Shin-Wiju would be commenced very soon. Our contemporarys account of the work is not very lucid, but we gather that the bridge will be in seven spans, the span on the Shin-Wiju side being 200 feet, and the six others being 300 feet each. This would make the total length of the roadway 2000 ft. from shore to shore. One section will work on a swivel so as to admit of opening and closing. The cost is estimated at 2½ million *yen*, and a thousand coolies will be employed daily, but the time required is not mentioned.

When the new big bridge over the Yalu River at Shin-Wiju is constructed, and when the Mukden-Antung Railway is completed, it would be possible to travel from Shimbashi to Mukden in 70 hours, including the sea voyage from Bakan to Fusan. The different stages are from Shimbashi to Fusan 36 hours; from Fusan to Seoul 11 hours; from Seoul to Shin-Wiju 14 hours, and from Shin-Wiju to Mukden 9 hours. Compared with the rate of travel by the Dairen route, this will be a gain of about 40 hours, for it now takes 25 hours from Tokyo to Dairen and about 12 hours from Dairen to Mukden. Supposing the Korean and East Manchurian lines to be well equipped, there can be no hesitation between the two routes. The effect produced upon the prosperity of Fusan, Shin-Wiju and Antung can not but be very considerable.

It need scarcely be said that the officials of the Foreign Office in Tokyo, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, emphatically deny the truth of the statesment recently made by the Russian newspapers in St. Petersburg. The gist of these statements was that Japan was violating the Portsmouth Treaty by constructing fortifications near the Tumen River, and that in consideration of having recognised Chinese suzerainty in Chientao she had obtained the right of free military movement in that region. It is pointed out that Russian newspapers have comparatively little access to diplomatic affairs, and that there is not the least probability of any such views being taken by influential men in Russia, still less by officials.

Mr. Tachikawa Umpei, the well known *Seiyu kai* politician, who is one of the few members of the Diet that have retained their seats from the very outset, has just emerged from prison on bail. On the 13th inst. he was sentenced by the Osaka Court to five months' penal servitude for accepting a bribe in connexion with the Slaughter House Bill. He had passed 106 days in jail, and during that time he says that he lost something over 4 pounds in weight, which loss can not inconvenience him much, considering that he still weighs 160 pounds. He has given notice of appeal, and was released on bail immediately on the passing of his sentence.

A sad ceremony has just taken place at Nagasaki, namely, the transfer of the remains of the Russian dead from Japanese soil to the hands of their own countrymen. Russia appointed Major-General Samoiloff to receive the remains, and the Japanese army was represented on the occasion by Major-General Takasu. We read in Japanese journals that the number of dead handed over exceeded 250, and that among them 171 represented Russian prisoners who died at various places throughout Japan, and 80 were the bodies of Russian bluejackets washed ashore after the battle of the Sea of Japan.

We are obliged to the *Japan Herald* for calling attention to an error in transcription which appeared in our columns on the 16th instant. We said:—"With the exception of two Chinese papers the Germans of Peking etc." The word "Germans" should of course have been "journals." The mistake was due to defective hearing on the part of the person to whom the paragraph was dictated, and the editor, being absent, did not read the proof.

It appears that the main island of Japan has escaped the ravages of the two hurricanes which threatened it. One reached the Bonin Islands on the 15th inst., and after developing great force, with the barometer down to 74, passed out into the sea on the east. The other recently reported from the Yangtsz, with a barometric reading of 74½ mm., struck the south coast of Korea on the morning of the same day (15th inst.), and passed out to the east, so that it may possibly strike Hokkaido.

BOOKSHELF.

The Passing of the Great Fleet, by H. F. Wyatt and L. Graham H. Horton-Smith: London, Sampson Low, Marston & Co., Ltd.

This volume, which with a copious index, runs to close on 700 pages, is a review of British naval policy within the past few years and of the present naval situation. Written as it is by the "Joint founders and honorary secretaries of the Imperial Maritime League," the secession of which from the old Navy League is dealt with at some length, the character of its contents may be surmised by all who are familiar with the circumstances of that secession. The original Navy League, or at least its governing body, say the stalwarts of the new League, became "the bond slaves of Sir John Fisher." By neglecting their duty, they rendered possible "the betrayal by the Radical Government of British sea power." Of that betrayal, and of the foundation of the Imperial Maritime League—sworn "to secure the that the primary object of the National Policy shall be to win and hold Command of the Sea," and "the maintenance of the Two-Power standard as defined by Lord Cawdor"—this book contains the history. Commencing with a 32 page Introduction headed "Under the shadow of the German Sword," the authors give full accounts of all meetings, speeches, resolutions etc., dealing with the question of British naval strength *vis a vis* that of Germany and other naval Powers, during the past four years. We fancy, indeed, that the founders of the Imperial Maritime League are endeavouring to conduct their organisation on the lines of the German Navy League, with an active and "forward" policy; though whether they will ever attain to the numbers and influence of that body is doubtful in the extreme. The need for naval advancement, as such, has not as yet come home to the British people quite in the sense in which it has become a national policy in Germany—thanks to the educative work of the German Navy League; but there are signs that the British public, always slow to be moved, are being aroused to a sense of their necessities, and every agency which helps in that direction, such as the book we have before is, should be welcomed on that account.

Japanese Education; by Baron D. Kikuchi. John Murray, London.

In this volume Baron Kikuchi gives to the world the first really exhaustive and authentic account yet published of the educational system of Japan, its ideals and its methods. The subject has been already made the theme of fragmentary essays more or less instructive and more or less erroneous, but never before has the theme been treated in a really full and comprehensive manner. A special request that he should deliver a course of lectures on Japanese education under the Martin White Benefaction during the Easter and summer terms of 1907 is to be regarded as the fortunate cause of this publication, for it is practically a reproduction of the 24 lectures delivered in response to that suggestion, with certain amplifications and correction of statistics. It is unnecessary to speak of Baron Kikuchi's special qualifications for such a task. In that respect he stands in an unchallengeable position, being an honorary professor of the Imperial University of Tokyo and President of the Imperial University of Kyoto, as well as having been Minister of State for Education and President of the Imperial University of Tokyo. To this signal list of qualifications has to be added the fact that he writes English perfectly, and that from end to end of this book of 397 pages, there is not, so far as we can detect, one syntactical solecism or one jarring idiom. There are 28 chapters, the first three being devoted to the best epitome of Japanese history hitherto penned and the remaining 25 having the following captions:—

Chapter IV.—Administrative system.
Chapter V.—Historical sketch of education during Meiji era.
Chapter VI.—The general educational system.
Chapter VII.—General supervision, control, and inspection.
Chapter VIII.—Schools in general.
Chapter IX.—Elementary education I.
Chapter X.—Elementary education II (*continued*)
Chapter XI.—Elementary education III (*continued.*)
Chapter XII.—Elementary education IV (*continued.*)
Chapter XIII.—Elementary education V (*continued.*)

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Chapter XIV.—Elementry school teachers.
Chapter XV.—Middle Schools.
Chapter XVI —Details of teaching of different subjects in middle schools.
Chapter XVII.—Details of teaching of different subjects in middle schools.
Chapter XVIII —Position of women.
Chapter XIX.—Girls' high schools.
Chapter XX.—Normal Schools.
Chapter XXI —Secondary school teachers.
Chapter XXII.—Higher normal Schools.
Chapter XXIII.—Text-books.
Chapter XXIV.—Physical education and school hygiene.
Chapter XXV.—Technical education.
Chapter XXVI —Higher educa ion.
Chapter XXVII.—Schools not classed, private schools, etc.
Chapter XXVIII.—Home education.

The learned author sets out by giving a translation of the Imperial Rescript on Education, and as no really good rendering of this important document had previously been published, we transcribe it here :—

IMPERIAL RESCRIPT ON EDUCATION.

KNOW YE, OUR SUBJECTS :

Our Imperial Ancestors have founded Our Empire on a basis broad and everlasting, and have deeply and firmly implanted virtue; Our subjects ever united in loyalty and filial piety have from generation to generation illustrated the beauty thereof. This is the glory of the fundamental character of Our Empire, and herein also lies the source of Our education. Ye, Our subjects, be filial to your parents, affectionate to your brothers and sisters; as husbands and wives be harmonious, as friends true; bear yourselves in modesty and moderation; extend your benevolence to all; pursue learning and cultivate arts, and thereby develop intellectual faculties and perfect moral powers; furthermore, advance public good and promote common interests; always respect the Constitution and observe the laws; should emergency arise, offer yourselves courageously to the State; and thus guard and maintain the prosperity of Our Imperial Throne coeval with heaven and earth. So shall ye not only be Our good and faithful subjec s, but render illustrious the best traditions of your forefathers.

The Way here set forth is indeed the teaching bequeathed by Our Imperial Ancestors, to be observed alike by Their Descendants and the subjects, infallible for all ages and true in all places. It is Our wish to lay it to heart in all reverence, in common with you, Our subects, that we may all attain to the same virtue.

The 30th day of the 10th month of the 23rd year of Meiji.

(The 30th of October, 1890).

(Imperial Sign Manual. Imperial Seal).

The essay on history is very interesting. We have not space to attempt any detailed review, but we note that Baron Kikuchi seems to entertain the theory that Takamaga-hara (The Plain of High Heaven) was in a foreign country, for he says that "all Japanese (with the insignificant exception of the subjugated aborigines and naturalized Koreans and Chinese) are regarded as descended either from the Imperial family or from those who came over with it from Takama-ga-hara." That is a conclusion which has been vehemently disputed by many Japanese scholars, but we can not for our own part see how Baron Kikuchi's inference can be avoided. He moreover endorses the opinion formulated, by Aston, Chamberlain and Satow that Japan's authentic history does not begin until the middle of the 6th century A.D. In fact while he devotes some 6 pages to what may be called the pre-historic and quasi-historic portions of the Japanese annals, he devotes 50 to the history of the period commencing with the importation of Chinese learning and ending with the Meiji era; or more specifically with the date of the promulgation of the Constitution in 1889. Then follows a short but illuminating sketch of the present administrative system of Japan, and even had the book been limited to these first four chapters, it would still have been a valuable addition to any library.

In the realm of education we can not too greatly praise Baron Kikuchi's remarkable powers of analysis and synthesis—qualities which might, indeed, have been expected from a mathematician of such eminence, but which are not often brought to bear upon a subject like the history of education. The reader is enabled to trace with ease the course of the Government's initial struggle to convince the nation that education is not a perquisite of the upper classes until the day when virtually all the boys and girls of school age throughout the country were brought to attend elementary schools. This is undoubtedly one of the best and most remarkable achievements of the Meiji Government. The Baron has no hesitation in frankly recognising the debt which Japan owes to foreign countries in this matter, or the part which individual foreigners have taken in the memorable reform. He does not indeed refer to any foreigners by name. Had he done so, he must have incurred the risk of offending by invidious distinctions, or fallen into the dilemma of assigning a large part of his work to a list of names possessing no interest to those to whom his lecture was delivered, and quite unsuited to the purposes of a lecture hall. One noteworthy feature of the system described by Baron Kikuchi is the care taken to establish cöoperation between home life and school teaching. "In most schools of elementary and secondary grades," he writes, "directors and teachers hold conferences with parents once a term or so, in order to make known to them what the school authorities wish parents to atten l to at home, both in general and individual cases, and to hear from them what they wish the school to do * * * * * These conferences are becoming more and more popular and universal, and there can be no doubt that they are of the utmost importance by bringing about a good understanding, and thereby insuring cöoperation between school and home, which is so essential to the proper education of children. That these meetings are getting to be largely attended by mothers is a very healthy sign. I was told by the director of an elementary school, established specially for the poor in Tokyo, that mothers come to these conferences and are very attentive to his advice."

We find it difficult to comment specially on any section of this admirable work, all branches of the subject being treated with equal comprehensiveness and lucidity. Of course a book coming from such an authority contains much that is novel even to earnest students of Japanese affairs—as for instance the fact that until quite recently the system of school gymnastics in Japan was based on the German model, but that in the sequel of direct investigation and inspection the Swedish system, with some modifications, has been officially recommended and will doubtless be soon adopted. The last chapter in the book is not the least interesting. We can not choose but quote a few sentences from it, noting incidentally that what Baron Kikuchi says bears out exactly the views often expressed in these columns.

Much ridicule is cast upon descriptions of if country by "globe-trotters"; but a globe-trotter a he is a keen observer, will seize upon those salient points which distinguish a nation from others, but which become gradually lost, or at least fain', to those who have become familar with them and grown more apt to notice individual differences. Of course, the trouble is that a globe-trotter will mistake what he sees in some particular cases to be general, but if he will describe what he sees in general, he is quite likely to be correct. On the other hand, there are people who are described as "old residents," who have indeed lived long in a country but mixed very little with the people of that country, except with a particular set, with whom they are thrown into contact in course of their business or profession, and generalise from them about the people, priding themselves upon their long and intimate knowledge of the peoples, but knowing really little or nothing of its literature, of the inner spirit of the nation, of its ideals and aspirations; these people give more false notions about a country than the much-derided globe-trotters. Especially is this true of a people like ours who are shy of admitting strangers even of our own nationality into family circles. I have been asked several times about books on Japan, espec ally about Hearn's books. I will here say that he, by his sympathy with the Japanese people, seems often to have obtained an insight into the Japanese mind, deeper, perhaps, than even that of an ordinary Japanese. For instance, in his sketches in "*Kokoro*," which I myself like the best of all his books that I have read he has given some fine examples of the work ng of Japanese hearts and minds, in fact of the Japanese *kokoro*.

On the whole we regard Baron Kikuchi's book as one of the most valuable that has ever been published about this country. Giving as it does an altogether exceptional insight into the life of the Japanese people and the ideals that animate them, it will be heartily welcomed by every student of Far Eastern history.

A Chinese-English Dictionary; by HERBERT A. GILES. Kelly & Walsh, Limited.

PROFESSOR GILES has just published the first fascicule of his long promised work, namely, a second edition of his great dictionary which was given to the world 17 years ago. The fascicule consists of 296 pages. It is "not are issue of the old dictionary," the author tells us, "but a genuine new edition;" and he adds :—since the completed publication of the first edition of this work in 1892, no efforts have been spared in correcting the mistakes discovered by the author and those which have been pointed out by others, and in addition to this a number of entries have been excised as unimportant or redundant, while about 20,000 new entries illustrating a great variety of subjects have been added under their proper headings" The dictionary is magnificent in dimensions. Its pages measure 10½ in. by 13, and the result is that a most luxurious degree of lucidity has been attained. The order of the Roman alphabet has been adopted, and thus the weary labour of searching for character by their radicals is dispensed with. How much time and trouble have been wasted by the latter method, only those that have had to pursue it can estimate. The ideographs in Mr. Giles' dictionary are all printed in a special column on the left of the page, and their English equivalents together with examples of their use—which examples are very numerous and well chosen—are given in an adjoining column, the two columns being separated by clear lines. This method greatly facilitates reference and produces an effect delightfully free from confusion, while, at the same time, the eye is readily guided to the object of quest. There can not be any doubt that the dictionary when completed will easily take the leading place among all English lexicons of the Chinese language. The publishers are that eminently enterprising firm Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, to whom the residents and students of the Far East already owe so much, and the subscription price is 5 guineas, to be raised on completion of the work.

ON the 16th instant, Premier Marquis Katsura gave a splendid luncheon to the leading members of the body of business men who are to visit America, at his official residence at Nagata-cho. While they were at table, the Premier addressed a short salutation, to which Baron Shibusawa made reply, and toasts were exchanged. After the luncheon, the Premier instructively conversed with the guests in a separate room. The ministers and the vice-ministers of the Departments of Foreign Affairs and of Agriculture and Commerce were present.

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CONTROVERSIAL METHODS.

THE foreign public of Japan is enjoying—or execrating—a fresh illustration of the controversial methods which grace the columns of certain English newspapers published in Japan. Some time ago there appeared in the London *Standard* some articles discussing the house-tax question and its sequel. These articles were criticized by the *Japan Advertiser*, which denounced them as "developing profound ignorance on the part of their writer, who is utterly disingenuous and assumes an entirely impossible position" That was strong language but we are bound to say that it truly describes the impression produced upon us also by a perusal of the *Standard's* articles. However, it is not to what we ourselves think, or to what the writer in the *Standard* thinks, that we now desire to draw attention. It is to the methods of the *Japan Chronicle* and the *Japan Gazette* in dealing with the criticisms of the *Japan Advertiser's*. The *Japan Gazette* and the *Japan Chronicle* are both notoriously opposed to the views taken by the Tokyo Foreign Office on the subject of the house tax. We do not say that they are prejudiced, or yet that they are unfair. They are absolutely entitled to their own opinions, which are also the opinions held by many of the persons liable to pay municipal taxes in the foreign settlements. But we do say that, even though we were wholesale believers in their position, our faith would be rudely shaken by their controversial devices. What does the *Japan Chronicle* do? Does it address solid arguments to convict the *Standard's* critic of injustice or inaccuracy? Does it attempt to show that he makes misstatements or draws false deductions? Not for a moment. It devotes itself solely to exciting prejudice against his personality. Examining the first sentence in the criticism, it discovers the word "frazzled," and it forthwith seizes this as furnishing "a pretty clear indication of the author of the article and of the inspiration under which he writes." It then proceeds to quote another sentence, concerning which it says:—"This bears the exact ring of the departed Mr. PRESTON, and is curious as coming from a journal which, under the direction of the correspondent of the Associated Press, rendered that gentleman very effective service in his campaign against the Foreign community." What has the *Japan Chronicle* to do with the identification of the writer in the *Advertiser*? What business is it of the *Japan Chronicle* whether or not that writer is the correspondent of the Associated Press? What right has the Kobe paper to assume, on the strength of one solitary adjective, and to invite the public to assume, that the writer in the *Japan Advertiser* is this person or that person; and what right has it, in the name of the commonest honesty, to drag Mr. PRESTON'S name into the discussion and to prejudice the house-tax problem by associating it with that gentleman's campaign? There is not the most rudimentary element of fairness in such methods. They represent the most degraded fashion of controversy. The situation is saved, however, by its extremely comical *dénouement*. The *Japan Chronicle* actually concludes by denouncing the *Advertiser's* criticism as an "attempt to vilify the plaintiff's attorney." Its own article is simply an endeavour to identify the writer in the *Advertiser* and to discredit his personality, yet it has the splendid effrontery to charge him with attempting to vilify the plaintiff's attorney!

The *Japan Gazette* follows precisely the same line—at a distance. It highly applauds the *Japan Chronicle's* article, calling it an "exposure," and it recommends the *Standard's* critic, after having been thus shown up, to "turn his attention to subjects of which he has better knowledge." It then proceeds to re-affirm its originally expressed belief that the Tokyo correspondent of the Associated Press was the writer of the *Advertiser's* article, and in the face of an explicit denial from the *Advertiser*, the *Gazette* has the extreme impertinence to propound two questions:—(1) "Is the Tokyo correspondent of the Associated Press connected, or has he ever been connected, in any way with the *Japan Advertiser*?" (2) "Did he have any knowledge of any of the three editorial articles referred to, before publication?" The *Japan Gazette's* original statement was that it believed the correspondent of the Associated Press to have written the three articles. It now falls back upon the wretched subterfuge that he may have been at some time connected with the paper in which they appeared, or that he may have had some knowledge of them before they were published. And what, after all, if he did have such knowledge? What if he was so connected? What if he did actually write the articles? Is this a problem of mere personalities? Have the *Japan Chronicle* and the *Japan Gazette* no better arguments than such reckless innuendo?

THE AERIAL BATTLESHIP.

THE very striking and interesting article upon the aërial battleship in the current number of *McClure's Magazine* and reprinted in part in our issue of the 10th inst.—the publishers requested us to confine our excerpts to about a thousand words in all—presents some important considerations running directly counter to the common impression that the new engine of war cannot bulk largely in the future history of military and naval operations. The argument to the latter effect, based upon the limited carrying capacity of aerial machines, is for instance clearly shown to be illusory, not only by the fact that the new science is only in its infancy and that, according to the history of all such epochal inventions, extraordinary developments in its power and efficiency may confidently be expected, but even in its infancy enough has already been shown to be feasible as to point to almost unlimited possibilities. The mathematics of the subject are even now engaging attention, with results which cannot fail to carry conviction that a new machine of war of enormous utility has arrived. The factors of power, speed, and safety having been fully assured, that of capacity only remains to be developed, and the writers of the *McClure* article point the way to such development in the mathematical fact that the lifting power of ships increases according to the cube of their dimensions, while the resistance on their surfaces increases only as the square of their dimensions, the weight demanded by their structure remaining at about the same proposition to the lifting power. Consequently, as the craft growsi there is a constantly increasing margin of lifting power. As just beyond the 450 feet in length of the Zeppelin this carrying power grows by leaps and bounds, and as airships a thousand feet in length are easily possible, there is reason to predict that a race for dimensions will soon begin which will make the present rivalry in increasing the size of battleships appear trifling.

The prime factor, however, contributing to the growth of aerial naval power, is to be found in its extraordinary cheapness, and that is a factor which, in view of the enormous financial burdens now entailed by the armament fever, will be eagerly seized upon by all nations belligerently inclined. A fleet of 500 airships could be maintained at the present cost of three modern battleships, and while their limited carrying capacity would prevent anything like equal terms on which one of the former might meet one of the latter, the comparative cheapness of the aerial monster would enable its attack to prove far more effective, as it would be far more terrible, than that of the present torpedo boat. Against one of them a Dreadnought might defend itself, but again a dozen, costing less than a quarter of the seacraft, it would be utterly helpless.

One of the most striking considerations brought out by the *McClure* article is the transformation which must undoubtedly be wrought by the new power in the entire art of warfare, in view of the fact that numbers will no longer count in the estimate of the relative military strength of the nations. It points to the fact that while hitherto war has been a conflict of armed populations, it is hereafter to be a duel between fighting machines operated by a few trained experts. "Just as the number of individuals involved in war was greatly reduced by the ocean battleship, it will become an almost negligible fraction of the populations with the concentrated and terrible fighting engine that has now appeared. This means the end of the military world as we have known it. National power is no longer to be founded on the mass of fighting males. It becomes a struggle of the intellect, dependent directly on national progress in the mechanical arts and national wealth."

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The most pregnant suggestion of all, however, is that made in the closing paragraph, which is as follows :—

That the new machine of war will cause great changes in the history of nations cannot be doubted—if aërial warfare is permitted to exist. But will it be permitted? War a mile above the earth, between corps of artillery firing into huge bodies of inflammable gas, where the defeated plunge down to the ground a mass of charred pulp, will become a thing too spectacularly horrible for conception. Will civilization permit it to exist? Or does this new machine mean the end of war?

THE AEROPLANE.

ALL great inventions have hitherto produced an impression out of proportion to their results. It was so with steam; it was so with the telegraph; it was so with the telephone. Evidently the aeroplane is not to be an exception. The aeroplane, we are told, is to revolutionize warfare. There will be no more armies on shore and no more fleets afloat. In fact it is very doubtful whether there will be any more war at all, for civilized nations will refuse to sanction fighting when defeat means complete annihilation. A disabled airship would crash to earth from its elevation of miles with such an impulse as to shatter into fragments every person and everything it carried. Humanity will decline to allow such appalling risks to be run. That is what the prophets say. But as to what humanity will endure and what it will not endure there is wide scope for conjecture. Humanity placidly endures the use of engines of war just as terrible in their effects as would be the collapse of any aeroplane, and it is not forgettable that when talk was first heard of dropping explosives from balloons, a clamour at once arose that the nations must unite to veto such barbarity, whereas now men are calmly arguing that the use of dropped explosives would be too uncertain a method of dealing destruction and that something much surer must be devised. No, humanity is not to be trusted. If airships became to-morrow an accomplished fact, any number of men could be found to ascend in them to the clouds, there to do battle with all the desperate courage that now nerves them to face the bullet and the bomb, and without any thought for the comparatively shocking consequences of defeat, nor would onlooking humanity condemn such risks more emphatically than it condemns the warfare of to-day. Is the airship then destined to revolutionize warfare? We greatly doubt it. In the first place human genius is just as potent for destructive purposes as for constructive. The minds that have planned the airship and the hands that have built it are capable of planning and building machines that will effectively circumscribe its uses and deprive it of any monopoly of death dealing capacity. When the ironclad came into existence, invulnerability for men-of-war was proclaimed; but when the monster rifled canon, its shells carrying big charges of high explosives, was devised, men cried out equally loudly that no vessel could live in the face of the missles which would now be showered on it; and when the torpedo became a practical reality, the fate of the warship was again thought to be sealed. But all these dangers have been survived, and in proportion as weapons of destruction acquire multiplied force expedients for resistance find inventors. Can we doubt that it will be so with the airship? Already there is talk of artillery capable of tolerably accurate vertical fire, and every tyro can see that airships with their comparatively small co-efficient of buoyancy will never be able to carry guns as heavy as those that have *terra firma* for platform. Then there is the aerial torpedo. Why should it not become as formidable an opponent of the airship as it is of the man-of-war to-day? What is certain is that the scientific world will now employ all its energies to circumscribe the mischievous capacities of the terrible child it has just born, and that fighting in the blue will soon be robbed of the overwhelming superiority now attributed to it.

THE SPREAD OF MATERIALISM IN AMERICA.

(COMMUNICATED)

HARD in the tracks of artificialism in society, the cult of appearance, the worship of Mammon, follows that curse of curses for a modern state, materialism. It is the inevitable consequence of the decline of intellectual and spiritual aspirations, of indifference to the claims of art and the noblest embodiments of the beautiful in life and nature. All these things, which minister to the spiritual side of human existence, are only too often, in this age of materialism, cast aside as so many impediments to the pursuit of wealth. While few, if any, of the nations can plead "not guilty" to the charge of materialistic tendencies, these show to the greatest advantage, or disadvantage, in the American republic. The Land of Liberty is fast becoming, *par excellence*, the Land of Materialism. The reasons are not far to seek: the result can surprise no one. It is the fruit of the spirit that, for a century past, has actuated almost every emigrant to those shores. The earliest of its visitors, the Pilgrim Fathers, certainly went with far other motives; but through no fault of its own or of its original inhabitants, has America come to be known as the land of "get rich quick," and the motive of the average immigrant has carried the country with it. The exalted ideals of the Puritan Fathers have suffered an inevitable *diminuendo* in their descendants; wealth has become the ruling force, and the dollar, almighty. The pursuit of wealth has become an instinct, revealing itself at an early age: man, woman and child are ever "on the make." The very seats of learning are showing signs of succumbing to the taint. A startling article has recently appeared in the New York *Nation*, the gist of which is that in the leading American Universities scholarship is of no account. According to the writer, Professor WOODROW WILSON, of Princeton, in giving an address at Yale, is reported to have commented on "the note of apology I have heard sounded once or twice to-night—*apology for the intellectual side of the University*;" adding, "You hear it at all universities. *Learning is on the defensive*, is actually on the defensive among college men, and they are being asked, by way of concession, to bring that also into the circle of their interests. Is it not time we stopped asking indulgence for learning, and proclaimed its sovereignty? Is it not time we reminded the college men of this country that they have no right to any distinctive place in any community unless they can show it by intellectual achievement? that if a university is a place for distinction at all, it must be distinguished by the conquests of the mind?" In reply to these pertinent enquiries the Yale *Courant* confesses, "Here at Yale scholarship *per se* has no social attractions, is hardly known and rarely discussed," while another Yale paper makes the astonishing statement:—"Probably only a handful of the under-graduates of any one class could name their chief scholarship or prize-winner, or half the philosophical oration men." It is even alleged that "many of the professors encourage this contempt for learning. Wealthy men send their sons to college. Their interests are chiefly centred on the social and athletic victories of the lads. Indeed, it is almost inconceivable that a man or woman in the so-called 'smart set' of New York should even comprehend the ambition of a son who, by some accident, might wish to gain intellectual distinction at college.

The writer in the *Nation* also brings a grave accusation against the faculty of many of the colleges which, he says, are "honeycombed with 'soft courses.' . . . We could were this the place, print a list of the very men who at Harvard, Yale, and elsewhere, run the big elective courses, crowded with loafers from the 'gold coast'—courses that are a disgrace to any institution that professes to stand for the higher learning. These amiable but incompetent instructors, whose names will leap to the lips of every alumnus that reads these lines, whose shortcomings as teachers are known to every college president and every vigorous member of their respective faculties, are the men who make it possible for boys who ought never to be in college to stay in, to lounge their way through, and finally to secure a degree." The ease with which degrees may in many cases be obtained in America is already a by-word in the world of education. We have heard of a "University" which consisted of a back-room in a Chicago sky-scraper, and which dispensed "degrees" to would-be scholars at £5 apiece. But it is grievous to reflect upon the possi-

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bility that a degree won at Yale or Harvard may soon cease to be a hall-mark of learning.

To pass from the educational to the commercial world, we find that here, in a congenial soil, materialism has run rampant. An American critic quoted by the New York correspondent of *The Times* speaks of "the interested and organised avarice of the country" which has grown up under the shelter of an elaborate system of propective tariffs. Arrogant trusts have been formed for the control of the market with the avowed object of creating artificial prices and the accumulations of fortunes. As the *Journal of Commerce and Commercial Bulletin* of New York observes in a recent article. "The system of Protection for domestic industry against foreign competition has grown into such a tangle of restriction upon trade, and such a dependence of industries upon the taxes of the consumer to sustain combinations of producers, that all fundamental economic principle is lost sight of in the impenetrable jungle." In previous revisions of the tariff, the same authority goes on to remark, "the favoured interests conducted their campaign in committee-rooms or private chambers. Now they have grown so callous of public opinion that they come out into the open." "The conflict in open debate is between interests and claims, and party lines are in utter disarray. . . . . The financial embarrassments of the United States are hardly less serious than those of Germany. So far from the tariff being used as a means of providing for the deficit it appears that during the tariff discussions scarcely a word has been said about the financial situation. The whole struggle has been between rival interests and claims." Politics in the United States has thus become 'a struggle between selfish interests' . . . The man who wants a benefit for himself at the expense of the community will pull one way; the man who is resisting taxes on what he consumes will pull another way. Under such conditions all consideration for the general well-being of the country will be submerged in a struggle of interest against interest, and even if that struggle is not accompanied, as in practice it certainly will be, by actual bribery, the corruption of motive which must take place will be equally destructive to the morality of political life."

As far as is possible in the scope of a single article, we have touched upon two sides of American life—the educational and the commercial—and of those the former presents the graver aspect. For to what can a nation look to save it from the brutalizing forces of materialism if it be not to the elevating influence of a liberal education? But if education itself be made into a handle for the more rapid turning of the money-making machine, how overcast, indeed, becomes the intellectual horizon. As for religion, that other guardian angel of a nation amid the quicksands of life, it is to be feared that its appeal is coming to fall more and more upon deaf ears. Side by side with the discovery of that wide spread municipal corruption from which hardly one of the great American cities, from Philadelphia to San Francisco, has escaped, comes the complaint, voiced in the various religious magazines, of the godlessness of these same cities, of the slackening hold of the Church upon the nation. It is time then and high time, for the American people to awake to a sense of their present weaknesses and their future needs, to set their house in order, to root out corruption, to wean the rising generation from allegiance to the golden calf, to develop instead the religious instinct and to give them that priceless and deathless possession—a mind fed on intellectual food, the child, and devotee of learning, which remains clear and untainted amid all the befouling winds of Mammon.

JAPAN'S IDEA OF IMPERIALISM.

IT is highly illustrative of the lack of rudimentary information prevailing in America as to the character and disposition of the Japanese that so intelligent a paper as the *San Francisco Argonaut*, in its issue of July 15, gives it as its editorial opinion that there exists in the mind of this people a well defined longing and an ultimate intention to acquire Hawaii and the Philippines. In other words, the charge is made that the *virus* of modern imperialism has become infused into the veins of the Japanese nation.

In answer to this charge it needs but to be said that, if it be in any degree well-founded, it signifies that a change far more wonderful and startling than any at which the Western nations have hitherto marvelled has passed over the inmost spirit of this island nation, a change compared with which its outward transformations sink into complete insignificance.

It is a comparatively trifling thing, and by no means unprecedented in history, for a nation to change its garb, or to import foreign habits, or even to adopt, in its outward forms, a foreign religion; but to effect a vital change in its essential character, disposition, and temperament, these being the results of age-long training, is entirely another matter. Only an equally age-long process of evolution could possibly accomplish that result.

It is especially in the case of Japan, a nation whose disposition and temperament are the outcome of centuries of isolation, that this consideration should alone be sufficient to negative the charge that imperialism has become its ambition and aim. It should be kept constantly in mind, when such a question is raised, that these islanders are a people who, to a far greater extent than any other nation of that modern world into which they have just entered, have had whatever advantage, or enjoyment, may come from the policy of attending exclusively to their own business and of living a wholly self-contained life. Japan has indeed emerged from her long isolation, and is now living in the full tide of the rivalries and ambitions of the great Powers. But even the force of the current upon which she has embarked has not availed to sweep away the abiding influence of her centuries of strict seclusion, in which she fashioned and perfected for herself a refined civilization, and gained for herself a unique happiness. In the present deeper national consciousness there remains in full force not only the tradition but the actual memory and abiding influence of that self-contained peaceful life, and to that memory the nation's real heart still clings with the strongest tenacity. Eager as are the leaders of the modern regime to learn and to appropriate whatever of Western thought and life may contribute to the success of the new career upon which the nation has entered, this one potent factor, the essential character of the people formed by its experience of isolation, is, in spite of all outward change, wholly ineradicable. It must therefore be taken into full account in any intelligent estimate of the aims now shaping Japanese thought or influencing Japanese policy.

Aside from all considerations of the inherent folly of entering into a contest with any of the great Powers for the possession of any part of the territory of a world now so completely absorbed and appropriated by them, it is entirely safe to say, especially in view of the fact that the purely practical problem of room for the surplus population of the islands has been virtually solved by the results of the late war, that, whatever ideal of imperialism Japan has in view, it is plainly not that of territorial aggrandizement. Its vision is intensive rather than extensive. It is the preservation, and the maintenance in dignity and power, of the ancient empire, without a dream of foreign conquest or the acquisition of new territory, upon which the thought of every true Japanese is centred. It is the memories of old Japan of which the people are proud; it is the glory of new Japan which they seek to enhance. It is the spirit of the old, self-contained life which leads them to cherish and maintain, even in the rush and whirl of the new career on which they have entered, whatever they can save of the beauty, and above all, of the peace, of their centuries of seclusion.

BREAKERS AHEAD.

RECENT telegrams make it clear that the House of Commons is still *in medias res* as regards the Finance Bill. In normal years the fourth or fifth month would see the Budget approved, passed and translated into action. But such is the character of Mr. LLOYD GEORGE's attempt to grapple with the financial embarrassments of the country, that the 12th of August has dawned to find Ministers and "faithful Commons" perspiring over the clauses of that contentious measure. The grouse on Scottish moors are flying with unwonted freedom, for the Mother of Parliaments remains in travail over a lamentably abnormal Budget. Meanwhile

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it may be asked, what is there about this yearly provision for the country's pecuniary needs to raise all this turmoil of discussion and debate? Simply this, to put it briefly: the Budget is not a purely financial measure. It is an incorporation, under the guise of a provision for the national purse, of sundry principles, revolutionary and socialistic in their tendency, which this Radical Government has failed to pass in bygone days, or sees no hope of passing in the future, on their own merits. Should the unsophisticated still fail to perceive what is to be gained by bundling them together with the Budget, let him pause and see the sophistry of a "Liberal" Ministry wedded to socialistic schemes of "reform." There is a Lion in the Path, says the leader of Liberalism gone mad: it is the House of Lords. Now were we to send up to that Chamber of Hereditary Incompetence a measure with the least suspicion of revolutionary aims, that Chamber would exercise its constitutional privilege, to the extinction of that Measure. But with a Budget the Lords dare not tamper, since we Commons hold the power of the purse. Therefore let us frame a Budget—verily, a word to conjure with—in which are embodied the principles whose passage we cannot otherwise secure, and defy the Effete Institution of worn-out Aristocracy to do its worst.

Unfortunately, however, leaving aside the question of political jugglery, the Ministerial argument is based on false premises. Despite all the ravings of Henry Georgites to the contrary, there is no question as to the right of the Upper House to reject a Budget altogether. That right was distinctly asserted and adhered to in 1861 over Mr. GLADSTONE'S Paper Duties Repeal Bill. But such a course is open to the grave objection that it would produce a dislocation of public business throughout the country—a state of thing the Peers would certainly hesitate to bring about except on the strongest grounds. In view of this, the proposition has been advanced that the Upper Chamber is competent to amend the Finance Bill, or reject any portion of it which is open to objection on other than purely financial grounds. On this point some difference of opinion appears to exist. The *Times* maintains that the attitude of the Commons towards amendments upon Finance Bills from the Lords has always been one of steady refusal to grant them recognition, and that the present House is not likely to be less rigid in its adherence to that attitude than its predecessors. The leading London journal therefore arrives at the conclusion that "the House of Lords may perhaps be disposed to reflect that the country, which made this House of Commons, can unmake it and reverse its decisions, and may prefer to leave the country to correct its own mistakes." But this seems to us to suggest a needlessly slow and cumbrous procedure. Why should a General Election, with all the confusion and turmoil attendant upon the raising of a multitude of diverse issues, be required to remedy the situation, when a far simpler expedient would suffice? On the occasion of the Tax Bill of 1861, to which we have already alluded, Lord DERBY, representing a majority of the Peers, declared in so many words that "if on some future occasion a taxation proposal of an objectionable character were presented to them in a general Finance Bill they would have the right to reject a portion, or to divide the Bill into two parts and to accept one and throw out the other." Now the portion of the LLOYD-GEORGE Budget which is most open to objection as constituting a departure from the accepted principles of British finance is that which deals with the taxation of Land values. It gives effect to the theory, which appears to have eaten its way into the Liberal party—"the Henry Georgeite superstition"—that the private ownership of land is a sin against the community, and that national prosperity can only be secured by confiscating as rapidly as possible the whole value of all the land which is privately owned. Mr. LLOYD-GEORGE, as one of the leading reviews expresses it, "has aggregated the several imposts levied in Germany, New Zealand and the United States, plants them on British soil and, by leaving their precise incidence to be decided by the tax-collectors themselves, proposes to adopt the methods of Turkey for their exaction." It is this 20 per cent. tax on that vague entity "unearned increment," and this halfpenny in the pound on "undeveloped" land, that has given rise to something very like a Liberal Cave of Adullam, has alieniated from the Government a host of its supporters and, naturally enough, elicits the keenest opposition from the Lords, championed by a former Liberal Premier, Lord ROSEBERY. And all this is for a paltry half-million of revenue in the current year—albeit this may represent the thin end of the wedge! It is some satisfaction to learn that, a week ago, the tax on "ungotten" minerals was dropped. The Government could do nothing better, in the present *impasse*, than to let the land taxes go the way of the "ungotten" minerals. If not, then the Upper House would be well advised, not to reject the Budget *in toto*, for that would be to play into the hands of the Government—who could then go to the country with the plausible plea that the Lords had rendered the carrying on of the King's Government impossible, and had forced a dissolution at a time when the financial needs of the nation were not provided for—but to throw out that part of the Finance Bill which is clearly based on the teachings of the Socialistic "caricaturist of economics." In such an event, an appeal to the country would have so little weight that it would never be made, for the financial provision for the national needs would remain unaffected, while the Government would have the satisfaction of knowing that they had saved a good deal from the wreck at no greater cost than the loss of a little prestige. But should the Government persist in forcing on a difficult controversy with the Lords, the outcome of which would almost certainly be a Dissolution—and that they are clearly anxious to avoid—they will make certain shipwreck on the organized opposition of the country, and not all the clap-trap and buffoonery of of Mr. LLOYD GEORGE, nor the complaisance of his big majority, will save them from that fate.

THE INDIAN PERIL.

IT is a curious fact that, a few weeks before the occurrence of the brutal and cold-blooded murder of Sir W. H. CURZON-WYLLIE and the Parsee Dr. LALCACA, an ex-Viceroy of India should have uttered a warning as solemn with regard to the situation in India as that which Lord ROSEBERY had given with regard to the dangers besetting the Empire as a whole. We refer to Lord CURZON'S speech at the Royal Colonial Institute on June 11th, when a paper was read by Sir BAMPFYLDE FULLER on "Indian Aspirations." Lord ROSEBERY, as the ex-Viceroy reminded his hearers, had only a few days previously in his powerful and, indeed, historic speech at the inauguration of the Imperial Press Conference, observed that a sort of ominous hush hung over the continent of Europe. "I sometimes think," declared Lord CURZON, "that I can detect a similar hush in India, and I only hope that behind that hush there may not be heard the rustling of the trees. We have to deal there with views which, unless they are firmly dealt with, will swell and grow until you find they are incompatible with the continued existence of British government in that country." The ex-Viceroy went on to describe India at present as "a breeding-ground of aspirations, many of which were illegitimate and impracticable. . . . There was a party characterised by open sedition and disloyalty, and desirous of getting rid of the English from that country as speedily as possible—a party which did not shrink from assassination and the manufacture and employment of bombs. It was a mistake to imagine that that party had been scotched or killed. In his opinion we should hear more of it again, and in more dangerous forms."

That was in June. The first night of July was the time chosen by MADHA LAL DHINGRA to set in motion the work of assassination, when with bloodthirsty premeditation he singled out as his victim a man whose whole career as an official in India had been marked by the warmest sympathy with the natives amongst whom his lot was cast. We are far from saying that the Imperial Institute murders are intended to mark the inauguration of a long series of political murders, or even that in themselves they prove the existence of a wide-spread conspiracy against British rule in India. But in company with the crimes which preceded these murders in India—the attempts on the life

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of Sir ANDREW FRASER, the murder of Public Prosecutor BISWAS at Alipur, and of the two English ladies at Muzaffarpur, to mention only a few outstanding cases—they have brought home to the British people, as nothing else could have done, the sinister fact that a long course of seditious writings in the Press and diligent inculcation of disloyal sentiments by unscrupulous agitators has at length borne its deadly fruit. The British nation is proverbially slow to rouse. It is wont to look with characteristic indifference upon the contemptible work of seditious scribblers; but such a deed as that which darkened the hall of the Imperial Institute is precisely what was wanted to translate that contemptuous indifference into action. What has now to be dealt with is not the assassin DHINGRA—who will doubtless receive ere long the due reward of his deeds—but the venomous and hydra-headed serpent of sedition. An illuminating and somewhat inconvenient stream of investigation has suddenly been turned upon the makers and ministers of Hindu discontent. The Indian agitators are standing in the lime-light of the public gaze—greatly, we imagine, to their own discomfort, but that cannot now be helped. Mr. BANERJEE, of the Calcutta *Bengali*, Mr. KRISHNAVARNA of the *Indian Sociologist*, Mr. BIPIN CHINDRA PAL, late of the notorious *Bande Mataram* and now of the Nationalist *Svaraj*,—and people of like kidney—are just at present receiving a greater amount of public attention that they can ever have bargained for. Now, of all these reptilian demagogues, Mr. BANERJEE has been credited with the highest standing. In fact, as representing the native Press of India, he took part in the recent Imperial Press Conference, and subsequently received the flattering attention of being embraced—metaphorically speaking—by the fatuous Mr. W. T. STEAD. But it is more than probable that, if the true character of Mr. BANERJEE'S publication were generally known, all respectable Englishmen, and people of his own nationality as well, would give him and it a wide berth. Attention has been drawn to the fact that the remarkable influence acquired by the *Bengali* over the student community in Calcutta is due not more to the virulence of its leading articles than to the pruriency of its advertisements; and that, at considerable profit to itself, this wretched journal "supplies the precocious youth of Bengal with much suggestive information as to the means of mitigating the evil consequences of sexual indulgence." As to the *Indian Sociologist*, which emanates from the notorious India House in London (though its editor finds it desirable to reside in Paris), it is a fact of some significance that the latest number of this mischievous paper to appear before the occurrence of the Imperial Institute murders openly advocated "the right and duty of individuals to use force for obtaining freedom in general, and for liberating themselves from oppressive alien rule in particular, *it being quite immaterial in what form that force is employed*,"—the italics are ours—and reaffirming in the most deliberate manner its previous justification of political murder. It is satisfactory to learn that steps have at length been taken to prevent this public disgorging of sedition, and that the printer of this villainous sheet has been brought to trial in the London courts. That the capital of the Empire should be used as a base for the propagation of an anarchistic conspiracy in India is too great an outrage to be permitted. It is equally satisfactory to know that the Government of Bengal is taking steps to deal with the root of the evil. Within the last three weeks a drastic Bill has been introduced into the Bengal Legislative Council empowering the police, without magistrates' orders, to prohibit public and private meetings, processions and the like, and to arrest without warrant, when deemed necessary. This is the correct and commonsense procedure. Indian agitation bears more than a superficial resemblance to Irish agitation in this respect—it is the work of hired demagogues and axe-grinding publicists. Were these windy agitators removed, the country would speedily settle down into a state of peaceful contentment. The Hindus as a nation have nothing to complain of. Under the British *raj*, their lot is infinitely better than it has ever been. As Mr. BANERJEE himself bears witness, "The Government had given them high education, liberty of the Press, local self-government, and expanded councils, containing the germs of representative institutions. Could they say to the people whom they had so liberally educated, and whom they had so plentifully supplied with the environments for stimulating public life, "Thus far shalt thou come, and no further"? We should say it depends very much what that "further" means. If it means self-government, then Mr. BANERJEE, we fear, will not live to see that end; for not in his time, nor in that of his son's son, will that vast congeries of three hundred millions of people, with their well-nigh innumerable differences of race and caste and creed, be ready for the final stage of development in national life. If it means total separation, as some of the discontented baboos are advocating, then, we must say, these agitators show a colossal ignorance of history and of the nation with which they have to deal. The general sentiment of Englishmen upon this point cannot be better expressed than in the words of India's greatest Viceroy, Lord CURZON:—"Whenever I look at the history of India, I am not only inspired by the glorious achievements by which it has been signalised, but I firmly retain the opinion I have always held of the sense of honour, the high spirit, the courage of my countrymen in India; and whatever might happen there, in the last resort the people of this country would put forward their utmost efforts, spend their last shilling, and sacrifice their last man, before they would hand over to destruction that imperishable jewel of the British Crown."

THE THAMES NAVAL REVIEW.

WHEN the Admiralty proposed, little more than a month ago, to organize a naval review in the Thames, so as to give the citizens of the Metropolis an opportunity of seeing the iron walls which constitute their first and chief defence, there were not wanting people to cavil at the idea. Why should the time of the Navy, they urged, be wasted in these useless "exhibitions and displays"? And what particular concern is it of the inhabitants of the British Isles whether or not Dreadnoughts and Invincibles should be "on view" from time to time, so long as the public knows of their existence? Well, there are people whose happiness depends upon hole-picking, who must be for ever finding fault—people who would ferret out a flaw in perfection itself. We trust that in this particular case the critics have now the grace to be silent. For if ever an action was justified by its results, this rendezvous of mighty warships in the sight of London's millions was that action. It is probably the most popular thing the Admiralty has ever done. Perhaps the kind of person to whom this argument would not appeal will at least admit the fundamental right of the people, on occasion, to see, to visit and to examine the vessels of the Royal Navy. Are they not, in the truest sense, their property? But there are higher reasons. Imagination is a powerful aid to realization, but it is far inferior to actual vision. If an apostle, in days of old, required to see and feel before he could believe and understand, how much more so the mere "man in the street"? The writer recollects the extraordinary effect produced by the visit of a few warships to the Mersey some ten years ago. They were not warships of the most modern types of that day—not Majestics or Cressys, they formed a part of the now disbanded Coastguard Squadron—vessels deemed unfit to cruise at sea or take their place in the line of battle, second and third class battleships of the *Thunderer* and *Sanspareil* type, now relegated to the scrap-heap. When these antiquated ironclads cast anchor in the busy estuary of the Mersey, and it was announced that they were open to inspection—a new departure in those days—the river and its banks became alive with spectators. Special excursion trains were run from all parts of the North of England, and the populous districts of South Lancashire poured forth their thousands of sightseers. The steamers engaged to ply from Liverpool or Birkenhead to the warships were packed to danger point with men, women and children, and it was a difficult thing to find standing room even on board the ships of war. Similar scenes have recently been taking place on the Thames. "For once," says the

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Dockyards Gazette, "London resembled a port. Bluejackets were seen about the streets, the river bore on its breast the fleet to which London has been a stranger. From every part of the Metropolis poured young and old to see warships of which they have heard so much and knew so little. For miles along the Embankment and riverside the eager throng gazed in wonderment at the vessels which now lay at peace, but could in an instant have sprung into life and laid waste the whole district around. Bridges became animated, and the stone piers bore a struggling mass of humanity, which only could be kept moving by the tireless police." The sight of the eager, struggling thousands, stirred by the deepest interest, must have been a revelation to the Little Englander (if any such were abroad), and even, indeed, to the most optimistic Imperialist. It is computed that no fewer than 100,000 visitors arrived at Southend on the Sunday following the fleet's arrival, and that night, when 4,000 "liberty men" were ashore from the warships, the streets became almost impassable. Not since the relief of Mafeking, says another account, have the thoroughfares of the Metropolis been so thronged. As *The Times* remarks, "the wisdom of sending larger or smaller divisions to visit our maritime cities is now amply proved. . . They are a visible and tangible sign to the people of the strength and greatness of the State. . . They suggest to men and women who have lived confortably all their lives under the care of the policeman that something more than the policeman is needed to secure to us the ordered and prosperous lives which we enjoy." Viewed as a fleet, however, the vessels which lately dropped anchor in the Thames—the first visit of the kind for two hundred years—are vastly superior to the antiquated squadron whose visit to the Mersey estuary we have already described—superior, indeed to any collection of warships which has yet entered any single British port. All the newest and most powerful types were represented in force; Dreadnoughts to the number of 4—whereas no Power as yet has one in commission—Invincibles, or "Dreadnought cruisers," Lord Nelsons, King Edwards, Shannons, Warriors—forty armoured ships in all and 110 unarmoured, from the second-class cruiser to the business-like destroyer and the sleek submarine. Altogether, these vessels carry 144 twelve-inch guns, a hundred 9.2, forty-two 7.5-inch and 362 six-inch. This immense force—which represents the pick of the Home and Atlantic Fleets, though not the whole of them—is under the supreme control of one man—Admiral Sir WILLIAM MAY, lately Second Lord of the Admiralty, and now Commander-in-Chief in Home waters. It is only fair to say that the authorities at Whitehall deserve all congratution both for the spirit that led to the inception, and for the organization which rendered possible the successful accomplishment, of this splendid naval pageant. Just as the Spithead review brought home to the delegates of the Imperial Press Conference some true conception of the Power that links the distant Dominions to the Motherland, so this assemblage of mighty ships in the brown stream which scours the wall of Westminster and The Tower has imparted a fresh stimulus to the patriotism of London's millions, and has given them a real and personal interest in that Navy "upon which alone, under Providence, their safety and that of the Empire depends."

"CONTEMPT AND BROWBEATING."

THE above are the terms applied by one of the German organs of Yokohama to Japan's attitude towards China. In support of the justness of the epithets our contemporary, the *Japan Herald*, quotes a number of crudely translated phrases from Japanese journals, the gist of which is that China showed a lack of sincerity in her recent negotiations with the Tokyo Government; that she "has been brought to her senses" by Japan's ultimatum, and that "unfortunately, she has no official who can be fully relied on." The last criticism will be recognised as one originally penned by the Peking correspondent of *The Times*. "This bullying tone," writes the *Japan Herald*, "like that of a short-tempered teacher who has lost patience with a bad pupil, is continued day after day and month after month, not only in second and third-class journals but in the leading organs of the Press." Finally, in proof of the temper of the Japanese nation towards its great neighbour, the *Japan Herald* quotes extracts from a number of almost incomprehensible English essays by Japanese students in a Middle School. What evidence! Fancy deducing the nature of international sentiment from the utterances of a few school boys! However, our purpose in referring to the article is not in any sense controversial. What we desire to point out is merely its inflammatory tone. Had the editor deliberately proposed to himself the object of inciting the Chinese against the Japanese, and of creating foreign prejudice against the latter in their dealings with China, he could not have applied himself more unequivocally to the task. Now that is precisely what the Germans in China are said to be doing—stirring up evil feeling in the Middle Kingdom against its neighbour, and prejudicing Japan in Occidental eyes. We do not ourselves believe that respectable Germans are doing anything of the kind. They are going about their business quietly, leaving politics severely alone. But the *Japan Herald* is one of the German organs of Yokohama, and it is not to be denied that the *Japan Herald*, in the article referred to above, goes out of its way to provoke enmity in China against Japan and to create Occidental dislike of the latter. Has that mischievous work the countenance and approval of the German residents?

EDITORIAL CHANGES IN TOKYO.

MR. CECIL GRAY, OF LONDON, TO SUCCEED MR. E. J. HARRISON.

Quite a notable figure in British journalism has been resident in Yokohama during the past few days. He is Mr. Cecil Gray, author, who for the past four years has been associated with the London *Standard* editorial staff, and has travelled extensively in India, Australia, and China, on English journalistic commissions of considerable importance.

It will be interesting to newspapermen and others in Japan to know that Mr. Gray has just been appointed editor-in-chief of the *Japan Advertiser*, Tokyo, and will succeed Mr. E. J. Harrison, one of the best known, most capable and highly respected newspapermen in the Far East, who resigns and will vacate his post about the end of the present month.

Mr. Gray has had an interesting career. In 1904 he was special correspondent with the Thibet Expeditionary Force. For four years he was editor of the *Ceylon Independent*, during which time one of the most famous of the Boer prisoners, General Olivier, cultivated his acquaintance to such an extent that he eventually came to reside in Mr. Gray's bungalow, during which ripe intimacy the old Boer general acquainted his journalistic housemate with facts about the South African War that subsequently shed, in the columns of the London Press, from the pen of Mr. Gray, a brilliant light on the campaign from an official Boer point of view.

Since then, Mr. Gray, who has met and interviewed scores of celebrated men in many parts of the world has published interviews with Generals de Wet and de La Rey and—more recently—General Louis Botha.

In 1898 Mr. Gray headed a special diplomatic mission to the court of the Sultan of the Maldives. He was one of the first of English journalists to be on the scene of the recent Messina earthquake. Mrs. Gray accompanies her husband, who is staying at the Hotel de Paris, and who, by the way, is the son of the late William Oliver Gray, of *Punch*.

REASON FOR LOWERING THE BANK RATE.

According to the *Asahi*, Mr. Hijikata, Head of the Business Department of the Nippon Ginko, gives the following reasons for lowering the rate of interest:—

The U.S. Customs Tariff Bill having passed through Congress, it is clear beyond doubt that there will be no change in trade conditions between Japan and America, whilst it is expected that that trade will develop.

Various pending questions between Japan and China have hitherto jarred on the nerves of financial circles in Japan. These questions are now practically settled without new treaties, which greatly felicitates financial matters.

This year the silk-thread trade has been successful and the rice-crop has so far been favourable, so that an increase is expected on the yield in normal years. Moreover, the money-market has been in such a slack condition as has seldom been experienced.

In short, there is nothing to be anxious about in the condition of political, diplomatic or financial affairs.

THE DOOR-LEBLANC ENTERTAINMENT.

The exhibition of hypnotism and "magic" given by Monsieur Door-Leblanc and his talented Company at the Gaiety on Tuesday evening last proved a remarkable success. M. Door-Leblanc describes himself as "the greatest living magician and hypnotist" (he is doubtless unaware of a local light in the same mystic line)—and his feats of prestidigitation, of mysterious jugglery and of thought-reading (through the medium of the hypnotised Mlle. Saltana Hanoum) were wonderful indeed. A second, and last, performance was given on Thursday evening, with an entire change of programme. The entertainment was of its kind as interesting as one could wish to see.

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, July 27.

The Emperor and Empress, with the heir to the throne, the little Grand Duke Alexis, and the other Imperial children, crossed from Peterhof to Kronstadt on Sunday and, going aboard the Imperial yacht, set out for Cherbourg via the Kiel Canal.

In all circles and all classes of society in Russia the visit to Cowes is looked forward to with intense interest and sympathy, for great hopes are built upon the results expected from this meeting of the two monarchs and kinsmen. The malevolent outburst of socialism on the occasion has been eagerly caught up by reactionary and Black Gang groups and used as yet another agument against having any dealings with England. Fortunately the voices of these once-all-powerful groups are now of little account, and they dare not publicly protest against the visit to Cowes since the very foundation of their vaunted "loyalty" is the dogma that "the powers that be know what is best to be done." This is a doctrine entirely different from our "The King can do no wrong," which merely expresses the defence of the monarch against the mistakes or malfeasance of his advisers. The Black Gang formula is accepted to mean that the uniform—of any grade even the lowest—covers all crimes, errors, ignorance or stupidity. These would-be dissentients from the policy of a rapprochement with England are therefore perforce dumb. Others, who do not rejoice at the ignorant outcries of the socialists, are wounded in their national *amour propre* by the language used. Only the select few, who know England and the English pretty well, hope this un-English violence of expression will rouse the better class Englishman from his customary *nil admirari* attitude and cause the popular welcome to the Emperor to be rather more expressive than might be otherwise expected from the impassive stolidity of the average Briton. If the Socialists wished to win the approbation of Russians they should have abused the Emperor of Russia five years ago. By so much is their information belated. They find no sympathisers to-day anywhere in the Russian Empire except among the few remaining prophets of anarchism and dynamite as political weapons of reform.

The development of the Persian imbroglio is proceeding on lines always prophesied by those who were most intimately acquainted with the Persia of our day. From the latest intelligence received thence it appears the day is not far distant when considerably increased forces of British and Russian soldiers will have to enter the country to put straight what the Persian leaders are mismanaging. To the ordinary observer it would seem preferable to have in charge of Teheran even the most truculent Russian general, subject to orders from a civilised government, than the present Armenian Ephraim, a Russian revolutionary subject only to the dictates of his own egregious party. Colonel Liakhov will shortly reach St. Petersburg to give an account of the state of his command. The new government is in precisely the same hopeless conditions as the ex-shah found himself, and equally in need of foreign assistance to get out of the fix. There is no army, no money, no police (except the myrmidons of the revolutionary Russian "Ephraim"), no courts of justice. On the other hand there are gathered at and near Teheran a number of self-seeking men at the head of armed tribes. In various parts of Persia are adherents of the ex-Shah in arms against the new regime. In the background is the candidate of Germanism, the notorious despot the Sil-es-Sultan, who will shortly reach Persia and will come with all the power of Germanism behind him. The Anglo-Russian Convention has worked in Persia admirably in the negative sense: unless a positive form of activity be soon apparent there is little doubt the forces of Germanism will intervene directly or indirectly.

A signed article in the "Rèch" asserts that the writer has met and conversed with Harting-Laneisen in St. Petersburg, where he is living quietly under the protection of the gendarme officer Ponomarev. According to this interview Harting declares that Azeff is also in Petersburg and is in occupation of some post under the secret police. The bulk of the interview consists of denials by Harting of his participation in this or that act of provocation, and the rest is mostly an attack on Burtsev. There is little profit in reporting anything said, even if it is actually said, by any of these gentry, since only a trial at law can ever elicit anything of the truth of these dark deeds. If Russia did not open to those who do the dirty work of the State the possibility of advancement to high posts and honourable titles, there would be an end of all these nauseating details of the activity of secret police spies.

An analysis of the figures for Nobles' Estates offered at auction by the Nobles Bank for non-payment of interest on loans indicates a serious condition of things for some of the oldest names in Russian history. It appears that for non-payment of interest 3915 estates belonging to nobles aggregating nine million acres of land were noted for sale in 1908. Besides these another 440 estates, aggregating over half a million acres of land, passed by ordinary sale into the hands of other than the "noble" classes. Altogether the estate-owners named in the list have received from the Bank, that is from the Government, no less than fifteen millions sterling, which is asserted to be at least the full value of the lands on which the money was lent. Thus, thanks to this nobles-relief bank established by the late Emperor to prevent the utter ruin of the Russian "nobles," a considerable number of the class, and among them some of the greatest names in Russia, have not only had in cash the full value of their estates, but have enjoyed the use and profit of the latter as well. Nominally the money is lent by the bank for the purpose of improvements, but in too many cases it is only too plain that the cash advanced by the bank does not go back into the land.

The rumour that the Sultan of Turkey will visit the Emperor this Autumn at Livadia in company with his Minister of Foreign Affairs, must be received with considerable reserve. Except as a conqueror no Sultan of Turkey can venture to set foot on the soil of the infidel, nor is there any precedent for such a breach of the religious beliefs of the Mussulman as this visit pre-supposes.

M. Hartwig, lately Russian Minister at Teheran, has been appointed to Belgrade, and will proceed to that post on the return from leave of his predecessor in a few weeks. M. Poklevsky-Koziell, the new Minister at Teheran and M. Hartwig were received in audience on their new appointments by the Emperor at Peterhof immediately before the departure for Cherbourg and Cowes.

A new commercial port, porperly speaking an addition to the present commercial port of St. Petersburg is announced as under construction.

The Russo-British Chamber of Commerce is pressing for the extension of the system of conveying perishable food-supplies in refrigerator cars at express speeds. This will enable the present consignments to England of eggs, butter, game etc. to be largely increased.

An English girl recently arrived at the Russian frontier with a huge leather case among her baggage of the kind used for carrying spare motor tyres. The customs officials, puzzled with this object in the absence of any motor, opened it and found—a modern cartwheel hat, destined to excite the envy of some fellow-artistes at a Moscow café chantant!

Orders have been issued to the railways to take early measures to be in readiness to meet the needs of the harvest season this year. It is anticipated that export of wheat will be much above the average, though rye, the food of the peasant, has not done very well this year.

St. Petersburg, July 29.

M. Khomiakov, President of the Duma, on his return home after the celebrations at Poltava and a round of visits to country houses in several Provinces, has been good enough to communicate to the R.N. some remarks upon the Duma visit to England. He said:—

"Our visit to England, useful and enjoyable as it was, will, in my opinion be fruitless without some endeavour to continue on definite lines the good work there initiated. I should like to see properly qualified organisations on both sides to arrange a series of mutual visits, not of members of the Duma and of Parliament so much as of bodies of experts in various branches of knowledge. This is the more necessary because the English know absolutely nothing about our country. Yet Russia can give to England nine-tenths of those things of which she stands in need. Time was when Russia was the granary of Europe; with the reorganisation of our peasant holdings and the amelioration of our people, the introduction of modern methods, of agriculture, etc., there is no reason why Russia should not once more supply England with her first necessaries of life Even at the present moment the British breakfast table is largely furnished from Russia, but the consumer is ignorant of the fact, He believes he is eating Danish butter, Irish eggs, Dutch bacon, and so on, whereas in reality it all comes from Russia through the hands of various middlemen who could be dispensed with to the advantage of us both, As for all that is below the surface, the iron, copper, gold, marbles, the precious and semi-precious stones,—that natural wealth of Russia has yet been hardly touched.

"England wants all these things. We have not the capital. I am afraid we have not the knowledge, energy, and business capacity as a nation, to realise these invaluable resources of our country, of one-sixth of the land area of the globe, that is to say, with the products of every clime from the Arctic circle to the Tropics. We have no capital to construct roads to open up the sources of this untouched wealth. From England we want, however, something that is more than capital, we want many years of familiar intercourse, during which our people would learn from yours to look upon life as a serious matter of duties and obligations, where now we have too much of what you call "crying for the moon." We recognise that in England we shall find precisely that which we most need, as we believe that England can find in our country her own most pressing needs. England and Russia are the natural complements of one another.

"Our visit to England was from every point of view a great success. We hope very soon to have the pleasure of showing something of Russia to our friends from England. The visit of our Emperor to your shores will, we hope, still further cement the friendship which we are happy to think has now been well established between us, as we are sure that only time and knowledge are needed to make the initiative taken by our Emperor in the always difficult task of reform fully appreciated by every Englishman. Our reception by the King proved to us that the wide and deep reforms initiated by our Emperor under difficulties which must be inconceivable to the average Englishman, are thoroughly understood and appreciated in the very highest quarters."

The Russo-English Chamber of Commerce announces that arrangements have been now made for a direct line of steamers between Riga and Bristol, so as to save the cost of Bristol consumers of Russian produce of the charges incurred by the route hitherto used *via* London. Bristol shipments to and from Russian ports are considerable, no less than 19 per cent. of the total shipments of Bristol being accounted for by the trade with Russia.

A Moscow paper hears the Mussulmans in Russia have agreed together to found a special bank for the service of their co-religionists, with headquarters probably in Moscow and branches in Khiva, Bokhara and in Teheran.

A soldier at the military penal settlement of Medved (where numbers of Japanese prisoners were interned during the war) was undergoing the punishment of flogging for being absent without leave, when he suddenly broke from his executioners, flew at his captain and inflicted on him severe wounds with a shoemaker's knife which he had concealed. He likewise wounded one of the soldiers of his escort, and was himself wounded by them. A special military court has now sentenced him to be shot for the above crime.

After much discussion and opposition, especially on the part of the Russian Church authorities, the Mussulman mosque has received the Imperial sanction for erection in the position originally

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chosen and paid for by subscription among the Mussulmans of the Empire. The position is one of the finest now left in St. Petersburg, a few hundred yards away from the Fortress of SS. Peter & Paul, with a magnificent outlook over the River Neva. The Russian Church authorities raised objections on the score that an imposing erection such as the new mosque is to be will dwarf certain Orthodox churches in the neighbourhood, notably an ancient wooden church erected by Peter the Great, and carefully preserved in his honour.

The trial in Finland of persons charged with being accessory before the fact to the assaassination of Prof Herzenstein, deputy for Moscow in the first Duma, again proved abortive owing to the objections made by the Black Gang, which assembled there in such force and behaved so truculently that the Finnish police had to be called in to eject them. The Black Gang, advocate, Bulatsel, declared emphatically several times that "the power does not exist in Russia which can compel the head of the Black Gang Dubrovin, to appear before this court." Dubrovin is believed by all Russia to have arranged the murder, but owing to the assistance of the secret police-officials and the length of time that has been allowed to elapse by intentional delays, it is doubtful if sufficient proof can now be produced to convict him. The Black Gang object on principle to be tried before a Finnish Court, and many good Russians support their view of the matter.

In Moscow thunders of invective have been publicly uttered at Black Gang meetings against England, the English, and Sir Edward Grey by name, for having "dared to say that a constitution existed in Russia." The language employed here and in Black Gang organs in the press is a fitting pendant to that used in England by ignorant Socialists against Russia. The two "cancel out" beautifully, and are in all respects worthy of one another.

The Prefect of St. Petersburg has at length drawn attention to the scandalous advertisements that have been appearing for a long time past in the *Novoe Vremja*. Day after day some half dozen "beautifully formed young ladies," with still more attractive details that would appear objectionable if translated into English, advertise "séances for artists and amateurs" as—models! Henceforth these inventive spirits will be required to produce certificates of their bona fides as "models" from the Academy of Arts! The advertisement columns of the *Novoe Vremja* have formed for many years past a telling indictment of the manners and morals of Russia.

An attempt has just been made to declare bankrupt in St. Petersburg the well-known Chinaman Ti-fon-tai, who is alleged to owe two million roubles here. He was able to prove domicile elsewhere, and has once more escaped. This wealthy Chinaman is a Russian subject and the man who took the Russian intelligence officers as part of his crew up the Sungari into Manchuria in 1896, and thus prepared the way for Russia's great venture.

St. Petersburg, July 31st.

A vigorous effort is being made to facilitate the use of the Great Siberian Railway for foreigners by removing certain inconveniences connected with the use of passports, so unfamiliar to most of the travellers. At present the proposed abolition of passport inspection for through passengers has been found inadvisable, but the regulation which requires a traveller before leaving the country to obtain a police permit to cross the frontier will henceforth be annulled in the case of through passengers, even if the journey be broken on the way. In the latter case the railway ticket, signed by the holder, will suffice for all police requirements on the spot.

The Russian aviator in space, Tatarinov, promises to make his first ascent in the aeroplane of his own invention on September 4th.

Particulars are given in the press of a great scheme for a circular railway, mostly elevated above the road-level, to connect all the termini of railways at St Petersburg, and likewise include suburban traffic to favourite summer resorts within a few miles of the city boundaries. The project includes the constuction of a special bridge over the Neva. The cost of the whole scheme will exceed six millions sterling, on a conservative estimate. Something of this kind was projected a dozen years ago by American enterprise, but since that date St. Petersburg has got a satisfectory system of electric tramways running, which entirely alters the aspect of the proposals.

Count Pahlen, with his staff of expert mineralogists, botanists, meteorologists, agricultural scientists etc., has now completed the so called "revision" of Russian Turkestan. It early became plain that a "revision", which means a punitive inspection of the misfeasance of local officials, would not meet the requirements of the case, and the Count's powers were extended. What Russia has done in Turkestan is briefly to discover that she is there in possession of one of the richest pieces of territory known in the world to-day. Irrigation works, already well-understood by the natives who construct them on primitive lines derived from the age-old practice of China, will give harvests of everything that grows in sub-tropical countries. But the mineral wealth of this hitherto unknown region is enormo sly valuable and still untouched. The official reports of the "revision", in twelve large volumes, are promised for this Autumn, and will be awaited with avidity, for it is announced that the Russian Government intends to admit the foreigner to a share in the task of opening up this "new India".

The Russo-English Chamber of Commerce has taken up an admirable suggestion made by a Russian who has spent many years in England. It is that Russian banks should copy the usage of Great Britain and abandon the elementary methods of exchanging payments universally used in Russia. Cheques are practically unknown, for example, in Russia, as a medium of payment. There is no "clearing-house" in Russia, and money must pass in all payments. This has given rise to a special and costly industry, that of sworn money-clerks, who belong to an association which guarantees banks and other employers from losses caused by any lapses from honesty of its members. But in these days of "expropriators" and armed robberies, when even in the streets of St Petersburg at noonday, a large body of armed men accompanies any convoy of money, it is desirable to avoid the traffic in cash. It is only in Russia that a man may be called upon to carry tens of thousands of pounds in his pocket in paper, the mere counting of which is an expert's task.

There is again a serious increase in the number of suicides registered in St. Petersburg, as many as six or seven a day being frequently reported. Men seem to prefer a revolver shot: women about equally employ either acetic acid or ammonia. There is no country in Europe where there are so many suicides among youths of both sexes not out of their teens: the causes are usually either disappointed affections or general weariness of life—at sixteen! Psychologists regard the phenomenon as the result of reaction from the extraordinary tension under which all Russia, but especially the youth of both sexes, lived during the years of "internal trouble" in Russia. Happily the era of societies of "free love" and other abominable clubs among school boys and girls, animated by the perusal of perhaps the most extraordinary collection of prurient literature ever produced in so short a time, seems now to have almost passed, and among the children of the better classes at least there is a movement in favour of "sport" of all kinds. Football, for instance, is now quite acclimatised in Russia, while gymnastic clubs abound.

The reserves will not this year be called up for their annual training in the St. Petersburg Military District, presumably owing to the spread of cholera.

Persian robber bands have been giving much trouble to the Russian frontier posts in the past week, half a dozen skirmishes having occurred in preventing the robbers raiding cattle on the Russian side of the frontier. Several lives have been lost.

The *Neck* tells a curious and highly characteristic incident of provincial administration. Some years ago, annual passports for Russians were made replaceable at will by passports for life to save the constantly recurring worry and expense of the annual renewal with its "first and second periods of grace" and other complicated forms. The law of the land expressly declared that there "was no hindrance to the issue of life-passports, also for Jews." In several centres both in European and Asiatic Russia the local police suddenly began to call in from Jews these life-passports and insist upon their taking out papers for a period only, the measure opening the way, as usual, to various methods of extorting baksheesh. When challenged on the point of law the local authorities produced a copy of the Government Official Messenger in which a passage quoting this regulation had omitted the very necessary little word "no" before "hindrance:" the sentence was not grammatical without the "no," but it seemed to give a sense that suited the wishes of provincial Jew-baiters, who have been acting on it for a couple of years past! One of the strongest charges against the existing provincial administration in Russia is that the law of the land lies mouldering in ponderous tomes on dusty shelves, and local authorities act upon "circulars" from headquarters without always taking the trouble to read them in the light of the existing law which they are supposed to explain.

The organ of the Black Gang chooses to-day, the day of the Imperial visit to Cherbourg, to publish a violent tirade against France for having forbidden the use of French territory to police-spy provocateurs. It considers that France is to blame for all Russia's troubles, inasmuch as it was the rapprochement with France that introduced to Russ a the virus of republicanism. A singlarly apropos article to-day!

IN REPLY TO "WANTED."

("Japan Mail," August 13th, p. 7.)

Yes, large-hearted men *are* wanted, but the question is:
How they shall live and tune their voices
To a chorus, every note of which jars on the melody
That fills their souls. Where are the hearers
Who would listen to aught but blare of trumpets and the kettledrum?

Yes, scholars too the times may need, but what they *want*
Are men, who, by some keen, quick trick of figures,
Mixed with a little sentiment, can hoist
A dazzling scheme, a company's shares, a railway loan,
Upon some towering Ararat of high returns.

Where are "the solid ranks of truth?" The "thin red line"
Would be a solid mass of mountains in comparison,
And *yet* dissolve at a faint bleating of the golden calf.
Yes, monsters truth's soldiers *may* attack, but not the creature
That led the cave dweller of hoary ages to the *stock* exchange.

Heaven wants souls? A vap'rous undefined commodity,
Intangible to any test as are the westwind's clouds,
A very drug e'en in Apollyon's markets. Let heaven take its fill,
Till every star, and every nebula, with them is tenanted,
And give the toiling world instead a Samson Agonistes.

Ah, yes, it is *so* easy, to "act as a man should act,"
*Astaghferallah Men-as Shaitan!** say it seventy times o'er,
As true believers do, and lean on any wayside reed
Of fine precepts, with which the well-paid good are ever ready,
Whilst true men, unseen, and grimly silent, fight the gray wolf at the door.

"Ercildoune, the Rhymer."

Yokohama, August 13, 1909.

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* In God I seek refuge from Satan.

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LECTURES ON BUDDHISM.

Those who had the rare privilege during the past fall and winter of listening to the Lectures on "Elementary Buddhism" by the Rev. Prof. Arthur Lloyd, M.A. in Tokyo, will be glad to know that he has consented to deliver a course of about a dozen lectures this coming year on "The Theological Opinions of Shinran Shōnin," the distinguished founder of the Shin Sect, which, as is well known, is the strongest and most influential Buddhist sect in Japan to-day. The first lecture of the series will be given on Thursday, October 21st at 4 p.m. in the Assembly Hall of the Methodist Publishing House, Ginza, Tokyo, and the remaining lectures on the first and third Thursdays of the succeeding months, till completed.

The transactions of the Asiatic Society and the work called "The Wheat and the Tares" contain something of the valuable contribution which Prof. Lloyd has made to the otherwise scanty literature on Japanese Buddhism in English. The lectures of this past year on what he modestly termed "Elementary Buddhism," but which introduced his hearers into many of the profoundest teachings of this great Oriental faith, were singularly illuminating, particularly because of the vivid way in which he presented the historical setting of Buddhist thought as exemplified in the development of the different sects which have arisen on Japanese soil.

We from the Western world whose lot is cast in Japan, whether working in the field of business, diplomacy, education, or Christian propagandism, whether we will or no, are almost daily brought face to face with buildings, customs, ceremonies, ideas and individuals roughly classified as Buddhist, and, not to speak of more weighty reasons, if we are endowed with an ordinary measure of curiosity, we can hardly fail to want to ask questions bearing upon the significance of this great philosophical and religious system which has entered so deeply into the life of the Japanese people. Indeed, it is hard to see how any of us can understand the true inwardness of the Japanese mind, adjust ourselves satisfactorily to our environment, or do our proper work adequately, while remaining largely in the dark regarding this great outstanding fact of Buddhism. And certainly, as one of the great religions of the world, making its appeal to the faith of so many millions of our fellow men, it has a right to claim from all serious minded students of human ideas and institutions some measure of sympathetic enquiry. If it must be condemned as lacking in some of the great essentials of an absolute religion, let it be with the assurance of knowledge rather than the intolerance of ignorance. In any case, the importance and the urgency of an impartial study of Buddhism hardly needs demonstration in an age like ours, which has accorded such a prominent place in the *Curricula* of the Colleges and universities of the world to the department of Comparative Religion.

Unfortunately, however, it is only granted to a few to dig deeply in the mine of Buddhist lore, for its secrets lie largely hidden in Chinese Sanscrit and Pali tomes, unintelligible to most of us, and we must content ourselves in the main with the finding of specialists for reliable knowledge. It goes without saying that there are many such specialists among Japanese scholars, some of whom are doing much to bring the abstruse doctrines of Buddhism within the comprehension of the common mind. But we are to be congratulated upon having, in Prof. Lloyd, a scholar who is able not only to speak to us with the authority of an expert, but in a language we can easily comprehend.

I venture to make an appeal particularly to the foreign communities of Tokyo and Yokohama and vicinity to reserve the hour from four to five on the first and third Thursdays of the month during the coming fall and winter for what I feel sure will prove to be a very helpful and suggestive series of Lectures on the religious ideas of one of the greatest religious characters Japan has yet produced.

Those wishing to take these Lectures are asked to communicate with Miss. F. C. Pringle, who will act again as Honorary Secretary, at No. 2 Tsuruya, Karuizawa, Shinshu, during the month of August, or thereafter at No. 35 Zaimokucho, Azabu, Tokyo. The ticket for the course, as last year, will be five *yen*.

HARPER H. COATES.

Karuizawa, August 14th 1909.

THE PERAMBULATING PIERROTS.

This amateur troupe of clever singers gave a second performance on Saturday evening last at the Kaihin-in. A large and appreciative audience assembled on the lawn after dinner to be entertained. Messrs. Lewis and Cooper were both in splendid voice, their songs being most heartily received. In the comic line, Messrs. Brady, Aslet, Parr and Windett all received encores and the ripple of laughter from the members of the audience, young and old alike, were ample evidence of the delight with which each item was received. The performance concluded with "Good Night, Ladies," most effectively sung by the troupe. Mr. Colman the accompanist deserves the highest credit for the efficiency to which he has trained his Company. We trust we have not heard the last of these clever performers.

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. Song and Chorus ....."The Regimental Pet," G. G. Brady.
2. Song ..."There's a sun still shining in the sky," E. V. Parr.
3. Song ....."Coquin de Printemps," Encore:—"Violets" A. E. Cooper.
4. Song ....."Sneezing," Encore:—"The Motor Car" C. Aslet.
5. Duet ....."Down the Vale," A. E. Cooper and W. H. Lewis.
6. Quartette....."The Bulldog."

PART II.

7. Duet ....."Of course," C. Aslet and G. G. Brady.
8. Song....."Shift a little bit further up," Encore:—"The blow almost killed Father." A. H. Windett.
9. Song....."The Gypsy Trail," Encore:—"Believe me, if all those endearing charms." W. H. Lewis.
10. Song ....."When Richard I. sat on the throne," Encore:—"No Wedding Bells for me." G. G. Brady.
11. Limericks.
12. Quartette....."Good Night, Ladies."

MORALITY AT OSAKA.

Y.M.C.A. OFFICIALS MAKE IMPORTANT BID FOR IMPROVEMENT.

The following petition was presented at the Home Department on Saturday morning last by Rev. A. D. Hall, D.D., of the Presbyterian Mission in Osaka, and George Gleason, of the Osaka Young Men's Christian Association.

"To his Excellency,
Baron TOSUKE HIRATA,
Minister for Home Affairs,
The Home Department, Tokyo.

Your Excellency,—"We the undersigned, residents of Osaka, respectfully petition that permission to rebuild the Licensed Quarter known as Kita no Shinchi, *be not granted*.

"We make this petition believing it to be in the best interests of public morality and for the well being of the young of both sexes. We further believe that the present is the time to remove what has long been a dark blot at the very entrance of the great city of which we are proud to be residents.

Assuring your Excellency of our deepest respect,
We are, YOUR HUMBLE SERVANTS."

The petition was signed by 24 foreign residents of Osaka Fu. The proposal of the petitioners is to remove the licensed quarters from the heart of the city. They believe that the function of Government is to make virtue easy and vice difficult, and to this end the carrying out of the request made in the petition is an absolute essential.

MESSRS. LANGFELDT & CO., LTD.

HALF-YEARLY GENERAL MEETING YESTERDAY ADOPTS 5 PER CENT. DIVIDEND.

Mr. D. H. Blake, presided over the ordinary general meeting of Messrs. Langfeldt & Co., Ltd., at No. 73, Main St., on the 17th inst.

There were also present Messrs. V. R. Bowden, C. B. Bernard, and M. F. Bengen (Directors), and E. Dentici, and J. Thorno (General Manager and Secretary).

The accounts were published in our columns last week, and in now submitting them, the Chairman said that the reduction of the Company's capital, which had been under consideration for some considerable time, had finally been affected, the capital now standing at *yen* 100,000 made up of two thousand shares of *yen* 50 each, instead of, as previously, *yen* 150,000, made up of fifteen hundred shares at *yen* 100 each. As a result of the reduction of capital, and after making provision for bad debts and depreciation of stock and plant, there remained the sum of *yen* 21,296.63, which the Directors suggested should be dealt with as follows:—To pay a dividend of 5 per cent., absorbing *yen* 5,000; to place to special reserve *yen* 10,000; and to carry forward to new account *yen* 6,226,$3. Nothing else called for special comment, but he (the chairman) would be glad to give any additional explanation or answer any question if desired.

He formally moved the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Dentici seconded—Carried.

The meeting then adjourned, the Chairman announcing that the dividend warrants would be issued to-day.

YOKOHAMA.

At about 10 p.m. on August 13, the steamer *Aikoku Maru* (2,466 tons) was about to leave this port for Atsuta, Owari, when, owing to dense fog, she struck against the stern of the British steamer *Ping Suey* (4,150 tons) anchoring beside the *Tenyo Maru*, inside the breakwater. Both the vessels suffered more or less, but not so much as to obstruct navigation. The captain of the former immediately went on board the latter and the *Aikoku Maru* left for its destination on the following day.

Mr. S. Positano, the Consul of Argentine residing in this city, being suddenly recalled by the home government, left here yesterday by the steamer *Amiral Fourichon*.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended August 12th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	15	5	—	1	1
Died	—	3	2	—	—	1
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	36	35	2	—	—
Died	—	6	4	—	—	—

Mr. Otani Kahei, a member of the Municipal Council and Head of the Yokohama Waterworks Bureau, has resigned the offices on account of his coming absence for four months on a visit to America.

Early on the morning of August 17, incendiarism was attempted at Nakamuracho. A policeman who came along discovered the flames and the fire was extinguished before it took hold of the building.

Mr. Tsudzuki Kwanichiro, a police-inspector of the Tobe Police Station and an instructor of policemen, was attacked by sunstroke on the 15th instant when he was engaged in hunting up those who had infringed the election law at Matsumoto Ashigara-kami-gori. He died on the 17th instant.

It is reported that Mr. Shido Akira, Superintendent of the Raw Silk Inspecting Office, will follow, by the *Empress of Japan*, the party of the business-men who sailed for America yesterday.

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BASEBALL.

Everything seemed to be in favour of the Y.C. & A.C. nine in regard to the results of last Saturday's game. The new bats had arrived from America and this in itself had a very great advantage, as the ones previously used were quite out of date. The new uniforms were worn for the first time. These consist of white canvas suits trimmed with blue and having a large blue "Y" on the breast, which makes a very effective contrast. The stockings are of dark blue with one grey stripe; and the caps have the club colours dark blue with the "Y" in dark grey embroidered on the peak.

It is a peculiar circumstance that since these uniforms were ordered (owing perhaps to the anticipation of soon having lighter suits) that the entire nine have played much faster ball.

The saying that "you should not carry all your eggs in one basket" applies to the game, as Dickie was to pitch against the Waseda team, and it was though wise to have either O'Connor or Nicholl in reserve, since three games in succession is almost too much to ask of any one pitcher.

The present playing of the Yokohama team will warrant comparison with that of any other nine that the Y.C. & A.C. have ever met on the field, and the conditions of Saturday's game promised to be unusually close.

TEAM.

Dickie	P.
Walker	C
J. P da Costa	1st B.
Kell gg	2nd B.
Benedict	S. S.
Correa	3rd B.
Tameya	L. F.
McChesney	C. F.
W. H. da Costa	L. F.

A CURIOUS REFEREEING INCIDENT.

When the game between Waseda and Y.C. & A.C., took place on Saturday a curious refereeing incident took place. The game was commencing at ten minutes past four, on the Recreation Ground.

The local team began in a very ship-shape manner, and did well for a little while, when they began to lose grip of things and the 'Varsity scored two in the fourth inning.

Then suddenly a questionable decision of the foreign referee caused the Waseda men to refuse to play on. The Yokohama men generously conceded the point, and, naturally enough, in consequence, the foreign umpire refused to officiate further and the Japanese umpire thenceforward had charge of the game.

In the 9th inning the visitors scored four, Oi hitting a fine home run almost to the fence.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total.
Waseda	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	4	=8
Y.C. & A.C....	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	=2

Y.C. & A.C.		WASEDA.
Dickie	P	Matsuda
Walker	C	Yamawaki
Da Costa	1B	Oi
Kellogg	2B	Hara
Correa	3B	Fukubara
Benedict	SS	Iseda
Tomeya	RF	Nonomura
McChesney	CF	Nagoya
Da Costa	LF	Nishio

SATURDAY'S DISPUTED BASEBALL POINT.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

SIR,—Your account concerning Saturday's Baseball game, I most heartily endorse, but wish to call attention to these amateur sportsmen acts and prevent a most unfortunate precedent being established, as the unfortunate incident that occurred at the baseball match between Waseda University and the Y.C & A.C. on Saturday last is more far reaching than is conveyed by the reading of the report.

The Yokohama Captain made a generous concession, but the fact remains that in the face of the umpire's decision such a concession should not have been made.

Surely it was only momentary excitement which made the Captain of Waseda decide to stop playing, and no doubt he now realizes after cool consideration the childishness of such an act. Waseda University must have traditions, and surely these should not be sullied by such an act as not accepting an umpire's decision.

Just for a moment imagine a Captain of a University team in Great Britain, or in fact any-sportsman, disputing an umpire's decision—even if he thought the decision wrong—and then saying "I won't play any more."

The umpire in Saturday's game was very badly treated not only by the Y. C. & A. C. Captain but by the Japanese as well. Sportsmen, more especially amateurs, should always remember to play "to the umpire's decision."

The rules given in baseball books in regard to the Umpire state most *emphatically* "The umpire's decision is final."

If either Captain wishes to protest, he must send his complaint in writing, to be acted upon by the committee chosen to consider such protests.

I remain yours, EYE WITNESS.

PUTTING OUT FIRES.

INTERESTING DEMONSTRATIONS OF THE EFFICACY OF THE "RAPID" EXTINGUISHER.

Nothing further could be desired in proof of efficacy as an extinguisher of fire, than the demonstrations with their new patent composition, by Messrs. Koerting, on the Bluff, last evening. Japan is in need of vast improvements in preventitive measures against the beginnings of fires, and here, no doubt, is an article of great utility.

Messrs. Koerting, Bume and Reif, of Yokohama, Tokyo, and Kobe, have just been appointed sole agents in Japan for the "Rapid" fire extinguisher, and yesterday's demonstration before a large crowd of the Japanese public, a strong detachment from the local fire brigade, and a big representation of the Japanese press was the first of its kind in Yokohama.

In the largest of the demonstrations, in which a large three-sided box structure, thickly tarred and sprayed heavily with kerosene oil, the blaze so quickly assumed unwonted dimensions and gave out such intense heat that the spectators crowding around were forced back over a dozen yards. Despite this, however, Mr. Koerting and a Japanese fireman extinguished the outbreak in a few seconds, by hurling over it the contents of two hand-tubes of the powdery composition. The hundreds of spectators at once generously applauded the demonstration.

Two other fires were lighted, one on a table full of papers, and another over the surface of a tarred board, against which were piled some faggots which were made additionally inflammable by kerosene. In each case the showering of the powder on the flames had a quick result.

In judging of the utility of these patents, one must always remember that the greatest of fires start on a small scale—and there is the great probability that if some such composition as this "Rapid" had been on hand in the little house in which the Osaka blaze commenced, a story much less tragic might have been told.

The demonstrations took place on the stabling ground opposite to No. 265 Bluff, at half-past five yesterday. The price of the composition is about 8 *yen* per tube, but a reduction, we think, might be made, so as to bring the "extinguisher" more within the means of the poorer Japanese householders.

ANOTHER OCEAN YACHT-RACE.

MOSQUITO CLUB ORGANIZING A SPRINT ON THE LINES OF THE RUDDER CUP RACE.

Yachting enthusiasts, and indeed the general public—so much interest was caused by the preceding event—will hail with satisfaction the announcement which we make on information from Mr. A. R. Catto, that the Mosquito Club is organizing a yacht-race on the lines of the recent 109 mile ocean race for the *Rudder* Cup. The event will take place about the end of the present month, though the date is not yet fixed. The course will not be the same, but will probably be down to Tateyama Bay and back The contest is open to all big boats, and entries are invited.

The keenest interest should be evinced in this big race, on account of the narrow margin—on handicap time—by which Mr. Laffin's boat beat Mr. Clausen's in the *Rudder* race.

OPIUM SMOKING IN CHINA.

HOW IT IS BEING SUPPRESSED: SIR A. HOSIES' FURTHER REPORT.

A further report by Sir Alexander Hosie respecting the opium question in China has been published as a White Paper.

Two years have elapsed, the report says, since the issue of the anti-opium decree and the promulgation of the anti-opium regulations, and, although advices recently received from the provinces are somewhat conflicting in regard to the execution of the measures devised for suppression, there can be no doubt that in spite of the absence of any well organised uniform scheme for accomplishing the task, much is being done, and, in some cases, perhaps too much is being attempted in too short a time with the machinery available for the purpose.

At regards anti-opium medicines, their number is legion. They are of native and foreign manufacture, and many of them contain opium or morphia in varying quantities, The husk of the foreign opium ball made up into pills is also sold as a cure, and most of the reports from the provinces draw attention to the serious evil which these so-called remedies are creating—an evil far worse than the disease they are advertised to cure.

Opium smokers are in many cases becoming opium or morphia eaters, and developing a craving which is still more difficult to eradicate. Anti-opium societies are also much in evidence, and, although some doubt is thrown on their efficacy, they are said to be of assistance to the police authorities in unearthing breaches of the regulation.

One of these societies in the Canton province offers small monetary prizes to smokers who break off the habit through the use of the medicines which it supplies. but it is careful to add that proof must be forthcoming that claimants for the prizes were actually smokers.

THE HOKKAIDO COLONISATION BANK.

The 19th ordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Hokkaido Colonisation Bank was held at the Bankers' meeting-place at Sakamoto-cho, Tokyo, on the 16th instant. At the extraordinary general meeting which followed, Mr. Nagahama Morizo was elected the Vice-President at a remuneration of not more than 3,500 *yen* per annum, and it was also decided to present 4,000 *yen* to the retired director Mr. Katoda.

THE ACCOUNT.	Yen.
Reserve Fund for losses	22,000
Reserve Fund for dividend	11,000
Dividend (at 9 per cent. per annum for 4,000 old shares, excepting those possessed by the government, and 40,000 new shares)..	112,400
Special Reserve Fund	30,000
Transferred to next half year	44,550
	219,950

SATURDAY'S YACHT RACES.

Beautiful weather prevailed on Saturday afternoon last for the usual yacht races of the Yokohama Club. There was a fresh breeze from the East and the sea had a tendency to be choppy.

MOSQUITO CLUB.

There were five boats started—Nos. 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, the course being Mandarin Bluff, Tachibana and Lightship. A very close race between Nos. 2 and 3, was witnessed. No. 2 won, No. 3 was second and No. 1 third. No. 7 gave up and No. 5 sustained a sail accident.

LARKS.

Thirteen Larks raced for a Cup presented by No. 13. No. 4 was first, No. 7 second, and No. 15 third; No. 16 won the prize on handicap.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SIREN AT SHIRIVE-ZAKI LIGHTHOUSE SUSPENDED.

The Department of Communications hereby gives notice that the siren at Shiriya-zaki Straithouse at the east entrance to the Tsugaru Light is not sounded for the present.

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ASCENT OF THE CAMEROON MOUNTAIN.

LIEUT. BOYD ALEXANDER EXPERIENCES EARTHQUAKE AND ERUPTION.

Lieut. Boyd Alexander sends to the *Geographical Journal* the following communication with reference to his expedition to West Africa. It will be remembered that he left England in December last with a view of thoroughly exploring the islands of Sao Thomé, Principe, and Annobon, chiefly from a zoological point of view.

After leaving Principe I went *viâ* Fernando Po to Victoria, where I arrived on March 27. Having my own carriers, I was able to start for Buea the same day. On the 29th I left for the Cameroon mountain, and made a camp about 6500 feet up in the thick forest, which commences just above Buea, clothing the sides of the mountain to a height of about 7000 feet. Beyond the forest the ascent to the first ridge, 8500 feet, becomes steep; the sides are covered with thick grass, and scarred by deep vertical channels and cavernous fissures, the latter about its centre where it is steepest. I made my own road to the peak, and this took me about eight days. I approached it from a point where the ridge commences to slope down to the west. The actual ascent from Buea would take five and a half hours. After leaving Camp I. there is no water, so from this point we had to carry it. From Camp II. I obtained a wonderful view of the country to the south, and of the Fernando Po peak. One could see Duala and the whole of the Cameroon river, with its numerous creeks intersecting a well-wooded country. From Camp II. the mountain commences to rise gradually till the second ridge is reached; the whole surface is cut up by old lava beds interspersed with this grass land, the former reaching as far down as Camp II. Beyond the second ridge there is a small, almost level plateau up to the bottom of the craters of the peak. It is difficult to imagine a more forbidding-looking place than the peak itself—nothing but a group of vast craters, or, rather, I might describe them as ash-pits: and it is my opinion that these are still active; the cinder looks as fresh as if it had been thrown up yesterday. The Germans have a small hut at the bottom of the peak. I looked in the book containing the record of names of the climbers, but could not find Mary Kingsley's, though previous to this a German official at Buea told me that he had seen it. It must have been torn out; it is a great shame. How a woman could have ascended this mountain, which taxes the powers of the strongest, beat me altogether; she is the only woman who has ever done it.

Up to the time of the earthquake I had made a very interesting collection, chiefly from the forest, but there are two species peculiar to the grass land of the peak—one is an *Arethus*, and the other is a *Saxicola*; both these, I think, will be new to science. I hope to have altogether about fifteen new birds. It has been difficult work owing to the forest being so thick. I have on the average lost nearly half of what I have killed, while the weather up to April 15 was very wet, which was quite unusual at that time of the year. The wet season does not commence here till the end of June.

I will now try and give an idea of the earthquake, and my experiences on the first night (April 26). It was very dark, and at eight o'clock, while I was sitting in my tent, I had a suspicion that the ground trembled; it was ever so little, but it made me call José, who at once confirmed my suspicion. Not two minutes had elapsed before a terrible trembling shook the mountain-side, and it seemed as if the whole earth would break in two. After this shocks came at intervals of five to six minutes, always preceded by terrific booms from the hill above our camp. Torrents of stones poured down the mountain not half a mile from our camp. Forest trees kept crashing down and snapping in two like match-sticks, and the cries of terrified monkeys fleeing before the torrent added, if that was possible, to the dreadful scene. I stuck to it till three o'clock, hoping it might subside, but the shocks only grew worse, and I abandoned my camp and made a night march through the forest in drenching rain till I reached Buea.

On this first night of the eathquake over one hundred shocks were felt. It was lucky I left my camp when I did, for an hour afterwards it was covered with stones which had rained down from the mountain.

I found Buea practically deserted, all the white men having gone to Duala. There was much consternation amongst the present generation of natives, but the old people say about thirty-six years ago a similar outburst occurred, when the lava steam took the same course as it has done now, to the north-east. All the natives here, and even at Victoria, say that I have been the cause of this earthquake—that I went up to the top of the mountain, fired into the crater, and moved to wrath the devil that dwells therein. This devil, according to them, is one-eyed, half a man and half a beast, while grass hangs down from his limbs. The Bakwiri people are very superstitious, and are certainly some of the dirtiest I have come across in Africa. Their huts are filthy, and they all live together with their pigs, sheep, and cattle. I was at one of their villages a few days ago, and a chief of a neighbouring town was about to be buried. Every one was leaving to attend the funeral, each family carrying with it either a sheep or pig. These were to be sacrificed, and put in the grave of the dead man. Sometimes as many as thirty to forty animals have been killed, according to the importance of the dead chief. Although the German Government has now forbidden this practice, I am firmly convinced it goes on all the same.

I came back yesterday from seeing the burning craters. It was a wonderful sight, and almost baffles description. There are two burning, situated in the north east portion of the mountain, and not far from its eastern ridge. I calculate these craters to be about, as the crow flies, 7½ miles from Buea. The whole portion of this part of the mountain has been by far the most active. The whole surface is studded with extinct craters, and it is by far the greatest in width; the western summit is quite narrow in comparison to it. From the nature of the shocks felt at Buea, these two craters must have close connection with the peak itself and the mountain directly to the north of Buea. At a village called Ekuria lake, situated at its south-eastern base, where I stayed for two nights previous to reaching the two craters, I felt none of the shocks experienced at Buea.

I managed to get within 200 yards of the big crater, the diameter of the top of which I should put at 60 yards. I got so close that ashes fell on my clothes, and several stones came perilously near me. The detonations were terrific, like the roar of many cannons; great volumes of smoke, blue and black as ink, towered into the sky, and were lit up by lurid flame; while enormous stones and fragments were hurled into the air until they became mere specks in the sky. The small crater, not more than 30 yards to the east of the big one, was only just in the process of formation. It was by far the most terrible, for there was no smoke—nothing but sheets of flame. Showers of stones, red with heat, were thrown out rapidly, to be followed by appalling roars.

I managed to creep round to the north-eastern end of the big crater, when I saw the stream of lava which had made its way down a wide valley, running in a north easterly by north direction. The depth of the lava-bed I should put at 3 feet 4 inches, and the width 70 yards. The lava was still smoking. It must have first started on the night of the 28th, when the whole of the sky to the north east was lit up, and this went on for the next two nights. Last night at 7.30 the sky was again lit up in the same direction, and I calculate this to be the glow from the stream of lava just released from the second crater. I think now that all danger will be over.

The desolation in the course of the lava bed was tremendous—everything had been burnt up, while the trunks of trees stood out like twisted iron. I had a curious experience at Ekuria. I had to buy water, none of the villages below this part of the mountain having any water. The people depend upon rain-water, which they catch from the roofs of their huts with large earthen pots. How they manage to live on such a scarcity of water is a mystery. I had to give two heads of tobacco for every jar of water.

THE CHINESE RAILWAY LOAN QUESTION.

TEXT OF DR. MORRISON'S ALLEGATIONS AGAINST DEUTSCH-ASIATISCHE BANK.

The text of the telegram sent to *The Times* by its Peking Correspondent, to which Reuter referred in a telegram of July 25, reads as follows:

Peking, July 23.—The telegram of President Taft to the Prince Regent, emphasizing in friendly, but unmistakable, terms American rights in the Canton-Hankow-Szechuan Railway loan, has stirred the Chinese. Following upon its reception the Regent, for the first time, summoned the whole of the Waiwupu to an audience, and showed considerable anxiety; for, if this policy of drift continues, he realizes that he may receive other and less friendly warnings direct from other rulers. Prince Ching, the President of the Waiwupu, whose neglect of his high duties does China much dishonour, has been awakened, and on Tuesday was present at the Waiwupu to discuss affairs with Sir J. N. Jordan, the British Minister, for the first time since the latter's arrival here three years ago. Sir J. N. Jordan gravely warned him of the danger that China was running by her failure to enforce the orders of the Central Government upon the provinces.

The President's telegram is directly due to the intrigues of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank, whose influence over the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is so injurious to British interests in China. Their agent induced Chang Chih-tung to write a despatch to the Waiwupu, saying that, unless arrangements were speedily made with America respecting its participation in the loan, he would proceed to the signature of the final contract in spite of the American protest, or would relinquish the scheme altogether. This despatch, coupled with uncertain action of the invertebrate Waiwupu, was promptly cabled to Washington and called forth Mr. Taft's excellent and opportune message. Many Englishmen here hold the opinion that the British Government should bring pressure upon the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank to dissociate itself from the German intrigues, which are persistently directed, here as elsewhere, to bring us into a misunderstanding with the Americans, whose policy and aims in China are identical with our own.

THE STUDENT QUESTION.

It is reported that there is in the budget of next year an item for sending students abroad amounting to 50,000 *yen*.

In former times, says the *Mainichi Dempo* Japanese students were welcomed in every foreign country, but of late there has been a tendency throughout Europe quite opposed to the reception of Japanese students, whilst at the same time European countries often point out to Japan the obligation her students owe them. The journal thinks the time has arrived for new plans and that it is totally unnecessary to send a number of students abroad every year simply to study what all Europe knows. Better it is to establish proper institutions in Japan where students from different countries in the East may come to study.

REVISED FREIGHT FOR HOKKAIDO COAL.

	Over 50 miles. per ton.	Over 100 miles per ton.
Over 10,000 tons to 100,000 tons	.....*sen* $1\frac{5}{10}$	.....*sen* $1\frac{5}{10}$
Over 100,000 tons to 300,000 tons	.....*sen* $1\frac{3}{10}$	.....*sen* $1\frac{3}{10}$
Over 300,000 tons	.....*sen* $1\frac{3}{10}$	.....*sen* 1

The above rates will come into effect on October 1 for the Hokkaido coal, and on January 1 for the Ishikari coal. The Railway Board will thus obtain about *yen* 200,000 more a year.

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FLOGGING IN INDIAN PRISONS.

The following correspondence has recently taken place between the Humanitarian League and the India Office :—

Humanitarian League,
53 Chancery Lane,
London, W C.,
25th May 1909.

The Rt. Hon Viscount Morley of Blackburn, O.M.,
Secretary of State for India.

My Lord,—I am desired by my Committee to express their thanks for the prompt action you have taken for mitigating the severity and restricting the practice of corporal punishment under the Indian Whipping Act.

At the same time may I bring to your notice that a serious increase of flogging for prison offences is is reported, doubtless due to over-crowding, which seems to demand the immediate attention of the India Office.

I remain, my Lord, yours faithfully,
JOSEPH COLLINSON.

India Office,
Whitehall, London, S.W.
12th July 1909.

Sir,—I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of you letter of the 25th May, in which you draw Viscount Morley's attention to a report that there has been a serious increase of flogging for prison offences in India.

In reply I am to say that the latest statistics so far received in this office (which relate to the year 1907 for most of the Indian provinces, and to 1908 for three only), do not lead His Lordship to conclude that there has been any increase in the number of such punishments which has not been duly noted and considered by the authorities in India.

I am, Sir, your obedient Servant,
COLIN G. CAMPBELL.

Joseph Collinson, Esqre.,
Humanitarian League,
53 Chancery Lane, W.C.

AN "ALL JAPAN" SHOOTING MATCH.

ORGANIZED BY YOKOHAMA SHOOTING CLUB FOR SEPT. 25 AND 26.

Shooting enthusiasts will be glad to hear that the Yokohama Shooting Club is organizing an "all Japan" Shooting Match for Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 25th and 26th. The competitions are to take place on the Totsuka Grounds. The details are as follows: —

LIVE BIRDS.

(1) Standing singles .....15 Birds
(2) Standing doubles (2nd after the 1st shot..... 20 Birds
Entrance Fee for above two events...*yen* 5.00

Prizes :—
1st Prize—Championship Gold Medal and Browning Automatic Shot Gun Cal. 12 (or Silver Cup) presented by Kanamaru F. A. Co.
2nd Prize—Championship Gold Medal.
3rd Prize—Championship Gold Medal.
4th to 15th—Presented by Club Members.

BLUE ROCKS.

(1) Standing singles .....15 Blue Rocks
(2) Standing doubles .....20 Blue Rocks
Entrance Fee for above two events...*yen* 5.00

Competitors shall have the right to reshoot twice in the above event (Blue Rocks) at an Entrance Fee of *yen* 4. 0 each.

Prizes :—
1st Prize.—Championship Gold Medal and Bonehill Hammerless Double Barrel Shot Gun, cal 12.
2nd Prize.—Championship Gold Medal.
3rd Prize.—Championship Gold Medal.
4th to 5th.—Presented by patrons of the Club.

Special Prize.
Best General Average obtained in Live Birds and Blue Rock Matches.
"Manten Sho" (Gold Medal) presented by J. Nishimura.

Entries :—
All Entries must be forwarded to the Kanamaru Fire Arms Company by Friday Sept. 10th, 1909.

Points :—
Singles, Kill on 1st shot=2 Points.
Singles, Kill on 2nd shot=1 Point.
Doubles, 2 Points for each bird killed.
Live Birds. Total score obtainable, 70 points.
Blue Rocks. Total score obtainable, 70 points.
Total score obtainable for day.....140 points.

Handicaps :—
A committee of the Club will have full charge as to the arrangements of all handicaps, which will be posted on the Club premises before the match commences.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE proprietor and editor of the *Shinyetsu Shimbun* of Nagano, named Sato Issei, has been arrested on a charge of blackmail.

ON August 11, about 12 acres of a state-forest at Daigo-mura, Uji-gori, Yamashiro were destroyed by fire caused by tobacco-ashes. The amount of damage is as yet unknown.

ON the morning of August 12, the Premier, Marquis Katsura, reported to the Emperor on present questions and also presented replies to questions put by His Majesty.

THE despatches from Kanazawa and Marugame report that the drought has continued for 30 days. The people complain of insufficiency of drinking-water and irrigation has been interrupted.

ON the 16th instant, a sergeant was run over and killed by a train at Osato mura, near Shidzuoka. It is said that he must have been standing erect facing the running train, for there was a blood-stain of the figure inscribed on the engine.

THE U. S. Pacific Squadron is expected to visit Japan in or about February next, *via* Manila and China. The squadron consists of the cruisers *Washington*, *Tennesse*, *South Dakota*, *California*, *West Virginia*, *Maryland*, *Pennsylvania* and *Colorado*.

ON the 14th instant, an extraordinary Privy Council conference was held at the Imperial Palace. The memorandum on the Central Bank of Korea passed the approval of the Council. Premier Marquis Katsura and Foreign Minister Count Komura attended the conference.

AT 2.30 a.m. on the 14th instant, a fire broke out in the Okuma Colliery at Katsuki-mura, Onga-gori, Chikuzen. Many casualties are reported. At 7.40 the fire was still burning. It is said that the daily output of the colliery is over 10,000 tons, 600 colliers being employed.

ON August 11, a fire broke out in a soy brewery at Chiba cho, Chiba prefecture. The building and seven godowns were burnt down before the fire was put out. The damages are estimated at over *yen* 30,000. A military troop numbering about 100 prevented the spreading of the fire.

AN Osaka telegram says that in reference to the purchase of bonds a difference of opinion occurred between Mayor Yamashita and Assistant-Mayor Yoshimura on the 13th instant. The latter resigned his post on the same day, and his resignation was accepted by the Municipal Assembly on the following day.

AN extraordinary general meeting of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha was held on August 12 at the Nihonbashi Club. The motion for increasing the number of directors was passed in its original form. Subsequently Messrs. Okawa Heizaburo and Takashima Kojinji were elected directors, with Mr. Yamanaka Rinnosuke, as the auditor.

ACCORDING to the statement given by an official of the Tokyo Observatory, it is reported that the slight shock of earthquke felt in Tokyo and Yokohama on the night of the 16th instant had no connection with those that occurred lately in the northern part of Omi province. Its centre seems to have been in the western coast of the Tokyo Bay.

ON the 17th instant, an ordinary cabinet council was held at the official residence of the Premier, and the other State Ministers, excepting Viscount Okabe and Baron Goto, were present. The Foreign and the Home Ministers made reports relating to the Chinese negotiations and to the actual condition of the recent earthquake respectively.

AT about 2 a.m. on the 15th instant, the Shinagawa Police Authorities received intelligence that about two scores of the villagers of Yawata-mura, Rokugo, near Kawasaki, were preparing to attack the office of the Keihin Electric-car Company at Kawasaki. A police-inspector was despatched to the spot with a dozen policemen to quell the desturbance. The villagers are said to have been excited on account of the indifference of the Company, when an old woman died from injuries received by a car a few days ago.

ON the occasion of the *Taimatsu-nagashi* and fireworks display held at Enoshima on last Saturday, Princes Higashi Kuni and Asaka were present to view the scene. Besides these entertainments, there was a *geisha* dance which gave much pleasure to all the crowds assembled from different districts. The above will be repeated next Saturday.

IN order to facilitate the communication between the present Yokohama Customs Compound and its newly-reclaimed ground, the Superintendent of the Customs has negotiated with the governor of the prefecture in connection with the building of a new bridge and the reclaiming of 484 *tsubo* more of the water-surface. The Governor has instructed the municipal assembly to give an answer by the 31st instant.

REFERRING to the matter of the Yokohama Gas Bureau, the *Boyeki Shimpo* states that though the amount embezzled by the officials is only 2,000 *yen* or less, the nature of the offence and the irresponsibility of the overseers cannot escape the censure of the public. It is also surprising that the municipal assembly has not taken decisive measures to adjust the matter. Everyone is sorry for the disordered condition of the Gas Bureau, which originated in disregard of repeated advice.

FOUR Chinaman residing in Kobe, Osaka, Tokyo and Yokohama respectively, who have in several years smuggled no small quantity of opium, were arrested on the 16th and 17th instants by the Yokohama Water Police Authorities. It is alleged that they, taking advantage of the leniency of the Kobe Customs, smuggled there 380 tins (each containing 66 momme) of opium and a number of bottles containing vinum opii in the beginning of this month. One of the accomplices landed these tins and bottles at Hiogo, and took them by train to Yokohama. So large a quantity of opium has never before been smuggled here.

AT about 6 a.m. on August 16, a fire broke out in the third-story of a bookseller's shop belonging to Mr. Okura Magobei, Tokyo. The house was built last winter in fourstoried style. The 3rd and 4th story were burnt down before the fire was put out. The losses are valued at about 70,000, *yen* among which a number of valuable copies of works by celebrated authors were included. It was found on the occasion that water hardly reached the 3rd and 4th story even by means of a steam-pump. Some 30 employees whose beds were in the 4th story narrowly escaped from the danger, jumping out of the windows towards the high roof of an adjacent house.

WHEN it became known that Japan had notified the Government of China of her decision to adopt free action with regard to the Antung-Mukden Railway question, the Chinese residents in Seoul, says the *Seoul Press*, were naturally very much excited, thinking that war would follow between the two countries. In view of this, the day before yesterday, Mr. Ma, Chinese Consul-General here, summoned leading Chinese residents to the Consulate-General and gave a full explanation of the situation, assuring them that no such untoward event as war would follow. This timely counsel has had its desired effect, and peace now prevails among the Chinese community in the city.

THE Moscow Bourse Committee, says an exchange, is taking steps to promote public interest in the scheme for raising Russia to the position of one of the great cotton-producing countries of the world. The project is based on the assumption that, provided the work of irrigation is carried out thoroughly, Turkestan and the Trans-Caspian provinces offer magnificent facilities for the cultivation of cotton. A sum of £50,000 has now been subscribed by manufacturers towards the cost of preliminary work in connection with the irrigation, and it is suggested that the province of Fergana offers most favourable conditions for

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cotton protection. The Government naturally favours the enterprise, in the hope that it may be possible for Russia to reduce her indebtedness abroad by means of exports of cotton, and to render herself entirely independent of the United States as regards cotton.

In connection with some 70,000 disused muskets and 70,000,000 bullets captured from Russia, scandalous reports have been circulated since March last year. In June last, a man named Nojiri Sanzo of Karasumori-cho, Tokyo, and two others were arrested for having drawn a large amount of money from a usurer on the plea that the above will be sold by the War Department. The judicial authorities are investigating the matter.

Fire broke out between 11 and 12 on Thursday night on board the British barque *Howard D. Troop*, in Yokohama harbour. The vessel's cargo had consisted of some 90,000 cases and barrels of oil—mostly kerosene—but fortunately, since her arrived from New York on the 25th ult., about 80,000 of these had been landed. At least half of the remaining cases were destroyed by the flames, and much damage—irreparable, it is feared—has been done to the vessel itself, which now lies outside the breakwater with a heavy list to starboard. There are rumours of incendiarism, arising out of unpleasant relations between the captain and the crew, but these remain to be investigated.

At the general meeting of the Buzen Saitan (coal-mining) Kaisha held on the 15th instant, President Mr. Asano Soichiro read a report that the profit of this half year was less than expected, owing to unfavourable conditions of sales, but that with reform, 8 per cent. per annum dividend will be expected in future. The net profit, *yen* 3,000, for this term, it was decided, should be wholly transferred to next half year. The motion for an additional managing-director was passed, Mr. Shinkai Eitaro being elected. In reference to the subject of introducing loans for redeeming the old debts, it was decided to borrow *yen* 350,000 with the mine as security, organizing at the same time a financial union of the coal-miners.

An interesting meeting between the Presidents of Mexico and the United States is now assured, according to Washington advices. Mr. Taft, with the finish of the Tariff Bill, goes to Beverly (Mass.) where he will remain till the middle of September. He will then visit the Alaska-Yukon Exhibition at Seattle, and will afterwards go to Arizona, New Mexico and Texas. At El Paso, on the border, Presidents Taft and Diaz will meet at the suggestion of the latter. There are no international questions to be settled, and the occasion will only serve to strengthen the friendship between the two Republics. It is suggested that the two Presidents should meet midway on the Internationai Bridge spanning the Rio Grande.

The native population of Seoul is stated to be decreasing year by year, says the *Seoul Press*. A few years ago when Mr. Maruyama, the then Chief of the Metropolitan Police Office here, made investigations it was found that there were over 190,000 Korean inhabitants, According to the latest investigation, however, the figures have fallen to about 150,000. It is thought this decrease in the number of the native population is chiefly due to the withdrawal of many *yangpan* (nobles), who have been residing in the city, into the interior, compelled by the hardships of living on account of the change in economical and social conditions. This exodus of nobles has also been attended by the departure of a large number of their followers and dependants. Hence the above result.

Mr. and Mrs Whitelaw Reid, who some time ago told their friends in England that they will make their permanent home in England when Mr. Reid's ambassadorship comes to an end, will not, it is said reside in Dorchester House, but they will continue to rent Wrest Park, which has been their country home hitherto. Dorchester House is enormously expensive for one thing, while Mrs. Reid feels physically unable to undergo the strain of hospitality that the historic mansion demands. It is said that the Earl and Countess of Granard may take over Dorchester House from the Reids. It will be remembered that the Countess of Granard was Miss Beatrice Mills, of New York, but Lady Granard's health will probably prove an obstacle to the project.

Convicts in French Guiana seem to be in luck They are reported to be working a gold mine on their own account, says the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*. Their warders have apparently so far failed to discover where they have successfully pegged their claim. The convicts, in turn, escape from the settlement by twos or threes, and remain hidden for a day or two. They then return with their pockets full of nuggets, and have a great time. Others get away in their turn, but come back eventually also with gold. The mine is thus kept regularly working by shifts of convicts. The latter, when they return to the settlement, are regularly sentenced to a few days' imprisonment for absence without leave, but this is a low price to pay for a share in a gold mine. Where the latter is the authorities have never yet been able to discover.

It has been for long years one of Shanghai's many anomalies, says the *Shanghai Times*, that the important post of Surveyor to Lloyds, the great British maritime underwriting institution, has never been held by a Britisher, but has been apparently given over by tacit consent to Danes and Americans connected with the shipping world. The work we may add has always been admirably done by them, and no complaints have ever been made in the score of efficiency. It has been held in recent years by Captain Warburg, Herman Sonne, and W. Paulsen, all Danes, by Captanin J. P. Roberts and Capt. Bassett, both Americans. We now learn that the London Board has decided to send out a Britisher to fill the post, with a fixed salary instead of payment by fees as has been the system heretofore. The salary is surprisingly small for such an important position, namely, £600 a year

The assignment of the Rev. Clay MacCauley as representative of the American Unitarian Association in Japan, says the *Boston Transcript*, takes him back to a field in which he won renown and accomplished a great work as teacher and missionary, On his visit to Japan several years ago a monument was unveiled in his honour in which he was described as "Bearer of Light." To work again among people of such keen appreciation must be to him a source of great satisfaction. Boston, however, will not regard the news of this change with pleasure. It will genuinely miss this man, his radiance in the midst of trouble, his catholic sympathies, his broad intelligence and knowledge, and his gentle spirit that has not concealed his firm, strong manhood. There is consolation, however, in the thought that he will in Japan find the congenial work he seeks, and that his health and strength are sufficient for these tasks.

The umbrella heretofore exported from Japan to the Shanghai neighbourhood, says the *Kobe Herald*, have been fairly good from a decorative point of view, but almost useless for practical purposes. Many Chinese carried them more as ornaments than for actual use, and consequently they have been in pretty good demand despite their inferior manufacture. Of late, however, the demand for an article of real utility has been growing and the Japanese goods, owing to their poor quality, are more and more failing to meet the Chinese requirements. On the other hand there is a growing import into China from Germany of umbrellas in which appearance has been made secondary to durability. These are sold at between ten and thirteen dollars per dozen, being 30 or 40 per cent. more than those imported from Japan heretofore, but the demand for them is daily increasing owing to their suitability, for practical purposes Recently, imitations of the German article have been sent to China from Osaka and sold at from 5 to 6 50 dollars per dozen, or about half the cost of the German goods, They look very much like the latter, but their quality is very bad. The export of Japanese umbrellas to Shanghai is therefore likely to be most seriously checked unless a great improvement is effectedin their manufacture.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BILLIONS OR THOUSAND MILLIONS?

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—A note in the *Mail*, headed "The Harvests," suggests an interesting question.

"In the United States the corn crop is estimated to bring this season the stupendous sum of two billions for the American farmer."

What sum do you desire to convey by the term "two billions?" The notation of two billions is 2,000,000,000, to which the adjective stupendous is appropriate. If the sum is 2,000,000,000 it should be written 'two thousand millions,' and the adjective is inappropriate.

To make this matter more easily comprehensible I may say that to count two billions of *yen* at the rate of 300,000 daily (approximately 208 per minute), without cessation, would require a period of 18,265 years: two thousand millions can be enumerated in 18 265 years.

I am aware that 1,000,000,000 is sometimes (not always) written in the United States as one billion; but that is no reason why the world should be misled.

Yours, &c., MUNICEPS.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service.)

CHANGES IN THE FINANCE BILL.

PROPOSED 50 PER CENT. DUTY ON ROYALTIES, AGAINST TAX ON UNGOTTEN MINERALS.

London, August 12.

Mr. Asquith has asked the House of Commons to sanction the throwing of the whole of the cost of the valuation of land, under the Finance Bill, on the State, and proposes to divide the country out into valuation districts. The total cost of the scheme would be £2,000,000 which, however, would be non recurrent. He proposed to substitute a 50 per cent. duty on royalties for the tax on ungotten minerals.

The opposition to the proposals was the strongest experienced so far. Mr. Austen Chamberlain described the proposals as practically constituting a new Budget.

LEANING TOWARDS SUBMISSION.

Canea.—At a meeting of the Cretan Assembly the Government communicated the advice of the Powers and advised submission.

TURKEY DOES NOT WANT WAR.

BUT MUST HAVE A SETTLEMENT COMPATIBLE WITH DIGNITY.

Constantinople.—The Council of Ministers has discussed the Note from Greece.

Hilmi Pasha said in an interview that the reply of Greece was in some respects satisfactory, but was incomplete. Turkey's position required to be strengthened, but war was not desired. In view, however, of the prevailing popular excitement, the Government must obtain a settlement compatible with its honour and dignity.

THE CRETAN CRISIS.

TURKEY "INVITES CONFORMATION."

August 13.

The Porte in a Note to Greece says that the latter's reply is unsatisfactory, and invites conformation with Turkey's wishes in the interests of friendly relations.

The Note, which is vigorously worded, says that a reply is expected within a reasonable time, but fixes no time-limit.

Later.

A Government proclamation on the subject of the hoisting of the Greek flag appeals to God and to the sense of the people to save Hellenism from the terrors of a situation which might be avoided by a fresh international occupation.

[This telegram has been much mutilated in transmission.—Ed. *J.M.*]

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JOHNSON AND JEFFRIES TO FIGHT.

Chicago.—Jack Johnson and Jim Jeffries have signed articles to fight eight months hence.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

London, August 13.

Prince Arthur of Connaught and the Duke of Norfolk have sent a letter to the press inviting universal support for the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition. They urge possessors of British art treasures to emulate the nobles of Japan in lending their priceless works, and trust that manufacturers and producers will use the occasion to make the representation worthy of this great opportunity.

CHINESE PORK.

Many letters are appearing in the press protesting against the importation of Chinese pigs.

ROYAL GREETINGS.

The Emperor Francis Joseph has telegraphed to King Edward "heartily welcoming his old friend." The King replied that he was deeply touched.

THE DEFENCE OF GREATER BRITAIN.

London, August 14.

London.—The Imperial Defence Conference has approved of suggestions providing absolute uniformity in the organization, training in arms, transport and interchange ability of the military forces of the Empire, and also the establishment of military colleges similar to Camberly. The result has afforded the highest satisfaction to the Imperial Government, the army council and the delegates, as it provides a vast, homogeneous Imperial army.

PRINCE OF WALES TO OPEN SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENT.

London.—The Prince of Wales has agreed to open the South African Parliament. He will probably be accompanied by the Princess.

BRITAIN WAS NOT IMPERILLED.

BUT ADMIRALTY DID NOT QUITE PLAY THE GAME WITH LORD BERESFORD.

London, August 14.

London.—The report of the sub-committee of naval experts appointed by the government on April 23, to investigate the conditions of the British Navy, has been presented. It shows that during the time mentioned by Lord Charles Beresford British naval efficiency was not impaired to the alleged degree and that there was no danger to the country in consequence of its condition. The preparations for war were adequate and defensible in themselves, though not ideally perfect. They were, however, it is admitted, seriously hampered by the absence of cordial relations between the Admiralty and Lord Charles Beresford. The former, it is declared, did not take Lord Beresford sufficiently into their confidence, whilst the latter failed to appreciate the judiciary spirit of the instructions he received from headquarters, or to recognize the paramount authority of the Admiralty.

The Committee is much impressed with the difference of opinions held by high officers on important principles of Naval strategy and tactics, and anticipates that much greater confidence will exist in subsequent dealings with the Admirals, particularly in the further developement of the naval war staff.

COMMONWEALTH VOTES MONEY FOR PENSIONS AND A DREADNOUGHT.

Melbourne.—The Commonwealth budget includes £1,500,000 for old age pensions, and £1,575,000 for defence funds, which will be used for a Dreadnought, or something equivalent, to be provided when required.

THE GRECIAN FLAG TO GO.

WARSHIPS ARE ORDERED TO CRETE: EFFORTS FOR PEACE.

London, August 15.

London.—The Note of the Powers has been presented to the Porte, undertaking to have the objectionable flag removed from Crete, and hoping, in the circumstances, that Turkey will not think it necessary to order her fleet to Cretan waters.

The Cretan Government, meanwhile, has intimated to the Powers that all its efforts in persuasion have failed, and that they have been unable to get the flag removed. The Chamber has been summoned and has decided to resign everything to the protecting Powers, each of whom is sending a warship, Crete, meanwhile, holding another in readiness until these ships arrive, when she will remove the flag.

THE CRETAN CRISIS.

London, August 16.

Armed peasants have occupied Canea fortress to prevent the removal of the flag. The gendarmes, however, forced the peasants to evacuate the position, promising to guard the flag.

The Government is resigning, and a provisional administration is being formed.

The British battleship *Swiftsure* has arrived at Suda Bay.

Later.

Canea.—In consequence of Mussulman protestations and alarms, the Government is patrolling the town and expelling the villagers.

FORCING THE PACE.

MONSTER BATTLESHIP FOR THE U.S.

It is stated that the United States Government is considering the building of a 30,000-ton battleship which the Navy Board recommends.

BRITISH AIRSHIP SUCCESS.

Colonel Cody, in the British Army aeroplane with two occupants, succeeded in flying two miles on Saturday.

THE "LUCANIA" BURNED TO THE WATER'S EDGE.

London, August 16.

In a fire on the Cunarder liner *Lucania*, to day, in Liverpool docks, the forward part of the vessel was completely gutted and the vessel was sunk to save the hull. The *Lucania*, badly damaged, now rests on the dock bottom.

AN AUSTRALIAN PACIFIC SQUADRON?

Melbourne.—It is believed that the Imperial Government and the Commonwealth have agreed to an alternative scheme to giving a Dreadnought to the Empire. Australia, instead, will provide a squadron of swift cruisers for the Pacific and a large naval base.

MOROCCAN SULTAN'S POWER GROWING.

London, August 17.

Tangier dispatches say that the Sultan's forces have combined in an attack and have defeated the Pretender and have taken away many prisoners and all the camp material. The Pretender escaped, but it is believed that his power has been entirely broken.

THE CONGO'S FUTURE.

PRINCE ALBERT OF BELGIUM SAYS THE COLONY HAS INEXHAUSTIBLE RESOURCES.

Prince Albert of Belgium has returned to Brussels, from the Congo. He says that all the glowing accounts of the country were surpassed by what he actually saw. The Colony is one of inexhaustible resources. Only men of energy and initiative are wanted and the future of the Congo will be assured. They must strive, however, to raise the moral level of the natives by improving their material conditions.

THE MELILLA TROOPS.

Reuter's special correspondent at Melilla says that General Marian's force now consists of 30,000 infantry, 1,400 cavalry and 16 field and 40 mountain guns. The spirit of the troops is admirable, but the nature of the country presents immense obstacles.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD IS PERSISTENT.

MORE CRUISERS WANTED: HE DESIRES TO STRENGTHEN THE EMPIRE.

London, August 18.

Lord Charles Beresford, in a letter to the press says: "It is scarcely possible that the Naval Commission appointed to enquire into the condition of the British Navy, and which was nothing else than a committee of Cabinet members, could have produced a report more in accordance with my statements. Eight important reforms are necessary, including a homogeneous fleet under a single commander, a naval war staff, etc.

The Admiral reiterates his other suggestions and maintains that there is a marked shortage of modern cruisers and destroyers, and that the Empire is not within the pale of safety. He repudiates any suggestion of disloyalty and indiscipline on his part, and declares that he simply wishes to cement the Imperial Naval Forces.

AFRICAN UNION CEMENTED.

COLOUR BAR IS A REGRETTABLE BUT NECESSARY FEATURE.

The South African Union Bill, advocated by the leaders of both political parties, and supported by an undivided Commons, was seconded in the House to-day and passed. There is practically unanimous agreement on the colour bar in regard to franchise and membership of the legislature; which step, however regrettable it may be, is considered to be absolutely necessary to save the Union.

CRETAN ADMINISTRATION IS LOYAL TO GREECE.

The New Administrative Committee in Crete yesterday took the oath of allegiance to the King of Greece.

THE POWERS AND MACEDONIA.

The Powers have informed the Porte of their decision to suppress fanatical control in Macedonia, whilst they have every sympathy with the well-directed efforts of the new *régime*.

TURKISH FLEET SAILS.

Reuter's Smyrna correspondent learns that the Turkish fleet, consisting of twelve units has sailed. An Anti-Greek boycott has begun.

BRITISH ORDERS AT CANEA.

CRETANS MUSY NOT ATTACK LANDING PARTIES.

The British Commander at Canea has warned the Cretan Government of the irreparable consequences of any attacks on international landing parties, and the Government has informed the people of the unwisdom of obstructing the action of the Powers.

THE MYSTERY OF THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT'S RESIGNATION.

There has been no announcement of the Duke of Connaught's resignation from the

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Presidency of the Naval Board of Selection, but the absence of his Royal Highness' name from the latest army List confirms his departure from office.

GENERAL POST OFFICE SECRETARY.

London, August 18.

Sir Mathew Nathan ex-Governor of Natal has been appointed Secretary of the General Post Office of Great Britain.

BRITISH COLONIES AND JAPAN.

NOTHING ADVERSE TO OUR ALLIES MENTIONED AT I.D. CONFERENCE.

Reuter learns that it is an untruthful report that has been circulated with regard to Empire's defence namely,—that Australia and Canada combined at the Imperial Defence Conference in a naval scheme with reference to Japan. In view of the latter being Britain's ally there was little probability that the British dominions might have to defend themselves against Japan. No suggestion of a hostile nature was ever mentioned in the slightest degree.

DHINGRA EXECUTED AT PENTONVILLE.

Dhingra, the assassin of Sir Curzon Wyllie was executed at three minutes past seven a.m. this morning at Pentonville prison.

DUTCH MINISTER RESIGNS.

The Hague.—Idenburg has resigned the ministry of the colonies and is to be given a colonial governorship.

TERRIBLE FIRE IN GLASGOW.

DAMAGES A QUARTER OF-A-MILLION STERLING.

A great fire has occurred in Ingram-street, Glasgow, which is the business centre of the city. The damage is estimated at £250,000 sterling.

THE LOWERING OF THE GREEK FLAG.

London, August 18.

Reuter's correspondent at Canea says that the International Squadron, consisting of two battleships and six cruisers, anchored yesterday. At the request of the British Commander, who leads the squadron, the Consuls notified the Government that the Greek flag must be hauled down to-day.

August 19.

The Greek flag was lowered quietly yesterday morning.

CANADIAN NAVY TO BE COMMENCED AT ONCE.

The Canadian scheme of military defence, as agreed to by the Imperial Defence Conference, comprises acquiescence in the principle of uniformity of organization, like the other oversea dominions. The nucleus of a Canadian navy will be commenced forthwith, both on the Atlantic and the Pacific coasts.

ENGLAND AND CHINA.

DEFENCE OF SIR JOHN JORDAN.

London, August 19.

Replying to a series of questions from Lord Winterton concerning the Tientsin-Pukow Railway, Sir Edward Grey said there was no reason to believe that Art. 18 of the Agreement had not been fairly carried out. The irregularity regarding the issue of tenders now formed the subject of representations. There was no reason to suppose the absence of British and Chinese co-operation. He considered that Sir John Jordan in no way neglected their interests, nor did he know a case where the British Minister had failed in zealous watchfulness over British interests. He did not know a more strenuous and loyal public servant and was ready to take full responsibility for his action.

Sir E. Grey went on to say that he was prepared to support fully the well-grounded British claims, if required

THE HANKOW LOAN.

INDIVIOUS PROCEDURE OF NEW YORK PRESS.

The New York correspondent of *The Times* says that a section of the New York press is utilizing the incidents connected with the Hankow loan for the purpose of emphasizing the supposed discomfiture of British by American policy in China, and representing Britain and Japan as standing together against China and "her friend America."

THE CRETAN CRISIS.

Later.

Constantinople.—The situation seems to have entered decisively upon a pacific phase, in consequence of Greek assurances that the forthcoming reply to the Turkish Note will be satisfactory.

GERMAN SECRET MANŒUVRES.

German secret naval manœuvres have opened in the West Baltic, probably extending to the North Sea. Nearly 100 vessels commanded by Prince Henry of Prussia are taking part.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

THE ANGLO JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

London, August 13.

The Presidents of the Anglo Japanese Exhibition invite public support for "this specially important demonstration." They value the traditional art of Japan and its influence on that of the world, and hope that the forthcoming Exhibition will eclipse the Franco-British, fulfilling the Emperor's and the King's wishes for success.

FEMALE VOTERS IN NEW ZEALAND.

Wellington.—Statistics covering the last 25 years show that a majority of the voters in New Zealand are women. In 17 constituencies the women enrolled already outnumber the men.

PERSIA.

A PESSIMISTIC VIEW.

St. Petersburg.—The officials view the Persian situation pessimistically. They do not believe the new Government will be able to restore order

RE-INSTATING FRENCH STRIKERS.

London, August 13.

Paris.—The Minister of Public works has re-instated a number of officials who were dismissed in the recent strikes. Conservative opinion criticizes the step as a bad political move and as undermining the spirit of discipline.

KNIGHTS MAY OPPOSE MOORS.

Madrid.—The knights of four military orders have petitioned the king for permission to constitute themselves a force for service in Morocco.

London, August 14.

Stockholm.—The Swedish strikers are becoming disheartened. The newspapers are gradually reappearing and traffic is increasing.

CHINESE MINISTER TO U.S.A. RECALLED FOR "INTIMACY."

New York.—The recall of the Chinese Minister is much regretted. It is believed to be due to the resentment of his intimacy with Americans.

JAPANESE QUOTATIONS GO UP.

London.—Japanese quotations on the Stock Exchange are becoming higher.

CRETE.

London, August 16.

Paris.—The Powers are each despatching a second warship to Crete. The allied Fleet has orders to remove the Greek flag, by force if necessary.

BIG BATTLESHIP PROJECTED.

The American Secretary of the Navy states that the next naval appropriation bill is expected to authorize the building of a 30,000-ton battleship.

INDIAN RESERVATION FOR SETTLEMENT.

New York.—The great tract in the North West, hitherto reserved for Indians, is being settled by 300,000 applicants drawing lots.

QUOTATIONS IN CHINESE AND JAPANESE STOCKS ARE GOOD.

London, Aug. 17.

There is a good demand on the Stock Exchange for Chinese railways. Japanese quotations are unaffected by the earthquake.

MOORISH PRETENDER'S POWER BROKEN.

The Sultan of Morocco has defeated the Moorish Pretender, who has escaped. The latter's power has been completely broken.

GREECE'S POLICY IN MACEDONIA.

TURKEY WANTS IT ELUCIDATING.

London, August 18.

Athens.—A second Turkish Note has been received asking an explanation of Greece's policy in Macedonia. It expresses great surprise that the Government of Greece thinks the attitude of Turkey is feeble.

It is generally believed that the measures of the Powers will induced the Turks to listen to reason.

CRETE LOYAL TO HELLENIC KING.

The Cretan Administration has taken the oath of allegiance to the King of the Hellenes.

JAPANESE STOCKS DECLINE AFTER FALSE REPORT.

Japanese four per cents. have declined ⅛th on the London Stock Exchange. The reports that Australia and Canada combined at the Imperial Defence Conference in schemes against Japan are authoritatively denied.

LORD KITCHENER'S EASTERN VOYAGE.

Lord Kitchener will sail from Colombo for the Far East on September 15.

AN AMERICAN PRESS CAMPAIGN.

London, August 19.

New York.—The U. S. policy towards China is likely to exert an influence on Anglo-American relations. A press campaign led by the *Herald* represents the United States as China's friend and as thwarting Japan. The Japanese decision regarding the Antung railway is unfavourably received.

THE SHAH'S DEBTS.

Teheran.—Gold to the amount of £30,000 has been found in the Treasury. The Shah's private debts amount to £400,000.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

Japanese securities have been stimulated in expectation of the conversion of the 4½ per cent. issue.

THE CRETAN CRISIS.

At daybreak detachments from the warships at Canea cut down the Cretan flagstaff unopposed.

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("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 12.

General von Heeringen, until now Commander of the 2nd Army Corps, has been appointed Prussian Minister for War as successor to Herr von Einem.

Very cordial telegrams have been exchanged between Emperor Francis Joseph and King Edward on the occasion of the latter's arrival at Marienbad.

TURKEY.

The Greek reply has been received very calmly in Turkey, the latter insisting on the withdrawal of all alterations which have been carried out during the last year at Crete. The mobilisation of Turkish troops is to enforce the withdrawal of the alterations. A boycott of Greek merchandise has been started at Salonika.

ITALY.

The meeting between the Tsar and King Emmanuel of Italy in autumn will take place in the Ionian Sea.

UNITED STATES.

The American summer resort Monticello has been destroyed by a destructive fire.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

Berlin, August 13.

The situation at Constantinople continues to become more unfavourable. The Sublime Porte insists on its former demands.

PERSIA.

The young Shah of Persia intends to abdicate the throne.

GERMANY.

The report according to which some German aeronauts, who had been driven over the Russian frontier by a windstorm, are said to have been killed by Cossacks, is not confirmed. The Germans have on the contrary been received very cordially and well treated by the Russians. They have already returned to Germany.

Prince Heinrich of Prussia has accepted the Presidency of the American Exhibition at Berlin, which is being prepared.

ITALY.

The Tsar, on the occasion of his Mediterranean trip in the autumn, wishes to see Messina and Reggio.

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 14.

The *Koelnische Zeitung* refutes the statements of the London *Times* according to which Germany is accused of having distributed bribes on the occasion of the last Chinese Railway questions. The *Times* has already began of itself to withdraw the offending statements.

[On this matter we have received from an authoritative source the following statement:—

The Question of Railway Stations for the Tientsin-Pukow Line.

On the occasion of the retirement of Li Te Shun, the director of the Northern part of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway, it was asserted that he had endeavoured to cause the Railway Station at Tientsin to be constructed in the neighbourhood of the German settlement, and that he had received large sums of money as a bribe for that purpose from the German Settlement Company, or rather from the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank connected with that company.

We have been asked to state that, although it was a question, at the beginning of the negotiations, of constructing the station partly on German, partly on English territory, that nevertheless, during the course of the whole negotiations, which were conducted with full publicity, neither from the German nor from the English side were offers or promises of any kind made to the Chinese negotiators, nor to any other Chinese officials.

In the further course of negotiations, the Chinese Government—quite according to European fashion and with full publicity—demanded from both of the settlement colonies a subsidy towards the expenses of building the railway, which subsidy was quoted at such a high figure that negotiations had to be given up as hopeless.

When finally the site for the projected station was selected at a spot far removed from the European settlements (which caused these settlements to take no further interest the matter) a Chinese syndicate, knowing how matters stood, bought up large quantities of land near the spot chosen, as a speculation. The German and English communities were neither directly nor indirectly concerned in this matter.—Ed. *J. D. H.*]

ITALY.

The Pope is preparing an encyclical as to the improvement of Mission work.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails with dates up to Aug. 1st arrived at Berlin on August 15th.

HOLLAND.

M. Idenburg, until now Minister for the Colonies, has been appointed Governor-General of the Netherlands Indies, his successor being M. Malefyt.

TURKEY.

Russia will not negotiate with Turkey as to the opening of the Dardanelles in principle, but only as to the permit to pass though the Dardanelles to be extended to the Russian ships, accompanying the Tsar on his Mediterranean trip.

THE CRETAN DIFFICULTY.

Berlin, August 15.

The Turkish Note to Greece demands the withdrawal of the Greek officers from Crete. The Protective Powers on the contrary demand that the Turkish Squadron shall not call at Crete.

The Protective Powers demand that the Greek flag must be hauled down at Crete. Greece on the other hand threatens to mobilise her army and navy, and states that the Protective Powers ought to proceed against Turkey. The Protective Powers are reinforcing their Squadrons.

Le Temps pleads for a neutralisation of the narrow straits in the Mediterranean Sea.

CRETE.

Berlin, August 16.

The Greek flag has again been hoisted at Canea and is guarded by fanatical peasants. The Protective Powers have assembled eight men-of-war at Canea for enforcing the hawling down of the flag. The demand of Greece for intervention, directed to Germany and Austria, has been refused by the two Powers for the reason that Turkey has given a peaceful declaration.

GERMANY.

On the occasion of the festivities in remembrance of the anniversary of the battle at the Teutoburger Wald, in the year 9 B.C., two and a half millions of members of the American National League of Germans have sent a very cordial telegram of sympathy.

[This was the battle better known to English readers as the Defeat of Varus, in which three legions of Roman soldiers sent to complete the conquest of Germany by the Emperor Augustus were completely destroyed by the German tribes under Hermann (Arminius). The battle is one of the turning points in history as it caused the definite abandonment by Rome of her schemes of conquest in that part of Western Europe.—Ed. *J.D.H.*]

RUSSIA.

The visit of the Tsar to Constantinople has been announced for the month of October.

MACEDONIAN FINANCES.

The Powers have presented to Turkey a Note, in which they announce the withdrawal of the Commission for the control of the Macedonian finances.

GREAT BRITAIN.

King Edward, on the birthday of Emperor Francis Joseph, August 18th, all announce the improvement of the Austro-British relations.

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 17.

Mr. Winston Churchill, President of the Board of Trade, has been invited by the Kaiser to participate in the Imperial manœuvres during the coming Autumn and has accepted the invitation.

KING EDWARD.

King Edward, now at Marienbad, has received M. Bratiano, the Bulgarian Minister for Home Affairs and leader of the Liberal Party in Roumania, on his way back from Berlin.

GREECE.

The Protective Powers have warned Greece to give a moderate reply to the Turkish Note.

BELGIUM.

Prince Albert of Belgium has returned from his trip to the Congo State and been received with great enthusiasm. He expresses himself as very hopeful of the future development of the State.

TURKEY.

Berlin, August 18.

The Sultan has given permission to the Russian men-of-war, accompanying the Tsar on his Mediterranean trip, to pass through the Dardanelles with full armament, regarding this as an exceptional case.

CRETE.

The Protective Powers have landed troops at Canea.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

KOBE-DAIREN NEW SERVICE.

Chemulpo, August 12.

The newly commenced navigation of the *Tatsu Maru* from Kobe to Dairen *via* Ujina and Chemulpo, has dealt a heavy blow to the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. The company will use the *Anto Maru* in place of the *Shinanogawa Maru* from next voyage.

CHINESE TROOPS ARE INSOLENT.

Antung, August 12.

A Chientao telegram received by a local Chinese firm reports that the Chinese troops there are behaving very insolently, relying upon their preponderance in numbers. The negotiations, however, between the Japanese and Chinese Authorities are apparently progressing favourably.

JAPAN'S MINISTER STILL WAITING.

Peking, August 12.

The Japanese Minister at Peking has not yet received any reply from the Wai-wu-pu to the notice that he gave on August 10 relating to the acquiescence with the Chinese proposal.

RUSSIA BELIEVES PORTSMOUTH TREATY IS INFRINGED.

San Francisco, August 11.

A St. Petersburg telegram says that the

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Russian Government recognizes the value of the Antung-Mukden railway and the intelligence that Japan has rapidly commenced the work of reconstruction is exercising a disquieting effect in political circles. Another report, that Japan will probably open a line of communication with Kirin by establishing a base of naval operations at the mouth of the Tumen River, has excited popular sentiment. It is the prevailing idea that the Portsmouth Treaty has been infringed.

HAWAIIAN STRIKE INSTIGATORS NOT WANTED.

It is reported that the planters in Hawaii, employing the Chinese, the Portuguese and those Japanese in opposition to the recent strike, have declined to re-employ a number of Japanese labourers who were instigators of the strike.

THE CONDITION OF CHIENTAO.

Seoul, August 14.

Major-General Akashi, who has been on inspection tour through the south part of Korea, left Fusan by the steamer *Kotohira Maru* for Chientao, to-day, in company with Artillery Regimental Commander Sano. The Chinese troops at Chientao are reported to have been more insolent. A *posse* of Japanese policemen numbering 30 in all, were despatched from here to-day.

NO CHINA RAILWAY LOAN COMPROMISE.

Shanghai, August 13.

As regards the Szechuan-Hankow Railway Loans, the reported compromise has not actually been reached between the capitalists of America and the European Corps. The question has become a diplomatic one.

CHINA COMPLAINS TO THE POWERS.

San Francisco, August 14.

A Washington telegram says that the Chinese Government has complained to America and the European Powers in connection with the Antung-Mukden Railway question. The chief point of the complaint is that the real object of Japan in the reconstruction of the railway rather lies in preparation of a means of communication necessary for war affairs against China and not in commercial facilities. It is added that the matter referred to is also dangerous to all the Powers concerned.

CHINESE MINISTER AT WASHINGTON.

San Francisco, August 14,

It is reported that the Chinese Government will recall her Minister at Washington, in whose place Mr. Chang, an Assistant-Minister of the Wai-wu-pu will be appointed. China has noted the recall of the Japanese Ambassador Baron Takahira.

CHINA'S REPLY AT PEKING.

Peking, August 14.

On August 13, the Japanese Minister here received China's reply relating to the reconstruction of the Antung-Mukden railway. A Chinese expert has started for Mukden to commence the negotiations with Japan in connection with the survey of the line.

BRIGANDS NEAR WOKATUNG.

Yingkow, August 14.

On the night of August 13, a number of Brigands appeared near Wokatung and fired at a train there. No casualties are reported.

THE ICHANG-HANKOW RAILWAY LOANS.

Peking, August 14.

It has been decided that the amount of the Ichang-Hankow Railway loans will be increased to *yen* 60,000,000, which will equally be participated in by Great Britain, America, Germany and France. As China is reported to have approved the same, there will be no further alteration.

THE KILIN-CHANGCHUN RAILWAY.

Mukden, August 15.

It is expected that the Manchuria Railway Committee will leave for Tientsin in order to conclude the regulations of the Kirin-Changchun Railway Loans.

DISASTROUS TAITON FLOODS.

Seoul, August 15.

In reference to the overflow of the Taiton River, it is so far known that 291 persons and 697 domestic animals were drowned, 866 houses have been swept away, 78 demolished and 1,482 submerged. The fields submerged cover 18,267 acres.

SOUTH MANCHURIAN RAILWAY PROGRESS.

Antung, August 15.

The South Manchuria Railway Company has shortened the term for completion of the re-construction work into two years. The divisions of the work have been sub-divided so as to finish the cutting of the tunnels before winter.

THE RAILWAY SETTLEMENT.

Peking, August 16.

The Japanese Minister visited the Wai-wu pu to-day, and made arrangements as to the question of the Antung-Mukden Railway with the Chinese Authorities.

RATIFICATION OF RAILWAY LOANS.

It is expected that the Kirin-Changshun Railway Loans will be ratified on the 18th instant.

RESIDENCY-GENERAL BUDGET.

Seoul, August 16.

The total amount of the Budget of the Residency-General for the coming financial year is reported to be about 10,000,000 *yen*, including 3,000,000 *yen* for the expenditure of the Residency-General, 3,600,000 *yen* for the Judicial Department and Prison, 210,000 *yen* for Education, 3,000,000 *yen* already loaned, etc. The expenditures for the Communication Administration Bureau and the Railway Board belong to a special account.

THE HANKOW CONSULATE.

Hankow, August 16.

The Japanese Consulate is to be rebuilt. The Ogura-gumi has undertaken to complete the work in 18 months.

CHOLERA SCOURGE AT YINGKOW.

Yingkow, August 17.

An average of 30 Chinese are dying daily from Cholera.

Mukden, August 16.

The Chinese Commercial Association will hold a convivial meeting on the 18th instant, inviting the Japanese Consul-General and 40 leading members among the Japanese officials and merchants. Commercial friendliness is desired. The feared boycott involved by the Antung-Mukden question will not take place.

HOW CHINA IS SEEKING TO COMPROMISE.

Mukden, August 17.

The Chinese government has given consent to the reconstruction of the Antung-Mukden railway, but in the meantime, it has proposed that the width of the line should be the same as that of the Peking-Mukden line, that the line west to Chenhsiang-tun, should be connected with Mukden direct, and not via Sukka-tun, and that the expenses of the work should be fixed. The object of China is to give facilities to the communication with the Peking-Mukden line after the purchase of the Antung-Mukden line and not to sacrifice her national dignity. To the above, Mr. Koike, the Japanese Consul General, made reply yesterday, and the conference is being continued to-day.

RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS FOR THE FAR EAST.

Vladivostock, August 17.

Emigrants sent from European Russia to the Far East by train during the first half of this year number 501,000 in all.

VLADIVOSTOCK PRESS EXTREMELY QUIET.

The journals in this district have not criticised the Antung-Mukden railway question.

THE PRATAS ISLAND QUESTION TO BE SETTLED.

Canton, August 17.

The Pratas question will probably be settled in a few days as the result of negotiations between the Japanese Consul and the Chinese delegate.

NEGOTIATIONS MAKING HEADWAY.

Peking, August 17.

It is reported that when the Japanese Minister visited the Wai-wu pu yesterday the railway negotiations were going smoothly.

INUNDATIONS INTERRUPT RAILWAY SERVICE.

Masampho, August 18.

Owing to inundations caused by heavy rain the railway service has been interrupted since the evening of the 17th instant.

KOREAN EMPEROR CORDIAL WITH PRINCE ITO.

Seoul, August 18.

On the 16th instant, the Korean Emperor wired cordially to Prince Ito, who is on tour in company with the Crown Prince. Prince Ito has replied in a similar vein.

TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF CHOLERA.

Dairen, August 18.

In order to prevent the spread of cholera, all the trains are henceforth to undergo medical inspection at Dairen, Port Arthur, Liaoyang, Mukden and other principal stations.

BRITISH MERCHANDISE BOYCOTTED IN KUKIANG.

Hankow, August 18.

The Chinese tradesmen at Kukiang have decided to boycott British merchandise on account of the British Consul there having released the police-inspector who killed a Chinaman.

THE RAILWAY LOAN NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDED.

Peking, August 18.

The Ichang-Hankow and the Szechuan-Hankow railways loans were concluded and signed by the delegates of China and America yesterday. The total amount of the loans (*yen* 60,000,000) is to be equally participated in by Great Britain, France, Germany and America. The chief expert will be British, and the other experts and all the materials are to be equally supplied by the four countries. It is considered necessary to overlook the Japanese experts hitherto employed and the materials supplied by Japan.

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THE OSAKA SLAUGHTER-HOUSE TRIAL.

EX-M. P. SENTENCED TO IMPRISONMENT.

Judgment was delivered on the 13th inst, says the *Kobe Herald*, at the Osaka Chiho Saibansho in the trial of Mr. Tachikawa, ex-M.P., a well-known Tokyo lawyer, and Messrs. Kumagai, Takagawa, and Wakabayashi, Directors of the Osaka and Kyoto Slaughter-house Companies, on charges of accepting and giving bribes in connection with proposed legislation as to slaughter-houses. All the accused were convicted, and Mr. Tachikawa was sentenced to five months' imprisonment and to repay the sum of *yen* 2,000 which he received as a bribe, Mr. Kumagai to three months' imprisonment, Mr. Takagawa to two months', and Mr. Wakabayashi to one month. The two last-mentioned accused appeared to be astonished on hearing their sentences, as the Public Procurator had only asked that they should be fined 100 *yen* each. It is expected that all the accused will appeal against the judgment. After the sentences had been passed, Mr. Tachikawa was released on bail to the amount of 300 *yen*. The Procurator at once appealed against the sentences passed on Messrs Takagawa and Wakabayashi.

THE TRUTH ABOUT PRATAS ISLAND.

Most persons yet remain in ignorance of the portents and intents of the Sino-Japanese wrangle over the atoll of Pratas, of whose now cherished existence both Governments were, quite up to the very near present, most unseemingly ignorant.

Anyone reading the reports daily emanating from Chinese and Japanese newspaper sources would imagine that the question of right and title to the atoll were of all absorbing international importance; whereas when one comes to weigh and analyse the pros and cons of the matter, it resolves itself into nothing less than an unseemly commercial brawl—and, at that, one not of the cleanest description.

To put together, as one who knows, and knows authoritatively, the piecemeal history of the dispute from its inception to its present acute stage, is not a hard task; and I give here, therefore, a general digest of the facts which have led up to the appointment of the present Commission.

When Western science taught Japanese chemists educated abroad that there were other and more valuable aids to the fertilization of their poor and overworked grain-lands than the bean-cake of North China, the fish refuse from the cod and herring-oil industries of the Hokkaido, and the more pestilential human product of their cities, towns and villages, whose use still disgusts the visitor to Japan, those repatriated students naturally came to recognise the utility of bird manure, or guano and the substrata of phosphate rock, which, in islands of true coral formation, invariably underlies such deposits.

Until, I suggest, ten years ago, adventurous Japanese fowlers from Kyushu and Satsuma had sailed in their junks through the Loochoos, the Gotos, the Volcano Island and those of the Bashi Group, busily despoiling the various islets of their feathered inhabitants for the sake of their wings, which have a selling value of about three or four cents a pair in Southern Japan. The result naturally arrived that these rough navigators gradually decimated those groups, if not exactly of "the goose which lays the golden egg," then of the gannet which drops something equally valuable.

Thus they went further afield in their depredations, and only last Summer, it will be remembered, a party of Japanese bird-hunters was rescued by a Brazilian training-ship as far south as Wake's Island, just as their provisions and water had petered out, and were brought on to Hongkong. How much further afield than that they have gone, and upon what nation's preserves they have not yet poached remains to be discovered and announced to astonished Colonial Governments.

The Pratas Shoal lying isolated, as it does, roughly 172 nautical miles from Hongkong in a direct line to the northernmost point of the Island of Luzon, was, naturally, as the nesting-place and *pied-a-terre* of an enormous number-of sea-fowl, sooner or later bound to attract the attention of these Japanese "birders," so that it came to pass that, in the Summer of 1906, the crew of an adventurous junk, after playing havoc among the feathered tribes of the atoll—it is reported that they killed over 2,000 birds in three days—were blown off their happy hunting-ground by a typhoon, which carried their craft before it up the Formosa Channel, and landed the party in safety somewhere north of Amoy. Later in the same typhoon season the members of a similar fowling expedition had their vessel smashed up during a cyclone, and being marooned upon the Pratas, were, I think, upon news of their fate becoming known, brought off the island by an Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer, officially sent to effect their rescue

Thus, neither of the ill fated expeditions put in evidence of lengthy residence in, or proprietorship of the atoll, sufficient to entitle them to a consideration of their claims.

When they were sent back to Formosa, however, from which island they had originally set out, the richness of the atoll became noised abroad through the medium of the Japanese press in South Formosa, the various newspapers of which, having heard the seamen's yarns, combined in an earnest exhortation to all and sundry to emigrate southwards and partake of the fortunes which awaited them upon Pratas Island.

Not then, however, and not till considerably later did the personality of Mr. Nishizawa, the Japanese claimant in the present case, begin to loom up. Long before the potential wealth of the island finally roused the commercial desires of Mr. Nishizawa, a scheme for its exploitation had been laid, by the first Englishman to visit it (outside of its original naval surveyors and shipwrecked sailors), before one or two influential houses in the Colony of Hongkong, who poohpoohed the idea of its value. The same individual also approached the British Foreign Office with a request for the annexation of the atoll to the Crown dominions, but was met with a refusal, the explanation of the Foreign Office being that, "*after searching investigation, that department had concluded that the island undoubtedly belonged to China, and that, therefore, no question of its annexation could be entertained.*"

In the meantime it is practically certain from files of the Japanese vernacular press of Formosa, which may still be referred to, that the Government of that island had lent a willing ear to the stories which had been circulated concerning the Pratas and its wealth, and was more or less encouraging its exploitation.

The argument of the Japanese central Government in its reply to China's official protest to Nishizawa's occupation, laid stress upon the fact that no official recognition had been taken by Japan of that claimant's possession of the atoll, yet strangely enough the Taihoku correspondent of a Hongkong paper could scarcely have maliciously invented the statement contained in a letter to his paper, written in mid-July of 1908, to the effect that on the 13th of July, "Mr. Nishizawa, accompanied by officials and experts (number specified) of the Formosa Government, left Keelung for the Pratas on one of Mr. Nishizawa's steamers with the object of making an exhaustive survey of the place." This hardly reads like official abstention from interference in the 'grab." Furthermore, for some little time previous to this, the name of the atoll as it was printed in the Japanese press had, with some intent, appeared as Nishizawa-jima (Nishizawa's Island) in place of Pratas.

Now Pratas is a small coral atoll, one mile and a half in length and three-quarters of a mile wide, which lies at the mouth of a horse-shoe-shaped and wreck-strewn reef twelve miles in length and about ten miles across at the horns. It is only 40 feet high at its greatest altitude and of sparse vegetation, and melancholy growth crowns its summit.

Until the arrival of the Japanese there existed upon the atoll a small shrine erected with loving care from wreckage and kept in repair by the toil-hardened hands of the Cantonese fishermen. There was in evidence, too, a reservoir—which held the sole water supply of the atoll—in the shape of some ill-fated ship's tank which had been laboriously dragged close to the summit. It is a fact worthy of notice that neither shrine nor tank exist any longer. The Japanese and Loochooans sent down from Formosa brought their water with them in *saké* tubs, Still it is not impertinent to ask where is the shrine and what has become of the Chinamens' water tank?

Upon this bleak and storm-lashed forty-foot-high square mile or two of coral, successive generations of fishermen from Hongkong and Canton had hunted the turtle in the summer, and had at other times and seasons salted and dried the catches of fish which they made in the great lagoon. How many tens of generations have so done one may not surmise, but under the name of Tung Shan the atoll has been indelibly fused in the fishing traditions of Kwantung.

To such a place, then, came the Nishizawa expedition of July, 1908, with officials and experts, and with water, old Decauville light rails and trucks, and with coolies, pickaxes and shovels; and there ever since the Japanese have dug the phosphates, trawled the lagoon and slaughtered the birds, and according to the Chinese complaint completely ousted and driven off the island's real owners with harshness and, it is alleged, with at least some show of brutality.

The state of affairs set up by these conflicting claims has necessitated the appointment of the present Sino-Japanese Commission regarding the Pratas.

With regard to the value of the phosphates found upon the atoll, some experts have suggested them to be of greater commercial value them those of Christmas Island, but the writer is prepared to state from his own knowledge that the deposits hold a physical combination which can but add to the manufacturer's difficulty turning them by process into a useful commercial fertilizer. Roughly speaking they might in their native condition be worth six dollars a ton delivered at the Japanese nitric acid factories of Osaka and Tokyo.

That the Chinese are now keenly alive to the value of their possessions in these latitudes which the bruises and grievances of a few fishermen have served to make clear to them is very certain, and anti-Japanese Kwantung has needed no guiding hand to show her how to make a theatrical diplomatic use of an anticlimax to the boycott troubles arising from the *Tatsu-maru* incident.

Nishizawa's claim for compensation for loss of his trade has been roughly estimated at Taels 500,000, whilst the Chinese official counterclaim was originally stated to be *yen* 3,000,000.

The decision as to which claim shall be successful lies in the hands of the Sino-Japanese Commission now proceeding to the Naboth's Vineyard in dispute.

In conclusion, I have it upon the best authority that Hongkong assayers have not for years kept their noses more assiduously, if not exactly to their grindstones, then to their pestles and mortars, than they are doing at present, under the necessity of analysing the super-scrapings of desert islands from all points of the China Sea. In this direction there is a suitable rush for the spoil.—Specially written for the *Hongkong Daily Press*.

MR. CHIROL CRITICIZES BRITISH DIPLOMACY IN CHINESE MATTERS.

London, August 1.

Mr. Chirol, upon his arrival in Ottawa on his way back from China, cabled *The Times* that the British blundered in ignoring America's rights in the matters of the China loan.

Mr. Chirol says that it is humiliating to Englishmen to see American diplomacy vindicating single handed the engagements which England short sightedly waived.

He calls upon the British Government to cooperate with the Washington Government.

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CURE BY CUTICURA AT CITY MISSION

Young Woman Found In Awful Condition with Scabies—Body a Mass of Sores from Scratching—Tried Many Remedies for Seven Weeks—Result Was Discouraging, But

ITCHING TORTURES YIELDED TO CUTICURA

"While I was doing missionary work in the lower portion of several cities I found it necessary to know a little of the efficacy of a few medicines and after a while I found that a little knowledge of Cuticura was about all I needed. One of the very bad cases I had to deal with was that of a young woman who had come to us not only broken in spirit but in a most awful condition physically. Our doctor examined her and told us that she had scabies (the itch), incipient paresis, rheumatism, etc., brought on from exposure and the effects of her ragged-edged life. Her poor body was a mass of sores from scratching and she was not able to retain solid food. We tried many things, a good tonic was prescribed and baths with a rubbing of lard and sulphur. We worked hard for seven weeks and you can imagine how discouraged we were when, after all that time, we could see so little improvement. One day I happened to see a Cuticura advertisement telling how a little baby had been cured of a bad case of skin eruption, and although I had but 97 cents (four shillings) with me, I bought a cake of Cuticura Soap and a bottle of Cuticura Resolvent. When I reached home I was like a child with a new toy, and we bathed our patient well and gave her a full dose of the Resolvent. She slept that night better than she had since she had been with us and the next day I located the price of a box of Cuticura Ointment. I am not exaggerating when I say that in exactly five weeks this young woman was able to look for a position, being strong enough to work and full of ambition. In another month she left the home, strong and well. Laura Jane Bates, 86 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y., U. S. A., Mar. 11, '07."

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour of Infants, Children, and Adults consists of Cuticura Soap to Cleanse the Skin, Cuticura Ointment to Heal the Skin, and Cuticura Resolvent or Cuticura Resolvent Pills (Chocolate Coated) to Purify the Blood. A Single Set often Cures. Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton market is still lifeless. No fresh transactions reported. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is quiet but firm, with prospect of advance. The Woollen business has assumed a better tone.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	37.50 to 38.50
Egyptian	40.25 to 49.50
Indian Broach	32.50 to 33.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 31.50

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	340.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 31 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb. 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	11.00 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.40
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	V.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Basis business is practically non existent, and the market as a whole remains dull.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
do Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 108lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet but firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.66 to 3.89
Victory	3.20 to 3.60
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No transactions have been done in imported sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y 240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

The market seems to be a little more active with some enquiries. For known brands several small lots have been booked for sixty and ninety days shipment, but prices generally are still much too high to make business possible. Stocks are almost nil.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	11.70
Flag	"	11.25
Royal	"	11.35
Trophy	"	11.35
Red Seal	4 sacks	11.35
Lion	"	11.60
Portland	"	11.45
Premier	"	11.35

Japanese:—

Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 "	2.78
Fuji	6 "	2.85
Fine	6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

Prices for the new crop are slightly easier than was at first anticipated, although not yet low enough to tempt millers here to operate.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.35
Red " " "	5.25
Blue Stem	5.45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. A moderate business has been done for Europe, but the buyers are again keeping aloof.

On August 19th stocks were: filatures 19,782 bales Re-reels, 3,416 bales; Kakeda, 848 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	V.1,080
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	1,020
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	1,060
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	940
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,035
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den	1,000
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	900
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	980
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	895
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	950
Re-reels—No. 1½	920
Re-reels—No. 2	840
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	960
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	895
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	875
Kakedas—No. 2	855

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

August	Present delivery.	August delivery.	September delivery.	October delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
13th	930	882	—	922
14th	923	—	—	922
15th	—	—	—	—
16th	928	888	—	927
17th	924	885	915	924
18th	924	888	915	924
19th	915	879	905	916

WASTE SILK.

The business done so far is not large, but the market is very firm with an upward tendency.

On August 19th stocks were: Noshi, 5,351 bales, Kibiso, 6,713 bales; and Sundry, 558 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	90 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	65 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	110 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	95 to 105
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is quiet for Fukui and Kanazawa goods, whilst there is a fair demand for Kawamata, and prices, especially for the lighter weights, have advanced.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.60	8.10	8.10	8.25	8.05
27"	8.50	8.15	8.20	8.25	8.10
36"	8.80	8.35	8.25	8.25	8.10

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5¼ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.12	8.00	7.85	7.45
27"	8.00	7.90	7.90	7.65
36"	8.15	8.10	7.85	7.70

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.60	8.10	8.80	9.50
22½	8.00	8.70	9.80	10.70
27	9.10	10.50	11.50	12.90
36	—	12.80	14.30	15.80

COPPER.

The market has become active again and about 300 tons of Bessemer, &c. are reported to have changed hands.

According to a London telegram of August 19th, the quotation was £60.5.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no marked change locally, but Saigon market has seen a considerable advance. Little transaction place locally.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	657,217
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	113,206

Delivery.	Closing Price.
August	13.98
September	14.49
October	14.95

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku.*
Superior	Yen 15.00
Medium	14.00
Common	13.00
Average	14.00

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(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
August	13.77	August	13.80
September ...	14.07	September...	14.23
October	14.20	October.....	14.31

TEA.

No change in quotations.

The market is inactive but firm. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to August 19th, the sales amounted to 8,085,700 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 238,000 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y.	—	—
Choice		—	—
Finest...		—	—
Fine		—	—
Good Medium		35	— 40
Medium		30	— 34
Good Common		27	— 29
Common		24	— 26

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is firm. A moderate business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
August	128.90
September.....	128.80
October.....	128.30

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Aug. 20

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower, China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates unchanged, closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T/T	2/0½@$\frac{9}{16}$
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight.....	2/0$\frac{11}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{7}{8}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight .....per $100	85¼*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83¾*
Shanghai—Bank sight	88¼*
— Private 10 days' sight.....	89¾*
India—Bank sight	155¾
— Private 30 days' sight	155¾
America—Bank sight.....	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50$\frac{3}{8}$
— Private 4 months' sight	51@$\frac{1}{8}$
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	212$\frac{1}{2}$
Bar Silver (London).....	23$\frac{7}{16}$

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From.	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Tacoma	B. L	Suveric	F	Aug. 20
America.....	P. M.....	Korea 1	Su	Aug. 23
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	Tu	Aug. 24
Europe	M M.....	Australien	Th.	Aug. 26
Hongkong...	P. & A....	Selja 2	Th.	Aug. 26
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Asia 3	F	Aug. 27
Portland.....	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen		——
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Kaga Maru 4	W.	Sept. 1
Vancouver...	C. P. R ..	Monteagle 5	W	Sept. 1
Tacoma.....	O. S. S....	Tacoma Maru	Th.	Sept. 2
Seattle	N.Y.K....	Tango Maru	Th	Sept. 2
America.....	T. K. K...	Nippon Maru	Sa	Sept. 4
Europe	N. D. L....	Derfflinger	Su	Sept. 5
Hongkong...	B. L	Aymeric	M	Sept. 6
Hongkong...	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	F.	Sept. 10
Hongkong...	T. K. K....	Tenyo Maru	Su	Sept. 12

1 Left San Francisco on the 5th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 14th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst.
5 Left Vancouver on the 16th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For.	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Hongkong...	B. L	Suveric	F	Aug. 20
Australia ...	N.Y.K....	Yawata Maru	Sa	Aug. 21
Europe	M M.....	Tonkin	Sa	Aug. 21
Shanghai ...	N.Y.K...	Chikuzen Maru	Th	Aug. 22
Tacoma.....	B. & S....	Cyclops	Su	Aug. 22
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Korea	M.	Aug. 23
Vancouver...	C. P. R. ..	Em. of Japan	Tu	Aug. 24
Portland.....	P. & A....	Selja	F.	Aug. 27
Europe	N. D. L...	Buelow	Sa	Aug. 28
America.....	P. M.....	Asia	Sa.	Aug. 28
Hongkong ...	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen		——
Europe	N. Y. K..	Inaba Maru	W	Sept. 1
Hongkong...	C. P. R...	Monteagle	W	Sept. 1
Seattle	N. Y. K...	Kaga Maru	W	Sept. 1
Hongkong...	O. S. S....	Tacoma Maru	F.	Sept. 3
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Tango Maru	Th.	Sept. 4
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Nippon Maru	Su.	Sept. 5
Tacoma	B. L	Aymeric	W	Sept. 8
Tacoma.....	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	Sa.	Sept. 11
America.....	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru	Tu	Sept. 14
America.....	C. R.....	A'ral Duperré	W.	Oct. 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1 369, T. Noguchi, 13th Aug.,—Newchwang, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 13th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yerimo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,350, N. Koba, 13th Aug.,—Saigon, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Dortmund, German steamer, 3 228, Malchow, 13th Aug.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Ernest Bent, 13th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 15th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Perseus, British steamer, 4,299, E. Warrall, 14th Aug.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J Salter, 14th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,796, I. Sato, 14th Aug.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 15th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sumatra, British steamer, 2,976, O. J. Benton, 15th Aug.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Fitzpatrick, British steamer, 2,838, R. A. Hutchinson, 15th Aug.,—Hengkong via ports, and Yokkaichi, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Anpin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,052, Shibata, 15th Aug.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Amiral Fourichon, French steamer, 3,015, Blanchard, 16th Aug.,—Antwerp via ports, General.—Chargeurs Reunis.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,960, K. Kawara, 16th Aug.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, W. W. Greene, 17th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Minnesota, American steamer, 13.323, H. W. Canvas, 17th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—G. N. S S. Co.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 17th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 17th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, W. Davison, 18th Aug.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tjiliwong, Dutch steamer, 3,652, N. v. W. Jurriaause, 18th Aug.,—Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, W. A. Guy, 18th Aug.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,163, F. E. Cope, 18th Aug.,—Antwerp and London via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Koshun Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,657, I. Ichiki, 19th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Aragonia, German steamer, 3,324, Meyer, 19th Aug.,—New York via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

DEPARTURES.

El Lobo, British steamer, Gray, 13th Aug.,—San Francisco, Ballast.—Cornes & Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 14th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, Asakawa, 14th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Goeben, German steamer, 5,151, B. Wilhelmi, 14th Aug.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Dortmund, German steamer, 3,228, Malchow, 15th Aug.,—Tsingtau, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Shokwa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,904, Kosuzu, 14th Aug.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Earnest Bent, 15th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 15th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salte, 16th Aug.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Anpin Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,052, Shibata, 17th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Fitzpatrick, British steamer, 2,838, R. A. Hutchinson, 16th Aug.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,796, I. Sato, 16th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 17th Aug.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Lennox, British steamer, 2,361, Read, 17th Aug.,—Boston and New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co. Ltd.

Amiral Fourichon, French steamer, 3,015, Blanchard, 17th Aug.,—San Francisco, General.—Chargeurs Reunis.

Pingsuey, British steamer, 4,150, J. Barber, 18th Aug.,—Marseilles, Havre and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Yerimo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,350, N. Koba, 18th Aug.,—Moji, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha,

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, T. Noguchi, 18th Aug.,—Newchwang via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, W. Davison, 18th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Tamba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,803, C. H. Butler, 18th Aug.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, W. W. Greene, 18th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 19th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,960, K. Kawara, 19th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails & General—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Minnesota, American steamer, 13,323, H. Ravens, 19th Aug.,—Seattle, Wash, Mails and General.—G.N. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS.

Per Japanese steamer *Tenyo Maru* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. Wm. H. Avery, Mrs. Wm. H. Avery, Mr. A Buisson, Mr. J. R. Burns, Mrs. J. R. Burns, Mr. J. Kanaki, Mr. Kaname and servant, Mr. T. Kitajima, Madame M. Krajner, Madame U. Ruck, Mrs. T. Osaki, Mr. F. de P. Roja, Mr. R. R. Shirgaokar, Mr F. W. Woodruff. Mr. S. Yasuda, Mrs. Y. Yoshida and infant in cabin; Mr. J. Asakura, Mr. Loo Agawoor, Mr. J. Berelson, Mr, J. O. Becker, Mise Lilian Broad, Mr. H. D. Christopher, Mr. C. R. Gass, Mrs. C. Furuya, Mr. G. L. Garratt, Miss G. LeGeyt. Mr. M. Morisawa, Mrs. M. Morisawa, Mr. P. D. Merica, Mr. S. Ogawa, Mr. J. Onui, Mr. Walter Robb, Mr. Y. Saito, Mr. K. Saki, Mr. S. T. Harris, Mr. G. Horio, Mr. S. K. Hornbeck, Mr. H. B. Hawkins, Mr. John Heltig, Mr. S. Homada, Mr. R. Kobayashi, Mr. John Leíchenkoff, Mr. S. S. Sanders, Miss F. Tsuge, Mr. S. Uyeda Mr. K. Uyeda, Mr. T. Weinstein, Mr. Dalhousie Young, and Mrs. Dalhousie Young, in second class. For Kobe:—Mr. G. Tateishi. For Shanghai:—Mr. Geo. H. Murphy, Mr. H. Solomon, Mrs. E. J. Stringer. Mr. S. Pollack, Mrs S. Pollack and Mr. E. R. Wight, For Hongkong;—Mr. and Mrs. Amos E. Allen, Mr. E. O. Child, Mrs. Li Ghing Shu, 3 children and servant, Mr. C. H. Forst, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Mannington and infant, Master Chas. Mannington, Mr. L. H. Moore, Mrs. L. H. Moore, Mr. H. Dyson Simpson, Mrs. H. Dyson Simpson, Mrs. T. B. Tolman and 2 children, Mr. Mak Tung Ting and Judge Adolph Wislizenus, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* from Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss N. Markland, Mr. James Holland, Mr. E. H. Hooper, Miss M, A. Chopman, Miss E. Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Mounce, Miss K. Drake, Miss H. Deshler, Mrs. W F. Goodspeed, Miss M. E. Armstrong, Mr. R. M. Grogan, Mr. P. Jacks, Mr. G. S. B. Cushine, Mrs. Gideon Skull and Miss R. Gallaher. For Kobe:—Rev. and Mrs. Clark and infant, Dr Kate McMillan, Mr. and Mrs. Miller and child, Mr. A. H. Jewett Murray, Mr. H. C. Beaman, Jr.. Miss M. M. Rogers and Miss J. A. Sifton. For Shanghai:—Dr. and Mrs. Logan and 3 children, Mr. and Mrs. Francquin, Mr. G. W. Ricker, Miss J. J. Dow, Mr. E. Beckhouse and Mr. H. W. Ip. For Hongkong:—Mr. W. A. Hannibal, Mr. and Mrs. Morecraft, Mr. C. G. Edwards, Mr. Tick and H. T. Pretions in cabin; 4 passengers in Asiatic second class; 118 passengers in Asiatic steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oriental*, for Shanghai:—Mr. A. Hilton Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. W. Y. Bowen, Mr. W. F. Williamson, Mr. Sum Son Cheong, Mr. Chang Yen, Mr. Young Lun, Mr. Shue Chee Choy, Mr. Wong Ping Fun, Mr. Yen Chee Jum, Mr. Chin Hon Sue, Mr. On Chue Yue, Mr. Tong Sum, Mr. Chue Pong Wing, Mrs. Tong, Mr. Tuze Lum, Mr. Sun Yun and Mr. E. Hunt, in cabin.

Per German steamer *Goeben* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—Mr. H. Haltermann, Mr. J.

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Hausherr, Mr. A. Serno, Miss Grete Vehling, Master Willie Vehling, Mr. E. P. S. Hooper, Mr. L. H. Howell, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. S. Hall, Mr. E. H. H. Erlanger, Mr. J. Cairncross, Capt. Y. C. Whigham, Consul-General and Mrs. Alfredo Viel, Mr. Phillip Parker, Mr. P. J. Dominicus Enshoff, Mr. T. G. Gui, Mr. B. J. Cheong, Mr. and Mrs. Tsung Shun Ting and child, Mr. Baumann, Mr. H. S. Young, Mr. K. M. Chong, Mr. F. Tharcomall, Mr. and Mrs. Emil Hallier, baby and amah, Mr. A. Murphine and family, Mr. Wong Yee Cheong, Mr. Y. T. Chan and Mr. H. D. Christopher in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tenyo Maru* for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. G. Tateishi, Mr. Geo. H. Murphy, Mr. H. Solomon, Mrs. E. J. Stringer, Mr. Amos. E. Allen, Mrs. Amos. E. Allen, Mr. E. G. Child, Mrs. Li Chin Shu, 3 children and servant, Mr. C. H. Forst, Mr. J. A. Mannington and infant, Mr. C. Klinck, Mrs. Klinck, Mrs. H. K. Baily, Mrs. Chas. Keller, Dr. F. G. Hawksworth, Mr. G. R. Coleman, Mr. A. L. Taylor, Mr. S. Pollack, Mrs. S. Pollack, Mr. E. R. Wight, Master Chas. Mannington, Mr. L. H. Moore, Mrs. Moore, Mr. H. Dyson Simpson, Mrs. H. Dyson Simpson, Mrs. T. B. Tolman and 2 children, Mr. Muk Tung Ting, Judge Adolph Wislizenus, Mr. G. W. McEwen, Mr. G. N. Lamb, Mrs. S. N. Lamb, Mr. B. Lob, Mrs. B. Lob, Mr. Adam A. Kramer, Mrs. Adam A. Kramer and Miss M. E. Ladd in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Chiyo Maru* from Hongkong via ports:—Dr. K. Ayabe, Mr. N. F. Blanch, Mr. W. Bullard, Mr. O. W. Bowen, Mr. C. S. Chew, Mr. Chun Fo Shun and native servant, Mr. E. Lan Ching, Mrs. Carnduff, Mr. C. A. Graves, Mrs. C. A. Graves, Mrs. Giescke, Miss Giescke, Mrs. T. Hansen, Mr. C. G. Hanon, Mrs. J. C. Hyer, Miss H. Hagino, Mr. M. Hayashi and native servant, Mrs. M. Hayashi 2 children and native servant, Mrs. B. C. Howard, Mr. Lo Kin Su, Mr L. Lawrenz, Dr. H. R. Macauley, Mr. H. A. Morse, Mrs. H. A. Morse, Mr. F. W. Mackie, Mrs. F. W. Mackie, Mr. T. Muramatsu, Master M. Muramatsu, Mr. K. Nakahama, Mr. J. H. Ogle, Mr. O. L. Ogle, Mr, Pun Ming Jun and native servant, Mr. M. Russell and 2 children, Mr. Sia Kum Tu and native servant, Mr. Shia Tung Chwan, Count T. Sano, Countess T. Sano and native servant, Mrs. J. C. Shaw, Mr. J. M. Sinclair, Mr. W. B. Tait, Mr. Tam Wing and native servant, Mr. Tong Shon Kiang and native servant, Mr. Y. Tomono, Mrs. Y. Tomono and infant, Mr. F. Voigts, Mr. W. A. Wilson, Mr. Wilson and Miss Wilson. For Honolulu:—Mr. F. G. E. Walker. For San Francisco:—Mrs. Mary Arnold, Mr. Thos. J. Barkley, Mrs. Thos. J. Barkley, Mr. W. S. Barkley, Mr. Fred Boynton, Mr. Fred. Boynton, Mr. Leon Braun, Miss Josephine Craig, Dr. A. J. Cox, Mrs. A. J. Cox and 2 children, Mrs. Anna L. Cummings, Mr. J. W. Curten, Comte Keichore de Deuteighem, Mr. Leandro Fernandez, Mr. L. F. Haber, Rev. D. S. Herrick, Mrs. D. S. Herrick, Miss Herrick, Mrs. E. W. Hutchinson, Mr. Hans Koch, Mr. W. H. Hohmeyer, Mr. W. L. Jenkins, Mr. Rogerio Lagman, Mrs. M. J. McLeod, Mr. M. McMahan, Mr. P. H. McNellis, Mr. R. Nakamura, Rev. Peyson Stephens, Mrs. Peyson Stephens, Master Howard Stephens, Mrs. J. O. Tabor, Mr. Paul Tang, Mr. Pan Tze Chi, Mr. Sun Tsun Tang. Mr. Tang Poa An and Mr. Dwight Whiting in cabin; 25 passengers in second class; 278 in steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. T. de Meester, Mrs. Manchan, child and amah, Mr. T. Weir, Miss Weir, Count Despones, Mr. R. Wesselhoeff, Mr. M. Harshman, Mr. Jacob Mees, Mr. B. Keskhoff, Misses Graves (2), Miss Codbury and Mr. R. E. S. Gregson in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Chiyo Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. J. F. Abbott, Mrs. Mary Arnold, Mr. K. Ashino, Mr. B. Barber, Mr. Thos. J. Barkley, Mrs. Thos. J. Barkley, Mr. W. S. Barkley, Mr. Harold Bixby, Mr. R. W. Bowen, Mr. Fred Boynton, Mr. Leon Brann, Mr. Wm. Conzelman, Miss M. Cooke, Dr. A. J. Cox, Mrs. A. J. Cox and 2 children, Miss Josephine Craig, Mrs. Anna L. Cummings, Mr. J. W. Curten, Comte de Kerchove de Denterghem, Mr. Elliott Dixon, Mr. Leandro Fernandez, Major A. L. Fuller, U.S.A., Mrs. L. A. Fuller and 2 children, Mr. L. F. Haber, Mr. Frank Hagerman, Mrs. Frank Hagerman, Miss Hagerman, Rev. D. S. Herrick, Mrs. D. S. Herrick, Miss Herrick, Mr. Wm. H. Hohmeyer, Mrs. E. W. Hutchinson, Mr. W. L. Jenkins, Miss Irene Jones, Miss Helene Jones, Mr. R. Kanda, Mr. Hans Koch, Mr. B. Kokado, Mr. Rogerio Lagman, Mrs. B. A. Mansfield, Mr. Leonard Martin, Mrs. M. J. McLeod, Mr. M. McMahan, Mr. P. H. McNellis, Mr. H. J. Merriman, Mr. J. Mersereau, Mr. A. S. Mihara, Mr. R. Nakamura, Mr. M. Nishida, Mr. D. L. Oleson, Miss J. S. Parke, Mr. E. J. Peabody, Mrs. E. J. Peabody, Mr. G. Shimano, Miss Bessie M. Smith, Rev. Peyson Stevens, Mrs. Peyson Stevens, Master Howard Stevens, Miss L. Stewart, Mrs. J. O. Tabor, Mr. G. T. Takeda, Mr. Tang Poa An, Mr. Paul Tang, Mr. Pan Tze Chi, Mr. Sun Tsun Tang, Mr. N. Uchida, Capt. K. Yabe, Mr. J. Yamanaka, Miss Mary Richey, Mr. U. Runyan, Miss Helen Runyan, Edith Runyan, Mr. R. Wakayama and servant, Mr. E. G. E. Walker, Mr. H. Weinstock, Mr. W. Weinstock, Mr. Geo. Whitelaw and Dwight Whiting in cabin.

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SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—

	Raw Silk. France.	Moscow.	Waste Silk. France.	Peignes. France.
Carlowitz & Co.	34	—	—	—
Jardine Matheson & Co.	23	—	9	—
Varenne & Co.	15	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent	30	—	62	—
Pila & Co.	45	—	—	—
L. Mottet	5	10	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	66	—	—	7
	152	10	71	7

Per German steamer *Goeben* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—

	RAW. Genoa. Option.	Lyon.	Moscow.	Milan	WASTE. Lyons.	Marseilles	Trieste.	M'chester.
Sieber & Co.	116	91	10	—	—	17	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	162	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	58	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pila & Co.	—	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Kaitsu Gomei Kaisha	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett and Bent	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co.	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	336	203	10	—	—	17	—	—

Silk shippers by *Manchuria*, for San Francisco on the 12th August:— Bales.

Siber, Wolff & Co.	80
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	56
F. Strahler & Co.	55
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	45
Varenne & Co.	40
Pila & Co.	27
Jewett & Bent	27
Vivanti Bros.	20
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	532
Kito Gomei Kaisha	352
Total	1,234

Silk shippers by *Kumeric*, for Tacoma, on the 12th August:— Bales.

Nabholz & Co.	103
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	60
Vivanti Bros.	10
Bavier & Co.	5
Total	178

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, AUG. 28TH, 1909.

DEATHS.

On Friday, 20th August, at 3 a.m. SUSAN MARY SCHERESCHEWSKY, widow of the late Right Rev-Bishop Schereschewsky, D.D., aged 73.

At No. 3 Bluff, on Tuesday, the 24th August, LYDIA DALE (Daisy) youngest Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. ABBEY, in her 22nd year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ON the 22nd instant, Their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress gave *yen* 1,500 to relieve the affected people in Shiga prefecture, which was taken by Chamberlain Mr. Hojo to the districts by the evening train.

AN Osaka telegram reports that the call money negotiated by Messrs. Okuya Shoten there during the last few days amounts to *yen* 2,000,000.

IT is reported that the new building for the Head office of the Japan Red Cross Society will be commenced next autumn. The cost will be about *yen* 380,000.

ON the 19th instant, two workmen were killed in the Hidachi Copper mine, at Tagagori, Hidachi province, when they were coming up a pit of 500 feet in depth.

AT about 6 p.m. on August 21, Mount Asama emitted loud rumbling noises, which lasted for about 20 minutes, together with a great deal of black smoke. The volcano is still rumbling from time to time.

AT a meeting of directors of the Hoden Sekiyu Kaisha held in Tokyo on the 21st instant, it was decided that the Yokohama Branch office will be closed, in lieu of which the Sekiyusho (oil-manufactory) will be established. The above will come in to effect on the approval of the general meeting.

A MIYAZAKI despatch reports that owing to the recent storm, the crop of soja-bean has entirely gone and the damage on fruits exceeds 90 per cent. A loss of over *yen* 100,000 is estimated in Miyazaki gori only. From *yen* 130,000 to *yen* 150,000 will be required in repair-work of roads, bridges etc.

RESIDENTS in the capital, as well as visitors thereto, will be interested to hear that the Metropole Hotel, which has been closed for some time, will be reopened from the 1st of September. The Hotel will be under efficient management, so that guests may be assured of a high standard of comfort and convenience.

ON the 22nd instant a watchman of the lotus in the Shinobadzu Pond in Tokyo, discovered a dead woman's head put in a kettle among the lotus flowers. The head was quite decayed and the body was not found anywhere thereabouts. The publication of further details at this stage of the case a prohibited the judicial authorities.

WE have received from the organizing body of the Nagoya Exhibition, which is to be opened next year, a fine photograph showing the front of the building and the large tower in the centre. The view is so very picturesque and extensive that it is clear from the photograph that the coming exhibition will be on a very elaborate scale.

THE armoured cruiser *Idzumo*, which is to attend the 40th anniversary celebration in San Francisco, arrived at Yokosuka on the 21st instant. The commander of the cruiser is Captain Satake, who has been in America for many years as a naval attaché of the Japanese Legation in Washington. She is expected to leave for her destination on or about the 4th proximo, with 685 men on board.

THE provisions contemplated for the safety of vessels on the Panama Canal are unprecedented, says *The Century Path*. Vessels will not be permitted to approach or to pass through the locks under their own power. They will be handled by powerful electric towing locomotives running on tracks; some of them ahead for towing, and some of them astern for checking the vessel's way. The vessel will thus be in absolute control of the canal officials. Moreover, the gates will be in duplicate, with a considerable space of water between. And further, on the lake side will be a reserve skeleton-gate full of raised sluices, ready to be swung across, if any accident should happen to the other gates, the sluices, being then closed, so preventing the escape of the lake waters, and at the same time leaving the lock ready to be dried out for the necessary repairs.

DULL as the Shipbuilding industry on the Clyde has been, the statistics for the half-year ended June 30th show an improvement over the corresponding period. The launches during June numbered 26, of 19,700 tons, bringing the total for the six-months up to 150,700 tons, as compared with 144,000 tons in 1908. The new contracts reported during the month total only some 10,000 tons.

SIR WILLIAM RICHMOND, presiding at the annual meeting of the Coal Smoke Abatement Society, said that Westminster Abbey had suffered from more rapid decay in the last hundred years than occurred in all the years of its history. Repairs executed only from 20 to 25 years ago were decayed more or less, and that done in 1701 showed signs of being reduced to a friable mass to a considerable depth below the surface. This decay, he said, was the result of acids deposited by smoke and otherwise.

THE Customs Tariff Investigation Committee of the Japan Industrial Association finished all the necessary investigations on the 13th instant. They have concluded that the Customs Tariff should be on an average of less than 25 per cent. *ad valorem*, in conformity with the statutory tariff. The reason is that in case of adopting of conventional tariff, the reduction of the rate of duty will surely be claimed by other countries, and the rate to be fixed being low on the average, there will be no apprehension of retaliation from others.

A DETAILED map of Japan drawn by the late Ino Chukei, the first geographer in Japan, who lived in the last age of the Tokugawa Shogunate, has recently been discovered at Hamamatsu, Shidzuoka prefecture. The map consists of three sheets; the first containing Hokkaido and the Saghalien Island; the second, the central and north-eastern parts, of Japan and the third, Shikoku, Kyushu, Sanyo, Sanin and a part of Korea. Each sheet is eight feet in length and six feet in width. The map will be carefully kept in the Imperial Museum, Tokyo.

DORANDO PIETRI, the Marathon runner, has arrived in Milan from the United States with seven gold medals and £4,000, which he has won in twenty-three races. The demands of the sporting world have driven him to forego the dream of settling at Carpi, his birthplace, and of marrying there the girl he was engaged to, and whom he was to have wedded on his return from the English Marathon race last year. She is still a spinster, and Dorando in full of engagements of another sort. For the next two years he has postponed all idea of marriage.

THE trial was heard recently in Calcutta before Mr. Justice Fletcher, in the charge of libel being brought against "The Englishman," Limited, by Lala Lajpat Rai, who claimed half a lakh of rupees damages. The letter in question, says an exchange, was from the Punjab correspondent and was published in the paper of September 1st, 1907. Lala Lajpat Rai was at that time deported under Regulation 3 of 1818. The words complained of assert that there is no doubt that Lala Lajpat Rai tampered with the loyalty of the Punjab Sepoy. This he emphatically denied, and won his case and obtained Rupees 15,000 damages.

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CHINA AND JAPAN.

Friday, August 20.

Doubtless we shall soon have an official statement of the final proceedings with regard to the Mukden-Antung Railway question. At present we are obliged to be content with mere generalizations. Thus it appears that on the 6th inst. the Japanese Government addressed its ultimatum to the Waiwupu. On the 7th the Waiwupu replied that it acquiesced so far as concerned the re-construction of the line, but that it entertained certain views to which, it trusted, that the Japanese Government would give due consideration. This answer appears to have been made through Mr. Ijuin in Peking on the 7th inst. and through Mr. Hu, Chinese Representative in Tokyo, on the 8th. We have no certain information as to the nature of the reservations made by China, but we gather that they included a request for the suspension of operations until details could be arranged. On the 9th inst. the Foreign Office in Tokyo replied to this *communiqué*. Of course, the precise character of the reply is unknown, but it is stated to have been at once conspicuously courteous and plainly conclusive. The Chinese then took some little time to reflect, and on the 13th inst. they signified their full acquiescence to Japan's demands. If this précis be correct, as we believe it to be, it explains the state of uncertainty which existed in Japan during the week immediately subsequent to the presentation of Japan's ultimatum.

Of course there are some details to be settled still, and it understood that they will be discussed at Mukden. China is said to have asked for three things. The first is that the final section of the line at the western end shall be carried direct to Mukden instead of going round to Sukaitun; the second, that the gauge of the railway shall be the same as that of the Hsinmintun-Mukden line, and the third is that the expenses of construction shall be clearly stated. These conditions all point to the time (1924) when China will become entitled to repurchase the road from Japan. But they are also designed, it would appear, with the idea of saving her face as much as possible.

Saturday, August 21.

It is confidently telegraphed from Peking that the Prince Regent has shown much displeasure about the diplomatic mismanagement shown by Prince Ching and Mr. Liang in adopting a course not at all conducive to China's friendship with her neighbour Japan. It is expected that these two officials will be displaced and their places given to men of a more conciliatory disposition. The Prince Regent's present disposition is said to be to settle all outstanding questions with Japan without any delay.

Meanwhile the censorship of the Chinese press appears to have been strictly maintained. Had the restraint been withdrawn, we should doubtless have heard ere now much inflammatory language and many incentives to a boycott. But Chinese statesmen seem determined that the incident shall not have any evil aftermath as regards the relations between the two countries.

The news is confirmed that there are serious intentions of constructing a new port in the Yalu River near Yongampo, the place which attracted so much attention during the epoch immediately previous to the war with Russia. We have already alluded to his matter in some detail.

With reference to the delay in settling the question of the Kilin Changchun Railway, the *Kokumin Shimbun* gives a précis of the course of events. The first arrangement was effected by the Peking Treaty of 1905; the second on the 15th of April 1907, and the third on the 11th of November 1908. This last Convention left nothing to be settled except the petty details with regard to the manner of lodging the Railway funds, the rate of interest on the money and the method of handing over the loan. Nevertheless the settlement of these very minor matters was not concluded until the 18th of the present month. It seems to us that this is a record, so far as deliberation is concerned.

Monday, August 23.

The question most capable of causing complications in connexion with the reconstruction of the Antung Mukden Railway was certainly the acquisition of land required for widening the gauge or deflecting the route. A little secret exercise of official obstructiveness might have made things very difficult for the builders. It was that feature which caused most uneasiness, for although Japan has competence to enforce her treaty rights, she has no lawful competence to compel a man of another nationality to part with his land at a reasonable price, or even to part with it at all. Thus, had China chosen to be troublesome, she had it within her power to be so. Happily, however, she adopted the wise and friendly course, and we now learn that the details of this particular question are being satisfactorily arranged by the conference at Mukden.

The attempt of the Chinese students in Tokyo to organize a boycott of Japanese goods on the ground that China had been wantonly humiliated by Japan in the matter of the Mukden-Antung Railway is said to have ended in a fiasco. Public opinion in Peking does not at all incline to the project, according to a telegram published by the *Asahi Shimbun*. We trust that this failure will be a lesson to the giddy students.

Mr. Nagao, chief-engineer of the Mukden-Hsinmintun Railway, is quoted as saying that the reconstruction of that line was finished last year at a cost of 700,000 *yen*. He further explains the state of affairs with regard to the extension of this line to Mukden city. The South Manchuria Railway runs on the west of Mukden, and the terminus of the Hsinmintun line lies a mile further west. In order to bring the latter line into direct communication with Mukden, it would be necessary to lay a track across the South Manchuria road. Japan is naturally unwilling to sanction that step unless she is allowed to build a branch connecting the South Manchuria road with Mukden, and to that China objects. Meanwhile Japan built a track joining her own road with the terminus of the Hsinmintun line, and the natural result was that all travellers to and from Mukden used this Japanese route for the sake of shortening their journey by one mile. The hotels and so forth at the Hsinmintun terminus thus fell out of use altogether, and it became necessary for their sake to change a specially high rate of fare over the connecting line.

We learn from the same authority that, with regard to the Kilin-Changchun Railway, there were three alternative routes. The Japanese engineers recommended the most southerly of the three, but the Chinese experts favoured the most northerly, and the latter was finally chosen in deference to the Chinese. The line is 80 miles long and the cost is estimated at 4,300,000 *yen*, one-half of which sum Japan lends to China. When we say "Japan lends," it is to be understood, of course, that by "Japan" the "South-Manchuria Railway" should be understood. Fifty thousand *yen* per mile sounds very cheap, but there are no big rivers to be bridged, nor is there any heavy tunnelling. The expectation is that all practical preparations for the final survey will be ready by the time when the ice breaks up. Thereafter work will be commenced simultaneously at three places, and it is hoped that the construction will be completed by 1911.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF KOREA.

When the first general meeting of the Establishment Committee of the Central Bank of Korea has held in Tokyo it was anticipated that the Bank would be established without any impediment. There is considerable eagerness in financial circles with regard to this project, and indeed, a more favourable investment could scarcely be conceived. The Bank will succeed immediately to a large part of the business built up after years of effort by the Fifteenth Bank; it will combine the work of a central official organ: it will be provided with a working capital of 1,200,000 *yen* free of interest, and a dividend of 6 per cent. will be guaranteed on its shares. All these considerations appeal strongly to business men, and already the share rights of the Bank are quoted at a premium varying from 13 to 30 *yen*. When the Eastern Colonization Company was organized a few months ago, the amount required for its capital was subscribed 36 times over, in spite of a comparatively depressed condition of the money market at that time. It is thought therefore that in presence of an expectation of renewed prosperity and in view of the exceptionally favourable nature of the enterprise, the Bank's shares will be subscribed two or three hundred times over.

The Establishment Committee of the Central Bank of Korea held its first meeting on the 23rd inst., and decided that the amount of bargain money to be put up by a subscriber should be 5 *yen* per share. Another decision taken by the Committee commends itself as very wise, namely, that the subscription list may be closed whenever the total number of shares is subscribed for. The motive of this resolve is to prevent the recurrence of such an experience as that of the South Manchuria Railway. In any case the subscriptions are certain to exceed the amount needed, and consequently it will be necessary to resort to the method of allotment by ratio-subscription. The exact date of the opening of the subscription list is not fixed, but it is understood that it will be about the middle of September.

Marquis Katsura was present at the Committee's meeting and made a short speech, the gist of which was that the establishment of this Bank would be a further means of promoting Korean prosperity and augmenting friendship between the two countries. His Excellency also pointed out that in the present exceptionally easy state of the money market there was a danger of subscriptions coming in to an excessive degree, as had happened in the case of the South Manchuria Railway, and it would be wise for the Committee to adopt some precautionary measure against such a conjuncture.

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THE NEGOTIATIONS IN PEKING.

The negotiations in Peking are said to be proceeding satisfactorily. They were opened on the 16th inst. and the principal Commissioner on the Chinese side was then said to be the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Liang, but now it appears that the Chinese Representative is Mr. Na Tung. These negotiations are not to be confounded with those progressing in Mukden between the Viceroy of Manchuria and Mr. Consul-General Koike. The latter have to do solely with the details of the Mukden-Antung Railway question, whereas the former are concerned with all the Manchurian problems now awaiting solution. These problems are six, namely first, the Chientao question; secondly, the Fakumen Railway question; thirdly, the Yentai Coal Mine; fourthly the Fushun Coal Mine; fifthly, the other coal mines including Penhsihu, and sixthly, the Yingkow-Taschichiao Railway. This last problem is now heard of publicly for the first time. It appears that in 1898, when Russia was engaged in the building of the South Manchuria Railway, she concluded with the Chinese Government a convention entitling her to lay branch lines to Yingkow and to other convenient points on the seacoast, the avowed object of these branch lines being to supply materials for the South Manchuria Railway and otherwise faciliate its building. The Convention further stipulated that at the end of eight years, whatever circumstances might arise in that interval, China should have power to require the removal of the branch lines. From what exact date the period of eight years was to be reckoned the Convention did not state, but presumably the completion of the South Manchuria Railway was intended to be the basis of calculation, and as the Railway may be said to have been finished in 1903, the Convention would become operative in 1911. China is now said to be pressing for the removal of the line, whereas Japan, on the other hand, is asking for permission to extend this very line from its present terminus at Niukiatung right into the town of Yingkow. This questions is likely to cause some trouble, for neither the Japanese authorities nor the inhabitants of Yingkow can be expected to assent readily to the sudden obliteration of valuable railway privileges.

With regard to the Mukden Antung Railway, the details of which also are now under discussion in Mukden, the *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a statement to the effect that on the 19th inst. Viceroy Hsi submitted a list of conditions identical with those formulated by China on the 24th of last June. We can scarcely credit this item of intelligence, for the conditions referred to would reduce the reconstruction of the Railway to a farce, and may be said to have been the proximate cause of the recent complication between the two Powers. If the Viceroy has submitted any such demands, the inference would be that China had returned to her old mood of obstructiveness, which is not to be readily supposed.

We gather from a paragraph in the *Kokumin Shimbun* that China is disposed to attach prime importance to the Chientao question, and that if Japan makes a substantial concession in that direction, all the other questions pending between herself and her neighbour will be settled without difficulty. It is understood that Japan's main desire with respect to Chientao is to contrive that the large number of Korean settlers in that region shall enjoy greater security of life and property than Chinese jurisdiction affords. The matter of sovereignty is not vital in her eyes. It should be possible, therefore, to discover some satisfactory exit from the situation.

The *Mainichi Dempo* has a telegram from Mukden to the effect that, at the instance of Mr. Wu, Warden of the Marches in Chientao, Viceroy Hsu was about to despatch three additional regiments of troops to that quarter, but he was restrained from doing so by a telegram from the Chinese Representative in Tokyo, who pointed out that such an increase on China's part would necessitate similar action by Japan, and a dangerous situation might thus be created. Another rumour has it, however, that the Viceroy's rejection of Mr. Wu's application was due to an expectation that the Chientao problem will very soon be solved.

PRINCE ITO AT MURORAN.

Prince Ito has just accompanied the Prince Imperial of Korea on a visit to the Seiko-sho at Muroran, which, as our readers probably know, is the great steel factory established by the joint efforts of Messrs. Armstrong and Vickers and the Tanko S.S. Company. The visit was paid on the 16th inst. and Prince Ito is reported to have made a very interesting speech. He alluded at the outset to the time of his first visit to Europe 45 years ago, when Japan had to melt her temple bells if she wanted to make cannon or ammunition. He had been astonished to find when he reached England that iron was the great factor in the safety and wealth of Western countries. The things he saw then in the Occident convinced him that Japan's only hope lay in adopting the essentials of Western civilization, and a progressive policy had been definitely adopted by the country. Passing to 1871, he spoke of his trip to Europe in the suite of Prince Iwakura, when the party had consisted of something like 120 members, and thus many prominent Japanese had been brought into direct contact with the ways of the West. Almost immediately after his return a Cabinet crisis had occurred in connexion with the Korean question, and in its sequel he had found himself Minister of Public Works. Everything being in its nascent state, no striking steps had been possible, but it had been decided that to exploit the country's resources in iron was of prime necessity. Accordingly the mines at Kamaishi had been opened, and a German engineer was employed to superintend the work. It was found, however, that the available iron was only a deposit, and one disheartening experience had been that the fire-proof bricks procured from abroad for building the furnances were so defective that they melted at the critical moment. Altogether it was plain that success could not be achieved, and the Government decided to close the mine, although the country had spent about two million *yen* on it. Things remained thus until 1885 or 1886. If iron was procurable there was no coal to be found, and if coal was attainable there was no iron. Then came an imperative necessity to increase the navy, and the foundations of manufacturing capacity were laid at Kure and Saseho. In the war with China in 1894-5 the country was made more than ever conscious of its deplorable condition. It had to meet a Chinese navy very much superior to its own, and the Japanese ships suffered heavy losses which could not be repared in the home dockyards, nor could the ammunition expended be replaced. This experience finally convinced the country that a strenuous effort must be made to become self-supplying in these respects, and in consequence of earnest representations made to him by Admirals Saigo and Yamamoto, it was decided to send Admiral Yamanouchi abroad, appropriating a sum of 1,800,000 *yen* for the purpose. Then by degrees the Kure Works were developed, until now, to the country's great satisfaction, they were able to produce first-class battleships and 12-in. guns. Nevertheless it was not found possible to obtain a supply of iron in Japan. Recourse had to be had to China, and even then sufficient only for the Wakamatsu Foundry could be obtained; the greater part of what was needed had still to be imported from Europe. It was unnecessary to dwell upon the fact, patent to everybody, that Japan must become self supplying in this striking respect. The products of the factory now approaching completion at Muroran would serve to arm and equip troops and ships. If Japan unhappily found herself again at war, it would be impossible for her to obtain materials from neutral countries, and thus it was not too much to say that her very existence as a State depends on being able to meet her own wants in these matters. When the Muroran Factory was completed, it would be able to furnish the steel required for other purposes beside gun-making, a result which was quite beyond the capacity of Kure at present. It might therefore be possible for Japan to meet the demand of her Eastern neighbours, but the first desideratum was that she should be self-supplying. Some people entertained doubts as to the success of the factory. No one questioned its technical ability. What they queried was its financial outlook, the idea being that its producing capacity would be found to exceed Japan's demand. As to that, he ventured to say that if Japan did not need more than this factory could turn out, it was a bad prospect for her. For his own part he did not entertain the slightest feeling of uneasiness as to the factory not finding an ample market for all its products, or as to the financial success of the enterprise. Further, the factory was the outcome of Anglo-Japanese co-operation. In other words, it was an indirect result of Alliance. That the Allies should combine to undertake mutually profitable enterprises was natural. Such enterprises would bring them closer together and enable them to assist each other more effectually in time of need. Thus from every point of view the success of the factory was a matter of both national and international interest, and he earnestly trusted that all concerned would unite their strength to secure its prosperity.

THE CRICKET GROUND LEASE.

We learn that the Committee of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club have received an intimation from Governor Sufu that he was unable to modify his request, previously brought to the notice of the Club, that the fence and property of the Club should be removed by October 1st. The President and Vice-President of the Club had petitioned for a reconsideration of the matter, but the Governor can promise no more than that a section of the ground shall be reserved as a playground, but not under the control of any particular corporation or body of individuals. The executive of the Club announce their intention of bringing the matter, in the form of a protest, before the various Embassies.

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CHINA.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has a telegram from Peking saying that on the 17th inst. the question of America's participation in the financing of the Yeh-Han and Tuan Han Railways was finally decided in the affirmative. The arrangement is that the amount of the loan, originally fixed at 5½ million sterling, shall be raised to 6 millions, and that each of the four Powers shall participate equally. The chief engineer on each line is to be an Englishman, and the other engineers and experts will be appointed in equal numbers from the four nationalities.

All this certainly has its comical side, and we can not be at all surprised if China struggles very hard to get her railways into her own hands. The idea of parcelling them out amongst a number of foreign countries must be exceedingly humiliating to a sovereign State.

There is some talk of a joint protest presented by Germany, Austria, and England with reference to the new Convention recently concluded between China and Russia as to jurisdiction in the zones in the East China Railway. The objection raised by the three Powers is said to be that the administrative authority granted by China to the East China Railway Company, according to the provisions of that Convention, can not properly be exercised by a private corporation. It will be remembered that the United States Government was reported some time ago to have lodged a similar protest, and it is now stated that Mr. Rockhill, who proceeds from Peking to represent his country in St. Petersburg, has instructions to press the protest.

News from Peking says that His Excellency Chang Chih-tung has been granted a further term of 20 days to recuperate his health. This new respite, following so many others, is held to suggest that the venerable statesman is finally incapacitated, and that his valuable services will no longer be available to his country.

We had not heard anything of an anti-British boycott being in process of organization at Kiukiang, but a telegram from Hangkow alleges that such a procedure is now in full operation, and that the great firms of Messrs. Jardine & Matheson and Butterfield and Swire are suffering severely, whereas the steamers of the China Merchants and the Nisshin Kisen companies are getting full cargoes. The boycott has not extended to Hankow, however, and is said to be regarded as a purely temporary affair.

The *Asahi Shimbun* recommends that Japan should give way to China in the matter of guards for the Mukden-Antung Railway. Our contemporary's idea is that China has a considerable force in Chientao and also in Mukden, and that she may be trusted to police the road effectually. When she fails to do so, it will be time enough for Japan to take the matter into her own hands. That advice is doubtless prompted by a desire to be generous to China, but the reflection obtrudes itself that such a right, once abandoned, is virtually irrevocable.

The *Mainichi Dempo* thinks that the immediate problem has been solved, but that China must feel hurt. Some means of healing her *amour-propre* should be found, and applied.

There is somewhat vague news from Shin-Wiju to the effect that dishonest appropriations of timber carried away by the recent floods in the Yalu River are taking place on a large scale and that much disturbance is caused by the wood-men. The situation is said to be grave. This lumber enterprise in the Yalu Valley has proved anything but a satisfactory affair.

There appears to be keen competition in Manchuria in the matter of bean export. The large excursions made into this field last year by Messrs. Samuel, Samuel and Company have frequently been spoken of. We now read in the *Kokumin Shimbun* that the Mitsui Firm has taken very enterprising measures. It has constructed a depot covering 4,000 *tsubo* at Changchun, and has built a line connecting it with the Railway. Ten thousand tons of the cereal are said to be now stored at this depot.

It would seem as though most of the questions outstanding between Japan and China will be settled in company with the problem of the Mukden-Antung line. Tokyo newspapers state that the Pratas Island problem has been carried within sight of satisfactory solution, but they do not undertake to give the details of the agreement.

There is one railway in China's dominions which has been built entirely with her own money and by her own experts. It is a road of great importance, since it affords the only means of concentrating a Chinese army in the direction of Manchuria. It starts from the Fengtai quarter of Peking and runs a distance of 123 miles to Changkiakow. This line has cost 7 millions and its opening will take place in a few days. A project has now been elaborated to extend the line through a further distance of 270 miles as far as Kiakta. This extension is estimated to cost 16 million taels and to be extended over a period of 8 years, the annual expenditure being two millions. In the days when Russia's ambition to find an ice-free port in Eastern seas was a common topic of conversation, men were wont to say that the great northern Power's project was to extend its railway from Irkutsk to Kiakta with the intention of ultimately carrying it to Peking. That was before the China-Japan war. But when the interference of the three Powers drove Japan out of Liaotung, and when, as guerdon for her services on that occasion Russia found it easy to obtain railway concessions in Manchuria, she abandoned the Irkutsk-Kiakta project, and found her desired port at Dalny. Now, however, things have reverted to the situation they occupied prior to 1894, and people are again beginning to talk of Russian railway activity in the direction of Kiakta. The Chinese therefore have resolved not to be forestalled and have planned the above road. It is said that the money to build it will be taken from the yearly earnings of the Peking Mukden and the Peking-Changkiakow line. We can not vouch for the details of this story.

It appears that Chinese opposition to the extension of the South Manchuria Railway into the town of Yingkow continues as obstinate as ever. The present terminus of the line is at Niukiatung, which lies 2 miles outside the city, so that facilities for the transport of goods and passengers are very imperfect. The Japanese have long been agitating for the extension of this line right into the city, but it is evident that if the road were brought to their doors, the goods owners of Yingkow would patronize the railway in respect of much of the work which they now get done by barges on the river Liao. Hence the Chinese Authorities, who not unnaturally desire to make the competition of the river as formidable as possible for the Japanese railway, have hitherto vetoed the extension; while, on the other hand, the people of Yingkow are equally desirous of having the line brought to their doors. We gather from Japanese journals that the question is again on the tapis, but that the Chinese are evincing as much determination as ever.

We have already spoken of a rumour that the railway from Peking to Changkiakou, which is now on the verge of completion, was to be extended beyond the Great Wall to Kulon and Kiakta in the direction of Lake Baikal, ultimately being linked up with the trans-Asian line. It now appears that this programme is incorrect, and that the real intention is to build a branch of the line from Changkiakou along the Chinese side of the Great Wall *viâ* Huaian and Tatung as far as Soping, where it would be carried across the Wall to Kueihuacheng in the province of Shansi. Such a road would add greatly to the facilities for the defence of the frontier. It is said to have been planned in 1906 by Mr. Tang Shaoi, and rumour says that French capitalists were willing to put up the necessary money. Thereafter, however, the project was suffered to lapse until the present time when it has been revived. There have been so many rumours about China's intention in the matter of building railways, and this last story comes so close upon the heels of a very different narrative, that one is necessarily skeptical in believing anything definitely. It will be remembered that for some time rumour insisted on attributing to China the intention of constructing a road from Kinchow near Shanhaikwan to Yaonan in Mongolia. But that project soon ceased to be heard of, and a similar fate may be in store for the latest version of Peking's intentions.

The seven days originally fixed as the period during which the vernacular newspapers of China were especially restrained from discussing international questions, have now expired, and their expiration appears to have been marked by an outburst of indignation in the columns of the Peking press. The Chinese papers are quoted as declaring that by recourse to warlike arguments for the solution of the Mukden-Antung Railway question Japan virtually sealed the fate of Manchuria, and may be said to have inaugurated the disruption of the Chinese Empire. In these circumstances, since China is not able to appeal to arms, the only resource remaining is for her patriotic subjects to institute a boycott of Japanese goods.

If this incendiarism should be successful, a very grave question will arise, for Japan will certainly not consent to have important diplomatic questions referred to the rude tribunal of an international boycott. The Chinese Government will be held responsible for the results of such action, and in protesting against it Japan would have the sympathy of all the Powers, since they too can not calmly see their treaty rights in China imperilled in such a manner.

The two detailed Conventions which have just been concluded between China and Japan with reference to the Kirin-Changchun and the Hsinmintun Railways have been published. Each Convention consists of 12 articles, but as the conditions have already been made known to our readers there is no occasion to translate the documents.

It is stated that there is a project on foot to invite to Japan the leading members of the various Chinese Chambers of Commerce recently organised. The principal movers in this matter are the Toya Kyokai, the To-A Dobun Kai and several Japanese merchants whose business in connected with China. It is felt that something is wanting to bring

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about a better understanding between the business worlds of the two nations, and that no better device could be employed for that purpose than to extend to China and Japan the system of international visits by business men which has been followed with such success in Europe and America.

KOREA.

In reporting in a previous issue a statement with regard to the building of railways in Korea from the Tumen to Kilin, we expressed the opinion that the estimate of money needed should be 50 million *yen* instead of 500 millions, as alleged by our Tokyo contemporary. We now learn that even the smaller of the above figures was excessive, and that the sum which it is proposed to spend during the next six years is 35 millions. This, however, does not include any appropriation on account of the road from Chyongjin *viâ* Hoiryong to Kilin. It concerns only the line from Seoul to Gensan, which is to cost 15 millions, and the lines in southern Korea, which are estimated at 20 millions.

For some time past there has been under discussion by the Chinese and Korean Governments—the latter represented by the Residency-General—a question relating to the establishment of special Chinese settlements in Fusan, Gensan and Chemulpo. A convention was drafted, consisting of 15 articles, and all were amicably settled except the article relating to police control. Upon this rock the conference has split, and it will now have to be renewed in Tokyo.

For a long time it was undecided whether Gensan and the east coast of Korea should be united by rail with Pyongyang or with Seoul: in other words, whatever a *Hei Gen* or a *Kei Gen* line should be built. The latter route has now been chosen. Strategical reasons seem to have partially influenced the choice. By joining Seoul to Gensan, the present isolation of Hamheung and Hoiryong will be corrected. But economical considerations have also had their part. Thus, it is stated that a new and important market for Hokkaido timber will be opened when Gensan is the terminus of a line communicating with Seoul. The road will cost 15 million *yen*, and the period of construction is 6 years.

It is stated that the Residency-General in Seoul has decided to spend a sum of 4 million *yen* on the construction of 300 miles of road in Korea during the next 5 years. We are not speaking of railways, but of ordinary highways. One main trunk route is to run along the shores of the Peninsula, to the eastward and westward from Fusan, and another is to run between Gensan and Pyongyang. It will be remembered that for a long time the question was open whether a railway should be built from Gensan to Seoul or from Gensan to Pyongyang, and that finally the former route was selected. We may assume that the highway from Gensan to Pyongyang is to compensate the latter important commercial centre for having to do without a railway. If this programme of road construction be carried out in combination with that of railway building, as described in our last issue, Korea's prospects of material expansion will be immensely improved.

The Korean Government has announced its intention of building three charity hospitals, one in the north, one in the south, and one in the centre of the Peninsula. They are to cost 50,000 *yen* each, and the duty of superintending and directing their affairs will be entrusted to the Japanese military medical practitioners. One of the chief objects of this measure is to familiarise the Koreans with proper measures of sanitation and hygiene.

The Residency-General is credited with an extensive scheme of irrigation. Railways, roads, the administration of justice, the provision of monetary organs and the building of hospitals are not to be the only useful measures undertaken by it.

The Korean Crown Prince having returned safely to Tokyo on the 23rd inst. and the fact having been telegraphed by Prince Ito to Seoul, the child's parents and the Emperor of Korea sent across the wires to Prince Ito warm messages of thanks and appreciation.

MR. WILLIAM G. HOWELL.

The *London & China Express* announces the death of Mr. William G. Howell at the age of 80 years. There are probably very few members of this community to whom the name of Mr. Howell is familiar. He came to Japan originally from Shanghai at the invitation of Mr. Horatio Nelson Lay, who, in view of the programme of development inaugurated in Japan at the commencement of the *Meiji* era, and in consideration of the probable investment of a large amount of English capital in this country, thought it expedient that a newspaper organ should be established to expound the conditions existing here and to record the progress made. At that time, 1868, the late Mr. Charles Rickerby was owner and editor of a weekly journal called the *Japan Times*, and this having been purchased by Messrs. Lay and Howell, its name was changed to the *Japan Weekly Mail*, and Mr. Howell assumed the editorial duties, discharging them continuously for several years. He was a man of many accomplishments, exceptional literary ability and great personal magnetism. The articles that he wrote for his journal were at once profoundly thoughtful, and models of style; so that the issue of the *Weekly Mail* every Sunday morning was looked forward to by the whole community. He had his troubles, however. Being essentially a just man, he aimed above all things at avoiding prejudice, and he therefore found it possible to perceive that, in the numerous complications which then chequered this country's foreign relations, there might perhaps be something to say on Japan's side. Often, therefore, he had the courage to say things not universally acceptable, and it resulted that he became an object of abuse and detraction to the self-nominated champions of the foreign community, who then obeyed, as they now obey, the pernicious principle that everyone finding a good word to say for the Japanese, or venturing to espouse their side in a controversy, must of necessity be an enemy of foreigners. The Settlement was comparatively small in those days. It is large enough now to afford room for all classes of opinions, but in Mr. Howell's time the cruel things said of him sounded so close as to be doubly insulting; and, being of a very sensitive disposition as well as a perfect gentleman, he resented a rudeness as much as he himself was incapable of offering one. Thus the closing years of his career in Yokohama were not altogether happy, though he had many warm friends who appreciated his noble character and high attainments. He will find many to mourn for him, and his name will always be associated with the best side of Yokohama's life.

CHIENTAO.

In the *Asahi Shimbun* we find a semi-official statement of the population and military forces now in Chientao. The figures are:—

Korean subjects	82,999
Chinese subjects	27,371
Japanese subjects (apart from officials)	240
Japanese Gendarmes	200
Chinese Troops	2,260

The Chinese troops are stationed at ten places. At the head-quarters, Chutszchieh, there are 980, including 490 sappers.

This disposes effectually of the sensational rumours recently circulated as to a signal increase of military forces.

It would seem that China is desirous of settling all outstanding problems on this occasion, and that she attaches prime importance to the Chientao question. In fact, she appears ready to make some sacrifices—not inconsiderable sacrifices—in other directions, provided that she can obtain a satisfactory solution of the Chientao complication. In view of her evident desire to give prominence to this matter, the Japanese Commissioner inquired whether she had made any addition to her military force in the district recently. The reply was emphatically in the negative, and was supplemented by a statement that most particular instructions had been issued to Mr. Wu, requiring him to restrain the troops carefully and to avoid anything like collisions between them and the Japanese gendarmes.

So far as we can see, the Chinese papers of Shanghai are engaged in a deliberate attempt to stir up trouble about the Chientao affair. They are publishing telegrams to the effect that the Japanese are assembling a large force in that region, and one paper has a wire from Peking which actually alleges that 22 Chinese soldiers have been killed by Japanese gendarmes. The immediate object of the circulators of these falsehoods is apparently to provoke a boycott, but of that there does not seem to be much prospect, the leading Chinese merchants being opposed to the idea. It is said that the Chinese students in Tokyo have addressed to the vernacular journals in their country a violently worded circular urging that a boycott is the only weapon for China at this juncture, but the censorship of the press, instituted since the recent complications commenced, has not been relaxed, and consequently the newspapers have not inserted this circular. It therefore rests upon hearsay only and may possibly prove a groundless rumour.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

A very strange telegram reaches the *Jiji Shimpo* from London. It says that a belief prevails in Russia that the conferences now taking place between Japan and China have for their purpose the conclusion of a secret treaty in view of the imminence of war in the Far East. The *Novoe Vremya* is quoted as alleging that Japan's policy in the East is aggressive.

We suspect that the above news is somewhat exaggerated. What the *Novoe Vremya* seems really to have said is that, in the event of any disturbance in the Far East, the duty of dealing with it will devolve mainly upon Russia and Japan, and that in these circumstances Russia does everything in her power to avoid disputes with China about trifles, but unfortunately Japan is not swayed by an equally magnanimous policy.

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THE ANTUNG-MUKDEN RAILWAY.

We have received the following official communication: In reference to the question of reconstruction of the Antung-Mukden railway line Mr. Ijuin, the Japanese Minister at Peking, on the 6th instant, as previously announced, notified the Chinese Government that the work of reconstructing the line would forthwith be undertaken. To this intimation the Chinese Government replied on the 7th instant stating that China did not insist upon her objections regarding a change in the existing gauge or to the introduction of such rectifications of the line as were found to be technically necessary. The reply also expressed a desire that the question of the rectification of the line might be submitted to commissioners to be appointed by the two countries. Accordingly, Minister Ijuin, on the 10th instant, in pursuance of instructions from the Imperial Government, addressed a Note to the Chinese Government pointing out that the proposed change in the location of the line was not only confined to what was absolutely necessary from technical consideration, but it was in fact based upon the result of the joint survey already made by the Commissioners of both Governments. The Note added that in these circumstances there could be no necessity for dispatching a joint Commission for the purpose of repeating the surveys which had already been completed and, consequently, that it was desirable that the Chinese Government, in view of the urgent necessity for the speedy reconstruction of the line, should at once approve of that portion of the line which had already been surveyed and agreed upon by the Commissioners of both Governments. On the 13th instant the Chinese Government replied and, from that reply, the Japanese Government were justified in assuming that China was fully prepared to recognize the immediate necessity of reconstructing the Antung-Mukden line and that she desired to render all necessary co-operation in carrying out the undertaking. The Imperial Government thereupon, in consideration of the friendly relations between Japan and China, instructed Consul-General Koike at Mukden to sign a memorandum with Viceroy Hsi and Governor Chêng and, accordingly, a memorandum to the following effect was signed on August 19th.

1. The same gauge as that of the Peking-Mukden Railway shall be adopted.

2. Both Japan and China shall recognize and approve, on the whole, the line as already surveyed and agreed to by the Commissioners of the two Governments, but the location of that position of the line from Chen-hsiang-tun to Mukden shall remain to be decided by mutual conference between the two countries.

3. On and from the date when the memorandum is signed, negotiations for the purchase of land and for the adjustment of all other details shall be instituted.

4. From the day following the signing of the memorandum, that is, from the day after the negotiations above mentioned are instituted, the work of reconstruction shall be accelerated.

5. China shall instruct the local officials along the line to give every facility regarding the execution of the work.

THE JAPANESE NAVY.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has an interesting article which greatly helps to elucidate the perplexing facts with regard to the development of the Japanese navy. The trouble is that there are three programmes in simultaneous operation, and that their respective periods have been altered from time to time to meet financial convenience. Thus, while the public saw that ships were being built, it was impossible to say what programme they belonged to, or what part of the general scheme they represented. These are the points now made clear by our contemporary's article.

In the first place, there is the Third Period Increase. This now extends over the period from 1903 to 1916. The ships already built under it are the following: —

	Tons.
Line-of-battleship *Kashima*	16,400
" " *Katori*	15,950
First-class armoured cruiser *Ibuki*	14,620

The ships uncompleted are one line-of-battleship, one first-class cruiser and two small cruisers.

Next we have what is called the *Hosoku*; that is to say, the supplementing programme. This extends over the period from 1904 to 1914 and the ships already completed under it are as follow: —

	Tons.
Line of Battleship *Satsuma*	19,350
" " *Aki*	19,800
First-class armoured cruiser *Tsukuba*	13,750
" " *Ikoma*	13,750
" " *Kurama*	14,620
Cruiser *Tone*	4,100

The ships uncompleted are: —

One first-class armoured cruiser.
Two or three cruisers.
Several destroyers and submarines.

The third programme is that called *Hoju*, or Implementing Programme. This extends over the period from 1908 to 1913. No ships have yet been constructed under it, but two line-of-battleships of 20,000 tons each have been laid down, and the following represent the vessels needed to make up the programme: —

1 Armoured cruiser.
2 or 3 Cruisers.
Several destroyers and submarines.

A good deal of attention is attracted by the progress of the ocean-going destroyer *Kaifu*. Her model is now finished, and she will be put on the stocks in the course of this year, the programme being to have her ready for sea by March next. Her displacement will be 1150 tons, and she will be driven by turbine engines at a speed of 33 knots. The *Kaifu* is the first of three sister-vessels contemplated by the Japanese Naval Authorities. She is to be built at Maizuru, and another vessel of the same size and speed is to be constructed at the Mitsubishi Dock in Nagasaki. The whole three will be added to the Navy by 1911. The question of ocean-going destroyers (*taiyō kuchiku-kan*) is still an open one in the minds of Occidental naval experts. England took the lead in building one of 700 tons, and this she followed with the *Swift*, a ship of 1800 tons, having a speed of 36 knots. But whether the *Swift* is a genuine success or not has not yet been decided. On the whole, the balance of technical opinion seems to be against her. Japan, however, seems to have satisfied herself on the subject, for she is going ahead with the new programme vigorously.

THE ORIENTAL HOTEL.

The investment offered by the proprietors of the Oriental Hotel at Kobe looks very tempting. Ample security is offered; the hotel is well spoken of, and is undoubtedly one of which Japan may be proud, since it is pronounced by good judges to be the handsomest and most commodious building in the Far East, not even excluding Shanghai and Hongkong. Eight per cent. in such circumstances is a tempting offer, and we are not surprised that 250,000 *yen* of the debentures were disposed of before the offer become public.

THE WRIGHT BROTHERS.

The honours bestowed in such rich abundance upon the Wright brothers are amply well deserved, were it for nothing more than the modesty with which they have been received and the evidence which the two men have since given that they do not look upon themselves as having achieved ultimate success, but as being simply on the way to it. Their later triumph in a flight of seventy miles in eighty minutes shows their untiring zeal in the task of perfecting their machine, the working out of its principle being evidently regarded by them as being merely in its initial stages.

In the hour of their triumph too they do not fail to acknowledge that the real credit of their invention belongs not to themselves, but to previous enthusiasts who long ago entered the field of aviation and by their very failures suggested the direction in which triumph must ultimately come. Innumerable have been the studies of the movements of birds as pointing to the principle upon which man should direct his efforts to traverse the air, but the new science had to wait until a motive power could be developed for the purpose, that object being of only recent accomplishment. Only when the new motor appeared could it be possible for man to take unto himself wings.

It may not be generally known that the late Professor Langley, of the Smithsonian Institute, a dozen years ago devised the monoplane of which the modern aeroplane is only a modification. He was the first who proposed that man should fly, not by a flapping of the wings, but by engine propulsion. He was laughed at when he vainly attempted it. But could he have had a modern gasolene motor instead of being compelled to adapt the steam engine he would doubtless have succeeded.

THE RAILWAYS.

It will be remembered that a change of system was recently effected by the Railway Board, the gist of the change being that the lines were divided into five sections and their control was localized instead of being exercised solely by the Central Board. This enabled the Board to dispense with the services of many officials, and it is expected that excellent financial returns will be obtained. But this expectation does not appear to have been realized. The result of the working since the change are that the operating expenses on the five sections represent, in the case of the Eastern section, 45 per cent. of the gross earnings; in the case of the Central section, 41 per cent.; in the case of the Western section, 44 per cent.; in the case of the Kyushu section, 38 per cent.; and in the case of the Northern section 62 per cent. Compared with the results obtained during the corresponding period of last year the following table shows the decreases and increases: —

	Yen.
Eastern	— 174,673
Central	+ 569,939
Western	+ 251,901
Kyushu	+ 402,982
Northern	— 524,066

The above figures do not seem to warrant any despondency, but the Tokyo papers note that the gross earnings of the 4,553 miles of line during July total only 6,406,422 *yen* being 50,736 *yen* less than the earnings for July 1908, and it is thought that the Government's budgetary estimate will be disappointing.

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"JAPAN AND AMERICA."

Mr. Mochizuki has had a bright inspiration. Arguing that it would be an immense convenience to the American public to know something about the Japanese business men who have just started on a visit to the United States by invitation, he has published a special number of the "Japan Financial and Economic Monthly" containing photographs and character sketches of all these gentlemen, 42 in number, including several others prominent in the world of affairs. The book is very tastefully got up, and the illustrations are of a very high order. The labour of compilation must have been immense. In order to render the work generally attractive, the part devoted to its special purpose is prefaced by a quantity of interesting matter. Thus we have a coloured wood-engraving; a picture of a Japanese General and cherry flowers; Japanese scenery and ladies at the time of Commodore Perry's arrival; a photograph of Commodore Perry; copies of the oldest American commercial treaties and memoranda; the United States Seal used on these treaties; photographs of the Genro; photographs of the Cabinet Ministers; photographs of Admiral Togo, Viscount Kaneko, Messrs. Ishii, Hagiwara, Kurachi; of H.E Mr. O'Brien; of H.E Baron Takahira; autographs of Marquis Yamagata, Marquis Katsura, Admiral Togo, Baron Oura and Baron Goto; letters from Count Okuma and Viscount Kaneko; pictures of Rear Admiral Sperry entertained by the Tokyo Municipality; of Japanese school-children singing "Hail Columbia;" of the anchoring of Commodore Perry's squadron at Uraga in 1853; of Commodore Perry's flag-ship; of the Perry monument at Kurihama, etc. There are also two valuable essays entitled "the History of Japanese Productive Industry" and "a Survey of the Present Economic and Financial condition of Post-bellum Japan." Thus this handsome book should prove a most welcome addition to any library. It is in fact an excellent photographic album, as well as a timely contribution to a useful purpose.

THE DAI NIHON SUGAR COMPANY.

The difficult process of rehabilitating the Dai Nihon Sugar Company has met with another serious check. Mr. Fujimoto, one of the principal creditors, has instituted legal proceedings for recovery of the money due to him by the Company. Everything depended upon the forbearance shown by the creditors, and it appeared likely that they would all agree to give the newly constituted board of directors a chance of recovery. But this action of Mr. Fujimoto will practically incapacitate the other creditors for rendering any assistance. On its part the Fujimoto Bank alleges that if the Company's debt to it were re-paid, the Bank could meet all its obligations with the exception of a sum of 100,000 *yen*, and it further claims that it has hitherto treated the Company with the utmost leniency. However that may be, the possibility of resuscitating the Company depended solely upon the unanimous forbearance of its creditors. So soon as one has recourse to the law, the others must necessarily join the scramble to recover whatever they can. The *Asahi Shimbun* has a very severe note on this subject. It charges Mr. Fujimoto with having been one of the original directors of the Company who misled the public as to the state of the sugar industry, and it attributes his present action solely to a desire to get ahead of the other creditors.

THE COMPRESSOL COMPANY.

It is evident that the state of the Oriental Compressol Company is that of a house divided against itself. But it is also evident that the sensational accounts of its condition, which have been published by a Tokyo English journal, are prejudiced. The writer of the reports is so partial that he forgets to be even ordinarily courteous. He speaks of the Japanese shareholders as "a chattering mob"; a "unique assemblage of frenzied financiers," and so forth; while the spirit directing his pen may be gathered from the fact that one of the first charges he prefers against the management is the summoning of an extraordinary meeting "at a fortnight's notice, so that the share-holders in Europe could know nothing about it until after the appointed date"—as though such preliminary knowledge in Europe were practically possible in such a context. A leading feature of the trouble appears to hinge upon the legal validity of certain powers of attorney; but surely such a question should be capable of easy and peaceable solution? It would certainly seem that the managing Director's procedure leaves something to be desired, but it would also seem that he has decidedly difficult persons to manage; and the appeal made by some of the foreign staff, or the foreign shareholders, to a sensational journal can not be said to be in the best interests of the Company. As to the notion that the Japanese shareholders are engaged in a deliberate plot to oust the foreign shareholders and get the business wholly into their own hands, we regard it as chimerical. The shares held by foreigners exceed those in Japanese hands by 2 to 1, and it is always possible for the possessors of such a large majority of the shares to obtain control of the enterprise. No surer method of wrecking the business could be adopted than the blazoning abroad of its domestic squabbles.

AMALGAMATION OF ELECTRICAL INTERESTS IN JAPAN.

Our readers have heard a good deal about the proposed amalgamation of the electrical interests (sales and manufactures) of the General Electric Company in Japan, the Tokyo Denki Kabushiki Kaisha, the Shibaura Engineering Works and the electrical interests of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha. We are now in a position to state that the Eastern Manager of the General Electric Company was recently directed by his officials in New York to suspend negotiations for the present, owing to the fact that his Company could not agree to some conditions put forward by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha on behalf of that Firm and of the Shibaura Company. Mr. Uyehara, one of the directors of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, who is going to America with the Japanese business men's party, will be in New York about the middle of September and will thus be able to represent the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha and the Shibaura Engineering Works, should any further negotiations concerning this transaction take place in the United States with the officials of the General Electric Company. The Eastern Manager of the latter, who left Japan by the *Minnesota* on the 19th inst., will be present to represent the interests of the General Electric Company in this country, and also the interests of the Japanese shareholders in the Tokyo Denki Kabushika Kaisha, in which the General Electric Company have considerable holding at present.

A BANK FOR MANCHURIA.

The question of establishing a large bank in Manchuria with combined Chinese and Japanese capital is again upon the tapis. A representation was presented to the Government on this subject in the last session of the Diet, and it was expected that some official decision would be reached before the autumn. But as that expectation has not thus far been fulfilled some impatience appears to be now felt. The original idea was that the Bank should be established under the auspices of the South Manchuria Railway Company, but it was ultimately decided that such a course would not be advisable inasmuch as there was no precedent for a railway Company undertaking banking work. The next idea was that the Bank should be made a branch of the Yokohama Specie Bank, but that project also was abandoned in consideration of the fact that the Specie Bank's field of operations is already quite sufficiently extended. Finally the projectors have fallen back upon the programme of an independent institution, conducting its business on lines somewhat similar to those of the Oriental Colonization Company in Korea. The Japanese Government would be asked to subscribe one-fifth of the 10 millions constituting the capital of the Bank; an equal amount would be taken by the South Manchuria Railway, and the remaining 6 millions would be allotted to the Chinese and Japanese public. There appears to be a strong sentiment in favour of this project.

DEBENTURES AND DEBTS.

The Central Government has issued to the various communes a detailed warning against the unwisdom of floating debentures or otherwise contracting debts unless means for speedy re-payment are in sight. The document sets forth specially the error of converting temporary debts into interest-bearing bonds, and urges that every effort should be made to collect arrears of taxation and to find resources other than the incurring of pecuniary obligations. It appears from statistics showing the conditions existing at the end of last June that the debentures and debts floated by the various banks and companies throughout the Empire totalled 125,318,820 *yen*, to which has to be added 8,600,000 *yen* in the form of foreign debts.

In connexion with this subject we find an article in the *Shogyo Shimpo* urging that the present time is eminently favourable for converting high-interest-bearing debts. Some perfectly solvent companies are paying as much as 8 or 9 per cent. while money is easily obtainable in the open market at 6 or less.

THE KILIN CHANGCHUN RAILWAY.

It appears that the moiety of the fund for the construction of the Kilin-Changchun Railway is 2,550,000 *yen*, not 2,150,000 as stated in our last issue. The money is to be paid in Tokyo within a month of the date of signature—including the 320,000 *yen* for the Hsinmintun-Mukden line — and the Chinese Government is to lose no time in appointing officials to receive the amount. The traffic receipts of the lines are to be paid into the Specie Bank in Japanese current coin, and interest will be allowed by the Bank on these deposits at its usual rate; but all monies which do not fall within the above category will be held by the finance officials of the railways. The other details are as given in our last issue.

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THE TOKYO ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

The Tokyo Municipality has adopted a resolution which seems likely to give a serious blow to the Tokyo Electric Light Company. Hitherto the Company has been recognised as holding a virtual monopoly of the lighting of the city, the only competitor being the Tokyo Railway Company, and as the latter's sphere of operations was strictly limited, its competition did not amount to anything very serious. The aldermen have now decided however, that any company desiring to supply electric light shall be permitted to do so. In arriving at this resolution the aldermen seem to have been guided by the fact that the competition of the Tokyo Railway has had the effect of lowering the general charge for lighting by some 30 per cent. But it is obvious that this policy of competition can not be carried to any considerable degree, unless it involves underground wires, for the Municipality can not possibly allow the erection of additional posts in districts where these obstructions to passage already exist. Moreover, even on the hypothesis of underground wires, the difficulty arises that the Light Company has already been ordered to make that important reform in its system within a fixed number of years. Hence we are not inclined to attach so much weight to this matter as some of our Tokyo contemporaries do. The city is virtually precluded from granting competitive charters except in regions not yet served by the Electric Light Company or the Tokyo Railway. What seems certain, however, is that the Municipality have decided to change the tax on posts to the payment of a certain fraction of the nett profits on the part of the Electric Light Company.

ANOTHER SCANDAL.

There is another disgraceful episode in the business world and again it relates to a sugar refining company, namely, the To-a Seito Kaisha. This Company was established in 1907 with a capital of 2 million *yen*, one quarter of which was paid up. The chief promotor was Mr. Kuribayashi, a wholesale sugar merchant of Tokyo, and closely connected with him were his younger brother Mr. Okubo a dealer in foreign wines, Mr. Suzuki, and a bill broker, Mr. Moroi. A domicilary search has been conducted in the case of all these persons and has thus far resulted in the apprehension of Messrs. Kuribayashi and Moroi. According to the newspaper accounts of the affair, Messrs. Kuribayashi and Okubo, who were the most influential directors, placed in the hands of Mr. Moroi a sum of 360,000 *yen* out of the Company's paid-up capital, and engaged in share-speculation on a large scale. They lost the whole of that money, and, in order to conceal the disaster, they spread false rumours as to the condition of the Company, thus bringing about a heavy depreciation of its shares, which they then purchased, and entered in the books of the Company at their face value. The dilemma might have been thus solved had not a part of the shareholders insisted on winding up the Company, and this of course revealed the fact that a large block of worthless shares represented the major part of the paid-up capital. The To-a Seito Kaisha is a petty concern, so small that its shares have never been quoted on the market, nevertheless this incident will give a new shock to business confidence.

THE TIMBER TROUBLE.

Telegrams published in Tokyo indicate the existence of a very unruly spirit among the Chinese woodmen in the Yalu valley. It is reported that, on the 18th inst., a large body of them carrying arms crossed the river and attacked a Korean timber station on the left bank. A few Japanese gendarmes hastened to the scene but were either driven back or retired in order to avoid a serious engagement. On the 21st inst. a detachment of Chinese constables numbering 20 set out for the scene of the trouble.

Another disturbance is reported from Mouerh, where the woodmen are said to be in great force. One account speaks of 500 and declares that they are in a most unruly mood.

We find in the *Hochi Shimbun*, which journal is nothing if not sensational, an alarming note. It represents the Yalu lumber trouble as going from bad to worse, and it says that the gendarmerie and police have adopted precautions against the danger of an eruption of the woodmen into Korean territory. The number of the riotous timber cutters is stated by some authorities to be as much as 20,000, but obviously such an estimate is greatly exaggerated. No other Tokyo paper makes any allusion to this subject, nor apparently have any further telegrams been received in the capital.

"THE KOKKA," NO. 230.

Of the seven pictures re-produced in No. 230 of the *Kokka* no less than six are from the collection of Marquis Inouye. It is well known among connoisseurs that Marquis Inouye, as a result of some 35 years of loving quest, has got together the finest assemblage of rare works of art possessed by any one in Japan, not even excluding museums. A large part of his collection is made up of masterpieces from the brushes of ancient Chinese celebrities. Thus, among the six pictures here referred to, four are Chinese *chefs-d'œuvre* The first, from the pencil of the renowned Wu Tao-tsz, is said to have been originally in the possession of the Japanese Prince of Dilettanti, Ashikaga Yorimasa, from whose hands it passed to Oda Nobunaga, and from the latter to the "Three-days Shogun," Akechi Mitsuhide and finally to Sakumon Soka who gave it to the Sunshō-an in Kyoto. The second is a landscape by Shih Jui of the Ming dynasty—one of those imposing and yet tender compositions for which the Chinese masters were famous. The third is a Grape Vine by Jih Kuan, an insignificant picture but full of force and suggestiveness. The fourth is by Hsü Tsu. It shows a man sitting, profoundly patient, by a river-side and watching the float of his fishing line. The strength and grace of this drawing are beyond praise. We observe that Marquis Inouye has placed his collection at the service of the publishers of the *Kokka*, and that they promise to reproduce its masterpieces in succeeding numbers.

Very special interest attaches to the faithful copies, shown in this number, of the two leaves which alone remain to represent the seventeen folding screens originally placed among the Nara relics in the famous Shōsō-in. Tradition hesitatingly affirms that these screens were designed and made by a Chinese craftsman of the Tang dynasty, but this account has been much disputed. The designs are produced by dyeing cloth, both the *Kyōkechi* and the *Rōkechi* methods being employed—that is to say, dyeing by pressure between two wooden boards, and dyeing by wax drawing on cloth, the wax being subsequently drawn off. Whoever may have been the artist of these screens, he was evidently very close to Indian feeling and motive.

We advise subscribers to examine their copies of this interesting number of the *Kokka*, for, in some cases, the binders have dropped out 4 pages, namely, 17, 18, 19 and 20.

A SUMMER SCENE AT KAMAKURA.

There has been a quaint incident at Kamakura. So far as we can judge, the facts are these.—Some time ago, the Methodists of the place sold a portion of the land owned by them to the projector of a theatre. The land sold was immediately adjoining the site on which the church stood, and the Methodists stipulated that trees should be planted between the theatre and the church and that no tea-houses should be built behind the latter. Subsequently, however, the Methodists, or at any rate some of them, became averse to having a theatre so close to their church, and they accordingly withdrew their consent, so that the police were obliged to reject the application of the projectors. The principal of the latter seems to have been an ex-geisha, and this lady became very irate on account of the Methodists' conduct. In order to be avenged on them she established a tinsmith's shop on one side of the church and a dancing academy on the other, and these two institutions found themselves busily employed whenever a service happened to be held in the Methodist church. It appears that the well-known Dr. Whitney consented to preach there last Sunday, and that the Secretary of the United States Embassy attended to hear the sermon. But owing to the pandemonium created by the tinsmith and the dancers the service had to be abandoned. A report was spread that the Secretary of the Embassy had been assaulted, but this episode of the history seems to have been limited to a menace with a crow-bar from the other side of a wooden railing. The complication has not yet been unravelled.

ENGLISH EARTHQUAKES.

It is now a well-established fact of natural science, says the *Globe*, referring to the recent series of world-wide seismic disturbances that earthquakes are not to be expected in England. The geological conformation of the country is hardly compatible with their occurrence, though there is a district in which they are not altogether unfamiliar. There have been times, nevertheless, when some alarm has been created by the prevalence of destructive shocks very near English shores. There was a genuine terror in the middle of the eighteenth century, when the capital of Portugal was destroyed, with immense loss of life. Earthquakes were then looked upon as manifestations of Divine anger against human sin, and one of the most curious examples of this is to be found in the endeavours of some of the clergy to point the moral of the Lisbon catastrophe. John Newton devoted one of his hymns—needless to say, it is not found in any hymnal of the present day—to this pious purpose. He asked, "whither shall the sinner fly, if earth itself pursue?" And people really did go to bed in fear that they might be swallowed up before morning. Probably there has been no instance of real and widespread alarm in England at any later date, but there were occasions when some anxiety was permissible. The most remarkable was in April, 1884, when an earthquake happened in the Eastern Counties.

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SALT SMUGGLING.

Our readers will remember that some time ago Japanese merchants were arrested in Kobe on a charge of smuggling salt from the Liaotung Peninsula. A similar charge is now preferred against certain Japanese in Yokohama, acting in collusion with a Tokyo firm. The *Asahi Shimbun*, from which we take the details, says that the salt in question, although it has to pay a duty of 2.30 *yen* per picul, is sold in Japan for 3.23 *yen*, thus yielding only 93 *sen* to meet all expenses, and as the cost of transport from Europe is 36 *sen* a picul, it is evident that the margin for other outlays and for profit becomes a vanishing quantity. The explanation is that the salt does not pay anything like the prescribed duty. It is imported not in bales but according to the method of *barazumi*, which method renders it difficult to estimate the total weight of the salt and opens an easy path to fraud if the collusion of the customs authorities can be secured. By this device large quantities of salt have been imported for some time, to the no inconsiderable defrauding of the States' revenue. Our Tokyo contemporary does not hesitate to mention the name of a prominent German firm as implicated in this dishonesty, but we refrain from reproducing any names in connexion with such an incredible charge.

THE TO-A KOGYO KAISHA.

The meeting for the establishment of this Company was held on the 18th inst. in Tokyo under the presidency of Baron Shibusawa, and the enterprise became an accomplished fact. It appears from the Baron's opening speech that he and Messrs. Kondo Rempei, Masuda Ko and Okura Kihachiro, appointed in 1907 a committee of experts to investigate and report upon the prospects offering for investments of Japanese money in Chinese railways, mines or electric works. This step really laid the foundation for the Company which now comes into existence, so that the above four gentlemen may be said to be the fathers of the venture.

The proceedings were marked by perfect unanimity. It was announced that all the shares had been allotted and that the first call, namely, one quarter of the face-value of each share, had already been paid up, amounting to 250,000 *yen*. On the motion of Mr. Masuda Ko it was decided that the remuneration to the directors should be 3,000 *yen* per annum for the present, and that the appointment of the Board should be entrusted to Baron Shibusawa. The establishment expenses were entered in the books at the small sum of 936 *yen*.

TERRESTRIAL DISTURBANCE AT UNZEN.

According to reports published in various Japanese papers, the volcanic district of Unzen in the curiously shaped peninsula of Shimabara, near Nagasaki, has been visited by a series of earthquake shocks which greatly alarmed not only the Japanese residents, but the foreign visitors who are wont to assemble there in the summer months. If some of the accounts are to be believed, the volcano itself, on whose flank lie the summer resorts of Unzen, Kojigoku etc., has burst into activity; but there is no reason to suppose that any summit eruption has taken place. The volcano of Unzen-dake has been extinct for more than a century, though the lower part of the cone on the western side is riddled with many solfataras and boiling springs. It is probable that the same earth stresses as gave rise to the Omi earthquake have caused similar but lesser displacements in a region already weakened by volcanic forces which have been at work since the earliest times, and that these displacements produced abnormal energy in the solfataras on the mountain's flank. The shocks, which recurred at intervals through the 16th and 17th inst., have now ceased, and those of the residents who had made a hasty exist from the disturbed region are stated to have returned.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Tuesday, August 24.

A dull feeling pervaded the market yesterday. People thought only of closing their transactions for the month, and there were practically no purchasers. Osaka was still flatter, and the opinion among experts is that there will be no market impetus in either direction until the 210th and 220th days pass.

Wednesday, August 25.

Some briskness was witnessed on the Stock Exchange yesterday, owing to optimistic views about the weather, the receipt of news that a good feeling prevailed in Osaka, and the fact that the Treasury was offering its bills at a little over 4 per cent. But transactions were very few, and no change in that respect is anticipated until next month.

Thursday, August 26.

It is often the case on the Tokyo Stock Exchange that if one kind of stock receives a fillip, the whole market moves up. Such seems to have been the case yesterday. The bulls—influenced by some rumours of a rise of fares—attacked the Tokyo Railway and drove up to shares by 4 30 *yen*, everything else following in the wake, but at a distance We are not yet aware that there is any solid reason for this. Appended are the quotations for October :—

	Aug. 25th.	Aug. 26th.	
Tokyo Railway	67 00	71.30	+4.30
Kei-hin Railway	65.60	65.85	+ .25
Yusen Kaisha	81.35	82.00	+ .65
Toyo Kisen	—	—	.—
Tanko Kisen	45.30	46 50	+1.20
Tokyo Gas	100.70	101.90	+1.20
Tokyo Dento	93 00	93.50	+ .50
Fuji Gass Spinning	97.05	98.75	+1 70
Tokyo Spinning	43.50	44.00	+ .50
Kanegafuchi Spinning	104 00	105.95	+1.95
Beer	76 40	77.35	+ 95
Hoden Oil	87.95	89.60	+1.65
Nippon Oil	100 90	100.90	.—
Stock Exchange	166.05	169.15	+3.10

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The musician who is now on a short visit to Japan is announced (as will be seen in our advertisement columns) to give a piano concert to night at the Kamakura Kaihin-in Hotel, thus affording the summer residents there an opportunity of hearing some really good music

It will doubtless be remembered that Professor Kohler gave two concerts last winter at the Gaiety to the delight of large audiences. The *St. James' Gazette* after a concert given by him at the Steinway Hall said :

"He plays every kind of music except bad music and whether in a Sonota by Beethoven or a Nocturne by Chopin or in a Hungarian Rhapsody by Liszt or in compositions of his own he always shews himself a real master of all the resources of his instrument."

We read in Japanese newspapers that all the insurance due on buildings destroyed in the Osaka conflagration has been paid up. It amounts to less than 5 million *yen*, but this does not include insurance upon goods or re-insurance, so that the grand aggregate will be a very large figure. The policies held by the various companies and the sums paid by them are as follow:—

Company.	Policies.	Amount *Yen*.
Kyodo	179	321,250
Nippon	638	1,231,064
Meiji	190	490,883
Tokyo	350	1,523,227
Yokohama	263	640,000
Osaka	118	109,924
Kobe	—	390,0 0
		4,706,348

The newspapers in Vladivostock are said to have shown either very singular indifference or much political foresight in their attitude towards the question which lately caused so much anxiety in China and Japan. They are said to have preserved absolute silence. Considering the enormous amount of space devoted to this matter by the press in Japan and by many foreign newspapers, it is remarkable that Vladivostock should have been so taciturn.

Some time ago Mr. Taft, who is a great admirer of Japanese cherry blossoms, sent an order to Japan for a number of cherry trees. The commission was entrusted to the Foreign Office, and became known to the city aldermen of Tokyo, who have decided to present the President with 2000 trees of selected varieties. The trees are to be at least 10 feet in height, so that a parcel of 2000 will represent a formidable bale of merchandise.

The Korean Crown Prince is now on his way back to Tokyo from Muroran. Informed of his travels, the Emperor of Korea is said to have addressed a warmly worded telegram to Prince Ito, thanking him heartily for the trouble he has taken, in spite of his advanced years, in accompanying the Prince on a long tour during the hot weather. The Emperor concludes by exhorting Prince Ito to be careful of his health, and by hoping that he will return to Tokyo none the worse for his travels. Prince Ito replied with due acknowledgements, and added a statement that the young Prince is in the enjoyment of excellent health.

The 22nd instant was the 200th day, reckoning as Japanese farmers reckon. Thus the 1st of September will be the *nihyaku-toka* (210th day) and the 21st will be the *nihyaku hatsaka*. The 22nd passed off most favourably from the point of view of the rice-crop. The *Asahi* quotes an agricultural expert of Mayebashi as saying that the prospects of the rice crop this year are altogether exceptional.

The official figures relating to the Omi disaster are now published. They show that 5 districts suffered and that the totals are as follows :—

Killed	31
Injured	173
Houses destroyed	1,017
Houses partially destroyed	2,477
Persons receiving relief	3,150

For some time there has been a question about the taxing of the Tokyo Electric light company by the Municipality of Tokyo. At present the Company pays a post-tax (*denchu zei*) and the Aldermen's Council desire to substitute a *Kōnōkin-seido*, that is to say, a system such as that pursued in the case of the Tokyo Railway Company, which pays a certain fraction of its net profits over 7 per cent. It is alleged that the Electric Light Company has intimated its willingness

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to accept the change, provided that the city grants it a monopoly of the Electric Light business in Tokyo. But the Municipality are indisposed to make this concession; and, indeed, it is more than doubtful whether they have power to do so, seeing that they have already granted certain lighting privileges to the Tokyo Railway Company.

The new buildings for the Diet are to cost 15 million *yen*. The first instalment will be 2 millions, and is to be included in next year's budget. According to present estimates, the work will require 8 years to complete.

The *Hochi Shimbun* has a long article on the subject of the Greek Church in Japan. Our readers are already aware that there is something like a revolt among the Japanese converts, and it is evident that the *Hochi's* information is obtained from one of the malcontents. We have always understood that Archbishop Nicolai's difficulty in acceding to the Japanese proposals was that, unless the present system be continued, the large grant in aid which comes every year from Russia would be discontinued. The Japanese converts claim, however, that unless a radical change of system be effected, the Church will altogether lose popularity, and even become an object of popular suspicion. They want to have the elective method pursued in the matter of choosing prelates, whereas the method now pursued is nomination. Figures are given showing that sums which appear to be disproportionately large are spent on building seminaries for the education of priests, the results obtained being quite inadequate. In fact, they charge the Archbishop with spending too much on the outside of the cup and platter. There is doubtless another side to the case.

The time has expired for the redemption of 10 million *yen* of Treasury bills, and it was announced that 8 millions would be duly paid off and that the remaining two millions, which were borrowed originally on account of the Iron Foundry, would be reissued. At the same time the Treasury declared an issue of 18,600,000 on account of expenses in connexion with the tobacco monopoly, this being the season for the purchase of the leaf. It will thus be seen that the actual addition made to the volume of Treasury bills is 10,600,000 *yen*. These bills are issued for the usual period of three months, but the rate of interest is only 1.1 *sen* per diem, or a little over 4 per cent. per annum. Such a rate is unprecedentedly low, but in consequence of the extreme dullness prevailing in the money market it is expected that the bills will be gladly taken up. One half of the amount will, it is thought, be subscribed in Tokyo and one third in Osaka.

It is stated that experiments are being conducted for the purpose of running express trains at a high speed between Kobe and Tokyo. These experiments are alleged to have shown that from 30 to 35 minutes can be saved between Kobe and Kyoto, and if that record can be maintained throughout the whole journey, a very substantial difference would be developed. It is expected that the new system will be very soon put into operation.

The Anjin-zuka at Yokosuka seems likely to acquire a new title to celebrity. A mineral spring has been discovered at a distance of 7 or 8 hundred yards from the tomb in a position which possesses great scenic attractions. The spring is comparatively small at present, but it is thought that there will be no difficulty in greatly enlarging its outflow, and steps are being taken to establish a hotel at the place.

A centre of depression has declared itself to the south of the Bonin Islands and is advancing in a north-westerly direction. According to present appearances this will invade the main island in two or three days. Of course after so much hot weather we can not expect to escape without a typhoon and the sooner it comes the better.

We observe that Mrs. Ozaki Yukio, to whom the world already owes some valuable interpretations of Japanese character, is bringing out a new book entitled "Warriors of Old Japan." The work is to appear in October, and Messrs. Houghton, Miffin & Company, of Boston, are the Publishers. It is illustrated by Japanese artists and it contains episodes from the careers of such renowned heroes as Yoshitsune, Benkei, Tametomo and Yorimasa, together with a few folk-lore tales. So far as we know, there is no work yet on these lines, and Mrs. Ozaki's new venture will be very welcome, especially as she has already given evidence of much literary skill. The book ought to reach Japan before Xmas, and we look forward with much pleasure to its coming.

The case of the *Miye Maru* has at last been settled. This vessel was seized by a Russian cruiser last year on suspicion of poaching, but it was subsequently recognised that her seizure had been illegal and that compensation should be paid. The amount of the compensation, however, proved difficult to determine. It appears that a final decision was arrived at in a conference in Vladivostock on the 20th inst. It was agreed that a sum of 21,000 *yen* should be paid to the owners of the vessel as compensation, less 3,700 *yen*, at which sum the ship herself was valued. Some difficulty occurred in assessing the latter figure, the Russians putting it at 5,000 *yen* and the Japanese at 3,000. Finally a compromise was effected at 3,700.

On the 25th instant, 12 students in the technical branch of the Odessa Naval College arrived at Kobe on a tour. Unfortunately, five of their number were so prostrated by the heat that they had to go into the hospital, and although their comrades paid a visit to the places of note in Kobe and also in Osaka, they were too much disheartened by anxiety on account of the invalids to enjoy their trip, and it is thought that they will return immediately to Russia.

The 2000 cherry trees which are to be sent from Tokyo to Washington are now in process of collection. Ten varieties are to be chosen, and the shipping will take place in October. The trees will be temporarily planted on arriving at Washington, and in the spring will be transplanted to the Potomac Park. The Mayor of Tokyo appears to have interested himself specially in this matter.

At about 6 p.m. on August 24, according to an *Asahi* paragraph, black smoke was seen issuing from the summit of Mount Fuji, rising in large volumes from Ashidake. Everybody on the top hastened to descend the mountain. The Central observatory is of opinion that no serious consequences need be apprehended, but the phenomenon is an interesting one.

BUSINESS NOTES.

The issue of Treasury bills which took place on the 25th inst. was completely subscribed for on the same day, and the fact is taken as proving the extremely easy condition of the money market.

The storm which was supposed to be travelling up from the Bonins has ceased to advance and may possibly be dissipated locally. At all events the outlook for the 210th day, which falls on the 1st proximo, is now favourable. Meanwhile there is talk of injury done by insects, but as the *shakutori mushi* is principally spoken of, it does not appear that the rice crop is suffering.

Proceedings were duly instituted in the Tokyo Local Court on the 25th inst. in the suit of the Fujimoto Bank against the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company. The amount in question is 100,000 *yen*, which forms the portion that has matured out of a total debt of 190,000. The case will be heard on the 17th of September, and unless some arrangement can be effected the bankruptcy of the Company will be unavoidable. It seems most regrettable that after all the efforts made to resuscitate this Company, its prospects should be destroyed by action on the part of one of the creditors; but, after all, the Fujimoto Bank probably considers that charity begins at home.

Mr. Hamaguchi, Head of the Salt Monopoly Bureau, is quoted as saying that there is no valid reason for any suspicion of smuggling in the case of German salt, merely because it was offered at a very low rate in the Japanese market. This salt is a by-product, and can be landed in Yokohama at an extremely low figure, including cost of production. It is true that somebody has submitted a secret report to the Customs on the subject of evasion of duties, but the matter remains to be investigated.

There is again talk on the part of the insurance companies of an increase of rates. The Osaka fire proved such a heavy blow that all the principal companies are reluctant to write policies at the old figures, and a project is on foot to form a union for the purpose of obtaining better terms from insurers. It further appears that two difficulties have arisen in connexion with the Osaka fire. One is that many of the insured houses had been sold prior to the conflagration, without any notice of the sale being given to the insuring company, as is required by the policy. The insurers claim that this omission relieves them of the responsibility of paying, inasmuch as when a house is insured, the character of its owner is taken into consideration not less than the nature and circumstances of the building. Hence to report every change of owner is essential. The policy holders, on the other hand, insist that what is injured is the thing itself, and that the owner does not enter into the calculation at all. This matter is under discussion, and we certainly think that justice is on the side of the insurance companies. Another question which has cropped up relates to fireproof godowns. Several buildings of this nature, which were supposed to be absolutely safe, shared the fate of ordinary structures in the recent conflagration. This disaster is attributed to the fact that the godowns were used habitually as domestic storerooms, being joined with the dwelling house by a passage which naturally afforded a route for the flames. To take cognisance

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of this fact was, of course, the duty of the inspectors appointed by the insurance offices. The responsibility thus remains unaltered, but it is probable that insurers will hereafter insist on a new arrangement with regard to godowns.

The *Hochi Shimbun*, for whose utterances we do not vouch, alleges that the Mayor of Tokyo is pressing as strongly as ever for the municipalization of the trams, but as there is not the least prospect of the Treasury giving its consent to such an increase of the city's debts, the shareholders of the Company are taking the matter quite coolly. The same journal affirms that, in view of the Government's alleged intention of abolishing the transit tax in Tokyo, Baron Senge, President of the Tokyo Electric Railway, is canvassing for permission to raise the Company's fares by the amount of the transit tax, so that without any change in the prices charged to travellers the Company would come into receipt of an additional one *sen* per ticket. The *Hochi* finally publishes a rumour to the effect that the Tokyo Railway Company contemplates taking over the whole of the power which is to be supplied by the Anglo-Japanese Hydro Electric Company.

As to the latter Company, the English experts who are to make a final survey arrived on the 22nd inst., and commenced their inspection immediately. It is expected that a week will suffice for the work, and that, so soon as a report has been telegraphed to London, final steps with regard to the Company will be taken.

It appears that although the actual transfer of the Seoul trams to the Japanese Gas Company has been completed, some legal technicalities which require a general meeting of the American shareholders have still to be complied with. The arrangement will thus not be completely effected until the middle of next month.

THE WAIWUPU.

It is stated by the *Nitpon Shimbun* that a telegram has been received in Tokyo in the sense that Prince Ching has resigned his position as President of the Chinese Foreign Office. The telegram adds that he has long been on bad terms with the Prince Regent, and that he will probably be succeeded by Prince Su. We may here quote the appreciation recently sent to *The Times* by its Peking correspondent with reference to the state of the Waiwupu:—

To the stranger in Peking, especially to the newly arrived diplomatist, nothing is more surprising than the respectful humility with which the representatives of the foreign Powers submit to indignity at the hands of Prince Ching, the President of the Chinese Foreign Office. It would seem as if the old time exclusiveness of the Throne which forbade audience with the foreign representatives on any footing of equality had been revived in the Foreign Office, the conduct of the President of which has for many years past been a national reproach.

By the terms of the peace protocol which terminated the situation created by the Boxer rebellion, it was agreed that the Chinese Foreign Office, the old Tsung-li-Yamen, had to be reformed. An Imperial Edict of July 24, 1901, gravely declared that "International affairs take the first place." It ordained that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Wai-wu-pu, was to take rank above all other Ministries, and Ministers were to devote themselves to their duties exclusively. The Ministry was to consist of Prince Ching, President, two Assistant-Presidents, and two Vice-Presidents.

From the beginning the provisions of this Edict have been ignored. Far from devoting himself exclusively to the duties of the Foreign Office, Prince Ching has persistently ignored that Office. The conditions of the Wai-wu pu, has been a perennial subject of adverse comment. It became a saying that the only change between the old Tsung-li-Yamen and the modern Wai-wu-pu was an alteration in the shape of the table at which the Ministers sat. The Foreign Office had no authority; it attempted to exercise no authority. It was simply a bureau of transmission. Despatches from foreign Ministers lay unanswered for months.

THE DOWNFALL OF YUAN-SHIH-KAI.

From this position, as was pointed out in *The Times* of September 22, 1908, the Wai-wu-pu was rescued by the ability and energy of Yuan-Shih-kai, its Assistant-President, who had no fear of accepting responsibility, whose name carried immense weight in the provinces, who was backed by the prestige always associated with the Viceroyalty of the Metropolitan Province. His dismissal not only removed from office a statesman who had rendered signal service to the empire, but it shook the confidence of other aspirants for office and rendered the position of Minister in the Wai-wu-pu one not to be envied.

Since the downfall of Yuan-Shih-kai the Wai-wu-pu has relapsed into its former state of incapacity, and for this Prince Ching is to blame. Amiable but corrupt, he has for a generation stood for all that is worst in Chinese officialdom. All stories tell of his rapacity, his greed, his unscrupulous sale of office, his indifference to the affairs of State. His wealth is enormous, yet no generous or charitable action has ever been recorded in his favour. Every new Minister in every office of emolument has to pay him toll.

For years he has not visited the Wai-wu-pu. He dwells in a sphere apart from his fellow-Ministers, and, in his private residence, reluctantly accords rare audiences to the representatives of the Great Powers. They are rare audiences indeed. For the discussion of foreign affairs he has granted one of the most powerful Foreign Ministers in Peking two audiences in three years. The average number of times that, as President of the Foreign Office, he discusses foreign affairs with the foreign representatives is less than one interview per representative per annum. Age and decrepitude are the reasons given for his neglect of duty. His age is 72, but, while this can be urged as an excuse for his neglect of office, it cannot be advanced as an excuse for his retention in office.

The Prince Regent seems wholly unable to realize the importance of the Foreign Office. Indeed, no feature of his administration inspires greater disquietude among the well-wishers of China. If for no other reason than its impairment of the efficiency of the Wai-wu-pu, his impetuous removal of Yuan Shih-kai was an unpatriotic blunder. And he is now committing other blunders, and the complaints of the Legations are daily increasing.

DISMISSAL OF NA-TUNG.

The Senior Assistant-President of the Wai-wu pu is a Manchu, Na-Tung, a member of the Grand Council, who has been a prominent figure in Peking for some years, where he is equally popular with foreigners and Chinese. His special duties in the Wai-wu-pu he has done excellently. Absent since the death of his mother, three months ago, he only returned to the Foreign Office on June 16, and 12 days later he is ordered to relinquish his post and proceed to Tientsin as Acting Viceroy.

In his absence, as during his last absence, the Regent has appointed a Grand Councillor, Shih-Hsu, whose qualifications to hold office are his unusual knowledge of Manchu script and his exceptional ignorance of foreign affairs. He is an amiable and courtly gentleman, much respected in Peking, but he admits he knows nothing and wants to know nothing about foreign affairs. During the recent absence of Na-Tung he declined to attend office, and yet the Regent reappoints him to that office.

Next to Na-Tung is the Junior Assistant President, Liang Tun-yen, a graduate of Yale, a fine scholar in Chinese as well as in English, a contemporary of Tang Shao-yi and other able Cantonese educated in America. Upon his shoulders is placed a heavy burden of responsibility.

Both the Vice-Presidents are useful subordinates who have been attached to the Foreign Office for many years. Below them again is a body of younger men—councillors and secretaries—many of whom speak some foreign language. Selected for their ability and capacity, they are the most competent body of officials in Peking. Many of them have been abroad, and have seen in other countries the importance attaching to the post of Foreign Minister and the devotion with which its duties are fulfilled. To them the contrast is most striking.

No one sees more clearly than they do how much China "loses face" by the present incapacity of their chief. His neglect of duty is condemned by all progressive Chinese; his removal from office is a pressing necessity.

THE DEPARTED BUSINESS MEN.

The business men going to America, says the *Chugai Shogyo*, are now navigating the Pacific Ocean with great satisfaction, and it is surely expected that they will bring back much which may be of much interest in both diplomatic and financial circles. Now it is equally desirable to organize a body of business men for the purpose of visiting China. Perhaps it is almost unnecessary to state, that, the relations between Japan and America, being intimate, they should be improved still further. In the meantime, it is equally clear that to cultivate good relations between Japan and her western neighbour China is absolutely necessary. Of late, the Antung Mukden railway question seemed likely at first glance to cause some trouble, but fortunately, the Chinese government being convinced of its misunderstanding, the matter has been settled in a peaceful manner, and it also seems that the other pending questions are likely to be settled much more speedily than was expected. In future, Japan and China can be trusted to keep more harmonious relations in the realm of diplomacy. Moreover, cordial sentiments between the nations should be encouraged. Hitherto, though there have been no estrangements between the Government of Japan and America, anti-Japanese movements have occurred at times among the people of the United States which happily have been wiped out by mutual visits of business men. What has proved successful towards America should be applied towards, China. Above all, the financial relations between Japan and China should be of the closest character. Not only is the amount of trade exceedingly large, but there is a tendency to enter into co-operation in connection with enterprises in the inland districts of China. At this juncture, it is of great importance that Japanese business men should investigate the financial condition in China, and, on the other hand, that the Chinese should be similarly well-informed with regard to Japan. There would be no better means to effect this advantageous exchange of information than that some representative business men of Japan should visit China and invite Chinese to come to Japan. Such mutual intercourse being repeated, both parties will become better acquainted with the financial conditions of each other. The mad dreams of boycott would naturally disappear. Therefore, the organization of a body of business men to visit China, is one of the most important things which could be undertaken at present.

BURGLARS IN THE SETTLEMENT.

During the early hours of the 24th inst. Messrs. Church & Co's Offices No. 51 Main Street, were broken into and an attempt made upon the Safe. The outside lock was forced off, but the safe, which contained several hundred *yen* worth of negotiable securities and about *yen* 70, in cash, remained intact.

Messrs. Church & Co's mechanics, who live on the premises, were awakened about 3 a.m. and hearing a noise emanating from the premises, at once informed the police, who very promptly attended to the call, but the intruder finding he was discovered made his exit through a fanlight. In his flight he left behind his *zori*, together with tools taken from Messrs. Church & Co's Repairing Department, and a revolver belonging to Mr. Church, who had only given the weapon to the mechanics a day or two ago to clean. It appears the intruder took particular care to have the weapon near by in case of interruption, but fortunately there were no cartridges in it.

Mr. Church, when interviewed by a press representative said "I feel pretty sure the intruder must have possessed a thorough knowledge of the premises, as from an examination I personally made this morning it is evident that an entrance was effected from the lane adjoining our buildings, from whence a small window leading into the Repair Room was forced and here the tools were collected. However, the Police have the matter in hand, and it is to be hoped that the individual will shortly be brought to justice."

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THE FATE OF THE CRICKET GROUND.

THE reply of H.E. Governor SUFU to the petition of the Y.C. and A.C. executive for an extension of the cricket ground lease—alluded to elsewhere in our columns—will doubtless be received with general regret. The Club, it appears, had requested the Governor of this Prefecture to reconsider his decision as to the non-renewal of the lease, on its expiration at the end of last month The Committee seems to have taken the ground that, while the Authorities had the right to refuse renewal of the ground lease, the Governor is not entitled to deprive the Foreign Community of the Recreation Ground—which seems perilously near the case of a distinction without a difference. As we understand the matter, the right of disposal of the property has been vested in the person of the Governor of this Prefecture, with the proviso that, should the ground at present occupied by the Cricket Ground be required for other purposes, a suitable lot of land in another part of the city will be set apart for the use of the foreign community. So far, then, his Excellency has acted strictly within his rights. Whether he has made the wisest use of his powers remains, of course, a matter of opinion. For ourselves, we incline to the belief that it is an unfortunate decision. The expanse of smooth green turf which occupies the centre of the Yokohama Park is the most beautiful thing within the limits of this city. It cannot be divided up or given over to the tender mercies of the populace without irreparable loss. The mere existence of such a piece of ground depends upon the exercise of a large measure of exclusiveness and of the greatest care. A cricket ground, like a tennis lawn, can never be made a general playground, without speedily becoming unfit for either purpose. Whether the policy of the Y.C. and A.C. executive has been, in the past, unnecessarily exclusive is a question worthy of consideration; but the fact remains that it is available for use by Japanese baseball and football teams, and if the game of cricket were taken up by the youth of this country it would be equally available, and doubtless the more appreciated, for friendly contests in that noble game. While it might be urged, by those in favour of the extinction of the lease for utilitarian reasons, that almost any piece of level grass-grown ground is good enough for baseball and football, such is certainly not the case with cricket. Possibly this circumstance has not received the consideration it merits at the hands of the Authorities. We repeat that to sacrifice the magnificent piece of turf which forms so unique a feature of this city would be an immeasurable loss; and for its preservation in undiminished perfection it is absolutely necessary that it should be entrusted to the keeping of a body or group of individuals who will tend it with the knowledge and care which it needs and deserves. We trust that even now it is not too late, if tactful measures be employed, to persuade the Authorities of the desirability of such a course. We do not consider, however, that the intimation made by the Club of filing a protest with the several Embassies in Tokyo comes under the category of such measures. That might well have been reserved, if used at all, till the receipt of the Governor's reply. Nor can we commend the clumsy, if well-intentioned, action of such of our foreign contemporaries as endeavour to gain a cheap reputation for "enterprise" by the publication of premature reports—such as that of a five years renewal of the lease—purporting to be founded "on the very best authority," when the matter is still undergoing negotiation of a delicate character. Such attempts to force the hands of the Authorities cannot be too strongly deprecated. However, on the highest grounds of policy, we cannot but express the opinion that the Authorities would be well advised, whatever was done with the Park as a whole, to leave in peace, and under careful management, the splendid sheet of turf which forms its finest feature. Ungracious as the attitude of some foreign circles may have been in the past, the Japanese Government can afford to be generous, to heap coals of fire on the heads even of their maligners, and thus to lay up for themselves, instead, a never failing store of goodwill, in which the final traces of uncharitable sentiment shall disappear.

LOOKING AHEAD.

[COMMUNICATED.]

IN his speech at the farewell banquet given him in Simla within the past few days, Lord KITCHENER is represented, by the telegraph, as having declared the chief weakness of British rule (in India) to have been that there was not enough "looking ahead." In this plain but pregnant criticism the eminent soldier may be said to have hit upon the common and traditional fault of Englishmen the world over, wherever they have been placed in the position of rulers. It is a national characteristic—and, we must say, a national failing—of the Englishman to let things take their course, in the belief—born, we suppose, of a long course of success enshrined in the pages of history—that he will "muddle through" all right in the end. Whether it is his natural phlegm, the product of his insularity, or a lofty contempt for circumstances, is difficult to discover; but there the strange characteristic remains. In the wide field of foreign policy it has not infrequently happened that a noble scorn of danger—or, shall we say, a lack of perception of its imminence—has prevented the Briton from making due preparations to meet an approaching crisis. This was notoriously the case in the Indian Mutiny, when the 'white sahib' was caught napping, to his cost; it was the case with that costly and prolonged muddle, the Crimean War, and—in more recent times—it was the case in South Africa. How near to fulfilment the Boer dream that, with the Lord's assistance, they would drive the British into the sea—how near the setting up of a Dutch South Africa under the canting domination of OOM PAUL with the blatant benediction of "brother" STEAD—only those familiar with the secret history of that wide conspiracy can realize. But the sleepy Lion woke in time—just in time; Providence found itself, despite Boer convictions to the contrary, on the side of the big battalions, and South Africa was saved for all time from the rule of a corrupt and hypocritical oligarchy—saved to celebrate, in this year of grace, its birth as a Dominion under the British flag. So far, then, no irreparable calamity has overtaken the British Empire by reason of the muddle-headedness of its rulers. But that is merely an accident. It so happens that no enemy has as yet arisen—since the days of the First Napoleon—of such a calibre that risks could safely be run in calculating the possibilities of the situation. But it does not follow that Britain will for ever enjoy this happy immunity. At any rate, to count upon it for the future would be sheer folly. And for this reason, if for no other: that Britain's responsibilities have immeasurably increased within recent years. There are half a dozen Daughter Nations, in one part of the world or another, dependent upon her to day for safety—the very life-blood of whose existence is drawn from the veins of the Motherland. There are the great Dependencies, of which India and Egypt are the chief—Imperial children whose very helplessness lies as a special charge upon the Empire's head. And there are many minor States which, under the ægis of the *Pax Britannica*, are working out their destiny in the direction of a fuller and a higher life. All these—to say nothing of the throbbing heart of the Empire itself—depend for common protection, the right to dwell safely and without fear of evil, upon the Sea-power of England. But the responsibilities of British statesmen do not end here. That same Sea-power is in large measure answerable for the peace of Europe. That may seem a hard saying—an unduly wide saying; but it is the case, nevertheless. Upon an indisputable superiority at sea on the part of England—and the superiority is, fortunately, at present indisputable—the balance of power in Europe rests. The same would be true, of course, of any Power which gained that superiority, and herein lies the inner meaning of the modern but maddening naval rivalry, which threatens to turn Europe into one vast dockyard for the production of Dreadnoughts and Invincibles. One Power in particular aspires to a naval, as well as a military, hegemony—ever since the declaration of its Ruler that its future is on the sea and that the wresting of the trident from the hands of England is to be the supreme goal of its ambition, day and night. We are far from saying that the naval aspirations of Germany necessarily imply hostility towards England—indeed, it is only right to emphasize the fact that

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the Fatherland is entitled to build as powerful a fleet as it pleases. The desire of German statesmen to be in such a position as to be able to carry out any diplomatic projects whatsoever, without the drawback of being liable to be pulled up short by the leading naval Power, is only human, after all. Nevertheless, things being as they are, it is to be feared that this too patent rivalry is embittering the national relations of the two peoples. Englishmen cannot be blamed for feeling alarmed when they see in progress a systematic campaign against that naval supremacy which is their sole defence, as it is that of their otherwise defenceless Empire. Nor is it in the least remarkable that the persistent presentation of England to the minds of the German people as the sole impediment in the path of Teutonic expansion is bearing its inevitable fruit. England is even being represented as bursting with aggressive designs on the Fatherland, as biding her time and awaiting her opportunity to strike swiftly and ruthlessly at the budding seed of German maritime power. "Anglophobia in its most malignant form," says the Berlin correspondent of the Navy League, "is most prevalent is Germany to day," and proceeds to bear out this statement thus :—

"It is impossible to avoid contact with it. You hear it with your ears and you see and read it with your eyes. It simmers and spouts in all classes of newspaper, from the lofty inspired organs down to the scurrilous sheets which in many parts of the country act as evening papers. It is incessantly fed by fulminatory and, too often, wholly libellous despatches from the German Press correspondents in London, invariably brought out into acrid relief by the sneering editorial preface affixed to them. I say without hesitation that there is not one single German newspaper to-day, influential or the reverse, that is friendly to Great Britain, while those which give a fairly accurate representation of British public opinion may be ticked off on the fingers of one hand . . . Lengthy, but wholly distorted reports of the Imperial Press Conference (the "War Council," as every Berlin paper that I have seen termed it) were telegraphed over or fabricated here, and profound misgivings at the magnificent solidity of the British Empire have been mingled with puerile sneers at the "panic-stricken, babyish, theatrical, anti-German, bogey-ridden" (every adjective culled from the German Press) speeches of the British statesmen and the delegates from over-sea."

Even the steps taken by England to ensure herself against invasion, in the event of the break-down of her first line of defence, are looked upon in Germany as indications of a new and aggressive disposition. "The only possible explanation," writes Count von BIEBERSTEIN, in a German review, a propos of Lord ROBERTS' proposals for compulsory national service, "is that England wishes to abandon the peaceful attitude she has maintained since the Crimean War towards all Continental happenings, and intends to have an army which can be used on the Continent." It is something for this writer to bear witness to the peaceful attitude of England since 1857, even if his testimony is utterly at variance with the teachings of the German Navy League. But these misrepresentations, apart from their mischief-making capacities—are they not pitiful, heart-breaking, to those who wish for a better understanding between the two nations? But the views of the typical and sober German, we believe, are fairly correctly represented by a letter which appeared recently in the *Spectator* over the signature "A German," on the subject of "the German Danger." The letter runs as follows :—

SIR,—Will you allow a German to say a few words on this subject? There is one law which governs us all, nations and individuals, worlds and molecules —the survival of the fittest. This law is the basis of all development: it is merciless and brutal, but at the same time divinely just and grand. Not the Emperor of Germany nor the English Prime Minister creates the future of our two nations. If the present British generation proves so unworthy of their fathers as to forget their duty towards their past and their future, then the law of the survival of the fittest will deal out a merciless revenge, using the German nation or any other nation for its purpose. As soon as England is weak enough, somebody (Germans or other nations) will, and must, step into the gap to serve the aims of development. I have known England for twenty years, and have made your country a special study. During this time I have heard a great deal of talk; I have witnessed an enormous amount of pretension; but cannot see any improvement. The average Englishman of our time expects everything from his country without recognising any duty at all. Remember, you cannot rule the seas by pretending to be the ruler, but only by doing the work of a ruler, and proving the strength of the same.—Yours, &c.,

A GERMAN.

There is some reason to suppose that the serious and educated German believes the English race to be effete and decadent—believes that the German people will be the instrument of the irrevocable Law which is to sweep the unfit out of existence. The hour for that visitation, retribution, destruction—whatever it be called—will be "*when England is weak enough.*" We repeat, therefore, that Britons should "look ahead." They should set their house in order, for there is much truth in what "A German" says as to the need of it. Our purpose in writing is not an "anti-German" purpose; we write with a sense of a duty incumbent upon us—to put "cold, hard facts" before our readers. Wise men do not blink facts, and should not find fault with those who bring them to light. It has been a characteristic of German policy for some time past to veil its doings in secrecy, to steal marches, to disarm suspicion. Two years ago a British Admiral told the British people they could sleep upon their beds without anxiety: that Admiral does not, and could not, say this to-day. Much has happend since then, and the facts of the present situation are such—we have endeavoured to give a brief but correct idea of it—that the cry for Englishmen to-day is to awake, and not to sleep, to take thought for the morrow, to see to it that the hour of England's weakness is indefinitely delayed —to see to it that the "merciless and brutal law" of Nature to which "A German" refers will have for them no sinister, no fatal, meaning.

THE ANTUNG-MUKDEN RAILWAY.

IT is easy to see that the compilers of the Memorandum signed at Mukden on the 19th instant did everything in their power to make the situation easy for China. Three of the provisions agreed upon evidently point to that inference. The first is that a further survey is required. Readers of the preliminary Notes will perceive that China desired to extend this survey to the whole line, so as to create the impression that the delay had been largely due to technical obstacles. Japan would doubtless have agreed gladly, had there been any possibility of doing so. But in view of the fact that a complete survey had been made in the spring of this year by commissioners of the two Powers, it would have been an obvious waste of time to repeat the process. There remained, however, the 20 miles section between Mukden and Chen-hsiang-tun, namely, the last section on the West of the line, and it was accordingly agreed that the work of survey should be limited to that portion, China's point being thus ostensibly gained without any sacrifice of practical utility. The second evidence of a conciliatory spirit is shown in the condition that the gauge shall be the same as that of the Peking-Mukden Railway. It would have been so in any case, for the latter gauge is the same as that of the South-Manchurian Line, namely 4ft. 8in. But by the insertion of this stipulation public attention is called to the fact that the Railway is to pass into Chinese possession in a few years, which outlook will doubtless exercise a calming effect on the Rights Recovery Party. Then finally there is the 3rd article :—"From the day following that of the memorandum, * * * the work of re-construction shall be accelerated." We can easily imagine that the diction of this article cost some thought and discussion. The work of reconstruction was actually commenced on the 7th inst., but China naturally desired not to make any official recognition of the fact. On the other hand, to have inserted a clause sanctioning the construction from the 20th only, might subsequently have involved some inconvenient complications. So an exit was found from the dilemma by recourse to the word "accelerated." It appears to us that the negotiators of the Memorandum are to be congratulated, and that a very happy exit has been found from a troublesome situation.

QUO VADIS?—AN ENQUIRY INTO THE TREND OF AMERICAN LAW.

SOME months ago, as our readers will doubtless recollect, we adverted to the subject of lawlessness in America, as illustrated, in particular, by the notorious proceedings of the "Reelfoot Lake night-riders," which culminated in the murder of Captain QUENTIN RANKIN, an official of the West Tennessee Land Company. The state of terrorism which had been produced in the neighbourhood by the deeds of the night-riders was such as to necessitate a large display of armed force during the trial in the Court of Union City. The members of the jury took their lives into their hands, witnesses had to be guaranteed free transportation out of the State, and shots were fired at the prosecuting attorney in the streets of the town during the trial. However, fortunately for the reputation of the Southern States and for the interests of public safety and morality,

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the authority of the law was upheld. Six of the ringleaders were sentenced to death, and two others to twenty years' imprisonment. The newspapers of the South indulged in mutual congratulations on this vindication of American justice, while most onlookers, native and foreign, naturally concluded that the matter was at an end—that the shedders of blood would, in accordance with the stern old Biblical pronouncement, receive the just reward of their deeds. But those who arrived at this satisfying conclusion must have known little of the curious legal technicalities by which American justice is encumbered, and which are too often and too easily availed of to escape the consequences of illegal actions. It now transpires that, so far from marking the conclusion of the whole disgraceful affair, the Union City trial may be said to indicate the commencement only. For, the matter having been carried on appeal to the State Supreme Court, that august body has reversed the decision of the lower Court, and has ordered a fresh trial of the convicted murderers. The reasons for this disappointing decision are in no wise connected with the facts of the murder, but are such as to justify the vigorous condemnation of the Memphis *Commercial Appeal*, which describes the decision as "a sickening shock to justice, in its technical, hair-splitting exaggeration of the importance of trivial things, foreign to the body of the crime." The action of the Supreme Court has rightly given rise to wide-spread disappointment and has provoked no small amount of criticism, especially as the uncompromising verdict originally delivered was regarded as going far towards re-establishing the good name of the States concerned, and "as marking the beginning of the end of mob-law in the South."

The irregularity imputed to the court of trial appears to have been that the panel for the jury was chosen by the trial judge, instead of by at least three members of the county court. But the local journals point out that "a literal adherence to the prescribed forms in the selection of jurymen would, under conditions like those prevailing in the district, make it absolutely impossible to get a jury at all." The Philadephia *Inquirer* observes that all will have to be done over again under conditions less favourable than before, and "it must be considered doubtful whether another verdict of guilty can be obtained." The Buffalo *Times* calls the decision "a deplorable thing for Tennessee, where the night-rider outrages had become a national disgrace." This journal, taking an even stricter view than the majority of its contemporaries, declares that "the judgments, taken as a whole, were inadequate to the offences committed, but even the qualified condemnation they did receive is swept away;" and then pertinently enquires, "If the courts can not or will not do it, what is to protect Tennessee from the reign of violence?" Lamentable though it be to reflect upon the upshot of the matter, it seems only tôo probable that the enemies of justice, in the persons of the murderers and their friends—we understand that some two hundred of the night rider gang are still at large—will succeed in nullifying the law, to their own advantage. In the scale of national morality, in this part of the world, it would appear that crime is in the ascendant, lawlessness at a premium, equity on the downward grade. The Court, in the name of the law, aids in the defeat of justice.

But the case of the Reelfoot Lake murderers is not the only American *cause célèbre* in which justice is making an uphill fight. There is the sordid THAW case, which has been dragging its disgusting length along for a couple of years past. Here we have a clear case of a deliberately planned murder, in which the criminal, largely through the influence of his wealth and social position, escapes the punishment of his crime on the score of "insanity." When he is taken at his word and sentenced to be incarcerated in an asylum for the rest of his days, his legal advisers proceed to agitate for his liberation on the ground that he is *no longer insane*. Such is the persistence of his solicitors, backed by almost unlimited resources, and so numerous and complex the technicalities of "the law," that doubtless, before many years have passed, the world will hear with little surprise of his release—to endanger the lives of his acquaintances and to degrade the nation to which he belongs. New York society has also been disfigured recently by another crime of the same description—the HAINS murder. Here again, despite the deliberate character of the offence, the murderer receives little greater punishment than if he had forged a cheque. At the other extremity of the country, in that city which shares with New York the unenviable distinction of being the most godless and depraved of all the Great Republic's cities, public opinion has been somewhat shocked by the discovery of a novel and efficient system of jury "packing," which is calculated to ensure whatever verdict may be required in any particular case.

These are a few instances which occur to us at random, but we have by no means exhausted the list of unpunished, or insufficiently punished, crimes which are bringing American legal procedure into ill repute; and the question which suggests itself is—whither do these things tend? In the direction of a law-abiding and peaceful national character, or in the direction of lawlessness and mob-rule? Towards political and juridical probity, or towards injustice and corruption? Do they make for the diminution of lawlessness in America, or the reverse?

CHINA.

NOTHING definite is published about the negotiations in Peking but it appears to be thought that they are going on satisfactorily. Meanwhile, the agitation in favour of the boycott seems to be increasing. The vernacular papers in Peking, Tientsin, Hankow and Shansi have all published the violent circular compiled by the Chinese students in Tokyo and scattered broadcast through the Middle Kingdom. Some of these papers supplement the circular with incendiary comments of their own, and although no definite action seems to have been yet taken for organising a boycott, there can be little question that if this agitation is suffered to continue unchecked, it will bear most inconvenient fruit. Telegrams from Hongkong indicate that the foreign community there, as well as in Canton and Macao, are awaking to the menace which such proceedings on the part of the Chinese offer to the whole international trade with the Middle Kingdom. Canton is proverbially the centre of anti-foreign agitation, and the so-called Autonomic Association in that city is evidently arriving at the conclusion that China's salvation lies in the boycott and that recourse should be had to it on every and all occasions. No less than three boycotts have been organised by this Association during the past year: namely, that connected with the *Tatsu Maru* affair; that directed against Messrs. BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, and that recently inaugurated in connexion with the Macao Boundary Commission. We have now the attempt made by the students in Japan, which seems more than likely to be taken up by the Canton Association; and it is easy to see that, if this spirit be left to grow unrestrained, the foreign trade of China will be at the mercy of a few hot-headed politicians. We are not surprised, therefore, to find that level-headed men of business are beginning to appreciate this great danger. Japan, for some unexplained reason, being very unpopular at present among foreigners in the Far East, nothing that she can suffer at the hands of her neighbour is likely to rouse sympathy. But no one can be blind to the fact that this crude weapon, if its use be not quickly checked, may at any moment be applied to the trade of Occidental countries. It is therefore in the best interests of the mercantile communities in the Far East that the Chinese Government should be speedily made aware of the fact that they will be held responsible for the consequences of agitation which, if they do not actually foment it, could never assume alarming dimensions did they not treat its development with apparent indifference. The world has just had an object lesson as to the competence of the Peking authorities to control the dissemination of incendiary matter by the press. It is now possible to say with certainty that, if the Chinese Government be so disposed, they can easily prevent the boycott from being converted into a weapon equally ruinous to those who use it and to those against whom it is used.

ON the 20th instant, the flagship *Suma*, of the First Fleet, left Yokosuka for Kure, accompanied by four torpedo-destroyers.

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THE HAWAII STRIKE.

The expected has at last happened, says the *Honolulu Evening Bulletin* of Aug. 3, referring to the strike of Japanese in Hawaii. Sheba, the courageous Japanese editor who has stood by his guns manfully and made a brilliant fight for justice and fair play, has been laid low by the knife of the assassin. While walking along Smith street near King at 10 45 this morning, Sheba was accosted by Mori, who said he desired to talk with him about the higher wage proposition. Mori had just come from the conspiracy trial, where Negoro testified that he had always urged Higher Wage followers to preserve peace.

"Come to my office," said Sheba, "and we will talk over the matter there."

Mori accepted the offer, and as they walked along the sidewalk, Mori drew a knife and stabbed Sheba three times in the head, in the left forearm, and in the back of the neck.

A struggle immediately followed, in which Sheba by main strength soon got Mori down under him. The blood from Sheba's wounds poured out on the assassin, and Ogata, a close friend of Sheba's, seeing the attack from the doorway of a Chinese newspaper office close by, ran to the wounded man's assistance. He lifted Sheba from the ground, grasped Mori and with the aid of several others held him firmly until the police officers arrived.

The office of Mr. Sheba was notified at once, and looking out from the windows of the little den where the plucky editor has written so many brave editorials on the strike situation, urging his countrymen to do what was right and forsake false leaders, they saw their beloved employer in the clutches of the man who was trying to stab him to death.

Mr. W. Dening, who is now on a visit to these islands from Japan, immediately on hearing of the affair, went to the hospital to see Sheba, and later went with the representatives of the press to Sheba's office. He secured full and accurate statements of the affair, visited the scene of the assault, and aided the papers in every way possible.

Hawaiian correspondence to the *Boyeki Shimpo* reports that Mr. Shiba Sometaro, proprietor of the *Hawaii Shimpo*, of Honolulu, was stabbed with a knife by a Japanese named Mori Tomekichi on the 3rd instant. It is said that the paper published by the injured man has always acted as the organ of the planters, and the man has been hated by the Japanese strikers. Mr. Shiba, it is said, gave an uncivil reply to a question by Mori, the offender, who asked him for an explanation of his conduct, and the latter sprang upon him with a knife and stabbed him. Though the wound was severe, it was not fatal. An English paper issued there on that evening stated that it was rumoured that Mori was appointed by means of drawings to kill the proprietor of the *Hawaii Shimpo*, at the general meeting of the representatives of the Japanese strikers held on the preceding night.

The Hawaiian Press has emphatically voiced the opinion that the primary aim of the Higher-wage movement was to bring about complications between Japan and the United States. In its report of the conspiracy trial, proceeding on August 2, the Honolulu *Evening Bulletin* says that Negoro's articles in the *Jiji* were to set the labourers against the planters and to "stir up such a furore that the Japanese government would interfere and back" the demands of the Higher Wage Association. Part of the article was adduced by the defence, and runs to the following effect:—

"We regret that the wages in Hawaii are disproportionately low in comparison with the large profits that have been reaped. Perhaps nowhere in the world will there be found capitalists who reap so high a rate of profit on the one hand and labourers on the other hand whose wages are so low as compared with the profits of the capitalist, as in Hawaii. They raise cries when they lose their equilibrium. We hope that the Hawaiian planters will soon awaken and raise the wages for the sake of the continued peace of Hawaii."

The stabbing of Shiba, the editor of the *Hawaii Shimpo*, by Mori, a delegate of the Higher Wages Association on the preceding day, created a tremendous sensation in the island. Shiba was regarded as one of the "star" witnesses against the four alleged conspirators on trial. Everything, including that incident, was traced to Negoro's article in the *Jiji*, which, it was said, launched the whole agitation. Beneath its veneer of plausible argument on economics the article was about as dangerous and inflammatory a production as ever emanated from the pen of a hare-brained fanatic. In the literary style of a demagogue the labourer is compared to a slave and an animal in an endeavour to arouse him to a sense of his alleged pitiable condition. But by far the most mischievous thing about the article is the programme of international complications which it breathed in every line. The wild imagination of the author rose above the possibility of creating local discord. He read out an ambitious programme whereby the Japanese government was to stand sponsor for his demands, and the friendly agreement of the two nations regarding immigration matters, which tided over the critical situation caused by the California school troubles, was to be abrogated in favour of the higher wage movement. The Japanese government, "taking great courage itself," was to request the American government to dissolve the prohibition of emigration of Hawaiian Japanese to the mainland, and then, having re-opened that source of friction between the two nations, Japan was to formulate demands for higher wages upon the Hawaiian planters.

If the Japanese government had been represented by a consul willing to countenance the scheme instead of a man of firmness and discretion, there is no knowing what mischief this piece of work and the campaign which succeeded it would have caused.

That, directly, is the opinion of the American journals in Hawaii.

A section of the Japanese press there, it is thought by calm critics of the situation, might have exercised more restraint in its attitude towards the strike, and upon that section, represented by the *Jiji* and several other journals, the *Hawaiian Star* attempts to saddle some of the responsibility for the attack upon the moderate-viewed editor of the *Hawaii Shimpo*. In certain cross-examinations on Aug. 5, it transpired that there had been a good deal of foolish talk of an inciting nature by the leaders of the agitation. For instance, at a mass meeting held some time before the alleged conspiracy came to a head one gentleman, Mr. Lightfoot, attorney for the strikers is quoted:—

"Now, just another word about these newspapers. In one of them there is a letter from a man who says that we ought all to be arrested for conspiracy. Now that is as stupid as it is ridiculous, and only a fool would talk that way, but if they want to arrest us let them bring their policemen and soldiers to arrest the thousand men whom I see before me tonight, and a pretty time they will have to do it."

Certainly it was without the scope of the strikers' attorney to take the platform on behalf of the strike movement, and the strikers ignorantly and mistakenly drank in his remarks as delivered with the prestige of an officer of the court. Those utterances, in addition to his attitude,—from his position as leader of some 70,000 men,—gave him infinite power for mischief, which he seems to have used in a manner scarcely creditable to the position of an officer of the courts of that territory, much less as a guide to less educated and less far-seeing men than himself.

Negoro was put through a severe cross-examination by Attorney W. A. Kinney, in which the former appears to have "apologized to the community at large and also to those of his countrymen who have come to harm or loss through the actions of himself, his co-defendants, the *Nippu Jiji* or the Higher Wage Association." He lost his head under the searching questions volleyed at him by the chief counsel for the prosecution and made admissions that apparently really need not have been made. He admitted that his use in the *Jiji* of the words "bokumetzu" and "taiji," although intended to be taken only in the figurative sense and not literally, was perhaps unwise and inadvisable, in view of the fact that there was a possibility of there being fanatics in the Japanese community. He even tried to shift the responsibility for some of the illegal acts upon his co defendants and the *Nippu Jiji*.

On direct examination Mr. Lightfoot succeeded in getting a number of matters before the jury in one way or another which had been ruled out of evidence by the judge. On cross-examination, therefore, Mr. Kinney adopted the same tactics, and with equal effect. Although all reference to the stabbing of Shiba was barred by the order of the court, Mr Kinney succeeded in keeping the figure of the injured editor just in the back ground where the jury could feel its presence, even if they could not see it.

In its issue of Aug. 7 the *Jiji* says:—

"The Japanese residents in this country have shown how they can unite in fighting a big battle against the planters. The foreign community have had an object lesson in Japanese solidarity.

"The strike movement has revealed the fact that we have in our midst 'detestable traitors from whose wicked devices we have all suffered much.'"

Mr. W. Dening, acting as Japanese interpreter, declared that the incendiary tone of this publication would not be tolerated in Japan, adding:" "I can imagine nothing more senseless, nothing more calculated to injure the interests of Japanese residents here, than the adoption of the tactics followed by the *Nippu Jiji*. To go to a foreign country and to strive to the utmost to stir up bad blood between one's own nationality and the rulers of that country would be regarded by all men of sense as a suicidal policy. One can not conceive of any Europeans or any sensible Japanese ever acting in such a manner. Yet this is just what the *Nippu Jiji* has been doing for months past. In Japan, the paper would have been suppressed. That is quite sure. The violence it has encouraged would have made its issue impossib'e under existing Japanese press laws. I commend these considerations to all respectable Japanese residents in the Territory of Hawaii."

The trial was a week old on Aug. 11, when the last Hawaiian papers left.

The strikers in Hawaii are rapidly returning to their work. It is stated that although the Planters have not made any definite promise conditional on the men's surrender, nevertheless they are doing everything in their power to make the situation easy for the labourers. The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent thinks that the affair has had the good effect of proving the indispensable character of Japanese workmen for Hawaiian purposes.

The Hawaiian Court has brought in a verdict of guilty against the four Japanese charged with conspiracy, and has sentenced them to 10 months' imprisonment together with a fine of 300 dollars. It had been apprehended in Hawaii that the jury would disagree and that these accused persons would thus escape, but the evidence was too clear to permit such an issue.

At Mannen-cho, Fukagawa, there is a Buddhist temple called Kaifuku-ji, which was founded some 200 years ago. The Municipal Authorities having ordered the removal of the temple on account of street improvement, the grave-yard has lately been dug up to exhume the remains there. On the 23rd instant, when the excavation was going on three strongly-made coffins were discovered, which contained the remains of one man and two women respectively. The bodies were in a good state of preservation, despite the fact that some 70 years have passed since their interment. The bodies had the same appearance as at the time of burial, and all the dresses and accessories in the coffins looked quite new. The freedom from decomposition evidenced by these remains is thought to be partly due to the nature of the ground and partly to the fact that the coffins were properly stuffed with incense powder and other necessary substances.

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*THE HINDRANCES WHICH RELIGIOUS THOUGHT IN JAPAN PRESENTS TO THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE GOSPEL.**

By Rev. R. E. McAlpine, of Nagoya.

The wording of this subject, as assigned to me, excludes the consideration of a very large and important class, viz; those who are hindered from accepting the gospel from *a lack* of religious thought—the Indifferent; those who are engrossed with something else, as business, study or pleasure. They have never seriously considered the claims of any religion. They may label themselves as belonging to this or that sect of Buddhism, but they will smilingly admit that they have no real religion either in heart or life.

Confining ourselves therefore to those who at least *think* they have seriously considered the gospel, and are deterred from accepting it by what they would describe as religious thought, we may group them for the moment in two divisions:

I.—Those who have no religion at all; and II.—Those who have another religion. Although those in the first group have no religion, yet they fend off appeals to accept our gospel by the attitude of contempt toward all religion as only fit for old grannies and souls enslaved by superstition; and they make the bo'd claim that nothing of the sort is necessary for the normal, enlightened man. "Education alone is sufficient to enlighten one and guide him in the path of virtue;" this, a dozen years ago was heard on every hand. Then came the famous "textbook scandal" with its ramifying lines of greed right through the warp and woof of the educational world of Japan till it threatened to involve men in the very top circles both of learning and social standing. This revelation administered such a crushing blow to the above theory that it was hardly necessary to apply the lesson from the pulpit. Everybody saw it for himself.

Next was developed the idea that Education plus Morals is sufficient. If only the moral education of students is properly looked after, all will be well. But of course it must be morals pure and simple which shall be taught: it must be entirely apart from the sanctions of any of the hoary superstitions which have so long enthralled the world, under the name of religions. This grand mistake of the ages Japan now planned to correct, and give to the nations an illustration of pure and lofty morals entirely dissociated from any religion. And the undertaking was begun in all seriousness. The Imperial Rescript on Education had at that time not been long issued, and it was taken as a sort of Bible; moral principles were elucidated from it, moral textbooks were written, based upon it. The basis of ethical distinctions was to be found in *human* nature, properly educated and developed, of course; no need therefore for any Divine Nature as a ground and reason for moral distinctions. The idea of the leaders in this movement appears to be that character-building is to be emphasized; but as to the source whence the good timber may be gotten which is to be builded into this fair structure of character, their notions are somewhat hazy. And when confronted with the problem of a *bad* character—the question of how to *re*-build a character now half in ruins—they are speechless. That is not in their line.

But such problems have a way of refusing to be ignored; they clamour for solution. Moreover, the practical failure of the moral instruction in the schools is an open secret. Both teachers and pupils admit with chagrin that it is a perfect farce, having no attraction in itself and absolutely no hold upon the daily lives of those who teach and learn it. And yet the insistent call is loudly heard in the business world, and everywhere else, for men of probity and trustworthiness. Pressed by such burning, present-day problems, the Department of Education seems to be questioning the correctness of its previous conclusions as to the right relations between the schools and instruction in morals. There sometimes seems such an attitude of sympathy toward religion as almost to give one the hope of seeing it somehow admitted to the schools. But then comes the discomforting rumour that if ever any religion is so admitted, it will not be any of those now represented in the Empire, but something new—invented by the Depar ment itself; a religion based upon reverence toward the Imperial House, combined with somewhat of Confucianism and a tincture of the principles of the Zen sect of Buddhism.

Coming now to the second grand division, those holding to another religion, the sub-section most nearly allied to the group just discussed, and therefore properly taken up first, is the class who would hold to Shintō.

Although this cult has been officially declared to be no religion, yet its shrines are carefully registered and guarded by the government, a special department for that purpose being found in all the local offices, and government funds in generous amount being supplied for repairs and upkeep of the buildings, and for the salaries of the priests in charge. Not only so, but the shrine-like form of the receptacle in each school, for keeping the picture of the Emperor; the zealous devotion which demands the presence of a teacher every night to guard the picture, and in case of fire or accident, to save it or die in the attempt; the solemn pomp and awestruck attitude of reverence at the reading of the Rescript or any like function in the school—all these things are exceedingly difficult to harmonize with the idea that Shintō is not a religion. And in fact, in many minds, they utterly fail to accord with it; and no matter what decisions the government may issue to the world, to the minds and hearts of many of the people, Shintō remains indeed the Way of the Gods.

To outside observers, it looks as if these things are part of a plan to stiffen the mind of Young Japan against the flood of foreign ideas which might weaken or destroy valued ideals, like loyalty and patriotism. Prominent no doubt among the foreign notions whose invasion is apprehended, are such Christian doctrines as the worth of each human soul and the universal brotherhood of man. If these teachings should run to seed, the fear likely is that they would destroy reverence for rulers and love of country. To us who know full well the Bible teaching concerning reverence for the powers that be, and the common sense facts of experience as to love being of many kinds and degrees—for wife, family home, friends, country and mankind—and that therefore love for all men is in no degree a rival of or substitute for the special love we each bear for our own country, but the two emotions are entirely consistent with each other, and hence love of one's own country does not need to mean hatred of all other lands as its obverse side, such apprehensions seem altogether groundless and imaginary; but to those who entertain them, they are evidently most real. And it seems all too likely that such fears are the true cause of the periodical waves of obstructive regulation which sweep through the Department of Education; they remain too as deep-seated principles of opposition to the gospel in the minds of many teachers, officials and private citizens educated in government schools. In military circles as well, these views are widely held, and produce a very determined attitude of opposition to the gospel.

2. Under this great division of all who reject the gospel because they believe in some other religion, next in order comes the newly organized sect of Tenrikyo. The believers in this creed are, intellectually and socially, at opposite poles from the group which we have just considered; but inasmuch as the religion was originally merely a sub-sect of Shinto, like the Kurozumiha or Ontake Kyō, this links it into the Shinto class. At one time its teaching was so hazy, and the hilarious dancing at the prolonged night meetings were such wild orgies, the government authorities were about to forbid it entirely. But its leaders being warned thereby, have tried to eliminate such features, and it has therefore lately been recognized officially as a separate religion. Its teachings in part seem to inculcate morals so good and so kindly to others as almost to resemble our own Bible principles; while with these is a mixture of faith-healing and of merit to be gained by handing over one's earthly possessions to the church. As objects of worship, it retains a number of the old time gods Shinto, but among these it tends to recognize a chief god as supreme ruler. But as yet there is so much ignorance among the leaders that the teachings are hardly clearly marked out. Of late it is said to be making such rapid strides that, according to rumour, every tenth man among the people is numbered among its followers. While some thrifty folk are soon disquieted by its demands for money and shy off in alarm, a host of guileless, sincere souls, on the other hand, are charmed with its teaching as to kindness to others and suchlike doctrines, and throwing themselves heart and soul into it, work most zealously for its extension. Not infrequently on the trains, when we give out a Christian tract, a booklet or paper about Tenrikyo is handed back in exchange. The earnestness and apparent sincerity of some of the followers of this faith is one of the really pleasing features in connection with it. If such a spirit can be maintained and at the same time more light let in, then this religion may prove less of a hindrance to the gospel than an introductory phase, whose excellencies and defects shall finally lead honest seekers after truth into the 'light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.' But their present state of ignorance makes it emphatically true of them that 'their zeal is not according to knowledge.

3. In the third group of those who have another religion, let us include all persons attached to the many sects of Buddhism in Japan. It might be profitable to study in detail each one of these sects, did we have many weeks of time, and a competent teacher to guide our studies; but lacking both time and teacher, not much can be expected. In place of deep learning as to theoretical Buddhism, it might be of advantage to approach the religion from the practical side and examine it in the concrete, as it lies in the minds of the people. But the great obstacle, however, to gaining an understanding of the situation by that method is the all but universal ignorance of their own religion on the part of those who profess to follow it. Even those who manifest some attachment to it, and zeal for observing its rites, when approached and asked for a serious explanation of their creed, are mildly surprised and amused that such knowledge is expected of them. *They* know nothing of it *whatever*, they will say; they are simply holding to it because it is the religion of their house; they would be guilty of gross impiety toward the ancestors and recreant to the trust reposed in them by all the family connection, should they presume to change their religion: hence such a thing is absurd and not to be thought of. But come at them again with the alternative demand that if they hold to a religion, it is only reasonable that they should know what they hold to, and they will turn away from you as a mild but harmless lunatic. And considering what is involved in a clear understanding of Buddhism, perhaps their attitude is not so unreasonable after all. For it seems next to impossible for mortal man to weave a logical net with meshes so fine as to catch all the myriad notions connected with Buddhism. A current saying is that there are 'eight myriad, four thousand gates to the Law' and no doubt any one of them will equally "get there." The Issaikyō, or complete collection of the Sacred Writings, is said to be "more than six thousand volumes"—how many more, the witness sayeth not. Dr. Inouye Tetsujiro, who in recent years is not in very high favour since he became a Buddhist "free thinker," describes the teachings of Buddhism as 'a vast assemblage of inconsistencies and contradictions gathered into one Oburoshiki (big cloth-wrapper), and out of the bundle any one of them may be drawn to meet the particular need of a special occasion, but the attempt to logically classify and understand them all is simply hopeless.' If this witness is true, it very nearly coincides with the famous definition of metaphysics—"what one man tells another, and they neither one understand it"—and it would seem presumptuous to even attempt any understanding of it. But as it is my privilege to number among my friends a Japanese who was born and reared in a zealous Buddhist home, who later, in a period of mental unrest, eagerly studied Buddhism of the various sects in

* A paper read before the Council of Missions cooperating with the Church of Christ in Japan, at its meeting in Karuizawa, Japan, August, 1909.

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search of peace, and finally hearing the gospel, now rejoices in it; and as I have talked with him a good deal of these questions, with your permission, I will give some of the ideas gleaned in such conversations.

He tries to clarify the teachings of Buddhism by placing them point by point, alongside the doctrines of Christianity. Beginning then with our doctrine of a personal God as Creator and Ruler of the Universe, Buddhism denies most ideas in this concept. As pantheistic, it cannot accept any Originator for a universe which never began; and as fighting the idea of personality, it refuses a person as a Ruler. It therefore has nothing at all in place of our doctrine of Creator; and far less has it any concept corresponding to our view of God as the Father, the First Person of the Trinity. The Second Person of the Trinity, God the Son, may in some measure be represented by Amida, or Shaka Nyorai. The Third Person, the Holy Spirit, may be faintly illustrated by Shinnyo; but it is indeed a faint resemblance, for the idea of personality or of life is utterly lacking, according to most sects The name, Shinnyo, is written with the Chinese characters which mean "Like Truth," and it is merely the concept of Ri (Reason). Some Buddhists get so low into materialism as to explain this Shinnyo as only blind physical force; others think of it as abstract Truth or Law; while others sometimes seem to rise to the height of regarding it as spirit and having life, even though this would logically demand personality. But none of them conceive of it as Originator or Creator, for the All Things of the Universe are always explained to be "mushi, mushū," (without beginning, without end).

Men being included among the All Things, they have therefore evermore existed; and at the first, there was no personal being in control of them. "Hito mazu arite, Butsu ga kore ga tame ni umare-tamaeri" (Mankind was first, then for their sakes Buddha was born). Although men at first existed without any Buddha, yet from among them in time, higher and higher characters of saints were developed, until at last Amida Nyōrai appeared; the appellative, Nyōrai, meaning that this Amida wa Shin*nyō* yori *rai*shō seri (arrived at the state termed Life, from Shinnyō). This Amida is not, however, to be thought of as limited to the historic Shaka. Rather has it appeared in human form and life many myriad times, Shaka being only a single instance.

Right here, according to my friend Hattori, is a point in Buddhism which, if wisely used, may prove most valuable in leading the people to the truth. He has written a little tract to show that the word Amida means muryō jū, or Eternal Life. It is true that this concept is directly in opposition to the fundamental teaching of Shaka; for he preached Nirvana with all his might. But that seems to most minds to scarcely differ from annihilation, and such a hope-destroying doctrine cuts straight across all the cravings of the human heart. Because of the natural revulsion of men against such a principle, and to meet the demand of the heart for something more satisfying, the doctrine of Amida—Eternal Life—was developed. Later in Japan it was taken up and emphasized by the Jōdō Shinshū sect, and is now one of their main teachings. What we Christians need to do is to make clear to the people that their sacred word Amida means Life; and then introduce them to the only historic Amida, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

Continuing the examination of the doctrines of Buddhism by comparison, we are told that, in most of the sects, sin is regarded as comparatively an unimportant matter, a beclouding of the mind, a mere mistake, so to say. It arises from mumyō (non-light, obscurity). Man falls into the error of regarding himself as an individual, a person; thence comes personal desire and choice, ideas of happiness and misery; the struggle for satisfying such desires is fiercely joined, and the mumyō is complete. But if by immobile quiet and strict meditation, one can quench these fierce and beclouding desires and accumulate virtue (sekizen), he may escape the obscurity of personality, return to the serene light of the Wonderful Law and finally attain to Nirvana.

But the Jōdō Shinshū view the case somewhat differently. As they have substituted, in place of Nirvana, the hope of Amida, or Life, they naturally accept the corollary of individual personal existence as a legitimate and proper doctrine; logically also they continue in line and explain sin, not as darkness caused by the error of supposing oneself a person, but more like our Christian concept, as a breaking of law. As however with them, the Law is in itself an inanimate entity, with no personal Executive interested in the carrying out of its provisions, this lack causes a fatal weakness in their notions of sin

Next, as this great sect regard sin as much more than a mistake, so they emphasize salvation; not as a mere matter of a setting oneself right by quiet meditation, but as a great blessing received from without (tariki—by the strength of another), through the merits and mercy of Amida.

In reply to the question, How is Amida able to save? they have a doctrine of atonement. They say that Amida made his Original Vow (Hongwan); in connection with this vow, he set up forty-eight purposes or desires; then through endless eons of ascetic practices and of meditation upon this Hongwan, he at last attained to the realization of his forty-eight purposes. Through his boundless merit thus attained, he has the right to atone for the sins of men and to forgive them. But if one asks what was the Original Vow, or the Forty-eight Purposes? or how their attainment would impart merit or right to atone for sin? and above all, where are the historic evidences for all those eons of ascetic practices and meditations? the answers are *hardly satisfactory*.

The emphasis above referred to, which this sect lays upon the doctrine of sin, is something that meets our cordial approval, but in connection therewith a somewhat suprising consequence emerges. Because sin is so great an evil, they do not say, as our gospel does, that therefore we must be saved from it at all hazards. On the contrary, their view is that sin is so overpowering an influence and so thoroughly imbedded in the nature of man that it cannot be uprooted. The attempt to do so would involve such struggles and suffering as to be unbearable; hence to be saved *from* sin is impracticable, if not impossible. If then salvation does not mean separation from sin, what is its meaning? The reply comes that the other horn of the dilemma is taken, and salvation means we are to be saved *in* sin; so great is the mercy of Amida, so exhaustless his merit, that he is able and willing to give men eternal life along with their sins! A view which shows that, after all, their conception of the meaning of sin is very light and inadequate; they do not grasp the fact that sin is in itself diametrically opposed to life; they do not know that the wages of sin is death.

An immediate consequence from this is that there is nothing in their system of doctrine corresponding to the new birth, regeneration. Their word ōjō, which is translatable "rebirth" and ought to correspond to our doctrine, means transportation to gokuraku (paradise), merely a synonym for death.

As they have no regeneration out of sin and death into holiness and life, there is no effort at clean and holy living, in the Christian sense. Holiness is a mere ceremonial standing, an observance of rites and regulations, and not inconsistent with a life in the grossest of sin. This explains how the recently resigned Head of the sect, the Monzeki Sama in Kyoto, could openly and for years live in the shockingly licentious manner he did, and yet never cause a whisper of criticism or objection among his followers. It explains why the rank and file of the priests can become simply rotten, with no fear of losing their place and office. It is the reason, finally, why there is no moral uplift from the religion upon the lives of the people, in spite of all its fine words about the evil of sin and the blessedness of salvation through the mercy of Amida. It is naught better than a Mohammedan salvation, from corruption unto yet deeper corruption.

In this survey of the forces which oppose the gospel in Japan, several varieties (or vagaries) of thought have been purposely omitted: 1. That which frankly objects to our gospel and undertakes to find flaws in it; 2. That which would patch up a new gospel by combining all that meets approval in our message, with certain scraps from various other religions—an eclectic religion; and, 3 That which flies our flag, uses our passwords and would dwell in the same camp with us, but which by clever appeals to "new learning," and dextrous infusion of new meaning into old and honoured terms, seems bent on robbing our Saviour of His crown of glory and emptying His gospel of all meaning, value or life. Purposely, all these have been passed by: the first, because it is not peculiar to Japan; the second, because, though of Japanese make, its structure is so flimsy as hardly to call for serious thought; and the third, because the treatment awarded it, ages ago, by the Apostle Paul in Galatians, first chapter,—to seize it as a traitor to the cause whose uniform it masquerades in, and to gibbet it on the spot—seems, to this day, the only proper treatment of it.

That this necessarily brief paper is also a very meagre and inadequate survey of a great subject, need hardly be remarked. And yet, while it shows that the religious ideas in this Empire, which hinder the gospel, are neither few nor unimportant, still it reveals nothing calling for our discouragement. On the contrary, even this imperfect examination of opposing ideas, brings into view such logical weak spots open to criticism, and such points of resemblance inviting a friendly hand to lay hold of them and lead forward, that there is much food for thought and much reason for encouragement.

As we come into practical contact with representatives of these various ideas, we need to diagnose each case with care, and then apply the treatment suited to that particular phase of the disease.

For the first class, who reject all religions, and wish to develope the higher character of man by mere education and moral training, two main lines seem called for. 1. We should show them the complete breakdown of their theory as at present put into practice in the schools of the land; 2. the essential error of the theory should be pointed out. Experience, history and Scripture all unite in declaring man as essentially a *religious* being; and this plan to develope a true man apart from religion, is to look for fruit from a rootless tree; it is to feed a man with chaff, and then demand an athlete.

That we may be of benefit to those of the second class—who have another religion—we need to study each religion as much in detail as possible. This would enable us to come nearer to the viewpoint of our vis-a-vis, to gain a better understanding of the working of his mind. It would help us, above all, not only to point out the follies of his religion, but also to call his attention to those points in it which, by all true logic and right feeling, ought to compel him to seek for God, to cry out for the living God. Especially do we need to study the great sect of Jōdō Shinshū, not only because of its vast multitude of followers, but also because in its system of teaching there seem so many points where it could be laid hold of in a friendly way and led out into the light of life.

Finally, for all classes and conditions of men, we need to make known more clearly the facts and teachings of our blessed gospel. If the Holy Spirit has free access to any soul and shines in with the light of truth, there is little need then of man's logic to help fray away the darkness; it vanishes before the light. While then we endeavor to be 'not ignorant of the devices' of *wrong* religious thought, and duly try to estimate its hindrance, let us make it our main business to supply food for *right* religious thought, and then victory is as sure as the truth of God.

YACHTING.

None of the larger boats raced on Saturday last, doubtless on account of the light and uncertain breeze.

Seven 22-raters started in a race over the Widow Buoy Course, for a cup presented by Mr. A. Andries:—*Winsome, Pete, Elsa, Edna, Sunbeam, Chocho* and *Windspiel*. Of these, the first three were winners, in the order named.

Twelve larks started around the Lightship and Tachibana Course. The winners were, No. 2, sailed by Mr. Eagling, No. 4, by Mr. Stone, and No. 7, by Mr. N. Brockhurst.

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, August 3.

The visit of their Imperial Majesties, with the heir to the Russian throne, the Grand Duke Alexis, now in his fifth year, and the daughters of the Emperor, to France and to England is the sole subject of comment during their absence. It is accepted that the alliance with France, which during a decade has been the corner stone of Russian foreign policy, is now once more confirmed by this visit, and, if any real harm was done by interested insinuations some little time ago, these are now finally dispersed.

About the possible results from the visit to Cowes still more anxious interest prevails. The relations with England are still young, and susceptible of improvement in several ways ye . But all Russia unites in the hope that the visit will draw still closer the ties already established between the two greatest Empires in the world.

The rumour has recently been revived that the Russian Government has entered into negotiations with a Belgian syndicate for the sale to the latter of the "Northern Railways," a group of which the largest is the line from Moscow to Archangel. The total number of miles involved in the sale is close upon 2000. Several St. Petersburg papers publish the rumour in practically identical terms.

A curious scandal has just been settled at Kronstadt by the military Governor. The island fortress is still in a "state of war," which gives the military commander supreme power over all other officials. The trouble arose from the interference of a foreign consul in the regulations of the port concerning stevedores etc., and he persuaded the municipality of Kronstadt to take up the question in his favour. The action of this Consul, no less a personage than the Consul General for Norway, has been referred to the Minister of the Interior: the vice-Consul, a Russian subject, has been expelled the island, many reprimands are distributed, and the mayor is threatened with loss of office. It is worth noting that the British and German Consuls are thanked for their correct attitude in the little crisis.

A number of ship-building engineers of the Russian service will be sent over to England to study in British yards the most modern methods of construction with special reference to ships of war. The practice is not a new one, but I understand that it is to be considerably extended this year.

The reach of Senator Garin, to whom was entrusted the "revision" of Moscow, first the Prefecture, then also the higher administration, and finally even the Army Commisarirt Department of this principal Military District, has now stretched as far as Petersburg, where several domiciliary "perquisitions" have been made among merchants suspected of corrupt dealings with Commissariat officials.

The Octobrist Party will hold their first Congress this Autumn at Moscow, and it is understood that Anglo-Russian relations will be among the subjects of discussion.

In an interview which the Minister of Finance, M. Kokovtsev was so kind as to accord to the Editor of the RN. his Excellency said :—

"I was one of the first to note the beginnings of our rappprochement with England, and am able to appreciate the advantages to Russia of a policy of friendship with your country. I went through the Russo-Japanese War in my present post, and I need not tell you all that I felt in the course of that struggle. You are probably as well informed as I am on the part played by England in that war. The idea of a policy of friendship was borne in upon us very strongly, but when we came face to face with the still greater trials of our internal commotions which followed the war, it became more and more plain that there were many arguments purely of principle in favour of a rapprochement with England. Russia has survived these days of trial and trouble, and is now fairly advanced along the path of orderly government under new conditions. But as Minister of Finance I have to recognise that those new conditions make new demands upon the resources of the State. Russia holds one sixth of the land-surface of the globe, and the greater part of this area, though known to be rich in all those natural products of the earth, both above and below the surface, which make the wealth of nations, has never been sufficiently exploited by us. Where our natural wealth has been exploited it has too often been, and still is, done by methods which are not the best, and might be considered primitive side by side with the modern methods of economic science. There are many reasons for this, but one may suffice, the ignorance of our people The time is now come when we must do in as short a period as possible what other nations have accomplished more gradually. England, together with other nations, is in a position to help us in the development of our ungotten wealth.

I will not touch upon the political side of the question except to note that it is a very serious, and a very foolish, mistake to suppose that in drawing nearer to England we are in any way actuated by anything like unfriendly feelings towards any other State It is really a matter of plain principles: England is in a position to give us what we want, and we believe that England would find her account in lending us her help. But England, of course, can never be to us what Germany is; a glance at the map will show you why. England is too far away, and our land frontiers with Germany are extensive. We cannot forget either the centuries past of friendship with Germany, and that we, equally with that country, have the greatest interest in maintaining the best and most sincere relations with our nearest neighbour.

And what is it that chiefly hinders, or has hindered, closer relations with England? On our side the feeling that England has lain across our path in every direction for generations past. On yours, a groundless fear for your Indian Empire. The idea that we ever coveted the task of governing India is simply preposterous. But this idle fear has been sufficient to blind us both for long enough and has kept us apart when we might have been together to our mutual benefit. We have in Russia territory enough still to explore, we have still more that is unexploited, and we have problems enough on our hands for the development of this country and the reorgansiation of our social structure under the new conditions, without seeking any kind of forward policy for a great many years to come, if ever. Consolidation and not expansion is the key to our historical problem.

The most useful work that England can do for us, and none can do it so well, is to provide us with capital for the construction of those roads which we need to open up the natural resources of our Empire. How many miles of railroad Russia wants it would be difficult to say: fifty thousand miles, or a hundred and fifty thousand miles—we could do with either figure, or both figures added together! But, speaking practically, I think we may consider that if the central Provinces of the Empire, the home-provinces so to say, are sufficiently provided with railways for the present moment, these Provinces will in any case demand further constructions in the future. At the same time we have the most pressing practical need of great trunk lines to open up our Asiatic possessions. I want a wide-meshed network of lines in nearer Siberia, to exploit the wealth of the territory lying between the Great Siberian and the Transcaspian Railways. Many schemes of concession for a number of lines to effect this are already under discussion, and I hope that discussions will be closed this Autumn. There are other schemes in other regions, but of these it will be time enough to speak later on.

What you say about the objections raised by British enterprise to the peculiar regulations of the railway construction laws in Russia hampering the influx of British capital is not correct. In the laws of Russia there is nothing to which objection is taken, I believe, but the trouble I have had lies elsewhere. The English market will readily take up the bonds of new undertakings, which are guaranteed by the Government, but I, as Minister of Finance, naturally want to be assured first of all that the share capital is fully subscribed before permitting the issue of bonds. It is upon this point that we have hitherto found some grounds of disagreement, which, however, will probably disappear as soon as the two peoples become better acquainted with one another's methods and resources.

England is already doing great work in Russia, not so much in Railway building, which we particularly look for from her, as in mining undertakings. And a great deal more might be done by Englishmen with advantage to us both in this department. But I find that the English, as compared with other nations, are remarkably slow to take up new things. Of course this is the natural manifestation of the national character, but it is is sometimes open to misapprension on our side. Take an instance, the Lena Goldfields. We have been getting from there over 500 puds (say 8 tons) of gold per annum. Englishmen are anxious to undertake the working of these mines, and I have given every facility for inspection. There have been various parties of specialists, engineers and others, out there for two years in succession and no decision has been come to during months and months. I should not have thought an undertrking of this magnitude and value required so very long a time for consideration. You say that climatic conditions may have required studying. Well, yes, it is true gold-mining is to some extent dependent upon climatic considerations. But when all is said and done we do not find the English so ready to come forward as we should like, and while we recognise that this may be largely accounted for by the natural conservatism of your people and their caution in taking up new things, qualities which have built up the sound and solid strength of England, yet we cannot help sometimes feeling that the old mistrust of Russia has still something to do with your attitude towards the offers we are prepared to make and have made.

So long as I continue to occupy the post of Minister of Finance in Russia I shall give every facility to properly qualified Englishmen desirous of investigating the resources and potentialities for industrial enterprise to be found in the Russian Empire. That is the principle upon which I have acted hitherto, and I have no doubt that when sufficient time has elapsed to dissipate the last lingering traces of the ancient groundless mistrust that has so long kept us apart, Russia and England will become good friends on the practical basis of mutual economic advantage. But, as I have said, we are now to do in a brief period what others have done gradually in centuries, and therefore time is a factor of ever-increasing importance in the problems which Russia has to face."

St. Petersburg, August 5th.

The great reorganisation of the land-system of Russia, which is at the base of all reforms, if these are to be permanent, is making slow but steady progress. The general facts of the case are already pretty well understood. The Government recognised that the system of ownership in common, with common responsibilities, though convenient enough for the purposes of tax-collecting and other administrative proceedings, would never breed up a people capable of taking their place in the ranks of the free nations of the world. By Imperial ukaz, since duly passed through the legislative chambers, which slightly altered it, the peasant population of Russia may now claim to hold the land, upon which they are settled as joint owners, by the right of individual ownership. A terrible storm of discussion raged around the Bill in the Duma, but evidently the practical view, for perhaps the first time in Russia in matters of such magnitude, prevailed over ideal counsels of perfection. The main objection was that the land upon which peasant A. or B. might be actually working at the given moment possibly represented either very much more or very much less than his proper share, owing to the re-divisions of the family from time to time. But to change the land-system which for ages has prevailed among a hundred odd millions of muzhiks was a sufficiently formidable task in itself without seeking to realise an ideal justice. With some obvious alleviations in extreme cases, the practical common-sense view was adopted, that the peasant A. might own the land he worked, if he so willed.

Then came the stupendous labour of surveying—for a great part of even European Russia has never

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yet been properly surveyed—and after that the attempt to gather into one fence the scattered odd bits of land belonging temporarily to one unit and worked by him. The latter operation requires a spirit of compromise which is not easy to inculcate in the Russian muzhik. But the work is going on.

In 40 Provinces of European Russia nearly a million and a half declarations have been filed by peasants desirous of becoming individual free-holders and abandoning the Commune. Of these over three-quarters of a million are already duly settled on individual farms, the total area of which aggregates nearly eighteen million acres. All this is the work of a couple of years only, and seems large enough to fill the Russian Premier, who is responsible for this huge reform, with legitimate pride. Looked at in another light, that of comparison with what is yet to be done, the results are not so brilliant, and indicate that a steady perseverance in this admirable policy will be needed for very many years to come. In point of fact the number of declarations filed amounts to about six per cent. of the male population of the Provinces concerned. The number of individual freeholders already settled on their own farms amounts to between three and four per cent of the male populations of the several provinces. There is thus much still left to be done; but, given a period of peace without and steady progress in gradual reform within, this basic change in the organisation of the Russian Empire will doubtless be effected within the lifetime of the present generation of men.

It is upon these three cardinal points, the change of the regime, the rapid peopling of the vast expanses of nearer and farther Siberia with their wealth of agricultural and mineral products, and the conversion of the muzhik from slavish membership of a community which deprived him of all chances of rising in life—that those who best know Russia base their beliefs in the stupendous importance of this great Empire in the very near future. The re-organisation of one-sixth of the habitable globe, two hundred millions of white men, will be felt in every remotest corner of the earth, and happy those who recognise it betimes.

The police of Russia have for some time back been much puzzled by the appearance of an unusual number of bank-notes of small value torn in half and repasted together. The values that appear most frequently are the three and five rouble notes (say 5/- and 10/6d notes). After much investigation it has been discovered that a new card game which has a great vogue in cheap gambling clubs is responsible for the mutilations. The "banker" in this game hands over half-notes to the punters, who after the deal either return the half they hold or claim the other half from the "banker" if they win. What is new about the game seems rather to be the ingenious system of dealing with gamesters of dubious honesty than anything original in the game itself!

It is reported that among the methods of extorting profit from their offices by civil and military servants in Turkestan, was the simple one of entering a Kirghiz village, summoning the elder and giving orders to "collect 10/- per head" without reason given. The Kirghiz nomads have been so long accustomed to be fleeced by officials, real or sham, of all kinds, that it was only here and there that the orders were not carried out without a demur. The annals of the native police in British India could probably parallel a few of these stories, which are regarded rather in the light of good jests in Russia.

A well-known racing man and owner of race-horses had an accident on the Petersburg race-course yesterday that it is feared will prove fatal. Riding one of his own horses in a race, he fell, and was kicked on the head and spine by two other horses, the skull being broken and the spinal cord injured.

Senator Garin's "revision" is spreading ever wider, and is bringing to light enough malpractices and corruption to defeat the best government and the finest fighting army in the world, without the active hostility of rivals or foes! The more one reads of the practices of the Commissariat the more one wonders that the Russian Army did all that it undoubtedly did accomplish in the recent war. A story is published now about soldiers' boots which have spent many years in travelling about the country from one Commissariat district to another. As soon as these boots get into the hands of the soldiers, the latter sells them, and adding something from their own pockets buy themselves other boots not issued from store. The first lot, sold by the indignant soldiers, are collected by Jewish dealers, and having already the Government mark stamped on them, are readily disposed of on advantageous terms to another or the same Commissariat District officers! The Right parties blame the Jew for all these malpractices, insinuating that if it were not for the Jewish skill in corrupting the virtuous officials, these things would never happen. The Left political parties protest against a system which has hitherto been content with inspecting the additions of figures in books and has exercised no efficient control over the actual material.

Reorganisation is in progress in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry under M. Timirjazov, with a view to increasing the usefulness of this most important department of the State machinery.

The Russian Aero-Club will shortly open a pan-Russian subscription list to provide funds for the purchase of a number of aeroplanes of foreign make wherewith to study aviation on modern lines in Russia. A disproportioned amount of the work so far done in Russia has been only so-called "free flights," that is, not at the end of a string, in the old-fashioned balloon.

A Moscow paper tells the story of a certain Captain G. of the Russian Army whose regiment was ordered to the Japanese war. This officer hired a civilian to strike him in the face in a café, declined to challenge his assailant to a duel as demanded by his brother officers, and was, in consequence, expelled the regiment by the officers' court of honour—thereby saving his skin at the front. A curious story, told in a reputable paper.

KOBE NOTES.

Since our last communication our prophecy with regard to a serious disturbance of nature has been fulfilled. At the time of giving the oracular utterance we were uncertain as to whether the convulsion would be social, commercial or seismological; the gods, however, have decided upon the latter. When the earth began to tremble on the afternoon of the 14th inst., most of our citizens, especially those indoors, seem to have been moved out of their wits. The house whither we ourselves resorted, though a long distance from the centre of the disturbance, reeled to and fro like a drunkard and for some minutes refused to be at rest. Following so closely upon the great conflagration at Osaka, the effect was most impressive. The mind somehow or other naturally inclines to the conviction that catastrophes are related. Are they the result of blind chance, or determinable cause, with measurable effect? Will throwing Jonah overboard save the ship unable to weather the winds? Would repentance have saved Nineveh or Pompeii? With regard to these mysteries we for the present restrain our disposition to prophecy.

The ruin of so many families in Osaka has moved deeply the more charitably disposed of our citizens, and liberal funds have been subscribed for relief. It is unnecessary to say that all our subscriptions represent honest charity rather than business policy; which is a compliment to our citizenship. Not only so, but those entrusted with treasuring and distributing the relief funds raised in Kobe, have shown an admirable broadmindedness in allotting liberal portions of the sum total to the various religious and philanthropic organizations engaged in the good work of relief administration. The work of the Y. M. C. A., as usual, has been notably efficient in its extensiveness of operation and its promptness of service.

It would be an interesting question to ask why it is that physical discomfort and material disaster or misfortune move us to acts of charity more than moral affliction or mental agony. If a man loses his house, we condole with him and offer him food and shelter: if he loses his character—well, it is not necessary to say what we do. If a man is robbed of his property, we assist in punishing the aggressor and restoring the goods; but what do we do when a man is being robbed of his good name? To see physical pain, even though the victim be an animal, moves us to indignation, and we hasten to organize for the prevention and relief of suffering; but we see people forced to mental, moral, or spiritual suffering without protest or resentment. We arrest the brute who overloads his beast, but ignore the greater brute who enslaves innocent girlhood in places of ill resort. Very properly are we searching out the victims distressed by the Osaka fire, and ministering to their relief. Would it be out of place for us to have workers of charity permanently searching out those in constant suffering from the misfortunes, injustices, and criminal aggressions of modern life, so as to relieve the pain and remove the cause?

It is interesting to relate that one of our most estimable citizens has recently become enamoured of a fair lady of some elevation, the marriage to take place some time near Christmas. It is most satisfactory to the many friends of the happy young couple to know that their mutual qualities are such as happiness delights to honour, and that their inequalities are only such as each can supply to the other. In these supercilious days when woman has to fight for her rightful position *above* man, it is a consolation to her when she can begin even her honeymoon with her position secure; while, with such a partner, the happy groom can console himself with Browning's thought: "A man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for?"

"OMEGA."

KARUIZAWA.

The foreign population of this pleasant resort has seldom been more numerous than this season; while the weather has been all that the most fastidious holiday seeker could desire. The thief-scares of former years are so far unknown, and the jaded seeker after rest is undisturbed.

The usual bustle has been noticeable on the tennis grounds, with intense interest in the yearly tournament; while among those not given to games, consolation has been afforded by afternoon teas and frequent pic-nics among the hills.

The base-ball contests between the Karuizawa missionaries and the Waseda and Keiogijiku University teams resulted in the easy victory of the latter, owing chiefly to the lack of regular practice on the part of the hosts.

The Weekly Concerts in the auditorium have proved as popular, and as edifying a source of entertainment, as in former years. Some of the female voices taking part reveal the high degree of vocal talent to be found among the foreign missionaries in Japan; while the readings and recitations have shown no mean appreciation of the dramatic element. Professor Koehler also gave three concerts, which were much appreciated.

A scholastic doctor of philosophy from the United States has been giving lectures on the Bible and science, to the delectation of many missionaries, especially that of the tender sex. The gentleman has excited no little interest in himself by a threat to descend into the crater of Asama. He has called for 12 fearless attendants to accompany him to the summit of the cone and hold the ropes while he disappears in his cage down the abysm. No one, of course, expects him to be drawn up alive; and the married portion of his accomplices are being besought by anxious wives not to assist in the foolhardy venture, lest the law entrap them as accessories to the fact. The daring scientist has been warned that, if he lives to tell the tale, he will be the first mortal of all that have gone down the crater of Asama, that has done so; but he refuses to be restrained, and has devoted a whole lecture on the Bible to proving why he is not foolhardy. It is said that the cage to coffin the descending gentleman is already under construction, and the unprecedented feat will take place in the near future.

The number of engagements incident to the commingling of youth and beauty in Karuizawa has not been up to former years, but there have

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been several couples, already betrothed, summering here. Needless to say they formed as interesting a subject of conversation as any, and caused a disturbance in the single blessedness of some who fain would also be bespoken. Strange to say, the engagement which everybody deemed securely sealed, has alas! suddenly snapped, apparently without cause. Thus is the saying verified: There is many a lip between the cup and the sip.

"ANON."

OBSTREPEROUS SUFFRAGISTS: QUESTIONS IN THE HOUSE.

Replying to close questioning by Mr. Snowden, Mr. Keir Hardie, and Mr. W. Redmond on the 21st. ult. about the imprisoned woman suffragists who have been punished for breaking prison regulations, the Home Secretary, Mr. H. Gladstone, explained that several of the prisoners had been sentenced to close confinement for refusing to put on prison clothing, to give up private property, or to be medically examined, and for wilfully breaking windows. Some of them had been guilty of other offences, for example, of kicking and biting the women warders and of throwing their food out of the cell windows. Most of the prisoners had obstinately refused to take food for several days, and he had had on medical grounds to discharge six of them, and he anticipated that others would be discharged on the same ground. The cross-examinations of the right hon. gentleman was so persistent that the Speaker had to interfere; and when the questions had been disposed of Mr. Snowden wished to move the adjournment of the House in order to call attention as a definite matter of urgent public importance to the infliction on the prisoners of a punishment dangerous to health; but the Speaker withheld the necessary sanction, on the ground that it had not been shown that there had been any departure from the ordinary administration of the law.

In addition to the above we take from *The Times* the following correspondence in which Miss Beatrice Harraden author of "Ships that pass in the night," defends the right of suffragettes to throw stones, and "Nemo" neatly answers her "obvious logic."

THE MUTINY IN HOLLOWAY GAOL.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES.")

SIR,—Surely all fair-minded people who will give the matter a few minutes' honest consideration will sympathize with the 14 imprisoned suffragettes in their concerted effort to obtain the ordinary rights of political prisoners. Political prisoners they undoubtedly are. They threw those stones as a protest against the arrest of their leader, who had tried to present a petition to the Prime Minister.

Now, last Friday, July 9, the magistrate, Sir Albert de Rutzen, decided at Bow-street Police Court that the constitutional issue raised by the suffragettes on the right to petition should be dealt with in a higher Court. For the first time, therefore, in the history of this agitation the case of the militant suffragettes was stripped of the Police Court disguise and found clothed in its true political garment. So that the protest of the stone-throwers, by obvious logic, assumes a political character, which would never have been disputed in the case of men.

It is to be hoped that public opinion will support these gallant and self-sacrificing women in the grim fight for political justice inside as well as outside the prison walls.

Yours faithfully,

BEATRICE HARRADEN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "TIMES."

SIR,—If anything could induce all right-minded people to insist upon the imprisoned suffragettes being treated as ordinary criminals it would be the letter of Miss Beatrice Harraden.

She says, "Political prisoners they undoubtedly are; they threw those stones as a protest." For "stones" substitute "bombs," or for either stones or bombs substitute the revolver of Dhingra, who also avows that he acted entirely on political grounds.

Like Mr. Krishnavarma on Saturday, Miss Beatrice Harraden on Friday defends crime as justifiable provided it is a protest against any doctrine to which the criminal objects.

Personally I object to income-tax, and on Mr. Krishnavarma's or Miss Beatrice Harraden's theory I am justified in assassinating or throwing stones at the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Still more do I object to the soft sentimentality of Miss Harraden; but luckily for her I do not share her theories, so that she is safe.

Yours truly,

NEMO.

EXPLOSION IN MILITARY MAGAZINE.

At 2 a.m. yesterday, a terrible explosion took place in two powder-magazines at Hirano-mura, Kitakawachi-gori, Osaka-fu, which belong to the Fourth Division. Four privates were seriously injured and a number of people in the neighbouring houses, slightly hurt. Immediately, several scores of policemen of the Hirakata police Station ran to the spot and conveyed those more or less severely injured into a temple in the neighbourhood. As a consequence, several houses were totally demolished, even at some distance from the spot, and no small number of buildings were partially destroyed. When the accident happened, the walls, doors and furniture in the neighbouring houses were seen flying in all directions amidst the black smoke rolling up from the magazines. At Hirakato-cho where the damage as most severely sustained, the ceilings of the district office fell on the floor and the glass-doors were broken. The buildings of the assembly-hall, the police-station, the post office and the district court are all slanting. A number of casualties among the villagers is reported. The terrible sound of an explosion was heard twice. At about 4 o'clock, there was also a heavy thunder storm.

At Kinya, Hirakata-mura, Kawachi province, there have been built 18 magazines since April last, most of which had been completed. At 2 15 a.m. on the 20th instant, one of the sentries gave an alarm of fire, and in less than five minutes all the buildings in the place covering an area of 120 yards square were demolished. About a score of the sentries were found beneath the debris, but fortunately only four of them were severely injured. The neighbouring houses within a distance of two to three miles have sustained a great deal of damage, but the number of casualties is comparatively small. As regards the cause of the accident, it seems that the dynamite kept in one of the magazines underwent chemical decomposition. According to Mr. Hisahara, Head of the College of Science and Engineering in Kyoto, the powder exploded must have been the smokeless kind. Care must be taken to prevent oxidation. A similar accident occurred some years ago on board the warship *Mikasa*. In summer, smokeless powder is liable to oxidise, nitre being one of the ingredients. Therefore it is usually kept cool by means of ice, when stored in warships. In the magazine first exploded, there were stored 23,170 kilogrammes of dynamite and in the second building, 62,000 kilogrammes of black coloured powder, not a grain of which is not seen anywhere at present. At Nagisa-mura, a large house covering 60 *tsubo* was completely destroyed by the shock, and another by a consequent outbreak of fire. It is reported that the people of these districts propose to ask the War Department to reduce the number of magazines there.

YOKOHAMA.

On Thursday afternoon, when the *Minnesota* was supposed to be off the coast of Sagami and Awa provinces, Mr. Kurusu, Vice-President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, sent a wireless telegram to the business-men on board the ship, indicating that their good health and safe voyage are prayed for.

On the 19th instant, a thief who had broken into a number of houses, Japanese and foreign, in this city, was caught by a policeman after a long struggle at Yugyozaka, Ishikawa Nakamura-cho.

Mr. S. F. Chiminez, of Argentine, who has resided in Japan for many years, has been newly appointed Vice-Consul at this city, and has arrived here from home, *via* Europe and Egypt.

The British barque *Howard D. Troop* which met with fire on the 12th instant, has been taken into the Yokohama Dockyard for repair, concluding the negotiations with the insurance company.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended August 19th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	11	5	1	—	—
Died	—	2	2	—	—	1
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	30	32	1	—	—
Died	—	42	—	—	—	—

The Water Police Authorities have received a report from the Captain of the German steamer *Spezia*, which arrived here on the 23rd inst., that a Chinese cook on board the steamer has been suffering from dysentery.

On the 22nd instant, a man named Ichise Kichigoro, the leader of some 200 beggars of Minami-Ota-cho, Itchome, was seriously injured with a large knife by one of his protégés. The offender was arrested on the spot. It is alleged that the quarrel originated in the misconduct of a younger brother of the offender.

On the evening of August 22, a postman, who was passing a declivity at Negish, fell from a a height of about 15 feet and was seriously injured.

On the 23rd instant, fire broke out in St. Joseph's College, No. 85, Yamate-cho. Fortunately it was extinguished before taking firm hold of the building.

At the social gathering of the members of the Municipal Assembly, when the Assistant-mayor explained that affairs of the Gas Bureau are being investigated and will be completed before the return of the Mayor from his trip, Mr. Asada criticised the Mayor for his absence and said that the business of the Gas Bureau is so important that not a day should be lost in making proper adjustment. Other members supported the opinion of Mr. Asada, and at length Assistant-Mayor Saito declared that the Mayor and other committee members will be asked by telegram to return.

On August 23, two coolies engaged in intrenching work at Minami Ota-machi were buried under a mass of earth which had suddenly fallen from a height of some 40 feet. Fortunately they were rescued by the other coolies working near by, but they were injured on their heads and limbs.

On August 25, one of the petroleum oil cases on a Japanese lighter lying by the river bank at Ishikawa-Nakamura-cho, where the godowns for volatile substances stand, suddenly exploded, emitting volumes of black smoke. In an instant, the *sendo* throw it into the water and prevented the fire spreading. The cause of the accident is as yet unknown.

Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. have now constituted themselves a joint stock company, with a capital of *yen* 1,500,000. In accordance with British law, the company has been registered with the Head Office at Hongkong, and the offices at Yokohama, Kobe and other different places in Japan as the branches. It is, however, understood that Mr. E. C. Davis, acting in the Yokohama office as managing-director, will superintend the entire business.

THE DOOR-LEBLANC ENTERTAINERS.

The second and final performance of the clever illusionistic company, Messrs. Door-Leblanc, at the Gaiety, on Thursday week evening was quiet equal to that of the Tuesday evening, which was reported in our columns. Saltana Hanoum, under hypnotic influence, elicited unstinted applause by her demonstrations of remarkable insight into the minds of those present. To hear her repeat, practically word for word, private conversations in the audience, had, though the "number" is by no means new, something of the uncanny about it.

The entire programme, which partook somewhat of that of the first performance, was excellent, and was voted a complete success by somewhat less than 200 people.

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THE EARTHQUAKE OF THE 14TH INST.

ORIGIN OF THE SHOCK.

"The recent earthquake," says Dr. Koto, who was despatched by the Government Earthquake Committee to investigate the area effected by the disaster, was not limited to the vicinity of Lake Biwa, but was a world wide phenomenon, which must certainly have been feebly felt in parts of America far beyond the Pacific Ocean. The three districts on the north of Lake Biwa were in fact the centre of a great seismic movement extending from the Japan Sea to far beyond the other side of the Pacific. The reason why these districts, especially Higashi Asai suffered so severely is that their geological formation is of sand with water only ten or twenty feet below the surface. The ground is thus very unstable, so that a severe tremor naturally causes the collapse of many houses. Mount Ibuki is a limestone hill and not a volcano. Nor is it of volcanic formation. Consequently the suggestion that the disturbance was connected with an eruption of Mount Ibuki is absurd. The great landslides on the mountain were due to the detachment of parts of the hill by the shock. In short, they were results of the earthquake, not the cause of it. The place of origin of the disturbance cannot yet be definitely ascertained, but it was probably not in the locality of the affected areas. Shocks will continue to be felt for some time, but as they will not be violent there is no cause for uneasiness.

On the afternoon of August 24, the undermentioned districts felt more or less severe shocks of earthquake.

Fukui:—A fairly strong shock at 0.40 p.m. It was of short duration

Tsuruga:—A strong shock at 1.05 p.m.

Tsu:—A fairly strong shock at 0.56 p.m.

Toyohashi:—A slight shock at 0.52 p.m. It lasted for 8 seconds.

Hirakata:—Two oscillations, at 1 p.m. and 1.45 p.m.

Sumoto:—A fairly strong shock at 0.42 p.m. and another soon after.

Obama:—A strong shock at 0.30 p.m.

Hikone:—A strong shock at 1 p.m.

Kyoto:—A shock at 0 50 p.m. and another at 10.45 p.m.

Otsu:—A strong shock at 0 55 p.m.

Nagoya:—A strong shock at 0.45. which lasted for about 2 minutes, and a slight an one hour later.

Yoneda:—A strong shock at 0.50 p.m. and a slight one at 1.55 p.m.

Osaka:—Two slight oscillations. The first shock commenced at 0.50 p.m. and lasted for about a minute. The second one began at 1.45 p.m. and lasted for 50 seconds.

In Yokohama, a slight shock was felt at 0.51 p.m. It lasted for 1 minute 42 seconds.

CRICKET.

BORN IN JAPAN *vs.* THE WORLD.

Low scoring was the order of the day in this match on Saturday last, "Born in Japan" succeeding in making only half of their opponents' very moderate total of 72. However, it was a good day for the bowlers, as the analyses show. In their second innings "the world" improved matters a little, and before stumps were drawn had knocked up 110 for 7 wickets, Galloway (20), Neville (21) and Hume (25) being the chief scorers, while Dinsdale took 5 wickets for 47 runs Subjoined are the scores for the first innings.

"THE WORLD."

H. C Gregory, b. Drummond	10
B. Deveson, c. Dinsdale, b. Drummond	12
P. E. Bousfield, c. Hearne, b. Squire	8
H. T. Hume, c. Hearne, b. Squire	0
W. E. Gooch, c. Hearne, b. Squire	0
W. W. Galloway, b. Squire	1
L. C. Sharman, b. Squire	17
L. M. Whyte, c. Squire, b. Drummond	13
W. Hayward, b. Squire	0
A. E. Cooper, not out	5
G. Neville, b. Squire	6
Total	72

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Squire	85	31	1	7
Drummond	84	41	3	3

"BORN IN JAPAN."

F. G. Correa, b. Bousfield	2
D. E. M. Drummond, l.b.w., b. Gooch	1
E. L. Squire, b. Bousfield	3
S. A. Vincent, b. Bousfield	0
E. Dinsdale, run out	8
B. G. Walker, c. Galloway, b. Bousfield	4
V. A. Hearne, b. Gooch	0
O. Strome, c. Deveson b. Gooch	0
W. A. da Costa, not out	12
E. Powys, b. Bousfield	5
W. Graham, l.b.w., b Bousfield	0
Extras	1
Total	36

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Gooch	54	20	0	3
Bousfield	52	15	2	6

Y. C. & A. C. *vs.* S.S. "SUMATRA"

In this match, played on Sunday last, the P. & O. team suffered a heavy defeat. The Y. C. & A. C. going in first made the handsome score of 218, thanks mainly to the splendid innings of Mr. N. Buckle, whose total of 102 included 15 fours. Their opponents were then dismissed for 85, and their score would have been a very insignificant one indeed, had it not been for Mr. P. Cox's contribution of 48

Y. C. & A. C.

H. T. Hume, c. and b. Cox	31
W. A. Morris, l.b.w. Butler	12
E. K. Dinsdale, b. Cameron	9
B. C. Foster, retired hurt	4
N. Buckle, retired	102
W. Hayward, c. Butler, b. Cameron	18
W. H. Burton, b Cameron	2
H. S Bell, b. Cameron	7
F. H. Abbey, b. Drury	14
A. Gorman, not out	6
G. W. James, not out	0
Extras	13
Total	218

BOWLING ANAYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Cameron	96	90	—	4
Batler	84	66		1
Cox	42	30	1	1
Denry	18	19	—	1

P. & O. S.S. "SUMATRA."

Butler, c. Hume, b. Dinsdale	11
Cameron, c. Hume, b. Dinsdale	5
Cox, b. Hayward	48
Burrows, b. Hayward	0
Woollen, c. Hayward, b. Dinsdale	4
Marten, b. Hayward	3
Drury, b. Hayward	0
Stirling, b. Hayward	0
Corfield, b. Hayward	5
Burton, b. Hume	3
Seymour, not out	0
Extras	6
Total	85

BOWLING ANALYSIS,

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.
Hayward	58	40	—	6
Dinsdale	48	37	—	3
Hume	6	2		1

YOKOHAMA CIRCUS.

AN AUSPICIOUS OPENING NIGHT ON AUG. 21: A GOOD SHOW.

Lovers of healthy entertainment, to wit, of that class which is now only too rarely found in the vain and gaudy programmes of the modern halls of pleasure, of racy songs and spurious music, could not be more wholesomely satisfied than one is by the Hippodrome Circus and Menagerie which has come to make a short stay in Yokohama.

The show has had a fine run in Tokyo, and many of us have awaited its arrival here with eagerness. It opened, in generally auspicious circumstances, though somewhat far from the centre of the City, on the spacious grounds of Minami Yoshida-Machi, on August 21, before a fairly large audience of local Europeans and Japanese—curious and characteristically chary of giving patronage to what they yet consider to be an untried, unproved organization.

But the verdict, after the first visit—and the programme, which is to be varied frequently, by no means drew upon the whole resources of the management (the fine tigers, for instance)—the verdict was practically unanimously in favour of the entertainment. The items are many and diverting. The fun is not of the low species of buffonery too often associated with travelling circuses. In the hands of "Rococo and Elliott," it is certainly not intellectual—why should circus fun be so?—but it is light and amuses the childish vein in our natures, that vein which before maturity is "varicose," between maturity and its aftermath is somewhat degenerate, and in the latter stage again is fairly sound and throbs healthily.

The musical melange by Miss Ashby, is clever, the Sinhalese acrobats are excellent and look fine specimens of perfectly developed muscularity, whilst the animal troups, consisting of performing elephants, trained horses, and lions and tigers, arouse considerable interest. Of course the performing lions constitute a star turn, and justly so, too, for those who like this sort of daring fun. Mr. G. Urban, the lion-tamer, is an expert, a master of his craft. He carries a huge, fine-maned, beautiful headed, growling king of beasts about the arena as though it were a sack of potatoes, besides performing many other daring feats.

Everyone should see this unique entertainment. Further particulars will be found in our advertising columns. The following programme gives a fairly adequate idea of the comprehensive show of the above date.

PART I.

1. Overture By the Hippodrome Band, Herr Lehmann, Leader
2. Six Horse Entrée..... By the Ladies
3. Comic Juggling.....Le Dial
4. Balancing Extraordinary.....Dalbanie
5. Equestrienne Act ..... Miss Viginie (Clown W. H. Ware)
6. Acrobatic Dance ..... Sisters Elliott
7. Musical Melange..... Miss Ashby
8. Staircase Hand-Balancing...Dicky and Bella Bell
9. Triple Horizontal Bars ..... Mookerjee (Clowns: Rococo and Elliott)
10. Bounding Jockey.....W. H. Ware
11. Spanish Dance .....Miss Bella and Mary
12. The Equine Midget Marvel "Black Diamond" .....Introduced by his trainer, Miss Ashby
13. Performing Elephants.....Introduced by F. Jones
14. School Horse "Ben Azid"..... .....Ridden by Mdlle E. Walbourge
15. Acrobats .....The Mysore Troupe

Rococo, the Continental Auguste will appear during the performance.

Intermission of 15 Minutes.

PART II.

16. Overture.....By the Hippodrome Band Herr Lehmann, Leader.
17. The World's Famous Zoo of Performing Wild Lions.

Trained and Performed by G. Urban.

RE-ORGANIZATION OF THE CHINESE NAVY.

The Board of Finance has considered the question of raising the money required for the reorganization of the Navy many times without coming to any satisfactory decision, says the *Shanghai Times*. The latest proposal of Prince Tsai Tse is reported to be that 40 per cent. of the necessary amount be contributed by the provinces *pro rata*, 30 per cent. be paid by such provinces as have permanent and considerable sources of revenue and the remaining 30 per cent. be raised from the people and the Chinese abroad.. Donors above a certain amount to the Naval Fund will be entitled to send one or more of their sons and brothers to the Naval Colleges according to the amount of their donations and donors of such a sum as is sufficient to purchase a small man of war will be specially rewarded. Prince Ching, whom Prince Tsai Tse has consulted in the matter is heartly in favour of the proposal which will shortly be referred to Admiral Sha for consideration.

A certain influential Minister has suggested that naval officers be engaged from friendly foreign countries as advisers to the Chinese Admiralty, but Admiral Sha in strongly against it.

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ALASKA AND JAPAN AT THE SEATTLE FAIR.

(*From the American Review of Reviews.*)

To Alaska should be given first prominence among the impressions of the Seattle Fair, for the disillusioning of the world on the subject of the golden northland is the first object of the exposition. "The Truth About Alaska" is supposed to be and is told, though it shatters some of our notions of the romantic struggle against snow and ice which the gold hunters are said to have experienced. Alaska, then, is not a land of snow and ice. We might almost describe it as flowing with milk and honey, if we assimilated all that is said and shown about it in Seattle, and at the very least Alaska has lost much of her wildness, many of her terrors, and become a part of the white man's land, a part of that "God's Country" which the pioneers in far lands speak of at night around their fires. Alaska's wealth is not confined to gold. She has fisheries, agriculture, timber, fur industries, railroads, and steamships. She is a beautiful, civilized, prosperous country, with a reasonable northern climate and great natural industries. Her citizens no longer carry guns. There are no gambling hells and dance halls, no glamour of gold quickly lost, no robber judges and stalwart miners, no Soapy Smiths, no Poleon Dorets, no rule of might governing right. We have seen the last of the words that shamed yet fascinated us: "There's never a law of God or man runs north of fifty-three."

After Alaska, probably the strongest impression at the Seattle Fair is that of Japan, the nation that has kept herself foremost in the affairs of the Pacific for the past five years. At Seattle, Japan's first effort has been to please. She has built a handsome exhibit and entertainment palace in a deep-green grove of evergreens, where the wistaria of the Orient constrast with the rhododendrons of the North Pacific. Here the courteous men of Nippon are busily engaged at their favourite occupation, next perhaps to making war, namely, making themselves agreeable. They give you information, courtesy, and tea. They show you curios, exhibits and courtesy. They treat you with courtesy, food, and drink.

As expositions go, whieh means from the standpoint of the person who has seen a half-dozen of world's fairs, Seattle impresses immediately by its compactness and its natural beauty. St Louis and Chicago had larger fairs. Neither had a fair so beautiful. Forest, mountain, and lake have done what no landscape artist could accomplish. Pregnant with meaning as a landmark in the world's commercial growth, Seattle's fair is also a pretty picture, a successful combination of art and nature and a good show. Indications of the large attendance of the first few days, and the tide of travel which set in from the East during the second week, point to the financial as well as the artistic success of the enterprise which is marking a decided era in the development of the Pacific.

DEATH OF MISS L. ABBEY.

It is with much regret that we record the death, at the age of 21 years, of Miss Lydia Dale ("Daisy") Abbey, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Abbey, of 3-A Bluff. The deceased lady had been suffering for some time past from tuberculosis, supervening on pneumonia. Within the past fortnight her case became hopeless, and she passed peacefully away at one o'clock yesterday morning.

The sincere sympathy of all Yokohama residents will, we are sure, be extended to Mr. and Mrs. Abbey and family in their sad bereavement.

The funeral will take place to-day, the service being held at Christ Church at 5 p.m.

The mortal remains of Miss Lydia Dale Abbey, the youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. R. Abbey, of Yokohama, whose decease from protracted consumption took place on Tuesday morning, were buried at the Yokohama General Cemetery on Wednesday evening.

The Rev. W. P. G. Field, M.A., conducted the service at Christ Church and at the grave side. The family was represented by Mrs. Eagling, Miss Abbey, and Miss V. M. Abbey (sisters), Messrs. T., F.H., P. J., C. H., and D. L. Abbey (brothers), Mrs. F. H. Abbey and Mrs. P. J. Abbey (sisters-in-law), Miss F. Eagling (niece), and Mr. E. Eagling nephew).

Many fine floral tributes of affection were received.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

On August 22, a boy of about 11 was seriously injured by a train near Utsunomiya station, and was still groaning with pain when another train ran over and killed him.

In connection with the recent robbery of *yen* 24,000 from the Colliery Office of Horonai, Hokkaido, it is reported that *yen* 18,000 has been recovered. An official is suspected.

On the evening of August 22, a young woman was discovered brutally murdered in a forest near Itabashi, Tokyo fu. A pair of wooden clogs for male use was found by the side of the corpse.

An Osaka telephone message reports that the Fujimoto Bank is preparing to institute legal proceedings against the Japan Sugar Refining Company, applying for the bankruptcy of the company.

A Sendai despatch reports that Messrs. Arai Taiji and Fujisaki Saburosuke, of that town, are consulting with some Tokyo capitalists in connection with the establishment of a gas-works there with a capital of *yen* 600,000.

On August 20, Lieutenant-General Kawamura, who had passed the night in the Hanamidzu Hotel at the Iisaka hot spring, Fukushima prefecture, had his gold watch stolen which, with the chain, was valued at *yen* 610.

In connection with the Toa Seito Kaisha's affairs, a barrister, Mr. Beppu Kenkichi, was arrested on the 24th instant, and Mr. Shibata Seinosuke of Osaka, one of the principal shareholders, has been summoned to the Court.

Early on the morning of the 23rd instant, a young woman was run over and killed at Kita-shinagawa by a goods train from Shimbashi. It is said that she had made up her mind to kill herself on having quarrelled with her husband.

The Railway Board has reduced the rate of charge for transporting gunpowder and other dangerous commodities, in order to prevent these articles being taken by passengers into carriages or being sent under the care of railway officials as luggage.

The Morioka Emigration Company is meeting with a great difficulty in collecting the emigrants to Peru, who are to start on the 15th proximo by the steamer *America Maru*. The account given by those returned from Peru has greatly obstructed the business.

On the 24th instant, the bill-broker Mr. Fujimoto Seibei brought an action in the Osaka Local Court against the Nitto Kaisha for the payment of a bill of exchange, *yen* 100 000 payable on the 21st January 1st, together with interest amounting to *yen* 3 500.

It is reported that twelve Russian students studying ship-building in the St. Petersburg Industrial School have left Singapore for Japan by a French mail steamer, via Egypt and India. The chief object of these students being to improve their study, they earnestly desire to visit various factories of the line they are studying.

It will be of interest to philatelists to hear that the Imperial Chinese Postal Administration is shortly issuing three special stamps to commemorate the accession to the Throne of His Imperial Majesty Hsuan Tung. Unlike China's present issue these stamps are to be issued in the following denominations:—2 cents, yellow border of Imperial Dragons, centre—Temple of Heaven; 3 cents, ditto with Blue centre; 7 cents ditto with Purple centre. The wording on the top of these stamps is "Chinese Empire" and underneath that "Hsuan Tung 1st year." It is expected that these stamps will be issued about the 15th of September, the supply being a limited one.

On the 20th and 21st instant, a heavy thunderstorm raged in various districts of Sunto-gori, Shidzuoka prefecture. A large tree in the Sengen Shrine of Gotemba and many other trees at the foot of mount Fuji were struck by lightning. As a consequence, the telephone communication with the summit of the mount has been interrupted

A wireless telegram dated the 21st instant (11.15 a.m.) from the steamer *Minnesota* reports that at the meeting for the committee election, Mr. Nakano was elected the Vice-chairman and Messrs. Dori, Nishimura, Matsukata, Otani, Kadono, Hibiya, Satake, Iwahara. Nedzu, Nakahashi, Oi, Nishiike, Soda, Ito and Tamura, as members of the committee.

Fire broke out in No. 2 hold of the N.Y.K. steamer *Kagoshima Maru* when she was *en route* from Yokohama to Oginohama at daybreak on the 21st instant, laden with 11,874 packages of merchandise. The fire was extinguished before taking firm hold of the vessel, and the steamer arrived at her destination in the afternoon. The cargo, however, was badly damaged.

It is reported that the people in the districts of Higashi-Asaoi-gori, Omi province, being much alarmed by their previous experiences, were in great confusion when a slight shock of earthquake was felt there on the 24th instant. As a consquence, 54 persons were more or less severely injured. At the same time a *torii* in front of the Arahari Shrine at Zensho mura, Kusatsu, collapsed.

The Korean Crown Prince, who has been on tour in the northern districts of Japan, returned to Tokyo on the afternoon of the 23rd instant, accompanied by Prince Ito and other high dignitaries. The Vice-minister of the Imperial Household, the Governor of Tokyo-fu, and many others welcomed His Highness at Uyeno Station. After a short repose at the Station, he and his suite started for the temporary mansion at Toriizaka.

On the 23rd instant, a bachelor of engineering named Konishi Shinzabura killed himself with a revolver in front of the tombstone of his late father-in-law, at Kadzuya-cho, Fukagawa, Tokyo. It is said that the deceased had travelled in Europe and America making investigations relating to wireless telegraphy. Of late he had been much depressed in consequence of his having too strenuously devoted himself to his investigations.

A unique and interesting circus show is still in progress in the spacious grounds at South Yoshida-machi. The change of programme has proved an immense success, and is attracting large numbers of spectators. It need hardly be pointed out, to those who have not yet visited this fine exhibition, that it contains a number of features absolutely new to the country. The matinees on Saturdays and Sundays have proved a great treat to the children.

The visitors at summer resorts in the districts of Kamakura and Katase number 7,382 in all. Among sojourners are 6 Princes and 1 Princess of the Imperial family, 2 Marquises, 3 Counts, 11 Viscounts, 12 Barons, 1 Member of the House of Peers, 2 Foreign Dignitaries, 461 Pupils of the military Preparatory School, 60 Chinese Students, 60 Orphans of the Fukuda Kwai Orphanage and 309 men of the Imperial Guard Infantry in Hotels, temples and ordinary houses.

Thefts of railway material on the Huangho River and the Shunte sections of the Peking-Hankow Railway, have become matters of daily occurrence, says the *China Gazette*. There has recently been a case of armed robbery on the railway, in which several of the railway employees were wounded. The Director of that line has now decided to enlist 800 or 900 men, to perform guard duties along the track, and the officers are to be selected from the graduates of the

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constabulary school. The latter will also be vested with authority to summarily deal with robbery and thieves as soon as they are captured by their men. At present when an arrest is made, the prisoner is handed over to the local officials of the district, which arrangement necessitaties much delay and inconvenience; besides the local officials as a rule treat such cases as if they were ordinary cases of robbery.

At Misaki, Sagami province, there lives a fisherman called Mr. Aoki Kamakichi, who is very well informed in Zoology, though he cannot read or write even a single letter. He knows about every marine product that may be found in the Sagami Bay. Once he went over to Java and Sumatra in company with Dr. Iijima for collection of the specimens of various fishes and shells, No zoologist can surpass him in knowledge of telling where the fish or the shell is to be found.

Owing to heavy rain on the morning of the 24th instant many houses in various parts of Tokyo were submerged. The figures are:—

	Houses
Samegahashi-cho, Yotsuya-ku	50
Saka-cho, „	56
Honmura cho, „	28
Tani-cho, Ushigome-ku	50
Yamabuki-cho, Ushigome-ku	200
Tsurumaki-cho, Waseda	90
Hikawashita-cho, ...	300

It was reported some time ago, says the *Shanghai Times*, that the Peking Government proposed to appoint a 'pecial Commissiioner to deal with Indian and Thibetan frontier affairs, but it has now abandoned that idea and intends to memorialize the Throne to order the Imperial Resident to Thibet to reside at some important city on the Indian border and to confer upon him the additional title of High Commissioner for Frontier Affairs, so that he may deal with such matters on the spot.

According to a report given by the Japanese Consul of Hankow, the crops in the districts of Kansu have failed in consequence of the continued drought. The tobacco-plant, which is the chief product of those districts, is completely withered. A larger portion of cereals necessary for daily subsistence has been supplied from Pechan and other districts, where the people are now suffering from famine. No small amount of relief is being contributed by the Hupeh Chamber of Commerce and other institutions.

On August 23, an anonymous letter was put into the hands of Judge Fukuma, of the Osaka District Court, stating that Tamada, who is at present in custody in connection with the origin of the recent fire in Osaka, has tried to explain away a charge of incendiarism. He stated that he had gone to bed at 10 p.m. on the night in question, whereas another witness declares that Tamada was engaged in making up some accounts till about 12 o'clock. The judge is asked to make strict examination into the matter.

On the 24th instant, the 13th anniversary of the death of late Count Mutsu Munemitsu was celebrated at Kaizen-ji, Asakusa, Tokyo. Count Mutsu Hirokichi, son of the deceased, holding a post abroad, Baron Nakashima Kumakichi, one of the relatives, acted as the chief mourner. After the religious service, all the relatives and friends attending the ceremony were entertained at the Seiyoken, Uyeno. The celebration was private, on account of the absence of the head of the family, and there were only about 40 guests.

"Shrewd and good as many of the appreciations of Meredith have been, I have seen only one that properly stated Meredith's magnitude. The professional critic is always a little afraid of saying anything which might lead to an accusation of "gush." After Meredith died, it was reserved for an amateur critic, Sir Ray Lankester, to write the essential thing of him; that he was, with the sole exception of Shakspeare, the greatest man in our literature. This and that of our writers has had this and that gift as signally as Meredith. But only in Shakspeare has there been such a variety of endowment; only in him a range so ample, depths so many. In due course England will realize this. I don't mean that many hundreds of people will in any generation be reading Meredith. Very few hundreds read Shakspeare, though they care to see their favourite actors in such of his plays as contain good parts for those actors. His transcendence is taken on trust. So will Meredith's be."—Max Beerbohm, in the *Saturday Review*.

Since the beginning of this year Uyeda Toranosuke has hired a large villa at Tengachaya, in the suburbs of Osaka, where various sorts of people have visited from time and time. It has lately been found that the said man is the ringleader of a large number of swindlers who have obtained over *yen* 200,000 by fraud in different districts of Japan under the pretence of purchasing and selling lands and houses. In the last few days, 32 of his confederates have been arrested in Osaka, Kyoto, Shiga, Hiogo, Okayama, Nara and Wakayama.

At the Nagasaki Chiho Saibansho three lads, natives of Okusa, aged 19, 20, and 21, respectively, have each been sentenced to three years' imprisoment, for placing an obstruction on the railway in May last.

It will be remembered, says the *Nagasaki Press*, that the accused lads, on the night of May 5th, placed a baulk of timber across the railway near Okusa station, but the obstruction was fortunately discovered by a railway patrol a few moments before the arrival of the train. The defence put forward by the lads was that they were the worse for liquor, being on their return from a wedding party, and they "only" placed the log on the line "for fun," "just to see what would happen."

The new treaty which has recently been entered into between China and France for the suppression of rebellions, provides *inter alia* as follows, says the *Shanghai Times*:—(1) That the French authorities shall disperse all gatherings of rebels in Annam, and that China may, if she has information of any such gathering, request the French to do the same at any time; (2) that France shall prohibit the publication or distribution of any newspaper, book or pamphlet advocating sedition, and expel the author thereof and all those responsible for the same from Annam; (3) that France shall, whenever armed rebels are caught, confiscate their arms, imprison them and expel them from French territory at the expiration of their term, and that China shall repay her whatever she may have expended under this article; (4) that ordinary criminals shall be governed by the Treaty of the 20th year of Kwang Hsu; and (5) that China and France shall mutually assist each other in preventing the smuggling of arms across the Annam frontier.

CORRESPONDENCE.

BILLIONS OR THOUSAND MILLIONS?

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In last Tuesday's issue of your journal appears a communication signed "Municeps," containing various statements regarding notation. Interested, but not being a mathematician myself, I consulted the Standard Dictionary, which gives the following definition of the word "billion":—

"A cardinal number:—(1) In the French system of numeration usually followed in the United States, a thousand millions. (2) In the English system, a million millions."

Your correspondent states:—

"The notation of two billions is 2,000,000,000,000, to which the a jective stupendous is appropriate. If the sum is 2,000,000,000 it should be written "two thousand millions," and the adjective is inappropriate."

After a paragraph in which a clerical error is visible, he proceeds:—

"I am aware that 1,000,000,000 is sometimes (not always) written in the United States as one billion; but that is no reason why the world (*sic*) should be misled."

It is distinctly discouraging that one rejoicing in as imposing a title as "Municeps" should evince such provincialism. If he had confined himself to saying that in England a billion means one thing, and in France (and in other countries following her acknowledged leadership in the science of notation) another, his letter would have been instructive; but his sense of proportion must indeed be blunted to allow him to write "If the sum is 2,000,000,000 *it should be* written 'two thousand millions,'" (italics mine)—apparently a rule laid down for all humanity—as the question as to which of the two methods of notation is illogical and unscientific, and which the reverse, does not seem to have been raised.

"Municeps says the French system is "sometimes (not always)" used in the United States: I think it safe to say that the occasions on which it is not are supplied by denizens of the "tight little island" transplanted rather late in life.

"Municeps" interjects the dictum that "stupendous" is inappropriate as applied to two billions (two thousand millions English) Certainly two billions is less stupendous than two trillions (two billions English), and positively a paltry bagatelle compared with, for instance, two decillions (two thousand quintillions English). As a separate entity, however, I suspect that two billions (two thousand millions English) is sufficiently stupendous to satisfy the majority of ordinary mortals.

It is graciously intimated by "Municeps" that there is "no reason why the world should be misled" and it is to be hoped that those who, having more than an academic interest in economics, have thus far neglected to make themselves familiar with the system of notation in vogue in the United States, will be duly edified.

VERB. SAP.

Yokohama, August 20th, 1909.

MR. DENING AND MR. BERRY.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In the Weekly *Mail* of Aug. 14 appears a letter from Mr. Dening in which he seizes upon three minor points in my last letter and characterizes them as "glaringly false statements."

(1) In my letter I said that Mr. Dening had given a long list of disconnected passages from Dr. Takagi's speech in the Kaitakusha, and Mr. Dening says that he gave no disconnected passages but "a passage of considerable length." If that be true I was led astray by Mr. Dening's own words. He referred to the quotation as "the passage quoted" and "the extracts given below" and the quotation was printed in the form of broken passages. I did not look up the original in the Kaitakusha because, as I said in my previous letter, I had never attempted to give my own independent judgment of Mr. Dening's summary of Dr. Takagi's speech. I had given Dr. Takagi's own judgement and left the matter an issue between him and Mr. Dening. If the quotation given by Mr. Dening be a complete connected passage, it still remains true as I said that "the only possible way to come to an independent judgment is to read the entire original speech and then to decide whether the summary is a fair representation of the speech as a whole."

(2) Mr. Dening called for an example of a case in which he had ever given his own views in a summary and I referred to his summary of Messrs. Schiller and Aoki's books in the *Weekly Mail* of April 3, and said that "in the body of the summary he himself takes sides with the radical and naturalistic conception of the Christian religion and gives his own partisan views at length." Mr. Dening says that "a greater falsehood was never penned." If your readers will turn to the summary in question they will find that through the whole summary the spirit and tone are partisan and not that of an impartial summarizer. To those who cannot refer to the original summary the following quotation will be sufficient to show that what I said was not the "greatest falsehood ever penned."

"There are in this country a great many scholars who like Messrs. Schiller and Aoki are bent on giving the Japanese people a rational form of Christianity. The book will certainly mould the minds of the hundreds of Christian preachers to whom the alleged supernatural origin of Christianity, has been a constant stumbling-block. The view taken by Messrs. Schiller and Aoki is that in attributing miracles to Christ the orthodox church has been unconsciously lowering him in the eyes of the world, putting him on a level with the numerous wonder-workers known to the students of history. No greater service to the memory of Christ can be done than to demonstrate beyond all possibility of doubt the fact that Jesus himself repudiated alike the wish and the power to work miracles, and to point out that the power of working physical marvels, even if possessed, could never add to Christ's moral or spiritual preeminence. This is the ground taken by Messrs Schiller and Aoki throughout the whole work. In eliminating the legendary from the historical part of the narrative, in showing how in an uncritical age the most ordinary events were converted into supernatural occurrences by the vivid imagination and the adoration felt by the disciples of Christ for their master, they have done much to save the New Testament from being consigned to the low

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place occupied by mythological stories in the minds of e ucated Japanese."

This is a fair specimen of what Mr. Dening's critics mean by frequent offensive interpolation of his own standpoint into the Religious Summaries.

(3) In my former letter I said "Mr. Dening goes on to disparage the moral character of missionaries in general and the character of wives of missionaries," and this is my third glaring false statement. This is what Mr. Dening said, "I know crowds of missionaries and other Christians—I defy anybody to point out wherein their alleged moral superiority consists.—It is only in theory. I have lived among Christians for over 50 years. I have watched their lives and listened to their conversation without seeing any signs of this wonderful transfiguration. The missionaries in this country squabble among themselves. Many of their wives gossip and backbite just as much if not more than wordly women. No; if the proof of the moral superiority of orthodox Christianity is to rely on the lives of its professors, then it is in a poor way. Give me Buddhism or Confucianism or Zoroastrianism or Mohammedanism in preference to Christianity, if this is to be the test of its excellence." I think your readers will agree with me that my statement above is an exact characterization of what Mr. Dening said. Yet Mr. Dening calls my statement an unpardonable falsehood.

So much for the three glaring falsehoods. The main argument of my letter Mr. Dening dismisses as "trimming." In other words Mr. Dening ends the controversy, as he so often does, by slinging a handful of mud. It is a sad thing that Mr. Dening does not realize that by so doing he never hurts anyone but himself. In the meanwhile I think I have accomplished my purpose in defending Dr. Takagi's theological standing and in showing that he is not the heretic that Mr. Dening has so persistently declared him to be.

In conclusion, I should like mildly to protest to the Editor against the heading of Mr. Dening's letter in the issue of August 14. I may be too sensitive, but I feel that the bald heading Mr. Berry's False Statements, without quotation marks, is not quite fair.

Yours sincerely, ARTHUR D. BERRY.

Aoyama, Tokyo, August 19, 1909.

[Our correspondent is quite justified in his concluding protest. The quotation marks should have been inserted. We apologise for their omission—an act of inadvertence on our part.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE ORIENTAL COMPRESSOL COMPANY.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—May I enquire whether you heard the name mentioned of a foreign-Japanese industrial concern in this country, styled the "Oriental Compressol Company?

If so, could you supply the readers of your journal with some information about the present condition and doings of this Company?

Thanking you in anticipation, I am etc.,

"ENQUIRER."

Yokohama, 19th August, 1909.

A DISCLAIMER.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—"Conscience makes cowards of us all," and my conscience tells me that if I allow your description of me as "the most eminent living authority on everything connected with the creed of Shakya Muni," to pass without a disclaimer, I shall have some one rise up and confront me with some of my "howlers." I thank you all the same for your kind words,—but there are many scholars along my special line whose shoes I am not worthy to bear. It is not modesty that impels me to write, but a sense of humour and proportion.

Yours faithfully, ARTHUR LLOYD.

Hakone, 21st August, 1909.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

KING'S BIRTHDAY PRESENT TO FRANZ JOSEF.

London, August 19.

King Edward, in the uniform of the Austrian Hussars, accompanied by a brilliant staff, attended the review in honour of the Austrian Emperor's birthday, and sent to Ischal from Marienbad a bronze bust of himself, accompanied by an autograph letter. He also gave an official banquet at Marienbad yesterday.

MR. CHURCHILL THE GUEST OF THE KAISER.

The Kaiser has specially invited Mr. Winston Churchill to attend the forthcoming Imperial Manœuvres in Bavaria, and also Marshal Mahsud Shevket, the hero of the Capture of Constantinople.

GENERAL IAN HAMILTON AS GUEST OF TSAR.

General Sir Ian Hamilton will attend the Russian Grand Autumn manœuvres at Krasnoels, next month, on the invitation of the Tsar. He is the only foreign general invited.

GOVERNMENT GRANT OF £20,000 TO LT. SHACKLETON

London, August 20.

The British Government has decided to grant Lieut. Shackleton £20,000 towards the heavy indebtedness he incurred for the Antarctic expedition.

GREEK REPLY IS CONCILIATORY.

Reuter learns that the Greek reply is conciliatory and justifies the hope that it will satisfy the Porte and will remove all Turco-Greek misunderstandings.

U.S.A. FINANCIERS WANT TURKISH RAILROADS.

The State department at Washington announces that American firms are endeavouring to obtain valuable concessions in Asiatic Turkey, including railways at Ongara, Alexandretta, Aleppo and near the Euphrates.

THE CRETAN CRISIS.

GOVERNMENT WILL RESPECT DECISION OF POWERS.

London, August 20.

Reuter's correspondent at Canea reports that the Government has assured the consuls of its intention to respect the decision of the Powers as to the question of the flag, and will give a written assurance thereof when order has been restored in Candia, where, it states, after the Greek flag had been lowered by the authorities, it was re-hoisted by the armed populace, who now guard it.

A WARNING TO TURKEY.

August 21.

It is reported from Constantinople that the Protecting Powers have presented a Note counselling the Porte in energetic terms not to jeopardise the peace of the Balkans by pushing Greece to extremities.

ORDER RESTORED.

Order has been restored in Candia. The population, of their own accord, have lowered the Greek flag and handed it over to the municipality.

August 22.

Reuter learns that it is probable that Turkey will make no formal reply to the Powers' Note, which does not call for a reply. It is unlikely, in view of the conciliatory character of the Greek Note, that Turkey will appeal to the Powers with regard to Macedonia.

THE DUKE OF CONNAUGHT.

REASON OFFICIALLY ASSIGNED FOR RESIGNATION.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Haldane stated that the Duke of Connaught had ceased to serve on the Board of Selection because it was considered essential that the board should consist of officers in active military employment only.

SOUTH AFRICAN FEDERATION.

BILL PASSES THIRD READING.

The South African Union Bill has passed its third reading in the House of Commons without a division. Several amendments on the subject of the colour bar in the franchise and legislature, as mentioned on the 18th inst., were rejected in the committee stage.

IMPERIAL DEFENCE CONFERENCE.

LABOURS ENDED.

The Imperial Defence Conference has closed. The arrangement between the Imperial Government and Canada awaits only ratification by the Canadian parliament.

BRITISH POLITICS.

STATEMENT BY THE PRIME MINISTER.

London, August 21.

Mr. Asquith has made a statement in the House of Commons with regard to the conduct of public business during the remainder of the session. It is intended to pass ten bills, including the Finance Bill, the Irish Land Bill and London Elections Bill, and two naval bills dealing with the decisions of the Defence Conference.

Eighteen bills have been dropped, including the Welsh Disestablishment Bill.

Later.

The House of Commons will devote next week to the Irish Land Bill, and will resume the debate on the Budget on the 31st.

AN ARMENIAN RAILWAY.

CONCESSION SECURED BY AMERICAN COMPANY.

Later.

Constantinople.—The Chamber of Deputies has substantially approved the project of a concession to an American Company for a railway from Sivas to Mosul *via* Van, on condition that no better terms are offered within the next sixteen months.

[The proposed railway would have a length of some 600 miles. The circuitous route by way of Lake Van is rendered necessary by the engineering difficulties presented by the Taurus and other mountain ranges—ED. *J.M.*]

LORD KITCHENER.

Lord Kitchener sails from Tuticorin for China on the 12th prox. He was entertained at a brilliant farewell banquet at Simla yesterday evening.

THE FRENCH BUDGET.

ESTIMATED HEAVY DEFICIT.

London, August 22.

It is calculated that the deficit of the French Budget for 1910 will be at least £8,000,000. It is proposed to meet this by additional taxes on wine and tobacco.

THE GREEK FLAG.

POWERS DISSATIFIED WITH GREEK ASSURANCES.

London, August 23

The Cretan government has handed to the foreign consuls a written assurance regarding the hoisting of the Greek flag. The foreign consuls, however, have requested alterations in the text of the document.

FLOODS IN VICTORIA.

RECORD DAMAGE IN 40 YEARS.

Melbourne dispatches say that the recent heavy rains have caused the greatest floods that Victoria has experienced during 40 years. Bridges have been demolished, railways interrupted, and great damage in other directions has been done, in addition to a loss of stock having been suffered.

AUSTRALIA'S FLEET: DETAILS OF BIG NAVAL SCHEME.

Later.

A telegram from Melbourne says that Mr. Deakin, being interviewed, has explained that the Australian Fleet will consist of 6 cruisers, 9 destroyers, and a small flotilla of submarines.

BRITISH ARMY MANOEUVRES.

50,000 MEN WILL PRACTICE WAR IN SEPTEMBER NEXT.

The most important army manœuvres

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that have been held in recent years will take place at West England in September. Fifty-thousand men and 20,000 horses, with 300 guns will participate in a 72 hours' battle under all the conditions of modern warfare.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

London, August 23.

Constantinople.—Following a council of Ministers held on Saturday, the Press was officially informed that the Greek reply was satisfactory.

Later.

Reuter telegraphs from Constantinople that the Cabinet, while approving the principle of the Greek reply, yesterday decided to make a further appeal to the Powers with a view to a definite settlement of the Cretan *régime*.

"AVIATION WEEK" AT RHEIMS.

The opening day of the great aviation week at Rheims was marred by wind and rain. Towards evening the wind dropped, rendering possible the unprecedented sight of nine aeroplanes racing simultaneously.

The honours went to Lefebur, in a Wright bi-plane, for speed, stability and dirigibility.

THE WELLMAN FAILURE.

The Wellman balloon, on starting for the North Pole, covered 32 miles rapidly, when the machinery broke down.

RIOTS IN PITTSBURG.

The strikers in Pittsburg, incited by women, attacked the steel works. The troops fired a volley and arrested scores of the rioters. The deputy-Sheriff, a trooper and three foreigners were killed, and 20 were wounded, many of them seriously.

Later.

The death roll amounts to 11. The strikers wrecked a portion of the steel works with nitro-glycerine. A further outbreak is expected.

A BOILER DISASTER.

The King, telegraphing from Marienbad, has notified the Admiralty that he greatly regretted the boiler disaster on the 16th inst. at Wei-hai-wei, which caused the death of two men, and injuries to several others.

[The above telegram is obscure.—ED. *J.M.*].

EXPLOSION AT GENEVA.

There has been a terrible explosion at the Geneva gas works. A gasometer blew up, shaking the whole city. Seven persons were killed, 16 seriously wounded and 50 slightly injured.

IDEMBURG FOR DUTCH COLONIAL GOVERNORSHIP.

London, August 23.

M. Idemburg, who has resigned the ministry of the Dutch Colonies, and has been given a Colonial Governorship, will assume his duties in December.

ADMONITION FROM TURKISH EMBASSIES.

London, August 24.

Reuter's correspondent at Constantinople says that it is understood that all the Turkish embassies abroad have telegraphed to the Porte warning the latter of the disfavour with which the Powers view the recent chauvinistic policy on the part of Turkey.

"AVIATION WEEK."

Rheims.—A huge attendance has assembled to watch the performances of the various airships. Remarkable speeds have been attained. M. Bleriot circled the course of ten kilometres in 8 min. 42 2/5 secs. This world's record was, however, beaten an hour later by the American, Curtiss, on a bi-plane—8 min. 37 3/5 secs.

AMERICAN BOTANICAL EXPEDITION.

Professor Meyer, representative of the United States bureau of agriculture, has arrived at Liverpool *en route* for Batoum, whence he will start on a botanical expedition across Turkestan, Tibet and China, searching for plants suitable for transplantation to America.

SUPPRESSION OF OPIUM TRAFFIC.

London, August 25.

Sir Grey, replying to a memorial from Scotland urging the speedier ending of the opium traffic and a relaxation of the treaty obligations in favour of China, said that the Government sympathized with the memorialists, but that the reports from British representatives in China tended to confirm the opinion that the period proposed by China was in no wise excessive to render possible a change of such magnitude in the habits of the population. The Government were bound to uphold British treaty rights, but made it clear to China that they have every desire to support a *bona fide* suppression of the traffic.

DISASTROUS COLLISION OFF MONTE VIDEO.

The N.D.L. liner *Schlesien* collided with the Argentine excursion steamer *Colombia* in Monte Video harbour. The latter sank, from 150 to 300 persons being drowned, mostly women and children. The *Schlesien* is leaking.

THE MONTE VIDEO DISASTER.

London, August 25.

Montevideo.—About 80 of the Colombia's passengers perished. The rescued were mostly sailors. The passengers were sleeping at the moment of the collision, when a wild panic arose. The vessel sank in five minutes, a heavy sea running at the time.

TRAGIC END OF AN EARL'S SON.

Lord Eliot, heir to Earl Saint-Germans, has been found-shot dead in the gun-room of his father's country-seat. He had been in ill-health for some time past.

[The deceased nobleman was only 24 years of age. The tragedy apparently took place on the St. Germans' Estate, Cornwall —ED. *J. M.*]

COTTON-SPINNERS' ASSOCIATION.

Manchester.—At a meeting of cotton trade employers representing from three to four million spindles, it was resolved to form an association the members of which should bind themselves by severe financial penalties not to sell yarn under the minimum prices fixed by the Association. This, however, only affects spinners of American cotton.

GERMAN SECRET MANŒUVRES.

CONSIDERATION FOR BRITISH SUSCEPTIBILITIES.

The German secret naval manœuvres are being carried on exclusively in the Baltic, some German papers say, owing to a desire to avoid giving English scaremongers ground for an outcry as might be the case were the operations transferred to the North Sea.

DEATH ROLL AT GENEVA.

Fifteen persons were killed and thirty injured by the explosion at Geneva.

COLONIAL NAVAL TRANSFER STATIONS.

London, August 26.

The Colonial Naval Establishments Bill has just been issued and authorises transfer stations for Esquimalt and Halifax, in Canada, and legalises similar transfers in the future in other colonies.

BLERIOT'S NEW MONOPLANE RECORD.

Bleriot has beat Curtis's record by monoplaning ten kilometres at a speed of 46 miles an hour.

COMPROMISE AT PEKING.

"TIMES" VAGUELY OUTLINES THE SETTLEMENT MADE.

The *Times* correspondent at Peking says that a compromise was reached on Tuesday between the disputing parties on the main points of the Manchurian question, with the exception of jurisdiction over the Fushun-yan-tai Mines. In connection with the Chientao question, the arrangement provides for the retrocession to China, who will undertake not to build a railway in the vicinity or parallel with the South Manchurian railway, and not to extend the Hsemintun railway northwards without consulting Japan.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE "TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

PROGESS IN KOREA IS CERTAIN.

"TIMES" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT AND THE JAPANESE PROTECTORATE.

London, August 19.

The Times special correspondent who has lately toured the Far East does not dispute the material advantages accruing to Korea from the Japanese protectorate of the peninsula, but there is evidence, he says, that the majority of Koreans dislike Japanese rule; and for this the behaviour of the Japanese is partly responsible. Prince Ito's policy, however, is bearing fruit, and though the task before Japan is a difficult one, progress is certain.

AMERICAN AMBITIONS IN ASIATIC TURKEY.

Efforts are being made by Americans, say New York dispatches, whereby American financiers will secure certain railways and telegraphs, etc. in Asiatic Turkey.

NEW ZEALAND'S LOYALTY: CRUISERS FOR THE PACIFIC.

The British Admiralty has concluded arrangements with New Zealand whereby the dominion will contribute cruisers to be attached to the Pacific Squadron for local defence.

JAPANESE AND RUSSIAN LOANS.

London, August 20.

The demand for the Japanese and the Russian loans on the London Stock Exchange has much improved.

THE CRETAN QUESTION.

Candia.—As soon as the gendarmes removed the Greek flag from the fort, the militia put it up again, assembling in swarms. They threatened to shoot the officers of the gendarmes, but in a short while they all returned to their barracks. The governor then removed the flag once more without any resistance.

A GRANT TO LT. SHACKLETON.

Premier the Rt. Hon. Mr. Asquith has announced in the House of Commons that the British Government wishes to grant £20,000 to the Antarctic explorer, Lieut. Shackleton.

THE SOUTH AFRICA UNION BILL PASSED.

The South Africa Union Bill has passed the second reading without any amendment, and without a division.

CANADIAN DEFENCE.

Ottawa.—The press does not approve the policy of the Canadian Government, which insists on organizing a separate Canadian navy.

NOT ENOUGH "LOOKING AHEAD."

London, August 21.

Simla.—At the farewell banquet given in

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his honour, Lord Kitchener said that his voice in the Council had ever been for peace. The weakness in our Indian rule was, he thought, that there was not enough looking ahead.

THE STRIKE IN SWEDEN.

Stockholm.—A hundred thousand non-socialist workmen return to work on Monday; 284,418 remain on strike.

NEW ZEALAND'S PART IN IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

Wellington.—General satisfaction is being expressed at New Zealand's naval contribution of cruisers. Compulsory universal training is being discussed.

FOREST FIRE IN B.C.

London, August 23.

Winnipeg.—Terrible fires are raging in the forests of British Columbia. Amber to the value of several million dollars has been destroyed, and towns are threatened with destruction. The fire is a mile in width. The inhabitants of the district are safe.

"LICKING CREATION."

London, August 25.

New York.—Tenders for two 26,000-ton battleships have been opened. It is expected that they will cost over £2,000,000 each.

The rumour is revived that the two battleships for 1910 (?) will have a tonnage of 30,000, and carry twelve 14-inch guns.

ARMY RETRENCHMENT.

New York.—The President has instructed the Secretary for War to reduce the army from 88,000 to 80,000 men, it is believed for motives of economy.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

Constantinople.—The Ministers' Council accepts the Greek reply as satisfactory. It was decided that no further direct communication should be sent to Athens, though the Cretan question is still unsettled.

THE EX-SHAH LINGERS YET.

Teheran.—The financial arrangements for the ex-Shah are not progressing. His departure for Europe is indefinitely delayed. The Government is pressed for money and is unable to deal with the lawlessness in the country. The situation is not promising.

POLITICAL PRISONERS RELEASED.

Paris.—The Government has released from prison a number of political offenders belonging to the reactionary parties.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

The advance in Japanese and Russian securities continues. Chinese Stocks are also in demand.

THE RHEIMS WEEK.

London, August 26.

In the contests of aeronauts at Rheims Paulhan has created a new world's record. His time for 81 miles was 2 hours 43 minutes.

(Received by the Foreign Office.)

HAWAIIAN STRIKERS SENTENCED.

Makino and Negoro, of the Hawaii Higher Wages Association, and Tanaka and Aiga, of the *Nippu Jiji*, 4 men in all, have been found guilty of conspiracy in the 3rd degree for inciting labourers to go on strike, and have been sentenced to 10 months' imprisonment and a fine of $300 each. One-fourth of the costs of the prosecution are to be borne by the defendants. The four men have dissented and appealed to the Supreme Court.

CHILIAN EXCLUSION OF CHINESE.

(From Mr. Heki, Japanese Representative in Chili, 25th August.)

The spirit of Chinese exclusion is exceedingly high in Chili. There are signs that the Government will be obliged to follow the example of Peru and order their exclusion. The United States Consul, who is charged with the duty of protecting the Chinese, apprehends that if hereafter, any ship arrive carrying Chinese, some pretext will be found for turning her back.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

TURKEY.

Berlin, August 19.

Shefket-Pasha, the Turkish Generalissimo, will participate in the German Imperial manœuvres.

AUSTRALIA.

Freiherr von Aehrenthal, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, has been created Count by the Emperor.

MOROCCO.

The Moroccan Pretender has been captured and sent to Fez.

CRETE.

The uprooting of the flag-staff and the hauling down of the Greek flag at Canea, which have been so much disputed during the past few days, have been carried out without any further disturbance. The King of Greece has left for Aix in France, whence he will return to Athens not before November.

UNITED STATES.

The naval review on the occasion of the Hudson-Fulton celebration at New York, in remembrance of the discovery of the Hudson river 300 years ago and of the first steamships voyage of James Fulton 100 years ago, will be witnessed by a German Squadron of four men-of-war under the commander of Admiral of the Fleet Kyester.

Mr. Orville Wright, the well-known aviator, has arrived at Berlin to undertake new experiments with his flying machine.

GREECE AND TURKEY.

Berlin, August 20.

The Greek answer to Constantinople diminishes the favourable impression. The collective action of the Protective Powers in hauling down the Greek flag indicates the necessity of keeping the peace.

AUSTRIA.

The *Fremdenblatt* points out the signs of an approximation between Austria and England.

The Emperor Francis Joseph will leave for Lindau on the 21st to visit Prince Ludwig.

GERMANY.

No new demand has been made for the Navy for 1910. The military estimates will be restricted as much as possible.

A German war monument has been consecrated on French soil. German officers in uniform have been very cordially received.

The Royal family of Wurtemburg are at Meinau on a visit to the Grand Duke of Baden.

FRANCE.

Berlin, August 22.

The invitation issued by France to participate in an international aeronautic conference has so far been accepted by Germany, Austria, Italy, Great Britain, Spain, the Netherlands and Switzerland.

SPANISH-MOROCCAN WAR.

The Spaniards at Melilla have demanded new reinforcements.

TURKEY.

The Sultan will send a special embassy under General Mukthar-Pasha to welcome the Tsar at Livudia in the Autumn.

The Turkish Chamber has been adjourned.

MAILS VIA SIBERIA.

Siberian mails with Yokohama dates up to August 8th arrived at Berlin on August 22nd.

CRETE.

The Sublime Porte agrees to the negotiations to be held on the Cretan question with the exclusion of Greece in view, and has given assurances that it will not place any new demands before Greece. Turkey will negotiate with the Powers as to the autonomy of Crete, the Macedonian question being not touched on at all,

FRANCE AND MEXICO.

King Emanuel of Italy has been appointed arbitrator between France and Mexico in the dispute as to the sovereignty over the island of Clipperton (Oceania).

THE WELLMANN EXPEDITION.

The second balloon trip of Mr. Wellmann for the exploration of the Arctic region has again proved a failure after a short distance having been passed. The balloon has been completely destroyed.

GREECE.

Berlin, August 23.

A new anti-dynastic movement in the Greek Army has been provoked by the measures the Government has taken in the solution of the Cretan question.

TURKEY.

The Government of the Young Turks has adopted a quieter attitude on the Cretan question and has agreed to a solution as proposed by the Protective Powers.

AUSTRIA.

The meeting between King Edward and Emperor Francis Joseph will take place at Ischl on September first.

UNITED STATES.

President Taft has received Mr. Crane, the new American Ambassador to China, who will leave for his post on October 2nd. He emphasised, on this occasion, how important a political mission he would have to fulfil at Peking.

RUSSIA.

Berlin, August 24.

Le Temps publishes an intimation, according to which the visit of the Tsar to Constantinople may be followed by a counter visit of the Sultan to St. Petersburg.

TURKEY.

A naval league has been formed in Turkey with principal branches at Constantinople and Salonika and a foreign branch at Cairo.

The Sublime Porte has recognised the last Note of the Great Powers, by which the Cretan question is settled. It sets forth an arrangement of the autonomy over Crete by the Protective Powers and demands a free hand in Macedonia.

UNITED STATES.

Mr. Crane, the new American Minister to China, will go to Peking *via* Siberia and carry out a tour of inspection through Manchuria on this occasion.

MONTENEGRO.

Prince Nicolas of Moutenegro will participate in the meeting between the Tsar and King Emanuelo of Italy in the autumn.

TURKEY.

Berlin, August 23.

The Turkish Cabinet Council has signified its agreement to the proposed track of the Bagdad Railway over Port Alexandretta. The building of that part of the railway crossing the Taurus mountains will be commenced very soon.

FRANCE.

The aeronautic week at Rheims has been

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opened with great success. The German aeronaut, Major Parseval, who participates in it, has been very cordially welcomed.

GERMANY,

King Edward will return to England on September 4th. He has received at Marienbad Slatin Pasha, the well-known explorer of the Sudan.

The Argentina steamer *Columbia* has collided with the Nordd. Lloyd steamer *Schlesien* in the harbour of Montevideo. The former sank, many passengers being drowned.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

AMERICANS AND JAPANESE SHOULD MARRY.

Dr. Matthews, a professor of anthropology of Chicago University has declared in a long lecture that Americans will not deteriorate if they marry Japanese, for the latter posses as much talent as the former. His lecture has created much surprise.

VERDICT IN HONOLULU TRIALS.

The Court of Assize at Honolulu gave a verdict of guilty against the four Japanese Makino, Negoro, Aiga and Tanaka, in connection with the recent strike, to-day. Though the case is reported as if it were a collusion to overthrow the Hawaiian Government, it seems to have been mistaken for a conspiracy to murder a Japanese named Chiba who has been suspected as a spy by the planters employed.

SPAIN WANTS PEACE.

Spain has commenced peace negotiations with Morocco.

KIRIN-CHANGSHUN RAILWAY.

Tientsin, August 19.

The regulations relating to the Kirin-Changshun railway were signed by the Japanese and the Chinese delegates at 6 p.m. yesterday. The agreement will be made out in Japanese and Chinese, two copies each, to be exchanged.

THE PARTICIPATION IN THE LOANS.

Peking, August 19.

The Ichang-Hankow railway loans will be participated in by Great Britain and France, and the Szechuan-Hankow railway loan by Germany and America. The chief expert of the latter line will be German. It was reported yesterday by mistake that the loans had been concluded and signed by the delegates of China and America.

CHINESE RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION STUDENTS.

Shanghai, August 19.

The four students who have graduated from the railway-construction department of the Shanghai Higher Industrial School, have been instructed to make further studies in the same course in England.

PRINCE HSI'S ITINERARY.

Prince Hsi is expected here shortly, leaving Peking on the 25th instant. After a stay of 10 days or more, he will visit Japan on a naval tour of inspection. He may go to Europe and America on a similar errand.

THE MUKDEN-CHIENTAO LINE.

Mukden, August 19.

The Chinese committee sent to make investigations relating to the construction of the railway between Mukden and Chientao, have finished investigations and the construction will shortly be commenced. The line will be 900 miles long.

QUARANTINE REGULATIONS AT FUSAN.

Fusan, August 19.

All vessels coming from ports in Ehime, Yamaguchi and Fukuoka prefectures are to be inspected by the quarantine officers on and after the 20th instant.

NEGOTIATIONS RELATING TO PURCHASE OF LAND.

Peking, August 20.

The negotiations between Japan and China in connection with the reconstruction of the Antung-Mukden railway have been concluded. Further negotiations relating to purchase of land are progressing.

CONTRIBUTION TO OSAKA RELIEF-FUND.

Shanghai, August 20.

The Chinese Chamber of Commerce of this city has contributed a thousand Mexican dollars to the fund for the relief of the affected people in Osaka, through the Japanese Consul-General Mr. Nagataki.

THE ACTUAL STATE OF THE RAILWAY LOANS AFFAIRS.

It is believed that an agreement as to the Ichang-Hankow and the Szechuan-Hankow railway loans has been entered upon between Mr. Chang Chitung and the capitalist corps of Great Britain, France, Germany and the United States, increasing the total amount to $6,000,000. The actual state of affairs was that the American capitalists having insisted on participating equally with each of the three others, the Germans proposed to increase the total amount, so as not to decrease the amount to be participated in by each of Great Britain, France and Germany. The Americans are only to be concerned in the Szechuan-Hankow line.

BOYCOTT AT KUKIANG.

Hankow, August 20.

The boycott of the British merchandise at Kukiang has become so violent that all the cargoes brought by the British steamers are not taken delivery of. Consequently, Messrs. Butterfield & Swire and Jardine, Matheson & Co. are sustaining no small losses. It is, however, supposed that the boycott will be a temporary one.

SAD CONDITION OF FINANCE IN SEOUL.

Seoul, August 21.

Financial circles here have fallen into most distressing circumstances, so that no small number of merchants have become insolvent. It has dealt an equal blow to the Chinese merchants.

PLUNDER ALONG THE BANKS OF THE YALU RIVER.

Shin-Wiju, August 21.

Since the recent inundation, the timbers drifting down the Yalu River have frequently been stolen by robbers in various districts. The situation is serious.

MR. FAIRBANKS IN PEKING.

Peking, August 22.

Mr. Fairbanks, ex-Vice-president of America, arrived here yesterday. Though it is said that his visit has no connection with any of the political questions, his actions are naturally being watched with care by the general public.

JAPAN-CHINA NEGOTIATION PROGRESS.

In connection with the pending questions on Manchuria, the delegates of Japan and China had a third interview yesterday. The negotiations seem to be steadily progressing and the next conference will be held on the 24th instant.

CHINA'S ONLY "OWN" RAILWAY.

Peking, August 21.

The King-Chang railway, the only line which the Chinese Government is constructing on its own account, being almost completed, the Department of Communication has drafted a proposition to extend the line 800 Chinese miles during the ensuing eight years, defraying the expenses at two million taels a year out of the proceeds of the King-Chang and the Peking-Mukden lines. Imperial sanction has been obtained.

THE BEAN CROP.

Mukden, August 23.

The crop of beans is expected to show from 20 to 30 per cent. decrease on the yield in normal years, whilst the other crops are, on the whole, those of a normal year.

AN ANTI-GERMAN BOYCOTT AT HANKOW.

Hankow, August 22.

An anti-German boycott seems to be in process of organization in the Yangtse-kiang Valley, Hankow being the centre.

ANTI-BRITISH BOYCOTT.

The anti-British boycott at Kiukiang is gradually becoming quieted.

KIRIN-CHANGCHUN RAILWAY LOAN.

Peking, August 22.

The agreement as to the Kirin-Changchun railway loan, which was signed at Tientsin by the delegates of Japan and China on the 18th instant, was ratified by His Majesty yesterday.

THE CHIENTAO QUESTION.

Shanghai, August 22.

To day's *Shimbun-ho* contains a Peking telegram to the effect that 20 or more Chinese privates have been killed at Chientao by Japanese soldiers. The other Chinese papers in this place daily contain paragraphs of an inciting nature, directed to appeal to popular sentiment in connection with the Chientao question.

MR. FAIRBANKS BANQUETTED.

Mr. Fairbanks, ex-Vice-President of America, was banquetted at Tientsin by the Viceroy of the Metropolitan Province yesterday.

CHINESE MERCHANTMAN BURNED OUT.

The steamer *Kiangshin* (?) belonging to the Chinese Merchants Company was gutted by fire off the coast of Fuko yesterday.

PRINCE ITO'S KINDNESS.

Seoul, August 24.

The Korean Emperor sent a congratulatory telegram to-day to the Crown Prince, in reference to his safe return to Tokyo, and hoping that he is interested in his studies. Prince Ito has also received a telegram from His Majesty, thanking him for being so kind to the Crown Prince, in spite of his venerable age.

CENTRAL BANK OF KOREA.

The articles (26 in all) of the Central Bank of Korea will be published in the *Official Gazette* on the 27th instant.

RUSSIAN MINISTRY OF JUSTICE.

Vladivostock, August 24.

It is rumoured that M. Scheglovitoff, Minister of Justice, will shortly give up his portfolio, and Senator M. Waltzrin (?) will be the successor.

PEKING FOREIGN RESIDENTS PLEASED.

Peking, August 24.

The fact that the negotiations between Japan and China relating to the pending questions of Manchuria are steadily progressing, is well received among the foreign residents here. Everyone is glad that the Governments are willing to avoid all trifling differences.

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PEKING JOURNALS' LOGIC.

The Peking papers, which have observed silence in connection with the Manchurian questions, have commenced to allege injustice against Japan. Their logical basis, however, is weak. They confess the inferior diplomacy of the Wai-wu-pu and suggest that the only weapon against Japan is a resolutely carried out boycott.

CHINA'S DESIRE FOR SETTLEMENT.

Peking, August 25.

The delegates of Japan and China had a fourth interview yesterday. Though it is as yet unknown how far the negotiations have progressed, it is likely that China desires to have a fundamental settlement of the questions, provided that her dignity will not be impaired.

"DEATH TO JAPAN."

Hankow, August 25.

One of to-day's local papers records a manifesto under the long name of the Union of Various Kinds of Schools for the Students Studying in Japan, that the anti-Japanese boycott should be strictly enforced throughout China until it spells death to Japan.

FUNERAL RITES OF COUNT FUTAARA.

At 7.45 p.m. on August 18, Count Futaara Yoshiyuki, the fifth son of Prince Kitashirakawa, passed away at the Asakura Hospital. The next morning, when the remains were removed to the mansion at Kioi-cho, a number of the Imperial Princes and high dignitaries paid a visit themselves to express condolence, or sent representatives with offerings of condolence. Just before the time of expiration, their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress instructed that a quantity of food which would be sufficient for the immediate requirements of 50 people should be ready. The funeral rites will take place at the Aoyama Cemetary on the 24th instant.

At 8 a.m. on August 24, the cortège of the late Count Futaara left the front gate of the palace of Prince Kitashirakawa. The coffin was carried by 16 men, followed by 6 musicians and a number of funeral attendants. The chief mourner was Count Uyeno, who was clad in a black mourning-dress, after whom several scores of relatives followed in silence. An hour later, the mother and the brothers and sisters of the deceased drove in a carriage to the Aoyama Cemetery, where the religious service was held. About half past nine, the formal service was held. Everyone lamented the early death of the Count. The attendance included the representatives of Princes Fushimi, Higashi-Kuni and Arisugawa, the representative of the Minister of the Navy, Admirals Togo, Inouye and Ito, the representatives of Prince Shimadzu and Marquis Inouye, Count Otani, the representative of Tokugawa Yoshichika, Marquis Shijo, Colonel Tsukada, Baron Mitsui, Messrs. Hara and Okura, representatives of the Tokyo Citizens, etc., numbering over 400 in all.

INDIAN MILITARY ADMINISTRATION.

LORD CURZON ON "STARTLING CHANGES."

In the House of Lords recently Lord Curzon called attention to recent changes in the Military Administration of the Government of India, asked for information, and moved for papers.

There was a full House, and the Prince of Wales occupied a seat on the cross-benches.

The following is a comprehensive summary of the ex-Viceroy's speech, a small portion of which has appeared in our columns before:

Lord Curzon said that during the last four years great and startling changes had been introduced into the military administration of India, and he was not sure that a further change was not now being enacted there which, if closely examined, would not turn out to be the most startling change of all. In August, 1905, Lord Ripon made a masterly speech on this matter in the House of Lords, in the course of which he complained that these changes had been adopted without the knowledge or the advice of Parliament. That statement was true at the time, and it held true, he believed, of the other House at this moment. No one would contest that the military administration of India was a matter of the first and most important concern. It was not a question, as the words might suggest, of organisation. It was not a mere question of official or departmental routine; it was a matter which might affect the whole conditions on which we held and ruled the country. In the last resort, it was upon our military strength that our position in India depended. The vast majority of the English population in that country were soldiers, and they had the phenomenon of the native army.

The contentment of the native army was synonymous with the continuance of our rule there and any proposal which might affect the native army was one which ought to be watched and scrutinised with the most scrupulous consideration by their Lordships' House. He described the military system prevailing in India for the half century from the close of the Mutiny until four years ago. In 1905 the late Government, because of complaints that were made against the working of that system, decided to bring it to an end; but he did not propose on that occasion to reargue the case. Though the late Government decided to put an end to the old system they were very far from accepting the alternative proposed to them from India. That alternative was that the Commander-in-Chief should take over the whole functions of the Military Department, and should emerge as a single military adviser to the Government of India; supreme in the field, in the council chamber, and in the office. This proposal was emphatically condemned by the Committee which was presided over by Lord Middleton. The late Government, therefore, agreed to a compromise between views which were in essence absolutely irreconciliable, could give satisfaction to no party and aggravated where it was expected to appease. Of such a character was the compromise to which he referred.

He tried to the best of his ability to invest this department and this officer with real substantiality, to make him a capable alternative adviser of the Government. He asked for the most capable officers, but this request was refused, and he resigned his post as Viceroy. The Government appointed to this post an ordnance officer who, however excellent his qualifications in that confined branch of the service might be—and they were excellent—at the same time was unqualified to act as independent or alternative adviser.

The system had only been abolished after a fair trial, and on the very grounds he had ventured to predict its failure four years ago. The failure of the department he thought was foreseen by everybody in India from the start. In the first place it failed because there was no need for a separate department with a strictly confined area of work presided over by a Cabinet Minister, and secondly, because the head of such a department could not be a valuable or independent adviser either on military or civil matters. The abolition of the department was absolutely right and inevitable. With those who were acquainted with Army administration in India this scheme would excite only consternation and dismay. All rule was to be concentrated in a single man; no one could bear such a burden unless he was a Napoleon. The new system was opposed to all modern principles in regard to armies.

SPAIN'S TROUBLE IN MOROCCO.

ORIGIN OF THE DIFFICULTIES.

The question which the Morrish Embassy is hopeing to settle with the Spanish Government in Madrid dates, says an English exchange, from last October.

Two Spanish mining companies, one of them worked equally by French capital, started work in the early part of last year at a point some 15 miles from Melilla, under the protection of the Roghi, who at the time exercised unquestioned authority over the whole of that region from his headquarters at Seluan. In October the tribes revolted, defeated the Roghi, and raided the mines, which accordingly ceased work. The Spaniards thereupon placed a military post at La Restinga, some 20 miles along the coast south-east of Melilla, where a contraband trade in arms had long flourished, and another at Cabo de Agua, opposite the Chafarine Islands, presumably with the object of securing the communications of the island garrison in case of further trouble. Some of the tribes continued favourable to the working of the mines, but others remained hostile, and the district remained sufficiently disturbed to prevent their re-opening until the beginning of last month, when work began again in somewhat precarious circumstances.

The Sultans of Morocco in their various treaties with Spain have constantly undertaken to secure the good behaviour of the Riff tribes in the neighbourhood of the Spanish possessions, and in the last two important treaties the obligation assumed a precise form. Article 6 of the treaty of 1850 provides that "There shall be placed at the boundary of Ceuta and Melilla a kaid or governor with regular troops for the purpose of preventing or repressing attacks of the tribes. The King's Moorish guards for the protection of the Spanish possessions of Penon and Albucemas shall be placed on the sea shore." This provision was confirmed in the treaty of 1894, where it was stipulated that the guard for Melilla should consist of "a kaid with a detachment of 400 of the King's Moors." This obligation has never been fulfilled, and as a result of its non-fulfilment the works, representing some $105.000, have been lying idle for seven months, and this at the very gates of Melilla and within easy reach of French troops across the Melina.

Upon Senor Merry del Val's drawing Mulai Hafid's attention to this regrettable circumstance at Fez two months ago, his Majesty is understood to have refused to recognize any mining concession granted by the Righi, and further to have insisted upon the withdrawal of the Spaniards from La Restinga and Cabo de Agua as a condition of any discussion of the matter. To this the Spanish Government replied by taking a credit of £120,000 for the strengthening of the garrisons of Ceuta and Melilla.

COLONIAL BLUEJACKETS IN ENGLAND.

It is probable that in a day or two (said a recent number of the *Globe*), His Majesty the King may see the first contingent of Australian sailors who have been trained in the home establishments of the mother Fleet, and in ships of the Channel Fleet and the affiliated torpedo craft, and who are now returning to Australian waters for service in the patrol cruisers on the shores of the Commonwealth. About fifty of these men were sent to England, to be trained as a nucleus of the personnel of the coming local Australian Navy, nearly three years ago; and they have proved themselves splendid material and justified their selection up to the hilt; for many of them are returning as gunnery, torpedo signal, and engine-room specialists, while all of them have received steps in promotion in their respective ratings since they have been in the mother Country. They receive an Australian allowance as well as their Admiralty service pay, but no pensions are provided for them. They engaged for periods of five years, and will presently man the new ships of their own fleet as they come to hand. There are other contingents of Australian recruits now being trained at our home establishment, who will follow the present draft back to Australian waters as soon as their period of training is complete; so that in a few years there will be hundreds of trained men of Australian birth ready to the hand of the Commonwealth Government for local purposes. The men are recruited from all the Australian Colonies, including New Zealand and Tasmania, and they find the service to their liking. Their physical and mental standard is all that could be desired.

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CHINA'S EVOLUTION

CHINESE DIPLOMAT'S OPTIMISTIC ARTICLE.

The pamphlet for June of the American Association for International Conciliation contains an excellent article by Wei-Ching W. Yen, Second Secretary of the Chinese Legation at Washington, on the subject of "The United States and China." It is an excellent expression of Chinese thought expressed in good English. "In recent years," he says, a revolution has taken place in our world of thought. Always a nation that delighted in books and worshipped literary talent, we have had a literature equal in extent and quality to that of Greece or Rome. Very few Westerners who have mastered our language have not echoed and re-echoed the sentiment that "untold treasures lie hidden in the rich lodes of Chinese literature." The mine of intellectual wealth has been enriched by the translation of the best work of the West. John Stuart Mill, Huxley, Spencer, Darwin and Henry George, just to mention a few of the leading scholars of modern age, are as well known in China as in this country.

The doctrine of the survival of the fittest is on the lips of every thinking Chinese, and its grim significance is not lost on a nation that seems to be the centre of the struggle in the Far East. Western knowledge is being absorbed by our young men at home or abroad at a rapid rate, and the mental power of a large part of four hundred millions of people formerly concentrated on the Confucian classics, is being turned in a new direction—the study of the civilization of the West. Socially an agricultural people is being transformed in a sudden into a manufacturing and industrial nation. The desires have given birth to new wants: the railway and the steamship must take the place of the mule cart, the sedan chair and the houseboat; gas and electricity supplant the paper lantern and the oil lamp; the roar of the loom bewilders the factory girl who has been used to the hand-weaving machine; and the smoke of factories and arsenals threatens to soil the blue of our skies and make hideous the exterior form of nature as it has done in the West. The foreign trade of Shanghai is already greater than that of Boston, while the greatest sea-port in the world, measured by the tonnage of its vessels, is the island of Hongkong, a stone's throw from Canton. There is a public opinion in China now that makes itself heard and obeyed. No longer is it possible to hold to the conception that China stands for a few men in power and that their will is the law of the land.

"TESS" AS AN OPERA.

MR. THOMAS HARDY'S OPINION.

Particular interest was given to the dress rehearsal of Baron d'Erlanger's new opera, "Tess," founded on Mr. Thomas Hardy's novel, which took place at Covent Garden recently, owing to the presence of the novelist. In the course of conversation, says the *Globe*, Mr. Hardy expressed himself much pleased with the way in which the Italian librettist had treated his story, and at the skill with which he had brought about a new "denouement." As the author remarked, "There is still enough of 'Tess' left for another opera."

Mr. Hardy's opinion of the musical treatment of his great novel was equally favourable. He was greatly impressed with the facility with which Paron d'Erlanger had managed to suggest the rural atmosphere of his dramatic tragedy, and for the musical treatment of the story throughout.

Without anticipating first night criticism, it may be said that the rehearsal was a decided success, and that Mdlle. Destinn made a great impression as Tess. The mounting of the opera was the subject of loud praise; the scene of the Talbothays' dairy, in particular, being one of the many excellent products of Mr. Harry Brooke's skill as scenic artist. There were a number of well-known opera singers in the audience at the rehearsal. The composer was also present, but the work of conductor was undertaken by Signor Panizza.

LAURENCE STERNE'S PERSONALITY.

No biographer can do full justice to Sterne's personality, but Professor Cross, in his account of the life of the author of "Tristram Shandy," says an exchange, does his best to present the man to us in his habit as be lived. "No biographer, though the spell may be upon him," he says, "hopes to make it quite clear why Sterne captivated the world that came within his influence. His wit, humour and pathos, which exactly hit the temper of his age, seem a little antiquated now as we derive these qualities second-hand from the books which he left behind him and from the numerous anecdotes which were related after him. Indeed only a few of his letters retain their original freshness, for in most cases their phrases have been all smoothed out by editors and biographers. We may look upon the wonderful portraits that were painted of by Reynolds and Gainsborough, and observe his dress, figure, features and bright, eager eyes; but we must add from our imagination the smile and the voice of the king's jester.

Moreover, manners and morals have so completely changed since Sterne's day, that one is in danger of mi judging him. No ecclesiastic could now live the life that was lived by Sterne. He and his compeers would be promptly unfrocked. The scenes through which Sterne passed, the men and women with whom he associated, and the jests over which they laughed, have long since become possible in smart society. Thackeray, who knew more of other men surrounding the Georges than he knew specifically of Sterne, made his confession when he said, after reading the letters of Selwyn and Walpole: 'I am scared as I look at this society—at this king, at these courtiers, at these politicians, at these bishops—at this flaunting vice and levity, wits and prodigals: some persevering in their bad ways; some repentant, but relapsing; beautiful ladies, parasites, humble chaplains. In more complaisant mood Thackeray nevertheless felt the fascination of it all. 'I should like to have seen,' he then confessed, 'the folly. It was a splendid, embroidered, beruffled, snuff-boxed, red-heeled, impertinent folly, and knew how to make itself respected.' In this old world of the Georges, where the cardinal virtues were all forgotten, Sterne reigned as the supreme jester."

THE NEW SPANISH NAVY.

£7,000 000 CONTRACT FOR BRITISH FIRMS.

From an authoritative source last month, Renter obtained particulars regarding the contract concluded between the Spanish Government and the British Syndicate for building a new Spanish Navy at a cost of £7,000,000, which was signed at Madrid. As the British tender was accepted in a competition which included the ordnance proposals of Britain, France, Italy and Germany its acceptance is a further testimony to the skill and experience of British naval architects.

The tenders, which were asked for eighteen months ago, were for three battleships of 15,000 tons dispacement each, four gunboats of 800 tons displacement each, three torpedo boat destroyers of 300 tons displacement each, and 24 torpedo-boats of about 180 tons displacement each, and three of the most important British firms combined in connection, with this work. These firms, in alphabetical order, are Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth, and Co. (Limited), John Brown and Co. (Limited), and Vickers, Sons, and Maxim.

The contract provides that a large amount of the work must be done in Spain, and the firms named are required to reconstruct almost completely the Spanish Government yard at Ferrol and to made very important improvements in the shops at Cartagena. In this work they have the co-operation of Sir John Jackson (Limited). The companies also undertake to build such additional ships as are required during the next seven years, and to do all repair work within the same period.

IMPRESSIONS OF THE KAISER.

RELATIONS WITH FRANCE, AND THE YELLOW PERIL.

M. Gaston Menier's yacht, the *Ariane*, has been at Kiel for the regatta, says an exchange and he entertained the German Emperor on board, besides dining on the *Hohenzollern* M. Georges Menier and Baron d'Estournelles de Constant being invited as well. One or perhaps two, members of his party have been relating their impressions to the *Figaro* and the *Matin*, and their descriptions are really enthusiastic. The Kaiser's friendliness charmed them all. In the course of the various conversations, his Majesty took the opportunity of explaining that he had from the outset favoured a pacific solution of the Casablanca desertions affair. He expressed great satisfaction at his meeting with the Tsar as calculated to consolidate "energetically" the peace of the world. Formerly he was fond of repeating: "Tell me what I can do to help towards a *rapprochement* with France," and if he did not do so last week, this is simply because he is perhaps more conscious of the obstacles, as he is certainly as sensible as he was in the past of any appreciation of his efforts to avert a new conflict.

The fact of the matter is that William II. has not yet given up his old scheme for a sort of European federation against the Asiatic peril. "Who can assure us," he said to M. Gaston Menier three years ago, "that one day, when we are met to discuss some Cretan affair, we shall not see a yellow admiral with his fleet appear on the horizon to ask permission to take part in the general consultation." He uses much the same language now, and it is because he does not know what the future reserves to Europe in the Far East that he declares for the maintenance of peace in this old Europe.

Such is the gist of the accounts of the conversations given by the writer, or writers, special stress being laid in each article on the Kaiser's consciousness of his own personal responsibility.

Another addition to this Kiel literature emanates from Baron d'Estournelles de Constant, who, at its request, has been writing an account of his impressions for the *Temps*. The last time that he was at Kiel was in 1904, when King Edward paid his visit, and he says that the Kaiser looked even younger and more robust than at that date, and that the spectacle presented by the Imperial family, "so simple, so gay, united rather than dominated by the feeling of duty," was one to make people reflect. The Kaiser, like all the intellectual elite of Germany, is an admirer of France, and the writer considers him deeply devoted to peace.

The Kaiser is very faithful to his original conception of a federation of all the civilised States for the greater economic development of each, and if he spoke formerly of the Yellow Peril, this was evidently for the purpose showing, the danger of European division in face of new worlds which arise with so many natural advantages over the old world. Yet here is a country with a limited coast line which wants a big share of the world's sea trade. If Germany confined her expenditure to harbours, canals, railways, schools, museums, and factories, every one would admit that the money was well spent. But the question becomes less simple when regiments of soldiers and magnificent squadrons of battleships are to be seen. "Then the trouble begins," not in administrative circles, but in the immense reservoir of German activity, and, "pending the federation of the civilised States, one perceives that every one of them, in working for the ruin of the rest, is ruining itself, and one asks how long this can continue."

Twenty years ago there would have been so-called statesmen to reply "This will end in a good war, but to-day this is inconceivable, as everyone knows full well that "a good war," far from being a remedy, would only be an aggravation—so formidable a leap into the dark that lunatics alone can desire it.

Such is M. d'Estournelles de Constant's impression of his visit to Kiel and of his meetings with the Emperor, and, like the impressions which have preceeded it, this one points to the maintenance of peace.

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CUTICURA COMFORT

FOR TENDER FACED MEN

Cuticura Comfort for sensitive skins is shaving, shampooing, bathing and anointing with Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment.

For eczemas, rashes, itchings, irritations, redness and roughness of the skin and scalp, with dry, thin and falling hair, as well as for every use in preserving, purifying and beautifying the hair and skin Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment are invaluable.

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; China, Hong Kong Drug Co.; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; Russia, Ferrein, Moscow; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton market is quiet but firm. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is quiet but firm, with prospect of advance. The Woollen business has assumed a better tone.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	37.50 to 38.60
Egyptian	40.25 to 50.50
Indian Broach	32.50 to 33.20
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 31.50

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	340.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch. PER PIECE	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	11.00 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	V.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Basis business is practically non-existent, and the market as a whole remains dull.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3 65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
d. Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7 00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet but firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.77 to 3 94
Victory	3.20 to 3.60
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3 54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No transactions have been done in imported sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10 90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14 40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15 50 to 18 90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19 80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200 00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2 00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

The market seems to be a little more active with some enquiries. For known brands several small lots have been booked for sixty and ninety days shipment, but prices generally are still much too high to make business possible. Stocks are almost nil.

			Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks		11.70
Flag	"		11.25
Royal	"		11.35
Trophy	"		11 35
Red Seal	4 sacks		11.35
Lion	"		11.60
Portland	"		11 45
Premier	"		11.35
Japanese:—			
Rising Sun	6	*kwamme*	2 85
Takasago	6	"	2.78
Fuji	6	"	2.85
Pine	6	"	2.90

WHEAT.

Prices for the new crop are slightly easier than was at first anticipated, although not yet low enough to tempt millers here to operate.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.35
Red " " "	5.25
Blue Stem	5 45

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. A little business has been done.

On August 26th stocks were: filatures 21,019 bales Re-reels, 4 214 bales; Kakeda, 903 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	V.1,080
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	1,020
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	1,060
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	940
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,035
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	1,000
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	900
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	980
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	895
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	950
Re-reels—No. 1½	920
Re-reels—No. 2	890
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	960
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	895
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	875
Kakedas—No. 2	855

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

August	Present delivery.	August delivery.	September delivery.	October delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
20th	908	875	899	911
21st	899	869	889	899
22nd	—	—	—	—
23rd	901	864	—	902
24th	897	868	—	896
25th	883	858	874	884
26th	885	859	—	885

WASTE SILK.

The business done so far is not large, but the market is very firm with an upward tendency.

On August 26th stocks were: Noshi, 6,463 bales, Kibiso, 7,359 bales; and Sundry, 578 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Best	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	90 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	85 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	65 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	110 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	100 to 110
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	95 to 105
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is quiet for Fukui and Kanazawa goods, whilst there is a fair demand for Kawamata, and prices, especially for the lighter weights, have advanced.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.60	8 10	8.15	8.25	8.05
27″	8.80	8.10	8.25	8.15	8 10
36″	8.80	8.40	8.35	8.25	8.05

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.12	8 00	7 85	7.45
27″	8.00	7.90	7 90	7 65
36″	8.15	8.10	7.85	7 70

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8 30	8 90	9 40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.80	10.90	11.80	13 00
36	12.40	14.00	15.70	16.20

COPPER.

The market has become active again.

According to a London telegram of August 26th, the quotation was £60 7.6.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43 50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47 00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

The market is not favourable. Little transaction has taken place locally.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	660,178
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	105 998

Delivery.	Closing Price.
August	14 08
September	14 46
October	15.13

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo) per *koku.*

Superior	Yen 14 90
Medium	13 90
Common	12 90
Average	13 90

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
August	13.47	August	—
September	13 69	September	13 99
October	13.85	October	14.02

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TEA.

No change in quotations.

The market is inactive but firm. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to August 26th, the sales amounted to 8,257,300 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 236,000 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y.	—	—
Choice	—	—	
Finest	—	—	
Fine	—	—	
Good Medium	35	—	40
Medium	30	—	34
Good Common	27	—	29
Common	24	—	26

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is firm. Little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
August	128.35
September.....	128.50
October.....	127.25

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Aug. 26

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ higher and China sterling quotations $\frac{1}{16}$ @ $\frac{1}{8}$ higher have caused a further decline in local rates on China.

London—Bank T.T		4/1 ½@$\frac{9}{16}$
— — Bills on demand		3/0$\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight.....		3/0$\frac{13}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight		3/0$\frac{7}{8}$
— — 6 months' sight		3/1$\frac{1}{16}$
Paris & Lyons —Bank sight		257½
— Private 4 months' sight		262
Hongkong Bank sight	per $100	85¾*
— Private 10 days, sight do		83¾*
Shanghai — Bank sight		87¼*
— Private 10 days' sight.....		89¼*
India —Bank sight		153¼
— Private 30 days' sight		155¼
America —Bank sight.....		49¾
— Private 30 days' sight		50$\frac{3}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight		51@$\frac{1}{16}$
Germany —Bank sight		209
— Private 4 months' sight		212½
Bar Silver (London).....		23$\frac{5}{16}$

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Hongkong...	P. & A....	Selja 1	F.	Aug. 27
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Kaga Maru 2	W.	Sept. 1
Vancouver...	C. P. R....	Monteagle 3	W	Sept. 1
Tacoma.....	O. S. S....	Tacoma Maru	Th.	Sept. 2
Seattle	N.Y.K....	Tango Maru 4	Th	Sept. 2
America.....	T. K. K...	Nippon Maru	Sa.	Sept. 4
Europe	N. D. L....	Derfflinger	Su	Sept. 5
Hongkong ..	B. L	Aymeric	Tu	Sept. 7
Europe	M M.....	Polynesien	Tu.	Sept. 7
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Mongolia	Tu	Sept. 7
Hongkong...	O. S S....	Seattle Maru	F.	Sept. 10
America.....	P. M.....	Siberia 5	F	Sept 10
Hongkong...	T. K K....	Tenyo Maru	Su	Sept. 12
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of China	Tu	Sept. 14
Tacoma	B. L	Oceano	W	Sept. 15

1 Left Hongkong on the 14th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 17th inst.
3 Left Vancouver on the 16th inst.
4 Left Seattle on the 17th inst
5 Left San Francisco on the 24th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
ortland.....	P. & A....	Selja	Sa.	Aug. 28
urope	N. D. L...	Buelow	Sa	Aug. 28
merica.....	P. M.....	Asia	Sa.	Aug. 28
anghai ...	N. Y. K..	Hakuai Maru	Su	Aug. 29
urope	N. Y. K...	Inaba Maru	W	Sept. 1
ongkong...	C. P. R....	Monteagle	W	Sept. 1
attle	N. Y. K..	Kaga Maru	W	Sept. 1
ongkong...	O. S. S....	Tacoma Maru	F.	Sept. 3
ongkong...	N. Y. K....	Tango Maru	Sa	Sept. 4
one	M. M.....	Australien	Sa	Sept. 4
ongkong...	T. K. K...	Nippon Maru	Su	Sept. 5
oma	B. L	Aymeric	W	Sept. 8
oma	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	Sa.	Sept. 11
ngkong...	P. M.....	Siberia	Sa.	Sept. 11
erica.....	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru	Tu	Sept. 14
ncouver...	C. P. R. ..	Em. of China	Tu	Sept. 14
ngkong...	B. L	Oceano	Th.	Sept. 16
straha ...	N. Y. K....	Kumano Maru	Sa	Sept. 18
oma.....	B. & S....	Keemun	Su	Sept. 19
erica.....	C. R.....	A'ral Dupenré	W.	Oct. 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Buelow, German steamer, 5,223, F. Proesch, 20th Aug.,—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails and General —H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 20th Aug ,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Sudzuki, 20th Aug.,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, W. T. Kelavay, 21st Aug.,—New York via ports, and Vladivostock, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Cyclops, British steamer, 5,748, H. Harris, 21st Aug.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General. Butterfield & Swire.

Montrose, British steamer, 2,884, R. Glegg, 21st Aug.,—Salina Cruz, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 22nd Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Arratoon Apcar, British steamer, 2,931, A. Stewart, 23rd Aug.i—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 23rd Aug.,—Hongk ng via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Choshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, T. Yasunaga, 23rd Aug.,—Tairen via ports, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Spezia, German steamer, 2,659, Girstenbraen, 23rd Aug.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Arakawa, 23rd Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian steamer, 2,960, Standwitz, 23rd Aug.,—Portland, Or., Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 25th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Keelung Maru, Japanese steamer. 1,669, Yamamoto, 25th Aug.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Australien, French steamer, 2,900, Riquier, 25th Aug.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, M. Machida, 26th Aug.,—Newchwang via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Teucer, British steamer, 5,805, G. W. Parkinson, 26th Aug.,—Tacoma and Victoria, Mails and General —Butterfield & Swire.

DEPARTURES.

Bengloe, British steamer, 1,933, W. A. Guy, 20th Aug.,—Karatsu.—Cornes & Co.

Tjiliwong, Dutch steamer, 3,052, N. v. W. Jurriaanse, 20th Aug.,—Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Cyclops, British steamer, 5,748, H. Harris, 21st Aug.,—Puget Sound ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Montrose, British steamer, 2 884, R. Glegg, 21st Aug ,—Hongkong via Moji, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer. 4,163, F. E. Cope, 21st Aug.,—Muroran, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nikko Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,434, M. Yagi, 21st Aug.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,327, Charbonnel, 21st Aug ,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M M. Co.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. Wada, 22nd Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 23rd Aug ,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 24th Aug.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. —C P.R. Co.

Sumatra, British steamer, 2,976, C. J. Benton, 24th Aug.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—P. & O. S N. Co.

Perseus, British steamer, 4.299, Warrall, 24th Aug., —London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Indrapura, British steamer, 3,152, W. T. Kelway, 24th Aug.,—New York via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Arratoon Apcar, British steamer, 2,931, A Stewart, 24th Aug.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Arakawa, 25th Aug ,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Spezia, German steamer, 2,659, Girstenbraen, 25th Aug.,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General. —C. Illies & Co.

Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian steamer, 2,960, M. B. Standwitz, 25th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Choshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, T. Yasunaga, 25th Aug.,—Nagoya, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 26th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aragonia, German steamer, 3,324, Meyer, 26th Aug.,—New York via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 26th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Korea* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. L. A. Bend and Maid, Miss B. Bend, Rev. Arthur J. Brown, Mrs. Arthur J. Brown, Miss A. C. Barton, Mrs. C. P. Bliss, Mr. W. T. Crenshaw, Mrs. W. T. Crenshaw, Miss M. S. Cammack, Mr. J. J. M. Carst, Mrs. J. J. M. Carst, Mr. G. C. Delmar, Mrs. L. X. Dunhans, Miss V. Fisher, Mr. O. Funcke, Rev. A. K. Faust, Mrs. A. K. Faust and son, Miss C. Feurtner, Mr. Max Gebauer, Mr. H. S. Glesmer, Mrs. W. Hargreaves, Mrs. W. L. Howard, Miss M. E. Harlow, Mr. Sydney Haywood, Mr. Hubert Henry, Mrs. M. G. Jones, Mr. F. G. Krauss, Mr. Wm. Kline, Mrs. Wm. Kline, Mr. James Mitchell, Mrs. James Mitchell, Master M. Mitchell, Miss M. Mitchell, Mr. N. Osborne, Mrs. N. Osborne, Miss Nellie Prescott, Mr. A. Perelstrus, Miss J. Perry, Miss E. G. Roads, Mr. Robt. A. Ross, Miss E. M. Spencer, Mrs. G. B. Stewart, Sir Edward Stracey, Miss E. J. Tweedie, Mrs. S. H. Wilbur, Mr. S. Wolff, Dr. E. C. Waterhouse, Miss S. L. Wiedner, Miss Dorothy Whitney and maid, Prof. F. H. Wood, Mrs. L. E. Wilkinson and Miss Lora Howe. For Kobe:—Miss I. Campbell, Miss G. L. Davis, Rev. W. A. Davis, Mrs. W. A. Davis, Mr. M. B. Davis, Master H. L. Davis, Dr. A. G. Fletcher, Mr. H. S. Galt, Mrs. H. S. Galt, Miss Mabel Galt, Master R. Galt, Miss D. Galt, Miss H. Helstrom, Dr. E. M. Kent, Mrs. E. M. Kent, Miss Anna M. McKee, Miss Mary Mackenzie, Miss Miss E. F. Plummer, Miss Grace Stewart, Rev. Wm. B. Stelle and 2 children. For Shanghai:—Rev. J. W. Bradley, Mrs. J. W. Bradley and son, Miss Laura Russell, Mr. M. R. Charles, Mrs. M. R. Charles and 2 children, Miss L. M. Collier, Miss M. E. Dougherty, Miss S. Eames, Mr. A. T. Hueckendorff, Mr. K. H. King, Dr. T. M. Li, Dr. C. L. Lyon, Mrs. C. L. Lyon, Dr. Maud Mackey, Mrs. Alice McCaslin, Mr. H. J. Post, Mr. R. A. Sawyer Jr., Mr. C. E. Whittlesey, Mrs. C. E. Whittlesey and Mr. Yung Kwai. For Hongkong:—Mr. R. E. Bakenhus, Mrs. R. E. Beckenhus, Mr. B. H. Baldwin, Mr. W. H. Dietrich, Mr. Fictoriano Elicano, Mr. M. H. Elliott, Mr. J. W. Gallagher, Mr. E. C. Hammer, Mr. C. W. Hughes, Mr. Mott Keislar, Mrs. M. Keislar and infant, Mr. jos Goa Kim, Miss Bessie Lawton, Mr. P. W. McClintock, Mrs. P. W. McClintock and son, Mr. A. J. O'Malley, Miss Helen O'Malley, Miss Anne O'Malley, Miss Alice J. O'Malley, Miss Hannah K. O'Malley, Miss E. G. O'Malley, Mr. R. Strong, Mr. E. J. Weeks, Mr. C H. Wicks, Mr. R. M. Wilcoxson and Mr. Harry A. Wright in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. N. D. Mudie, Mr. E. P. H. Lang, Rittmeister von Heaciber, Col., Mrs. and Miss Bingham, Mrs. C. F. von-der Bussche and 2 children, Mr. J. H. Bume, Mr. J. G. Brown, Mr. J. Liddel, Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Wrightson, Mr. J. Morgan Phillips, Mr. and Mrs. U. C. G. Breira, Mr. J. Quin, Lieut. McChord, Capt. Murphy, Mr. W. Otaki, Mr. P. N. Wooton, Mr. A. R. Harris, Miss Arai, Mr. and Mrs. Nozaki and child and Mr. M. Baggally. For Vancouver:—Mr. T. H. Lyle, Mr. J. S. Bryan, Mr. C. V. Lloyd, Dr. P. E. Garrison, Mr. J. C. Mulder, Mr. and Mrs. Thiessen and child, Mr. Gee Wo, Mr. E. J. Kendall, Miss A. Criesson, Mr. Chow Chin Zeh, Mr. Tsu Yee Yue, Mr. Chang Ving Ding, Mr. H. C. Barr. Mr. Sun Cei Lien, Mr, H. W. Sun, Com. C. T. Jewell, Miss E. Fleming, Miss S. Callingham, Mr. L. Smith, Mr. A. Bryant Leans, Miss V. G. Lewis, Mr. E. H. W. Mayne, Mr. F. T. Foxwell and Mr. F. S. Allen in cabin: 46 in 2nd class; 327 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per American steamer *Minnesota* for Seattle, Wash.:—Baron E Shibusawa, Baroness Shibusawa, Mr. Z. Horikoshi, Mrs. Horikoshi, Miss D. Annan, Mr, W. Wallace, Mrs. W. Wallace, Miss E. Wallace, Mr. K. Taki. Mrs Taki, Mr. K. Soda, Mr. K. Otani, Mr. M. Masuda, Mr. A. Sutherland, Mr. R. R. Birch, Baron N. Kanda, Baroness Kanda, Mr. K. Iwahara, Mr. H. Sleeper, Mr. J. W. Quillen, Capt. J. Holman, Judge W. Rhode, Miss T. Takahashi

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Mr. K. Matsukata, Mr. G. S. Lane, Dr. R. Hara Mr. K. Kameda, Mr. J. Nishimura, Mr. N. Nishiike, Mr. J. W. Dorris, Mrs. J. W. Dorris, Miss Rema Dorris, Mr. S. L. Selden, Mrs. S. L. Selden, Miss F. L. Selden, Mr S. Selden, Mrs. R. W. Squires and 2 children, Mr. S. Tamura, Mr. T. Ishibashi, Mr. Talbot, Mrs. Talbot and child, Mr. T. Matsumura, Mr. H. Sakaguchi, Mr. B. Oi, Mr. Y. Iwamoto, Miss B. Kilgour, Mr. Y. Inui, Mr. H. A. Kemp, Mrs. H. A. Kemp, Dr. S. D. Hopkins, Hon. A. M. Stevenson, Mr. M. Doi, Mr. S. Takaishi, Miss J. G. Hope, Miss C. H. Ober, Mr. T. Kato, Mr. B. Nakano, Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Hedges and child, Mr. and Mrs. Troxt, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Ammerman, Mr. and Mrs. R. M. Loper, Miss H. Heath, Mr. R. Hara, Mr. J. Tanabe, Mr. S. Satake, Mr. W. Natori. Mr. H. Hibiya, Mr. R. Iiri, Mr. K. Nezu, Mr. N. Takatsuji, Mr. K. Koike, Mr. H. Iida, Mr. T. Watase, Mr. T. Machida, Mr. T. Kumagai, Mr. S. Iwaya, Mrs. J. Powles, Miss O. Powles, Mr. J. R. Geary, Miss H. McCauley, Mr. H Smith, Mr. T. Minami, Mr. N Fujiye, Mr. K. Kamino, Mr. T. Kadano, Mr. S. Uyeda, Mr. M. Ito, Mr. G. Masaoka, Mr. M. Gonzales, Mr. H. Marquey, Capt. E. L. Baker, Miss Germain, Mr. Y. Murai, Mrs. Y. Lee and child. Mr. W. L. Brown, Miss Marie Durst, Mr. K. Ashida, K. Nishio, Mrs. T. Sudzuki, Mr. A. H. Lowrence, Mr. James H. Seward, Mrs. A. H. Lowrence and 3 children, Mrs. Takikawa and child, Miss Queman, Mrs. L. M. Levy, Mrs. K. Takimoto and child, Mr. T. Noguchi and Mr. S. Saito, in cabin.

Per French steamer *Tonkin* for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. A. Van Heidenstain, Mr. C. A. Asker, Mr. P. Fairly, Mr. J. C. Danglas, Mr. V. Meyer, Mr. R. Wesselhoeft and 1 boy, Mr. Meyer, Mr. Jean Martis, Mr. Nicolas Moltas, Mr. E. Liristes, Mr. and Mrs. Door Leblane, Mr. Fabre and Mr. Kakehi in cabin.

Per American steamer *Korea* for Hongkong via ports:—Miss L. Campbell, Miss G. L. Davis, Rev. W. A. Davis, Mrs. W. A. Davis, Mr. M. B. Davis, Master H. L. Davis, Dr. A. G. Fletcher, Mr. H. S Galt, Mrs. H. S. Galt, Miss Mabel G lt, Master R. Galt, Miss D. Galt, Miss H. Helstrom, Dr. E M. Kent, Mrs. E. M. Kent, Miss A. M. McKee, Miss Mary Mackenzie, Miss E. F. Plummer, Miss Grace Stewart, Rev. Wm. B. Stelle, Mrs. Wm. B. Stelle and 2 children, Rev. J. W. Bradley, Mrs. J. W. Bradley and son, Miss Laura Russell, Mr. M. R. Charles, Mrs M. R. Charles and 2 children, Miss L. M. Collier, Miss M. E. Dougherty, Miss S. Eames, Mr. A. T. Hueckendorff, Mr. K. C. King, Dr. T. M. Li, Dr. C. L. Lyon, Mrs. C. L. Lyon, Dr. M. Mackey, Mrs. Alice McClain, Mr. G. W. Peavey, Mrs. G. W. Peavey, Mrs. W. H. Avery, Mr. H. J. Post, Mr. R. A. Sawyer. Jr., Mr. C. E. Whittlesey, Mrs. C. E. Whittlesey, Mr. Yung Kwai, Mr. R. E. Beckenhus, Mrs. R. E. Beckenhus, Mr. B. H. Baldwin, Mr. W. H. Dietrich. Mr. V. Flocano, Mr. M. H. Elliott, Mr. J. W. Gallagher, Mr. E. C. Hammer, Mr. C. W. Hughes, Mr. Mott Kaisler, Mrs. M. Keisler and infant, Mr. Jos Goo Kin, Miss B. Lawton, Mr. P. W. McClintock, Mrs. P. W. McClintock and son, Mr. A. J. O'Malley, Miss Helen O'Malley, Miss Anne O'Malley, Miss Alice J. O'Malley, Miss Hannah K. O'Malley, Miss E. G. O'Malley, Mr. R. Strong, Mr. E. J. Weeks, Mr. C. H. Wicks, Mr. R. M. Wilcoxson, Mr. Harry A. Wright, Mr. J. R. Burns, Mrs. J. R. Burns, Dr. E. C. Waterhouse, Mr. P. Kammerer, Mrs. P. Kammerer, Miss Shuon and Mr. J. P. Henry in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan* for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. F. S. Allan, Mr. H. C. Barr, Mr. J. S. Bryan, Miss S. Callingham, Mr. Chow Chin Zeh, Mr. Chang Vung Ding, Mr. T. F. Clark, Dr. J. G. C. de Boer, Miss A. W. Ericsson, Miss E. Fleming, Mr. F. T. Foxwell, Dr. P. E Garrison, Mr. R. A. D. Hood, Mrs. Hood, Comdr. C. F. Jewell, Mr. E. J. Kendall, Mr. A. Bryant Leane, Miss V. C. Lewis, Capt. C. V. Lloyd, Mr. T. H. Lyle, Mr. C. R Lynde, Dr H. R. Macaulay, Mr. C. K. M. Martin, Mr. E. H. V. Mayne, Mr. J. C. Mulder, Mr. A. Shita, Mr. L. Smith, Mr. A. St. Julien, Prof H. W. Sun, Mr. Sun Chi Liu, Mr. G. Thiesson, Mrs. G. Thiesson and child, Mr. Tsu Yu Yue, Mr. S. Wilson and Mr. Wo Gee in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Silk shippers by *Minnesota*, for Seattle, on the 19th Aug.:—

	Bales
Bavier & Co.	124
F. Strahler & Co.	125
China & Japan Trading Co.	110
Nabholz & Co.	105
Jewett and Bent	88
L. Mottet	61
Pila & Co.	50
Varenne & Co.	20
Vivanti Bros.	20
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	533
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	241
Hara Yushutsuten	50
Total	1,517

LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE

By Royal Warrant to H.M. the King.

The Original and Genuine WORCESTERSHIRE.

—gives a delightfully appetizing flavour to all Meat Dishes, Fish, Soup, Game, Cheese and Salad.

CARGO.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Ernest Simons*:—

	Raw. Marseilles Option.	Raw. Lyon.	Raw. Moscow.	Raw. Milan.	Waste. France.	Waste. Switzerland	Waste. Trieste.	Waste. Peigneurs.
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	291	—	—	—	15	—	—	—
Siber Wolff & Co.	178	61	—	—	34	—	—	—
Sieber, & Co.	135	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co.	75	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
L. Mottet	49	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett and Bent	22	—	10 St. Chamond				—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	14	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	—	147	20 Milan		—	—	—	—
do	—	—	10 St. Etienne				—	—
do	—	—	5 St. Chamond				—	—
Pila & Co.	—	130	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Strahler & Co.	—	60	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co.	—	32	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hara Yushutsuten	—	—	55 Moscow		—	—	—	—
P. Dourille	—	—	—	—	8	—	—	—
Total	784	430	105	—	63	—	—	—

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan* for Vancouver:—

TEA.

From	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hongkong		—	10	702	—	712
Foochow	3,566	325	—	223	—	4,114
Keelung	821	—	—	—	—	821
Shanghai	1,160	1886	3,197	—	—	6,243
Kobe	840	—	—	—	—	840
Shimidzu	781	1,586	1450	25	—	3,841
Yokohama	1,378	375	102	155	—	2,010
Total	8,515	4,172	4759	1,105	—	18,581

SILK.

From.	New York.	Easton.	South M'chester.	Montreal.	Helyoke.	Total Bales.
HKong & Canton	427	—	—	—	—	427
Shanghai	420	—	—	10	—	430
Yokohama	543	60	10		25	643
Total	1,390	62	10	15	25	1,500

SILK SHIPPERS.

Silk shippers by *Chiyo Maru*, for San Francisco on the 19th Aug.:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	190
Vivanti Bros.	70
Siber, Wolff & Co.	20
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	399
Total	679

(毎土曜日一回發行)
編輯人兼發行人 エフ アリンダリー
印刷人兼印刷人 イ アルース ミツトフオール
發行所 横濱市山下町五十五番
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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 4TH, 1909.

BIRTH.

At No. 135A, Bluff, to Mr. and Mrs. LEE MEYER, a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS KUNI, who are to attend the Hudson Celebration, are reported to have arrived at New York from London on the 29th instant.

ON August 27, the first snow of the season began to fall on the summit of Fuji at about two in the afternoon. At 5 o'clock, when it stopped, the snow lay more than an inch deep.

THE Anglo-Japanese Hydro Electric Power Company, the establishment of which had once been rejected, was sanctioned on the 25th inst., after alteration in the plans had been made.

A SENDAI despatch says that in some parts of Tome-gori and Kuribara-gori, the floods have not yet subsided. The submerged fields, covering some 12,250 acres in all, will have no yield this year.

A MAN named Ujo Ujiro, ex-Headman of the town of Gentenji, Sanuki province, who has been accused of forgery of official documents and fraudulent possession of property, has absconded. He is said to have misappropriated several million *yen* in connection with the Tobacoo Monopoly Office, some 200,000 *yen* of which has been seized.

THE Nitto Kaisha is reported to have made a find of 27,000 bags of raw sugar, valued at 250,000 *yen*, which had previously been entrusted to one of the creditors without being entered in the books

ON Sept mber 1, Baron Oura, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, submitted a report to His Majesty, relating to the weather on the 210th day and the first estimate of this year's rice-crop in different prefectures.

IN connection with the recent collision at Uyeno Station, the engine-driver and conductor of the up-train aud the conductor of the down-train, have been summoned to the Tokyo Local Court on a charge of accidental homicide.

ON the 30th ultimo, a fisherman of Yokosuka caught a turtle, of the species popularly called *Rokkaku-game*, in the offing off the Shoriki Point. The turtle measures 8 feet in length, and 6 feet in breadth, and weighs over 500 pounds.

THE party of Russian students, seven of whom have unfortunately been taken ill, have decided to return home. They left Kobe on the morning of the 28th instant for Tsuruga, leaving their sick companious under the care of the Kobe International Hospital.

THE Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation has fixed its rate of dividend at two pounds sterling. Director Mr. G. Friesland having resigned his post, Mr. Bandow (?) has been elected successor. A branch office has been established at Canton to enlarge the business in South China.

DESPITE the recent strict search for pick-pockets, a Japanese merchant residing in Seoul, was relieved of his p ss-books—issued by the First Bank and the Osaka Savings Bank respectively—and many other important documents, when travelling by train from Hiroshima to Itozaki, on the 30th ultimo.

AN Osaka telephone message to the *Asahi* says that one man who was accused of forgery and another who was charged with the illegal possession of another's property, have been acquitted at the Osaka Appeal Court, on account of the papers connected with these offences having been destroyed in the recent fire.

A REPORT from Miyagi prefecture states that there has been a flood in the districts of Senhoku gori and Kurihara gori, the rivers rising to the extent of 15 feet. Many bridges have been swept away by water and over 100 houses have been submerged. In the vicinity of Onsen-mura, Tamatsukuri-gori, the fish in the river have been killed by the of sulphur.

AN old offender named Yamanouchi Katsuji, who had stolen dresses and other valuable articles worth over 1,200 *yen* in all since last month in various parts of Tokyo, was arrested by the Takanawa police on the 28th instant. Among those who have sustained losses are Viscount Aoki Nobumitsu and Mr. E. A. Wiedeman of the New York Life Assurance Company.

THE U.S.A. Government has under consideration a Bill drawn up by Mr. MacVeagh, Secretary of the Treasury, authorising the Treasury to issue bonds to the amount of $397,000,000 (£79,400,000) covering the entire cost of the Panama Canal. According to the provisions of the measure, the bonds will bear interest at the rate of 3 per cent. and will run for fifty years. There will be no issue of the entire amount immediately, and it is even said that a rapid change in the tide of the Government revenue might render it unnecessary to place any of the bonds upon the market.

ONE of the ringleaders of a gang of pick-pockets, named Yoshino Tokichi, of Tokyo, was arrested at Himeji on the 29th ultimo. At Nagoya Station a couple of well known pick-pockets were captured on their arrival there from Osaka a few days ago.

It is reported that the Osaka Police Authorities are preparing to exhibit privately all the stolen articles which have so far been confiscated.

THE money market is recovering from its slackness and is becoming active, owing to the approach of the *Bon* season and the expiration of the *saké* tax term. The Nippon Ginko issued loans for *yen* 2,000,000 and *yen* 7,000,000 on the 24th and 25th instant, respectively. The other banks of Tokyo have charged daily interest at 1.5 *sen* to 1.6 *sen*, and the call-money has tightened to 8 *rin*.

MR. NAKAMURA KYOTARO, a brilliant blind scholar whose mental perception compensates somewhat for the lack of his visual faculty, will shortly go to England to study music, acupuncture and the methods of educating the blind. He has been a teacher at various Blind and Deaf-mute Schools since he had graduated from one in Tokyo. A few days ago he ascended mount Fuji alone, as a test of health.

AN Osaka telegram reports that on September 1, all the associated banks suddenly reduced their rates of interest on deposits as follow :—

Fixed deposit.....At 5 per cent for a year.
Fixed deposit.....At 4½ per cent for 6 months.
Current deposit .....At 5 *rin* per day.
Petty current account .....At 1 *sen* per day.

The above is to be enforced from the 11th instant.

THE steamer *Chuyu Maru* (833 tons) belonging to Messrs. Yasuda Shokai of Osaka, the cargo of which consisted of gunpowder and naphtha, took fire in No. 4 Hold, when she was *en route* from Yokohama to Kobe on the 27th instant. Another fire broke out in No: 3 Hold on arriving at the Wada Point, Hiogo. Fortunately the fires were extinguished before taking firm hold of the vessel. The cause is said to have been naphtha coming and high temperature.

THE *Asahi* states that some feeling is prevailing among the townspeople of Yokohama in connection with the foreign residents' stand in regard to the cricket ground question. The lease on the ground expired on the 28th of July last. Governor Sufu, runs the paragraph granted grace of three months for the removal of buildings, fences, etc. belonging to the ground. Nevertheless, the foreign residents, misunderstanding this term of grace as an extension of the term stipulated, are making use of the ground as before and are protesting against the governor's attitude.

MR PERCIVAL SPENCER, the well-known aeronaut, says the *Globe*, interviewed at his residence at Highbury, said that thanks to M. Blériot's demonstration, it had been shown that any English aeronaut, with the assistance of an engineer, could make a flight with a flying machine, for so simple were the lines of construction that it could not be many months before successful aeroplanes of this nature were an article of everyday manufacture in England and abroad. There were now no inherent difficulties in the making of such flying machines. It only wanted an Englishman with sufficient confidence and financial support to turn out in this country practical aerial vessels of the successful types without further delay.

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CHINA AND JAPAN.

Friday, August 27.

So far as can be ascertained at this early stage, the London press regards the settlement now made between China and Japan as a great feather in the cap of the latter. There is special satisfaction on account of the concessions granted by Japan, these being regarded as unequivocal evidence of her honest desire for peace and friendship with her great neighbour. It is considered that not only the political situation, but also the economic, has been fully restored.

As to the boycott proposed by the Chinese students in Tokyo, who would have this weapon employed until a mortal wound was inflicted on Japan, it does not appear probable that much more will be heard of the matter. The Taotai of Canton, acting under instructions from Peking, is understood to have issued a decree vetoing all public meetings with regard to international affairs. The immediate cause of this measure was connected with the death of a Chinese subject on board a river steamer, but the instruction may fairly be regarded as an evidence of the mood of the Peking Government. Moreover the new Vicereoy of the two Kwang, Mr. Yuan Shu-hsun, is reported to have assembled the newspaper editors in Canton and explained to them that, on taking up his new office, he could not but recall the perfectly friendly relations which existed between his country and Japan during the War of 1904-5, when he was Prefect in Tientsin, and he trusted now that the journalists of Canton would assist him in renewing those relations.

Saturday, August 28.

It appears probable, though nothing is as yet definitely known, that in return for her concessions with regard to Chientao, Japan is to receive some compensation from China, This compensation would take the form of a railway concession, securing to Japan the right to build a line from Kilin through Chientao and *viâ* Hoiryong to Chyonjin, whence it would be continued ultimately to Gensan. It is not absolutely stated that this concession has been obtained, but we are disposed to think that the fact may be taken as assured. Doubtless such a concession on China's part would be very well received in Japan, where there appears to be a feeling of some disatisfaction at the radical character of Japan's yielding in the matter of Chientao. We ourselves think that if Japan has yielded in the manner alleged by rumour, she has cho en the best way of solving a difficult problem and that she will be more than compensated by the world's approval. But naturally the Japanese people would be pleased to hear that the arrangement has not been too one sided.

China's argument with regard to the coal mines has not hitherto been clearly understood. We now gather that she did not deny, and indeed she could not deny, in the face of the Peking Treaty, Japan's right to work all mines within the railway zones. But she did deny that the Fushun mine fell into this category. Finding Japan firm in the matter, the Chinese negotiators then shifted their ground and maintained that whereas one half of the mine might be held to be included in the Peking Treaty, the other half was not so included, and had been in point of fact wrongfully seized by Russia at the outbreak of the war, from its real owner, Mr. Wang. Japan replied that such an argument must be addressed to Russia if China thought that she had a valid grievance, for what the Peking Treaty had secured to Japan was reversion to the properties then actually held by Russia. Finally a compromise was found along the line indicated in our last issue, namely, that Japan should pay a royalty on the output of the mines as was done by other Powers which had received mining concessions in the Chinese Empire, and that due compensation should be made to Mr. Wang. If this be correct it will be seen that here also Japan has made a substantial concession to China, so that Peking's "face" is essentially saved.

As to the Fakumen Railway, we find an interesting paragraph in the *Kokumin Shimbun*. That journal confirms the previously received intelligence that Japan has carried her point as to the non-construction of the line without her previous permission, but the *Kokumin* adds that China intends to seek that permission, and that she will probably obtain it in return for some concession with regard to the building and financing of the line. We take this to mean that Japanese financiers and contractors would join hands with the English Syndicate which has hitherto been working in connexion with this road.

There is one minor question which seems to be still awaiting settlement. It relates to the site for the terminus of the Mukden-Antung Railway in the latter town. A very large area is understood to have been claimed by Japan for that purpose, and China disputes the necessity for such an extensive space. This point will probably be disposed of at the session of the conference which is to take place to-day in Peking.

The Yingkow Railway seems to have constituted quite a curious proposition. It was not to be denied that under her Treaty of 1898 with Russia, China possessed the right to demand the removal of this line from last August. On the other hand she did not possess the right of taking over the line as a going concern, and if she had insisted on enforcing the letter of the Treaty, the Japanese would have pulled up the line and refused to allow its reconstruction on the very valid ground of competition of the South Manchuria Railway. The situation thus created would have been fatal to the prosperity of Yingkow and Newchwang, and that fact being appreciated, a compromise was effected as described in our last issue. China agreed to the continued existence of the line from Tashichao to Niukiatung and to its extension from the later place into Yingkow, a distance of 2½ miles, while Japan on her side agreed to the extension of the Hsinmintun line right into the city of Mukden.

A question which, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, is being debated independently, is that of the Penshihu mine and other mines within the zone of the Mukden-Antung Railway. This problem was supposed to have been settled some time ago, but it now appears that a difficulty then arose as to the amount of the capital. At all events the present forecast is that the two countries will agree to work the mines conjointly.

Sunday, August 29.

Judging from telegrams to the Japanese press the Conference in Peking has not yet actually signed a convention or arrived at a final agreement, but it is hoped that everything will be settled at the meeting to be held to-day (30th inst.)

There are presistent rumours that China has agreed to the construction of a railway from Kilin across Chientao to Hoiryong and thence to Chyonjin. The present idea is that the construction of the line will be on the same basis as that of the Kilin-Changchun road, or possibly that Japan will find the whole of the capital. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* quotes a so-called high official as speaking with keen satisfaction about this arrangement. He observes that the sovereignty of Chientao, while altogether a minor question from Korea's point of view, is of prime importance in Chinese eyes, inasmuch as the territory in question may be said to be a part of the long White Mountain region, which is the birthplace of the Manchu dynasty. By conceding this point Japan will have convinced her neighbour of her sincere desire for peaceful and friendly relations.

In this context it is mentioned that Japan will pay due compensation for the privilege of working the Tienpao-shan mine.

The *Jiji Shimpo* is of the opinion that this railway concession will not openly appear as a set off to the recognition of China's sovereignty in Chientao. That, we should think, goes without saying. But as to another remark of our contemporary, we do not so clearly understand it. The *Jiji* says that had the Changchun-Kilin line ended at the latter place, it would have been virtually carried into a *cul de sac*, and that the only way to make it a really useful line is to extend it to a sea port, which purpose will be most suitably attained by carrying the road to Chyonjin. Surely this is somewhat an extreme view? Even if the line had not extended beyond Kilin, it would have served as a useful feeder for the South Manchuria Railway, which was the role originally contemplated for it.

It seems to us that a very solid concession has been made by Japan with regard to the lines along the track of the Mukden-Antung Railway. The language of the Treaty appears to make it very plain that Japan is entitled to work all mines within a distance of 30 Chinese *li* on either side of the line. But it is now understood that she has agreed to work these mines in conjunction with the Chinese on equal terms. That is a very convincing proof of her desire to make every possible concession to China.

A telegram to the *Kokumin Shimbun* from Peking says that on the 27th inst. the Chinese Government publicly intimated that it had agreed to the reconstruction of the Mukden-Antung line provided that the gauge was the same as that of the Peking-Mukden Road, and further that it had agreed to such purchases of land as were absolutely necessary from an engineering point of view. Meanwhile the veto upon free discussion by the vernacular press of Peking has not been withdrawn.

PROBLEMS BETWEEN CHINA AND JAPAN.

A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* from its Peking correspondent says that a final settlement of the various questions under discussion between Japan and China was reached on the 31st ultimo. It will be remembered that the 30th was originally predicted as the concluding day of the conference, and if the *Asahi's* information be correct, that forecast was tolerably accurate. The Peking correspondent of *The Times* seems to have been somewhat misrepresented by the telegraph. What he wired to the great journal doubtless was, not that a settlement had been effected, but that a basis of agreement had been found. We presume that the details of the agreement will soon be published in Japan, and there will then be an opportunity of hearing the views of the principal Japanese jonrnals. In the absence of definite particulars they have hitherto been comparatively reticent, though on the

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whole their tone has been distinctly one of approval and satisfaction. The only voice hitherto raised in an unequivocal manner has been that of the *Niroku Shimbun*, to which we have already alluded in these columns, and which is essentially an extremist journal.

In this context we may mention that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, while applauding the recognition of China's sovereignty in Chientao, notes that this represents a very large sacrifice from the Korean and Japanese point of view. The disputed region includes arable land measuring from 320,000 *cho* (1 *cho* equals 2½ acres) to 570,000, and the level ground extends to 700,000 *cho*. Out of this total the land actually under cultivation measures only 53,000 *cho*, and the population consists of 83,000 Koreans and 12,000 Chinese. Evidently there is room for great development, and in fact it is estimated that whereas the area of the district does not exceed that of Shikoku in Japan, it is easily capable of sustaining a population of half a million. There are also rich gold mines, silver mines and coal mines, and from every point of view the so-called "island" would be a valuable appanage of any crown. Thus in surrendering it to China no small concession has been made.

It appears that the negotiations in Peking were not concluded on the 31st ultimo, as was expected. The meeting which was to have taken place on the 30th between Messrs. Na Tung and Liang, on the Chinese side, and Mr. Ijuin, on the Japanese, was postponed until the following day for some reason which is not explained; but the conference on the 31st did not prove sufficient, and one or two further meetings will probably be required. One point which, though agreed upon in outline, requires some details to be still filled in, is the question of the Kilin-Hoiryong Railway. There is no suggestion that this apparent delay is due to any unexpected difficulty. On the contrary, it is distinctly stated that everything is progressing favourably.

Meanwhile Peking wires to Tokyo newspapers that, although the confident forecasts published in Japan with regard to the bases of agreement are in the main correct, they are at variance with the truth in one or two minor respects, especially in the matter of extending the Peking-Hsinmintun Railway right into the city of Mukden.

COUNT HAYASHI'S VIEW.

The *Hochi Shimbun* quotes Count Hayashi as declaring that the arrangement now effected, or on the point of being effected, with China is a signal success. This able statesman ridicules the notion that the foreign policy of the last Ministry differed from that of the Ministry now in power. Cabinets, he says, do not wantonly change their foreign policy merely because they change their personnel. The fact is that the Saionji Ministry and the Katsura Ministry maintained a precisely similar attitude towards all the problems outstanding with China. As for Chientao the question of its sovereignty never presented itself in a serious light to Japanese statesmen. All that they cared for was to insure security of life and property for Korean and Japanese settlers in that region. That end has now been attained, and at the same time all the other outstanding problems have been satisfactorily solved. The Cabinet and the country are therefore to be equally congratulated.

RAILWAYS IN KOREA.

Mr. Oya, Chief of the Board of Railway Management in the Residency General, has arrived in Tokyo for the purpose of offering explanations with regard to the railway programme contemplated by the Residency-General. Tokyo papers quote him as saying that in planning this programme the Resident General has been guided by political motives rather than by economic, and that he is quite indifferent as to the location or control of the lines, provided only they are built. The southern districts seem to be in most need of good roads considering the comparatively large productive capacity of the people residing there. But unfortunately these regions are more or less infested by insurgents, and a feeling of insecurity has thus been produced which exercises a paralysing effect upon the people and renders the immediate construction of railways inadvisable. The road from Gensan to Seoul thus comes to the head of the list in point of urgency, and next to it stands the line from Pyongyang to Chinnampo. The former will cost 17 million *yen*, but the latter is a comparatively petty undertaking, which was commenced some time ago and then suspended, but will now be completed in two and a half years. As for the Seoul-Wiju road, the idea of reducing the gradients and building iron bridges has been abandoned, so that the sum still required for this line will be only about 2 million *yen*. The Seoul-Gensan Railway will take six years to build.

It is very evident that a railway from Gensan to Seoul will have great strategical value. At present all troops stationed in the north-east region of Korea are practically isolated from all those stationed in the north-west and west. A road from Gensan to Seoul would effectually correct this situation, and would unite the whole of the Japanese troops into one body for campaigning purposes. Originally the idea was a railway from Pyongyang to Gensan, and in 1905 Baron Shibusawa and Mr. Okura Kihachiro applied for permission to form a company with the object of building that road. Their petition was forwarded by the Diet for the consideration of the Government, but it did not get any further. It appears to be thought that the building of a line from Gensan to Seoul will greatly detract from the prosperity of Chemulpo, but we should have thought that the connexion of Fusan with Seoul by rail must have exercised a much more pernicious effect.

Another part of the Resident-General's programme is the construction of ordinary highways not only in the south of the Peninsula but also between Pyongyang and Gensan, at a total outlay of 4 million *yen*. The distance between Pyongyang and Gensan is about 130 miles, and at present they are connected by a mere track. It is doubtless within the memory of our readers that one of the most troublesome tasks which the Japanese troops had to perform in the war with China was the march from Gensan to Pyongyang through a roadless and mountainous country.

The plans of the Residency-General with regard to the extension of railways in Korea are beginning to provoke not unnatural criticism in Japan, where it is thought that in view of the heavy taxes and of the difficulty of extending the domestic railways the sense of proportion is outraged by a proposal to spend over 30 million *yen* on railways in Korea. We have already roughly indicated the outlines of this project. There is the railway from Seoul to Gensan—known as the Kyong-Won Railway—which measures 136 miles and is to cost 17 million *yen*; and there is the railway from Chochhiwon (a point on the line between Seoul and Fusan) to Mokpho, a distance of 174 miles, which is expected to cost 15 million *yen*. Korea will then be traversed by railways in the shape of an X. Up to 1908 Japan had spent 20 millions on railways in Korea, and the Budget for the current year includes a further sum of 4½ millions. With this money 630 miles of line have been built, and the income derived from these roads does not at present cover the expenses, so that the Treasury in Tokyo is obliged to make annual disbursements. In these circumstances it is not at all surprising that the necessity for making such large additions to the Korean system should be queried by some critics in Japan.

VISCOUNT SONE.

Friday, August 27.

There appears to be a great deal of anxiety about Viscount Sone's health. Nothing is admitted officially, but all press telegrams from Seoul concur in saying that the Viscount's malady is believed to be cancer of the stomach, complicated by inflammation of the kidneys. He has been confined to his bed for some time, and the Viscountess has been summoned to Korea. It is further stated that Surgeon-General Hirai, Chief Physician of the Red Cross Hospital, has been summoned to Seoul to assist in treating the patient.

Sunday, August 29.

There is no definite news this morning about Viscount Sone's condition. Some reports say that he is not seriously ill at all, and others allege that his malady is concealed for political purposes. We can only hope that the former is the fact.

Monday, August 30.

We regret to see that again this morning there are unfavourable rumours about Viscount Sone's condition. It is stated that Doctors Koyama and Kikuchi are divided in their opinion as to the nature of the main malady, one pronouncing it to be catarrh of the stomach; the other diagnosing cancer. It is for this reason that Dr. Hirai, Chief Surgeon of the Red Cross Hospital in Tokyo, has been summoned to Seoul. But even though the final diagnosis be favourable in this respect, there remains the inflammation of the kidneys, which is sufficiently serious.

Tuesday, August 31.

We are sincerely glad to read the telegraphic messages which reached Tokyo yesterday that Viscount Sone's health seems likely to be restored. He appears to have been holding conferences and taking drives without showing any special symptoms of fatigue, and he is reported to have observed laughingly that rumour persisted in putting him into his coffin, but that he had no intention of dying just yet.

Wednesday, September 1.

We are pleased to say that the good news as to Viscount Sone's health is confirmed this morning. It appears that there certainly was some difficulty in diagnosing his malady, and that a suspicion of cancer existed at one time, but all fears seem to be now dispelled and the Viscount is on a fair road to convalescence.

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CHINA.

Friday, August 27.

The *Mainichi Dempo* has a telegram from Peking, which, coming in the sequel of previous messages, creates great anxiety about the condition of his Excellency, Chang Chihtung. It appears that the invalid was examined by a Japanese doctor on the 25th inst., and that although his malady could not be clearly diagnosed as cancer in the stomach, his debility was so great that very little hope of recovery could be entertained. Mr. Chang's official life extends over a period of 46 years, and his first appointment as Viceroy dates as far back as 1884.

Saturday, August 28.

There is some talk, according to the *Mainichi Dempo's* telegrams, of the recall of Yuan Shihkai to power. Recent events are said to have convinced the Prince Regent that the services of a strong and able man are urgently needed in the interests of the Empire. His Highness therefore contemplates appointing Yuan to be Viceroy of Manchuria, whence no doubt his transfer to Peking would be only a question of time. Grand Councillor Shih Hsu is said to be strongly advocating this course. It will be remembered that Yuan's fall from power created quite a feeling of consternation in Japan, and that the Tokyo Authorities having thought it necessary to reassure the public, their reassurance was misconstrued by Western States as a proof of connivance in the downfall of the great Chinese statesman.

The Waiwupu is reported to have taken a very wise step. In the face of the attempt made by the Chinese students in Tokyo to inflame public opinion and to bring about the organisation of a boycott, an instruction has been issued to the Northern and Southern Superintendents of Trade and to all the Viceroys and Governors throughout the Empire informing them that the question of the Mukden-Antung Railway has been settled peacefully and satisfactorily, and warning them against any misconstruction of the arrangement. As for the students, however, we do not yet hear any talk of punishing their gross breach of discipline. But it is to be noted that the incident seems to have been greatly exaggerated. People have hitherto talked as though the whole body of the students, or at any rate a great majority of them, had signed the inflammatory circular, but it now transpires that the signatories represented a small minority. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the Chinese Representative in Tokyo summoned the leading students to his presence and explained the essentially amicable character of the arrangement effected between the two Powers. His Excellency is quoted as expressing a confident conviction that nothing like a boycott will result.

It has been officially reported to the Foreign Office, Tokyo, that in recognition of the necessity of harmonizing the control in the new town of Antung with that in the old town as regards opium-dens, preventive measures have been taken and the closing of opium-dens has been enforced, after consultation between the Japanese Consul and the Taotai of Antung, in the new town of Antung as it is in the old. Nevertheless, some Chinese who secretly kept opium dens having recently been detected, Consul Okabe ordered the police authorities to make a thorough investigation into the matter and these unlawful houses having all been closed, there is no more trace of opium-dens in the new town of Antung.

Monday, August 30.

A high official of the Foreigh Office is credited by the *Yamato Shimbun* with entering a protest against the tendency recently displayed by the Japanese press to publish unfavourable criticisms of Mr. Liang, Vice President of the Board of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Na Tung and the Viceroy of Manchuria. As to Mr. Na Tung, this authority speaks of him in the highest terms, and declares in effect, that to his expostulations and representations is largely due the settlement now imminent. In any case the fact is that Na Tung was not officially connected with the discussion of the problems which lately became acute, and therefore no responsibility for them can be justly placed on his shoulders. Turning to Mr. Liang, our contemporary's informant speaks of him as having borne the heat and brunt of the day, and expresses the conviction that no one will be more pleased at the amicable outcome. With reference to the Viceroy of Manchuria, the *Yamato's* statesman denies that he has committed any error since his appointment to office, and sees no reason for his downfall except the proverbial uncertainity of official positions in China. We observe, however, that this appreciation takes no note of the financial difficulties by which the Viceroy is now said to be confronted.

It is stated that the area of land inundated by the Kilin floods measures 33 miles in length and 10 in width on either side of the Sungari River. This district does not seem to have been very thickly populated, for the number of houses inundated is put at only 3,200 and the number of persons washed out at 20,000. It goes without saying that the crops throughout this region are completely destroyed and that many cattle and horses have perished.

Tuesday, August 31.

It is confidently stated that the recently circulated rumours as to the retirement of Prince Chin from political power are likely to be soon verified. After the death of the Emperor and Empress, Prince Chin and Grand Secretary Chang Chihtung were the two pivots upon which China's domestic and foreign policy devolved, but now both men seem likely to disappear from the arena of active life. Of course the return of Yuan Shihkai to power at this juncture would be gladly welcomed by Japan and by the world, but the retirement of Chin and Chang is not likely to create an opportunity favourable to Yuan Shihkai.

The *Chinwai Jipao* of Peking is telegraphically quoted by the *Jiji Shimpo* as saying that the Prince Regent has decided on sending Mr. Liang, Vice-President of the Waiwupu, to the United States on a special mission to the President. No hint is given as to the nature of the business to be transacted, but it is alleged that matters of very great importance call for such a conference.

The *Nippon Shimbun* has the monopoly of a rumour that, by way of supplement to the agreement settling the various questions hitherto outstanding between China and Japan, there is to be concluded between the two Powers an *entente* by which each signatory will bind itself to submit to arbitration all future disputes within certain limits. Our Tokyo contemporary suggests that this idea had its origin in the Chinese Government's recently expressed desire to appeal to the Hague Tribunal, and in the advice given by Mr. Chirol on the occasion of his recent visit to the Far East. We trust that this story may be verified by facts. The friendship between China and Japan can not be too sincere. Both countries can be of the greatest use to each other, and any serious dispute between them could only create an opportunity for selfish intervention by a third party.

Wednesday, September 1.

A leading official is credited by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* with a statement that there is no truth in the rumour as to an arbitration treaty between China and Japan. This authority alleges that reasons for such a compact are not perceptible, and that to have recourse to arbitration on behalf of two Powers which are entirely competent to settle their own disputes without reference to a third party would be clumsy policy. We (*Japan Mail*) must confess that we do not altogether share this opinion. To endorse it would be to apply by construction the adjective "clumsy" to the foreign policy of all Powers which have hitherto concluded arbitration treaties. We are convinced that nothing could tend more effectively to restore the world's somewhat shaken confidence in Japan's mood than the conclusion of an arbitration treaty with China.

We read in Tokyo papers that a mixed committee of Chinese and Japanese has been formed in Mukden for the purpose of acquiring land in connexion with the contemplated change of track on the Mukden Antung Railway. It is not anticipated that this part of the enterprise will present any difficulties or occupy more than three months. Such is not the case, however, in the matter of navvies. To carry out the project designed by the South Manchuria Railway Company about 50,000 navvies would be required, and the local labour market is quite inadequate to meet such a demand. The contractors are strenuously endeavouring to obtain the necessary hands elsewhere, but it seems not improbable that the work may be more or less delayed on this account.

Thursday, September 2.

A somewhat mysterious telegram reaches Tokyo from Shanghai. It says that Mr. Wang, editor of a Chinese newspaper published in Kobe, accompanied by four or five brother-journalists, visited Shanghai a few days ago, and endeavoured to induce the Taotai and the Chamber of Commerce to inaugurate a boycott against Japan. The attempt was entirely unsuccessful.

In connexion with this subject of a boycott we note that the Waiwupu has telegraphically instructed the Viceroys and Governors throughout the Empire in the sense that the negotiations are proceeding amicably and satisfactory between China and Japan, and that a settlement advantageous to the former Power is already in sight. These officials are therefore urged to convey reassuring information to the people within their jurisdictions and to enjoin the advisability of a pacific demeanour.

It will be observed that nothing more is heard of the agitation fomented by a section of Chinese students in Tokyo.

CHINA'S REASONS.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* Peking correspondent sends an interesting telegram of considerable length. He alleges that the remarkable alacrity shown by the Waiwupu in dealing with the problem of the Mukden-Antung line and the other questions outstanding between China and Japan must not

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by any means be attributed solely or even chiefly to pressure brought from this side. The fact is that for some time back the Prince Regent has been busying himself with the problem of greater concentration of administrative authority and greater uniformity in administrative methods. In pursuance of that programme he has begun to devote special attention to foreign affairs. In short the business of the Wai-wu-pu was already passing under his own supervision and a change of the principal officials was imminent when the complication with Japan occurred. Of course Japan's action had the effect of precipitating the execution of the Prince Regent's policy, but it did not suggest that policy, and Japanese statesmen would fall into a great error if they imagined that a display of force had enabled them to secure China's acquiescence, or that similar displays will hereafter prove the most efficacious means of dealing with Peking. The correspondent includes all the Foreign Powers in this appreciation. He practically warns them that China's foreign policy has come to the parting of the ways, and that it will hereafter be informed with a spirit of fairplay such as has not hitherto been conspicuous. His article seems to have two purposes. One is to avert any display of exaltation on the part of his own countrymen; the other, to enlist sympathy with the new policy of the Prince Regent. There exists among Occidental statesman a belief, founded, it must be confessed, on very convincing practical experience, that without a display of the strong arm China can never, or very seldom, be brought to obey the dictates of reason. The correspondent indirectly denounces such a doctrine, and predicts that obedience to it will have the effort of putting back the hands on the dial of Chinese progress. He thinks it the plain duty of all foreign statesmen, especially of Japanese statesmen, at this juncture to assist the carrying out of the Prince Regent's wholesome policy by adopting towards China a really friendly and considerate demeanour. He also deprecates in very strong terms the use of any vehement language by Japanese journals. The Chinese he affirms, have come to attach great importance to the writings of the Japanese press, and any excesses committed by the journals of this country are at once noted and resented. Altogether the correspondent's advice is most wholesome, and is well worthy of the unfailing prudence and moderation that mark the writings of the *Jiji Shimpo* on foreign affairs.

THE REMAINING PROBLEMS.

It is observed by the press of Tokyo that the five main questions between China and Japan are now in a fair way of being settled, but five minor questions remain to be dealt with. These latter are, first, the salt problem in the Leased Territory; secondly, the question of posts and telegraphs; thirdly, the Penhsihu question; fourthly, the Pratas Island question, and fifthly, the question of railway guards. We are a little surprised to find the Penhsihu affair included in this list, for as the mine lies within the zone of the Mukden-Antung Railway, all matters relating to it would appear to have been settled by the agreement that mining properties within that area are to be worked jointly by the two Powers. However, as no special reference to Penhsihu is made in the recent telegrams from Peking, it is not unreasonable to suppose that the matter has been held over. At all events the only point to be settled about the Penhsihu mine is the Okura Company's estimate of the monies hitherto sunk by it for the development of the property. The main problem was settled, we believe, at the conferences which took place some time ago.

As for the question of salt production in the leased territory and of fishing on the west coast of Liaotung, it has been understood for some time that the Japanese Authorities, unable to obtain any satisfactory terms of settlement from China, had decided to adopt a course similar to that pursued in the case of the Mukden-Antung Railway, and China having entered no protest, an agreement was considered to have been practically arrived at. So at least our Tokyo contemporaries have hitherto alleged, but as such dealings are infrequent between Powers amicably disposed towards each other, it may be that a desire has now arisen to find a more satisfactory settlement.

Pratas Island of course is altogether a petty issue, and as an understanding had already been nearly reached prior to the recent complication, it is not likely that any difficulty will be now experienced. The problem of the railway guards has greater gravity, but it is for China to approach Japan on that subject. The guards, it may be assumed, will be posted in accordance with treaty, and if China objects to their presence, it will be for her to say so.

CHIENTAO.

Major-General Matsuishi, of the Headquarter Staff, is reported by all the Tokyo newspapers as expressing an interesting opinion about Chientao from the military point of view. He says that the Russians have regarded with considerable anxiety the possibility of Japan coming into possession of that region. They have considered the place as practically the neck of Vladivostock, and have calculated that, if Japan had free access to it, Vladivostock would be paralyzed and Russia's progress to the south in accordance with her perennial policy would be checked. This idea has been freely ventilated in the columns of Russian journals, and has been echoed by German and American newspapers which had no first-hand knowledge of the affair, but merely iterated the view of the Russian organs. As a matter of fact, according to General Matsuishi, Chientao is virtually valueless for military purposes. He compares it to the province of Hida in Japan. Mountain succeeds mountain and valley, valley. There is not a road on which two pieces of artillery could pass each other, and as for concentrating or manœuvring troops in such a region, the task would be infinitely difficult. The Major-General thus arrives at the conclusion that it is altogether a mistake to attach any value to the sovereignty of Chientao, so far as military purposes are concerned, and that Japan, acting on behalf of Korea, has done well to surrender such a useless appanage.

The Chinese Warden of the Marches in Chientao, Mr. Wu, appears to be an official of considerable enterprise. His latest move is said to be an application to the Central Government for permission to lay a light railway between the Chinese headquarters at Chuntszche and Tunshun, which latter place lies near the Russo Chinese boundary on the east of Chientao. The distance is given as 30 Japanese *ri*, but this is probably a mistake for Chinese *li*.

Altogether Chientao is a striking illustration of the material advantages that a locality can derive from becoming a subject of international discussion. In Chientao's case, notoriety will doubtless spell local prosperity in the long run.

THE KILIN-CHANGCHUN RAILWAY.

It may be remembered that some doubt existed as to the procedure to be adopted with regard to the appointment of a chief engineer for the Kilin-Changchun Railway. One report said that he was to be appointed by the Japanese, another alleged that this power was reserved to the Chinese. It now appears that a sort of reciprocal arrangement exists. The Chinese are to appoint a Japanese subject to be chief engineer with the approval of the South Manchuria Railway authorities, and the chief accountant, also a Japanese subject, is to be appointed by the South Manchuria Railway authorities with the consent of the Chinese Government. The nomination of the chief engineer has now been effected. He is Mr. Nagao, who has hitherto been serving among the engineers of the Yeh-Han Railway. He returned to Tokyo recently from Wuchang, and is quoted as saying that nothing can be done this season towards the construction of the line, but that it will be undertaken next spring. In ordinary circumstances one year should suffice for the work, but as the region is ice-bound for a certain time in every 12 months and is also subject to heavy floods, two years may be required. Mr. Nagao adds that so far as materials are concerned, everything required can be obtained in Kilin, and that there will probably be no occasion to have recourse to Japanese labour, as everything in that line can be advantageously undertaken by Mr. Kwo Wun, a great contractor who has his headquarters at Tangshan in the province of Pehchili, and whose capabilities have already been amply proved in connexion with big enterprises. If these statements attributed to Mr. Nagao be correct, it is evident that the work of constructing the line is to be carried on without favour or affection. Materials and labour are to be obtained wherever they can be had most cheaply and most advantageously without reference to nationality.

THE YAMATE ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

We have more than once alluded to the above subject, namely, the adoption of electric power instead of steam on what has hitherto been known as the Circular Railway of Tokyo; that is to say, the line starting from Shinagawa and proceeding *viâ* Tabata to Akabane, where a junction is effected with the line running from Uyeno northward. The chief motive for using electricity on this route is to facilitate communication between Shimbashi and Uyeno. We do not understand, however, that the electric cars would start from either Shinagawa or Uyeno. The method adopted would be to change cars at Shinagawa from the ordinary locomotive system to the electric bogies, and to proceed by the latter either to Shibata and thence to Uyeno or to pass Shibata and go on to Akabane. Whatever may be the facts as to these details, our readers will remember, doubtless, that the original idea was to complete the electric railway by November, obtaining the necessary supply of power from the Tokyo Railway Company, which has an ample surplus. But a transfer station has to be built and so have a number of bogie cars, so that, according to present appearances, the line can not be completed before December, or even January.

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KOREA.

Friday, August 27.

It has been decided to make a substantial increase in the police establishment of Korea. We need not quote the figures further than to say that the number of stations will be increased from 339 to 480.

We find in the *Kokumin Shimbun* a note which gives a rather pessimistic account of the state of the insurrection in Korea. The number of the insurgents has diminished, but on the other hand their methods had become more pernicious than ever. They are now preying upon their own countrymen. Their frequent practice is to abduct the peaceful inhabitants of villages and to hold them for ransom. In fact they are plundering their own nationals in order to maintain a semblance of force.

The *Yamato Shimbun*, which often contains a novel piece of intelligence, says that the Crown Prince of Korea will pay a visit to his country next spring, by which time he will have completed three years in Japan. He will be accompanied by Prince Ito, and his sojourn in Korea will extend to about a month.

Saturday, August 28.

We infer from the language of the *Kokumin Shimbun* that there is now under grave discussion a question as to the necessity of employing a larger military force in Korea for quelling the insurrection. At present the troops in the Peninsula represent a Division and a half. The Division (the 6th) has its headquarters at Pyongyang, and the role assigned to it in the strategical scheme is the protection of the Korean frontier. Consequently it may be called away at any moment for service in distant localities, and in that event the whole of Korea from Seoul northward would be left practically ungarrisoned. Moreover north Korea is not the scene of the insurrection. The latter is virtually confined to Chungchong and Chollado, which belong to the southern half of the Peninsula. But the Japanese military force in the south is limited to only one brigade, and that, too, a mixed brigade, which in point of organisation is not nearly so efficient as a normal brigade would be. There is evidently growing up a conviction that Japan's honour is concerned in the speedy restoration of order throughout the Peninsula, and that the protracted character of the insurrection reflects injuriously on her military capacity.

Monday, August 30.

Captain Kurosawa, who has just returned from Chientao is quoted by the *Mainichi Dempo* as saying that things have become markedly quiet in that region, and the inference is that an agreement has been arrived at been the Chinese and Japanese Governments. Meanwhile the building of the Japanese barracks at Nanam is proceeding rapidly, and about 4,000 Japanese subjects have migrated to the place in anticipation of the coming of the troops. It should be noted of course that this post, Nanam, does not lie near the frontier but is well within the confines of Korea. Captain Kurosawa goes on to say that there are 2,000 Japanese settlers at Chyonjin, and that the place shows every sign of prosperity Gensan on the other hand, had fallen into a state of decadence until the news of the recent decision as to constructing a railway from that place to Seoul. Since then there have been signs of reviving activity.

Tuesday, August 31.

With reference to the policing of Korea, a subject to which we alluded in a recent issue, we take the following from the *Seoul Press*:—

At present there are six police stations and a sub-station under the control of the Metropolitan Police Office, while in the provinces there are sixty-five police stations, three sub-stations and three hundred and thirty-six police-boxes under the control of the Bureau of Police Affairs. The number of Japanese police inspectors, police sergeants, policemen, interpreters and instructors on duty in this country is 30, 146, 1884, 15 and 63 respectively, while Korean police inspectors, police sergeants, policemen and interpreters number 17, 102, 3130 and 57 respectively. The total police force, therefore, is 5,444 The population of Korea, according to police returns, being 9,781,691, there is one Japanese policemen to every 5,727 Koreans and one Korean policeman to every 4,258 Koreans. When both Japanese and Korean policemen are taken into account, the ratio is one policeman to every 2,564 persons. Japanese gendarmes are in the ratio of one to 4,890 and Korean auxiliary gendarmes one to 2,445, averaging one gendarme to 1,630 persons, when Japanese gendarmes and Korean auxiliary gendarmes are taken together. The estimates for the maintenance of the Metropolitan Police Office are 479,616 *yen* for this fiscal year and those for the provincial poli e 1,645,729 *yen*, making a total of 2,125,345 *yen*.

In Japan the ratio of the police force to the population averages 1 to 600 to 800 in cities and 1 to 1,000 to 2,000 in the country. When this ratio is compared with that in this country, it will at once be seen that the present police force in Korea is far from being sufficient for the maintenance of peace and order. The Government has long felt the necessity of increasing the strength of the police, but the want has been on account of financial difficulty. In consequence of the delegation to Japan of the judicial administration of this country, however, it has now become imperative to expand the police force, and to meet the most urgent need it has been decided to establish twenty more stations and sixty-nine police-boxes throughout the country. A further augmentation of the police force, as far as finances permit, is hoped for next fiscal year.

Thursday, September 2.

It will have been gathered by close readers of the comments translated into these columns from Japanese journals that of late a feeling of dissatisfaction has been growing up on account of the delay in finally dealing with the Korean insurgents. We now read that drastic steps have been commenced with the object of finally stamping out the insurrection. The province of Chhollado may to-day be said to be the only unquiet section of the Empire, but it is unfortunately very unquiet; and as the insurgents have fallen to the rank of robbers and abductors, the unfortunate inhabitants of the province are seriously distressed. It would seem that towards the close of last month a plan was elaborated at the Residency-General for putting a complete end to this unhappy state of affairs, but that, in order to avoid disclosure of the military plans, the troops were collected for the nominal purpose of manœuvres. Some of the force seems to have landed at Mokhpo, and altogether about two regiments have been assembled on the north and south of the disturbed province. They are under the direct command of Major-General Watanabe, and their operations will be assisted by the Eleventh Torpedo Squadron, which will patrol the coast to prevent the escape of insurgents by water. Chongju and Namwon are understood to be the principal resorts of the insurgents, and the operations will be specially directed against these two places, but the general idea is to surround the haunts of the insurgents and to stamp them out effectually, even though house to house visitations become necessary. The expectation is that the operations will require a month for their completion.

We ourselves greatly doubt whether the force under Major-General Watanabe's orders is sufficient to operate successfully over such a large area as the province of Chhollado. He can scarcely have more than 6,000 of all arms at his disposal, and though these would easily suffice for a forward movement from a common centre, the matter assumes a different complexion when a large province has to be entered from all sides simultaneously. However, the Japanese are not in the habit of undertaking impossibilities or making fiascos. It may be assumed that they know precisely what they are doing. Everybody must wish them thorough success. We all sympathise with the insurgents, so far as they may be supposed to be animated by patriotic motives, but they have long ceased to be anything better than mere brigands, and in the interests of the Koreans themselves the sooner these nuisances are stamped out the better.

THE KILIN-GENSAN RAILWAY.

The construction of a line of railway from Kilin to Chyonjin and thence to Gensan seems to have been definitely agreed upon at the conference in Peking. Starting from Kilin this line would run to Tunghwacheng, thence to Hwantung-hotsz, thence to the present headquarters of the Chinese troops in Chientao, namely, Chutszche, and thence to Hoiryong; a total distance of 225 miles. From Hoiryong there is already a temporary Japanese railway as far as Chyonjin, and this will be converted into a permanent line. Finally, a road is to be built from Gensan to Seoul and thus, when the Mukden-Antung Railway is finished, a complete parallelogram of railways will be formed, having at its four corners, Mukden, Changchun, Chyonjin and Gensan. It appears that this project was conceived by Japan as far back as 1906, and steps were actually taken at that time to survey portions of the proposed line. Then, in 1907, when Count Hayashi held the portfolio of Foreign Affairs, an agreement was concluded with China in the sense that if the Changchun-Kilin line were extended, China should either find the money herself or obtain a part of it from Japan. We are not aware precisely on what terms the arrangement for the construction of the Kilin-Hoiryong line has now been made. Probably the details remain to be settled. But as to the importance of the line from every point of view there can be no second opinion.

THE NAVY.

Tokyo newspapers state that the Admiralty has ordered two of the three new second-class cruisers to be built at the Kawasaki Dock Yard and at the Mitsu Bishi Dock Yard, while the third will be constructed at Saseho. These cruisers will have a displacement of 5,000 tons, and as their principal function will be scouting, they will have a speed of at least 26 knots. The actual speed is not stated, but considering that line-of-battleships can now steam 21 knots and armoured cruisers, 24, it is obvious that vessels intended to act as scouts must have a speed at least 2 knots greater than the latter figure. At present the only vessels that Japan has which are at all capable of performing such a function are the *Kasagi*, the *Chitose*, the *Tsugaru* (Pallada) and the *Soya* (Varyag). But these cruisers are now comparatively old, having been built in 1898 and 1899. As for the other group of Japanese second-class cruisers, headed by the *Naniwa* and the *Takachiho*, they are altogether obsolete. When the three new cruisers are finished they will form with the recently-built *Tone* a fleet of very competent scouts.

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THE CHINESE STUDENTS IN TOKYO.

Some of the Chinese students in Tokyo seem to be zealously continuing their agitation for a boycott. Their open letter on the subject having proved a failure, they are now sending a committee to Mukden, Shanghai and Tientsin with instructions to organise a boycott in conjunction with the merchants of those places. Their contention is said to be that, by proceeding to arbitrary measures in the case of the Mukden-Antung Railway, Japan gravely insulted China, and that if such procedure be passed over without retaliation, it will constitute a precedent for all other Powers in their dealings with the Middle Kingdom. These school-boy statesmen would not only put a stop to all commercial transactions between Chinese and Japanese, but would also have the local authorities in Manchuria forbid Chinese coolies to give their services in connexion with the construction of the railway, and would veto the sale of land by its owners to the Japanese. If these students paused for a moment to think seriously, they would probably abandon their wild schemes. Such steps as they suggest would merely have the effect of plunging their country into war, for that and that alone must be the inevitable outcome. On the other hand, there is now every prospect of sincere friendship being re-established between the two Powers, and anyone interfering to prevent that end must be regarded as a criminal not only towards his own country but also towards the world at large. The Tokyo students ought to remember also that the arrangement now in process of negotiation between China and Japan is not by any means a one-sided affair. Japan gives quite as much as she gets. Finally, these students —and we believe that they are in a very small minority—will inevitably wreck their own careers by the intemperate course they are now pursuing, for no ordinarily prudent government would employ in a responsible position youths with so little moral balance. We commend to the notice of these lads a leading article which appears in the *Japan Times* of the 31st ultimo.

THE VICEROYALTY OF MANCHURIA.

There is a rumour that Viceroy Hsi has tendered his resignation and has asked to be allowed to change posts with his Excellency Chao who is now Viceroy of Szchuan and was formerly Viceroy of Manchuria. Mr. Hsi's alleged reason is that he has found the negotiations with Japan too difficult, but the true reason is said to be that he is confronted by serious financial difficulties. Thus while the revenue of Mukden is only 5,800,000 *yen*, the amount actually expended has been 6,200,000, and the corresponding figures in the case of Kilin have been 2,800,000 and 4,500,000, while those in the case of the Amur province have been 900,000 and 1,200,000 respectively. The public has been hearing for a long time about financial difficulties in Manchuria, so it is not improbable that some truth attaches to the above rumour.

We may mention here that the *Asahi Shimbun* translates from the columns of the *Jipao* of Hongkong an article which lays on the shoulders of Viceroy Hsi the whole blame for the Manchurian complication. It accuses him of belonging to the party of the Extremists, Li Pingshan and Kang I, of Boxer notoriety; and it charges the Prince Regent with appointing to high posts in the Government only the men for whom he has a partiality without any reference to their administrative ability. The Hongkong journal says very plainly that whereas Manchuria was formerly in Russia's grasp, it was divided between her and Japan by the Portsmouth Treaty, and that the Three Eastern Provinces may now be compared to a dog watched by two tigers. The only way of saving the situation is to throw open the whole of Manchuria to foreign trade so as to make the preservation of the region an object of interest to all the Powers.

THE LATE PROFESSOR FENOLLOSA.

It appears that a graceful tribute is to be paid by Japan to the memory of Professor Fenollosa who died on the 21st of last September in London. The *Asahi Shimbun* says that his remains were buried in Highgate Cemetery among the graves of the lower classes, and that a mere apology for a tombstone has been erected in his memory. Dr. Ariga and Mr. Hayashi, who were pupils of the deceased, were shocked when on visiting London and repairing to the Cemetery, they witnessed this state of affairs. They realized that a very different degree of honour should be paid to the remains of a man who had done so much for Japan, and at whose instance the Government may be said to have established the Shaji-kyoku by which so many Japanese works of art had been prevented from leaving the country. They therefore conceived the project of carrying the deceased's body to Japan and burying it at Homiyo-in within the precincts of Miidera, where Prof. Fenollosa had gone through the ceremony of *jukai*, which may be roughly described as baptism into the Buddhist creed. All the bodies hitherto interred at Homiyo-in are those of distinguished Buddhist priests, and thus Prof. Fenollosa's ashes will mingle with those of men whose doctrines he believed and whose lives he admired. All Prof. Fenollosa's former pupils and those otherwise connected with him have subscribed money to carry out this purpose. It was hoped that the remains would reach Japan in time to hold the ceremony of re-interment on the 21st of September, namely, the anniversary of the Professor's death, but the measures to be taken in England, including incineration, will not be accomplished in time, it is feared. Prof. Fenollosa fully deserves that such a tribute should be paid to his memory, but unfortunately in this world of ours men do not always meet with their deserts.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

There are again all sorts of rumours about the Tokyo Railway. Some authorities represent the Mayor of the City and certain of the aldermen as busily urging the view that the purchase of the Railway by the Municipality is the only available device for obtaining a substantial increase of the municipal revenue. Others insist that municipalization is out of the question and that the present movement is entirely in the direction of increased fares. There are evidently many people who believe that the Government would not object to sanction any arrangement which would bring a larger return to the Company, provided that it did not impose a heavier burden on the citizens. In other words, if the transit tax were abolished, the Company would be allowed to collect the same amount as it does at present, including the tax. Then we find in the columns of our Tokyo contemporaries talk about a large extension of the Company's electric-lighting work, and the possibility of an increase of capital by 10 million *yen*, which new shares would be purchased by the Household Department. Finally, there is a small section of the aldermen who advocate compulsory purchase on the ground of public utility. The only grain of solid fact discernible among all these rumours appears to be the prevalence of a conviction that the present fare is too low, and that it does not suffice either to pay a reasonable dividend to the shareholders, or to give any revenue to the city, or to permit the extension of the lines to the suburbs.

CHYONJIN.

The Superintendent of Customs at Chyonjin has just returned from a visit to Vladivostock, and has made some interesting remarks which are quoted by the *Jiji Shimpo*. He says that the cessation of Vladivostock's free-port privileges tends to materially benefit Chyonjin. Thus, whereas the foreign trade of the latter place was only a million *yen* last year, it promises to be 3 millions this year. Exports, however, are conspicuously petty. Not that the productive power of the region and of Chientao is small. The crops now grown might be very largely supplemented, were the farmers not obsessed by an unenlightened apprehension that if they grew great quantities of produce, prices would fall and they would suffer correspondingly. The result is that large tracts of arable land are left lying sterile. The principal products are barley, beans and beancake, but these are mainly transported by horse vehicles, of which there are some four hundred or five hundred plying daily. The railway to Hoiryong would get this custom, were the line improved sufficiently to offer greater facilities. What Chyonjin needs most urgently to promote its prosperity is the establishment of a direct line of steamers with Tsuruga, which is the most convenient port in Japan for that purpose. There ought to be a service with a schedule of several sailings every week, for if only one weekly voyage is to be made, the already existing service to Shimonoseki is sufficient.

THE JAPANESE PRESS.

Saturday August 28.

As yet (28th inst.) the Japanese newspapers have not expressed themselves definitely on the subject of the alleged settlement. They are evidently waiting for more positive information. There is one exception, however, namely, the *Niroku Shimbun*, which, as our readers know, may now be termed the yellow journal of Tokyo *par excellence*, but which is nevertheless ably written, has a large circulation and commands considerable influence. It denounces the settlement as a loss upon a loss. Japan, it alleges, surrendered the fruits of the war at Portsmouth in 1905, and she has now surrendered the remnant at Peking in 1909. Chientao belonged unequivocally to Korea, according to this authority, whereas it has now been handed over to China, and as for the Fakumen Railway, the question is left exactly where it was, since the construction of the railway is not absolutely vetoed, but is merely made to depend upon Japan's consent. We do not anticipate that this view taken by the *Niroku Shimbun* will be endorsed by any other journal except, perhaps, the *Hochi*.

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THE CRICKET GROUND.

(COMMUNICATED)

The leading article in the *Japan Mail* issue of 23rd inst., dealing with the Cricket Ground Question, seemed to invite comment at the time, but not until now have I been able to give it the attention it deserved. While appreciating highly the repeated appeal it makes for the preservation of the Cricket Ground to the foreign community, there are one or two points touched on in such a way as to convey a wrong impression to the public of the actual position of affairs, and it is these points I propose to try and make clear.

The distinction between *a lease* of the Ground and *the use* of the Ground, which your article makes light of is, on the contrary, a very serious one, and one that has given rise to much misconception and consequent misunderstanding. To a renewal of the *lease* of the Cricket Ground no right can be claimed, or ever was claimed; but to the *use* of the Cricket Ground conjointly with Japanese Baseball Clubs and Cricket Clubs, did the latter exist, the foreign Community in the person of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, who made the ground and have kept it up for 40 years, have an undeniable right under the Revised Treaty, and a right that I believe will be found unassailable and inalienable, when put to the test, as I trust it will be. Their case, I have good reason to think, is as strong, if not a stronger one, than that on which the House Tax Question was fought and won.

In this connection it would be interesting to know on what authority your statement is based that the right of the disposal of the Cricket Ground is vested solely in the Governor, Baron Sufu, inasmuch as the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club have placed the protection of what they consider to be their rights in the hands of their official representatives, so that the question has become a Diplomatic one, and a question therefore beyond the power of the local authorities to dispose of as they think fit.

Again, your statement that the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club had filed or contemplated filing a protest with several of the Embassies in Tokyo is hardly correct. What they did when the Governor's first notice to quit was received was to reply politely through the British Consulate-General intimating that they believed they had a right to the use of the Cricket Ground by Treaty, and that they had placed the protection of their right in the hands of their official representatives. This communication, which had the approval and support of the British Consul-General, elicited a reply from the Governor confirming his previous mandate to remove the fence and Club fixtures within three months of the expiry of the lease. The Governor intimated in the same letter that, although depriving the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club of the present Cricket Ground, he proposed allotting another portion of the Public Garden, as a general "play ground" for Japanese and foreigners alike; but this I consider is indefensible from a Treaty point of view, besides practically an impossible proposition.

It is *the present Cricket Ground*, and no other, that is under discussion: the Cricket Ground that is defined by Treaty, and clearly located by drawings and measurements in all official documents connected with Yokohama—those that went to The Hague as well as others; and to talk of putting the foreign Community off with any odd corner of the Public Garden in lieu of the present Cricket Ground is illogical and, as already said, indefensible.

In response to an informal request from H.B.M.'s Chargé d'Affaires, Mr. Rumbold, for a suggestion from the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club as to what arrangement would meet their views for the conjoint use of the present Cricket Ground, with Japanese Ball Game Clubs, a letter has been sent to the British Consulate for transmission to Mr. Rumbold to the effect that a similar arrangement to the Kobe one would probably be satisfactory to members, failing a better solution of the question. If added to this there was an understanding that the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club should be thrown open to all eligible persons, irrespective of nationality, subject of course to ballot and the usual fees, it might tend to do away with the opposition that is supposed to exist in municipal circles against the continued use of the ground by foreigners exclusively.

But a simpler and more workable, therefore perhaps more generally acceptable, settlement of the whole question would be the allotment to Japanese Ball Game Clubs of the space at the southern end of the present Cricket Ground, on which Baseball is already played by all and sundry. If that space were enlarged towards the present Cricket Ground by reducing the width of the road running between, by one half, and removing a few trees, and enclosing the space with a fence, it would make an admirable playground for all the Japanese Clubs able and willing to contribute towards its upkeep, besides forming a nursery for the fostering of rivalry in all ball games, that might be of inestimable value in the near future. It is not a reasonable proposition that, with a large and well-to do Japanese population in Yokohama, the municipality should be expected to find a playground free of charge for all the Baseball Clubs that choose to start; and those refusing to contribute as I have suggested to the making and upkeep of the ground I propose should be appropriated for the use of Japanese Clubs, should be left to find their own grounds.

At present this space is of no value as a garden, and is a poor playground, but if taken in hand as herein suggested, there is no limit to the good results that might follow.

The chief reason against the joint use of the present Cricket Ground by the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club and Japanese Clubs, is of course its limited space, which practically prohibits its occupation by members of both organizations on the same day.

My only excuse for writing at such length is that I think the time has arrived when both the Foreign Community generally and the Japanese should know the truth about the Cricket Ground, and what is being done with a view to its preservation; and also to put an end to irresponsible and unreliable writing on the subject.

A BELATED RECORD.

The reconstruction of the Mukden-Antung Railway has led to an interesting but very sad discovery. It appears that before the Battle of Mukden a Japanese first-class cavalry soldier, by name Mochizuki Koji, was despatched with three comrades ostensibly on a scouting mission but in reality to cut the Russian railway. What success attended the attempt was never known, or what became of the four troopers. They all disappeared completely and finally. The discovery now made is a tombstone erected in memory of one of them, namely, Mochizuki. It would seem that the four men having accomplished their purpose more or less completely, separated for their home journey, that being their best plan of getting through the Russian lines. Mochizuki very soon found himself surrounded. He fought desperately, and after receiving a number of wounds, saw that escape was hopeless, and then and there committed suicide. The Russians were so impressed by his valour that they subscribed each a small sum which was applied to erecting a tombstone carrying an account of Mochizuki's feat. This stone might have remained forever undiscovered had not the change of the railway route brought it to light. The inscription is of course in Russian. Thus after four years this brave man's countrymen will be able to do honour to his memory, and to the fine courtesy of the Russians.

THE TOKYO "NICHI NICHI" BOOK CLUB.

There has been founded in Tokyo a book club which ought to prove a great convenience to all readers of foreign literature. Primarily the club is intended for the convenience of Japanese students, but as foreigners may become members its sphere of usefulness will be enlarged. We understand that the club has connected itself with *The Times'* Book Club, and it will consequently have access to the best literary work of the time. For the information of our readers we publish the Rules:—

RULES.

1. The Tokyo Nichi Nichi Book Club is a circulating library founded and organized in conjunction with the *Tokyo Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

2. The library will be composed mostly of English books, for the time being, and the number of works will be constantly increased by the addition of new publications.

3. The subscription fee to the Club is *yen* 8 per year or *yen* 5 for 6 months.

4. Books will be delivered to members free of charge throughout the country, but they must be returned to the Club at the members' expense.

5. Books may be kept for 15 days by the members, and they will be entitled to 2 books at a time.

6. Members will be held responsible for loss of, or damage to, books while kept by them.

7. The Club will prepare and distribute to members, a list of all books added to the library.

8. Should a member desire to purchase books which he has borrowed from the Club, the Club will dispose of such books at fixed prices. Should the Club find it inconvenient to dispose of a book immediately on application from a member, the Club reserves to itself the right of deferring the sale of such book.

9. A member is entitled to receive gratis a copy of the *Tokyo Nichi Nichi Shimbun*.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The figures for the country's foreign trade during the 11 days ended Aug. 31st are:—

	Yen.
Exports	12,310,000
Imports	9,846,000
Excess of exports	2,464,000

The figures for the first eight months of the year thus become as follow:—

	Yen.
Exports	250,781,000
Imports	277,588,000
Excess of imports	26,807,000

Compared with the corresponding period of last year, the above figures show an increase of exports to the extent of 12,551,000 *yen* and a decrease of imports to the extent of 43,702,000 *yen*, so that over the whole trade there appears a diminution of 31,151,000 *yen*. This can not be called at all a favourable showing, seeing that last year's trade was already much smaller than that for 1907.

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BUSINESS NOTES.

Friday, August 17.

There is no light as yet in the affairs of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. Its 50 *yen* paid-up shares are now quoted at 13.50 *yen*. Some time ago a committee of adjustment was appointed, the principal member being Mr. Takashima, son-in-law of Mr. Okura Kihachiro. This committee proposed a radical scheme, the details of which we do not fully gather, but it seems to have involved the employment of smaller ships on the American line. At all events it would have meant a complete change of programme, whereas the President, Mr. Asano, is understood to be in favour of temporising measures, such as a diminution in the number of employees and a consequent reduction of current expenses. Mr. Takashima thinks that a much more drastic remedy is necessary, and his views not having been endorsed, he has resigned, resolutely rejecting all persuasion to resume office. The great difficulty in adjusting this Company's affairs is that it has only one service of steamers to rely on, and consequently if things are bad on that line, there is no compensation in other directions. The necessary make-weight was expected to be found in the South American service, but that expectation seems to have proved delusive.

It appears that the people of Chili were thrown into some consternation by the raising of the Japanese flag over the new Legation in Valparaiso. They conceived that this was a prelude to a large scheme of Japanese immigration, and as they are very averse to the coming of aliens on any considerable scale, much alarm was felt. The newspapers published disquieting paragraphs, and it is stated that Mr. Heki, the Japanese Representative, was obliged to invite all the editors to the Legation and explain to them fully that the appointment of a Minister to Chili had nothing to do with immigration, but was intended solely to promote friendship between Chili and Japan. Incidentally it may be observed that the popular temper in both Chili and Peru being thus conspicuously opposed to Japanese immigration, the prospects of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha's South American line do not look very bright.

It appears that the combination of the 20 cement companies of Japan has not yet become an accomplished fact. A few years ago the production of cement in Japan totalled only a million barrels, but in the fever of enterprise which followed the war, a number of new companies were formed and the production was very soon doubled, without of course a corresponding increase of demand. The Railway Board is the great customer. It takes about 600,000 barrels annually, and 9 of the companies are qualified to tender for supplying the Board. Necessarily the price has been greatly reduced by competition, and it has been felt for some time that combination is the only feasible resource. The idea is to form a guild under the provisions of law, but there seems to be some question as to whether the law of guilds can be properly applied to such a case.

With regard to the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company, it appears that the Fujimoto Bank has opened legal proceedings simultaneously in Osaka and Tokyo for sums of one hundred thousand and forty thousand *yen* respectively. The Directors of the Company are strenuously endeavouring to obtain the intervention of the other creditors, since all are concerned in averting the bankruptcy of the Company, their only hope of ultimate payment consisting in the re-habilitation of the business.

There are various rumours about the Tokyo Railway. Some allege that a rise of fares is imminent, and others that the shares are to be declared eligible for purchase by the Imperial Household Department and for inclusion in the entailed estates of the nobles, while yet another rumour has it that the Company is to be amalgamated with the Anglo-Japanese Hydro-Electric enterprise. The directors deny all these things, and thus the public remains in a state of doubt.

Saturday, August 28.

The Tokyo Electric Light Company is not at all disposed to submit quietly to the increased tax which the Municipality seeks to levy from it. At present the Company is paying a post-tax, which represents a sum of about 30,000 *yen* annually. What the Aldermen propose is to change this system on the lines of that existing in Osaka, namely, that the Company should pay 4 per cent. of its total nett profits. This would mean an increase of about 50,000 *yen*, since the Company's nett profits now amount to some 2 millions annually, and naturally the Directors object strenuously to having their tax nearly trebled at one *coup*. They say that if the taxation system of Osaka is to be applied to their Company, the privileges given in Osaka should be extended to Tokyo also; namely, the Company should be explicitly granted a monopoly of the city's lighting. This seems a fair contention on the part of the Company, but the Aldermen are not in a position to grant it.

There are all sorts of rumours about the Tokyo Railway, but not one of them can be said to rest on any solid foundation. Meanwhile we observe symptoms of the familiar tendency of certain Japanese newspapers, notably the *Nippon*, to import sentiment into the realm of cold business.

Official permission has been obtained for the establishment of the Anglo-Japanese Hydro-Electric Power Company. This may be assumed to mean that the Company will now become an accomplished fact.

Mr. Odagiri and Baron Nakajima have resigned from the To-A Kogyo Kaisha, but it is not considered necessary to elect any substitutes. Meanwhile the Company has sent representatives to open negotiations for the supply of materials to the Kilin-Changchun Railway.

Sunday, August 29.

The Japanese newspapers are now beginning to busy themselves much, as they always do at this time of the year, with the forthcoming budget. The great topic of interest is the proposed increase of official salaries, but evidently nothing definite is yet known upon that subject. More accurate attention is bestowed upon a project attributed to Mr. Kawashima, Governor of Hokkaido. He is said to have submitted to the Home Department a programme involving an annual grant of 5,500,000 *yen* by the Treasury to Hokkaido for a term of 5 years, 5 millions of that amount to be devoted to colonization purposes and half a million to administrative expenses. Mr. Kawashima's argument is that the development of the island is proceeding much too slowly. There are at present only 1,400,000 inhabitants, and there is ample room for 4,300,000 more. He points out that whereas the Treasury derives an income of 25 million *yen* annually from Hokkaido, it expends only 10 million, including the outlays on account of the troops. He does not consider that to be a fair proportion. His scheme includes the construction of 8 new harbours, the building of roads, and various other improvements. It is said to have the approval of the Home Department, but whether the finances of the State will permit such an expenditure seems doubtful.

The *Chuo Shimbun* alleges that the Budget will be fully drafted by the 25th of next month and that the Government has no intention of abolishing any of the three so-called Objectionable Taxes. Even the transit tax, which from an economic point of view is the worst of the three, will remain in force.

A director of the Tokyo Railway Company is quoted by the Tokyo *Asahi Shimbun* as denying that there is any intention whatsoever of selling the Tokyo Railway to the Municipality or of applying for an increase of fare. He assigns as a reason for the recent increase in the market price of the Company's shares the fact that investors have come to recognise these shares as among the safest in the market.

With regard to the agreement between the Tokyo Railway Company and the Anglo-Japanese Hydro-Electric Power Company, we read in the *Yamato Shimbun* that it will not be renewed at present, owing to the former Company's objection to make a contract with a concern which has not yet come into actual existence. But it is a little difficult to appreciate the force of that reasoning, for the objection now attributed to the Railway Company had equal force when it concluded its first agreement with the Hydro Electro Company.

There is a report that the Fifteenth Bank has lent a sum of 3 million *yen* at 7 per cent. interest for five years to the Kawasaki Dock Company. A portion of this money will be applied by the Company to pay off a high interest bearing debt contracted by it when the money market was tight, and the remainder will furnish working capital, especially for the purposes of building the new cruiser ordered by the Government.

Monday, August 30.

The *Jiji Shimpo* publishes a note said to embody a reply elicited from the Authorities on inquiry. It is to the effect that no application has been made for an increase of fare in the case of the Tokyo Railway, nor would any such application be entertained in the absence of a reason not now apparent. Our contemporary's informant adds that there is no foundation for the talk of the Company getting an increase of income by the abolition of the transit tax, The tax would be abolished for the purpose of easing the people's burden, and not for the purpose of benefitting a special company. This statement, it will be observed, takes no notice of the fact that the city is at present deriving no revenue from the Company, nor is there, so far as one can see, the slightest prospect of its deriving any revenue if things be left as they are.

Tuesday, August 31.

Closing day on the Tokyo Stock Exchange passed off quietly. The number of shares dealt in was 67,070, being 2,580 less than in the preceding month. On the other hand, these shares represented a total sum of 4,038,590 *yen*, being an increase of 293,448 *yen* as compared with July. The average

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price per share was 59.624 *yen*, which showed the very substantial increase of 6.331 per share.

The Osaka Insurance Companies have combined to raise their rates by 20 per cent. As their charges were already much below hose ruling in Tokyo, this increase will stillt be insufficient to equalize the rates in the two cities. Besides, as we understand, it will not take effect in the case of houses built of brick or stone: they will be admitted on the old terms.

Wednesday, September 1.

It is stated that the President of the Hanoi Chamber of Commerce is urging the establishment of direct steamship connexion between French Indo-China and some one of the three trans-Asian railway systems. He suggests that the French Government should give an annual subsidy of 1,200,000 *francs* for one of the following three services:—

FIRST ROUTE.	Days.
From Haiphong to Shanghai	5
From Shanghai to Vladivostock	6
From Vladivostock to Moscow	10
From Moscow to Paris	3
Total	24

SECOND ROUTE.	Days.
From Haiphong to Shanghai	5
From Shanghai to Hankow	4
From Hankow to Peking	2
From Peking to Harbin	2
From Harbin to Moscow	9
From Moscow to Paris	3
Total	25

THIRD ROUTE.	Days.
From Haiphong to Shanghai	5
From Shanghai to Dairen	3
From Dairen to Harbin	2
From Harbin to Paris	12
Total	22

It will be observed that of the above three routes that by the South Manchuria Railway is 2 days the shortest.

Out of an estimated revenue of 1,800,000 *yen* the authorities of Japanese Saghalien look forward to obtaining half a million from the Central Government and three quarters of a million from the fishing licences. But this latter source of revenue seems likely to prove illusory this season. In the first place, the fisheries have turned out almost a failure; and in the second place, the licence fees were run up by competition to extravagant figures. The holders of the licences are therefore asking for substantial consideration, and if they do not receive it, they threaten to abandon their stations and return to Japan proper.

Complaints are again heard about the unprofitable condition of the maritime carrying trade so far as tramp steamers are concerned. Freights have fallen considerably, and it is expected that several vessels will have to be tied up.

An arrangement has not yet been effected, according to Tokyo papers, between Messrs. Sale, Frazar Ld., and the Kei-Hin Electric Railway with regard to the proposed loan of 3 million *yen*. The difficulty arises in connexion with the fact that whereas the loan contract extends over a period of 20 years, the Company's charter has only 19 years more to run. One would think that such a point ought to be easily capable of arrangement, but apparently the Directors do not find it so.

It is stated that an English Syndicate has agreed to take over the Hydro-Electric rights in the Kinu River. This project has long hung fire, but its evil days would now seem to be past.

Thursday, September 2.

The competition between the four companies which aim at supplying Tokyo with hydro-electric power continues to be very keen. Our readers should be already aware that the plans of these four companies have to do respectively with the Kinugawa represented by Mr. Den; the Oigawa by the British Syndicate; the Agatsuma River by Mr. Asano, and the Katsura by Mr. Amenomiya. All four companies aim at obtaining the patronage of the Tokyo Railway, which at present uses 10,000 horse-power, and will ultimately require 25,000. Accordingly, some time ago, the Tokyo Railway Company's experts were sent to examine the various projects, and they are said to have submitted a report in favour of the Kinugawa. Tokyo journals state that Mr. Amenomiya is highly irate about this report, The experts of the Tokyo Railway admit that the Katsuragawa is the easiest to exploit, but that its capacity to supply the power ultimately required is doubtful. Mr. Amenomiya, however, ridicules the notion that an examination concluded in a few days should invalidate one spread over several years. He insists that the Katsuragawa programme is capable of delivering 32,000 horse-power in Tokyo.

Figures are published by Tokyo papers indicating rapid development of electric power industries in Japan. Between 1904 and 1908 inclusive, applications were received by the Government from 1,221 persons, and the number of kilowatts involved was 172,797. Classified according to their nature these projects were as follow:—

	Actually opened.	Not yet opened.
Supplying electric power	172	91
Electric railways	7	9
Including the above two	21	—
Private use	967	29
Official use	101	9

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce publishes the following figures with reference to the rice crop in consecutive years since 1899, the figure for the present year being of course an estimate, founded on returns obtained a week ago:—

	Koku.
1899	39,698,258
1900	41,466,422
1901	46,914,434
1902	36,332,266
1903	46,473,298
1904	51,430,221
1905	38,172,560
1906	46,302,530
1907	49,052,065
1908	51,932,831
1909	54,291,752
Average	46,286,135

This means an increase of 4½ per cent. as compared with last year, which was already a record, and an increase of 17.3 per cent. over the average. Translated into actual results the case is that, if the above estimate prove correct, the crop for the current year will exceed that for the average year by 9¼ million *koku*, which at the cheapest rate now ruling in the market, namely, 14 *yen*, represents a sum of 129 million *yen*.

THE CAPITULATIONS IN TURKEY.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has an interesting telegram from London to the effect that Russia and France are taking the lead in advocating abolition of the capitulations in Turkey. The telegram adds that this move is considered somewhat premature in diplomatic circles, but that it is strongly welcomed by the Turks, as is only natural. If France and Russia be really disposed to make this concession, England may be confidently expected to join hands with them, though experience teaches that considerable opposition must be looked for at the hands of those who would be brought under Turkish jurisdiction. A corollary to the proposed abolition would doubtless be the conclusion of a treaty of commerce and friendship between Japan and Turkey. Nothing has hitherto prevented the conclusion of such a treaty except the existence of the capitulations. Japan was understood to be willing to dispense with consular jurisdiction in Turkey, but on the other hand she was most unwilling to embarrass European Powers by taking the lead in such a departure from long-established custom. The latter objection would be removed if the joint action attributed to France and Russia were successful.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Japanese newspapers publish an identical paragraph to the effect that in the recent disturbance on the island of Mindanao the Japanese inhabitants fought side by side with the United States' citizens at Davao, and that incident had a great effect upon the feelings of the two peoples towards each other. It appears that the Japanese subject who was killed, namely, Mr. Kawano Keizo, was not engaged in the conflict. He met his death at the hands of some of the insurgents to whom he refused to furnish tobacco gratis. The services of Dr. Hashimoto, a Japanese physician, were given zealously to the wounded, and this fact also was favourably commented on by the American residents.

There are at present no signs of a change of weather. Sudden showers are experienced throughout the south-easterly districts, but for the rest things are quiet.

The thunder storm on the 29th inst. was one of the severest experienced by Tokyo for a long time. The lightning struck at a number of places, some say 15, some 20, and two children were killed in the Fukugawa suburb. In the Oji district there was a whirlwind which removed the roofs of two houses. It now appears that the 210th day falls on the 2nd proximo, not on the 1st.

The Meteorological Authorities vouched for the weather on the 210th day and predict a rice-crop of over 50 millions of *koku*.

The 210th day passed off on the 1st inst. amid most satisfactory conditions throughout the whole Empire, with the exception of Hokkaido, where there was some rain and wind, though nothing of a formidable character. According to the meteorological authorities, there is not at present in sight any centre of depression calculated to cause uneasiness. Occasional dashes of rain will probably be experienced during the next few days, but that state of affairs is welcomed by the farmers for its immediate effect upon the crops, and is recognised by experts as a favourable condition, since these minor atmospheric disturbances tend to avert anything really serious.

It is stated by Tokyo newspapers that in view of the impending ruin of the various race clubs owing to the veto upon the *pari-mutuel*, the Government intimated its willingness to grant an annual subsidy of 250,000 *yen* to these clubs, provided that they united to form one strong institution. It has accordingly been decided to combine the four principal clubs, namely, those of Ikegami, Itabashi, Meguro and

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Kawasaki. But in the account given by our Tokyo contemporaries we do not find any reference to the other clubs, and the inference is either that they are to be ignored or that the above subsidy does not represent the limit of the Government's benevolence.

It will have been observed that for the past few days we have had no news about the disputes connected with the Yalu timber-felling enterprise, although at one time these were spoken of as likely to assume very grave dimensions. The latest news, however, is not reassuring. It repeats the intelligence previously received, to the effect that the malcontents number 20,000 and that they are in a very turbulent frame of mind.

The Emperor of Japan has sanctioned the organisation of an office under the direction of Prince Ito, whose duty will be to compile a minute history of the relations between Korea and Japan from the earliest times down to the present day. His Majesty is said to recognise that, whereas several histories of Korea are already in existence, they by no means exhaust the available material, nor can any one of them be regarded as absolutely trustworthy. It will be extremely interesting to see how Japanese historiographers deal with such a question in this 20th century. They will have to go back to the so-called age of the *kami*, and will, therefore, have to separate the picturesque mythological legends of that era from the cold narratives of fact which alone satisfy modern scholars. The earliest pages of the Japanese annals are indeed a bewildering study, and anything that can throw light on them will be most welcome.

Some time ago reference was made in these columns to a competitive exhibition which was in process of organisation by a Society for the Promotion of Industries in Hupeh. The project was heartily welcomed by outsiders as indicating a decidedly forward step on the part of the Chinese people. But a disappointment has now occurred. Viceroy Chen has notified that foreign exhibits will not be received, domestic manufactures alone being admitted. There is no explanation of this conservative attitude, so far as the telegram goes. It will cause some loss and much chagrin to several Japanese manufacturers who had planned to send exhibits.

In connexion with the collision on the Keihin Electric Railway, when six persons were injured in a catastrophe attributed to the fact that the conductor was dozing, the *Nichi Nichi* publishes statistics of the number of accidents which have occurred in Tokyo during the past six months owing to carelessness or recklessness on the part of passengers. Our contemporary's returns are these:—Persons injured by entering or leaving the cars while the latter were in motion, 243; persons injured by crossing the line from the back of one car without perceiving that another was approaching, 97; injured by riding on the steps or clinging to the chains, 16; injured by thrusting their heads out of the windows, 5; injured by holding on to the glass doors instead of using the straps, 70.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, August 27.

Profit-taking sales—a natural consequence of the sharp upward movement on the 26th instant—and adjustments to meet the end of the month, produced some depression on the 27th instant. Even the Tokyo-Railway shares, which appreciated so rapidly on Thursday, fell markedly on Friday. It is evident that there is no stability as yet. An upward tendency never lasts for more than two or three days at most. Speculators are content with small gains.

Saturday, August 28.

The 28th was a half day in view of the monthly settlement. The market developed a very active tone, all shares showing an upward tendency. The last few days certainly suggest a promise of steadily developing strength, but we observe that the prophets are discreetly silent. There were large purchases of Tokyo Railway shares against small profit-taking sales. The *Asahi Shimbun* says that the chief purchasers are men who may be supposed to know the ropes.

Tuesday, August 31.

The 31st instant saw a strong upward movement on the Stock Exchange. All shares appreciated sharply. The afternoon session witnessed a slight relapse owing to profit-taking sales, but the general feeling was firm at closing.

Wednesday, September 1.

The opening day of September was strong in the forenoon session but weakened in the afternoon, which saw some very heavy falls—so heavy as to suggest the beginning of a *débâcle*. Thus the forwards of the exchange itself rose to over 85 in the forenoon and fell to 80 in the afternoon.

Thursday, September 2.

The 2nd instant was again a brisk day, especially in the case of the shares of the Stock Exchange. From two special sources an upward impulse was derived: one was the publication of an official estimate of the rice-crop; the other, an announcement that the banks had lowered their rate of interest on deposits. As usual the afternoon session saw some depression owing to profit-taking sales, but, on the whole, the feeling was firm. We append the quotations for November delivery:—

	Sept. 1st.	Sept. 2nd.	
Tokyo Railway	73.10	73.95	+ .85
Kei-hin Railway	71.55	70.00	—1.55
Yusen Kaisha	82.00	82.80	+ .80
Toyo Kisen	—	14.00	—
Tanko Kisen	49.95	49.50	— .45
Tokyo Gas	105.10	105.50	+ .40
Tokyo Dento	97.00	97.30	+ .30
Fuji Gass Spinning	106.20	106.20	—
Tokyo Spinning	46.35	46.10	— .25
Kanegafuchi Spinning	114.40	115.95	+1.50
Beer	80.70	80.05	— .65
Hoden Oil	92.00	93.60	+1.60
Nippon Oil	102.40	101.40	—1.00
Stock Exchange	180.35	184.50	+4.15

THE CENTRAL BANK OF KOREA.

On the 27th inst. it was officially announced that subscriptions for the shares of the new Central Bank of Korea will be received from the 6th of September to the 12th inclusive, but that if the total number were subscribed prior to the latter date, the list might be closed at any moment. The share rights of this Company are now quoted at 40 *yen*, and there is some apprehension that a mania for subscribing may be developed on lines similar to those followed in the case of the South Manchuria Railway. Hence the very short period fixed for receiving shares, and hence also the power reserved by the authorities to close the list at any moment.

Share-rights in the Central Bank of Korea are now selling at a premium of 51 or 52 *yen* in Tokyo, and it is expected that the subscription list will be filled many times over on the first day of issue, namely, the 6th inst. Arrangements have been made in the sense that the amounts of the subscriptions received at the various offices shall be telegraphically communicated to headquarters by noon on the 6th, with a view to the closing of the list at that hour. It is nevertheless expected that the subscriptions will exceed the amount required by a very large sum.

The Company Regulations of the Bank of Korea were published in an extra issued yesterday of the *Official Gazette*, says the *Seoul Press* of August 28. They consist of sixty-seven articles altogether, divided into eight chapters. The greater portion of the present Regulations is identical with the articles of the Law in virtue of which the Bank is to be established and a summary of which was given in the *Seoul Press* late last month. To avoid a repetition of that identical part we give an epitome as follows:

Out of the one hundred thousand shares into which the capital of the Bank (ten million *yen*) will be divided, thirty thousand shares will be taken up by the Korean Government. The denomination of certificates are of six, that is, one, five, ten, fifty, one hundred and one thousand shares. The first payment on the stock will be 25 *yen* per 100 *yen*. The Governor of the bank is authorised to decide at his own discretion when and how calls shall be issued for the second payment and payments following, but at the same time he is bound to give a notice of one month for such a call, and each payment must not exceed 25 *yen* a share. When a shareholder fails to answer such a call by timely payment, he will be dealt with in accordance with the Japanese Regulations controlling joint stock companies. The Governor of the Bank *ex-officio* will be Chairman at the general meeting of shareholders as well as of councils of the Directorate. He will receive an annual salary of six thousand *yen*. The emolument of the Directors will be of two classes, 4,000 *yen* and 3,000 *yen*. All of them shall be given special allowances, over and above their stated salaries, the amount of which is to be fixed by the Government. The remuneration for the Auditors shall be fixed by a vote at the general meeting of the shareholders. The regular general meeting will be held every year in February and August. The business year of the Bank is half a calendar year, *i.e.*, from January to June and from July to December. At the end of every business year the net profits of the term will be distributed at the following percentage:—Not less than eight per cent. to the reserve fund against losses; not less than two per cent. to the dividend equalisation reserve fund; within 10 per cent. as bonus and entertainment allowances for officials; and dividend to shareholders at the rate of six per cent. per annum on the paid-up capital. When the net profits plus the amount brought forward from the preceding business year more than warrants the six per cent. dividend after making sufficient provision for the various funds just mentioned, the balance is to be divided as a special (or second) dividend, set apart as a special reserve fund or carried forward to the next account. However, when the next profits of a given business year more than enables the Bank to declare dividend exceeding twelve per cent. per annum, on its paid-up capital fifty per cent. of the balance between the 12 per cent. annual dividend and such net profit must be presented to the Government as a royalty. In the matter of dividend stock held by others the stock held by the Korean Government enjoys preference over that portion owned by Government. The initial expenses of the Bank cannot exceed forty thousand *yen*.

According to one of our special Tokyo telegrams printed to-day, shares offered to the public for subscription number 69,600 shares. None belonging to nationalities other than Japanese and Korean, we may add, can legally hold the Bank's stock.

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THE SETTLEMENT.

THERE seems to be no longer any room for doubt that with the exception of one question all the problems outstanding between China and Japan were solved at the conference of the 24th inst. The unsettled question is the policing of the Mukden-Antung Railway. About this nothing whatever is said in the telegraphic reports which have reached Tokyo, and therefore we must assume that the matter remains still to be disposed of. It would seem that from the outset China allowed it to be clearly seen that she attached chief importance to Chientao, and that if her position with regard to that particular count were recognised, she was prepared to make concessions in other directions. Those by whom the course of events has been carefully followed became aware long ago that Japan, acting on behalf of Korea, did not insist upon establishing any title of sovereignty over Chientao. Her prime object was to obtain for the Koreans settled in that district security of life and property; that is to say, better security than Chinese legislation and Chinese jurisdiction afford. China, on the other hand, contended that all the Koreans settled in Chientao had deliberately accepted Chinese nationality and should therefore be regarded as Chinese subjects. The situation has been met by conceding China's points so far as the past is concerned. In other words, Chientao will be recognised as a part of the Chinese dominions, and all the Koreans who have hitherto settled there will be regarded as naturalized Chinese, subject therefore to Chinese jurisdiction. But any Koreans who may hereafter travel or reside in Chientao, and of course any Japanese also, will be under Japanese consular jurisdiction. At the same time it is stipulated that Chientao shall be thrown open fully to foreign trade and residence, and that Japanese consulates shall be established there.

The next question treated appears to have been that of the Fakumen Railway. Several months ago Japan proposed a compromise which seemed to be a fair solution of this problem. She intimated her willingness to permit the extension of the Hsinmintun Railway to Fakumen provided that China agreed to the construction of a branch of the South Manchuria Railway from Tenkiatun. But this compromise did not find favour in China's eyes, and it has now been definitely settled that the Fakumen road shall not be built without Japan's consent.

The next problem was also connected with railways. We explained in a previous issue that China, under her Convention of 1898 with Russia, called upon Japan to surrender the Yingkow branch of the South-Manchuria Railway, whereas Japan was seeking permission to extend that very line from its present terminus at Niukiatun right into the town of Yingkow. In this matter China has completely yielded to Japan's wishes. The Yingkow branch is to remain in the hands of the South-Manchuria Railway Company as a going concern and China agrees to its extension into the town of Yingkow. This decision will be heartily welcomed by the foreign and Chinese populations of Yingkow and Newchwang. On the other hand, Japan has agreed to China's wishes in the matter of extending the Peking-Mukden Railway right into the city of Mukden, which involves carrying the line across the track of the South-Manchuria road. Our readers doubtless understand this point already, but for the sake of clearness we may explain that the so-called Peking-Mukden Railway does not at present reach actually to Mukden but stops short at a point one mile westward of the South-Manchuria Railway track. Japan has hitherto been most unwilling to allow the linking up of this line with Mukden unless she also be allowed to build a branch from the South-Manchuria Railway to the same city. We hear nothing now of the latter proviso: evidently Japan has yielded upon this point altogether. There remains the matter of the coal mines and this too has been settled by mutual concessions. Japan agrees to pay a royalty to China, thus indirectly recognising the latter's sovereignty, and she also agrees to make due compensation to Mr. Wang who claims a right of property in the Chinkin-shan mine.

It will be seen that the above is essentially a compromise, equally creditable to each side and equally indicative of the good will of both the parties to the controversy. China's "face" is completely saved. Her sovereignty is recognised at every point. On the other hand, the nations will be compelled to credit Japan's sincerity in the cause of peace. Moreover, just as the Portsmouth Treaty was used by Japan as an instrument for opening Manchuria to the tradal world by providing for the establishment of 16 open marts, so also she has seized this occasion to bring Chientao within the sphere of free commerce. Her greatest enemies will be compelled to admit that she has scored a distinct success not only in the matter of diplomacy but also in the field of international ethics. It is now to be sincerely trusted that a new era of mutual friendship and trust will dawn for the sister Empires.

DIVORCE AND THE POOR.

IT is a satisfactory sign of the times that the question of divorce in its relation to the poorer classes should have been taken up by the House of Lords. The mere fact of the discussion of this subject in the Upper Chamber reveals the existence of a degree of consideration which the opponents of that much abused institution are not in the habit of according it. It was, moreover, eminently fitting that the question should have been brought forward by Lord GORELL—formerly, Sir JOHN GORELL BARNES—who, as President of the Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division of the High Court, is in a position to speak from a personal experience of the working of the law, and with an authority unexcelled by any, unless it be that of his distinguished predecessor, Sir FRANCIS JEUNE, also raised to the peerage. The resolution moved by LORD GORELL declared the expediency of conferring upon County Courts, to a limited extent, the power of jurisdiction in divorce and matrimonial cases, in order that the lower classes might have their cases of that nature heard in these Courts. As matters stand, the costs attendant on divorce proceedings are so great as to place this sometimes necessary method of release entirely beyond the reach of people of narrow means. The mover of the resolution instanced a case in which money had been saved for 20 years in order to get a divorce, even in a suit which would be undefended. The motion met with strong opposition, as might have been expected, from the Archbishop of CANTERBURY and from Lord HALIFAX, President of the English Church Union, the former holding up the experience of America in the matter of divorce as a warning, and declaring that he should "view, with profound anxiety and alarm, any measures in favour of extending facilities for divorce in this country." Lord WOLVERHAMPTON, joining in the debate, said it was notorious that the poorer classes were shut out from the relief which the law said they should have, while the Lord CHANCELLOR, in closing the discusion—so as to permit of a consultation with his colleagues as to the desirability of an inquiry—observed that there were men in the County Courts just as able to deal with these cases as the Judges in the High Courts, and that after all the real question was "whether a man who had £100 should have relief while the poor man could not get it." The fallacy of the argument advanced by the Archbishop of Canterbury is clear: there is no suggestion of altering the law on the point or bringing it anywhere near the state it has reached in America. It is simply a case of bringing that law within the reach of the poor. Anything resembling in the remotest degree the pernicious principle of "one law for the rich and another for the poor" is foreign to the spirit of British legislation, and for that reason, if for no other, the present procedure of Divorce Courts demands revision. We do not believe that such revision, on the lines suggested by Lord GORELL, would have the effect the Archbishop fears. We do not believe it would bring about an increase, to the smallest extent, in the number of unsuccessful marriages; but, if the evidence of Mr. PLOWDEN is to be believed, it would certainly put a period to many a union whence happiness and mutual affection have irrevocably fled, but whose misery is still prolonged simply because the injured party can not afford to contemplate the cost of release. The able and experienced Metropolitan magistrate sends to *The Times* an interesting contribution to the discussion, in which he makes clear the terrible disabilities under which women,

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especially, labour in consequence of the inadequate provision made for meeting cases of this kind. Incidentally, Mr. PLOWDEN shows the evils of the separation order system, under which the wife receives, from the husband who has driven her from him and from her home, a meagre allowance so long as she does not forfeit it by 'tripping.' "Consider for a moment," he says, "what is involved when a woman, married and yet not married, for that is the true description of a wife judicially separated, 'trips' under the pressure of constant temptation in trying circumstances. . . . It means not only, as the Archbishop points out, that she forfeits her alimony, but that she loses everything that makes life worth living. She loses her rights as a married woman. She loses her children, if she has any, for the law no longer regards her as fit to have their custody. Ruined and abandoned, first by husband and then by lover, for this is her almost certain destiny, there is nothing left but a gruesome choice between the workhouse and the streets. And, by way of contrast, the husband, relieved of the expense of contributing a farthing to his wife's maintenance, is free to live the life he pleases, untrammelled by any legal obligation." Mr. PLOWDEN might well extend his condemnation of the judical separation system to higher grades of society than those to which he here makes reference. If the relations between two people joined in "holy" matrimony be of such a character as to call for their so-called "separation," those relations should suffice for making that "separation" complete. As it stands, we have, apart from the strong temptation to immorality, two lives rendered useless—useless from the sociological and national point of view—of people who might, if liberty of action were allowed them, find happiness in altered conditions and live the life of honourable citizenship. In all probability this much-to-be-commended change in the marriage laws will be slow in coming—as was that latest sociological advancement, the legalizing of marriage with a deceased wife's sister—but that it will come in due course, there is little reason to doubt.

THE CHINESE NAVY.

WE have been hearing much from time to time about the resuscitation of the Chinese navy, but the programme has hitherto been of a very vague character. Shanghai, however, now telegraphs to the *Asahi Shimbun* and *Jiji Shimpo* to the effect that a definite scheme has been mapped out. The details are given at some length, but the gist of them will probably satisfy our readers. There are to be four squadrons, namely, the Northern, the Southern, the Kwangtung and the Fuhkien, and there will be an equal number of training schools. Apparently these Squadrons are to be manned by conscripts, and the districts within which conscription is to be practised will be fixed in the second year of the programme's period. Steps are to be taken to find proper places for naval ports, and the dock yards now said to exist at Weihaiwei(?), Kiangnan and Fuhkien are to be improved. Officers for each Squadron will be appointed by a committee of the School for Navigation and Gunnery in the district concerned, but they may also be nominated by the Central Government. As for ships, the programme is limited to the construction of two or three cruisers for the first year, but in the interval between the second year and the seventh 38 vessels are to be built, 8 of them being line-of-battleships, 20 cruisers of various classes, and as to the remaining 10 the telegrams are not explicit.

Such is the broad outline of the programme, but as to how money is to be obtained for carrying it out we learn little. It is evident that such a scheme would call for an expenditure of at least 200 million *taels*; or, say, 30 millions per annum for seven years. If the Chinese Government's potentialities to raise taxes had elasticity comparable with the potentiality of constitutional governments, the sum in question would be a mere bagatelle to a nation of such huge dimensions. But as Prince Ito pointed out in a recent speech, the Chinese system of taxation has become so hallowed by long custom that no government could dare to touch it and live. This will doubtless be changed when the people come to exercise a voice in the control of the proceeds of taxation, but several years must elapse before that day, and in the meanwhile the huge Chinese Empire may be said to lie at the mercy of any enterprising State; for even supposing that China succeeds in organising an army of 36 divisions—a supposition difficult to entertain—her wide expanse of seaboard must still constitute her vital point, and until she furnishes herself with a competent navy she can not possess any security except by the grace of foreign Powers.

There is talk of calling upon the provinces to put up a sum of 5 million *yen* between them, which money is to be used for establishment expenses. But that is mere child's play. Until some more practical programme for obtaining money is elaborated, the whole scheme must be regarded with extreme scepticism.

A PATRIOTIC NEWSPAPER.

PATRIOTISM is a quality by which the Japanese set great store. Anybody travelling by the Tokyo tramways will find this sentiment appealed to in big ideographs by the brewers of Sapporo and Yebisu beer. We are bound to say, however, that Japanese patriotism does not always appear to be accompanied by discrimination. Take the case of the *Hochi Shimbun*, for example. The *Hochi* is a vigorous journal to which we are often tempted to apply the epithet "jingo." It invariably ranges itself on the side of a stalwart foreign policy, and whatever Occidental or Oriental Power be in question, it advocates on Japan's part an attitude of the most drastic character. That is undoubtedly a form of patriotism with which the beer-hall choir of "Rule Britannia" will easily sympathise. But how are we to reconcile this habitual mood, not merely with the general fact that the *Hochi* injures its country's reputation by such writing, but also with the particular fact that its tone is invariably and uncompromisingly hostile to anything like an increase of armaments; and that, if occasion offers, it does not hesitate to ascribe to the Japanese officials designs which would make this country an object of universal suspicion and dislike. For example, an article recently appeared in the *Kokumin Shimbun* advocating the assemblage of a larger military force by Japan in the Korean Peninsula, on the ground that in the present imperfect state of communications a Division and a half can not suffice to restore and preserve order. After mature reflection and inquiry the *Hochi Shimbun* now publishes an article which undertakes to interpret the underlying motive of the *Kokumin's* comments, and its interpretation is that the Japanese Government is merely seeking a pretext for increased armaments, and that its real object is not to restore and preserve peace, but to prepare for war. That is the gist of what our contemporary says. If it were said by any outside journal, the *Hochi* would certainly resent it, and would be justified in resenting it. Our contemporary is not to be reckoned among the conspicuously level-headed section of Japanese journals, but it has a large circulation, and is freely quoted by foreign newspapers as an exponent of Japanese opinion. Can anyone pretend to think that the interests of the *Hochi's* country are promoted by its action in attributing such mainsprings to the policy of the Japanese Government? After all, Japan's statesmen have shown wonderful foresight in their management of the country's affairs. They have carried this Empire to a point of prosperity and renown which could never have been contemplated for it 20 years ago. Yet to judge from the tone of the *Hochi Shimbun's* writings, these same statesmen are dangerous intriguers against whom their country ought to be perpetually on its guard. Is that also to be called patriotism?

A FOREIGN ENTHUSIAST ON BUDDHISM.

An old English lady named Mrs. E. Gordon put up at the Miyako Hotel, Kyoto, a few days ago. No sooner had she arrived than she saw the Manager Mr. Hamaguchi, and told him that she, being a believer in Buddhism, had travelled through Tokyo, Kamakura and many other places in Japan for the purpose of conversing with high Buddhist priests. She said that she had published in the *Shin-Bukkyo* an easay under the heading of "Speaking Stone," translated by Dr. Takakusu. She has also been in China, and has published a number of books dealing with Buddhism. Mr. Hamaguchi being asked to introduce her to some high priests, persuaded her to ascend the sacred Mount Hiyei, and accordiegly on September 1, she set out for the mountain in the pursuance of her object.

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OUR LONDON LETTER.

Now has come that season of the year when it is decreed by the arbiters of fashion, and by the authorities of schools, that all the world should make holiday, flocking from the towns into the country which is still passably green and gay, to Irish Lakes or Scotch Moors, to the English or French seaside, to German Baths or to Swiss mountains. A change comes o'er the spirit of the daily press. No more it tells of balls and routs, banquets and costumes, but contents itself perforce with somewhat sparse accounts of exalted House Parties at various Halls and Parks and Manors, or with bald statements as to the movements of their Graces the Dukes and Duchesses of this and that in the neighbourhood of Carlsbad and Schlagenbad, Bad Nauheim and Baden Baden. Soon Parliamentary Debates upon the Budget will give way to discussions upon "Is life worth living?" There will be no new plays to criticise, no new Music Hall sensations. Members of the staff away upon their holidays will contribute their impressions of Margate, of Lowestoft, of Blakenberg or Dieppe. London will be invaded by a pacific army which will take up positions near the British Museum, the Tower, St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster, and fly the crimson flag *Badaeker*. On this account policemen will endeavour to keep awake upon their beats, and in all probability the grass will not spring in Piccadilly, but on most fine mornings Peter Robinson's cat may be seen playing with her own tail in Oxford Circus.

Marjorie Flemming, the little friend of Sir Walter Scott, wrote in her diary: "Braehead is extremely pleasant to me by the company of swine, geese, cocks, &c. and they are the delight of my soul. . . . I am enjoying nature's fresh air. The birds are singing sweetly; the calf doth frisk and nature shows her glorious face." Barring the birds, who for the most part have become silent, or nearly so, many English folk are sharing "Pet Marjorie's" sensations, and giving themselves up to what she describes as "ruril delights." All the hay is not in yet; in some fields it lies smelling deliciously, and the haymakers, men and boys in great straw hats, coloured shirts and corduroys, with women in sun bonnets, come with rakes to turn it, and seem to require a great deal of tea and beer to drink. Children run and tumble about and bury themselves in hay and leap the cocks, and at last a great cart passes slowly over the field from end to end, and all the hay is forked up and piled on to it and built into a tight symmetrical stack. They thatch the stack well with straw, and it is a pleasure to see the thatching tools and the brown armed labourers at work with the cow looking over the hedge, much interested broods of young ducks and chickens cackling and pecking about the grass, and the dairymaid with her milking stool in her hand and her pail on the ground, enjoying a little gossip. As for flowers, the roses are resting before their second blooming, but there are lilies, very white and tall and sweet scented, standing with hollyhocks in box edged borders. There are poppies and blue cornflowers, moon-daisies and phlox and sweet peas "standing tiptoe for a flight." The crimson rambler is showering its petals upon the path, the berries are reddening upon the mountain ash, and the dahlias are in flower. The raspberries, which have been very good and plentiful this year, are slow giving way to the gooseberries which hang thick on their prickly bushes, asking to be picked, and afford delightful refreshment to tennis players "between the sets," who, in their appreciation, all but emulate the "Man of Thessaly" who

> ". . . was wondrous wise,
> He jumped into a gooseberry bush
> And scratched out both his eyes!
> And when he saw his eyes were gone
> He jumped with might and main
> Into another goosebery bush,
> And scratched them in again."

These signs and portents of autumn strike a pang to the heart, the more because there has been no real summer! There has been a day of sunshine here and there, but for the rest, persistent rain, storm and tempest. Picnics, garden parties and tennis parties have been spoilt by the hundred. At Goodwood the ladies were wrapped in mackintoshes whilst the water trickled off umbrellas on to Paris hats. It was indeed very hard. People have borne this misfortune very courageously and good temperedly. *Punch* is full of griefs and jibes about the fashionable "rain parties at which there have been umbrella-dances and a prize for the snappiest rain get up." A youthful poet has been inspired to write an epic upon the Flood, of which this stanza has been given to the world:—

> "Noah said 'Ham, just shut that door,
> And Japhet, shove her off the shore,
> You other fellows don't be jealous,
> Go home and fetch you umbrellas!'"

The good advice, as far at least as the umbrellas are concerned has been followed! and thus prepared enthusiasts pursue their usual summer occupations. The river is crowded; so are cricket grounds and flower shows. Respectable middle class families who, one would think, should be thankful to stay at home and keep dry, are off for open air jaunts, walking tours, camping in tents, and wandering in gipsy caravans. The only difficulty is to fix upon an *al fresco* holiday. There are so many to choose from. A "Worried Pater" writes to the press "As the father of seven, I find that exigencies of finance demand that we should all go together, and these are the ideals that I am trying to fit on to one spot:—

> "Wife—Nice quiet seaside place with a band;
> Dorothy (18)—Must be fashionable, with evening dress at dinner, a wide esplanade and dances;
> Cuthbert (17)—A country dell in Brittany. Must be a farm house, with roses all round, where I can think poetry;
> Harold (15)—Cycling tour in Scotland. (Ma in a trailer with Bill) Forty miles a day;
> Gwen (13)—Very, very quiet, and lots of sand so you can bathe all day straight from the house;
> May-twin (11)—Somewhere where there's a navy and some nice officers in cocked hats;
> Ivan-twin (11)—Where there are milkmaids and I can milk cows, and shepherdesses with real woolly sheep;
> Bill (9)—Plenty of sand and rocks with puddles in between, and smugglers.

"What is my ideal, you ask, perhaps? Why to get them all settled in this Utopian spot that will please them all, and then have a pipe and watch them enjoy themselves"

One of the Magazines, in the portion of its pages devoted to current events, comments upon the season's sport in England. In many fields England has been comparatively unsuccessful; competitors from other countries have carried off the championship, the cup or the prize. This turn of the wheel, this fortune of war, seems to have been the occasion of a quite disproportionate uneasiness and distress. Our sportsmen themselves, no doubt, preserve the cherished traditions of English sport They well know that Englishmen have taught the games they play to other nations, and that where sports flourish "they flourish by the example and imitation of England." They wish to play the game with all their might, they wish for fair play and for the best side to win. If the contest has been good, they are ready to honour the victors with equal good-will and content. Here, it appears, their critics are not with them. They adopt an attitude appropriate enough perhaps with regard to the insecurity of our national defences, but unsuitable, unmanly and unjust when adopted in regard to sport. They "unhappily assume that the one and only end of sport is to win, that a kind of national disgrace cling to the losing side. If a foreigner or a foreign team claims a victory, we are told with sad iteration that England is not merely defeated, but decadent. A mimic contest at cricket, or polo, is taken as a symbol of our national life. The facts that Australia, for the moment, holds the lead at cricket, or that four Americans mounted on ponies bred and trained in England, have lifted the Polo Cup, are assumed to mean that Britain is ruined in arms and art, in morale and theology, and that she is dragging out a miserable existence by the "complacent toleration of others" A young Englishman who has sojourned in South Africa has covered one hundred yards in magnificent time, and instantly appears to an excited press, a clear indication of England's collapse. A Belgian crew carries off the Grand Challenge Cup at Henley Regatta, after defeating by a narrow margin two college crews, and again the cry is raised of national decay. "It is idle to explain to the pessimists that a regatta is not the final test of England's rowing, that a college eight represents its college and no more, that the course at Henley is not the supreme test of strength and endurance. The pessimists have found another excuse for their self-satisfied regret, and they eagerly hail the winning of a trial heat by the Belgian crew as 'the defeat of England.'" This sort of criticism is unsportsmanlike, it lacks courage, and it is in very bad taste. Moreover it is quite useless. Our people have done their best, they had a fair field, as well as their opponents, the contests have been tried and decided. By all means let Englishmen profit by their failures, let them be modest and not arrogant, let them not be above learning from other countries, let them resolve to make even a better fight for it if possible, next time. But never let them assume the new newspaper point of view that it is necessary to win at all costs, or accept the absurd fallacy that England is degenerate, decayed and lost, because Englishmen are not supreme in every department of sport. The pessimists are at present in the ascendant, it is not unnatural, and it is perhaps wholesome, that it should be so; recent events have given too much cause for disquietness and for misgivings of many kinds. Gloominess, however, which is distinctly a national characteristic, and has been at least since the spacious days of Elizabeth, is now indulged in over much. A hundred Jeremiahs puff themselves out and become portentous, the middle-aged Englishman seems to take a delight in prophecying the downfall of his country, the rapid and irretrievable deterioration of its people and its institutions. Lately there has been an appreciable crescendo in the paean of woe, because Monsieur Bleriot, a Frenchman, has on his monoplane been the first to fly over the English Channel. The passage was accomplished in just over half an hour, in the grey of the early morning in a machine smaller than almost any other flying machine in use. The *Matin* publishes an account of the flight by the aviator himself. "My friend Le Blanc," says Monsieur Bleriot, "woke me at half past two, but I must admit that I was by no means anxious to start, I took a most gloomy view of my chances of succeeding, and I would have been very glad if anybody had come and told me that the wind was too strong. In a word things looked hopless. However, when I got into the fresh air my melancholy disappeared, and my mind was soon entirely taken up with my preparations for the start for England." Monsieur Bleriot started from a point near Calais, he thus describes the actual flight: "At the signal I dart off into space. There is no distinct impression in my mind, but I seem to be in a balloon. The entire absence of wind makes any movement of the rudders unnecessary, and if it were not that extreme vigilance is required, I could put my hands in my pockets. I do not seem to be travelling quickly. This I attribute to the smoothness of the sea. I am satisfied with my apparatus, its stability is perfect, and the motor—what a marvel! It is running faultlessly. Now the wind takes me out of course, and I see nothing but water for ten minutes. At last I see land, and fly along the coast from Deal to Dover. Now I can see where I may land. The machine begins to rock violently, and as I approach the ground a gust of wind lifts me up again. I can no longer remain in the air, my flight has lasted thirty-seven minutes and that is enough. At the risk of smashing everying I cut off the sparkling current, and now I trust to luck. The frame-work comes in for some rough treatment, and something breaks, but no matter. I have crossed the channel." Monsieur Bleriot is justly the hero of the hour. Invention, audacity, perseverance, endurance, and

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high courage, are most worthy of honour, and Monsieur Bleriot has them all. "I see," he said, "nothing but water for ten minutes." Ten minutes, breathless—of doubt and danger, but of glorious adventurous romance, filled with experience which is hardly to be obtained in these days when most things have been done, and many things overdone, and so much is old and worn out. How rare and admirable are great exploits. English people will be obliged to readjust their out look upon life in many particulars. At present they are still somewhat bewildered. They knew, of course, that the science of aviation was progressing at an astonishing rate, but the dramatic quality of Monsieur Bleriot's achievement has given them pause. They are slowly collecting their wits and endeavouring to appreciate its full significance. Mingled with their wonder is an acute regret that England is no more an island, the guarded path across the sea is no longer the only way to her shores. This regret is useless, but it is neither unnatural nor unworthy. For the rest, it suggests a line of thought developed by a writer in the *Spectator* for this week, as follows: "Should the recent rate of progress in developing flying machines be maintained, it will be possible, in a few years, let us say, for any nation to have thousands of them ready to carry, let us say again, three men apiece besides the driver. Each aeroplane will not cost more than about £150. There are all the conditions of a dangerous raiding force—not a fully equipped force of course, but a force ready to seize a position, live on the country, and create a diversion till supports arrive. If such things were to come to pass, the most perfect Regular Army produced by the Army Council, and the most perfect Territorial Army of Mr. Haldane's vision might gaze skywards in helpless astonishment, while there passed overhead a flight of aeroplanes infinitely more difficult to hit than rocketing pheasants. We do not believe that that will happen, however, because Englishmen have a fortunate knack of over-taking arrears—if only they are given time. Our national danger is not that we shall fail to do as we ought in the long run, but that we shall be caught napping before we have got to work to imitate the inventions of some more ingenious and imaginative neighbour."

This is comforting as far as it goes. We may perhaps be permitted to bear it in mind whilst considering the very tardy capitulation of the Government in regard to the four "additional" or "contingent" battleships of the Dreadnought type which have at last been ordered. We are very glad that "Englishmen have a fortunate knack of overtaking arrears," and are willing to believe that, if all goes smoothly in the building of these ships, if all difficulties and delays are foreseen and obviated, if no accidents occur, and the Dreadnoughts are delivered exactly up to time no irretrievable harm will have been done. But the Government runs too much risk and shows too much faith where the safety of an Empire is concerned. Moreover their conduct remains inexplicable. If it was intended to have these ships, why were they not ordered at once, time gained and infinite anxiety, trouble, and suspicion saved. If the attitude of the Government was not prompted by pure perversity, it must have been due to cowardice and petty party reasons. There is no alternative, and yet the thought that National interest should be subserved to Party prejudice is almost too horrible to contemplate.

A pleasanter topic for meditation is the episode of the splendid naval demonstration in the mouth of the Thames. About the middle of last month a huge fleet of ships was anchored off Southend and in the Thames. The following is a list of the vessels and their stations.

Houses of Parliament to London Bridge. Six submarines and six torpedo boats.

London Bridge to the Tower of London, Hazard and four Destroyers.

Greenwich. Skirmisher, Sapphire, Forward, Pathfinder, and Adventure.

Woolwich. Topaz.

Erith. Talbot.

Greenhithe. Dido and Isis.

Grays. Juno.

Gravesend, Arrogant and Venus.

Leigh to Sheerness. Flotilla of submarines and destroyers.

Southend. Blenheim, Blake, Dreadnought, Bellerophon, Superb, Temeraire, Lord Nelson, Agamemnon, Irresistible, Bulwark, Drake, Indomitable, Suprise, Bonaventure, Thames, Vulcan, Cyclops, Assistance.

Sheerness to Shoeburyness. Inflexible, Invincible, Minotaur, King Edward VII, Britannia, Hindustan, Dominion, Hibernia, New Zealand, Commonwealth, Africa, Shannon, Warrior, Defence, Cochrane, Natal, Berwick, Prince of Wales, Queen, Implacable, Albion, Albermarle, Formidable, Cornwallis, Russell, Good Hope, Duke of Edinburgh, Black Prince, Leviathan, Donegal.

The Fleet was afforded a great welcome, Southend, Gravesend, and other ports gave themselves up for a fortnight to bunting and illuminations, to fetes and entertainments of of all kinds. Crowds from London and the country visited the ships. There were organised cruises, lunches, dinners, childrens' parties and every sort of jubilation. The Lord Mayor and Corporation of London went to Southend to honour the Fleet and subsequently gave a banquet to Admiral May, Prince Louis of Battenburg, and other Officers. Prince and Princess Kuni of Japan visited the Fleet with a distinguished company on board the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's new liner *Kitano Maru* built at the Mitsu Bishi dockyard, Nagasaki. Amongst those on board were the Japanese Ambassador and Miss Kato and the Chinese Minister. A pleasing incident was the interchange of greetings between the crew of the *Kitano Maru* and the blue-jackets on the British warships. As the liner passed the warships flags were dipped and mutual cheering broke from the sailors on both sides.

A great deal of satisfaction and good feeling has been promoted by the great Naval Pagaent. Of this there can be no doubt. Besides this it has been an educative power, it has been a magnificent object lesson to a great population, that of London and the country round about, that has flocked to see the power that preserves the place of the realm. But there is another side to the shield, and enthusiasts would do well to ponder and be warned to question the entire wisdom and the entire safety of the grand show that we have been privileged to witness. It has involved very great publicity, it may have fostered arrogance, and a feeling of false security. A vast number of persons visited Southend who were utterly unconscious of true conditions and ignorant of real issues, and were deceived. Many were heard to give voice to some such line of argument as this :—

"Here are splendid ships and splendid sailors, quantities of guns, submarines, destroyers, and torpedo boats, flags and illuminations. There cannot exist a finer Navy than ours. No other Navy could possibly compete with it. What is all this nonsense about Dreadnoughts, and the Germans—Ridiculous Panic—Rule Britannia!"

This way danger lies.

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, August 7.

The Russian press in general expresses itself cordially gratified with the results obtained at the Cowes meeting. The official organ *Rossia* says: "The Anglo-Russian entente, according as it does with the economic and political interests of the two powerful Empires, is at the same time one of the firmest buttresses of the peace of Europe, the maintenance of which is the common goal towards which the Governments both of Russia and of Great Britain are striving in common. By virtue of this common object the Anglo-Russian entente is equally precious to all those who are on the side of peace and progress, whether in Russia or in England, and it is to be hoped that this feeling will continue to spread wider and grow stronger, notwithstanding all the attempts of the Socialists to bring about a certain degree of coolness in the friendly relations that have already been established between Russia and Great Britain." The *Rêch*, the organ of the "Cadets," says that although the understanding with England does not interfere in any way with the maintenance of friendly relations with Russia's neighbour Germany, yet it is evident already that something has passed at Cowes which removes all possibility of any new political combinations at Kiel. The visit to Cowes was not merely a personal visit, but a political event of the highest importance. That to Kiel is merely a personal event. The *Novoe Vremja* has an article which carefully avoids the otherwise general tone of satisfaction at the Cowes meeting, confines its remarks to endeavouring to show that the rapprochement between Russia and England has been necessitated by events, that the *Novoe Vremja's bête-noire* M. Izvolsky cannot be credited with any good that may come of it, and then proceeds to point out, in the old familiar way, the numerous errors committed by M. Izvolsky. The *Novoe Vremja* is in the awkward position of not being able to express its real feelings about the Cowes visit, inasmuch as that might involve censure of the Emperor, but in its persistent endeavours to blacken M. Izvolsky it sails as near the wind as may be. The organs of the Right party, likewise unable to fully express their feelings, direct their criticisms against King Edward and his Minister for Foreign Affairs. Happily their voices are echoed only by contemptuous amusement. The *Novoe Vremja* is "sitting on the fence" in the hope, or apprehension, of that reactionary 'bout-face of which so much used to be heard a while ago; or, more probably, its attitude is explained solely by personal hostility to M. Izvolsky for reasons which have not yet appeared.

Combined manœuvres of Army and Fleet will be held at the end of this month about the shores of the Black Sea. Among the operations will be the conveyance by sea to the Crimea of five thousand soldiers, four hundred horses and the entire field artillery of the Odessa Military District. The Black Sea Fleet, with eleven cruisers, nine pontoons and two benzine-motor boats to assist, will take part in these combined operations.

Russia is preparing a new Customs Tariff which will be presented to the Duma probably in the Autumn session of this year. According to the *Rossia*, the leading idea of the new regulations will be to facilitate foreign imports wherever these do not injuriously affect home industries. For example, Sweden and, especially, America have been importing into Russia large quantities of wooden articles which compete against the home production: this will be regulated. Trade with France has been stifled by unnecessarily high duties. Attention will also be paid to the principle of taxing mere luxuries more in accordance with ideas of economic justice.

A Congress of what is called in Russia "Teachers of the Law" (*sc.* the Law of God) i.e. teachers of religion, is being held to discuss their future policy. The religious teacher in all schools in Russia is either a priest or a nominee of the priesthood, and he teaches nothing else. It is objected that too much of the teaching deals with the casuistical and ceremonial side of religion, to the loss of that true teaching of the spirit of religion. A local paper gives a page of questions actually put at examinations by a "Teacher of the Law," and they make curious reading. Here are a few examples: Is it permissible to represent the Deity with a tail? (A reference to the dove as an emblem). What is the eleventh commandment? (The Russian version of our "don't be found out," which is "Take what you can get.") What is this—a coffin swimming and a dead man singing inside? (Jonah in the whale's belly). On what day were crayfish created? (A catch, with two answers according as crayfish are attributed to the class of animals or of fishes). If a priest, to all appearance, has been poisoned by bad wine during the celebration of Holy Communion, how is the poisoning to be investigated, seeing that it is impossible to admit the contents of the chalice to be analysed? (The answer is found in the case dealt with by the Metropolitan Philaret. A priest died from poisoned communion wine. The Metropolitan permitted the few drops left in the bottled to be analysed, but the chalice, already consecrated, could not be touched.) How will people gnash their teeth in hell if they have lost them already on earth? (? ? ?).—

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Even puns appear to have furnished admissible catch-questions at these examinations.

The imports into Russia for the first three months of the current year show a falling off, which is especially marked in raw materials. On the other hand, strange to say, the import of grain has increased, and last year it was eleven times more than in 1906. There is much encouragement in the figures for import of agricultural machinery, both simple and compound, which was this year nearly double the weight imported for the same period last year.

The recent accident to a submarine in the Black Sea has led to a painful discovery of what appears to be quite a system in some branches of the Russian Navy. A lieutenant, having appropriated Government money, simulated a robbery. The investigation which followed laid bare the whole system. It appears from the accounts published of this inquiry that any officer holding Government money can lend it out in large or small sums to his brother officers. When the "revision" inspectors come round they accept statements that A., B., C., and so on up to Z, of the defalcating officer's comrades, are indebted in such and such sums lent out of the Government moneys. If restitution is not made at once, the missing amounts are gradually made up out of the pay of the officers who have borrowed But worse than this came to light. An officer was asked to acknowledge himself indebted to his defalcating superior in the sum of two hundred pounds sterling, to make the account square with the latter's cash. The inspector sent a telegram asking if he acknowledged the debt; his superior sent another begging him to say 'yes'—which he did—by telegram, and the inspector duly accepted this "proof" in making up the accounts. The death of the unfortunate man who lost his life in the submarine appears to have broken the chain of responsibility on paper, and led to these, and other, curious discoveries of the way they have in the navy of Russia. The money, missing, borrowed, "saved" out of the men, or simply stolen, seems all to have gone in riotous living.

Discount in Russia now stands at almost the lowest point on record, namely 5 per cent. (it touched four and a half in 1899 and 1902). There is a general shortness of money complained of all over the country, while at the same time the banks have very largely increased their holdings as deposits, and have hardly availed themselves of more than 12 per cent. of the amount of credit placed at their disposal by the State Bank. The explanation of this condition is to be found in the number of failures and disguised failures, shaky undertakings and the like, which have sent money abundantly into the bank, instead of into industrial enterprise.

St. Petersburg, August 10th.

Aviation in Russia is a subject of engrossing interest theoretically but has not yet made any marked approaches to realisation in practice. The chief inventor, Tatarinov, whose invention has been subsidised by the Russian War Office, is under contract to send up a heavier-than-air machine by September 4th, but the terms of the contract will be satisfied without his actually flying in the machine: the original point of this invention is the vertical rise from the ground. According to latest information Tatarinov is confident that he will succeed, but as the special parts of his motor ordered from France cannot now be delivered in time for the contract-flight, he is engaged in completing a simplified form of motor which "will do as well." There has always been a certain amount of scepticism about Tatarinov's proceedings in the minds of the Russian public, but great hopes are entertained of his success by those more immediately concerned. After the conclusion of the racing season the Petersburg racecourse will be utilised as an aerodrome, and workmen are busy putting up sheds to accommodate the aeroplanes which will shortly be delivered from French makers, or are already in process of setting up here.

Courses of aviation, the scientific principles of flight, are being delivered in several Russian Technical Schools. Inventors of "new principles of flight" spring up every week in one or other part of Russia. But in almost all cases it turns out that the invention has not passed the stage of calculation and designs on paper. Among the latest inventors is one of the Counts Sheremetev, whose ideas will not be lost to the world for want of funds to carry them out in practice, as is so generally alleged of Russian inventions. There is another inventor heard of in the Caucasus, who is to be financed partly by English money. Tatarinov has a serious rival for the subsidy of the War Office in an inventor whose "aeromobile" (also on paper only) will likewise rise vertically from the ground. The War Office regards the last invention favourably, but is bound by contract to Tatarinov, unless and until he fails to fly at the end of the term.

The Russian Aero Club appears to be spending the summer in vacation, so that there remains very little time now for anything to be accomplished this year. The strong winds prevailing of late in the Petersburg district prevent even old-fashioned balloons from venturing, and it is impossible to think of less certain methods of flight.

The only flight so far made by the Russian Aero Club was that fatal balloon ascent which cost two lives and nearly killed a third, out of four persons in the car. Endless official investigations into the cause of the sudden descent of the balloon have not yet resulted in any intelligible reason being assigned, beyond the supposition that someone in the car ripped up the gas-bag by hanging on to the emergency rope. The lady who nearly lost her life in this ascent has now so far recovered as to deny emphatically all explanations based upon this semi-official report. As the private secretary of the Empress was nearly killed, there is much at stake in the inquiry. All summer Russia has lived in hopes of seeing some form of aviation, but it is now evident that this year will pass without much being done, if anything, by Russia. Two Frenchmen are advertised to give exhibitions of flying in heavier-than-air machines at Warsaw, Petersburg, Moscow, Kiev and Odessa, but both they and their machines are exotic to Russia.

Tatarinov claims not only to rise vertically in the air but to remain motionless while there, as well as to move freely in all directions! He calls his mechanical device an "aeromobile," and, as already expained in the RN., it is certainly not a "plane" of any kind. No less certainly it has never yet done any flying or rising in air, either vertically or otherwise, before outside witnesses.

Experiments have been tried this summer during the camping season with a new soldier's shirt which is half green and half khaki colour. The two blend with any and every form of background much more perfectly than either shade alone. Whole brigades were dressed in these shirts, both cavalry and infantry, and the success of the experiment is considered assured.

It is reported that the British battleship *Cornwallis* and two destroyers will visit Riga and other Russian ports on the Baltic about the beginning of September.

An English jockey named William Parnell was thrown thrown from his horse in Moscow and his head striking the barrier near the judge's box, he was carried off the field insensible and has since died.

A Baptist Congress at Rostov-on-Don has received the sanction of the Ministry of the Interior on the following programme being observed:—1) the election of a deputation to the Emperor to express their loyalty and give thanks for the freedom of conscience: 2) to draw up a report to the Ministry on the position of the Baptists in Russia: 3) the legalisation of Baptist communities: 4) schools etc.: 5) and 6) matters of local consequence and statistics.

A Moscow paper reports the condemnation by a military court of a peasant aged 124 years, who is sentenced to be hanged for the murder of the local elder in the district of Vladikavkaz. The court recommended him to mercy, and it is unlikely that such an exceptional criminal will actually be hanged after existing a century and a quarter! No details of this remarkable case are obtainable.

A crowd of peasants near Pskov caught a student botanising about their fields, and wanted to lynch him on the usual charge that he was busy "planting cholera about." The specimens collected by the student for his herbarium did not excite any particular suspicion, but on searching him they found in his bag some tooth-powder, upon which the wiseacres immediately fixed as the "cholera-poison." The student finally succeeded in winning his life by swallowing the terrible stuff!

The eminent Russian painter Repnin will exhibit this autumn a new portrait of Count Tolstoy painted by him during a visit this summer to the veteran writer at Jasnaja Poljana.

A nineteen-year old peasant lad named Mladikh in the Province of Simbirsk is over eight feet high. He has been secured by a Berlin showman

An edition of the works of the great Russian poet Pushkin, other than those generally known in Russia, was recently printed at Moscow, and has now been destroyed, to the number of 3600 copies, by order of a court of law, before leaving the printers.

A Russian official travelling from Paris brought through the Customs in the guise of State Papers a large quantity of silk and other dresses for a well-known Countess. The Customs officials, finding that the packet, which was duly authenticated by the seals of the Russian Embassy at Paris, only weighed about a quarter of what it should have done if the contents really were any kind of documents, impounded it, and referred the matter to Petersburg. A painful scandal is the result. The official, whose name is given, one of the most honourable names about the Court of Russia, will have to pay between two and three hundred pounds sterling to satisfy the legitimate demands of the Customs, but there still remains the curious fact of the Embassy seals being misused for private purposes. Apparently an inter-departmental quarrel is the cause of this new from of contraband coming to light, and the papers are greatly interested in this incident of the visit abroad of Court officials.

St. Petersburg, August 12.

The little heir to the Throne of All the Russias is five years old to-day, and his birthday is being celebrated throughout Russia with the customary Church services, hanging out of flags and illuminations at night. The "Heir Cesarevich and Grand Duke Alexis Nikolaevich," as his full official title runs, is a fine sturdy healthy little fellow, who has inherited the rich melting dark eyes of his father and a trace of pride in the finely-chiselled lips evidently derived from his mother. Since the visit to Cherbourg and Cowes the features of the "heir of all the Cæsars" are familiar enough, and the world will want to hear more about the bonny boy born to such an overwhelming destiny. Unfortunately the etiquette of the Russian Court does not allow of the public, even in Russia, learning anything whatsoever of their present or their future ruler, beyond what may be gathered from a series of photographs, each one more charming, and, in the circumstances tantalising, than the last! In Russia the "heir of all the Cæsars" has been seen by outsiders, and but very few of them, only once—last year at Reval. And not a single human anecdote about him is current among the public in Russia, to whom he remains a mere abstraction. Among the many things which must change and are changing in the new Russia, it is not unlikely that this absence of the human element from the popular conception of the august ruler of All the Russias and his entire family will gradually be replaced by a little of that knowledge which strikes the chord of common humanity and fosters perhaps more strongly than anything else the feeling of true loyalty in the great masses.

The children of the Emperor and Empress are being brought up according to the English school of training rather than the average Russian school. The two sides of their lives, that is to say, the official side and the private side, are kept perfectly distinct. Thus they have made their public appearances, in days when public appearances were not so rare as they unfortunately, but necessarily, are now, ever since they were babes in arms. Only once has the Emperor made a journey without his family with him—the recent visit to Poltava. And where the Empress goes the Imperial children have always accompanied her. Neither shouting crowds, nor military displays, nor even the unmannerly herding and pushing which sometimes

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takes place away from the Capital when the Emperor appears to his people in the provinces, can disconcert or even awaken any undue curiosity in any of the Imperial children—they have seen it all. On the other hand, when not in their "official" capacity anywhere the Imperial children are—just children, for they are brought up simply and plainly, in a home as happy as it is retired, leading the simple life that has always been the ideal of the Emperor and Empress since the very first days of their marriage. I remember well some years ago in Moscow during one of the Imperial visits, the Empress driving out with her little daughters morning after morning, without any of the marks of state, so simple in every way that they were never once recognised; those who knew them and daily looked out for their coming, saw many interesting little details which showed the wholesome and homely system of their training. But the Russian public know nothing, must know nothing, of the personal side of their rulers' life: no anecdote, however friendly, is allowed by the Censor to appear in print, and all the Russian world knows of the little Cesarevich (the full form of Czarevich) is confined to some items about the wonderful presents made to him by the President of the French Republic on his last visit to St. Petersburg. It is understood that these wonderful and costly presents are not allowed to be played with every day—a significant trait that will be appreciated by all careful parents!

The high price of wheat in the world's market and the good wheat harvest of Russia this year promise to make a record season. The railways are preparing in Russia to deal with an exceptional amount of grain traffic, while merchants all over the country are looking up again after several years of depression. The Moscow cotton stuffs manufacturers in particular are already putting up prices on their goods in the certainty not only that they will dispose of their stock, but that the muzhik will this year be able to pay an enhanced price for what he could not afford to buy last year. In fact the combination of a rich harvest and high prices abroad promise to make the present year's harvest as valuable as two harvests, in the words of one expert in these matters. Incidentally the circumstances will be favourable for the continuance of peaceful progress in development in Russia, for a full harvest selling at good prices makes a contented people and enriches the industrial community.

The rapidly increasing value of property in St Petersburg, which has been especially marked since the establishment of the Duma, may be estimated from a sale recently made of a plot of land for a house to a wealthy Kiev manufacturer. He has just paid forty thousand pounds for land that twenty years ago was sold for two hundred pounds. This is at the rate of about ten pounds sterling the square yard, for what cost barely half a crown. Moreover the land is "transpontine", not on the best side of the river. A French company is in treaty for the purchase of the huge rabbit-warren of thieves' quarters known in the history of St Petersburg as the "Vjazemsky Laura". This haunt of vice and nursery of disease will probably be replaced by a palatial building in the most modern western style.

A gallant official, "Zemsky Nachalnik" or rural Czarlet, in Bessarabia made a sporting wager with a local millionaire that if the latter would undertake to provide five thousand pounds sterling to erect a girls' High School in the neighbourhood, he would, with his own hands, mow twenty-four acres of the millionaire's land within a certain time limit. This he has successfully done, with five days to spare. The rural czarlet in question, named Kolibaba, is a Cossack in origin and has had a university education. Being a magnificently built man of enormous strength, he has performed with ease a feat that excited the wonder of the entire district. His scythe had to be made specially for him, and will be preserved in the school when it is built. The official will receive from the grateful inhabitants of his district a silver scythe and other costly mementoes of the feat, inscribed with suitable expressions of thanks.

The manners and customs of the Russian railway servants have many times attracted the attention of those accustomed to a different kind of order, but the following incident is exceptional even in Russia. At a station on the Vladikavkaz Railway the inspector had the temerity to discover a number of what Russians call "hares," otherwise deadheads travelling without ticket by arrangement with the "conductors' brigade." He drew up a statement when the train reached the next station. While so employed, the head conductor came up with his subordinates, questioned the correctness of the estimate, and finally the whole "brigade" fell on the unfortunate inspector and soundly beat him. They then jumped on the train and proceeded on their way, but were arrested in pursuance of telegraphic instructions at the next considerable station. The enormous class of railway "hares" in Russia includes persons of all ranks and degrees from the highest officials, who use their rank to obtain privileges in travelling without paying for them, down to the poor wretches who in other countries steal a ride occasionally on the buffers. Up to the present all railway-servants have been in the habit of freely trafficking with their right to travel without paying, and most habitual travellers in Russia have met their agents, who offer to "arrange" the journey on cheaper terms than the proper ticket costs.

ANTI-BROTHEL MOVEMENT IN OSAKA.

An active propaganda is being carried on in Osaka to prevent the rebuilding on its present site of the burned-out licensed prostitute quarters in the North Ward. A petition signed by missionaries of that city was recently presented to the Home Department. Similar petitions have been made by Christian Japanese leaders of Osaka to the Prime Minister, the Department of Education and the Home Department. On August 14th at the Osaka Y.M.C.A Hall, after a monster mass meeting, a Young Men's Anti-Brothel Alliance was formed. During the last two weeks this organization has led such an active campaign that it is now planned to get up a great petition with 100,000 signatures, and present it to the authorities. A rally held in the big Nakanoshima Public Hall last Wednesday evening was attended by such a crowd that many were turned away. Members of both the Municipal and Provincial Assemblies made addresses. The movement is plainly winning the support of the moral forces of the city.

The friends of this effort at municipal improvement desire that the public should understand their position. They are aiming to remove from the heart of the city one of the five licensed prostitute and geisha quarters. In all Osaka there are about 7,500 girls licensed by the government to engage in these immoral pursuits. In the burned district there were 744, or $^1/_{10}$ of the total number. But the location of this quarter makes it a striking menace to the morals both of business men and students. It is only three minutes walk from Umeda Station, the finest R.R. station in the Empire, five minutes from the banking and wholesale district. Also in this same North Ward there are no less than twelve schools of middle grade or above, more than in all of the other three wards.

To prevent the rebuilding of these houses seems to the leaders of the Anti-Brothel Alliance an important matter for the moral welfare of all classes in the city.

THUNDER-STORM IN TOKYO.

On the afternoon of August 29, the city of Tokyo was visited by a violent thunderstorm. The damages sustained were as follow:—

Shimbashi Station.—The telegraphic wires under the roof were affected by the electricity and some rafters caught fire.

Kojimachi-ku.—A large pine-tree near a police-box at Daikwan-cho was struck.

Kyobashi-ku.—A high chimney of a casting work-shop at Shinyei-cho collapsed, but no casualties are reported.

Nihonbashi-ku.—At Hama-cho, Ni-chome, the lightning struck the water in the river and watery mist arose in large volumes. At Hama-cho Sanchome, three electric wires snapped.

Shitaya-ku.—An old *kaya* tree about 20 feet high, which stood near the first mausoleum at Uyeno, was struck by lightning and caught fire. The tree was cut down in order to put out the fire.

At Misaki-cho, Yanaka, 69 houses were submerged in consequence of the heavy rain which accompanied the storm.

Akasaka ku.—A tall spruce tree in the compound of the Hikawa Shrine at Hikawa-cho was struck by lightning and caught fire. The fire was extinguished by means of a pump.

Ushigome-ku.—The military academy at Ichigawa was struck. The electric wires were damaged in the police boxes at Hachiman-cho, Tani-cho and Onando-cho.

Koishikawa ku.—A spruce tree by the postern gate of the Military Arsenal was struck by lightning, and a gate-keeper was rendered unconscious. Another spruce tree in the compound of the Inari Shrine at Zoshigaya was also struck by a thunderbolt. There were 173 houses submerged at Hakusan-Goten-cho, 3 at Shichigaya-cho, 31 at Hikawashita-cho, 200 at Hisakata-machi and 21 at Otowa cho, making 428 in all. Moreover, the electric light apparatus was damaged throughout these streets.

Tochigi prefecture—On the 28th instant, two women and one horse were killed by a thunderbolt at Higashi-Nasuno-mura, Nasu-gori. The house in which the women lived was half burnt.

Saitama prefecture—Many places were visited by the thunderstorm on August 28, but no particular damage is reported.

Gumma prefecture—In consequence of heavy rain on the night of August 28, the rivers rose rapid. A large number of tall trees and high buildings were struck by lightning. No serious damage is reported.

YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE.

The annual religious conference of the Young Men's Christian Association teachers and missionaries was held Aug. 21 to 23 at Myogi, near Karuizawa. No better location could be found. The suggestiveness of the surroundings left nothing to be desired in the way of a retreat for the consideration of problems and needs of the religious life.

The programme bore a double aspect: the inspiration of the personal life and the discussion of problems connected with the religious work of the teachers. Dr. A. T. Howard spoke on "The Present Condition of Christian Work in Japan." Mr. Gleason gave two helpful talks on Bible Study. On Sunday morning Rev. H. B. Benninghoff conducted a relegious hour, at the close of which the ordinance of The Lord's Supper was celebrated. Dr. Hail gave a suggestive address on "The Working Theology of a Young Missionary," Dr. Rowland spoke on "The Social Relationships," and Mr. Coleman gave a talk on "Methods of Bible Work." Other addresses bearing more directly upon the teachers' work were:—"The Teacher's Relations to Athletics" by Rev. B. F. Shively, "The Teacher's Health," by Mr. Coleman, "The Teacher's Watchword," by Mr. Galen M. Fisher.

On Sunday evening a vesper service was held in the open air, led by Mr. Wordsworth, at which a number of young men, just arrived in Japan, took part.

In all about forty were in attendance. Looked at from both the inspirational and the practical standpoints, the conference was a splendid success. The isolation of such a body of young enthusiastic idealists for the consideration of practical work as teachers among the schools of Japan is fraught with great blessing and possibilities.

The happy carrying out of the programme and the general success of the whole conference was largely due to the patient and thoughtful efforts of Mr. Gleason, of Osaka, and Mr. Davis, of Nagasaki.

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THE AMERICAN IN ENGLAND.

To one who has been often in England within forty years, it is hard to tell which is most impressive—the spirit of change or the spirit of conservation. One finds here the latest conveniences and the newest adaptations of science and harnessed force; yet even more perhaps, is one impressed, even to awe, with "the majesty of immemorial antiquity." There is no sign of weakness yet in "mighty England." Whether it be the steel castles named *Dreadnoughts*, the submarines, or the torpedo boats—all of which we have seen on "the silver sea," or in the Thames at London Bridge—or, whether we look in the homes, where cradles are not out of fashion, we note the might of a well ordered social system and the power of freedom, when safe-guarded by law. As in America, no man knows the real inhabitant, until he visits the country fair, so one must go to Hampstead Heath, for example, on Bank Holiday, to look at the real people of England. 'Arry and 'Arriet are in evidence. They may not do their courting too privately, and occasionally the Japanese proverb about noisy cats may arise in the mind. Yet while one may acknowledge that freedom may lack some points on the side of æsthetics, he is bound to see proofs of national greatness, when home-making is ever in process and food is cheap. Contrasted with the thousands of empty cradles in France, e.g., one who knows the fertility of the English families and the beauty of England's ordered homes, must postpone to many centuries the fulfilment of the long promised tour and sketching feat of Macaulay's New Zealander.

It has been our happy experience, in no fewer than eight tours in Great Britain beginning in 1869, to be entertained in many homes, and to visit many schools. What impresses us is the power of English flexibility in adaptation to circumstances and the new calls to duty and opportunity. The church, the school, the home, the holiday are as four great windows through which one looks into the "power room," wherein Great Britain's strength is generated. To-day after a fortnight in beautiful Harpenden, of Herts, a model village of the Midlands, and a week in maritime Bristol, with a view of Bath's splended pageant of history, our pride of inheritance from Devon and Nottingham ancestry and our ideas of the vast, deep, strong roots of England's power are confirmed.

On the surface, London's streets show distinctly less crowded. The throngs are notable less dense. It is true that to cross from curb to curb is for more dangerous than in '69 or '91, for the motor-omnibus—a hideous creation, and the automobile, are here by the thousands. On happy isles of the blest, fortified by iron posts, one may, indeed in the mid-flood of wheels and noise's of every sort, find refuge from the shooting juggernauts. Moreover, the long honoured and far-famed London policeman is as suave, as alert, as dignified, as calm, as patient and as resourceful as ever. Only yesterday, at Piccadilly Circus, I saw a most gallant rescue of a damsel by a helmeted son of the city, from imminent death, as it seemed. Yet while the streets offer more perils to the crossing pedestrian, the sidewalks are distinctly less occupied. It is really easier to walk to-day than in 1898.

It is "the Tubes" that have lightened the pressure. One can now descend into the iron-bound bowels of the earth, on "lifts" that let down the crowds into what is now a vast labyrinth of tracks, platforms, and well marked ways with signs telling you just where to go. Several million fares a day are taken, showing how ready Londoners are to move fast and save time. Steadily, also, population transfers itself to the suburbs and rural London breathes more easily. Paterfamilias and the boys and girls are happy amid the flowers and gardens which they love. The growth of London beyond the old traditional limits is one of the amazing phenomena of the past two decades.

Yet summer has only begun here, for after a lovely May, June and July were polar as to cold, while as to the rain it seemed as if there were no possibility of its stopping. The visiting American, however, rejoices in the fresh, emerald tints of the landscape, and to be in London during the seventh month is no hardship. What our English friends call "frightfully hot" seems coolish and pleasant to a man who lives in the latitude of Manhattan. Furthermore, of all the sights among the four nations in the two isles of Erin and Britain can anything excel London, considered simply as a sight to see? In fact, can any show excel what the tourist can see from the top of an omnibus? As a brain-stimulant, also, what can furnish more for the student of history? the glories of architecture, sculpture, statuary, painting, documents, and treasures of art, science and literature which London offers are absolutely unique.

While Yokohama is celebrating her semi-centennial and jubilee, and Japan enjoys her marvellous perspective of fifty years, replete with evidences of progress in all lines of human achievement, it is good at this side of the world to examine critically, yes, even with the challenge of initial incredulity, the claims of England to be the foremost among nations, or if not this, among the van leaders.

Unique, undoubtedly, is England's pride as a mother of nations. To be mistress of the seas, to be so largely the arbiter of the world's finance, to control the coaling stations of the world, to influence, more than any other, the policy of many nations, are surely grounds of just pride. And, surely the possession of experience—best of teachers, is no mean asset in preparation for the future. In naval affairs, for example, British familiarity with the science, the art, the personnel of ships in war and peace, must count vastly ever in the face of possible numerical superiority of jealous or hostile fleets. Yet, ever greater than visible resources or lengthened experience, is England's hopeful family of young nations, rich and enthusiastic in all filial relations. With as hearty a shout of Banzai for Everlasting Great Japan, the American can raise the cheer for dear Mother England, and sing God save the King. It is in his blood to do it, and he will.

W. E. G.

London, August 4.

FAREWELL DINNER BY MISS SONTAG.

VISCOUNT SONE'S BEAUTIFUL PRESENTS.

Miss Sontag, of Seoul, recently gave a farewell dinner to a number of her friends, prior to her departure for France. There were present, Dr. F. Krüger, Consul-General of Germany, Madame Krüger, Mons. J. Belin, Consul-General of France, Mr. M. Komatsu, Secretary of the Residency-General, Baron Satake, Private Secretary to the Resident-General, Mr. Suzuki, Director of the Revenue Bureau, Mr. and Mrs. Eckert, Mr. Boljahn, Mr. Schirbaum and Mr. Schneider of Chemulpo, Mr. Ninagawa, Secretary of the Imperial Household Department, Mr. Honda of the Residency General, Mr. Cho, assistant of Miss Sontag, and Mr. I. Yamagata, Editor of the *Seoul Press*. Invitations were also sent to Mr. Komiya, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household Department, Mrs. and Miss Komiya, and Mrs. Suzuki, but owing to slight indisposition of both Mr. Komiya and Mrs. Suzuki they were unable to attend.

Full justice was done by the guests to an excellent dinner, of the kind for which Miss Sontag's table has always been famous, says the *Seoul Press*. In the course of the repast, Dr. Krüger rose, and after thanking those assembled on behalf of the hostess for their presence, eloquently referred to her long and honourable career in the Korean capital. Miss Sontag, the speaker said, faithfully discharged her duty towards the Imperial Court of Korea and in the spare time she found while doing her duty she extended her hospitality to many distinguished visitors to this country, who always went away with the most pleasant remembrance of the genial and kindhearted lady. They were sorry to lose her from amongst themselves, but the speaker hoped that she would occasionally come back to this city, where a home was always in readiness to receive her and where she was sure to be heartily welcomed by her many friends. In conclusion, Dr. Krüger wished all present to join him in drinking the health of the hostess—a call which was most heartily responded to. Subsequently Mr. Komatsu spoke, to thank Miss Sontag on behalf of the Japanese guests present. His speech, which was made in English, was brimful of kindly feeling towards the hostess and of refined humour. The speaker paid an eloquent tribute to Miss Sontag's goodness of heart and generosity of character as well as to the uprightness of her career in Korea. In illustration of this, he wished to speak of one instance out of many. Miss Sontag's present beautiful house was her own property and she was perfectly at liberty to dispose of it to her own advantage. She had expressed, however, her wish to give it to the Imperial Court of Korea after her death, which the speaker hoped would be long distant. Mr. Komatsu then proceeded to make humorous references to the great love which Miss Sontag enjoyed from everybody she came into contact with, although she was by no means young, which testified to the goodness and kindliness of her nature. He hoped that she would enjoy long years of good health and happiness. In the end, Mr. Komatsu gave three hearty *banzai*, joined in by all present, for their hostess.

The dinner was over by 9 o'clock, but everybody stayed for more than an hour engaged in most pleasant conversation. Viscount Sone, the Resident-General, sent some beautiful presents to Miss Sontag as suvenoirs.

YOKOHAMA YACHT RACES.

THE 69 MILE RACE FOR THE MOSQUITO CLUB PRIZE.

A southerly breeze blew over a calm sea for the races of the Yokohama Yacht Club, on Saturday last.

MOSQUITO CLUB.—*Course.* Tachibana Mandarin Bluff and Lightship. *Prize.* The Committee Cup. Five boats competed.

	START. h.m.s.	FINISH. h.m.s.
Elsa	2.0.09	3.18.45
Winsome	2.0.11	3.19 04
Pele	2 0.06	3.19 27
Edna	2 0.24	3.21.05
Sunbeam	2 0.30	3.21 45

Larks.—*Course* Tachibana, Mandarin Bluff and Lightship. For a cup. Nine starters; No. 1, 2, 3, 4 5, 7, 10, 12, 15.

No. 2, led and held ahead all the way and won easily from No. 10, No. 4, was third.

The 69 mile open Race for all Big boats; the following yachts started in this race which was to Tateyama, Boshiu, and back (organized by the Mosquito Yacht club):—*Mary, Maid Marion, Asagao, Riever, Naniwa, Aborigine.*

Punctually at 6.30 the boats started away all together. *Mary* was first out of the breakwater, followed over a minute later by *Maid Marion*, after whom came *Aborigine, Asagao, Riever* and *Naniwa.*

At six p.m. on Sunday evening last we obtained the following available times:

	Hours Finished.	Elapsed	Handi-cap.	Correct-ed time.	Must finish by
Mary	10.39.35	16.9.35	—	10 39 36	—
Maid 6½ per cent.	—	—	63.1 min.	—	a.m. 11.40.36 p.m.
Riever 10	—	—	96.57	—	12.16.32
Naniwa 14	—	—	135.44	—	12.55.19
Aborigin 16½	—	—	159.49	—	1.19 24
Asagao 19	—	—	184.13	—	1 43.40

REVISED FINISHING TIMES.

The following are the corrected finishing times with the names of the prize-winners:—

	Finish. h.m.s.	Handicap. per cent.	m.s.	Corrected time. h.m.s.
Mary	10.39.40	Scratch		*10.39.50
Maid Marion	11.57.11	6½	63.01	10.54.10
Riever	gave up	10	96.58	—
Naniwa	12.54.55	14	135.45	†10.39.10
Aborigine	2.14 24	16½	159.59	11.34.25
Asagao	1 49.10	19	184.14	10.44.56

† First Prize. * Second Prize.

Early on the morning of the 1st instant, an electric car going from Kamata to Anamori collided with another coming from Anamori, at Kojiya crossing. The former was so seriously damaged as to be unfit for further use, while the fore part of the latter was also badly broken. Six-passengers were injured in consequence. It is said that no signal-man was posted at the crossing.

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YOKOHAMA ROWING CLUBS AQUATIC CONTESTS.

SOME FINE SWIMMING FEATS ARE RECORDED IN LAST SATURDAY'S RACES.

Considerable interest was manifested on Saturday afternoon last in the attractively organized aquatic competitions of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club. There were 14 contests, commencing with a bolster fight and concluding with an amusing greasy-pole race. Some remarkable times were made, which were due to excellent swimming and a friendly tide

1.—BOLSTER FIGHTING.—Heat 1. The entries were:—H. J. Hearne *v.* J. Kenderdine; C von Fallot *v.* D. Neville; G. W. James *v.* H. W. Hayward.

Hearne, von Fallot, and James did not turn up, so that J. Kenderdine, D. Neville, and Hayward had byes.

2.—100 YARDS CHAMPIONSHIP.—Six entries, only three of whom started—D. M. Drummond, J. Helm and G. Neville. Drummond held the lead and won a good race by some two yards, with Neville second (time 58 secs).

3.—HIGH DIVE.—G. G. Franklin, M. Luther, and J F. Drummond were the competitors. Three dives were allowed. Franklin was the winner with 41 points. Luther second with 39 points. Drummond secured 37 points.

4.—BOLSTER FIGHTING.—Heat 2.

Round 4.—G. G. Franklin beat G. N. Brockhurst.
Round 5.—R. H Box beat C. Luhmann.
Round 6.—K. Lewis beat A. Gorman.
Round 7.—K. M. Tresize beat G. Neville.
Round 8.—S. A. Vincent beat B. Deveson.
Round 9.—G. H. A. Snow beat J. Kenderdine.
Round 10.—D. Neville beat W. Hayward.

5.—100 YARDS HANDICAP.—Entries:—D. M. Drummond (scratch), J. Helm (1 sec.), B. Deveson (3 secs.), S. A. Vincent (5 secs.), G. Neville (5 secs.), M. Luther (5 secs.), L. Stornebrink (6 secs.), G. G. Franklin (7 secs.), C. von Fallot (7 secs.), A. Gorman (9 secs.)

D. M. Drummond, J. Helm, L. Stornebrink; and C. von Fallot scratched.

A good dive by the competitors took place. At half distance Deveson and Neville drew up well, in the last few strokes Deveson winning by the smallest of margins from Neville. Time 1 m. 08 seconds.

6.—RUNNING HEADER FROM TOP OF BARGE.

G. G. Franklin M. Luther
J. F. Drummond.

Luther won with 41 points, Franklin was second with 40 and Drummond scored 39.

7.—JUNIOR HUNDRED YARDS HANDICAP.—Entrants:—G. N. Brockhurst (scratch), C. H. Box (1 sec), F. J. Stone (2 secs), C. L. Manley (2 secs.), K. M. M. Tresize (4 secs.), D. Neville (4 secs.), J. Kenderdine (5 secs.), W. S Scott (5 secs.), J. Figuereido (5 secs.), C. Luhmann (8 secs.), J. P. Weill (12 secs.).

Stone, Manley, Luhmann and Weill scratched. Tresize, Scott and Brockhurst, finished in the order named. Tresize was about a foot ahead, inches separating second and third in a good struggle. Time 1 m. 10 in.

8.—QUARTER MILE HANDICAP.

D. M. Drummond	Scratch
S. A. Vincent	10 ,,
B. Deveson	18 ,,
G. Neville	20 ,,
H. Goddard	20 ,,
G. G. Franklin	25 ,,

A fine race. At the 100 yard mark Goddard pulled along Vincent and Neville, with the others close behind. Vincent went ahead and Goddard fell away. At 300 yards Vincent still led. Drummond drew into second place and then gave up. In the last fifty Neville, who was making clearer for the goal than Vincent came through and won by about a length, Deveson being third. Time 5 m. 25s. This is 2 2/5 better than the world's record. The tide is said to have contributed to this fine result.

9.—BOLSTER FIGHTING.—HEAT 3.

Round 11.—Lewis beat Box.
,, 12.—Snow beat D Neville.
,, 13.—Vincent beat Tresize.

10.—RUNNING HEADER FROM SPRING BOARD.

G. G. Franklin. M. Luther.
J. Helm. D. E M. Drummond.
J. F. Drummond.

J. F. Drummond, scored 42, Helm 41, Franklin 40, D. E. M. Drummond 37 and Luther 36.

11.—BOLSTER FIGHTING.—HEAT 4.

Round 15.—Karl Lewis easily defeated Snow.
Round 16.—Vincent beat Franklin.

FINAL.

Vincent won the event.

13.—HALF-MILE HANDICAP.

D. M. Drummond, Helm, Vincent, Franklin, Gorman and Tresize were the racers—who dived off the Barge, touched the quarter-mile boat and finished at the former. Gorman got the lead and held it for half the course but was caught by Helm, Vincent, Tresize and Franklin being close. About 150 yards from home the race was between Vincent and Helm. Vincent spurted and almost caught Helm when the latter spurted brilliantly and finished first. Vincent touched the winning pole second, about 12 yards behind Helm; Gorman third; Franklin fourth; Drummond gave up.

14.—GREASY POLE.

Three tries each. If no one succeeded in taking the flag at end of pole, the one who went nearest to it considered winner.

G. G. Franklin. L. Stornebrink
C. Luhmann. D. Neville.
B. Deveson.

Stornebrink won easily.

This was the final race and Dr. Wheeler then presented the prizes amidst applause. The officials were:—

Judge:—M. Schellenberg
Starter:—P. E. Nicolle.
Judges of Diving:—Dr. Wheeler, H. Goddard, P. E. Nicolle.
Timekeeper:—G. C. Allcock.
Sub-Committee.—H. Goddard, B. Deveson, G. G. Franklin.

YOKOHAMA.

A man named Yamamoto Jihei picked up a purse containing *yen* 130 on the street near Sakuragi-cho railway crossing on the 25th instant, and reported it to the Tobe Police Station. It being found that the purse belonged to the proprietor of the Hotel de Geneve, the man Jihen received *yen* 20 as reward.

On the 26th instant two *bantos* and two *ex-bantos* of Messrs. Nozawaya's store were arrested in connection with the theft of silk goods valued at *yen* 1,540, since the beginning of last month.

A slight shock of earthquake was felt in this city at 1.39 a.m. on the 28th instant. It lasted for 49 seconds.

The *Mainichi Dempo*, says that the local police authorities have been asked to keep an eye open for a person named William T. Barton, aged 26, late Cashier of the United States Express Societa Annomina Italian, at Genoa, who is said to have absconded with $28,000 on June 12, and is suspected of having arrived in Japan. A reward of $2,000 is offered for his arrest.

On the evening of August 27, a number of coolies were gambling in a workshop belonging to Meessrs. Hunt & Co., No. 211 Yamashita-cho, when the police rushed in and arrested six of them, confiscating 150 *yen*.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended August 26th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	8	5	3	1	—
Died	—	1	1	1	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	18	26	6	—	—
Died	—	8	3	2	—	—

At about 9 p.m. on August 29, a number of men and women were gambling in a room of the servant-quarter belonging to Messrs. Patten, MacKenzie & Co., 26, Yamashita-cho, when the police effected an entrance and arrested 10 of them, confiscating some 200 *yen*.

On the 30th ultimo, a nurse, aged 16, attempted suicide by throwing herself into the water from the pier at Midori-cho. She was fortunately saved by several of the passers-by.

The ringleader of a large gang of pick-pockets, named Imamura Nobujiro, who pretended to be a dealer of *Habutae* in this city, has been arrested, together with his wife and many other accomplices, and the party are now in custody at the Kotobuki-cho Police station. They are alleged to be involved in the loss of goods amounting in value to over 20,000 *yen*. Governor Sufu, accompanied by Mr. Hashimoto, Head of the General Police, inspected the stolen goods which were on view at the Kotobuki-cho Police Station on the 31st ultimo.

A HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

Religious-minded people, together with dissociated students of historical and spiritual inclinations, will look forward to the great work that is to be published in September. "A History of Christianity in Japan," from the period when Columbus made his attempt to carry the gospel hitherwards to the most recent phases of its development, will supply a want that many students of the missionary field in many lands have keenly felt. The story of the arduous efforts of the Christian workers in this country cannot, when coming from the pen of Dr. Otis Cary, D.D., be other than authoritative. Dr. Cary is one of the most scholarly among the entire Japanese missionary force, and his record here will instantly command the attention of everyone interested in missions.

The book is divided into two sections, Vol. 1 dealing with "Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox Missions," and Vol. 2 with "Protestant Missions."

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Messrs. Fleming H. Revell & Co., of New York, Chicago, London, etc., are the publishers.

KOBE SAILING CLUB.

The races of the Kobe Sailing Club took place on Sunday in very favourable weather, commencing at 9 a.m. The following are the names of the winners, with the corrected times:—

	Finish.	Corrected Time.	Place.
Wilhelmina	11 42.15	11.35.15	Winner
Daimyo	11.54.03	11.51.03	Second
Ronin	12.18.31	12.18.31	Fifth
Neptune	12.29.17	12.04.17	Third
F.O.B.	12.30.16	12.05.16	Fourth

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

The Experimental Aceton Gas Buoy off Tsurumi, outside Yokohama Harbour, has been withdrawn (see Notification No. 1328 of Department of Communications, December 1908).

Owing to the breakdown of the illuminating apparatus at Kurushima Strait Tidal Observation Lightbuoy on the west side of Chū-suidō, Kurushima Strait, a provisional fixed white light has been temporarily exhibited from the top of the buoy.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

JAPAN'S ALLEGED UNPOPULARITY.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—When a newspaper makes an assertion in its leading columns it is supposed to be based upon undeniable and solid fact. It will not surprise you if objection is taken to a few words in the article on China appearing in today's issue. "Japan, for some unexplained reason, being very unpopular at present among foreigners in the Far East, nothing that she can suffer at the hand of her neighbour is likely to arouse sympathy."

I have resided in Japan for many years and have also spent fourteen years in active intercourse with the people of China in Canton. Hongkong, Swatow, Amoy and Shanghai. If the foundation of the statement quoted is the utterances of the foreign newspapers in Yokohama I think I may, without fear of contradiction, aver that those utterances are not in accord with the feelings of the foreign community, taken as a whole. I venture to say that the thinking part of the foreign community of Yokohoma is very much in sympathy with Japan in its relations with China, and hold, if they do not express, feelings of profound admiration for the patience and forbearance shown in negotiations with that impracticable people.

The Chinese have a reputation for qualities which they do not fully possess. They are said to be remarkable honest in their commercial dealings, and honourable in their diplomatic engagements. My own experience is that Chinese will observe their contracts with foreign merchants, banks and companies so long as it suits their particular purpose, and no longer. I am able to cite numerous instances from my personal experience where Chinese have, after making faithful promises, openly violated their engagements; and what they have done before they will probably do again.

With regard to their diplomacy, their policy is delay, evasion of obligations and general untrustworthiness. I cite a few words uttered by the late Sir Harry Parkes when British Minister in Peking. He said that diplomatic intercourse with Chinese is comparable with the vain effort of drawing water from a deep well with a bottomless bucket.

It is an error to suppose that there is any feeling among foreign residents in Japan, whether they be American, British, French, German or others, inimical to the Government of this country. As free men we reserve the right to criticise and to express our opinions of Japan and the people, and of each other; but there is not the shadow of doubt that if Japan should be involved in trouble, not manifestly of its own creation, the sympathy of all foreign residents would be with the Government of this country. Those who lived in Japan in the anxious period of 1904—1905 will support this statement.

My only object in writing these lines is to endeavour to remove an impression which may gain ground, if statements such as that now referred to appearing in a leading journal are allowed to pass unchallenged, namely, that foreigners have no symyathy with this country. In truth, the sympathy of foreigners is very strongly in support of this country.

Yours faithfully, T. H. W.

Yokohama, 27th August, 1909.

THE GREEK CHURCH AND "THE HOCHI."

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—For the correction of what is said in the article: "the Greek Church in Japan" in your issue of to-day, please insert in it the following.

In the Greek Church in Japan there has not been the slightest revolt among the Japanese converts.—Quite contrary to what is stated in the *Hochi Shimbun*, not one of our priests has been nominated by the Bishop; everyone of them is elected by our general Church Council, which we have regularly every year in the beginning of July. We have only one Seminary, the buildings for which were erected only once many years ago. The Archbishop has not spent one cent. on his church vestments; what his Cathedral possesses of this kind, is in every case the donation of the Christians.

I am, Sir, Yours etc.

ARCHBISHOP NICOLAI.

Tokyo, August 24th, 1909.

MODERN JOURNALISM.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Quite recently I had occasion to send you a correction about your version of the Hsinmintun-Mukden Railway, and hoping that you would appreciate same.

Judging by the fact, that in your issue of the 20th inst. you reprint under the heading "China and Japan" the gist of a leading article from the *Asahi Shimbun* in which you allow the same mistake made by you to pass without comment, it would seem that your appreciation of my correction has not yet emerged from the refrigerator, but considering the temperature of late, I cannot find it in me to quarrel with you on this account.

But when you put before your readers such frightful "howlers" as the article in the issues of the 25th and 26th inst. respectively entitled: "China's only Independent Railway;" and "Railways in North China," then I think that even Macaulay's "Schoolboy," would turn round on you.

The only excuse I can find for you in this instance is, that judging by its contents, and more especially the nomenclature employed, these articles seem to have been bodily lifted from some Native paper, for no European paper in the Far East (if using information at first hand) would speak of Changkiakou instead of Kalgan, or Kulon instead of Urga. Besides the distances given are so ridiculous, that this alone would be sufficient to stamp them as having been "made in Japan,"—for the extraordinary confusion reigning among your Japanese friends, whenever quantities or figures of whatever discription are at stake, is proverbial. But knowing as you, of all men, should know, these minor blemishes in the otherwise immaculate intellectual make up, I think that we Europeans have a right to demand of you, that similar journalistic productions as the articles in question, are to be subjected to some kind of an overhaul, before they appear in a foreign newspaper under the aegis of its foreign editor, delivered in an ex-cathedra style, and with all the pomp and circumstance of the editorial "We." For both the paper and its readers will inevitably become the laughing stock of the outside world; the former for containing, and the latter for swallowing such stuff, as "China's only Independent Railway" and "Railways in North China." The first mentioned article starts with:

"There is one railway in China's dominions which has been built entirely with her own money and by her own experts. It is a road of great importance, since it affords the only means of concentrating a Chinese army in the direction of Manchuria. It starts from the Fengtai quarter of Peking and runs a distance of 123 miles to Chankiakow. . . . . A project has now been elaborated to extend the line through a further distance of 270 miles as far as Kiakta. . . . . Now, however, things have reverted to the situation they occupied prior to 1894 and people are again beginning to talk of Russian Railway activity in the direction of Kiakta. The Chinese therefore have resolved not to be forestalled and have planned the above road. . . . . We cannot vouch for the details of this story."

The Peking-Kalgan Railway (not Peking-Changkia-kow) by you asserted as "the only railway in China's dominions which has been built entirely with her own money,"—was constructed with the surplus funds of "The Imperial Railways of North China," in which not only a large amount of British Capital is invested, but the system was up to the time of my leaving China (2 years ago), entirely managed and operated — save for Chinese Imperial Commissioners—by a British staff of experts.

The Chief Engineer of this Peking-Kalgan line is a Chinese, and like the rest of his staff, trained on the Imperial Railway of North China they are not assisted or advised by European experts.—As to the second paragraph in the article. "It is a road of great importance, since it affords the only means of concentrating a Chinese army in the direction of Manchuria."—A glance at the Map will convince you, that you could write with equal force that the line Tokyo-Aomori is of great importance, since it affords the only means of concentrating an army in the direction of Kyushu.

As to your information (?): "It starts from the Fengtai quarter of Peking," you might just as well speak of Yokohama, as the Yokohama quarter of Tokyo; and as to the distance of 123 miles between Fengtai and Kalgan (your Changkiakow), if it is 80 Eng. miles it will be a liberal allotment for the barely one geographical degree which separates the two places in a N. W. direction. With regard to "a project has now been elaborated to extend the line through a further distance of 270 miles as far as Kiakta."—This project has not now, but was *originally* elaborated, to extend the line through a further distance of 750, not 270 miles, as far as Kiakta. The distance from Kalgan to Urga (by you called Kulon) is 600 Eng. miles in a N. N. Westerly direction, and another 150 miles for that between Urga and Kiakta, and we arrive at 750 Eng. miles for the 10 geographical degrees separating Kalgan from Kiakta, and which anyone with the most elementary knowledge of geography, would have hesitated at reducing to 270 miles.

Now let us turn for a moment to your Article, "Railways in North China" and appearing in your issue of the 26th inst. which you open with; "In our last issue we spoke of a rumour that the railway from Peking to Changkiakow (Kalgan). . . was to be extended beyond the Great Wall to Kulon and Kiakta, in the direction of lake Baikal. . . . . It now appears that this programme is incorrect and that the real intention is to build a branch of the line from Changkiakow (Kalgan) along the Chinese side of the Great Wall via Huaian and Tatung as far as So-ping, where it would be carried across the Wall to Kueihuacheng in the province of Shansi. Such a road would add greatly to the facilities for the defence of the frontier."

The "rumour" you pretended to have spoken of in your last issue, is not a rumour, and the programme which it embodied, is not incorrect, as the line Peking-Kalgan-Urga-Kiakta is the original scheme and only a question of time.

If the line is to make a detour at Kalgan, and pierce the Great Wall at some point further West, whether at So-ping-fu or any other point—this will be simply on account of the inability of the Chinese engineers in charge of the line, freely prophesied at the time they started on the work—to negotiate the tremendous drop of some 2000 ft. which the Mongolian plateau takes at Kalgan, and which they evidently seek to circumvent by a detour of one kind or another; but, "that the real intention is to build a branch of the line from Changkiakow along the Chinese Side of the Great Wall" etc., etc., is too childish to discuss seriously. When using expressions like:" The Chinese "Side of the Great Wall," you evidently are not aware of using a pleonasm, as there is no other side but a Chinese one to the Great Wall. Similarly when speaking about the line running "via Huai-an, and Tatung, as far as Soping, where it would be carried across the Wall to Kueihuaching, *in the province of Shansi*!"—As you have been all the time in the province of Shan-i.'—And while I fully recognise your difficulty in trying to make plain to your readers, things about which you yourself are hopelessly in the dark, still such pitfalls should be carefully avoided as they only lead to confusion. From whatever point of view the above mentioned articles are looked at they constitute a serious indictment against the "Editor of the Japan Daily Mail." If they emanate from native sources, you are showing a most culpable negligence in inserting them without revision.

But if they belong to "The Japan Daily Mail" and are home made articles, I would ask you in the face of your frequent condemnation of occidental ignorance about Far Eastern affairs, how and where occidentals abroad are to arrive at the truth about the Far East if self appointed mentors and highpriests in our journalistic tabernacles do not scruple to supply the above mentioned edifying material.

Yours, etc., J. N. KALFF.

Yokohama, 27th August, 1909.

[We are obliged to our courteous correspondent for these corrections. The distance given as 230 "miles" should be 77. As for the name "Changkia-kow," if Mr. Kalff will consult any standard atlas he will find that the term "Kalgan" is an alternative pronunciation. The same is true of "Kulon" and "Urga." We frankly admit, however, that when we spoke of "concentrating a Chinese army in the direction of Manchuria," we inadvertently wrote "Manchuria" for "Mongolia," an obvious slip of the pen. Finally, as to the first of the two paragraphs, we explicitly declared that "we could not vouch for the details of the story;" and as to the second we said:—"This last story comes so close upon the heels of a very different narrative that one is necessarily sceptical in believing anything definitely."—Ed. *J.M.*]

HINDRANCES TO THE GOSPEL IN JAPAN.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I have read with deep interest the earnest Paper of the Rev. R. E. McAlpine in your issue of August 26th, and being a student of the same subject for 40 years in the Far East, may I be permitted to make a few remarks on it also.

I. As regards those who have no religion.

The author points out that education plus mere morals has been found uneffective in Japan. Prince Ito has made a most weighty pronouncement on this subject and which will carry weight throughout Japan. It was

(1) That no nation could prosper without material improvement.

(2) That material prosperity cannot last long without a moral back bone.

(3) That the strongest backbone is that which has a religious sanction behind it.

Before dismissing this part it would be pertinent to ask why the example of Christians in their religion and morals have not won a far larger number of followers in Japan than they have. We should know it.

II. Next concerning those who have another religion.

1. It is a most interesting and instructive news that one in ten of every one we meet belong to the

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Tenrikyo. Evidently the views of such an enlightened statesman as Prince Ito and like minded men are taking effect on Japan. A fuller account of this new modern religion would be of the greatest importance as showing life and progress.

2. As to Buddhism the Hivayavà and the Mahayana Schools are just as different as the Old and New Testament are different from each other. Yet they are bound up together in one Bible as if they were the same. Yet nobody goes to Church to-day to sacrifice bullocks and rams, and to reconcile the Old and the New Testament would be quite as impossible as it was for Dr. Inouye Tetsujiro to reoncile the different parts of Buddhism. They are not the same and not meant to be reconciled. The Mahayana is called the new religion even by the Buddhists themselves.

Amida is defined as the god of boundless age. In other words the Eternal god.

Seishi is defined as the one who put an end to death and the chain of endless Transmigration to produce a sati-factory Rarma and by following him we can go straight to Paradise.

Kwanon is defined as the one who hears the prayers of suffering humanity.

Mark also that Amida is in the centre of the Trinity. Seishi is on his right hand and Kwanon like the Holy Spirit is on his left.

The Shastra, which is the foundation of all the Mahayana doctrine of Buddhism, is a small book about the size of the Gospel of Mark. The Hoke Sutra contains many passages which can only be explained by those acquainted with the New Testament. These contain doctrines which when the chaff is blown away contain the same true wheat as we find in the New Testament. Our attitude therefore should not be so much antagontstic and destructive for our Lord Jesus Christ did not come to destroy but to fulfil.

In conclusion I would venture to suggest that another paper might be written on

"What hindrances do missionaries and their Christians present to a more ready acceptance of the true Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ."

RELIGIOUS STUDENT.

August, 27th 1909.

THE LEASE OF THE CRICKET GROUND.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—It has been erroneously published in the Local Press, that the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club have received notice from H. E. Governor Sufu to remove the railings and other things belonging to the Club by the 1st October, and consequently a great many people have been misled into believing that to be the case.

The Lease of the Cricket Ground expired on the 29th July last, and the Governor has requested the Club to remove the railings &c., within Three Months of that date, namely by the 29th October.

I shall be obliged if you will kndly publish this correction, and oblige,

Yours faithfully, BERNARD C. FOSTER.
Honorary Secretary,
Yokohama Cricket & Athletic Club.

Yokohama, September, 2nd 1909

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The eighty-eighth report of the court of directors, which was presented to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders held at the City Hall, Hongkong, on Saturday, the 21st August, was as follows:—

The Chairman:—Gentlemen,—The Directors have now to submit to you a general statement of the affairs of the bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 30th June, 1909.

The net profits for that period, including $2,006,234.08, balance brought foward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due and making provision for bad and doubtful accounts, amount to $5,493,446.41.

The Directors recommend the transfer of $750,000 from the profit and loss account to credit of the silver reserve fund, which fund will then stand a $15,250,000.

After making this transfer and deducting remuneration to directors there remains for appropriation $4,728,446.41, out of which the directors recommend the payment of a dividend of two pounds sterling per share, viz: £240,000, which at 1/9⅛ the rate of the day, will absorb $2,726,627.22.

The balance, $2,001,819.19, to be carried to new profit and loss account.

Branches and Agencies.—A branch office of the bank was opened at Canton on the 6th July.

Directors.—Mr. G. Friesland having resigned his seat on leaving the Colony, Mr. J. W. Bandow has been invited to fill the vacancy; this appointment requires confirmation at the meeting.

Auditors.—The accounts have been audited by Mr. W. Hutton Potts and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar.

W. J. GRESSON,
Chairman.

Hongkong, August 16th, 1909.

LIABILITIES.

Paid up capital		$ 15,000,000.00
Sterling reserve fund £1,500,000 @ ex. 2/-		15,000,000.00
Silver reserve fund		14,500,000.00
Marine insurance account		250,000.00
Notes in circulation:—		
(Authorised issue against securities and coin deposited with the Crown Agents for the Colonies and their trustees, $15,000,000.00)		14,149,703.00
Current accounts:—		
Silver	$95,414,652.37	
Gold	£4,992,726	
1s. 5d.=	56,730,866.07	
		152,145,518.44
Fixed deposits:—		
Silver	$ 62,004,168.85	
£4,661,536 12s. 1d. =	52,964,800.97	
		114,998,969.83
Bills payable (including drafts on London bankers, call loans and short sight drawings on London office against bills receivable and bullion shipments)		14,063,599.17
Profit and loss account		5,493,446.41
Liability on bills of exchange re-discounted, £4,972,346 3s. 10d., of which £3,671,148 14s. 5d. have since run off.		
		$345,601,236.85

ASSETS.

Cash		$ 55,260,909.72
Coin lodged with the Hongkong Government against authorised and or excess note circulation		13,000,000.00
Bullion in hand and in transit		4,318,503.50
Indian government rupee paper		2,099,088.72
Consols colonial and other securities.		10,213,250.76
Sterling reserve fund investments, viz.:—		
£1,208,100 2½ per cent. consols at 82 (of which £250,000 lodged with the Bank of England as a special London Reserve.)	£ 990,560	
£255,000 2¾ per cent. national war loan at 90	229,500	
£325,000 other sterling securities, written down to	279,940	
	1,500,000	
	at ex. 2/-	15,000,000.00
Bills discounted, loans and credits		113,046,509.47
Bills receivable		130,763,412.03
Bank premises		1,899,572.63
		$345,601,236.85

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNTS.

Dr.

To amounts written off:—		
Remuneration to Directors		$ 150,000.00
To dividend account:—		
£2 per share on 120,000 shares= £240,000 at 1/9⅛		2,726,627.22
To transfer to silver reserve fund		750,000.00
To balance forward to next half-year		2,001,819.19
		$5,493,446.41

Cr.

By balance of undivided profits 31st Dec 1908	$2,006,234.08	
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 30th June, 1909 after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, deducting all expenses and interest paid and due	3,487,212.33	
		$5,493,446.41
		$5,493,446.41

STERLING RESERVE FUND.

To balance, £1,500,000 @ ex 2/- (invested in sterling securities	$ 15,000,000.00
	$ 15,000,000.00
By balance 31st December, 1908, £1,500,000 @ ex 2/-	$ 15,000,000.00
	$ 15,000,000.00

SILVER RESERVE FUND.

To balance	$ 15,250,000.00
	$ 15,250,000.00
By balance 31st December, 1908	$ 14,500,000.00
By transfers from Profit and Loss account	750,000.00
	$ 15,250,000.00

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

LORD ROSEBERY'S POLITICAL FUTURE.

London, August 26.

Lord Rosebery will address the forthcoming meeting of the Budget Protest League at Glasgow. *The Times* says it is believed that an inference may be drawn therefrom with regard to Lord Rosebery's future political career.

SCIENTISTS WILL INVESTIGATE AFRICAN DISEASES.

Lord Crewe has appointed a committee of 21 distinguished scientists, under the chairmanship of Lord Cromer, to organize entomological research in connection with the propagation of diseases in men, animals and economic plants by insects in tropical Africa.

PERSIAN BANKING CHANGES.

The *Times* correspondent at Teheran reports that the well known banker, Mr. Wright, of the Bank of Persia, is giving up his post in order to join the Indo-European Telegraph syndicate.

PAULHAN'S MONOPLANE RECORD.

Rheims.—Paulhan flew 82 miles on his monoplane in 2 hrs. 43 mins. 24 secs., thereby creating a new world's record.

ROBBERS IN PERSIA.

Reports are to hand of grave danger in a village 50 miles west of Kerman (Teheran). Eight hundred robbers are attacking a tower wherein the population is seeking refuge. The British Foreign Office is taking all possible steps to send relief.

MORE RECORDS AT RHEIMS.

Later.

Rheims.—Mr. Latham has secured all records for speed and distance, accomplishing 150 kilometres in 2 hrs. 13 min. 9 3/5 secs., despite squally weather. He raced and easily beat the Paris express running on a parallel course.

IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

REDISTRIBUTION OF THE PACIFIC FLEET.

Mr. Asquith, in the House of Commons, referring to naval and military defence schemes, said that the squadrons in the Far East would be remodelled. A Pacific Fleet, consisting of three units, will be established in the East Indies, Australasia and the China Sea, respectively. Each unit will consist of one cruiser of the *Indomitable* type, 3 second-class cruisers, 6 destroyers and 3 submarines. The New Zealand unit will be placed in the China Sea, the Commonwealth unit on the Australian station, while Canada will protect her double sea-board with second-class cruisers and destroyers.

THE ZEPPELIN AIRSHIP.

GREAT PREPARATIONS AT BERLIN.

London, August 27.

Immense preparations are being made at Berlin for the reception of the Zeppelin airship to morrow on its flight from Freidrichshafen to Berlin, where their Majesties and the entire garrison, with the fire brigade and populace, are to welcome it.

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BRITISH ASSOCIATION MEETS AT WINNIPEG.

The 1909 meeting of the British Association for the Advancement of Science has been opened at Winnipeg under the Presidency of Professor Thomson.

COUNT ZEPPELIN'S FLIGHT TO BERLIN.

GREAT PREPARATIONS FOR HIS RECEPTION.

London, August 27.

Immense preparations are being made in Berlin for the reception of Count Zeppelin in his airship. To-morrow he will fly from Friedrichshafen to the capital, where he will be welcomed by Their Majesties, the whole garrison, the fire brigades and the populace.

SULTAN OF MOROCCO'S CRUELTY.

August 28.

The Sultan of Morocco has had the right hand of twenty-four of the leading rebels hacked off and the stumps plunged into boiling pitch. Several also have similarly been deprived of their left foot.

CANADIAN WHEAT CROP IS GOOD.

Later.

The Canadian wheat-crop is 115,000,000 bushels, mostly of the best quality.

CHOLERA SCOURGE AT ROTTERDAM.

Further fresh cases of cholera have occurred at Rotterdam. The port authorities of London have declared the Dutch port infected and are examining all arrivals. Similar precautions are being taken at other ports.

OBITUARY.

Mr. George Manville-Fenn, the famous writer of boys' stories, is dead.

"CHINA'S FINANCIAL DISINTEGRATION."

THE "TIMES" DEPLORES THE MOVEMENT TOWARD THIS POINT.

London, August 29.

The *Times*, in an article on Chinese Railways, deplores the abandonment of the policy of requiring China to resort to British capital in her enterprises, together with American capital, and also the abandonment of the policy embodied in the Anglo-French agreement, discountenancing competition for railway construction. China's conclusion of a contract with a syndicate to which the Hongkong-Shanghai Bank is a party is a flagrant violation of engagements, as it transfers British preferential rights to Germans. The contract stands as a failure so far as Britain is concerned and a success so far as the United States is concerned, wherein the latter refused to ratify the settlement of the financiers. Britain failed to safeguard her national interests as she should have done.

The Times further hopes that Anglo-American co-operation will arrest the process of the financial disintegration of China.

THE CHANCELLOR'S DEVELOPMENT BILL.

Mr. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, has introduced a development fund bill, which enables the Treasury to make free grants for the purpose of developing forestry, agriculture, rural industries, the construction and development of harbours and canals, the improvement of fisheries, and the construction of new roads, primarily confined to motor traffic.

M. FARMAN'S NEW RECORD.

Rheims.—M. Farman, on his bi-plane, has created a fresh record. He has covered a distance of 186 kilometres in 196 minutes, and has won the Grand Prix Champagne contest, the first prize in which is £2,000. Latham has won the second prize of £1,000; and Paulhan the third, of £400.

MORE FEATS AT RHEIMS.

Later.

Rheims.—Curtiss has won the Gordon-Bennett prize. He sailed 20 kilometres in 15 min. 50 3/5 secs. Bleriot covered the same distance in 15' 56 1/5." Farman won the "Passenger Prize." He carried two passengers over a distance of 10 kilometres in 10 min. 32 secs.

Bleriot's aeroplane was subsequently destroyed by the explosion of its motor.

MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN GREECE.

London, August 30.

Athens.—Ralli's cabinet has resigned as the result of its refusal to accept military reforms demanded by officers of the army and navy.

It is stated that the Crown Prince will resign the command of the Army.

ZEPPELIN'S RECEPTION.

Zeppelin has flown from Friedrichshafen to Berlin, where he arrived at 12.50 yesterday. He dipped his prow in salutation to the Emperor, amid a great popular reception.

DISASTROUS FLOODS IN MEXICO.

Later.

Disastrous floods have occurred on the Santa Caterina river, in North Mexico. They have swept away over half a mile of houses in the town of Monterey fronting the river. At midnight hundreds of people were overwhelmed in their sleep. Already 400 bodies have been recovered.

PERSIA AND THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

Reuter telegraphs from Teheran that the Government has issued stringent regulations restricting the sale of opium. They aim at the ultimate suppression of a habit which—the proclamation declares—is responsible for the backwardness of Persia.

CHINA'S RAILWAYS DISCUSSED IN THE HOUSE

London, August 30.

In the House of Commons Mr. Ginnell, M.P. asked what steps the Government had taken to secure the performance of Chanchihtung's undertaking in connection with the advance of money by Hongkong on account of the Hankow and Canton railway.

Colonel Seely, replied that British capital was to have the preference in the construction of the line if the terms offered by foreign capitalists were not favourable, but the German group had offered terms which China was accepting as the most advantageous.

Mr. Ginnell asked how the Kowloon railway could ever become a paying property in competition with the shorter route by a navigable river.

Colonel Seely pointed out that the direct profits were not the only matter to be considered. Indirect profits accruing from the improvement of tradal facilities was far more important. With regard to increased cost above the estimate Colonel Seely declared that the original estimate was very rough, and was never intended to be exact. He added that the line was being constructed with the full concent of the Hongkong Government.

BRITAIN TO GIVE £250,000 ANNUALLY FOR AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

Later.

The Imperial Government is to contribute a quarter of a million sterling annually to the Australian fleet.

LATHAM AND BLERIOT TO FLY FOR £4000.

Latham and Bleriot, the aeronauts, have signed articles for a match, the winner to take £4000 and the loser £1000, in which they shall fly from Wembleyart (?) to Blackpool. The aviation week is fixed for early in October.

"MAURETANIA'S" NEW RECORD.

London, August 31.

The S. S. *Mauretania* has created a new trans-Atlantic record in her voyage from New York to Queenstown, by performing the run in 4 days, 14 hours, 37 minutes.

THE MONTEREY FLOODS.

It is estimated that the dead in the region of Monterey number 1400. The river has subsided, but famine is threatened owing to the destruction of communications.

PROFITS OF "AVIATION WEEK."

The profits at the Rheims meeting have amounted to £12,000. The sum is to be devoted to the encouragement of aviation. The competitors are being overwhelmed with financial offers.

SIR E. GREY ON THE ANHUI MINING CONCESSION.

RIGHTS OF BRITISH SUBJECTS AT STAKE.

London, September 1.

Sir Edward Grey, Secretary for Foreign Affairs, replying to a series of questions concerning the Anhui mining concession, said that it was true that the Chinese Government was offering fifty thousand pounds for the concession.

"The matter now under consideration," he added, "is not the question of the value of the ore, but the question of the rights of British subjects, which are at stake. Those rights are not so simple as would appear. The case, which has been under consideration for a long time, is one which, in my opinion, ought to be settled by compromise. The negotiations have as yet led to no result, but the Chinese Government has put foward certain contentions. Whether all the obligations of the Company have been fulfilled is a matter for argument."

BLERIOT'S WRECKED AEROPLANE.

The accident to Bleriot's aeroplane, whereby the vessel was reported to have been damaged by the explosion of its motor, is more serious than was at first thought. It is extremely doubtful whether the match between Blériot and Latham, which was arranged for the first week of October, will come off.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS KUNI.

HOMEWARD BOUND VIA AMERICA.

Prince and Princess Kuni have left London for Japan *via* America, where they will take part in the Hudson celebration. King Edward's representative, as well as Ambassador Kato, saw them off at Euston station.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCK AT ROME.

Later.

A ten seconds shock of earthquake was felt at Rome yesterday. The people rushed into the streets in a panic, pictures and ornaments fell, and the *façade* of the church of Santa Anette was badly cracked.

A GREAT ART SALE.

The well known London art-dealers, Messrs Duveen, are the purchasers of the Rudolph Kann collection in Paris, consisting of 807 pieces valued at nearly a million sterling. The collection includes works of the old masters, a quantity of *faience*, and other *objets d'art* from Maurice Kann's collection, which itself was valued at half a million.

THE NORTH POLE AT LAST!

AMERICAN EXPLORER SAID TO HAVE REACHED FARTHEST POSSIBLE NORTH.

London, September 2.

Reuter's correspondent telegraphs from Copenhagen that information, apparently

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official, has been received to the effect that the American explorer Dr. F. A. Cook, who started in February 1908 from Utah, reached the North Pole on April 21, 1909 and is nowreturning on board the *Greenland*, a government steamer.

THE OPIUM POLICY IN HONGKONG.

Col. Seely, replying to Mr. Laidlaw, M.P., in the House of Commons, said that the Government would not take any steps to prevent the new opium farms contract being entered into in Hongkong. The farm system is best suited to the circumstances of Hongkong. Its existence in no wise hampers the Government's efforts to assist China.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

MOORISH PRETENDER CAPTURED.

London, August 26.

Paris.—The Moorish Pretender has been captured at Zawia, where he had taken refuge in a mosque.

THE BAGDAD RAILWAY.

Berlin.—The Turkish Ministry has approved the plans for an extension of the Bagdad Railway *via* Alexandretta, and work will be resumed at an early date.

COUNT TOLSTOY'S HEALTH.

St. Petersburg.—A seaside mansion near Odessa has been leased for Count Tolstoy, whose health has been much shaken by his arrest and exile.

CHOLERA AT ROTTERDAM.

The Hague.—Four children have died at Rotterdam of Asiatic cholera, and 25 cases are under observation.

THE AUSTRALIAN SQUADRON

The *Times* understands that the Australian squadron will consist of one armoured cruiser, three smaller cruisers, six destroyers, and three submaries.

JAPANESE STOCKS BUOYANT.

August 27.

On the Stock Exchange there is a general advance in Japanese securities.

THE HUDSON TERCENTENARY.

JAPANESE IMPERIAL CONGRATULATIONS AND A GIFT OF CHERRY TREES.

New York. — The Japanese Consul-General has visited the acting mayor and presented the congratulations of the Emperor of Japan on the Hudson Tercentenary. He also announced a gift of 300 Japanese cherry trees to be planted in Central Park by Japanese gardeners.

THE TSARITSA'S ILL HEALTH.

August 8.

St. Petersburg.—The health of the Tsaritsa is causing anxiety. She is suffering from nervous troubles. The Imperial visit to the Crimea, Constantinople, and Rome may be modified.

POLICING BENGAL WATERWAYS.

A government scheme is maturing in Eastern Bengal for the policing of 50,000 miles of waterway. 70 per cent. of the recent Dacca crimes are attributed to Malays. The cost will approximate to £10,000.

SIR W. LAURIER FOR UNITED SOUTH AFRICA?

It is reported at Ottawa that Sir Wilfred Laurier, Prime Minister in the Canadian Parliament, has been invited by the Imperial Government to be Governor General of a United South Africa. The Canadian authorities regard his acceptance as impossible.

A POSTAL SAVINGS BANK FOR THE STATES.

New York.—President Taft is urging Congress to establish a postal savings bank whereby the millions of dollars that are annually sent abroad will be placed at the disposal of the American Government.

LATHAM'S NEW RECORD.

Rheims—Latham has flown 154½ kilometres in 137 minutes.

IMPECUNIOUS PERSIA.

London, August 30.

Teheran.—The Government, in need of money, has applied to the banks for overdrafts on the security of the inland revenue and crown jewels. The banks decline to make any advances, and the Government will be forced to apply to the Powers for assistance.

CHINESE AND JAPANESE STOCK IN LONDON.

London, August 31.

On the Stock Exchange Russian and Japanese bonds are offered at moderate prices. The Peking Syndicate is selling at 1¼ higher.

THE FLOODS IN MEXICO.

London, August 31.

New York.—In the Mexican floods 1,500 lives have been lost and damage to the extent of £2,400,000 caused. Monterey is the chief sufferer, 1,200 being dead in that place alone. Famine is threatened, and 10,000 persons are being fed by the municipality.

EARTHQUAKE AT PANAMA.

An earthquake of some severity has occurred at Panama. It is not known as yet whether the canal has been damaged. The wisdom of the lock canal system is again questioned.

RESPONSIBILITY OF THE DOMINIONS.

Sydney.—The Minister of Defence says that the Dominions accept responsibility for naval defence in the Pacific, leaving Britain free to concentrate in the North Sea.

THE HANKOW-CANTON RAILWAY.

Mr. McKinnon Wood has stated in the House of Commons that the Government has authorized the Government of Hongkong to advance £1,100,000 to the Chinese Government for the repurchase of the concession for the Hankow-Canton Railway.

THE DEFENCE OF RUSSIA.

London, September 1.

An Imperial Ukase has been published at St. Petersburg abolishing the Council of National Defence and announcing the preparation of a scheme of naval and military co-ordination.

GREECE'S DYNASTIC DIFFICULTIES.

It is rumoured in connection with the Greecian abdication proposals, that Greece will find a difficulty in securing another dynasty. Colonel Zorbas, the leader of the *province-amienta* (?) denies emphatically the existence of any movement that is either anti-dynastic or anti-constitutional.

(Received at the Foreign Office)

TO WELCOME THE JAPANESE BUSINESS MEN.

The San Francisco Chamber of Commerce has sent representatives to Seattle to be attached to the party of Japanese business men. Morever, the California Chamber, some of whose members came to Japan last year, have chosen a representative, and have sent him to Seattle, carrying a most polite message of welcome to meet the Japanese. At a farewell luncheon given by the acting Japanese Consul-General in San Francisco, Mr. Nagai, it was stated by the President of the Chamber of Commerce of that city that the Welcome Committee would await the coming of the Japanese business-men and would welcome them in such a manner as to consolidate the friendship between and Japan and the United States.

(From Mr. Consul Okabe at Antung.)

THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

BRIDGES BROKEN DOWN.

The bridges on the Mukden-Antung Railway have been broken at 3 places between Wulungpei and Homutang, and communication has been interrupted. Their restoration is expected by the 2nd of September. They were washed away by the heavy rain on the 29th of August.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

HOLLAND.

Berlin, August 26.

It is officially reported that cholera has made its appearance at Rotterdam.

GREECE.

The Greek Prime Minister has paid a cordial visit to the Turkish Minister at Athens.

GERMANY.

Magnificent preparations have been made at Berlin for the reception of Count Zeppelin, who will arrive at the German capital for the first time with his airship on Saturday.

MOROCCO.

It is reported that the Moroccan prisoners of Sultan Mulai Hafid are treated with great cruelty. The Powers have lodged a protest.

ARGENTINA.

The blame for the collision between the Argentinian steamer *Colombia* and the Nordd. Lloyd steamer *Schlesien* is stated to rest solely with the Argentinian ship.

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 27.

The *Koelnische Zeitung* welcomes very favourably the understanding between China and Japan, which has at last been arrived at. It says that the commercial interests of the countries concerned will be considerably improved by the agreement.

UNITED STATES.

Berlin, August 28.

Yosemite Park, the world-known Californian valley with its ancient trees, is threatened by a big forest fire.

FRANCE.

The French authorities demand sanitary attests from all ships arriving from Dutch ports.

Farman has made a world record of 188 kilometers in 3 hours with his flying machine.

GREECE.

The rumours of the abdication of the Greek Royal Dynasty being imminent are denied from most official quarters.

TURKEY.

The boycott of Greek merchandise in Turkey has ceased.

GERMANY.

The whole populace of Berlin and many foreign visitors are expecting the arrival of the Zeppelin airship to-day, evincing great interest.

Later.

The Zeppelin airship suffered a breakdown of one of its propellers near Bitterfeld, by which accident the continuation of the trip had to be temporarily postponed.

Berlin, August 29.

The Zeppelin airship has arrived at Berlin and carried out various manœuvres, circling over the whole capital amid the greatest enthusiasm of the populace and the whole Imperial Family.

The Zeppelin airship has safely landed in

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the presence of the Kaiser at Tegel. The propeller, by which the continuation of the tour was interrupted yesterday, had not been replaced.

AUSTRIA.

Berlin, August 30.

The Jubilee of Innsbruck in remembrance of the war against France in the year 1809 has been celebrated with great success in the presence of Emperor Francis Joseph.

GREECE.

The Greek military revolt has ended, the troops having returned to barracks; an amnesty has been declared. The summoning of the Chamber is expected very soon.

FRANCE.

The aeroplane of M. Bleriot has been burned by accident at Rheims. The American, Curtis has won the Gordon-Bennett prize for having carried out the quickest flight with his aeroplane.

MEXICO.

Terrible inundations have been caused by the overflowing of the Caternia River in Mexico, by which many hundreds of lives have been lost.

GERMANY.

Count Zeppelin started from Berlin on his return flight during last night. At Wittenberg he again successfully landed, another breakage of a propeller having occurred.

The Kaiser has gone to Swinemuende, where he will embark for the naval manœuvres, to be carried out in the Baltic.

GERMANY.

Berlin, August 31.

The German Press reports that Prince Heinrich of Prussia, after having resigned the Chief-Commandership of the battle-fleet and before taking charge of the post of Inspector-General of the German Navy, will go on a furlough of half a year to the Canary Islands.

TURKEY.

The Governments of Russia, England and France have entered into pourparlers as to next year's conference regarding the Dardanelles question. The Russian Embassy at Constantinople agrees to the abandoning of the capitulation as a first condition to a Russian Alliance with Turkey, which is desirable to Russia.

NETHERLANDS EAST INDIES.

Fighting has taken place at Flores Island, south-west of Celebes, between police troops and natives.

AUSTRIA.

The centenary at Bregenz (Tyrol) has been celebrated with the same great enthusiasm of the populace as at Innsbruck in the presence of Emperor Francis Joseph.

GREECE.

The Greek Crown Prince is resigning his post as Commander-in-Chief of the Army.

GERMANY.

Berlin, September 1.

The Kiel Squadron will be transferred to Wilhelmshaven on April 1st, 1910. The Press reports that Admiral von Fischel, until now Chief of the Naval Station of the North Sea, will be made Chief of the Admiralty Staff, and that Admiral Count Baudissin, who has occupied this post until now, will take his place.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Government will carry out extensive sanitary work at St. Petersburg to diminish the danger of cholera again breaking out.

GREECE.

The new Greek Ministry has given assurances of friendship to the Sublime Porte.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

"PRINCIPAL QUESTIONS" SETTLED.

Shanghai, August 25.

This afternoon it was reported from Peking that all the principal questions had been decided between Japan and China.

1. Japan has acknowledged Chientao as Chinese territory and under Chinese jurisdiction, whilst China has acknowledged not to extend the railway, without the consent of Japan, to the north of Hsinmintun.

2. The two collieries of Fushun and Yentai will be ceded to Japan by China, and the former country shall pay the mining-tax to the latter.

3. The Japanese and Chinese stations will be removed to within the city of Mukden.

4. China will leave to Japan, as before, the management of the railway between Yinkow and Taichikao, and has agreed to the extension of its branch line to the foreign settlement.

KWANTUNG VICEROY'S FRIENDSHIP.

Mr. Yuan, newly appointed Viceroy of Kwantung and Kwangsi, had declared, to a press representative, that he recalls the intimate friendship which existed between Japanese residents and himself during the Russo-Japanese War, when he was the Taotai of Tientsin, and he hopes to continue on similar friendly terms in his present post.

SNOWFALL IN THE URALS.

Vladivostock, August 26.

There has been a heavy snowfall in the north of the Ural Mountains

THE CHEMULPO CONSULATE.

Chemulpo, August 26.

To-day, the British Consul, Mr. Holmes, departed for home, and his successor, arrived here from Seoul.

PYONGYANG CHINAMPHO RAILWAYS.

Phyongyang, August 26.

The Pyongyang-Chinampho railway will be commenced simultaneously from both the termini on the 1st proximo.

VLADIVOSTOCK AGITATED.

Vladivostock, August 26.

Groundless rumours have spread among the Chinese residents here in connection with the questions between Japan and China. The public mind is agitated.

SUBMARINE CRUISERS FOR RUSSIA.

It is rumoured that a submarine-cruiser of 1,500 tons will be constructed for the Baltic and the Pacific Fleets respectively.

THE CHINESE ADMINISTRATION BOARD.

Peking, August 26.

The regulations of the Administration Board sanctioned by the Emperor on the 23rd instant, which contains 65 articles, were published in to-day's *Official Gazette*. They will come into force on the 14th of October next.

FUSHUN COLLIERY QUESTION.

August 27.

It is reported that at a fourth conference held yesterday between the delegates of Japan and China, the negotiations relating to the Fushun Colliery question progressed satisfactorily.

PRINCE REGENT RECEIVES MR. FAIRBANKS.

Mr. Fairbanks, ex-Vice-President of America, has been received in audience by the Prince Regent.

THE SOUTH-CHINA EXHIBITION.

August 28.

An Imperial edict was issued to-day encouraging the opening of the South China Exhibition. Mr. Chang, Viceroy of Kwantung and Kwangsi, has been appointed president.

KOREAN EMPEROR'S ACCESSION ANNIVERSARY.

Seoul, August 27.

All the Ministers of State paid their respects to the Emperor to-day to celebrate the commemoration day of His Majesty's accession to the throne. The Korean people and the Japanese residents also paid their respects.

THE JAPANESE BUSINESS MEN.

San Francisco, August 28.

Mr. Stallman, who represents California in the reception of the Japanese business men, left for Seattle to-day, taking with him a reception address of the Combined Chambers of Commerce of California. He will come back to California in company with the Japanese party. Messrs. Dollar and Schmidt have also departed to welcome the visitors.

E. H. HARRIMAN'S CONDITION.

Mr. E. H. Harriman's illness appears to be serious. It is reported that eight specialists are in constant attendance upon him. According to another opinion, a surgical operation is necessitated, and preparations are being made are being made for this purpose. A number of press representatives assemble near his residence every day to find out his present condition. The family, however, are on guard, and have cut off telephonic connection with the house.

SINO-RUSSIAN CONFERENCE AT HARBIN.

Harbin, August 28.

In connection with the Russian self-government question, the delegates of China and Russia will hold a conference here, commencing on the 20th proximo.

GERMAN CHINESE UNIVERSITY AT CHIENTAO.

Chientao, August 29.

Dr. Kaipell (?), Principal of the German-Chinese University, has arrived from Berlin. The university will be opened on the 1st of October next.

CHINESE VISITORS TO SHANGHAI

Shanghai, August 29.

Prince Tsai Hsun and Admiral Sah Chen-ping are expected to arrive here from Chefoo to-day.

CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER TO INTERVIEW MR. TAFT.

Shanghai, August 30.

A Peking telegram to the *Chugai Nippo* reports that the Prince Regent has proposed to despatch the Minister for Foreign Affairs to America in order to negotiate with President Taft in connection with certain important questions.

CHINESE STUDENTS ARE PERSISTENT.

Mukden, August 30.

The Chinese students in Tokyo having initiated the anti-Japanese boycott, have despatched the canvassers to Shanghai, Tientsin and Tungchang, instigating the Chinese merchants not to trade with the Japanese, not to supply any coolies for the constuction of the Antung-Mukden railway and not to make the landowners along the railway line sell their grounds.

ANTUNG MUKDEN RAILROAD LAND.

The conference relating to the purchase of land for the Antung-Mukden railway commenced to-day.

VISCOUNT SONE CONVALESCENT.

Seoul, August 30.

Resident-General Viscount Sone has

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gradually become convalescent. A council of the Ministers of State will be held on the 1st proximo.

SEOUL'S CHINESE EXCLUSIVE SETTLEMENT.

In connection with the police authority of the Chinese exclusive settlement, negotiations with the Residency-General have been broken off. Direct negotiations with the home government will be opened.

YALU VALLEY TROUBLES.

The matter relating to the insubordination of woodmen in the Yalu Valley has not yet been settled. It is telegraphed that 20,000 woodmen are behaving in a disorderly manner.

PRINCE TSAI COMING TO JAPAN AGAIN.

Shanghai, August 31.

Prince Tsai Hsun and Amiral Sah Chenping are expected to return to Peking after finishing an inspection at Fuhkien and Canton. Prince Tsai will again leave Peking for Japan.

MR. FAIRBANKS AT PEKING.

Peking, August 31.

Mr. Fairbanks visited the Imperial Schools to day, and delivered an address on education and the responsibility of young men in a constitutional country. In responding, the principal said that the relations of China and America had grown closer and closer, and both nations would make a big step forward in the world. Mr. Fairbanks left for Hankow.

SOUTH MANCHURIAN QUESTIONS.

It is reported that the negotiations in regard to pending questions in South Manchuria were concluded at to-day's conference.

THE HUPEH INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION.

Hankow, August 31.

It has lately been decided that in the Hupeh Industrial Exhibition, which is to be opened in the autumn, foreign articles will be exhibited.

HUPEH AND THE NAVAL INSTITUTION.

In accordance with an order of the central government, the Hupeh Magistrates Council has decided in connection with the expenditure for the naval institution that 800,000 taels will be taken up for organization expenses, which are to be defrayed in four years, and 100,000 taels for annual expenses.

CHINA'S RAILWAYS.

The construction of the Hankow-Szechuan and the Hankow-Ichang railways being near inception, the railway committees here have been invited to Peking to make the preliminary arrangements.

THE ANTUNG-MUKDEN RAILWAY.

Mukden, August 31.

The negotiations in connection with the purchase of land for the Antung-Mukden railway are expected to take about three months. The regulations of the bureau which is to be organized for the purpose will be agreed upon between the Japanese and the Chinese committees, to-day or to-morrow.

CHOLERA AT ANTUNG.

Antung, August 31.

Cholera is spreading rapidly. An isolation hospital is being built.

KOREA'S LITTLE TROUBLES.

Seoul, September 1.

The garrison stationed in South Korea is manœuvring to subjugate the riotors.

VISCOUNT SONE'S REVIVAL.

Resident-General Viscount Sone gave concrete instructions relating to the encouragement of industry at yesterday's council of the ministers of state, and also explained the outline of a plan in connection with the subjugation of the riotors in South Korea.

TRAMWAY BETWEEN CHIENTAO AND HONGSHUN.

It is reported that the Chinese minister residing at Chientao has applied to the central government for the construction of a tramway extending for about 75 miles from Chientao to Hongshun.

HARRIMAN AND WALL STREET.

San Francisco, September 1.

Mr. E. H. Harriman personally informed the journalists lodging near his house that his health was not in a serious scondition, and requested them to withdraw. In accordance with his request the newspapermen left the vicinity, and it is declared that Wall-street is feeling reassured.

THE BUSINESSMEN'S VOYAGE.

San Francisco, September 1.

The Japanese business men bound for America by the steamer *Minnesota*, were expected to arrive at Port Townsend yesterday.

THE KUNI'S BOUND FOR NEW YORK.

Prince and Princess Kuni left Liverpool for New York yesterday.

THE ANTUNG-MUKDEN RAILWAY.

Mukden, September 1.

In connection with the purchase of land for the Antung-Mukden railway, the Chinese Government has agreed with the proposal of the South Manchuria Railway Company to the organization of a bureau for this and other matters, excepting the subject of the price of land. In that connection the local government will first make investigations.

M. ISVOLSKY AMBASSADOR TO GREAT BRITAIN.

Vladivostock, September 1.

M. Isvolsky, Minister for Foreign Affairs, will, it is reported, shortly be appointed Ambassador to London. M. Sasonohf will succeed him.

NO "FUNDAMENTALS" AFFECTED IN MANCHURIA.

Peking, September 1.

Manchurian pending questions, which were to have been settled yesterday, still require one or two conferences before the negotiations are finally concluded. No fundamental change will result from them.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A HIKONE telegram reports that a strong shock of earthquake was felt there at 11.40 p.m. on the 30th ultimo.

ON the 29th ultimo, a youth of about 17 threw himself in front of a train coming from Yokohama, when it was near Omori Station. The dead body is not identified.

A SENDAI despatch reports that 10,978 acres of rice-fields in Miyagi prefecture have been damaged by noxious insects. Tobei and Kurokawa districts have also sustained severe damage.

A PEKING despatch to a Chinese resident in Nagasaki says that the Chinese Government has decided to give an order for four cruisers, two to Japan, and one each to England and Germany.

THE arrival and despatch of the Siberian Mail per S.S. *Hozan Maru* was temporarily delayed on account of the inclement weather. The mail was due on Tuesday, the 31st inst.

ON the 28th instant, a middle aged man who was on board the steamer *Tenryu Maru, en route* from Ajiro to Tokyo, attempted suicide by throwing himself into the sea and disembowelling himself in the water. He was taken on board the vessel by the captain, but afterwards died in the Wada Hospital. It is said that the man had made up his mind to kill himself on account of having been deprived of his property. He witholds his name and address.

THE Naval Department has decided to construct three second-class cruisers this fiscal year. They are to be built at the Saseho, Kawasaki and Mitsubishi Dockyards respectively. The displacement is 5,000 tons.

A SENDAI telegram reports that, owing to heavy rain on the 28th instant, the railway between Ishikoshi and Ichinoseki has been damaged in seven different places. The train service is interrupted and the line is under repair.

ON the 26th and 27th instant, a number of apparently will-to-do clock and watch makers in Kyoto, were hunted out by the police as pick-pockets. Over 100 gold watches and account books in their houses were confiscated.

AN official report from Akita prefecture states that on the 24th instant, a gas-explosion took place in the Tsubaki Mine, Yamato-gori, Akita prefecture. Two men were killed and twenty-three more or less severely injured. Further investigation is being made.

MANY more casualties have been reported from Higashi Asai-gori, Omi province, where a second strong shock of earthquake was felt on the 24th instant, and their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress have given 50 *yen* more to relieve the affected people in the district.

ON AUGUST 28, a mad youth named Abe Keizo of Nishi-ozaki-mura, Tamatsukuri-gori, Miyagi prefecture, struck his father and grandmother with an axe. The latter died in consequence soon after, while the former was seriously wounded. The offender was arrested the next day.

ON August 28, an engine-driver was run over and killed by a train coming from Shimbashi, in which he was on duty, when it was running down a slope between Sano and Kamiyama, near Numadzu Station. He was inspecting the oil-cans in the front of the engine, and fell backward by accident on the rail.

ON August 25, the head of the Silkworms Disease Prevention Office at Kami-Suwa, Nagano prefecture, named Sakurai Bunpei, committed suicide by throwing himself in front of a train near the office. He is said to have made up his mind to kill himself on account of having been censured by the villagers for his incompetency.

ACCORDING to an official report, says the *Boyeki Shimpo*, postal money-orders transacted in the Post Office of Hawaii have decreased since the strike. Last year the money remitted to Japan in the same period amounted to $1,157,950, whilst it decreased to $1,031,544 this year and only $3,886 was remitted from Japan, payable in Hawaii.

THE outbreak of cholera among the natives at Chefoo is lessening, says the Chefoo correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, writing on Aug. 26th, and there are now fewer cases.

The first case among foreigners occurred yesterday, when Mr. George Cornwell, the pilot, was attacked. Mr. Cornwell died at two o'clock this morning.

ON the 26th instant, the Railway Board held satisfactory trials of the special express which is to run between Kobe and Kyoto. The train consisted of five bogie luggage-carriages and one test-carriage, and succeeded in making two trips in 1 hour 9 minutes and 1 hour 8 minutes respectively. A train running at this rate will take only eight hours to run from Shimbashi to Kobe.

THE Peking *Daily News* states that a new use has been found for Manchurian bean oil—namely, to mix with paints. This latest invention, should it prove economically workable, is bound to open up a new potentiality for the Manchurian product. In England bean oil costs about Mex. $240.25 per ton, while at Peking it is quoted at about $140. Allowing $20 for freight, insurance and charges, this still leaves for

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profit a large margin of over $100 per ton. It is slightly inferior in quality to the English product, but this can be easily offset by a little treatment. The only question that awaits a happy solution is in the matter of the receptacles to ship it in. In the ordinary oil cans, for instance, bean oil will very often deteriorate while passing through the Tropics.

On August 29, a headman of coolies working at Ajikawa, Osaka, named Nakatani Shonosuke, had a violent encounter with another foreman of the name of Sakamoto Motojiro, on account of some misunderstandings relating to business affairs. The former was seriously injured in the head and back. Over 30 supporters of the combatants were arrested at the spot for having encouraged the fighting.

We have received, with the compliments of Rev. J. H. De Forest, a magnificent photographic view of Kuling, 3,500 feet above the Yangtse valley. The huge Yangtse river is shown in the distance, 45 feet above normal level—a rare view. The population of Kuling contains about 1,250 foreigners; and the City boasts 270 stone bungalows. Not a tree is to be seen in any direction and this, indeed, is the great defect of the Karuizawa of China.

A Kagoshima telegram states that at 7.27 p.m. on August 29, Okinawa prefecture (Riukiu Is.) experienced an uncommonly strong shock of earthquake. One person was killed and eight were more or less severely injured in Nawa ward, while two were injured in Shuri ward. In addition, three houses were half-destroyed and a large number of stone fences collapsed. The neighbouring districts sustained varying degrees of damage. Another strong oscillation was felt there at 11.17 a.m. on the 31st.

An Osaka telephone message states that 750 cases of naphtha *ex* the steamer *Chuyu Maru*, referred to in a previous issue, which were being conveyed from Hiogo to Osaka on a lighter, took fire when the boat was lying at Ajikawaguchi. The whole vessel being in flames, a steam-launch of the Water Police Station towed her out of the breakwater where the boat was upset to extinguish the fire. The naphtha burned for some hours, spreading over a wide extent of the surface of the sea.

On the 31st ultimo, two gamblers named Okada Tomekichi and Iwano Masajiro with three others were arrested by the Water Police. It is alleged that the men have obtained over 1,000 *yen* by intimidating sailors and stokers belonging to the vessels in Yokohama Harbour. On the same day the Kagacho Police effected an entrance into a house where a number of workmen belonging to the Fukuin Printing Office, No. 81, Yamashita-cho, were gambling. Ten men were arrested and 100 *yen* was confiscated.

The steamer *Taiyu Maru* (661 tons) belonging to the Amagasaki Kisen Kaisha, which arrived at Kobe on the 29th ultimo from Chemulpo, taking on board five passengers and 6,000 bags of flour and 900 bags of soja-bean, suddenly caught fire at 4 a.m. the following day. The steam-launches of the Water Police Station and the Harbour Office went to the rescue, and after many hours' struggle, the fire was put out, the vessel having been towed to Wada Point, where she was run aground near the lighthouse. The steersman, of a boat belonging to the Municipal Office fell in the water and is missing. The fire is said to have been caused by spontaneous combustion of the coal in the bunkers. The amount of damage is at present under investigation.

Is Korea free from the danger of earthquakes? asks the *Seoul Press*. Old residents in this country generally say that they have never experienced them. Mr. Wada, Director of the Chemulpo Meteorogical Observatory, however, states that since the observatory was established six years ago, no year passed without one or two feeble shocks being recorded there. Although in recent years no disastrous earthquakes have occurred in the peninsula, yet in ancient times the country was not immune from the danger in question. Mr. Wada arrives at this conclusion after a close study of chronological records of this natural phenomenon found in the Chingpo Munhyon Kipo and Koryo-sa, two comparatively authentic books on Korean history. He finds that in the course of about 1,900 years from the time when Korea's moderately authentic history began, up to the present time, as many as 366 earthquakes are recorded. Thirty-six of these earthquakes were of more or less considerable magnitude, thirteen being most disastrous.

MANY WEEKS OF PERFECT AGONY

With Eczema on Arm and Legs—Could Scarcely Sleep for Months—Tried Many Treatments Without Result—Did Not Work for 11 Weeks—Relieved in Ten Days and

COMPLETELY CURED BY TWO SETS OF CUTICURA

"My trouble began with irritation on the legs and right arm which developed into eczema. It became so bad in a few weeks' time that I was in perfect agony. I was prevented from attending work, and, although I was only too pleased to try remedies suggested by my friends, they were all used without any effect. I became pessimistic, especially so considering that I had been through the hands of two doctors, who failed to do any good. One day I decided to make another attempt to get rid of my complaint and purchased a full set of Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, and Cuticura Pills, and in ten days I found the irritation disappearing. I would not have believed it possible for any remedy to afford such comfort in so short a time. I was able to sleep at night—a thing which I had not been able to do for months—and in the course of another week there were unmistakable signs of the eczema being mastered. I persevered with Cuticura, and in six weeks, using two supplies, I was cured. I have every reason to be grateful to Cuticura, for I was able to return to work after eleven weeks' idleness. George Harrison, Poole Terrace, nr. South Milford, Yorkshire, June 11, 1907."

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

For pimples, blackheads, red, rough, and oily skins, dandruff, dry, thin, falling hair, shaving, shampooing, sanative, antiseptic cleansing and for the toilet, bath, and nursery Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment are unequalled.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour of Infants, Children, and Adults consists of Cuticura Soap to Cleanse the Skin, Cuticura Ointment to Heal the Skin, and Cuticura Resolvent or Cuticura Resolvent Pills (Chocolate Coated) to Purify the Blood. A Single Set often Cures. Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; South Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U. S. A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton market remains lifeless. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is quiet but firm, with prospect of advance. The Woollen business has assumed a better tone.

RAW COTTON. PER PICUL.

American Middling	37.00 to 38.00
Egyptian	45.25 to 49.50
Indian Broach	31.00 to 32.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	30.00 to 30.50

COTTON YARN PER BALE.

Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	430.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in.	
Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in.	
Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 41-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	per piece. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24 25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	V.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Basis business is practically non-existent, and the market as a whole remains dull.

Iron or Mild Steel. Bar, flat, round at	PER PICUL.
square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
do Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.85 to 3.97
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No transactions have been done in imported sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

The market seems to be a little more active with some enquiries. For known brands several small lots have been booked for sixty and ninety days shipment. Home prices have shown a distinct decline.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	10.70
Flag	"	11.00
Royal	"	11.00
Trophy	"	11.00
Red Seal	4 sacks	11.00
Lion	"	11.30
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00
Japanese:—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwanme*	2.85
Takasago	6 "	2.78
Fuji	6 "	2.85
Pine	6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

Prices have dropped materially, but there is still some difference between sellers and buyers. A good many enquiries are stated to be out for prompt shipment but no actual business has as yet been reported.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15
Red " " "	5.10
Blue Stem	5.30

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EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. All quotations are weak.

On September 2nd stocks were: filatures 21,019 bales Re-reels, 3,419 bales; Kakeda, 1,023 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	Y. 1,070
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	1,000
Filature—Vajima Class, Coarse	1,010
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	925
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,025
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	990
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	880
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	980
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	875
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	930
Re-reels—No. 1½	900
Re-reels—No. 2	870
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra... ...	955
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1...	880
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	860
Kakedas—No. 2	840

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

August	Present delivery.	August delivery.	September delivery.	October delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
27th............	887	861	881	889
28th............	880	857	872	881
29th............	887	—	872	881
30th............	879	—	874	880
31st............	887	—	874	880
September	**Present delivery.**	**Sept. delivery.**	**Oct. delivery.**	**Nov. delivery.**
1st............	883	871	877	886
2nd............	875	866	870	876

WASTE SILK.

The business done so far is not large, but the market is very firm with an upward tendency.

On September 2nd stocks were: Noshi, 8,109 bales, Kibiso, 9,131 bales; and Sundry, 571 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Infer or	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	115 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium...	105 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	— to —
Rereel—Fair...	— to —
Rereel—Best...	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is quiet for Fukui and Kanazawa goods, whilst there is a fair demand for Kawamata, and prices, especially for the lighter weights, have advanced.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.60	8.10	8.15	8.25	8.05
27"	8.80	8.10	8.25	8.15	8.10
36"	8.80	8.40	8.35	8.25	8.05

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.12	8.00	7.85	7.45
27"	8.00	7.90	7.90	7.65
36"	8.15	8.10	7.85	7.70

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½...............	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½...............	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.80	10.90	11.80	13.00
36	12.40	14.00	15.70	16.20

COPPER.

London quotations are weaker at the close, and no fresh transactions have transpired here.

According to a London telegram of September 2nd, the quotation was £60.0.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

The market is not favourable. A little transaction has taken place locally.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	847,460
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	197,232

Delivery.	Closing Price
September	14.49
October	15.24
November	14.61

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku.*
Superior..............................	Yen 15.00
Medium	14.00
Common	13.00
Average	14.00

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
August	13.76	August	13.97
September ...	14.00	September...	14.09
October	13.79	October......	13.92

TEA.

The quotation has shown a little advance, but the market is still inactive. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to September 2nd, the sales amounted to 8,486,500 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 134,300 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. —	—
Choice	—	—
Finest	—	—
Fine	—	—
Good Medium	36 —	43
Medium	32 —	36
Good Common	28 —	32
Common	24 —	28

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is firm. Little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
September............................	129.00
October	128.25
November............................	127.45

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Sept. 3.

London silver unchanged, China sterling quotations not yet receivek and local rates unaltered, closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T.T	2/0½@$\frac{9}{16}$
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight..................	2/0$\frac{11}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0⅞@$\frac{15}{16}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/1@$\frac{1}{16}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight ....per $100	86½*
— Private 10 days, sight do	84¼*
Shanghai—Bank sight	86½*
— Private 10 days' sight...............	88*
India—Bank sight	153¼
Private 30 days' sight	155¾
America—Bank sight..............................	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	51@⅛
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	212⅛
Bar Silver (London)................................	23⅞

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. L....	Derfflinger	Su Sept. 5
Hongkong ..	B. L	Aymeric	Tu Sept. 7
Europe	M. M......	Polynesien	Tu. Sept. 7
Hongkong...	P. M.......	Mongolia 1	Tu Sept. 7
Vancouver...	C. P. R...	Em. of India	W Sept. 8
Tacoma......	O. S. S....	Tacoma Maru	Th. Sept. 9
Hongkong...	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	F. Sept. 10
America......	P. M.......	Siberia 2	F Sept. 10
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru	Su Sept. 12
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of China	Tu Sept. 14
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Tosa Maru	Tu. Sept. 14
Tacoma......	B. L	Oceano	W. Sept. 15
Seattle	N. Y. K....	Aki Maru	Th. Sept. 16
Hongkong...	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	Su. Sept. 19
America......	T. K. K..	Chiyo Maru	Sa. Oct. 2

1 Left Hongkong on the 28th ult.
2 Left San Francisco on the 24th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong...	N. Y. K....	Tango Maru	Sa Sept. 4
Europe	M. M......	Australien	Sa Sept. 4
Shanghai ...	N. Y. K..	Kasuga Maru	Su Sept. 5
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Nippon Maru	Su. Sept. 5
Europe	N. Y. K..	Atsuta Maru	W Sept. 8
Tacoma	B. L	Aymeric	W Sept. 8
America......	P. M.......	Mongolia	W. Sept. 8
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of India	W Sept. 8
Hongkong...	O. S. S....	Tacoma Maru	F. Sept. 10
Tacoma	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	Sa. Sept. 11
Europe	N. D. L...	Derfflinger	Sa Sept. 11
Hongkong...	P. M.......	Siberia	Sa. Sept. 11
America......	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru	Tu Sept. 14
Vancouver...	C. P. R. ..	Em. of China	Tu Sept. 14
Hongkong...	B. L	Oceano	Th. Sept. 16
Australia ...	N. Y. K....	Kumano Maru	Sa Sept. 18
Tacoma......	B. & S.....	Keemum	Su Sept. 19
Portland......	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	M Sept. 20
Seattle	N. Y. K..	Shinano Maru	W Sept. 29
America......	C. R.......	A'ral Duperré	W. Oct. 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Suveric, British steamer, 4,011, Shotton, 26th Aug.,—Tacoma and Victoria, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Asia, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Gaukroger, 27th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irizawa, 27th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Waldemar, German steamer, 1,737, von Senden, 27th Aug.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Orland, Norwegian steamer, 917, T. H. Lie, 28th Aug.,—Macassar, Sugar, Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Borneo, British steamer, 2,944, G. W. Gordon, 28th Aug.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Selja, Norwegian steamer, 2,789, O. Lie, 28th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,804, I. Goto, 29th Aug.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kaisow, British steamer, 2,529, Jos. G. Steele, 29th Aug.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nippon, Austrian steamer, 3,999, E. Tavabochia, 30th Aug.,—Fiume and Trieste via ports, General.—Heller Bros.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,907, M. Hagino, 30th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 30th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tsurugizan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,559, Nagatsu, 31st Aug.,—Rangoon, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Glenavon, British steamer, 2,728, B. Woolfenden, 1st Sept.,—Middlesbro and London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 2,510, H. W. Bee, 1st Sept.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Kanagawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,825, J. Nagano, 1st Sept.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Atsuta Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,284, Wm. Thompsen, 1st Sept.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, S. Ishikawa, 2nd Sept.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

C. Ferd Laeisz, German steamer, 3,799, Wagner, 2nd Sept.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3,953, S. Robinson, 2nd Sept.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hangsang, Korean steamer, 796, J. S. Gundersen, 2nd Sept.,—Yangunpo, General.—Japanese.

DEPARTURES.

Suveric, British steamer, 4,011, Shotton, 26th Aug.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Buelow, German steamer, 5,223, F. Proesch, 28th Aug.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Teucer, British steamer, 5,805, G. W. Parkinson, 28th Aug.,—Genoa, Marseilles and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Prinz Waldemar, German steamer, 1,737, von Senden, 28th Aug.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf

Asia, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Gaukroger, 28th Aug.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 29th Aug.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Selja, Norwegian steamer, 2,789, O. Lie, 30th Aug.,—Portland, Or., Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Inaba Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,837, R. Takeda, 1st Sept.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, M. Machida, 1st Sept.,—Newchwang via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,907, M. Hagino, 1st Sept.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3,953, S. Robinson, 2nd Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C.P.R. Co.

Nippon, Austrian steamer, 3,999, E. Tavabochia, 2nd Sept.,—Trieste and Fiume via ports, General.—Heller Bros.

Orland, Norwegian steamer, 917, T. H. Lie, 2nd Sept.,—Kobe, Sugar.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 2nd Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Monteagle*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss E. Adams, Miss E. Alexander, Mr. Anderson, Miss Margaret Blake, Mrs. E. S. Cate and infant, Miss I. Cate, Miss Cate, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. L. Celwicks and child, Mrs. Davidson, Rev. and Mrs. G. F. Draper, Master Otis Draper, Miss K. Fisher, Mrs. T. Furata, Mr. Hayes, Mr. R. F. Hints, Mr. J. Hodges, Mr. O. L. Horton, Miss F. Johnson, Miss Marye, Rev. and Mrs. H. F. Matthews, Mr. Mogie, Mr. and Mrs. Hughes, Mr. D. H. Ethendge, Mrs. Mogie and child, Mr. H. Mussen, Mrs. Mussen and two children, Rev. G. McIntosh, Miss McKinze, Miss L. B. Newman, Mr. T. D. Nicodemus, Mrs. Norris, Mr. G. Norton, Miss E. Paulson, Mr. A. W. Playfair, Miss E. Price, Mr. R. A. Scott, Miss F. Singer, Mr. P. A. Smith, Mrs. P. A. Smith, Mr. Roy Smith, Miss M. A. Spencer, Mr. L. M. E J. St. Jorre, Miss Yuki Takiguchi, Rev. W. H. Tipton, Mrs. W. H. Tipton and two children, Miss Pauline Tipton, Mr. E. C. Wingrove, Dr. S. Yamanouchi and Mr. A. T. Slagter in cabin: 39 in Asiatic steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Sumatra*, for London and Antwerp via ports: Eng. Lt. A. F. Jones, R N., Mr. W. F. Evans, Mr. H. Bondy, Mr. & Mrs. Kuentyel, Count Halz and native servant, Mr. Ludwig Roser and Geo. H. Hemingway, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—Mrs. Hasel Carr, Mr. Chun Kan Sun and native servant, Mr. E. Grosser, Mr. E. Lan Cheng, Mr. Seull, Mr. P. E. Huber, Mr. C. N. Cross, Mr. C. H. Abbey, Mr. Kwong Tar, Mr. Lam King Wai, Mr. Go Tue, Mr. Lou Len War, Mr. Son Ching, Mr. Chan Chun Nen, Mr. Yun Seng Hun, Mr. Low Yew Sing, Mr. Tsun Jung Fou, Mr. Sung Wing, Mr. Chan Shou Ju. Mr. Chan Chee Fou and Mr. A. Jackson in cabin.

Per German steamer *Buelow* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—Dr. F. H. Hawksworth, Mr. G. R. Coleman, Mr. and Mrs. Minnitt, Mr. G. C. Hirschfield, Mr. G. Hagmann, Mr. L. Robsien, Mr. A. K. Behrend, Mr. C. McBain and servant. Mrs. Russich, Miss E. Bielfeld and servant, Messrs. G. S. and W. R. McBain and servant, Misses V. and D. McBain and servant, Mr. E. and Master R. McBain and servant, Rev. L. Wooling and servant, Mr. R. Kaehs, Mr. and Mrs. Barnes Moss and amah, Mr. Elmore, Mr. R. E. Kadooria, Mr. and Mrs. McLeod, Miss M. M. Gwers, Mr. T. Morgan Phillips, Mr. A. Andresen, Mr. C. S. Chew, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Graves, Mr. E. Toepffer, Mr. Willy Moos, Mr. S. Benjamin and servant, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Withington, Mr. and Mrs. David, child, infant and 2 servant, Capt. and Mrs. J. E. Stephens and 3 children, Mr. Martin Egan, Capt. C. E. Farrest, Mr. S. Brodie, Mr. Julius Moeller, Miss A. Pine, Miss Matthews, Mr. W. Drechsler, Mr. Paul Framm, Mr. R. Leonhardt, Graf. Josef Seilen Aspang, Dr. Fr. Kozlovsky, Dr. Ludwig Halla, Mr. and Mrs. Handel, Mrs. E. M. Richards and baby, Mrs. E. Gidley, Mr. H. B. Smith, Miss M. J. Goursen, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Lawrie, Miss Lawrie, Dr. med. K. Murakami, Miss Michi Kawai, Mr. T. Nishitani, Mr. and Mrs. S. W. Wong and 2 children, Miss Mannie, Miss Edna, Mrs. Fusa Kimura, Mr. J. A. Rabbitt, Mr. S. B. Mehta, Mr. W. Zueblin and Mr. C. F. Heinlein in cabin.

Per British steamer *Asia* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. K. Araki. Rev. K. E. Aurell, Mrs. K. F. Aurell and infant, Master Alvin Aurell, Miss Henrietta Aurell, Master Paul Aurell, Master George Aurell, Mr. F. J. Berry, Mrs. F. J. Berry and 2 children, Mr. H. S. Boone, Mr. A. C. Boughton, Mr. W. Brazil, Mrs. W. Brazil, Mr. Chin Mow, Mr. Chin Yoke, Miss M. E. Chipman, Capt. H. T, Cleaver, Mrs. H. T. Cleaver, Miss E. M. Cochrane, Mr. Dew Woey Sing, Mrs. Dew Woey Sing and 2 children, Mr. Ding Ming Wong, Mr. F. E. Field, Mr. C. D. Ford, Mr. K, Fujimura, Miss Lilian G. Gardner, Miss Agnes Hunt, Mr. Lo Yuen Yin, Mr. B H. Macke, Mr. J. W. Millard, Mrs. J. W. Millard, Mr. Chas. Miller, Mr. M. Minnigerode, Mr. W. C. Morham, Mrs. E. Moss and 2 children, Mr. S. G. Pandit, Mr. F. B. Pfordten, Miss M. Pott, Mr. S. S. Sanders, Mrs. A. B. Schwartz, Miss Anna Schwartz, Miss Laura Schwartz, Mr. Serap En Chang, Mr. R. P. Sherman, Miss M. Alice Smith, Mr. So Ho Yuen, Mrs. So Ho Yuen, Mr. A. Steffins, Mr. Sang Sung, Miss E. A. Vroom, Mr. C. F. Weir, Dr. E. F. West, Mr. Mark Wheeler, Mrs. Mark H. Wheeler, Mr. W. A. Wong, Mr. J. J. Woodruff, Mrs. J. J. Woodruff, Miss Dr. L. J. Wyckoff and Mr. F. Young in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Sumatra* for London and Antwerp via ports:—

	WASTE SILK.			
	England	France.	Trieste.	Bombay.
Sulzer Rudolph & Co..	—	45	—	—
C. Eymard.....	—	325	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.—		45	—	—
Total	—	415	—	—

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to H.M. THE KING.

LEA & PERRINS'
SAUCE

gives a delightfully appetizing flavour to all Meat Dishes, Fish, Soup, Game, Cheese and Salad, and assists digestion.

The Original & Genuine Worcestershire.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—

	Raw Silk. France.	Raw Silk. Moscow.	Waste Silk. France.	Peignes. France.
Varenne & Co. ...	30	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent.....	72	—	12	—
C. Eymard	30	—	—	—
Hara Yushitsuten...	—	20	—	—
Fila & Co.	15	—	—	—
Jardine Matheson & Co.	5	—	63	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co..	12	—	—	10
L. Mottet	10	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co. ...	70	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.	—	—	3	—
P. Dourille	—	—	1	—
	244	20	79	10

Per German steamer *Buelow* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	Genoa, Option.	Lyon.	Moscow.	Milan	Lyons.	Marseilles	Trieste.	Mchester.
Siber Wolff & Co....	249	20	15	20	—	37	2	—
Sieber, & Co.	99	—	—	—	20	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.....	90	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co	40	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	109	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	—	1 Tamaito			—	53	—	—
Jewett and Bent ...	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—
P. Dourille	—	11	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	587	69	15	20	20	90	2	—

Silk shippers by *Asia*, for San Francisco on the 30th August:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	168
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	94
Vivanti Bros.	85
F. Strahler & Co.	75
Siber, Wolff & Co.	46
Nabholz & Co.	40
L. Mottet	22
Comptoirs Soies	20
Jewett & Bent	15
Bavier & Co.	10
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	257
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	157
Hara Yushutsuten	40
Total	1,029

Silk shippers by *Kaga-Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., on the 1st Sept.:—

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.	120
Jewett and Bent	119
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	54
F. Strahler & Co.	40
L. Mottet	4
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	682
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	424
Hara Yushutsuten	25
Total	1,468

Taking
BOVRIL
means fortifying yourself against disease.

(毎土曜日一回發行)
編輯人兼發行人 エフ アリンクリー
印刷人兼印刷人 イ アルース ミヤトフオールド
發行所 橫濱市山下町五十五番
ヲヤタリンメール新聞社

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 11TH, 1909.

BIRTH.

At San Francisco on the 6th September, 1909, the wife of R. E. ABENHEIM, of a Son.

DEATHS.

HARRIS.—At Aoyama, Tokyo, of meningitis, on Tuesday evening, September 7th, FLORA BEST HARRIS, beloved wife of Right Rev. Bishop M. C. HARRIS, of Tokyo.

BESSIE NEILSON.—At 84-c Bluff, on September 9th, 1909, at 2.20 a.m., BESSIE NEILSON, beloved wife of H. A. Poole and younger daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ballagh of Tokyo.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE grand military manœuvres which are to take place in Tochigi prefecture, will last for four days, commencing on November 11. His Majesty is expected to leave Tokyo on the 9th or 10th of that month.

IT is reported that a number of counterfeited 50 *sen* silver pieces have been discovered in various districts of Fukushima prefecture. The coins have been so ingeniously made that many people have been cheated.

THE starting point of the submarine cable from Nagasaki to Formosa has been decided upon. It is to be at Moji, about five miles off the harbour of Nagasaki. The expense for the construction is said to be 800,000 *yen*.

IT has been decided that all railway officials shall wear uniform from the 1st proximo. A few months' grace will be granted. The caps of station-masters and deputy-masters are to be made of red-coloured cloth.

THE Western Railway Administration Bureau is reported to be going to run a high-speed train between Akashi and Kyoto once a day from each end for four days commencing on the 13th instant. The train is scheduled to run between Kobe and Kyoto in 1 hour and 30 to 40 minutes.

IT is rumoured that a change will be effected among the U.S. Consuls-General. Mr. Sammons, of Seoul, is expected to be appointed Consul-General of Yokohama in place of Mr. Miller, who returned home last year, and Mr. Scidmore, of Kobe, will succeed Mr. Sammons.

A NAGASAKI despatch reports that it is contemplated to run a steamer between Nagasaki and Shanghai, to be despatched every other day, in connection with the Shimbashi express. Thus only three and a half days will be required for the journey between Tokyo and Shanghai.

ON the 6th instant, Princes Michi, Atsu and Teru, who have been spending the summer at the Hayama Detached Palace, returned to Tokyo. Governor Sufu and Chief Police-inspector Hashimoto, of Kanagawa prefecture, welcomed their Highnesses at Dzushi Station and attended them to Shimbashi.

THE British steamer *Nile*, which arrived at Wada Point, Hiogo, on the 7th instant from Antwerp *via* Shanghai and Moji, was discovered to have taken on board three passengers who were suffering from cholera. Two of them are dead and the other has been taken to the quarrantine hospital. The vessel had to lie up for two days, before she entered Kobe Harbour.

THE R.M.S. *Empress of India*," which arrived at Yokohama at 8.00 a.m. on the 9th inst., reports having been in wireless communication with the *Empress of Japan* during August 30th and 31st. The *Empress of Japan* left Yokohama on August 24th and reported fair wind and weather. This steamer was then due at Vancouver Sept. 5th. She arrived, however, on the 4th, one day ahead of schedule date.

IT has been decided that two experts, Messrs. Ikeda and Shinke, will be sent to Europe and America, in order to make investigations in connection with the construction of buildings for the Great Japan Exhibition in 1917. They will leave Yokohama for Seattle on the 14th instant. Mr. Ikeda will stay at Seattle for two months before returning home, whilst Mr. Shinke will go over to England, Belgium, Italy and India, this journey taking about eight months.

PRINCESS FUSHIMI (Jr.) who is expected to visit London, where Prince Fushimi (Jr.) is staying, will leave Yokohama on the 25th instant by the steamer *Prinz Eitel Friedrich* for Genoa, going thence to London by train. The Prince and Princess will pay a formal visit to the British Royal family, and afterwards their Highnesses are expected to visit the different countries of Europe. Then, returning to England once more, they will leave for America and visit President Taft.

THE Home Department, says the *Nichi Nichi*, has received an official report from Nagano prefecture that the frequent rumblings of the mountain during the last few days have startled the people in the neighbourhood, and the police authorities in that district have been ordered by the Governor to make an investigation. Subsequently it has been found that some strange objects resembling a cup with eggs inside are visible within the crater, and great danger is apprehended in the event of an explosion.

ON the afternoon of the 3rd instant, an elephant belonging to the menagerie lately shown at Minami-Yoshida-machi, when placed on board the steamer *Tango Maru* bound for Shanghai, suddenly jumped out of the vessel upon the pier at the Western Hatoba. A large number of passengers who had arrived from Shanghai by the steamer *Kasuga Maru* were coming along the pier at the time, and thus a great confusion arose. Fortunately the elephant was quickly captured, and no casualties are reported.

A NAGASAKI despatch says that a naturalized Japanese of Manila, named Ishikawa Yasumasa, called there on his way to Kobe on the 5th inst. by the steamer *Kumano Maru*. He was in company with three other natives of Manila, one of whom is said to be the president of a newly established weaving company in Manila. The party, it is said, have come to buy some weaving machineries. On the other hand, it is reported that they were closely watched by the American authorities, when they were to leave Manila for Japan.

THE Minister of Education has instructed different prefectural governors in connection with supervising youths in the matter of drinking *sake*. The gist of the instructions is as follow:—It is needless to say that youths in school-life should be guarded against drinking *sake*. Heretofore, various proper measures have been adopted in different schools to supervise them in this respect. In the meantime, it is absolutely necessary that school and home should be kept in touch all the while, in order to accomplish this object and to make education more effectual.

THE temporary buildings for the Kanagawa Prefectural Office, which have been constructed in the compound of Yokohama Park, have been completed. The buildings cover some 1,200 *tsubo* in all, and are surrounded by about 800 *tsubo* of garden. The main building and the one for the Central Police Office are three-storied. The rooms for the governor and other high officials are all in the second storey. The Prefectural Assembly Hall occupies about 100 *tsubo*. The main building, as well as those for the Central Police Office and the Prefectural Assembly Hall, are roofed with asbestos, while slate is used for roofing the rest of the buildings.

THE Turin Chamber of Commerce, in connexion with the Turin International Exhibition of 1911, is offering a prize of 5,000 francs for the best discovery or contrivance of any nature, which in practice will prove of advantage to national economy. Inventions or works discovered or made public prior to 1908 will not be admitted to the competition. A special committee will be formed to judge the exhibits, and as the event is open to all nationalities keen competition is expected. Entries must be made either in French or Italian before March 31, 1911, to "The Chamber of Commerce of Turin" and must be marked: "Commission for the Prize Competition."

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THE NEGOTIATIONS.

Friday, September 3.

Yesterday's intelligence from Peking suggested that some difficulty had arisen with regard to the extension of the Peking-Mukden Railway into the city of Mukden, but according to a telegram received by the *Asahi Shimbun*, the *Peking Daily News* has published a seriatim statement of the conditions agreed upon by the negotiators, and among them we find it distinctly alleged that the above extension has been agreed to by Japan. For the rest, the conditions given by the Peking journal are exactly the same as those published in these columns nearly a week ago. The telegram adds that this settlement is regarded as subject for sincere congratulation, and that the correspondents of *The Times*, the Associated Press and Reuter have all reported in that sense.

We confess that we can not clearly understand telegrams published by the *Kokumin Shimbun* with reference to the last section of the Antung-Mukden line at the Mukden end. The gist of the matter seems to be, however, that whereas the Japanese desire to run the line over the present iron bridge which spans the Hun River on the west of Fushun, the Chinese desire that the line should be deflected, and carried over a new bridge, the construction of which would cost from 5 to 6 million *yen*. The perplexing element in the matter is the reason for this change. There appears to be some question of Chinese railway convenience; but as there is no Chinese road on the east of Mukden nor any prospect of one being built, we do not understand how China's convenience can be concerned.

With regard to the Kilin-Hoiryong line, the latest news is that it is to be a joint enterprise of the two countries, in the same way as the Kilin-Changchun line is. These cōoperative arrangements are to be regarded with much satisfaction. They constitute the best answer to folks who profess to think that Japan is determined to swallow up the Three Eastern Provinces.

It will have been recognised that there seemed to be a nebulous point in the result of the negotiations, inasmuch as the Fakumen Railway question appeared to be left just where it was originally; namely, that China pledged herself not to build any line parallel to the South Manchuria Road without Japan's consent—in fact, a simple iteration of the Peking Treaty. We now read, however, in the columns of the *Kokumin*, that China has definitely abandoned all idea of constructing the Fakumen Railway, and has, on the other hand, obtained Japan's consent to a line starting from Kinchow in the neighbourhood of Shanhaikwan, and running thence to Tsitsihar *viâ* Yaonan in Mongolia. This would also be a parallel railway in a sense, but the distance between it and the South Manchuria line would of course be very much greater. The *Kokumin* adds that the Japanese negotiators sought China's permission for a branch line of the South Manchuria Road starting from a point a little north of Tiehling and running to Yaonan. But China would not agree to this project.

With reference to this region of Yaonan, a curious telegram reaches the *Mainichi Dempo* from Tiehling, under date of the 2nd inst. It says that the Russians have purchased a considerable tract of land at Yaonan, have built houses there, and have settled quietly down, to the number of about 100 persons. Their pretext is that they have come to collect the money formerly lent to Yaonan, but as they are taking no steps whatever to compass that end, the people of the district are highly elated, and heartily welcome the foreign settlers. The telegram adds that some of the Russians are paying frequent visits to all the surrounding districts on the pretext of purchasing cattle, and that the Chinese authorities are watching their movements with much suspicion. If a collection were made of all the items of sensational news that have centered upon Yaonan during the past two years, we should have quite a budget.

Saturday, September 4.

According to telegrams received by the *Jiji* from Peking, the signature of the new Convention was to take place on the 4th. The original expectation had been that the 31st ultimo would see an agreement reached on all points, but owing to the fact that some additional proposals were put forward on Japan's side, the final understanding was deferred until the 2nd inst. On the 3rd no meeting of the Plenipotentiaries was held, an interval being required for submitting the results of the proceedings to the two Governments concerned. The 4th would therefore have been the earliest day when the signatures could be appended. It is expected that the steps connected with the ratification will be taken as speedily as possible, in order to allow of early publication.

With regard to the Fakumen Railway question, it will be remembered that China was said to have definitely agreed to abandon all idea of constructing the disputed line; but, on the other hand, she had stipulated for the building of a line from Kinchow, near Shanhaikwan, across the west Liao River to Tsitsihar *viâ* Yaonan; and to this Japan had replied by seeking China's consent for the construction of a branch line from some point in the neighbourhood of Tiehling to the projected road. It is now alleged that neither this proposal nor the counter-proposal was advanced. The Chinese Government is certainly desirous of building a Kinchow-Tsitsihar line, and has actually had surveys of a proposed new harbour at Lienshan made by two English experts. But it is evident that such a road, although probably not very expensive to build, would run for a great part of its length through barren and uninhabited tracts of country, so that, whatever its strategical uses might be, it could not be expected to serve the ends of commerce or to pay the cost of upkeep. These considerations, together with the difficulty of finding such a large sum as would be required, seem to have effectually deterred the Chinese Government, and the proposition for the railway did not materialize, so that Japan's counter-proposal for a road to form a link between the South Manchuria Railway and the new Tsitsihar line had not to be advanced. The situation therefore now seems to be that China has definitely abandoned the Fakumen project and that no subsititute has been debated.

The public may have been somewhat perplexed about the arrangements relating to the final section of the Antung-Mukden line; namely, the 20 miles between Chienhsiang tun and Mukden. The Japanese desired to change the track of this line, so as to be able to utilize the bridge over the Hun River built by Russia for the uses of the South Manchuria Railway. Why China should have objected to such a change we do not understand, nor is any explanation offered. But that she did object, appears certain; and we are constrained to infer that having been obliged by somewhat unpalatable measures to yield with regard to the Mukden-Antung re-construction question, she determined not to make any other concession whatever in connexion with that railway. The Japanese appear to have thought it wise not to press the matter, and thus the upshot is that a new bridge will have to be built over the Hun at a cost of from 5 to 6 million *yen*, which represents about one-fourth of the total outlay on account of the road, and will necessitate a re-adjustment of the estimates.

The question of railways in Manchuria is beginning to assume great interest. The proposed line from Kilin to Hoiryong *viâ* Omso would, when continued to Changchun, be as nearly as possible parallel to the line from Nicholiavsk to Harbin. The total distance from Changchun to Hoiryong is about 270 miles, of which the Kilin-Changchun section represents over 70. It is estimated that the cost of building the road from Kilin to Hoiryong would be from 30 to 40 million *yen*, and that seems a fair calculation, on the assumption that the Kilin-Changchun line would cost 15 millions. Evidently therefore a considerable time must elapse before these various projects are actually carried out. Ten years are spoken of, and many things may happen in ten years. Two things are certain, however, namely, that the Kilin-Hoiryong line would tap many of the fertile regions of Manchuria, and would also have very great strategical importance. We are quite prepared to hear a great deal upon this subject from nervous publicists. Onlookers who believe that Japan is bent upon swallowing up Manchuria will say that the line from Changchun to Chyonjin *viâ* Hoiryong is intended to mark the northern boundary of Japan's new dominions, Russia being her immediate neighbour on the north of this frontier.

Sunday, September 5.

At 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the 4th inst. the new Convention was duly signed in Peking. It will not be published in Japan until after it has received the approval of the Privy Council. Some authorities opine that it will be laid before the Council immediately, and published in a day or two; but others think that a longer interval will be required.

Meanwhile the Japanese press is comparatively silent, doubtless reserving its comments until the full details of the new Convention are known. The *Asahi Shimbun* however, in the most unequivocal terms, compliments both parties to the Conference. It lauds the foresight and moderation of the Japanese Foreign Office, and it specially praises the procedure adopted by China in controlling inconvenient expressions of public opinion and conducting the whole negotiations in a friendly and sagacious manner. Our contemporary quotes an anonymous Chinese diplomat as expressing the greatest admiration for Japan's shrewdness, and as declaring that, although the Tokyo statesmen are blamed by a section of the press for having given too much, they have really given little or nothing.

Monday, September 6.

It appears to be expected that the result of the negotiations in Peking will be published on the 8th inst., but there is no certain indication of the fact.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* gives a detailed statement of the terms of the Agreement. They are as follow:—

First, Japan recognises China's sovereignty in Chientao, but reserves the right of jurisdiction over Japanese and Korean subjects trading, travelling or residing there, and will establish consulates for the

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purposes of that jurisdiction. Open marts will be created, and China undertakes to protect Japanese trade and industry in the region. It is further agreed that the Tienpaoshan mine shall be worked by the two Powers in combination.

Secondly, in accordance with the 6th Article of the Russo-Japanese Treaty, Japan takes over the Fushun and Yentai coal mines, but agrees to pay to China a royalty on all the coal taken out.

Thirdly, Japan agrees that the Peking-Mukden Railway shall be extended as far as the west gate of the city of Mukden.

Fourthly, with regard to the Chenghsiantun-Mukden section of the Mukden-Antung line, it is agreed that the wishes of the two Powers shall be collated.

Fifthly, the Chinese Government agrees to abandon the project of the Hsinmintun-Fakumen Railway, and engages not to construct hereafter any line parallel to, or calculated to impair the interests of, the South Manchuria Railway.

Sixthly, with regard to the Tashichiao-Yingkow Railway, China agrees that it shall continue as heretofore in Japanese hands, and that for facilitating the convenience of communications it shall be extended into the new city of Yingkow.

Seventhly, that a railway shall be built from Kilin through Chientao to Hoiryong, as a joint enterprise of China and Japan.

Eighthly, that the land marked out by Japan for the purposes of a railway station at Antung shall remain in her possession.

Our contemporary adds that the above conditions are embodied in two separate conventions, one covering Chientao and the other relating to Manchuria proper.

Tuesday, September 7.

The leading Tokyo newspapers publish what purports to be the exact gist of the Treaty just concluded in Peking. It consists of five articles which are outlined as follow:—

1.—China agrees not to construct a line from Hsin. intun to Fakumen without previous consultation with Japan. (We are inclined to doubt the correctness of this particular part of the precis, but as the authentic text of the Treaty will be published in a day or two, it is useless to attempt any conjectural correction.)

2.—China agrees that the railway from Tashichiao to Yingkow shall remain in the hands of Japan and that it shall be extended into the city of Yingkow. On the other hand, Japan agrees that this line shall be held on the same terms as the South Manchuria Railway with regard to China's right of purchase. (It will be observed that this latter condition is now published for the first time. Everybody will agree, however, that it is a perfectly natural condition).

3.—With regard to the Fushun and Yentai coal mines four points are agreed to, namely:—

(*a.*) That Japan should have the right of working the mines.

(*b.*) That in recognition of China's suzerainty Japan shall pay upon the coal taken out a royalty the same as that paid by other coal mine concessionaires in China.

(*c.*) That when coal taken from these mines is exported, the Chinese Government shall be entitled to impose the same export duties as are levied upon all coal exported from its dominions. (According to the *Mainichi Dempo* this stipulation will considerably cheapen the export duty now paid upon Fushun coal).

(*d.*) That with regard to the boundaries of the areas included in the mines, and other particulars, commissioners of the two nations shall be entrusted with the duty of investigation and settlement.

4.—That all coal mines within the zone of the Mukden Antung Railway shall be worked conjointly by the two high contracting Parties, in general accordance with the Convention concluded between the Viceroy of Manchuria and a Japanese Consul General in 1907, the practical details to be settled subsequently by consultation between these same authorities.

5.—China shall be allowed to extend her Peking-Mukden Railway right into the city of Mukden, and shall have full competence to settle all the details of such extention in accordance with her own convenience and the advice of her experts.

It will be observed that nothing is said about Chientao in the above precis. Our contemporaries allege that this has been made the subject of a separate agreement, consisting of seven articles, as follow:—

1.—(This article fixes the boundaries between Korea and China, but as the place-names have been telegraphed in *romaji*, it is impossible to identify them accurately. They are sufficiently clear, however, to show that the limits fixed in the reign of Chienlung are taken as conclusive.)

2.—China agrees to open to the trade of the world, and to permit the establishment of Japanese consulates at, the following four places, namely:—Lungchin (the present headquarters of the Japanese gendarmerie); Chutszchieh (the present headquarters of the Chinese troops); Taotaokow and Pehtsokow.

3.—China agrees to permit the settlement of Korean subjects for agricultural purposes in Chientao. (Chientao is not specifically named in this Convention: it is described as the district delimited by the Chienlung commissioners).

4.—Korean subjects settling in Chientao shall be subject to Chinese laws and Chinese jurisdiction and shall pay taxes of the same amount as those paid by Chinese subjects. Provided that in civil or criminal cases where a Korean subject is concerned a Japanese Consul shall be present in court, and in cases of capital crimes said Consul shall possess a right to object to the finding of the court, in which event a fresh trial must be held before a different judge.

5.—China undertakes to protect the lives and properties of Korean subjects now residing in Chientao, and guarantees that freedom of trade and travel shall be accorded to Koreans holding passports, provided that China reserves the right of vetoing exports of grain in times of scarcity.

6.—China agrees to the extension of the Changchun Kilin Railway so as to effect a junction with the Korean railway system at Hoiryong, this extension to be a joint enterprise of the high contracting Parties under the same conditions as those obtaining in the case of the Kilin Changchun line.

7.—The Japanese civil and military officials in Chientao shall all be withdrawn in two months, by which time Japan engages to establish consulates at the above four places.

CHINA'S RECEPTION OF THE TREATY.

According to telegrams received by the *Asahi Shimbun* Peking public opinion is not disturbed about the new Agreement. It is true that one newspaper, the *Kwoh Pao*, has for several days published a series of articles denouncing Japan in strong terms and inciting to a boycott. But on the other hand the *Peking Ji pao* (*Daily News*) adopts a moderate tone, and deprecates the idea of such an extreme measure as a boycott. In Mukden also things are quiet, but in Hsinmintun the Chamber of Commerce is said to have adopted a resolution in favour of a boycott. Of course Hsinmintun is especially affected by the Agreement, for its prosperity would have been materially increased had the railway to Fakumen become an accomplished fact. We should be sorry to misjudge the motives of the Chamber of Commerce, but it looks very much as if private interests had moved that body rather patriotic motives. At any rate the action of the Chamber furnishes an opportunity to test the sincerity of the Chinese Government's avowed desire to maintain the friendliest relations with Japan. There can be little doubt that the local authorities are in a position to put an end to this boycott if they are so disposed.

The *Yamato Shimbun* has a paragraph saying that foreign opinion in the south of China is emphatically opposed to the incendiary action of the Autonomic Association in Canton, and has expressed the opinion that the Government in Peking should adopt repressive measures. Our contemporary adds that whether in accordance with its own views, or in deference to the above opinion, or in consideration of advice said to have been given by the Representatives of Great Britian and Portugal, the Peking Government has telegraphically instructed Taotai Chen in the sense that the doings of the Association must be controlled. The Taotai accordingly issued to the Association an emphatic order forbidding it to hold meetings for the purpose of discussing foreign policy, to pass resolutions on that subject, or to adopt any measures with reference to the Empire's foreign affairs. If this order be enforced, it ought to have a wholesome effect in restraining the intemperance of the Autonomic Association. Everything goes to show that the great majority of the Association's members are persons in no way connected with trade, and therefore quite indifferent as to the effects of a boycott.

OPINION IN CHINA.

Saturday, September 4.

The German journal in Shanghai, which seems to have become of late quite sympathetic with Japan, is quoted as speaking in very admiring terms of the fact that the Katsura Cabinet has succeeded in settling the troublesome questions that existed between the two Empires, without arousing any acute umbrage in China. Our contemporary calls this a remarkable feat of diplomacy, and says that it does high credit to the cool, calculating methods of the Japanese.

The *Peking Daily News*, according to an *Asahi* telegram, considers that, no matter what statesman had been entrusted with the conduct of the negotiations, a result really satisfactory from China's point of view could not have been hoped for.

Evidently thepurpose of such writing is to enlist sympathy with the Waiwupu and induce the Chinese public to accept the issue placidly. The telegraph adds that there is no appearance whatever of any commotion among the Chinese, and that they do not seem to be even discussing the matter.

According to the *Kokumin*, the fact which bulks largest in the eyes of the Chinese is that Japan has recognised their country's sovereignty in Chientao. This gives them so much satisfaction that they are not only prepared to tolerate some concessions in return, but are even disposed to regard them as inevitable.

On the other hand, that mischievous body of agitators at Canton calling themselves the Autonomic Association, are reported to have held a general meeting on the 31st ultimo, and to have decided that the Government in Peking must be memorialized, as to the advisability of restoring the situation to the *status quo ante*; in other words, the negotiations with Japan must be broken off. The Association adopted a resolution in the sense that telegrams should be sent to Hongkong, Singapore, Amoy and America, urging the cooperation of their countrymen in those regions.

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EXPLANATIONS.

The *Mainichi Dempo* publishes what professes to be an official explanation of the new agreements with China. So far as the Chientao question is concerned, Korea receives a small increment of territory, owing to the fact that the course of the river Shihyishwei is fixed as the new boundary, but this is not a matter of any importance. It is to be observed that a district of considerable area is recognised as a place of mixed residence and that Korean subjects who have already settled within that area will be guaranteed in the continued possession of their right of residence, but those settling hereafter will not possess such right. Another important point relates to jurisdiction. It may appear at first sight that the Agreement contemplates the establishment of a mixed tribunal, like that existing in Shanghai, for the trial of cases in while Korean subjects are concerned. But that is not so. The only right reserved is that the Japanese Consul may intervene if he thinks that a miscarriage of justice has taken place.

As to the extension of the Kilin-Changchun Railway to Hoiryong, some disappointment will undoubtedly be felt in connexion with the fact that the power of fixing a date for the work is reserved to the Chinese Government. Probably the idea is that to construct the line immediately would be to unduly anticipate the reasons for its existence, but it is evident that, unless China brings to this matter a larger share of active good will than she is accustomed to display, the proposed line may not come into being for many a year.

Some consultation will be required with reference to the royalty and the duty upon coal, but as it arranged that the mineral mined by the Japanese shall have the benefit of the lowest existing terms, there can be no doubt that the scale now applied in the case of the Kaiping mine will be taken for Yentai and Fushun. The Kaiping mineral pays at present one *mace* per ton in the shape of export duty, whereas at other mines the charge is three *mace*. The former rate will of course be applicable at the Japanese mines.

The Fourth Article of the second Agreement seems to lend itself to a tolerably wide construction. It is not confined to coal mines, but extends to all mines along the Antung Mukden Railway and the main line of the South Manchuria Railway. Detailed regulations for the operation of this Article have still to be drawn up, but there is already a rumour that the zones contemplated in the Article are to extend to a distance of 30 miles on either side of the roads in question.

The 1st Article of the second Agreement is already beginning to provoke rumours. The language of the Article is certainly peculiar, namely:—"The Government of China engages that in the event of its undertaking to construct a railway between Hsimintun and Fakumen, it shall arrange previously with the Government of Japan." These words certainly do not suggest that China has definitely abandoned the project of building the above line. She has promised only that in the event of carrying out the enterprise, a previous arrangement must be made with the Japanese Government. This seems to imply that some kind of understanding has been arrived at, but whether it means that the line is to be a joint enterprise, or whether it points to some contingent extension of the South Manchuria Railway, rumour does not undertake to say.

JAPANESE OPINION.

On the whole, the tone of the Japanese press is one of satisfaction, not merely because a number of troublesome questions which embittered the relations of the two neighbouring Powers have at length been disposed of in a practical manner, but also because both sides have displayed a laudable disposition to compromise. That is the line taken by the *Kokumin Shimbun* for example. It rejoices that the clouds of mutual distrust have been completely cleared away, and it heartily compliments the Chinese Government on the successful steps taken by it to prevent the circulation of incendiary views, and to avert recourse to such double-edged weapons as the boycott.

The *Mainichi Dempo* is pleased above all things that an amicable removal of so many points of friction has been effected, but it evidently thinks that much still remains to be done in the way of correcting the views held by the two countries towards each other. Thus the Chinese regard the Japanese as upstarts, as imitators of the West, and as men who give themselves airs with very small reason. On the other hand, the Japanese consider the Chinese ungrateful, since in their dealing with the Insular Empire they show complete forgetfulness of the fact that but for Japan's warlike efforts the whole of Manchuria would have been lost to China. Fortunately, in spite of these unfriendly views, the Imperial families of the two Empires have remained on the best possible terms, and the statesmen of the two countries are earnestly desirous of restoring truly amicable feelings. These pacific factors will probably prove efficient.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has little to say about the political aspects of the arrangement, but is profoundly gratified at the agreement with regard to the Kilin-Hoiryong Railway. It considers this a great commercial implement which practically brings the sea of Japan into communication with the Sungari region. Some time may elapse before the building of the line, but due recognition of its tradal importance will probably help to expedite the work.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun*, while rejoicing at the settlement, addresses some very plain spoken advice to China. The people of the Middle Kingdom seem to have forgotten that five years ago the whole of Manchuria was completely lost to them, and that they have received it back as a gift from the Japanese Army and Navy. Totally oblivious of that fact, they treat Japan as if she were an inveterate enemy, raising difficulties about the pettiest points, and even speak of her as aiming at the partition of the Middle Kingdom. Japan bitterly feels such ingratitude. She strongly resents the description of Manchuria as a Japanese sphere of influence, considering that she has fully recognised China's sovereign power throughout the whole region, and has treated her neighbour with entire deference in everything relating to the Three Provinces. Unless China learns to look upon Japan with different eyes, it is impossible to tell what troubles the future may have in store.

On the whole Japanese public opinion, as represented by the press, shows very exceptional approval of the new Agreement. The *Jiji Shimpo* considers it article by article, and arrives at the conclusion that there is absolutely no room for criticism. Some may say that a large concession has been made with regard to Chientao, but the answer to that is that the question of territory was never paramount, Japan's real object from the first having been to secure the lives and property of the Korean subjects living in the district. The feeling of the Japanese nation will be that its back has been eased of a heavy burden.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* is almost equally laudatory. It says that the labour has been difficult, but the offspring compensates. At the same time, what has been accomplished is merely the settlement of troublesome problems which have for some time threatened to impair the relations between the two countries. As for the future it will depend upon their statesmen to develop this occasion and to bring about generally friendly contact. Our contemporary refers briefly to the comments of the *New York Herald*, and attributes them in the main to carelessness in considering the facts. The *London Morning Post's* remarks show a much more accurate grasp of the situation.

The *Asahi Shimbun* finds nothing whatever to object to in the whole of the two Agreements. They are obviously dictated by a mutual spirit of friendship and compromise. Some say that China has ceded too much; others that Japan has been unduly complaisant. That difference of opinion is in itself a proof that justice has been satisfied. Japan and China were on the best possible terms until the recent war broke out, and there is no visible reason why those terms should not be now restored. It is to be hoped that the new Agreements will obtain in China a reception similar to that given by Japan, and that they will prove the signal for a era of unqualified amity between the two countries.

We may mention here that the Agreements are said to have been received in Korea with something like indifference. They were presented by the Resident-General to the Cabinet in Seoul on the 7th inst., and they evoked no comment of any kind.

In Peking the Agreements were published in the *Official Gazette* on the morning of the 8th inst., and there has not yet been time for any expression of opinion.

MRS. HARRIS.

All the leading newspapers of Tokyo publish long notices of Mrs. Harris, wife of Bishop Harris, who now, we profoundly regret to say, is lying dangerously ill at Aoyama. Mrs. Harris has been in Japan since the year 1873, and has done more than perhaps any other lady in educating Japanese women. She is known to the whole world for her beautiful poems on Japanese themes, and from that point of view her services as a sympathetic exponent of this country are absolutely unequalled. Her last return to Japan, six years ago, was made in defiance of medical advice. She deliberately chose this country to be her final resting place and it would seem, most unhappily, that her physicians were right.

We sincerely regret to have to announce the death of Mrs. Harris, which took place at 20 minutes past 9 on the 7th inst. She had lain unconscious for many hours, but towards the evening on Tuesday there were signs of returning intelligence. They proved illusory, however, and death presently ensued. It was a perfectly peaceful departure from life, as might have been anticipated at the close of such a career. The obsequies are to be performed in Aoyama Cemetery at 2 p.m. on the 10th inst.

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KOREA.

Friday, September 3.

With regard to the series of events which have led up to the campaign now commencing against the insurgents in Chhollado, a very interesting explanation is given by the *Asahi Shimbun*. We learn from it that when this trouble began in Korea two years ago, the policy mapped out by the Residency-General was essentially one of leniency and mercy. The orders were that every possible effort should be made to persuade the misguided people to return to the paths of peaceful citizenship; that the use of fire arms should be limited to unavoidable cases, and that badges of recognition should be given to all who made act of submission. It was in pursuance of this policy that the Emperor was asked last year to issue a proclamation urging the insurgents to lay down their arms, and explaining to them that continued resistance could only tend to the disadvantage of their country. These measures were on the whole successful. The insurgents, who at the outset were animated by genuinely political motives, gradually yielded themselves up or abandoned their lawless life, and quiet would have been virtually restored had these politically disaffected persons alone been in question. But from the latter part of 1908 the so-called insurrection underwent a complete change. The insurgents became nothing more or less than bandits, and in many cases they purchased the badges which had been given to reformed malcontents in evidence of their return to the path of peace. These badges were utilized by the new law-breakers for the purpose of evading the police, and there then commenced a regular system of robbery and outrage. At the fall of last year, this radical change in the character of the insurrection having been recognised, the Vice-Resident-General suggested to Prince Ito that it would be advisable to make a corresponding alteration in the method of dealing with the law-breakers, but Prince Ito desired to continue the policy of conciliation to its extreme limit. Things went from bad to worse, however, and about April or May last, fresh instructions would have been issued to the police and troops, but for the imminence of the summer season, when the insurgents always desist from their outrages. Now that the summer has passed, however, it is felt that no further delay is permissible in dealing with these public nuisances, and accordingly a vigorous campaign against the them candidates has been organised. It is well that these facts should be clearly understood, for there seems to be in some quarters a tendency to greatly misinterpret the history of the Korean insurrection.

Saturday, September 4.

News comes from Seoul this morning that the Il Ching-hoi, its rival Association, and the School of Politics and Law have all combined to form one large society, having for its immediate object the expulsion of the present Cabinet from office and its replacement by men acceptable to the new combination. This movement seems to be thought somewhat serious. Nothing is said, however, with regard to the reasons for the unpopularity of the Yi Ministry. Probably their main fault is that they have been too long in office.

Forty Korean youths have been selected to visit Japan for the purpose of studying military science. This is in the sequel of the recent reforms in the Army Department.

Sunday, September 5.

There appears to be still some perplexity about the recently effected union of political parties in Seoul. By the projectors of the union it is declared to be an important step towards the development of national intelligence, but by less romantic folks it is regarded as a plot against the present Cabinet. From either point of view its results do not at present promise to be very large.

At a meeting of the Cabinet Ministers on the 31st ultimo, Viscount Sone is said to have condemned in very strong terms the tendency prevalent among Koreans to apply to the Government for subsidies whenever any productive enterprise is projected. The Resident-General said that while productive industry is most essential for the development of the country, the education of an independent spirit of enterprise is scarcely less essential.

Telegrams from Seoul state that a new trouble, though not of a formidable nature, has presented itself. The story is that the liberal treatment given to the officers and non-commissioned officers whose services were recently dispensed with has excited the envy of their former comrades, who were disbanded more than two years ago. These latter claim that they too should receive the same solatium. It must be confessed that this plea possesses some justice, but probably to entertain it would be a somewhat costly business.

Monday, September 6.

The new press regulations for Korea were published in the *Official Gazette* of Tokyo on the 6th inst. They do not appear to differ materially from the regulations now operative in Japan, except that the security money which a journal is required to put up is larger in Korea, namely, 2,000 *yen* in the case of Seoul, Chemulpo or Fusan; 1,000 *yen* in the case of any locality where a residency exists, and 500 in all other places. Journals appearing only five times a month, or less, will not be required to pay more than one-half of the above amounts.

Wednesday, September 8.

It is alleged that among the Korean subscriptions for the Central Bank to be established in the Peninsula, no less that 60,000 shares were applied for by the Agricultural and Industrial Bank of that country. Rumour alleges that this very liberal application represents an attempt on the part of a number of officials to obtain possession of these valuable securities by a roundabout method, and there is a possibility that a question of official discipline may be involved. Meanwhile the Resident General is said to have expressed a desire that if any fractional number of shares results from the *pro ratâ* allotments, they should be given as far as possible to Korean applicants. The Resident General thinks that since the Bank is to be in Korea, this much consideration is due to subjects of that country.

An agreement has not yet been reached between the Residency-General and the Chinese authorities on the subject of a special Chinese settlement in Seoul. The Chinese ask for two things, neither of which the Residency-General is disposed to agree to; namely, that the police administration of the settlement should be in Chinese hands, and that the right of perpetual lease should be converted into a title of ownership.

It is mentioned in telegrams from Seoul that Mr. H. B. Hulbert has re-opened a question which was supposed to have been amicably settled, and has taken legal proceedings against a certain Mr. Hata with reference to the sale of a lot of land in the foreign settlement. The telegrams speak as though Mr. Hulbert were in the wrong, but as he is by no means a *persona gratissima* with the Japanese correspondents in Seoul, we do not regard the latter's dicta as judicial.

COAL IN THE EAST.

Mr. Asakura gives some information about the coal mining industry in the Far East, and all the Tokyo newspapers publish his statement. We learn from it that the South Manchuria Railway Company are about to remove the coal-selling agency from the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha in Dairen, and to organize an office of their own in Yingkow. During the months of June, July, and August in this year, the total quantity of coal exported from Dairen by the Mitsui Bussan was 25,400 tons in 19 steamers, and the most distant market was found in Ningpo. Already the competition between coal-mine owners in the Far East has become very keen, and it will be greatly accentuated during the next three years. The three chief competitors are Japan, Kaiping and Fushun. Japan produces 13 million tons annually, more than 7 millions of which are obtained in Kyushu, and 2½ millions of the Kyushu coal are exported. Kaiping digs out 1½ million tons annually, of which 300,000 tons are consumed locally, and the remainder is exported from Chinwantao to various places in China. At Fushun the present output is only 200 tons daily, but by 1912 the Oyama and Togo mines will be turning out 5,000 tons daily, or 1,800,000 tons annually. Of the latter total the Company itself will use 300,000 tons, and a market for the remainder must be found abroad. Finally, the competition of the German mines at Tsingtao is not to be despised. They are turning out from 600,000 to 700,000 tons yearly. It is evident, therefore, that by the year 1912 the competition will be very strenuous. Mr. Arakawa says that so far as cost of production is concerned, the advantage is palpably on the side side of the Fushun mines; but if they come to place their coal on the Singapore market, they will find a formidable rival in the Indian and Australian mineral.

THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

A lucid description in the *Kokumin Shimbun* makes clear the somewhat perplexing point about the route of the most westerly section of the Mukden-Autung line, namely, the section between Chenhsiantun and Mukden. To put the matter briefly, the idea of the Japanese engineers was to deflect this line to the southward, so as to make a junction with the South Manchuria Railway, and thus utilize the latter's bridge over the Hun River. The old route of the light railway is already carried over the Hun by a special bridge, but this bridge is not suited to support the converted track, nor is the topography of the region adapted for reconstruction along that line. Hence the Japanese engineers conceived the above mentioned idea of utilizing the South Manchuria Railway. The Chinese, however, desiring that the Mukden-Antung Railway should be linked up with the Peking-Mukden line, asked that this Chenhsiantun-Mukden section should not be diverted into the South Manchurian track, but should be carried direct into Mukden, crossing the Hun by a new bridge which will span the river at a point between the temporary bridge and the South Manchuria bridge.

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AN EXPERT OPINION ON CHINESE RAILWAYS.

Mr. Haraguchi, the well known Japanese engineer, who has been serving for some time in the capacity of Technical Adviser to the Department of Railways in China, has just returned to Tokyo and been interviewed by a representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun*. He makes some very interesting remarks about Chinese railways. The manner of their construction is criticised very severely by him. He says that there is an utter want of system or economical management. Competition is not resorted to in placing contracts, and materials are purchased in the most slipshod, haphazard manner. The consequence is that the cost of construction has been enormous. The cheapest rate hitherto achieved has been 130,000 *yen* per mile, and in one case as much as 210,000 *yen* was spent. Considering that in Japan the average cost of construction has been about 35,000 *yen* per mile, and that labour and materials are as cheap in China as they are here, this enormous difference of cost is startling. Of course, the difference in gauge has to be taken into account, but even allowing fully for that, it should be possible to build lines in China for about 40,000 *yen* per mile. The perfunctoriness shown in operating the lines is scarcely less marked. Thus, on the road between Peking and Tientsin, which may be compared to the Tokyo-Yokohama line in Japan, only three trains run daily. On the Peking-Tungchow Railway, which corresponds with the Kobu line, there are only two trains daily, whereas in Japan 20 or 30 are run, and on the Peking-Changkiakow road there is only one train. All these defects were frankly pointed out by Mr. Haraguchi in a recent interview with Chang Chihtung, who, in spite of his age and his infirmities, is said to be as keen as ever about the railway question. The idea in Peking now is that the Yeh-Han and the Chuan-Han Railways should be made model lines, the work of constructing them being duly let out to competing contractors, and an intelligent system being pursued in every respect. Mr. Haraguchi has pointed out that the great desideratum is some expert knowledge of railway construction among officials; and in response to that opinion Viceroy Tuan has entrusted his younger brother to the Japanese engineer's care, not only for purposes of practical observation in Japan, but also that he may be scientifically instructed. Mr. Haraguchi speaks in the highest terms of Chang Chihtung. He feels that he himself, and his countrymen in general, can not do too much to requite the old statesman's confidence and friendship. It was mainly owing to Chang that an arrangement was made for employing Japanese experts in the proportion of one-half on the Yeh-Han Railway, an arrangement which Chang declared to hold valid, wherever the capital for constructing the line was obtained or whatever change of official personnel might take place in Peking.

FOREIGN OPINION.

We know from the *Asahi Shimbun's* special service of telegrams that the new Convention has been badly received in Washington, where it seems to be considered one-sided, Japan having obtained everything she wanted. A similar view appears to be taken in Russia. Thus the St. Petersburg correspondent of the *Hochi Shimbun*, who wires under the pseudonym of "Bogdo," expresses regret that Russia has evidently not abandoned her hostile feeling towards Japan, and that she is disposed to construe all Japan's acts in an extreme fashion. He quotes several journals in support of this proposition. The *Russ* says that Japan has swallowed up Korea, and, before that large mouthful is fully digested, has extended the range of her acquisitive appetite. The Mukden-Antung Railway is a distinct step towards the annexation of South Manchuria. The *Novoe Vremya* recapitulates the history of Japan's recent relations with China and declares that this country has shown great skill in its diplomatic management. The result is the practical abolition of China's sovereign power throughout a large district of Manchuria and the establishment of Japan there in a position differing little from ownership. This is virtually a declaration of war. Another paper, whose title we can not decipher, declares that Japan's policy is plainly not commercial, but belligerent. Her railway from Fusan to Mukden is intended to be a main artery of a great warlike position; in other words, it will furnish a means of pouring a large body of troops in the direction of Harbin. The journey from Saseho to Harbin now takes five days, but when this railway is finished, the period will be shortened to two days. A Moscow paper declares that the struggle between China and Japan has the gravest possible interest alike for Russia and for the whole civilized world. What is happening now in the Far East may be regarded as the epilogue of Russia's defeat in the War, but it means also that her expansion in East Asia is to be effectively checked, and that a new and menacing peril has appeared upon the horizon, namely, the Japanese peril.

"FIFTY-YEARS OF OPEN JAPAN."

The public has not heard much lately about the *magnum opus* compiled in recent years under the auspices of Count Okuma, and placed on the market in 1907. We now read, however, in Tokyo journals that copies of the book were presented to the Emperor and Crown Prince of Japan. It further appears that Count Okuma has caused the book to be translated into Chinese, and that his secretary, Mr. Soyejima, is to start from Japan on the 20th of this month carrying special copies for presentation to the Emperor and Prince Regent of China and for other Chinese notables. It appears that the Count has obtained prefaces to the Chinese edition from the Prince Regent, Princes Chin, Su, and Tsai Chen, and from Mr. Yuan Shihkai and others. We understand that the English edition of the work is now in course of preparation. The original idea was that it should be brought out by *The Times*, but this arrangement was abandoned when *The Times* reduced the dimensions of its publishing department. A delay of a few months then occurred before a suitable publisher could be obtained. Moreover it was found necessary to coördinate the various essays. Our readers are perhaps aware that the method pursued in compiling the works was to obtain essays from a number of Japanese politicians and men of science and affairs with reference to subjects which they had made their specialties. Each essayist wrote independently of his colleagues, and consequently a certain amount of repetition was inevitable. The task of revising the work was originally entrusted to Captain Brinkley, but in the first place very limited time was available, and in the second the reviser was not authorised to collate the essays. He read them merely with reference to the English, and at any rate it seemed to him that the repetitions had an interest of their own as indicating the points upon which a consensus of Japanese opinion existed. When the copy reached London, however, the book in its full form was deemed too bulky, and accordingly Mr. Arthur Diosy was entrusted with the task of eliding the repetitions and coördinating the essays. The work was in full swing last November and, in April last, Count Okuma's secretary, Mr. Sakurai, returned from London having made all the necessary arrangements. Probably the book will be out by the close of this year, though we have no special information on that subject. We may mention that it contains chapters from the pens of the Reverend Arthur Lloyd, Dr. Baelz, the Rev. D. C. Greene and Captain Brinkley.

A WONDERFUL STATUETTE.

An enterprising contemporary has unearthed the following, apparently from the French journal *Illustration*:—

Rodin was anticipated by a Japanese artist more than 500 years ago. A porcelain figure, one foot 3 inches high, has been discovered in a shop of Japanese antiquities which is the diminished counterpart of the statue of the great novelist modeled by the Parisian sculptor. The Japanese work of art is thus described in the journal referred to:

"It is a statuette of about 40 centimeters in height modeled in porcelain of a faded blue color, crinkled all over with fine cracks. Certain portions of the head and face have become a little darkened by handling, and the age of this object is uncertain. It belongs probably to the fifteenth century and may be somewhat older."

But a matter of a hundred years or so is of no consequence in estimating its age. What is most astonishing is the character it represents. For this Japanese figure has the skull, the hair, and the mustache of Balzac. It appears to wear also the dressing-gown of Balzac, and the sculptor has wrapt it about the figure almost in the way in which Rodin has clothed his Balzac, which this Japanese porcelain almost exactly resembles. Here we have the attitude, somewhat stooping, the carriage of the head, the manner of holding the hands—crossed within the thick sleeves."

By the visitors who first saw the Japanese work in Paris it was mistaken for the statue by Rodin, who never saw it. Thus we read:

"It is certain that the illustrious sculptor has never seen this statuette. If he has made a Japanese piece without knowing it is equally certain that the Japanese artist of four centuries ago had no intention whatever of producing a 'Rodin.'"

The writer philosophizes on the subject as follows;

"Who will deny that such coincidences, which we call 'flukes' or 'sports,' are the effect of obscure causes, of remote affinities, the law of which we have not grasped, and that such mysteries will possibly be some day cleared up. In these days we have cleared up many others which our fathers considered no less impenetrable."

What can this statuette be? The fifteenth century takes no back to the days of Yoshimasa. It is true that Shonzai Gorodayu had by that time produced a few insignificant pieces of porcelain; but Shonzai is believed never to have modelled a statuette, and in his time the Japanese had never seen an Occidental, so that to have evolved a keramic figure closely resembling any European—Dutchman, Portuguese or Spaniard—would have been impossible, and to have modelled, in the 15th century the figure of a French novelist who flourished in the 19th, robing him in the habiliments of his era, would have been a miracle. We venture to affirm that this alleged fifteenth-century statuette is just a little younger than the work it so closely resembles, and that it was made to the order of a shrewd dealer. But what splendid confidence he must have had in the credulity or ignorance of his *clientele*!

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DOMESTIC POLITICS.

An apparent calm has for some time brooded over the troubled sea of Japanese domestic politics, but it would seem that undercurrents have been at work all the time, endeavouring to effect reconsolidation of the Progressist Party. There have been frequent comings and goings, but, so far as we can see, the two sections, Reformers and Conservatives, stand on either side of as wide a gulf as ever. The *Seiyu-kai* alone is in the position of the *tertius gaudens*. It is making hay all the time. The adherence of Professor Tomizu, Mr. Inouye Kakugoro and Mr. Ozaki Yukio to its ranks has been already noted in these columns, and we now observe that five other more or less important members of the House of Representatives have followed suit. In fact, it is the *Seiyu-kai's* world. A project is said to be on foot for organising, on the 15th inst., a grand meeting to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the great Party's creation. Prince Ito may well be proud of his progeny. But what about an Opposition? That is just as important to the proper working of a constitutional government as any official party can be.

We have already mentioned that the *Seiyu-kai* proposed to hold a general meeting on the 15th inst., but it does not appear that any specially interesting topics will be introduced. The meeting will be mainly of a ceremonial character. There is talk, however, of a more important meeting on the following day when a number of high personages will be among the guests, and addresses will be delivered by Marquis Saionji, Prince Ito and Marquis Katsura.

It is in truth a fact that the political stage may now be said to be completely occupied by the *Seiyu-kai*. The numbers of votes commanded by the respective Parties in the House of Representatives are given by the Tokyo press as follow:—

Seiyu-kai	196
Progressists	63
Yushin-kai	45
Boshin Club	40
Daido Club	29
Independents	5
Total	378

The above total is one short of the full complement of members, owing to the fact that the political complexion of a representative of Aichi Prefecture is not clearly known. As for the Progressists, their insignificant number is not the only evidence of their weakness. Their 63 members are sub-divided into three sections, namely, the Reformers 18, the Conservatives 35, and the Independents 10.

DELIGHTFUL MORALITY.

Except for the purpose of protesting in the name of all Occidentals—convicted criminals excepted—against the shocking immorality preached by a correspondent of a Tokyo contemporary, we should not think it worth while to devote a line to a letter which appeared a few days ago in the columns of the *Japan Advertiser* over the signature "R.I.P." The letter was evoked by an article in the *Japan Times* about the National Debt Repayment Fund in Korea, the fate of which fund has once more become nebulous, owing to the death of Mr. Bethell. "R.I.P." fills more than a column of the Tokyo journal but the gist of his comments is contained in the following paragraphs:—

Why does the "Sage of Uchisaiwai-cho" not take it that, even if the relatives of the late Bethell have the money in their possession, they are more entitled to it than anyone else under the circumstances, and let it rest at that?

The "Sage of Uchisaiwai-cho" should remember the old adage "Those that live in glass houses should not throw stones." The standard of morals in this country would not burst the barometer either socially or commercially as evidenced by the newspaper reports from day to day anent some company or other coming to grief through causes which certainly cannot be described as honest, and if Bethell happened to be sufficiently lucky to have been treasurer of a sum of money which could neither be expended nor returned, by all means let his relatives have it without slinging so much mud at them.

Slinging mud will not give the "Sage of Uchisaiwai-cho," anything, and his parade of honesty and morality prevent the relatives of Bethell from offering him a percentage as evidence of their appreciation of his remarks.

Bethell is dead and will be dead a long time. Long live the Bethell that has got the "oof," for he deserves it all; and, further, let the Japanese rob the innocent Korean for himself if he wants some oof, for Bethell worked for himself.

This is the opinion of 999 out of every 1000 that know anything of the last few years of poor old Bethell.

There have been hard things said of the late Mr. Bethell, but nothing worse than the above:—"Let the Japanese rob the innocent Korean for himself, if he wants some "oof," for Bethell worked for himself." Unfortunate Bethell! Out of his grave he cries, "save me from my friends." That is nothing, however, to the splendidly burglarious doctrine set forth in almost as many words as incontrovertible principle. A certain sum of money was subscribed by patriotic Koreans to pay off the national debt. The money was entrusted to men supposed to be honest. The subscribers can not now be easily found. Therefore let the "honest men" fob the "oof"—to use the polished language of "R.I.P." We do not want the Japanese to imagine that any European or American who is out of jail deservedly, would entertain "R.I.P.'s" doctrine for a fraction of a second. We are sure that Mr. Bethell's relatives will be indignant to have such a proposition made to them.

BARON TAKAHIRA.

His Excellency, Baron Takahira, arrived in Yokohama on the morning of the 2nd inst., and was interviewed by a representative of the *Mainichi Dempo*. He appears to have confined himself to a recapitulation of facts which are already matters of general knowledge; namely, that during the first 4 or 5 months of last year anti-Japanese feeling attained large development on the Pacific slope; that about the month of May this flame of dislike began to be reduced to a smouldering condition; that the visit of the Atlantic Fleet to Japan in the autumn and the hearty reception accorded to it effectually turned the tide of feeling into pro-Japanese channels; that the tour of the American business men strengthened this wholesome effect; that Japan's share in the Seattle Exhibition helped to increase her popularity; and that the welcome which is now being given to the Japanese business men will be further beneficial in the same direction. As to the talk about an alliance between the United States and China, Baron Takahira thinks that it had its birth in the office of the *New York Herald*, and that it never got any nearer to Washington than the precincts of that journal. He believes that the capitalists of the United States are prepared to assist China with funds for the development of her material resources, and to coöperate with her in utilizing the money; but that is all.

MR. HULBERT.

We in the Far East have heard much about the gentleman whose name stands at the head of this paragraph, and who in Korea seems to be regarded as the prime mover in the conspiracy of the Hague fiasco, which ended so disastrously for the Emperor of Korea and all his aiders and abettors. This Mr. H. B. Hulbert has now returned to Seoul, and rumour says that he contemplates the resurrection of the newspaper with which the name of Mr. Bethel was so long associated. Mr. Hulbert has done much to familiarise the world with Korean ancient history, and if his reappearance upon the Far Eastern scene is to herald further work of that nature, we sincerely welcome him. But if he is to tread in Mr. Bethel's footsteps, and to renew the campaign which he did so much to foment in former years, to the great detriment and heavy suffering of the nation he sought to befriend, we shall be obliged to regard his return as a public calamity.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent wires that Mr. H. B. Hulbert has not returned to Korea with any intention of settling there, or of renewing the agitation which the late Mr. Bethell fomented. Mr. Hulbert, our contemporary says, has come merely to settle his own private affairs, and not to take up any political rôle.

The leading papers of Tokyo publish a paragraph, evidently emanating from a news agency, to the effect that Mr. Hulbert has called upon Messrs. Ishizuka and Komatsu, Director and Secretary, respectively, of the Bureau of General Affairs in the Residency-General, and has informed them that his sympathies have always been with the Residency-General and that he is in no sense an enemy of Japan. His conduct in the past was dictated solely by a desire to assist distressed Koreans. He added that he had come to Korea to settle some matters relating to his private property, and he trusted that he might count on the assistance of the Residency-General for that purpose. Mr. Ishizuka is said to have replied that the Japanese authorities would give to Mr. Hulbert all facilities enjoyed by foreigners in general.

CONCUBINAGE IN JAPAN.

We observe that a very white-headed old error is once more paraded by a local contemporary:—"In Japan concubinage has a recognised status." It has not. It has nothing of the kind. The Japanese are no better than they should be in matters that concern sexual relations, but let us at least be truthful in criticizing them. Concubinage in Japan has no legal status; it has no social status. The law does not recognise such a thing as a concubine; society does not admit such a thing. These facts have been stated over and our again. People who do not trouble their heads about such matters may well plead ignorance. But from those who undertake to discuss them in public a little more attention may reasonably be expected. It is unfortunately only too true that wives are often compelled to live in the same house with concubines: that, to our mind, is one of the cruellest customs in Japan. We are glad to think, however, that it is gradually disappearing. Such an outrage is now seldom, very seldom, perpetrated in families of any respectability. But, we repeat, concubinage has no "recognised status."

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COUNT DE WITTE.

The *Yamato Shimbun*, which is now often distinguished by the publication of important items of news, says that Count de Witte has accepted the post of temporary Russian Representative in Peking. The Count's political influence has been much overshadowed of late, but it would seem that his star is again in the ascendant. If he really goes to Peking, we may be sure that he will be specially commissioned, and that he will not by any means confine himself to the ordinary sphere of a Minister Plenipotentiary's duties. There are many questions pending between China and Russia, and the great northern Power doubtless appreciates that it will be much to her benefit to take advantage of the mood which China has now developed. It would seem that the Peking statesmen are really anxious to clear their pigeon holes, and Count de Witte, whose skill as a negotiator was finally established from the moment of his historical exclamation "*pas un sou*," is just the man to help China along this new and praiseworthy route. He will know very well also how to exceed his instructions judiciously if an opportunity occurs, and how to make an opportunity if necessary. Possibly the *Yamato's* news may be apocryphal, but it is interesting to note that the *Asahi Shimbun* also speaks of a probable settlement between Russia and China at an early date, and catalogues six subjects of existing complication between the two Powers. They are, first, the delimitation of the Amur valley and the question of that river's navigation. Secondly, the relation between the two Powers in Hsinkiang and Ili with special reference to Russia's alleged arbitrary proceedings there and to the naturalization of Chinese subjects. Thirdly, the withdrawal of Russian soldiers from Yaonan in Eastern Mongolia, and China's protest against the establishment of a Russian Consulate there. Fourthly, China's protest against the proceedings of the Russian customs station at Kiakta, where it is claimed that excessive duties are levied upon Chinese tea, silk and other exports. Fifthly, regulations for the control of the steadily increasing number of Russian settlers at Kulon. Sixthly, the financial accommodation granted by Russia to local potentates in Eastern and Western Mongolia, and the question of mining concessions in those regions.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

There is a great deal of writing in the Tokyo papers about the Tokyo Railway. Apparently its shares are beginning to be regarded as among the most valuable in the market. Something of this appreciation is said to be due to the fact that the large block of these securities held for the past year or two by banks which had lent money to speculators have now become a living asset. In order to so become, however, it has been necessary for the market price of the shares to rise to over 70 *yen*, and we fail to trace the causative connexion between the two events. One Tokyo journal alleges that the Board of Directors have three plans in view. One is an increase of fares, so soon as the transit tax is removed. Another is to run special cars at a charge of about 10 *sen* per passenger. The third is to divide the whole city into three sections and charge an extra *sen* per section.

The *Hochi Shimbun* quotes the Mayor of Tokyo as drawing attention to the fact that whereas the Company's charter requires it to construct 200 miles of railway by the end of 1910, it has only built 106 miles up to the present, and it can not possibly have the whole work finished within the given period. Therefore its charter will necessarily lapse. Moreover, the charter contains a clause providing for the compulsory purchase of the line, should such a step be dictated by public utility. Yet in the face of all these things the Directors and the Authorities remain quite unconcerned. We (*Japan Mail*) believe that the alleged unconcern of the Directors is due to their confidence in the Government, and especially in officials like Mr. Ozaki, to protect the enterprise against unjust or arbitrary treatment.

The well known publicist, Mr. Ooka Ikuzo, appears to be the writer of a series of articles in his journal, the *Chuo Shimbun*, which advocate the municipalization of the Railway. The articles are not yet finished. Two have appeared, and they carry us as far as the proposition that municipalization would have been permitted last year had the money market been favourable. All the conditions being now eminently suitable, Mr. Ooka sees no difficulty in carrying out the project, and he promises to details of the method in his next article.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF KOREA.

The subscription list for the shares of the Central Bank of Korea was opened on the morning of the 6th inst. and closed at 1 p.m. the same day. The total number of shares to be allotted was 69,600, and the total number subscribed for was 20,516,694. Among the five principal tradal marts Yokohama is conspicuous for the paucity of its applications. The figures for these five cities were as follow :—

	Shares.
Osaka	7,682,925
Tokyo	4,999,761
Nagoya	2,105,284
Kyoto	1,045,861
Yokohama	811,789

The Imperial Households of Japan and Korea take 1,000 shares each.

We alluded in our last issue to a rumour that the very large subscription made by the Bank of Agriculture and Industry in Korea for shares in the new Central Bank was due in part to collusion between certain officials and the officers of the Bank, and that the bargain-money which had to accompany the application was obtained from State funds. The story is partially confirmed this morning, and is supplemented by a statement that the officials concerned in this irregularity are Japanese. Tokyo papers express great regret that such a want of discipline should have been shown.

CHINA AND RUSSIA.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a telegram from Peking saying that the Prince Regent, inspired by recent events to aim at speedy settlement with other Powers besides Japan, has instructed the Wai-wu-pu to fix a time for renewing the negotiations with Russia. In this context, the same correspondent states that the United States, Great Britain, France and Germany are all agreed in protesting against the exercise of administrative authority by Russia in the railway zones. Their objection is not based, of course, on the relative excellence of Russian and Chinese administration. Questions of that sort disappear very rapidly when they come within the shadow of the flag.

THE 5TH INST.

Messrs. Kono Hironaka, Yamada Kinosuke, Hosono Jiro and their fellow-thinkers, who have been pleased to dub the 5th of Sept. as the day of Japan's disgrace, whereas they have made it the day of Tokyo's disgrace, held a meeting in Hibiya Park on Sunday and orated. Of course everything passed off quietly. The momentary madness which overtook a small section of the citizens of Tokyo on the 5th of September 1905 is not likely to break out again.

In this context we can not but comment strongly on the singularly exaggerated account of this event given in the columns of our morning contemporary. We are told that :—

> The 5th of September recalls to the mind of every patriotic Japanese that it is the day on which a great national mass meeting was held in Hibiya park, leading to so much bloodshed and incendiarism. The whole of Tokyo assembled within and round the grounds of this, one of the most beautiful parks in Tokyo to vent their pent up anger on the humiliation of the Portsmouth treaty. * * * * The high handed repressive measures adopted by the authorities exasperated the people to such a pitch that incendiarism was rampant all over the city.
>
> The official residence of the Minister of the Interior was stoned and fired. Most of the police stations and a few of the electric cars were razed to the ground by the furious mob, and there were most fearful encounters between the constabulary and the people, the police handling their swords quite freely and cutting down the populace right and left.
>
> The whole of Tokyo was in a state of riot and the Metropolitan police lost entire control. The government was paralysed and the military forces were called to preserve order, patrolling the streets with loaded muskets—a scene quite unparalleled in the capital of a country which had emerged from a victorious war. The tumult was the cause of the arrest of many public men and private citizens.

If a newspaper published in Tokyo lays before its readers such wild distortions of history, how can any journal published abroad be blamed if it follows suit? A fancy picture is sometimes amusing enough, but the above subject does not properly lend itself to such antics of imagination.

LORD KITCHENER.

The *Yamato Shimbun* says that preparations are being made to give Lord Kitchener such a reception as has never hitherto been accorded to any naval or military officer in Japan, partly in consideration of his great fame, and partly because he represents the military force of Japan's Ally.

It is announced in Tokyo that an official intimation has been received of the intended visit of Lord Kitchener to Japan. He will arrive in Japan on the 1st of November. Such at least is the statement published in Tokyo, but as Lord Kitchener desires to be present at the autumn manœuvres, and as these are to commence on the 5th of November, we shall probably be right in assuming that his arrival on the 1st of November will be at Tokyo.

The manœuvres will be on an exceptionally large scale. Five Divisions of troops are to be engaged, and three prefectures will be involved, namely, Tochigi, Fukushima and Ibaraki. Included in the five Divisions will be the Seventh from Hokkaido, which will have to be carried by sea to Aomori, and thence by rail to the scene of operations. The Eighth will also be engaged, and it will march by the Oshu-kaido from its headquarters at Aomori. The march past will take place on the Nasu plain on the 9th of November, and the Emperor is to leave Tokyo on the 4th of November, the day after the Tenchosetsu.

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THE RAILWAY FRONTIER.

When the news reached Tokyo that China had agreed to the construction of a line from Kilin to Hoiryong *viâ* Chientao, we ventured to predict that some critics would very soon be found to point to this line as Japan's northern boundary, and to call alarmed attention to its strategical potentialities. The German newspaper of Shanghai has verified our prediction. It finds that Japan has secured for herself a triangular position on the continent of Asia, having its apex at Mukden and its two basic extremities at Port Arthur and in Korea. That is very palpable, and no fault can be found with any publicist who points it out. But it is a pity that our German contemporary should go on to warn China that, unless she takes steps to make her position in Manchuria very secure, the cradle of her dynastic ancestors will inevitably share the fate of Korea. It is curious and significant to observe that paramount prominence is invariably given to the warlike side of railway construction in East Asia. Is the same inference to be drawn in the case of the Powers that are now engaged in such a strenuous struggle for the privilege of financing the Yeh-Han and the Chuan-Han Railways? What is true of a railway in China's Three Eastern Provinces must be true also, *ceteris paribus*, of railways in her 18 home provinces. No intelligent Chinese can fail to detect the analogy, or to perceive that when foreign critics warn his country against Japan's aggressions in connexion with Manchurian railways, they are warning her also against Occidental aggressions in connexion with railways in the Yangtsz valley.

THE JAPANESE BUSINESS MEN OF MANCHURIA.

On the 5th inst. there was held in Mukden an assembly of business representatives from the six principal marts of Manchuria, namely, Port Arthur, Dairen, Yingkow, Tiehling, Mukden and Antung. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss and formulate the conditions which, in the opinion of these business men, ought to govern the organisation of the central financial organ recommended by them in a petition to the last Diet. The meeting arrived at the following conclusions, namely, that the organ in question should take the form of a Central Bank with a capital of at least 10 million *yen* and a Government guarantee; that as the Bank, in addition to ordinary banking business, should have for purpose the development of trade and industry, it should grant long-term loans and loans for encouraging enterprise; and finally, that the Government should guarantee interest on the Bank's capital, as well as granting it the right of issuing notes. Various other resolutions were passed, but they all related to means of giving effect to the above programme, and they may be summed up by saying that communications are to be opened with members of the Diet and other influential men, and that a committee is to be appointed to proceed to Japan if necessary.

VERSIONS.

It appears that on the 24th of August a body of over 20 insurgents in Korea attacked the house of 5 Japanese residing on the island Namhai-to; captured the wife of the householder; "subjected her to a cruel death;" seized and destroyed the property found in the house, and would have set fire to the latter, had they not been deterred by an urgent appeal on the part of the Korean inhabitants. What subsequently happened is placed below, side by side with the *Japan Herald's* comment on it:—

FROM THE "SEOUL PRESS."

On the following day, the insurgents were found by Japanese gendarmes, who had hastened there from Fusan, in the act of landing on an island called Taiinto, about eight miles from Nolyangjin. They were immediately fired on by the gendarmes, and in the confusion ten of them fell into the sea and were drowned, while nine were shot dead and one was made prisoner. A few only barely escaped with their lives.

FROM THE "JAPAN HERALD."

[Since our recent article commenting on the constant killing of insurgents in Korea and the absence of any reports of crimes committed by the latter, the *Seoul Press* has reported one or two cases of such. The above crime seems to have been amply revenged; ten of the insurgents driven into the sea, like a lot of Gadarene swine, and nine more shot dead. Nineteen lives for one is not a bad showing in the way of retribution; though it is not so fine as the three hundred for one, reported by the *Seoul Press* of Aug. 10th or 11th as the result of 78 engagements with insurgents during last June.—ED. *J. D. H.*]

The spirit which dictates our Yokohama contemporary's article needs no remark.

CHIENTAO.

It goes without saying that, in the sequel of the arrangement with regard to the sovereignty of Chientao, the office of the Japanese Residency-General will be removed from that region and be replaced by a consulate; but whether the gendarmes will be kept as a consular guard or recalled to Korea, is a question that may take some time to decide.

Meanwhile there is a rumour that, in consequence of the agreement about the Kilin-Hoiryong Railway, the line from Gensan to Seoul is not unlikely to be postponed in order that the funds intended for its construction may be devoted to the newly planned road across Chientao. In connexion with this it is stated that the investigations which the Residency-General ordered to be made with regard to a steamship service between Gensan and Tsuruga have be countermanded.

MR. DENING.

The *Japan Times* produces an article from the *Hawaiian Gazette* on the subject of an attempt made by the defendants in the recent trial at Honolulu to obtain Mr. Dening's testimony on their own side. The article speaks as though Mr. Lightfoot, counsel for the defence, had applied for "a warrant of arrest" to hold Mr. Dening and had asked that he be put under bond to appear when needed. The facts are simply that Mr. Dening was subpœnaed for the defence, but the charge in connexion with which the subpœna had been issued was withdrawn by the prosecution and the subpœna thus ceased to have any validity. Mr. Dening was consequently enabled to leave Honolulu in accordance with his original plan. It is possible that Mr. Lightfoot had it in mind to contrive some other method of obtaining Mr. Dening's services, but that is a question which concerns Mr. Lightfoot alone.

SAID TO BE ARRESTED.

Professor Walter Dening, the learned scholar and student of the Japanese language, who was brought to Honolulu from Sendai, Japan, to act as special translator for the prosecution in the various trials arising out of the Japanese plantation strike, is to be arrested, says the *Hawaiian Gazette*.

A statement to this startling effect was made yesterday afternoon by Attorney J. Lightfoot who is conducting the defense in the conspiracy trial and who represents all the other Japanese arrested as the result of strike incidents. But this does not mean that Professor Dening has committed any crime or has in any way offended against the laws of the United States or the Territory of Hawaii. It means that Mr. Lightfoot is merely taking steps to prevent the Professor's return to Japan on the steamer leaving here August 24.

Professor Dening, as stated before, was brought here by the prosecution, which has promised to remunerate him for his time and services to the extent of $2000, one thousand of which was added to the original sum promised in order to hold him here a few weeks longer. But Mr. Lightfoot sprang a surprise on the prosecution by subpoenaing Professor Dening to be present at the September term of court, at which other of the strike trials are set to take place. He also announces that he intends to issue a subpoena for Professor Dening to be present at the October term of the United States District Court, at which the trial of some of the Japanese is schedulad to take place.

Professor Dening has arranged to leave on August 24 for Japan, or if he cannot get away by that time, at least to go on the steamer sailing August 30. Mr. Lightfoot will make that claim to the court and ask for a warrant of arrest to hold the Professor and that he be put under bonds to insure his appearance when he is needed.

Whether Mr. Lightfoot will be able to hold Professor Dening in this way is a question for the court to decide. It is claimed by the Attorney General that if the defense retains him here as an expert, it will have to pay him an expert's fee or it cannot keep him. But if he wants him as anything but an expert witness, the case will be different and he will have a right to request that the Professor be put under bonds to appear at the September term of court.

Meantime, Professor Dening is placed in an awkward position. His school in Japan is to open on September 12th and it is essential that he be there. But if he is ordered to be here in court in September, he has no recourse.

A JAPANESE AEROPLANE.

Tokyo newspapers all publish a paragraph with reference to an aeroplane devised by Mr. Narabara, a naval engineer. The inventor, who is a son of Baron Narabara, has been working at the machine for several years. He seems to have taken the Wright model for experimenting at the outset, but he subsequently gave the preference to the Curtiss model. He is understood to claim the invention of a contrivance which secures complete stability of aeration, and he is quoted as saying that the machine will serve either as a motor car or as an aeroplane. The Naval Department seems inclined to take up the matter, but should it refrain from doing so, Mr. Narabara is prepared to carry on the manufacture at his own expense and to hold a public exhibition at the close of next year.

THE YALU TIMBER-FELLING TROUBLE.

This complication seems to have been settled at last. Official telegrams in that sense are said to have reached the Residency-General. The arrangement seems to be that a committee of Chinese and Japanese officials shall superintend the floating off of the logs at their points of departure and arrival. An efficient system of carrying and marking is to be adopted, and a fixed price will be paid for each log when delivery is taken at the terminus.

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"UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

A letter we publish from a correspondent in another column—the correction wherein we gratefully accept—reminds us of Sir Edward Clarke's suggestion, made at one of the Independence Day dinners in London, that the Great Republic should re-christen itself with a name derived from the initial letters of the five words "United States Of North America." Needless to say, the suggestion was not received with rapture by our American cousins; but, on our correspondent's showing, the word "North," and, therefore the letter "N.", essential to Sir Edward Clarke's idea—has no place in the official designation of the Great Republic.

BUSINESS NOTES.

Saturday September 4.

The difference of opinion between the Tokyo Electric Light Company and the Municipality has not been settled. The Company has put forward three propositions. The first is that if a monopoly can not be granted to it, the Municipality shall at least undertake not to allow any other Company to supply electricity by overhead wires. Secondly, that since the Municipality seem to attach great importance to the electric posts for advertising purposes, whereas the Company derives only from three to four thousand *yen* annually from this source, the Directors are willing to hand over the posts altogether to the Municipality, which may make what it can out of them. Thirdly, that the Municipality's proposal requiring the Company to obtain civic approval before raising any loan is an intolerable condition. To these proposals the Municipality has replied that the first does not lie within the authority of the city; that the city is not in a position to ultilize the electric posts, and that the protest of the Company as to the third count is recognised.

The sugar question is again upon the tapis. In levying export duties on sugar from Formosa, four classes of this staple are recognised. The duty on the lowest class is 3 *yen* per picul; that on the second class 5.50 *yen*; that on the third class 8.50 *yen*, and that on the fourth class 10 *yen*. Such figures indicate a large margin for appraisement, and it appears that the Formosan authorities, in order to encourage the sugar industry in the Island, have hitherto been in the habit of charging lowest-class duties upon second-class sugar, second-class duties upon third-class sugar and so forth, thus creating a substantial artificial margin of profit. In deference, however, to the outcry raised by the sugar refiners in Japan proper it is considered necessary to abandon this system. On the other hand, the Formosan authorities are determined to continue the encouragement of the industry; and, after much discussion, it has been decided that the fairest and simplest method will be to grant a subsidy of one *yen* for every 1,000 catties of raw sugar produced in the Island. This decision caused much consternation in the share market on the 3rd inst., the Yensui shares falling nearly 5 points in one day. The *Yamato Shimbun* alleges that the new system will not make much difference to producers, as compared with the old; but we fail to appreciate that analysis, inasmuch as the smallest gain under the old system was 1 50 *yen* per picul, whereas now the uniform subsidy will be only 10 *sen* per picul.

We recently stated that the Industrial and Commercial Bureau in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce had been divided into two, namely, a *Komukyoku* and *Shomukyoku*. We now read that, in the context of this change, the Diet will be asked next session to agree to an appropriation of 200,000 *yen* for the development of various industries, among which the keramic and lacquer industries are included.

The *Yorodzu Choho* says that criminal proceedings against Mr. R. Loonen have been opened by the directors of the Compresol Company in conjunction with Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. Our contemporary quotes in detail the charges preferred against Mr. Loonen, but as the whole story appears to us to be apocryphal, we refrain from publishing any of the statements, especially having regard to the source of the intelligence.

Sunday, September 5.

It is confidently affirmed by the *Hochi Shimbun* that, in the sequel of expert examination, the Directors of the Tokyo Railway have decided to contract with the Kinu-River Syndicate for supplying hydro-electric power to the Company's line. If this be true, it will of course prove a death-blow to the prospects of the Anglo-Japanese Syndicate.

There is again talk of supplying Tokyo with a suitable harbour. This project has been on the tapis for so many years and has been so often resuscitated and so often abandoned, that the public will not be disposed to place much credence in it on the present occasion. However, there is no ignoring the fact that it has come again upon the tapis, and that Dr. Furuichi's plans are said to have been approved. The expense of construction is calculated at 35,700,000 *yen*, and, if the interest be added, the total becomes 48 millions, since the principal is to be repaid in 13 years. This has to be supplemented by 26 millions for preparations on shore, and thus the aggregate reaches 74 millions. The idea is that the reclaimed land would be worth about 50 million *yen*, calculating its selling value at from 25 to 60 *yen* per *tsubo*, and that it would not be necessary to tax the citizens to a greater extent than 250,000 *yen* annually. One interesting feature of the estimate is that 3,800,000 tons of goods are carried annually from Yokohama in lighters at cost of 4 million *yen*, and that 100,000 tons are carried by railway at a cost of 200,000 *yen*. If even a moiety of these figures were charged in the form of harbour dues, the city would be a substantial gainer.

The Osaka fire seems to have imparted an interesting aspect to the question of insurance in Japan. It is said to have completely shaken the confidence hitherto placed by the insurance companies in so-called fire-proof godowns. The destruction of the Yasuda Godowns involved a loss of nearly three quarters of a million *yen*, and it is alleged that, had the conflagration spread to Nakanoshima, practically all the great insurance companies would have been ruined. Hence there is now a disposition not only to reduce the amount of risks already carried on this kind of property, but also to refuse altogether to rewrite policies. In these circumstances, according to the *Shogyo Shimpo*, the foreign insurance agencies have seen, and are seizing, their opportunity. Most of the Japanese policies are partly re-insured by foreign firms. This re-insurance is said to aggregate about 60 per cent. at present, and the Japanese offices are disposed to increase the foreign share of the risk. In fact, so much timidity has been caused by the Osaka fire that without foreign re-insurance the business would be practically impossible. The foreign firms have accordingly decided to raise their rates, and they are said to have declared that unless the Japanese fall into line, re-insurance will be refused altogether. Thus, as our Tokyo contemporary somewhat plaintively remarks, the situation has fallen virtually under foreign control.

There has been a conference in Osaka with reference to the application of the Fujimoto Bank in connexion with its claim against the Dai Nippon Sugar Refining Company. The Bank has refused to withdraw the application, but has agreed to suspend further steps until the 6th of October. This action on the part of the Bank is regarded as foreshadowing an amicable settlement. Of course all the Company's creditors understand that the only chance of recovering their money is to assist the Company to continue its business. If it be a sound enterprise, as everybody believes it to be, its debts will certainly be paid off in the course of a few years.

It is appropriate to mention here, with reference to the panic caused among holders of sugar companies' shares on the 3rd inst., that confidence was partially restored on the 4th. Thus the shares of the Yensui Company rose 1.90 *yen* on that day.

Wednesday, September 8.

There is talk of the invention of a new kind of cement by two experts of the Nitrogen Fertilizer Company, namely, Messrs. Noguchi and Fujiyama. It is called "liquid cement," and various technical details are given as to its quality and production. Should it prove a success, the fate of all ordinary cement companies will be sealed, it is said.

We may mention here that according to Japanese newspapers, the naval authorities, in the sequel of careful investigations, have decided that the price of liquid fuel is prohibitive of its use in times of peace.

Thursday, September 9.

The principal bankers of Tokyo held a meeting on the 8th inst. with reference to the question of reducing the rate of interest on deposits. It was decided that a reduction must be made, but the amount led to controversy, some being in favour of making the new rate 4½ and others advocating 4. We gather that this point was left undecided. The present expectation is that the reduction will take place from the 15th inst.

Nothing has been heard lately of the dispute between the Tokyo Municipality and the Tokyo Railway Company with reference to the latter's Depreciation Fund. It will be remembered that the Municipality claimed a right to regard this fund as net profit for the purpose of the royalty payable by the Company to the city; to which view the Company took strong exception on the ground that the money was by no means clear profit, being intended solely to make good the daily wear and tear of material. It would now seem, according to the *Asahi Shimbun* that the matter has been allowed to drop. The Directors of the Company have pointed out that the money in question has to be expended, and is actually expended in great part, on the upkeep of the line and the rolling stock. These are outlays of uncertain dimensions. They may

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be greater in one year than in another, but that a million *yen* a year is barely sufficient to cover the ultimate expenditures on this account is agreed by experts The aldermen have apparently acquiesced in that view, though they claim, with some show of reason, that if the Company has unlimited power to fix the dimensions of this Fund, the royalty to the city may always be avoided. It appears to us that the latter apprehension is a little extravagant. It assumes an abnormal degree of helplessness on the part of the city, and want of integrity on the side of the Directors.

There appears to be something like a mania for establishing gas companies throughout Japan. Charters have already been granted for Kyoto, Toyohashi and Moji, and plans are under consideration with regard to Okayama, Hiroshima and Tokushima. The reasons assigned are that charcoal has become so expensive as to create an opening for gas to be used for cooking purposes, and that the establishment of military divisions in various quarters has increased the demand for fuel.

It is stated that the experts sent from England to make a final examination of the project for the Anglo-Japanese Hydro-Electric enterprise have been working with extraordinary assiduity since their arrival in Japan. They have now practically completed their survey, and have set about preparing their final report. It is thought that about a week will suffice to wind up their labours, and thus the decision with regard to this important enterprise will very soon be taken. We may mention here that no belief attaches to the recently circulated story as to the Tokyo Railway Company having concluded a contract with the projectors of the Kinu-gawa hydro-electric scheme.

We read in the *Kokumin Shimbun* that not one party of American tourists, but two, each consisting of 700 persons, are to arrive in Japan at the close of this year and at the beginning of next. The first party have chartered the 18,000 ton steamer *Cleveland*. They will begin by visiting Europe and will then come on by the Suez canal, reaching Yokohama on the 28th of December and remaining in Japan until the 4th of February. The second party will come direct from San Francisco, which place they will leave on the 24th of February. It seems a pity that such a season should have been chosen for these visits.

No satisfactory explanation is offered as to the sharp depreciation suffered by the Hoden shares on the 8th inst. The experts content themselves simply by saying that the public is without confidence in the future of this Company.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, September 3.

The statement attributed by the *Hochi Shimbun* to the Mayor of Tokyo that the Tokyo Railway Company can not carry out the provisions of its charter by building 200 miles of track before the close of 1910 gave a severe shock to the shares of that company and they fell sharply in the market on Friday, dragging down all others in their wake. Such is the chief explanation given, but the more probable cause of the debacle is to be found in a reaction from the appreciation of the past few days. Osaka also in reported to have suffered depression. Doubtless profit-taking sales are largely responsible.

Saturday, September 4.

On the whole, the market was somewhat weak on the 4th inst., though the general tone is said to have been fairly strong. The weather caused some anxiety, and it seems to have been felt that purchases might be effected with greater advantage by postponement. The shares of the Tokyo Railway were exceptional. They rose 1.40 points, from which it would seem that the public believes in some imminent adjustment of the Company's finances.

Monday, September 6.

The tone on the Stock Exchange yesterday was strong. All shares, with insignificant exceptions, rose appreciably. Some weakness was felt in the afternoon owing to profit-taking sales, but the general tendency was firm.

Tuesday, September 7.

A dull feeling prevailed on the Stock Exchange yesterday. There was a strong disposition to sell September and October shares for the purpose of buying those of November. Prices generally declined in consequence, and small business was done.

Wednesday, September 8.

The state of the Exchange on the 8th instant was unsettled. In the forenoon the tendency was downwards, but in the afternoon things improved under the influence of news that Osaka was brisk. A debacle took place in the Hoden Oil shares, however. They dropped 5.60 points, apparently owing to a renewal of the rumours that have injuriously affected these shares for some months back.

Thursday, September 9.

The forenoon session on the 9th instant witnessed a sharp upward movement, so sharp as to produce profit-taking sales in the afternoon, with, of course, a depressing effect. A similar state of affairs was reported from Osaka, and the two cities re-acted upon each other. In a majority of cases, however, closing prices showed some improvement as compared with the quotations on the preceding day. We append the quotations for November :—

	Sept. 8th.	Sept. 9th.	
Tokyo Railway	74 55	75 15	+ 60
Kei-hin Railway	—	70.50	—
Yusen Kaisha	81.30	82.25	+ .95
Toyo Kisen	14.50	—	—
Tanko Kisen	48 25	48.15	— .10
Tokyo Gas	—	103.50	—
Tokyo Dento	96.00	97 00	+1.00
Fuji Gass Spinning	102.65	102 65	.—
Tokyo Spinning	43.70	43.95	+ .02
Kanegafuchi Spinning	113.00	113 05	+ .05
Beer	80.00	80 05	+ .05
Hoden Oil	83.20	88.00	+1 80
Nippon Oil	97.40	97 30	— .10
Stock Exchange	180.00	182.00	+2.00

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

On the eve of the departure of the last mail steamer from Hawaii for Japan, telegraphic news was received from the interior to the effect that another attempt on the life of Mr. Shiba had been made by 6 men. No particulars were giving but from the terms of the message it is presumed that the attempt failed.

The great heat which oppressed Japan for so many days seems now to have been replaced by genuine September weather, but according to the meteorological authorities there are at present no appearances of a storm, so far at least as the main island is concerned. The extreme north, namely Saghalien and the adjacent parts of Yezo, have been visited by a gale; but, with the exception of comparatively trifling local disturbances, the atmospheric conditions are elsewhere favourable. The next week or ten days are of great importance to the rice crop.

Our readers are aware that work was commenced on the battleship *Kawachi* on the 1st of April last at Yokosuka, and on the battleship *Settsu* in the middle of February at Kure. It is stated that rapid progress is being made with the building, and the following details are given about the ships:—Displacement 20,750 tons; armament fourteen 12-in. guns, ten 6-in. and twelve 4.7-in.; speed 22 knots.

The friends of Mr. Roy Piggott in Japan will be glad to learn that he has been nominated to devote two years more to the study of the Japanese language, so that he will probably arrive in Tokyo next March. During his previous stay in this country as a language officer he passed the best examination on record, and it was generally regretted at the time that the War Office did not find it convenient to prolong his period of study to four years. Mr. Piggott will be accompanied by his bride.

The period of Mr. A. F. White's service under his renewed agreement with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha having expired, he has resigned his appointment and settled down to the pursuit of his professional career in England. It is understood that his services were much appreciated while he was in Japan in the capacity of Advising Engineer, but doubtless he is well advised in deciding not to remain in the East, for delightful as are the conditions of service in this country, the rewards within a foreigner's reach are comparatively small.

We learn with regret from the *Asahi's* telegrams that the condition of his Excellency Chang Chihtung continues to cause much uneasiness. A Japanese military surgeon, Mr. Hiraga, was summoned from Tientsin to examine the aged statesman, and, although refraining from any positive statement, he is said to have diagnosed the symptoms as pointing to cancer. The general belief appears to be that there is no hope of his Excellency being able to resume his duties, and people are beginning to talk of the appointment of a new member of the Grand Council in his stead.

Mr. Secretary Terata is quoted by the *Yomiuri Shimbun* as saying that the preparation of plans for the new Houses of the Diet is in busy progress. The available area in Nagata cho measures nearly 20,000 *tsubo*, but it takes the form of an irregular pentagon, so irregular that although about 8000 *tsubo* would suffice for the buildings themselves, that amount of land can not be conveniently obtained within the grounds, as now marked out. To attain a really satisfactory result it will be necessary to include the sites of the Prime Minister's residence and of the Chinese Legation. As for the surplus land, it will be made into a park.

Our readers are aware that the Osaka banks recently made a slight diminution in their rate of interest on fixed deposits. Tokyo did not immediately follow suit, but there is now much talk of doing so, according to the *Shogyo Shimpo* Probably the step will not be taken until after the result of the subscriptions to the Central Bank of Korea is known. At present, views are said to be divided between a reduction to 4½ or to 4 per cent. Probably the latter figure will be chosen.

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It is expected that the Hypothec Bank will follow suit, although its policy and the purpose of its establishment suggest the highest rate of interest possible. The action of the Postal Savings Bank will then become an interesting problem.

It is stated that no less than 700 leading business men of the United States have decided to make a trip to Japan in the middle of October next. Naturally there is some perplexity as to the most appropriate manner of entertaining such a colossal party. Certainly, when America does do a thing, her scale is very large.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has been publishing day after day a series of articles professing to expose certain flagrant abuses said to disfigure the Greek Church in Japan. The names of the alleged offenders have been given by our contemporary, and, as if that were not enough, their photographs have been added. A similar campaign has been started in the columns of the *Asahi Shimbun*, the Unitarians being the object of attack. Experience shows that such diatribes are always greatly exaggerated. At all events, if the Unitarian body needs a physician, it is fortunate in having Dr. Clay Macaulay to minister to its maladies.

The Directors of the Tokyo Rice Exchange deemed it expedient to close the Exchange on the morning of the 6th inst. inasmuch as the volume of transactions had exceeded all reasonable limits. Immense speculative purchases appear to have been made by a broker who bought for a raise in anticipation of a break in the weather. The Directors decided to raise the bargain money by from 20 to 40 *yen* per 100 *koku*.

The meteorological authorities report altogether favourable climatic conditions throughout the whole of Japan. The only cloud upon the horizon is a centre of depression in the south of Formosa, but no great importance appears to be attached to it.

The Japanese have applied to a pacific purpose the big building which formerly served for the principal Russian barracks at Port Arthur. They have converted it into an Industrial College, the principal subjects on the curriculum being electricity, mining and metallurgy and industry in general. The students are to be taken from graduates of the middle schools and the high industrial schools, and no fees will be charged for the present. The periods of study are four years for the general course, two years for the practical course and four years for special courses. We do not find any special reference to the sources from which money is to be obtained, but it will be remembered that an appropriation on this account was said to be included in the last estimates of the Governor-General of Kwantung. The school is to be opened from the 1st of April next.

Our readers are aware that the sum now granted by the Diet to the Imperial Household every year is 3 million *yen*, out of which have to be defrayed not only the outlays of the Emperor himself and of the Crown Prince, but also the sums yearly devoted to the support of the numerous princely families. It has been recognised for some years that the allowance is insufficient, but in view of the state of the national finances the Emperor refused to sanction any increase. The time is now said to have arrived, however, when some augmentation has become inevitable, and it is rumoured that the Cabinet has decided to ask the Diet for an appropriation of 4½ millions next session.

Tokyo journals contain some brief allusions to next year's budget, but they appear to us to be mainly hypothetical. A reduction of taxation, or at any rate of revenue, to the extent of 12 million *yen* is spoken of, but this will be more than compensated for by the natural increase of revenue accruing from the current year's account. We shall doubtless have authentic figures in a few days, and it is therefore useless to deal now with mere conjectures.

There are no signs at present of a disquieting nature, and it seems certain that good weather will be enjoyed during the next few days. The 220th day falls on the 11th.

TWENTIETH CENTURY MORALITY.

It is an interesting illustration of 20th century international morality that already people are disputing about the ownership of the land said to have been discovered by Dr. Cook in the vicinity of the North Pole. To an unsophisticated mind it would appear that the people who now possess the land and who have possessed it from time immemorial are the rightful owners, and the only rightful owners. That view of the case, however, seems to be not even entertained. The people that possess the land are not able to assert their title, and therefore they have no title.

A London telegram received by the *Jiji* states that Dr. Cook having made public the account of his expedition to the North Pole, the doubts as to whether he actually reached the pole or not, have been cleared away. Dr. Cook, as he says, started with two natives for the Pole, which was then 460 miles distant, when he had travelled a certain distance of the ice zone. After a weary journey of 30 days, he reached his destination. At the beginning, he encountered strong head winds and severe cold, yet he was able to proceed at a high speed. In a region between 83′ 47″ and 86′ 36″ N. Lat. he found a land, beyond which no more land was seen nor any trace of animal life. The ice was found to be flatter, as he approached the Pole, where he at length arrived on April 21, last year. Dr. Cook stayed for two days at the Pole, where nothing but the snow plain was seen. When he set out on the return voyage, he at first marched rapidly, but in a few days his provisions ran short and in the meantime a gale sprang up, which prevented him from continuing at the same speed as before. Despite these hindrances, he continued to proceed with much difficulty but he at length was forced to shelter himself in an underground hut till February last.

THE SCENERY AT THE POLE.

The explorer, says an interesting telegram to the *Osaka Jiji*, found land between 83° 47′ Lat. N. and 86° 36′ Lat. N., but beyond that there was no land and no living creature of any kind. The feelings aroused by the sight of that desolate expanse of moving ice and snow he describes as beyond expression. The nearer the Pole he got, the flatter became the ice. "After a long period of oppressive monotony and chronic fatigue," Dr Cook writes, "there came the memorable April 21 [the day on which the Pole was attained]. I stayed at the Pole for two days. As far as my vision could carry, there stretched a vast field of snow-covered ice, and the monotony of the two days was not broken by any sight of land or life."

It is expected that four torpedo-destroyers belonging to the British China Squadron will shortly leave Weihaiwei for Nagasaki.

THE BOOKSHELF.

Gervase, by MABEL DEARMER, Macmillan & Co., London.

A POWERFUL TALE skilfully told, will, we believe, be the verdict of every reader of Mrs. Dearmer's latest work. It is the story of a highly sensitive and deeply religious nature flung into the fiercest conflict between duty and desire, with adverse circumstances to intensify the strife. The characterisation of the principal actors in the tragedy—for such it is, in effect—can only be described as excellent. The situation arising out of the marriage into which Gervase Alleyne is tricked is powerfully handled, and the reader finds himself unconsciously regretting that (despite the passing of the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill) the author did not see her way to a happier termination of the story than a mere transient taste of the bliss of true love.

Syrinx, by LAURENCE NORTH, William Heinemann, London.

THIS is a cleverly written book, which does not, however, fulfil the promise of its earlier chapters. It is unfortunate that the heroine—a beauty, but, we fear, a spoilt beauty—should have received from her associates, the "Polite Outcasts," the name of Aspasia. Fascinating as she is, her waywardness becomes somewhat of a tax on the reader's patience. Most of the followers of Miss Herrick's career will conceive the opinion that "Mr. Motorman" deserved a better fate, and that the finale of the story is disappointingly at variance with its romantic opening. Still, the book has undoubted merit as a study of an uncommon type of woman, and we understand that—excellent advertisement!—it has already been the subject of an action in court, on the ground of having been pirated.

The Liberty of Love, by JAMES BLYTH, George Bell and Sons, London.

WE fear we must describe this as an inane book with a misleading title. It is a tale of two silly girls, Minty and Madge, one of whom is none the wiser for having imbibed "modern" socialistic ideas on the subject of marriage (though fortunately she is saved from them in practice), while the other falls a prey to the same mischievous notions. It is a long time since we read a book in which so much is made out of so little.

CHOLERA AT CHEFOO.

A LITTLE GIRL VICTIM.

"We regret to state," says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 30th ult., "that a telegram was received on Saturday by the China Inland Mission, announcing that Miss Florence Fergusson, whose father is the representative of the British and Foreign Bible Society at Chengtu, Szechuen, had died of cholera early on Saturday afternoon. It appears that the little girl, who was about ten years of age and a scholar of the China Inland Mission Preparatory School, had visited on Wednesday at the home of the Rev. George Cornwell, who, as mentioned in our columns, died of cholera last Thursday. It is suspected that Miss Fergusson contracted the disease through this visit, no signs of cholera having appeared in the school prior to her illness. We are glad to know that thus far no other children have been attacked by the disease."

A CORRECTION.

In connection with the above, our Shanghai contemporary regrets that owing to a mis reading of the telegram, it wrongly identified the Mr. Cornwell who lately died of cholera at Chefoo with the former well-known member of the Licensed Pilots Association. The deceased gentleman was the Rev. George Cornwell, of the American Presbyterian Mission, who arrived in China in 1892 and was stationed at Chefoo. For some time he was the Principal of the Temple Hill Anglo-Chinese College, which he established; and he also did much work among foreign sailors visiting the port. Mr. Cornwell leaves behind him a wife and several children, and his death will be deeply deplored.

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CHINESE NOTES AND NEWS.

Speaking at the 88th half-yearly meeting of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, held recently in the City Hall, Hongkong, the report of which has already appeared in our columns, Mr. W. J. Gresson, who presided, said that the Far East was still waiting for the expected turn of the commercial tide. The speaker could not say that trade was yet in a progressive condition, but he struck an opimistic note when he said that favourable climatac news, upon which so much depends, had been received from India. He was pleased with the upward tendency of both Chinese and Japanese silk crops, and drew attention to the new life that has been infused into the Straits Settlements by the successful cultivation of rubber, which bids fair to become a valuable and permanent addition to the exports of that region.

Such factors as the above cannot help but have a generally beneficent influence on Far Eastern commerce, and one may predict without fear of contradiction—especially in view of the recent amicable settlement of the questions which have been disturbing the political atmosphere,—a brighter outlook in the business circles of the Far East than has prevailed for some time. Everybody will sincerely hope and work for the realization of such a prospect.

* * * *

Opium, one of the great curses of India and China, should meet its Waterloo, bye and bye. At any rate, towards such a climax have the efforts of the representatives of the great nations of the world recently pointed. We might draw attention to the fact that the official report of the famous commission which sat at Shanghai in February last, is now on sale, and can be obtained at the local branch of Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd. The work has been ably compiled. It consists of two volumnes, the first of which contains a list of the delegates and committees, the official minutes of proceedings of the commission in English and a summary in French, and the text of the resolution in English and French; and the second contains the reports of the delegations. In the latter volume complete reports and memoranda on the subject matter of the commission as presented, are published for the first time. These memoranda are not only of particular interest to students and scientists, but are also of general interest. They deal with the area and location of poppy cultivation, the manufacture and distribution of the drug, the resrictions governing its importation and exportation in the countries affected, and with the pharmacy and other laws regulating the sale of morphia, morphine, and other derivatives and compounds of opium. The volumes together contain about 400 small foolscap folios, and are obtainable at $5 (Mex).

* * * *

Can it be that the home-loving Chinaman is ceasing to be attracted by the inducement of foreign countries? Not so many, by one third of the annual number, emigrated to Penang during 1908. Probably the acute financial depression prevailing throughout that period affected the movements of the poor Chinaman just as it crippled the travelling opportunities of the American millionaire tourists during recent seasons. In any case it is pleasing to note from the Penang administration report of last year that the scarcity of new Chinese immigrants was generally regretted throughout those areas. The Chinaman, it is well known in the Straits neighbourhood, will do twice as much work as is performed by the beetel-chewing, ease-loving Tamil coolie from Southern India. Speaking of the preventative means adopted against the use of opium, it is with great satisfaction that a falling off in the sale of chandu is recorded, and that the number of public houses and retail liquor shops is reported to have largely decreased.

So much for the pessimists who prophecied that the Chinaman would take to drink if he could not smoke or eat opium.

On the other hand, we note with some regret that "Colonial born Chinese" were occasionally concerned in the activities of certain disorderly gangs in the Protectorate. The point which most distresses the authorities is this, however,—even the disorderly gangs which develop into actual secret societies cannot, if their members are British subjects, be broken up and "banished."

Truly an Englishman's home is his castle!

* * * *

Since the Prince Regent assumed the reins of power many reports have been heard of Prince Ching's retirement, as he felt that power was slipping from his hands. As time went on, remarks the well-informed writer of "native notes" in the *Shanghai Times*, the Prince seemed to have by degrees reconciled himself to the Regent by his docility, and if he should succeed in keeping his post after the forthcoming funeral of the late Empress-Dowager, he will be fairly free from imminent danger of removal. Notwithstanding this the Prince Regent has been in two minds about appointing some one of the Princes as a probationary member of the Grand Council to learn its duties and be ready to fill any vacancy that may suddenly occur. It is also understood that one or two Chinese appointments of similar nature may be made. The recent absence of two or three Grand Councillors, owing to illness and other causes, has emphasized the necessity of the scheme.

* * * *

The general tradal depression which existed throughout China during 1908 is held to be responsible in large measure for the stagnation of business in some of the important Treaty Ports along the Yangtsze River; the currency question was another factor which militated against the natural increase of trade; local conditions were in some places unfavourable; while floods and the depression during the period set apart for the Imperial mourning, all had, to a greater or lesser extent, an adverse effect on trade. But even with these detrimental factors, trade on the Yangtsze generally was much improved. At Chunking, Changsha, Yochow, Hankow and Kiukiang the year was favourable to merchants generally; at Ichang, Shasi, Wuhu, Nanking and Chinkiang the results were not quite so satisfactory. The Returns of Trade for the Yangtsze Ports, issued by the Imperial Maritime Customs, deal with the trade of each of the above mentioned ports for 1908 in detail, offering explanations for decreases and suggesting steps which might be taken to secure a greater and more profitable volume of trade.

* * * *

In his report on the trade of Nanking for 1908, Mr. E. O. Reis, Acting Commissioner of Customs, says the coming of the railway from Shanghai has brought improved means of communication, but it has not opened up new country, nor is competition with the steamers likely to appreciably reduce the already low rates of freight prevailing. Conditions, are, however, quite different when one crosses the Yangtze into the *hinterland* now about to be traversed by the railway which will connect with Tientsin. There one finds transport by pack-animal and wheelbarrow, slow and costly, or by devious waterways of uncertain depth emptying, not into the Yangtze, but into the Grand Canal at a considerable distance from the nearest treaty port. Although the trunk line of the Tientsin-Pukow Railway will apparently not traverse a particularly productive region until after the Huai River is crossed, yet it will prove to be the most convenient means of transporting to the Yangtze the products of more fertile regions further west, floated down by this river, which, with its tributaries drains a large section of the Anhwei province. Further, an important district which also lacks convenient means of transport, viz., South-east Honan, can easily be tapped by a branch line connecting with Kaifeng, so there seems every prospect of a large trade eventually centering at Pukow, opposite Nanking, which, in addition to its good anchorage, has the advantage of deep water communication with the sea all the year year round. During the year a survey of the line has been made and after the cutting of the first sod by Their Excellencies Lu Hai-huan, Director General of the railway, and Tuan Fang the Liang-Kiang Viceroy, on January 2 of this year, construction work was commenced. The principal towns which will be situated on or near the southern section of the line are Ch'uchow, Fengang, Linhwaikwan, where the Huai River will be bridged, and Suchow, all in the province of Anhwei, and Suchowfu, in North Kiangsu. The Nanking City Railway, a short line of 7 miles running from the river bank opposite the Custom House at Hsiakwan to the South east corner of Nanking, was opened to traffic on August 26, although not quite completed. The city is entered through a gateway which had been blocked up for centuries. The opening of this gate caused considerable misgiving to the superstitious portion of the population, which imagined, says a well informed writer in the *Shanghai Times*, that through it would enter all manner of calamities. Trains, filled with passengers, run nearly every hour, and receipts already largely exceed the expenditure. It is intended to continue the line to Wuhu as soon as the requisite funds are available.

BUSINESS MEN IN SEATTLE.

As soon as the party of Japanese business men arrived at Seattle, they were welcomed by the Japanese Consul-General Mr. Midzuno, the Japanese Consul Mr. Tanaka, Mr. Oda, Chief-Secretary of the Seattle Exposition, Mr. Takahashi, Chairman of the Japanese Association, and Messrs. Bucks (?) and Portsend, Welcome Committee representing the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. The Customs authorities having foregone the medical inspection. A reception was held at 10 a.m. in the dining-room of the steamer *Minnesota*. Mr. Hay, Governor of the State of Washington, Mr. Miller, Mayor of Seattle and Mr. Roman, President of the Associated Chamber of Commerce of the Pacific Coast, delivered extempore speeches, and Baron Shibusawa spoke in reply to each of these addresses. At the entrance to the pier a welcome arch stood among a number of the Japanese and American national flags, and the warm welcome was indicated by a display of fireworks and by the singing of the *Kimigavo*. The party were taken over to the Washington Hotel in motor-cars. Among the welcomers, a number of Americans who had come from San Francisco, Tacoma and many other distant places were present.

On the 3rd day after their arrival, Baron Kanda and Messrs. Minami, Iwaya and Kumagai were invited by the Principal of the Washington University to a banquet held at New York Building in the compound of the Seattle Exposition, while the rest of the party were taken over to visit various factories and dockyards. In the meantime, Baronesses Shibusawa and Kanda and other ladies were entertained by Mr. Blaine, whose husband was the Chief of the Reception Committee. In the evening, the ladies were entertained by Mrs. Bucks (?) with a heatrical performance, after which they were present at a dinner given in their honour. About the same time, all the gentlemen attended the dinner party given by the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, which was held at the Lanie Club. This was the first formal entertainment of the party, and proved a great success. At that meeting. Mr. Barke (?) gave an address of welcome, which was interpreted by Mr. Zumoto. Baron Shibusawa spoke in reply. Then Mr. Peres (?), a senator of the State of Washington, delivered an eloquent speech on the subject "the Japanese Empire" (Mr. Horikoshi interpreting), and Mr. Nakano spoke in reply, being interpreted by Mr. Takatsuji. Mr. Blaine, Chief of the Reception Committee, proposed the health of "Our Visitors from Japan" (Mr. Takaishi, interpreting), to which Mr. Matsukata replied in English. On Mr. Barke's (?) proposal, three *Banzai* were given for His Majesty the Emperor of Japan, and the same in honour of His Excellency the President of the United States of America, at the proposal of Baron Shibusawa. The speeches addressed by Japanese gentlemen were received with great applause.

ACCORDING to the *Asahi*, the Chinese Minister at Tokyo will resign his portfolio very shortly. Mr. To, Superintendent of the Railway Board, will succeed him.

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STRENGTH FOR GOOD ENDS.

(COMMUNICATED).

THE attention of civilization has once more been drawn to the Congo horror by a manifesto recently issued by a representative conference held at Lambeth Palace under the presidency of the Archbishop of Canterbury. The manifesto bears the signatures of all the recognized leaders of the great religious bodies throughout the kingdom, Anglican and Nonconformist—the latter represented by the Presidents of the Congregationalist, Wesleyan Methodist and Baptist denominations, and by the Moderators of the Scottish Churches—so that the appeal, which sets out to be in the main a statement of facts, and is prompted entirely by humanitarian considerations, is free from the slightest taint of sectarianism or political gain. The signatories claim—largely on the strength of the statements contained in the White Book published by the Foreign Office early in July—that "the Congo Basin is to-day the scene of as cruel a tyranny as exists on earth. . . . that beyond question at this moment a system which involves many of the worst features of African slavery or even exceeds it in horror is prevailing throughout a territory of nearly one million square miles." There is no reason to believe that this description in any degree exceeds the limits of truth. Since the time when King LEOPOLD resigned his rights of "government" in the so-called Congo "Free" State in favour of the Belgian Parliament, men have been hoping against hope for tangible evidences of improvement in the condition of the native population in that darkest region of the Dark Continent; but there is some ground for fearing that the last state of these unhappy beings, under their new nominal head, will be worse than the first. For this apparent change of government was in reality no change at all. The "concessionary companies" retain their long-recognized "privileges," while the Sovereign who, more than any living man, is responsible for the hell of misrule which prevails in these regions, has "officially retired" from the ghastly business, with an area euphoniously described as "Crown domains," and six times the extent of his European Kingdom, preserved inviolate to him and his heirs. The root of the evil—the system of enforced labour, with every accompaniment of injustice and inhumanity—still remains in being, and so long as such a system is permitted to darken the face of civilization, no real improvement in the situation can be expected. The tyrants who flourish under that system shelter themselves with some degree of confidence under the fact that those concerned in the gruesome tragedy have their lips sealed by the lust of gain, while those who are not—the general public of the outside world—are difficult to rouse in a matter so remote from their own environment and so utterly foreign to their own experience. Such phrases as "enforced labour" "inhumanity" and "misrule" convey little or nothing to the mind of the "man in the street," because the picture lacks definition: realization is difficult to achieve. The horrors of the Congo, to be appreciated, need to be seen; and few indeed are there of those who have seen them that have not had their silence bought with gold. But one or two good men and true have seen, and yet have returned uncorrupted from that land of the White Man's Sin. So that truths are leaking out, slowly but surely, such truths as those we now place before our readers.

The principal sources of wealth in this region—not for the wretched inhabitants, but for their white taskmasters—are ivory and rubber. Let us take the rubber industry—if indeed it can be dignified with the name of an industry—as illustrating the methods pursued by the white invaders to enrich themselves through the blood and toil of blacks who—low though they may be in the scale of humanity as measured by modern standards—are guilty of no greater iniquity than a desire to be left in peace. What is perhaps the most valuable product of the Congo Basin is exploited after the following fashion. Every village up the great river, on the fringe of the vast and (to the white man) impossible forests which bear in their poisonous depths the precious rubber-vines—every village is heavily taxed, not in cash, but *in pounds of rubber*. Every man, woman and child has to labour, and labour hard, to make up the monthly tale of bundles which cost the white exploiters nothing; and every month the tribute has to be carried, over a toilsome journey in some cases lasting many days, to the nearest fort or station where the official taskmaster, the *Chef de poste*, idly waits for it. What if they fail, and the "tribute" is not laid at the feet of that dignitary by the appointed date? The remedy is simple; the village suffers punishment, and pays *in blood*. Herein may be seen the diabolical ingenuity of the Congo *régime*. That terrible region of impenetrable forests and malarial wastes has from time immemorial been inhabited by two distinct races—one warlike, physically superior and not entirely devoid of cannibal instinct; the other feeble, but peaceably disposed. The former have from time to time made war upon the latter, almost invariably with the same bloody result; they now gratify their brutal and bloodthirsty instincts upon their inoffensive neighbours under the ægis of the Congo Government. In other words, the traditional enemies of one race are now utilized by "civilization" as the instruments of a bloody terrorism against that weaker race. Clothed in the uniform of the Congo State and armed at the expense of the same, these quondam warlike savages of cannibalistic proclivities, have blossomed forth into the "Congo Police," and as such deal out "punishment," under the instructions of the *Chef de poste*, against any defaulting village. The scene which succeeds the visit of one of these "disciplinary" expeditions to such a village is enough indeed to make the sons of heaven weep that such things are done on earth. Three degrees of punishment, varying according to the depth of wickedness and the number of offences, appear to represent the usual method of procedure followed by the *Chef de poste* and his fiendish "police"—they are: flogging, mutilation, death. Sometimes the able-bodied men of the village have made good their escape into the trackless forest before the avengers arrive, in which case the punishment is visited upon tottering men, aged women and young children. And thus it sometimes comes about that many of the oldest and youngest inhabitants of a village may be observed to be *without their left hands*—living witnesses to the wicked indolence of their able-bodied relations. But in other cases those who have fled from the village in time return to find only the bleeding corpses of the village mothers, and the decapitated trunks of their young children, amid a smoking mass of ruins. The village has been wiped out of existence for failing to supply the requisite number of pounds of rubber—and as a warning *pour encourager les autres*.

The record of the entrance of civilization into the dark places of the Earth—accompanied, as it only too often has been, by the greed of gold—has not always been beyond reproach. But we doubt if the history of the Christian Era has anything to show which can parallel the horrors now perpetrated in the Congo Basin. So Christianity and Humanitarianism, ashamed at this dark blot upon their name, turn in their most respectable sleep, and issue a Memorial. But do they suppose that the chains of the white man's lust and cruelty will be struck from the limbs of Congo natives by a mere Memorial? Those chains mean gold—much gold, to those who use them; and that being so, will Mammon yield to mere protestations from religious bodies? In their manifesto the memorialists say "We refuse to believe that diplomacy has come to the end of its resources." But what are the facts? They are briefly (1) that the conditions upon which "The Independent State of the Congo" was set up by the combined efforts of the Great Powers at the Berlin Conference of 1885 have been flagrantly violated; (2) that only two of the signatory Powers, to wit, Britain and the United States, show any disposition to object to this violation; (3) that the Belgian Government have adopted an attitude of virtual resistance to British and American diplomatic pressure. It is little wonder therefore that, as Mr. MOREL, the secretary of the Congo Reform Association tells us, "the Belgian authorities on the Congo are becoming more and more arrogant, and the machinery of slavery and extortion is still working as strongly as ever. . . *Every attempt to obtain real reforms has been defeated.*" In these circumstances it is of little avail for Sir EDWARD GREY to declare, as he did in a despatch to the Belgian Foreign Minister on June 11th, that "His Majesty's Government are sure that the Belgian Government desire to put

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an end to the present state of things." The time has come for diplomatic pressure to be seconded by action; and the two great Anglo-Saxon Powers, who rightly regard themselves as mainly responsible for the proper government of this "Independent" State, could combine in no better cause than in putting an end to the long-drawn Congo horror. But if this represents, for the American people, too remote an excursion into the realm of foreign politics, than let England do the good work alone. The Power which, under the vigorous leadership of CASTLEREAGH, brought about the abolition of slavery in the "thirties," is surely not so lacking in moral and material strength as to be unable to undertake a similar task to-day. Perhaps some critic of such action might cite in this context the well-known saying of SHAKESPEARE—"'tis excellent to have a giant's strength: but it is tyrannous to use it like a giant." Nevertheless, there are cases where the strength of a giant can be used for good ends, and without the smallest taint of tyranny. The Government of the Congo, insensible to diplomatic remonstrances, would probably bestir itself in the face of a blockade of the Congo estuary by a British squadron. As for those timorous ones who conceive that in taking such action in such a cause England might find Europe arrayed against her—we decline to believe in a combination of nations so corrupt as to engage in a bloody war for the perpetuation of such a horror as that which now disgraces two Continents. No, we repeat that the case under consideration is one in which, failing active coöperation, Britain's sea-power can be fitly and benefically used, and used to her lasting honour. The hour has arrived for the Congo horror to become a hideous memory of the past.

ASAMA.

THE greatest of those Japanese volcanoes which the present era finds still in a state of activity has lately been asserting its claim to the title with unwonted force. Indeed, it would appear that the mountain has entered upon one of those periodical phases of activity which usually result in some marked change in the configuration of a volcanic cone—to wit, either the formation (whether by explosion or by subsidence) of a crater-ring, the breaching of the crater itself, or the formation of a new cone. Which of these three things is to be the final outcome of the present condition of the mountain is, of course, difficult to say; but having regard to the extreme normality of Asama's conformation and structure, and to the past history of the volcano, it is reasonable to assume that the third of these volcanic processes is now in progress. Two considerations may be advanced against the probability of the formation of a crater-ring. These are that, although that cataclysmic operation has twice been performed in the life-history of this volcano, the present great depth of the crater and the remarkably solid structure of the cone as a whole, render a repetition of such an upheaval or subsidence highly improbable. Again, these same considerations, coupled with the fact that the last great outburst of the volcano, in 1783, despite the enormous volume of the lava-flow, found no weak spot in the whole circumference of the crater-wall—these same considerations suggest the improbability of the present state of the volcano resulting in any breaching of the cone itself. We are therefore led to fall back upon the third of the vulcanological processes we have mentioned, as most nearly indicating the course of Asama's present restlessness. Indeed, accounts received from the neighbourhood of the volcano would seem to show that the process of the formation of a new cone is fairly under way. The Governor of Nagano Prefecture has apparently issued orders to the police authorities (how multifarious, indeed, are the duties of the rural policeman!) to make an examination of the volcano and ascertain what is going on at its troubled summit. The police authorities have risen to the occasion and, though their report is somewhat quaintly worded, the general idea intended to be conveyed may be grasped—with the aid of a little imagination. The floor of the crater—we congratulate the intrepid officials on being able to see as far in circumstances of undoubted difficulty—is said to resemble "a cup with eggs inside," in the midst of a general fiery commotion. It is unfortunate that the representatives of law and order do not seem to have advanced very much in their knowledge of the scientific phenomena which form so great a feature of their own country, since the days of Rekinin, when volcanic eruptions (according to the old records) were invariably associated with snakes, wild ducks, blue dragons and the deaths of Emperors. But it is a fair inference, reading between the lines of this homely description, that the "cup" represents the depression at the top of a new cone in process of formation, and that the "eggs" are the huge bubbles that are apt to form on the surface of a lava column—the bursting of which, as was clearly shown by Dr. TEMPEST ANDERSON in his observations of Stromboli, are the exegesis of the periodical minor explosions which constitute the distinguishing feature of all incessantly active volcanoes. Incidentally the police authorities of Nagano Prefecture furnish yet another estimate of the dimensions of Asama's crater, the depth being put by them at 250 metres—or well over 800 feet, and the diameter at about 350 metres, or roughly, 1,200 feet. As far as the diameter is concerned, this errs on the side of modesty. Sir ERNEST SATOW estimated it at ¾ mile (nearly 4,000 feet), and that is generally agreed to be fully twice the actual distance from lip to lip. As for the depth of the crater, that is said to range—according to various opinions—from 400 feet to as many thousand: and the only excuse that can be advanced in partial extenuation of these widely divergent estimates is that, owing to changes of level in the crater floor, the depth is far from constant. Be that as it may, however, there is good reason to suppose that the present activity of the volcano represents more than a passing phase in its long career.

With regard to the recent sensational "attempt" to enter the "Hades" of Asama's crater, the emptiness of such a claim can not but be patent to anyone at all familiar with the topography of the mountain. The crater is bounded by a sloping bank, of loose ash and scoriæ and of no great steepness, which ends in the abrupt and perpendicular walls of the vent itself. We believe we are correct in saying that, except for one or two rifts in the structure of the cone, this sloping bank is continuous for the whole circumference of the crater. The photographs published by our enterprising contemporary the *Japan Gazette*, in rectification of its original misleading special telegram, make it clear that the pseudo-scientific American professor who thus sought to earn a cheap notoriety for himself did no more then walk down this sloping bank while a dozen stalwart men held on to a rope round his waist; and that the statement originally telegraphed, that he descended 90 feet into the crater proper—suspended, presumably, at the end of a rope—is a myth. While the facts appear by this time to be generally known, it may be permissible to remark, that, to the best of our belief, it is not possible to see the *floor* of the crater from the top of the aforesaid bank, or from any part of it. A glimpse may perhaps be obtained from one of the rifts to which we have referred; but the only satisfactory way to inspect the interior of the crater is to prostrate oneself on one of the few projecting dykes, at the lower edge of the bank, which break the rim of the abyss. If the volcano be in a fairly quiet state, and the crater comparatively free from steam, the whole floor may thus be examined at leisure. Our sensation-loving American professor may be interested to know that this has already been done, in the interests of science, without a rope, and without any clap-trap talk about Hades, Bushido and moral victories. We fear we must add that a man who seeks to make capital out of such a paltry performance as that of the "suspended" professor, must be actuated by some spirit far other than that of scientific achievement.

BRICKS WITHOUT STRAW.

A CERTAIN Mr. FRANK A. HOSMER, being exploited for the sensational purposes of the *New York World*, has shown extraordinary agility in the difficult tasks of making bricks out of straw and coats out of whole cloth. He has undertaken to prove that Japan contemplated the deliberate annexation of Hawaii 16 years ago, and

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that her plot was frustrated solely by the act of Mr. JOHN L. STEVENS in running up the American flag. HOSMER, who, to the great misfortune of many youths in Hawaii, occupied for ten years the office of President of Oahu College, bases this stupendous slander on three wild allegations. The first is that the Japanese Government "conceived the idea of annexing Hawaii some years previous to the revolution" of 1893. He has not the most infinitesimally small knowledge of any conceptions entertained by the Japanese Government at any time, but neither has he the most infinitesimally small sense of compunction. The second is that "the Japanese Government instituted a policy of sending its ex-soldiers to Honolulu to seek positions as labourers on the extensive plantations that bordered the capital," and thus "the Japanese entrenched themselves in the island until, when the monarchy fell to pieces, they had an army of more than 20,000 trained soldiers within a short distance of Honolulu." Mr. HOSMER, despite his 10 years' residence in Hawaii and despite his self-assumed *rôle* of historian, does not know, or, rather, does not care to know, that the Japanese labourers who went to Hawaii in those days were contract labourers; that they were selected without any reference to the Government, and that the plantations where they worked were determined solely by the planters. The third and last allegation is that the Japanese ship *Naniwa*, which arrived at Honolulu in February, 1893, had 20,000 modern rifles between her decks. Not a living man ever saw one of those rifles: they were then invisible, and they have remained invisible ever since. But Mr. HOSMER pretends to believe that they were there. That is the whole evidence. Upon that foundation, not even as stable as sand, a big edifice of falsehood is built. There is, indeed, something more. There is the fact that, when visited by President Dole and his confederate revolutionaries, Togo "inclined his body slightly from the hips and shot them a glance from under the visor of his officer's cap that would have bored holes in his deck." That hole-boring glance and the three delicious dreams of Munchausen HOSMER and his brother simpletons constitute the whole evidence of this Japanese plot. Column after column is devoted by *The World* to the colossal lie. And yet the measure of mendacity is not thought full enough. It is supplemented by this:—

Mr. Hosmer believes that much of the recent ill-feeling in Japan toward the United States has grown out of the disapproval of the terms of the treaty of Portsmouth. When the Japanese envoys returned home they were nearly mobbed by the public because they had not secured more favourable terms from Russia, and they squared themselves by shifting the responsibility upon President Roosevelt and the United States. From one end of the Empire to the other, any regard the Japanese had previously felt for our government was turned to hatred.

What is to be said of it all? Is this reckless disregard for truth to be reckoned among the characteristics of the twentieth-century white man, and have international relations become the text of the romancist? One thing is certain: none will be more indignant against such pestilent liars than the great bulk of the Americans themselves. As for Japan, she carries sufficient ballast of common sense not to be disturbed by these petty puffs of malevolent slander. To take them seriously would be only to play the game of the slanderer. The United States is always to be bracketted with England as this country's best friend.

POLAR EXPLORATION.

THERE is something of the dramatic in the circumstance that the announcements of the discovery of the North Pole by Dr. FREDERIC COOK and Commander ROBERT E. PEARY should have reached the world within a few days of each other. So closely has the news of the second achievement followed upon the first as to have given rise to the suspicion, seriously advanced in certain quarters, that Commander PEARY'S already historic telegram from Indian Harbour, Labrador, had reference merely to the success of his fellow-explorer, and not to any feat of his own. All the probabilities, however, all the circumstances of time and place, range themselves in opposition to such a theory, which subsequent information, in fact, disposes of altogether. Dr. COOK set out on his journey, as head of the Bradley Polar Expedition, as long ago as June 1907; Commander PEARY sailed from New York a year later. The routes chosen by the two explorers were different, that selected by Dr. COOK lying a considerable distance to the westward of the usual route, and involving some 300 miles more sledge work through the comparatively hospitable Ellesmere Land. As the despatch sent by Dr. COOK to the *New York Herald* informs us, he was able to obtain the company and expert assistance of a number of Esquimaux, with the necessary supplies of dogs and provisions, when at a distance of *seven* hundred miles from the Pole. The figure is significant, for Commander PEARY'S base, Cape Sheridan, which lies on the north side of Grant Land on the fringe of the Palæocrystic or Arctic Sea, is not more than 500 statute miles from the Pole. The date given by Dr. COOK for his arrival at the Pole is April 21st, 1908, when, to be precise, he was 14 seconds—a mere fraction of a mile—from the Pole itself. The latest advices with regard to Commander PEARY'S achievement indicate the date of his arrival at the Pole as April 6th *of this year*. Now the season most favourable to sledging in the Arctic regions, over the pack-ice of the frozen sea, is from the beginning of March to about the middle of May. Before March, the darkness of the six months' Polar night still overhangs the Arctic regions; and after May the increasing warmth, and its effect upon the ice, render progress practically impossible. Assuming, therefore, that both the explorers started from their respective bases on March 1st, Dr. COOK covered his 700 miles in 52 days, and Commander PEARY his 500 miles in 37 days. The average speed in both cases—a little over 13 miles a day—is the same, to a very small fraction of a mile. According to figures supplied by Reuter, the latter part, presumably, of Dr. COOK'S journey, consisting of 483 miles, was performed in 35 days, or practically at an average of 14 miles a day, which is described, in the light of the experiences of his predecessors, as "a remarkable speed." Whereas a correspondent writes complaining that doubts should be cast on the accuracy of Dr. COOK'S account of his achievement on the score of this apparently paltry rate of travel, it is permissible to point out that an average speed of 10 or 12 miles a day is considered good under the conditions which fall to the lot of the Arctic explorer; and that speed is, indeed, necessary to cover the distance to the Pole and back to the base within the three and a half months available. The absence of roads, the state of the ice and the necessity for the conveyance of heavy loads—quite apart from the intensity of the cold—reduce Arctic exploration after all to a problem of transportation under conditions of extreme difficulty. We are justified in assuming from the figures which have so far come to hand, not only that both the explorers have profited by their previous experiences, but that they have been favoured by circumstances of the most fortunate character. They have not for example, been faced by a *contretemps* like that which led to the failure of PEARY'S fourth attempt, in 1906—to wit, the encountering of an open channel a mile or more in width, when unsupplied with the means of crossing it; though it is probable that on this occasion each party had provided itself with a boat, a canoe, or raft, or materials for the rapid construction of the same. We are led to recall, in this context, the remark made by Commander PEARY in Washington before his departure on what most people felt would be his last effort in the direction of Arctic exploration, namely, that the much coveted distinction of reaching the Pole would eventually fall not necessarily to the ablest explorer, nor to the man with the best equipped expedition, but to the man who, during the limited period available for the great attempt, was favoured with the most fortunate conditions. Be that as it may, there is no longer any room for doubting that the Pole has at last been won from the unconquered solitude of countless ages; and that it has been won, not as people were beginning to suppose, by the aid of the airship—despite the numerous advantages in favour of that mode of travel,—but by the sheer hard work and invincible persistence of the explorer on foot. One thing only suggests itself as wearing the aspect of inexplicability—if Dr. COOK really reached the Pole a year before Commander PEARY, how is it that the latter has found no trace of his predecessor's visit? How is it that "the Stars and Stripes" were not "nailed to the North Pole" in April 1908, and floating to the icy breeze when PEARY arrived on the scene?

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RUSSIAN OPINION.

JUDGED by the telegraphic summaries of their writings as forwarded to Tokyo the newspapers of St. Petersburg and Moscow have suddenly conceived a deep distrust of Japan. We use the formula "suddenly conceived," because the general impression hitherto produced by the utterances of the Russian press has been emphatically favourable to their magnanimity and their moderation. The same spirit that enabled Russia's splendid soldiers to align themselves again and again in the forefront of hopeless battles was reflected in the manly attitude assumed by their nation towards its victors. But now unexpectedly a change seems to have come over that mood. Most unexpectedly. For nothing whatever has happened to justify the metamorphosis. The subject taken up by the Russian newspapers is absolutely devoid of any novel feature. It is the subject of the Mukden-Antung Railway. They see in that line a factor of signal strategical potentialities. It links up the Korean and the Manchurian Railway systems; it enables Japan to place forces in the Harbin region within 48 hours, and it thus constitutes a strong menace to Russia's line of communications with Vladivostock. All that is true and must remain true so long as Japan in Manchuria is within a short stone's throw of her home base, whereas Russia in Siberia is, comparatively speaking, beyond big-gun range of her European depot. But what new element does the Mukden-Antung Railway introduce? The Mukden-Antung Railway was built during the War for the purposes of the flank movement made by KAWAMURA'S army-corps against the Mukden position. Its history naturally has an evil savour to Russian palates. But it was already an accomplished fact when the Treaty of Portsmouth was signed, and every Russian publicist must have known that the subsequent Peking Convention provided for the reconstruction of the road so as to befit it for international commerce-carrying. Did the Russians ever suppose that this clause of the Peking Convention was a mere practical joke, its operation postponable till the Greek Kalends? They can not have been so fatuous. Having, then, maintained absolute silence when the Convention was concluded, what reason is there that, at this eleventh hour, they should exclaim against its implementing? Perhaps we shall be right in attributing this sudden access of uneasiness to Japan's recent display of practical activity. She has shown that she intends to enjoy her treaty rights, and China has shown that she is not prepared to dispute them. Hitherto the unpalatable aftermath of the War has been only *in posse*; now it is *in esse*. That is really the only tangible difference. In point of fact the projected road from Hoiryong to Kilin is almost as important strategically as the Mukden-Antung line. When it is finished, Japan will have three military avenues to Changchun; one *viâ* North-Korea; one *viâ* South-Korea, and one *viâ* the Liaotung Peninsula. But all three will have a common section, that from Changchun to Harbin, and along that section any attempt to carry troops would be a declaration of war. It is a small obstacle to ambitious designs, but nevertheless an obstacle. Moreover, two of the routes have sections in the joint ownership of China and Japan. That too is an obstacle.

THE NEW TREATY.

The text of the new Sino-Japanese Treaty with respect to Chientao and Manchuria is as follows:—

The Imperial Government of Japan and the Imperial Government of China, desiring to secure for Chinese and Korean inhabitants in the frontier regions the blessings of permanent peace and tranquillity, and considering it essential in the attainment of such desire that the two Governments should in view of their relations of cordial friendship and good neighbourhood recognize the River Tumen as forming the boundary between China and Korea, and should adjust all matters relating thereto in a spirit of mutual accommodation have agreed upon the following stipulations:

Art. I.—The Governments of Japan and China declare that the River Tumen is recognized as forming the boundary between China and Korea, and that in the region of the source of that River, the boundary line shall start from the Boundary Monument and thence follow the course of the Stream Shihyishwei.

Art. II.—The Government of China shall, as soon as possible, after the signing of the present Agreement, open the following places to the residence and trade of foreigners, and the Government of Japan may there establish Consulates or Branch Offices of Consulates. The date of the opening of such places shall be separately determined.

Lungchingtsun.
Chutszchie.
Toutaokou.
Paitsaokou.

Art. III.—The Government of China recognizes the residence of Korean subjects, as heretofore, on agricultural lands lying north of the River Tumen. The limits of the district for such residence are shown in the annexed map.

Art. IV.—The Korean subjects residing on agricultural lands within the mixed residence district to the north of the River Tumen shall submit to the laws of China, and shall be amenable to the jurisdiction of the Chinese local officials. Such Korean subjects shall be accorded by the Chinese authorities equal treatment with Chinese subjects, and similarly, in the matter of taxation and all other administrative measures, they shall be placed on equal footing with Chinese subjects. All cases, whether civil or criminal, relating to such Korean subjects shall be heard and decided by the Chinese authorities in accordance with the laws of China, and in a just and equitable manner. A Japanese Consular Officer or an official duly authorized by him shall be allowed freely to attend the Court, and in the hearing of important cases concerning the lives of persons previous notice is to be given to the Japanese Consular Officers. Whenever the Japanese Consular Officers find that a decision has been given in disregard of law they shall have right to apply to the Chinese authorities for a new trial to be conducted by officials specially selected, in order to assure justice of the decision.

Art. V.—The Government of China engages that land and buildings owned by Korean subjects in the mixed residence district to the north of the River Tumen shall be fully protected equally with the properties of Chinese subjects. Ferries shall be established on the River Tumen at places properly chosen, and people on either side of the River shall be entirely at liberty to cross to the other side, it being, however, understood that persons carrying arms shall not be permitted to cross the frontier, without previous official notice or passports. In respect of cereals produced in the mixed residence district, Korean subjects shall be permitted to export them out of the said district, except in time of scarcity, in which case such exportation may be prohibited. Collection of firewood and grass shall be dealt with in accordance with the practice hitherto followed.

Art. VI.—The Government of China shall undertake to extend the Kirin-Changchun Railway to the southern boundary of Yenchi and to connect it at Hoiryong with a Korean railway, and such extension shall be effected upon the same terms as the Kirin-Changchun Railway. The date of commencing the work of the proposed extension shall be determined by the Government of China, considering the actual requirements of the situa- and upon consultation with the Government of Japan.

Art. VII.—The present Agreement shall come into operation immediately upon its signature, and thereafter the Chientao Branch Office of the Residency-General as well as all civil and military officers attached thereto shall be withdrawn as soon as possible, and within two months. The Government of Japan will within two months hereafter establish its Consulates at the places mentioned in Article II.

In witness whereof the undersigned, duly authorized by their respective Governments, have signed and sealed the present Agreement in duplicate, in the Japanese and Chinese languages.

The 4th day of the 9th Month of the 42nd year of Meiji,

The 20th day of the 7th Month of the 1st year of Hsüan Tung.

(Signed) HIKOKICHI IJUIN.
„ LIANG TUN YEN.

The Imperial Government of Japan and the Imperial Government of China, actuated by the desire to consolidate the relations of amity and good neighbourhood between the two countries, by settling definitely the matters of common concern in Manchuria, and by removing for the future all cause of misunderstanding, have agreed upon the following stipulations:

Art. I.—The Government of China engages that in the event of its undertaking to contruct a railway between Hsinmintun and Fakumen, it shall arrange previously with the Government of Japan.

Art. II.—The Government of China recognizes that the railway between Tashichao and Yinkow is a branch line of the South Manchuria Railway, and it is agreed that the said branch line shall be delivered up to China simultaneously with the South Manchurian Railway upon the expiration of the term of concession for that main line. The Chinese Government further agrees to the extension of the said branch line to the port of Yinkow.

Art. III.—In regard to the coal mines at Fushun and Yuentai the Governments of Japan and China are agreed as follows:

(*a*) The Chinese Government recognizes the right of the Japanese Government to work the said coal mines.

(*b*) The Japanese Government respecting the full sovereignty of China engages to pay to the Chinese Government tax upon coals produced in those mines. The rate of such tax shall be separately arranged upon the basis of the lowest tariff for coals produced in any other places of China.

(*c*) The Chinese Government agree that in the matter of the exportation of coals produced in the said mines, the lowest tariff of export duty for coals of any other mines shall be applied.

(*d*) The extent of the said coal mines, as well as all the detailed regulations, shall be separately arranged by commissioners specially appointed for that purpose.

Art. IV.—All mines along the Antung-Mukden Railway and the main line of the South Manchurian Railway, excepting those at Fushun and Yuentai, shall be exploited as joint enterprises of Japanese and Chinese subjects, upon the general principles which the Viceroy of the Eastern Three Provinces and the Governor of Mukden agreed upon with the Japanese Consul-General in the fortieth year of Meiji, corresponding to the thirty-third year of

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Kuangsu. Detailed regulations in respect of such mines shall, in due course, be arranged by the Viceroy and the Governor with the Japanese Consul-General.

Art. V.—The Government of Japan declares that it has no objection to the extension of the Peking-Mukden Railway to the City Wall of Mukden. Practical measures for such extension shall be adjusted and determined by the local Japanese and Chinese authorities and technical experts.

In witness whereof the undersigned duly authorized by their respective Governments have signed and sealed the present Agreement, in duplicate in the Japanese and Chinese languages.

The 4th day of the 9th month of the 42nd year of Meiji.

The 20th day of the 7th month of the 1st year of Hsüan Tung.

(Signed) HIKAKICHI IJUIN.
„ LIANG TUN YEN.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE JAPANESE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

The July *Koe* (R. Catholic) contains an editorial entitled "The Alleged Persecutions of Christianity" which is of considerable interest in view of certain statements that have been made in various newspapers bearing on the subject treated. As the article speaks for itself, we proceed to epitomize it as follows:—In the *Mainichi Shimbun*, the *Nichi Nichi* and the *Miyako* and also in certain Protestant organs such as the *Shinjin*, the *Gokyō* and the *Fukuin Shimpō*, it has been asserted that in the Army and in the educational world displays of hostility to Christianity have recently taken place. The facts as furnished by the press do not seem to have been questioned by the papers and magazines which have given them publicity. Here are the statements to which we refer. It is said that the Director of a certain Normal School has forbidden the teachers of that school to go to church, and that a similar prohibition has been issued to the girls attending one of the High Female Schools. It is reported that certain students who were attending meetings of the Y. M. C. A. were turned out of their school on this account. It is affirmed that in a certain High Normal School, when it was perceived that a Christian teacher was becoming very influential among the students, things were trumped up against him so that he felt compelled to leave the school. It is reported that one of the students of a High Female Normal School was expelled from the school on account of her belief in Christianity. It is affirmed that a certain school teacher, while lecturing, made insulting remarks against Christians. It is said that a military officer was reprimanded by his superior officer for delivering an address in uniform at a preaching service. There are many other reports of the same kind. It is argued that they indicate a determination on the part of the military authorities and the Department of Education to interfere with the personal beliefs of their employees. But in the first place there are grounds for seriously mistrusting the accuracy of the newspaper reports of the occurrences in question. It is extremely probable that what has happened can be easily explained without interpreting it as an attempt to suppress Christianity arbitrarily. It is not at all unlikely that the Christians who have encountered opposition from School authorities have been guilty of a violation of school regulations. As for the officer who tried to make use of his uniform as a means of attracting people to Christianity, can it be said that his reprimand was altogether uncalled for? One thing is worth observing, and that is that the alleged hostility has all been shown to Protestant Christians. On the theory that the acts referred to indicate the inauguration of a persecuting policy, Roman Catholic Christians should have instances of persecution to record. Of course it is true to say that there are many school directors and teachers who strongly object to Christianity on one ground or another. There are scholars like Dr. Katō Hiroyuki who think that the acceptance of Christanity is incompatible with true loyalty to the Emperor and to ancient traditions. Such men act from conviction in their opposition to many of the forms of Christianity preached here. It would be incorrect to say that their objections to Christianity are the result of blind prejudice against a religion which they have never thoroughly examined. That a large number of officials in this country regard certain forms of Protestant teaching with some misgiving is an undoubted fact. We do not propose to discuss the objectionable features of Protestant teaching here, but this we can say that the general effect of this teaching on certain young men and young women is to make them impatient of control and to lead them to despise authority and to trample on sacred traditions of every kind. There is undoubtedly some truth in all the reports bearing on the hostility shown to the ways of certain Christians on account of the manner in which they have acted. But this is not to be regarded as anything but natural under existing circumstances. The doctrines propagated are so revolutionary in character and are often applied in such objectionable ways that it is not surprising that they should cause alarm among those in power. To those who are complaining of persecution we say, you are only reaping what you yourselves have sown.

* * *

Notwithstanding his great age, Dr. Katō Hiroyuki still continues to address public meetings and to contribute articles for magazines when occasion calls for it. A few months ago he spoke at a largely attended meeting of the Tō-A Kyōkai on Japanese Ethical Education and Christianity." The address is fully reported in the July number of Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō's organ the *To-A-no Hikari*. Dr. Katō's grounds for objecting to Christianity are so well known to most of our readers that it is unnecessary to go into them in detail, but in this his most recent utterance on the subject there are a few remarks which deserve attention. He says that in all countries until very recent times ethical teaching has been founded on religion. Even in the teaching of Confucius there is constant reference to God (Jōtei) and to Heaven. But the two great religions of the world have, he maintains, led people astray in endeavouring to set up a quite impossible ethical ideal. Universal love is unattainable. Egoism must ever be the basis of all true altruism. Men and women begin by loving themselves and then they pass on to love those who are nearest to them. To love there own kith and kin and then their own countrymen is natural to all men. So the family becomes the basis of all true ethical teaching, and loyalty to those above us and love of one's country are essential parts of it. Dr. Kato admits that Christians are patriotic, but he says they are so in spite of the teaching of Christianity. The texts from the Bible quoted to prove that loyalty to earthly potentates and to one's country are taught by Christianity, such as "Render unto Cæsar the things that are Cæsar's," &c. to Dr. Katō prove nothing more than the obligation to obey the laws of the land relating to taxation, &c. There are now a good many Christians in this country, says Dr. Katō. Set them to compile some ethical text-books and prove to us conclusively whether or not they regard the central principles of our ethical system with the respect due to then. What is taught in the Primary and Middle Schools is of vast importance to us Japanese. Christians spend much time in controversy only. Let them show us in the practical way suggested what are their real sentiments in reference to those ethical doctrines which we deem so vital to the future welfare and to the moral stability of this country.

* * *

In the August *Rikugō Zasshi* and in the *Michi* the suicide of Dr. Sakawa is discussed at some length. The Rev. R. Minami is the writer of the *Rikugō Zasshi* article entitled "Suicide, from a Christian Standpoint." He first points out that Christianity has always condemned suicide on the ground that life is a gift of God which no man is at liberty to destroy at will. He quotes the words of Paulsen:—"Under all circumstances the preservation of life is one of our duties, and to take life at will is a violation of this obligation." This is the general Christian view. Mr. Minami thinks it very probable that Ishida Mitsunari refrained from committing suicide after being defeated by Hideyoshi because he had adopted the Christian view of suicide. (*Shikaru ni kare jitsu wa tōji no Kirisutokyō-to ni shite* (being one of the Christians of that time) *jisatsu wo kyozetsu shitaru wa sono shinnen* (信念) *ni idzu to mo iu mono ari*). Suicide is regarded as a sin by Christians, and hence most churches refuse to grant a Christian burial to persons who have put an end to their own lives. After quoting from history numerous instances of men's killing themselves for the benefit of others, Mr. Minami argues that nobody has the right to condemn Dr. Sakawa. Smarting under the sense of unfulfilled responsibility, he felt that the surest way to prove to the world how deep was his regret for his remissness was to take his own life. To him it appeared that death alone could atone for his faults. Whether they were faults of omission or faults of commission the public will soon know. But nothing but the sincerest pity can be felt for a man who was dragged into the mire much against his will and who strove to show the depth of his penitence in such a tragic way.

Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki in discussing Dr. Sakawa's suicide first quotes the lines penned by Yoshida Shōin (1831-1860) shortly before his death.

Kaku sureba, kaku naru mono to shiri nagara,
Yamu ni yamarenu Yamato-damashii.

"While knowing that such acts as mine would bring such consequences as these, my Japanese spirit knew not how to hold back."

Mr. Matsumura then proceeds to quote certain passages from Dr. Sakawa's last will and testament. The following is a translation of his address to his children. "My very dear children! Poverty and distress, those great foes of mankind, are staring you in the face. But be not afraid. Health, integrity, diligence, perseverance, courage constitute inexhaustible capital. In the endurance of the hardships of your lot put forth all your strength. By loyalty, filial piety, thrift and uprightness establish the fortunes of our house, while fulfilling all your duties to society. Through I speak thus, I can not forget that many of you are still very young, and hence much to be pitied. Your mother has been overtaken by calamity such as few encounter. Let those of you who are biggest be the foremost in helping her out of her troubles. Let old and young go hand in hand, the one leading and the other following. Obey your mother and let each one of you solemnly vow that you will provide for her peace of mind and happiness. For the attainment of this end let each one of you do his very utmost."

Mr. Matsumura mourns over the fact that so many scholars like the late Dr. Sakawa mix themselves up with business transactions which are known to be untrustworthy. He thinks that even the learned world is growing sordid. He commends the high moral tone displayed in the utterances of Mr. Chirol and Mr. Barton. The latter is quoted as saying that American Universities possess four characteristics of which the nation is justly proud. There are (1) The importance attached to the search for truth; (2) the liberty to adopt what principles they please enjoyed by all scholars; (3) general intellectual enlightenment on all question connected with human life, and (4) a readiness to serve the public in every way possible. Mr. Matsumura hints that it is the lack of these qualities among certain learned professors in Japan that renders such incidents as the one under discussion possible. He thinks that Dr. Sakawa's suicide will create a very deep impression on the minds of thoughtful people and will tend to purify the air of the business world to a considerable extent. In the *Michi* it is stated that for the last three years of his life Dr. Sakawa was in receipt of an income of 30,000 *yen* a year.

* * *

In the *Fukuin Shimpō* of July 29th we find the following reference to the Greek Church movement in favour of independence. Considerable excitement exists among Greek Church Christians in all parts of the country. At a Conference held on July 8th the Japanese pastors presented a letter to Archbishop Nicolai which inquired into the nature of the grant made by the Russian Church to

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the Japanese Branch of the Greek Church. The answer given by the Archbishop was not satisfactory to the interrogators owing to its want of explicitness. It seemed to carefully avoid touching on the chief point inquired into Future developments in this Church will be watched with interest.

Under the heading of "Superstition among the Upper Classes" the *Fukuin Shimpō* quotes the following statements from an anonymous correspondent to a paper the title of which is not given. Superstition still prevails to a considerable extent among the upper classes. During the Russo Japanese war many high rank officers had Kwannon (the Goddess of Mercy) images concealed in their breasts. Admiral Tōgō was one of these. General Kodama worshipped Nichirin every morning. Baron Iwasaki has in his house a shrine erected in honour of Inari Sama, which is known among his household as *gobyō*. Mr. Mitsui Takayasu is always troubling himself about lucky and unlucky directions in which to go. That quarter is pronounced to be unlucky and this quarter dangerous*, so that it is hard for him to know where to go. Mr. Nakano Buei has his house full of amulets and looks for constant help from the Anamori Inari Sama. Mr. Okura Kihachiro believes that unpleasant sounds invariably forebode ill luck and undertakes few things without having the *Gohei* borne along with him. Then there is Mr. Kuroda Chōkei, who is a devoted adherent of the Tenrikyō. When his son was ill a little time ago he used himself to go to the Tenrikyō temple to receive water for him to drink. And among the followers of the Aunbaraba suspicious priests (妖僧 *yozō*) there are Marquis Iwakura Count Hayashi, Major-General Nagaoka and a number of wealthy business men. That there should be so much superstition in the minds of our upper classes is a subject for deep regret.

The *Fukuin Shimpō* extracts from the *Tōkyō Asahi Shimbun* a note on the views and conduct of Korean students in Japan, which represents them as boasting of loyalty to their country while doing everything possible against its interests. According to the writer quoted theese students are full of anti-Japanese sentiment and many of them espouse Christianity solely with the object of making use of their position and opportunities as Christians for opposing the Japanese. It is suggested that henceforth they should be educated in schools specially established for them and not be allowed to mix with Japanese students.

* * *

It is announced in the *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church) that a work consisting of explanatory diagrams bearing on Old Testament History has just been issued by the Greek Church Mission press. It bears the title of *Kyūyaku Rekishi Zukai*, and consists of 33 diagrams. It is designed to aid intelligent study of the Old Testament by means of maps, illustrations and references. A similar work bearing on the New Testament has been much used by all Greek Church Christians for many years. The price is only 35 *sen* per copy.

On July 7th, according to a report which we find in the *Seikyō Shimpō*, a graduation ceremony was held at the Surugadai Divinity School in the presence of Archbishop Nicolai and many invited guests. The 10 young men who had completed their theological course in the College were addressed by the Archbishop. The following day a similar function took place at the Female Theological School, when the number of graduates was also ten.

A full report of the important conference of Greek Church Christians, which lasted for over a week in the month of July, has not yet reached us, but in the latest number of the *Seikyō Shimpō* to hand we read that the number of representatives who responded to the invitation to assemble in Tōkyō was much smaller than was anticipated. From over 200 Churches only about 45 persons were sent. The travelling and other expenses of these delegates, amounting to about 500 *yen*, were provided for by Tōkyō Christians.

* * *

Writing in the *Tōyō Tetsugaku* Dr. Motora expresses the following opinions on the respective distinctive marks of Buddhism, Christianity and Confucianism. Buddhism is a religion which has so many different aspects that to sum up its peculiar characteristics in a few words is no easy task, yet it seems to me that where Buddhism differs essentially from both Christianity and Confucianism is in its psychological teaching. It recognizes the fact that the mind of man in its original condition suffers from a great variety of hostile influences. It teaches how it may be disciplined, trained and enlightened till it reaches a superior state. In the thoroughness and the accuracy of its psychological analysis and in its remedies for the numerous mental weaknesses of mankind, Buddhism is ahead of all other creeds. Buddhism has always been markedly pantheistic. By it man and the universe are regarded as inseparable. Did the originators of Buddhism infer the nature of the universe from their knowledge of the mind of man, or did they derive their minute knowledge of the human mind from close study of the universe? This is uncertain, but according to this creed mind and matter are indissolubly connected with each other.

Coming to Christianity, it would seem that it is poorly developed along the lines of minute psychological investigation (*Kirisutokyō ni oite wa kojin no shinri-teki hattatsu no jōtai wa amari shōsai ni kenkyū wa dekite oranai yō de arinasu*). According to the teaching of Christianity there is only one God. He is the Creator of the Universe and exists separate from it. Of course the Mosaic view of the universe is no longer accepted by scholars, but the fact remains that Christianity regards the universe as a phenomenom by itself, of which he Supreme Being forms no essential part. In this conception Christianity seems to fall behind Buddhism. During the nineteenth century, owing to the progress of scientific knowledge, Mosaic cosmogony and the general Old Testament view of the relation of God to the universe underwent important modifications, but still Christianity to-day is far from the adoption of the Buddhist conception of the relation of the universe to the spirit which pervades it.

As for Confucianism, though lacking some of the characteristics of a religion, it serves the purpose of one to a large number of people. One advantage it possesses over both Buddhism and Christianity: that is the importance it attaches to State morality. Law and order take the precedence of everything according to this creed. Its psychology, despite the attempts of Mencius to prove to his fellow-countrymen that man's nature is essentially good and the interesting deductions he drew from this theory, is in a very backward state. But Confucianism, on account of its practicality and secularity, appeals to certain minds in a far more powerful manner than either Christianity or Buddhism.

* * *

In the *Shin Bukkyō* (New Buddhism) we find an excellent article entitled *The Study of Religion is not a thing that imperils Religion;* which we epitomize as follows:—It is doubtless true that there are numbers of men who, though well versed in the history of the great religions of the world, make no open profession of religious belief, who are mere students and nothing more, but the theory that inquiry into the many varieties of religious belief conduces to rank scepticism is not supported by facts. The knowledge of the universality of religion is calculated to produce a strong impression on the mind of the student. It teaches him that in all cases it deserves to be treated with respect and to be closely investigated. It is only after a wide study of religious phenomena in connection with the conditions to which they are subject that the laws which govern them can be discovered. Open-mindedness is doubtless needed for this study no less than the adoption of scholarly methods. But given this and access to the books required, the effect on the mind of the student is in the great majority of cases distinctly good. When it is otherwise there are other factors that come into play. A thorough mastery of the religious thought of the world is as a rule only possible when the student is deeply interested in his subject, when he attaches so much importance to it that he is willing to spend long years on minute investigation. There should be no limit to the area over which he ranges and no class of religious sentiment which he does not examine and seek to explain. As for any one form of religious belief, it is a very poor thing if it can be destroyed by the study of other forms of belief. Let investigators go ahead fearlessly. A display of timidity on their part would lay them open to the charge of lack of confidence in their own powers and to a wavering religious faith.

* * *

In a recent editorial published in Mr. Ebina Danjō's organ the *Shinjin*, attention is called to the mystical and unpractical character of the greater part of the religious teaching carried on in this country by most of the Buddhists and by certain Christians. Recent scandals, says Mr. Ebina, have shown the need of a thorough awakening of the consciences of the Japanese people. Never was there a time when there was a greater call for the holding up of an exalted moral standard to the people. What Christians have to do to-day is to preach morality, and not be dwelling on doctrines which have little bearing on daily life.

The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* writes in the same strain, maintaining that neither Buddhism nor Confucianism is qualified to cleanse the Augean Stables of the business world at the present time.

* * *

A History of the Reformation entitled *Shūkyō Kaikakushi* has been published by the Keiseisha. It has received very favourable notice from the religious press. It is said to be the only exhaustive work on this subject that exists in Japanese. Mr. Murata Tsutomu is the author. He has spent many years in preparing himself for the compilation of this book. Mr. Murata was a student in the United States for some years and took the degree of Master of Arts there. It is now many years since by his book on Luther he made his name known to the Japanese Christian world. The compilation of the minute history now given to the world has been to Mr. Murata a work of love. It is said that he has put his whole soul into it, the result being the production of a book that in style, arrangement and spirit leaves nothing to be desired.

* * *

For the following comments on current Buddhist literature we are indebted to an anonymous writer in the *To-A-no Hikari*.

During the past 10 years a great Buddhist literary revival has been witnessed. Twenty or thirty years ago little interest seemed to be taken in Japanese Buddhism. The books that appeared were mostly designed to enlighten very ignorant country people. Dr. Inoue Enryō has perhaps done more than any Japanese scholar living to awaken public interest in Buddhism. But his efforts have been strongly supported by Doctors Murakami, Nanjō, Anezaki, Takakusu and Inoue Tetsujirō, all first-class scholars who are thoroughly in earnest in the desire to furnish Japanese students of Buddhism with trustworthy works of reference such as are to be found in the great libraries of Europe and America. Among Buddhist works that have appeared in modern times the edition of sacred writings known as *Zōkyō* and the popularized form of that work known as *Zoku Zōkyō* are undoubtedly the greatest, but they are not Japanese works. Among books written by Japanese Buddhists Dr. Nanjō's Oxford production deserves honourable mention. Next comes Dr. Murakami's *Bukkyō Tōitsuron*. When the first part of this work appeared some years ago it created quite a sensation in the Buddhist world. Only three of the five Parts of which the work is to consist have been issued. Ill health, it is said, has been the cause of the delay. A Buddhist Biographical Dictionary is in course of compilation, but unfortunately it is being attempted by one man, and so when it will be com-

* An unlucky quarter is sometimes described as *kimon* (the devil's gate) and sometimes as *ankensatsu* (death by an assassin's sword).—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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pleted nobody knows. Mr. Mochitsuki Shinkyō has been spending years over the compilation of a big Buddhist Dictionary. Only one volume has appeared. It is hard to say when the work will be finished—away in the distant future, we fear. If the after volumes can be kept up to the standard of the one that has appeared Japanese Buddhists will be supplied with a first-class lexicon. Mr. Oda Tokuno has a dictionary in hand and the manuscript is reputed to be nearing completion.

As regards the great Buddhist publishing houses, it it perhaps true to say that where there is enterprise and energy there is lack of capital and where there is capital there is want of earnestness. But still, as we said above, every year witnesses the publication of a number of new Buddhist works. It can only be regarded as a calamity that the Buddhist sects should be educating, publishing and working separately. Each sect has its own schools and colleges, each has its own magazine. With all the literary ability they have at their command, were Buddhists to unite in supporting two or three powerful periodicals, they would certainly succeed in attracting the attention of the whole learned world in a way that is not possible under existing circumstances.

CROSSING THE RIDGE BETWEEN YARI AND HODAKA.

Persons who care for mountain climbing in Japan may be interested in a trip which I recently took, in company with Mr. Udono, of the Japanese Alpine Club. We set out to cross the precipitous ridges connecting Hodaka Dake and Yariga-take, which, so far as we could learn, had never been crossed by any one. We were fortunately able to secure the best guides in the region, the hunter Kamijo Kamonji, and his son Kayokichi, whom Mr. Weston refers to in his "Japanese Alps."

After lunching at the summit of Hodaka, we made for Takegawa Dake, the highest point in the Hodaka range, reaching it in an hour and a half. The barometer showed it to be 400 feet higher than Hodaka, which would make it about 10,400, a close rival of Yarigatake and Norikura.

At this point a dense cloud enveloped us, so that our only view was downward on either side of the knife-edge we were crawling along. The strata of the range all tip a little to the north, so that we fouud comparatively firm footing just to the south of the crest. But to the north the precipices fell sheer for hundreds of feet to the head of Kara Tani (Desolation Valley), with its serpentine snow and rock fields stretching down to Yokoō Tani.

As we left Takegawa Dake the mist turned to rain, but we crept carefully on. Without *tabi* and *waraji* it would have been next to impossible to get around the now slippery ledges. At three o'clock we found ourselves at an impasse, with precipices on three sides. It was impossible to go further, and our guides could not see how we could have got off the main ridge. But after a few minutes of suspense a rift in the cloud showed us that in the mist we had failed to see where the ridge bends sharply to the north.

No further delay occurred until 4 o'clock, when, after passing the third survey pyramid, we found ourselves again at a jumping off place. Kamonji knew there was a way beyond, as he had once crossed it, but in the rain it was impossible to hit upon it. If any one wants to feel on land the sensation of being lost at sea, I imagine he could not do better than to repeat our predicament—10,000 feet in the air, soaking wet up to the waist, with "no thoroughfare" staring us in the face. It was a trying moment. But Kamonji, after listening to the reports of rocks dropped over the precipices, decided to retrace our steps to the lowest dip north of Takegawa Dake and make a dash for a lower altitude before dark.

After a half-hour's descent we were overjoyed to hear Kayokichi shout back that he had found shelter. It proved to be a water-proof hole under a huge boulder, which by a few minutes' work we made into a snug sleeping place for four. With creeping pine brush and water within reach we passed a most comfortable night. Kamonji could not get over exclaiming at the discovery, which had saved us from a miserable night in the open. We named the shelter Karatani Iwagoya. It lies at an altitude of 8,000 feet, in full view of Biobu Iwa and Hodaka.

Fortunately, the morning broke clear, for our most difficult work remained. So far we had traversed only known territory. But the next two peaks, between Karatani and Hon Dani, were supposed to be impassable except at two or three points. In fact, the Government Surveyors had had to summon Kamonji to their aid even to get around the foot of parts of these peaks. We therefore felt some doubt of being successful, but decided to try. The morning views from the ridge were superb. Alpine flora followed us almost to the crest. With steady heads and feet all went smoothly for two hours. Then we came upon a deep cleft in the ridge, with dangerous cliffs beyond. Kayokichi crept on to reconnoitre. The view where we sat waiting was awe-inspiring—granite and brecia cliffs 1,500 feet high frowning at us across the savage gorge at our feet. At length Kayokichi returned triumphant. By the use of a rope the cleft was passed, and then by zigzagging down, clinging to chance shrubs, we reached the level head of Hon Dani at 10 a.m. Kamonji voiced our common relief by exclaiming, "Now for a congratulatory puff!"

As the remainder of the ridge toward Yari is easier and has often been crossed by hunters, I decided to forego it and to head down the Yokoō Tani for Kamikochi. On the way we passed a 300-foot water fall and went through a remarkable snow arcade that arched the river for 80 yards. To an expert Alpine climber our exploit would seem tame, but it is said by Kamonji to be the stiffest climb in the Japanese Alps; and it certain-gave us two days of most thrilling sport.

GALEN M. FISHER.

[We heartily endorse our correspondent's remarks as to the attractiveness of this district. The vicinity of the Kamikochi valley, itself some 5,000 feet above sea level, affords the finest scenery in Japan as well as a delightful summer climate.– ED. *J.M.*]

Karuizawa, September 1, 1909.

YOKOHAMA.

The Chamber of Commerce of this city has presented to Mr. Ono, ex-President of the Chamber, a set of gold cups with a letter of thanks in acknowledgment of his past services.

A great meeting of the Yokohama Shooting Association will be held at Totsuka on the 25th and 26th instant. Gold medals, silver cups and various other prizes are to be awarded.

A former clerk of the Gas Works of this city, named Yoshida Yoshitada, who had embezzled official money, has been prosecuted by the Mayor at the Yokohama Local Court.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended September 2nd are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	2	10	—	—	—
Died	—	1	1	—	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	23	17	3	—	—
Died	—	4	8	—	—	—

On the 6th instant, an unknown middle-aged man, who was in an electric car in Uchida-machi Hichi-chome, suddenly fell dead.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha's steamer *Tacoma Maru* which arrived here on the 8th instant, from her maiden trip to Tacoma, had on board 915 tons of general cargo, out of which 371 tons have been discharged here. The passenger list shows one cabin passenger and 39 third-class.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

Notice is given by the Department of Communications that the Tsutsu-zaki Beacon Light, on Ose shoal off Tsutsu-saki, south-western end of Tsushima which has been under construction, will shortly be shown.

GHASTLY AFFRAY IN SEOUL PRISON.

FIGHT BETWEEN CONVICTS AND WARDERS.

The *Seoul Press* gives the following account of the serious affair which took place last week in Seoul prison:—

It was about 4.30 p.m. on Sunday that a Japanese warder, with a Korean colleague, went on inspection to cell No. 26, where 37 convicts were kept. Before entering the cell, the Korean warder took off his sword as usual and left it at the entrance. Scarcely had he entered the room than seven of the convicts sprang upon him and rained blows on him with their fists. The Korean warder fled, pursued by the desperadoes, who burst out of the cell with fiendish yells. One of the convicts seized the sword of the Korean warder, which he had left at the entrance, while another sprang on the Japanese warder waiting outside, seized his sword, and gave him a nasty blow on the head with it. Both the Japanese and Korean warders, deprived of their weapons, fled for their lives, shouting at the top of their voice. In the meantime the commotion was heard by several Japanese warders who were on duty in other parts of the prison. They rushed out to see what was amiss, and saw to their astonishment the seven ruffians running at full speed towards the gate of the prison. The warders lost no time in intercepting them, and a hand-to-hand combat followed between them and the convicts, two of whom had swords, while the remaining five had seized some sticks as they made their burst for freedom. The fight was fierce but brief. Ten minutes scarcely elapsed before the ruffians were lying on the ground mortally wounded, and dying one after another. Two of the Japanese warders were rather severely wounded and several others received slight injuries. As may be imagined, the whole scene, after the fight was over, was ghastly, with seven corpses lying here and there, and blood bespattered all around. It was afterwards found that of the seven convicts, who were either ex-insurgents or armed robbers, three were sentenced to death some time ago and four were serving long terms of imprisonment. Some other inmates of the prison also showed themselves restless while the disturbance was going on, but, seeing how it ended with the seven, they soon became calm.

THE PASSION PLAY AT OBERAMMERGAU.

As the above mentioned event, which occurs only once in every ten years, is of international interest, we give below some facts just received from Messrs. T. Cook & Son's head office in London regarding the performance which will take place next year.

Ten years have elapsed since the last performances, which took place in the summer of 1900, and attracted many hundreds of visitors; and it has now been announced that another series of performances will take place in 1910 on the following dates:—

May.....	11th	16th	22nd	29th			
June	5th	12th	19th	24th	26th	29th	
July.....	3rd	10th	17th	20th	24th	27th	31st
August	3rd	7th	10th	14th	17th	21st	24th
	28th	31st					
September	4th	8th	11th	18th	25th		

The performances will begin each morning at 8 and will last till 6 p.m., with two hours interval at midday. Seats will only be alloted to persons lodging in the village of Oberammergau, and it is expected that at least two nights' accommodation will be engaged and paid for. Should the demand for seats for any one performance exceed the capacity of the theatre, the play will be fully repeated the following day.

Heretofore the engagements of seats and accommodation had to be arranged direct with the authorities of Oberammergau, but Messrs. T. Cook & Sons are pleased to announce that they have been appointed official agents for the performances of next year, and will be prepared to engage both seats and accommodation for our clients. The prices have not yet been definitely announced, but a programme giving complete details is excepted shortly.

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THE SUCCESSFUL CROSS-CHANNEL FLIGHT.

M. BLÉRIOT'S ACCOUNT OF HIS EPOCH-MAKING FEAT.

From the *Daily Mail*, for whose £1000 prize M. Blériot competed and won, we take the French aviator's spirited account of his great achievement. The account was written by M. Blériot at Dover:—

"At 4.30 we could see all round. Daylight had come. M. Le Blanc endeavoured to see the coast of England, but could not. A light breeze from the south-west was blowing. The air was clear. Everything was prepared. I was dressed as I am at this moment, a 'khaki' jacket lined with wool for warmth over my tweed clothes and beneath my engineer's suit of blue cotton overalls, My close-fitting cap was fastened over my head and ears. I had neither eaten nor drunk anything since I rose. My thoughts were only upon the flight and my determination to accomplish it this morning. 4 35! *Tout est prêt*! Le Blanc gives the signal and in an instant I am in the air, my engine making 1,200 revolutions—almost its highest speed—in order that I may get quickly over the telegraph wires along the edge of the cliff. As soon as I am over the cliff I reduce my speed. There is now no need to force my engine.

"I begin my flight, steady and sure, towards the coast of England. I have no apprehensions, no sensations, *pas du tout*. The *Escopette* has seen me. She is driving ahead at full speed. She makes perhaps 42 kilometres (about 26 miles) an hour. What matters? I am making a least 68 kilometres (42½ miles). Rapidly I overtake her, travelling at a height of 80 metres (about 250ft.). The moment is supreme, yet I surprise myself by feeling no exultation. Below me is the sea, the surface disturbed by the wind, which is now freshening. The motion of the waves beneath me is not pleasant. I drive on. Ten minutes have gone. I have passed the destroyer, and I turn my head to see whether I am proceeding in the right direction. I am amazed. There is nothing to be seen, neither the torpedo-destroyer, nor France, nor England. I am alone. I can see nothing at all—*rien du tout*! For ten minutes I am lost. It is a strange position to be alone, unguided, without compass, in the air over the middle of the Channel. I touch nothing. My hands and feet rest lightly on the levers. I let the aeroplane take its own course. I care not whither it goes. For ten minutes I continue, neither rising, nor falling, nor turning. And then, 20 minutes after I have left the French coast, I see the green cliffs of Dover, the Castle, and away to the west the spot where I had intended to land. What can I do? It is evident that the wind has taken me out of my course. I am almost at St. Margaret's Bay and going in the direction of the Goodwin Sands.

Now it is time to attend to the steering. I press the lever with my foot and turn easily towards the west, reversing the direction in which I am travelling. Now, indeed, I am in difficulties, for the wind here by the cliffs is much stronger, and my speed is reduced as I fight against it. Yet my beautiful aeroplane responds. Still steadily I fly westwards, hoping to cross the harbour and reach the Shakespeare Cliff. Again the wind blows. I see an opening in the cliff. Although I am confident that I can continue for an hour and a half, that I might indeed return to Calais, I cannot resist the opportunity to make a landing upon this green spot. Once more I turn my aeroplane, and, describing a half circle, I enter the opening and find myself again over dry land. Avoiding the red buildings on my right, I attempt a landing; but the wind catches me and whirls me round two or three times. At once I stop my motor, and instantly my machine falls straight upon the land from a height of 20 metres (65ft.). In two or three seconds I am safe upon your shore. Soldiers in khaki run up, and a policeman. Two of my compatriots are on the spot. They kiss my cheeks. The conclusion of my flight overwhelms me. I have nothing to say, but accept the congratulations of the representatives of the *Daily Mail* and accompany them to the Lord Warden Hotel. Thus ended my fight across the Channel. The flight could be easily done again. Shall I do it? I think not. I have promised my wife that, after a race for which I have entered, I will fly no more."

M. BLÉRIOT'S AND RIVAL AEROPLANES COMPARED.

No feat for years past, says *Engineering*, has aroused so much public enthusiasm as the crossing of the Channel in an aeroplane by M. Blériot in the early hours of Sunday last. Those best acquainted with the present position of the problem of flight were well aware that, at the worst, the success of one or other of the three daring aviators watching the weather on the French coast was only a matter of days, but the actual event has irresistibly brought home to the "man-in-the street" the enormous advance which has been made abroad in the art and science of aerial navigation. A noteworthy feature about the three competing machines is the utter dissimilarity of their construction. Count de l ambert is hoping to make the passage with a Wright machine, which has the peculiarity that it is as unstable as a bicycle, and, like the latter, requires constant vigilance on the part of the driver. Mr. Latham's machine has probably some degree of automatic stability, whilst that of the Blériot machine is, we believe, fairly high. This is confirmed by the fact that when the Junior Institution of Engineers visited Paris last year, M. Blériot made flights in weather in which his rivals considered it dangerous to go out. As Mr. Lanchester has shown, other things being equal, the lighter and smaller the machine the greater its natural stability, and the Blériot machine is less than half the weight of many of the other types. In his Channel flight the total weight supported was, he informs us, 178 lb. The Wright machine is understood to weight about 1200 lb. when in flight, and Farman's Voisin machine about 1700 lb. These figures give some idea of the great compactness of M. Bleriot's aviator, and it may be convenient if we tabulate here for the purposes of reference some general particulars and dimensions for which we are in part indebted to Messrs. Selfridge (to whose enterprise Lon loners owe the opportunity for a close inspection of the machine) and in part to the courtesy of M. B ériot himself.

Weight empty	496 lb
,, loaded	718 ,,
Total length	26 ft. 3 in.
Span of wings	25 ,, 7 ,,
Width of wings	5.9 ft.
Aspect ratio	4.43
Total area of wings	150.7 sq. ft.
Weight carried per square foot of wing area	4.76 lb.
Weight of engine	132 ,,
Number of cylinders	3 ,,
Diameter	103 mm.
Stroke	120 ,,
R. A. C. rating	20 horse-power
Propeller diameter	2.08 m. (6.83 ft.)
,, pitch	0.75 m. (2.79 ft.)
Total distance traversed estimated	31 miles
Time taken	43 mins.
Speed estimated	43.3 miles per hour

M. Blériot tells us that the efficiency of his propeller has not been measured. Being of small pitch and directly connected to the engine, it is probably not very high. Taking it the same as for the propeller used in the Voisin machine—viz., 55 per cent.—the tractive resistance of the Blériot machine appears to be about 13.2 per cent. of the weight supported. This agrees remarkably closely with the figure of 13.5 per cent. given by M. Lanchester for the Voisin machine, which flies at practically the same speed.

Probably all three of the machines which have entered for the Channel flight are quite capable of effecting it safely, given fair weather conditions. As all three differ very materially in their general arrangement and details of construction, it should be obvious, even to the City financier, that there can be no master patents controlling the manufacture of flying-machines. In fact, all essential features have already been patented many years since, and it is to be hoped, therefore, that no attempt will be made by company-promoters to delude the public on this head. M. Blériot himself will undoubtedly reap a rich financial reward, and few will grudge him this result of his exceptional pluck and enterprise.

YACHTING.

Squally weather with a strong southerly breeze gave a spice of excitement to last Saturday's sailing races. In fact, sea and weather proved too much for many of the smaller boats, though affording excellent spor. for the "thirty-nines."

Four of the larger boats sailed over the Nagahama course for a Cup presented by the Hotel de Paris:—*Mary*, scratch; *Naniwa*, 29 mins.; *Asagawo*, 40 mins.; *Cygnet*, 45 mins. *Mary* crossed the line first after a well contested race, *Naniwa* 2nd, and *Cygnet* 3rd. *Naniwa*, however, received the Cup on time allowance.

Of the 22-raters, only two started over the Tachibana, Mandarin Bluff and Lightship course, for the *Kingfisher* Cup Despite the fact that both vessels took in a reef, their crews were thoroughly drenched. *Edna* led the whole way round the course till near reaching the harbour, when *Sunbeam* overhauled her and won with comparative ease.

Nine Larks ventured forth over the Tachibana, southern breakwater and Mandarin Bluff course, and of these only 3 managed to complete the round. Two capsized and four gave up, leaving the winners No. 1, No. 13 and No. 15, in the order named.

THE GUTTING OF THE "LUCANIA."

A Liverpool despatch gives further particulars of the fire on board the Cunard liner *Lucania* which broke out on Saturday evening, the 14th ult. The fire is supposed to have originated in the saloon kitchen. The flames gradually worked forward until they reached the steerage, consuming every particle of the woodwork, and then played havoc with the forehold. The heat was tremendous and the flames, shooting high from the vessel, attracted thousands of persons to the river, where they remained throughout the night. At 3 o'clock on Sunday morning it was decid d to flood the vessel by admitting water from the deck. Soon she heeled over and her funnels came in contact with the cranes of the dock and were badly damaged. A half-dozen firemen who were on the gangway at this time were thrown into the water, but all were rescued. A fleet of tugs pulled the liner upright and held her until she settled finally on the mud at the bottom of the dock. It was 10 o'clock in the morning before the fire was under control. The second-class quarters and the whole after part of the boat, including the engine-room, escaped injury, and comparatively little damage was done to the exerior of the vessel.

DEATH OF MRS. H. A. POOLE.

It is with deep regret that we announce the death of Mrs. H A. Poole, younger daughter of the Rev. J. C. and Mrs. Bullagh of Tokyo. The deceased lady, who was only 20 years of age, and had been married as recently as December last, was taken ill at Koshiba on the 29th ult., when she complained of severe pains in the head. On Tuesday last she became unconscious and, though rallying slightly at times, became gradually worse, passing peacefully away yesterday morning at 2.20 a.m. The cause of death was diagnosed as meningitis.

The deceased lady, who will be greatly missed in Yokohama and Tokyo social and musical circles, was an accomplished pianist, and it is particularly sad that she should have been cut off on the threshold of her married life. The heartfelt sympathy of the community will be extended to her bereaved husband and relations.

The funeral will take place from Christ Church this afternoon at four o'clock.

AN Osaka telegram received by the *Asahi* reports that on the 3rd instant, when Fujiyama, President of the Nitto Kaisha, and Mr. Kaneko, Manager of Messrs. Suzuki Shoten, had an interview at Kobe, it turned out on comparing their respective loans that Messrs. Suzuki Shoten owe the Nitto Kaisha 1,45 ,800 *yen*, whilst the latter has to pay 1,713,800 *yen* to the former.

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, August 14.

A little incident came to my notice to-day, as indeed it comes to my notice every first of the month (to-day is August 1st in Russia), which is less insignificant than at first sight may appear. On the *ex ungee leonem* principle it may fairly stand for an epitome of the whole system of government as it at present stands in Russia: that is to say, an ancient despotism developing into a new form in which the people are beginning to recognise that they may also possibly have some rights. Many of the impatient want all their rights at once and forget all about the corresponding obligations. Here is the picture in miniature.

All Petersburg lives out of town in Summer and comes in by train for the most part with season tickets every day. These seasons are made out monthly "from 1st to 1st." Every first of the month there is the same insistence on the right to travel on the 1st of the new month on the old ticket, on the reasonable plea that it is necessary to get back to town in order to renew it Last year this was allowed. Now it is forbidden. Matters are complicated by some of the tickets being made out "From 1st of such a month to 31st of another month." The Russian preposition used in the expression sometimes means "inclusively," sometimes not. It is interpreted by the officials of the railway at their own pleasure, one year one way, next year another way. Of course the holder should renew his ticket beforehand, but—who ever does? Of course the officials, knowing their clients for years, might use a little commonsense—but what Russian official dare risk his superior's censure, or more probably suspicion of his venality by using commonsense? Thus every first of the month there is the same scene at the terminus; a dozen, may be a score of angry members of the public protesting against the official use of the Russian language which interprets "to the 1st" as "not inclusive" and "to the 31st" as "inclusive"! These protestants are walked off to the offices of the Railway Company where a brilliant galaxy of officials assemble high and low, ending up with the gendarme, the officer of the supreme government and the common or garden policeman. After endless shouting and some bad language the fare is usually paid all round "under protest," and next month the same thing occurs again

There are the two sides of the picture in Russia: the ancient despotism interprets arbitrarily identical words in different senses to suit itself, and backs its demand by police, gendarmes, if necessary the Army and the Navy behind them! But it listens with patience to the voice of public opinion, not always very politly expressed, and it probably resolves to amend—sometime. Of course it knows, at bottom, that the order to put "to the 1st" originally issued to grevent errors by subordinates who might not always be quite sure how many days there were in this or that month! The public, on the other hand, know perfectly well that in making trouble over the letter of the law they are really only protesting against the hidebound hard and fast rules by whsch officialdom is gnided in Russia and, in the absence of sufficiently tempting inducements to ignore, will press in season and out of season, commonsense being an uncommon quality in most countries and fear of responsibility perhaps the strongest feeling of every official, certainly of every official in the Russian services. The laws of Russia are, academically speaking, admirable: they were made by able brains working scientifically with pen and paper. But they do not express the common-sense of the people as does the common law of England. These admirable laws are enforced, by arms if necessary, upon a people orientally disinclined to worry about laws but but very much alive to the value of force or—fraud. They use the latter to contest the former, and only in these late days are beginning to think that there may be other ways of regulating the affairs of daily life. The monthly season-ticket squabble is Russia is a microcosm: very noisy in argument but deeply respecting force

Colonel Liakhov arrived at St. Petersburg th morning from Teheran. His appointment to the command of the 50th (Belostok) Regiment of infantry is gazetted. In an interview with a local paper Col Liakhov is reported to have expressed his doubts of the ability of the Persians to set up constitutional rule on the European pattern. He pointed out that, apart from considerations inherent in the Persian nature, there were several pretenders to the Persian throne waiting their chance to take advantage of the situation created created in Persia by recent events.

The Russo-British policy remains precisely as before, non interference. Russia, in particular, is anxious to see order restored, as she is at great expense to maintain troops in Persia, which is not the most salubrious climate for troops in camp, and already the camps have had to be moved more than once owing to outbreaks of enteric from the insanitary surroundings.

Several balloons, of the old pattern, went up about noon yesterday, one of them under the auspices of the Russian Aero-Club, others carrying military aeronauts. Up to the time of writing, thirty hours after the ascent, no news of the balloons has been received in Petersburg.

Five Germans, two of them military officers, were arrested in the neighbourhood of the Russo-German frontier where they alighted from a dirigible balloon. Among their belongings were a large number of admirable military maps. The number of cases of German military balloons, dirigible and otherwise, wandering over the frontier has been increasing for the Summer months of this year These accidents began to be noticeable for their number already last year, and it is now evident that the German General Staff is compiling a series of maps of the Russian frontier districts from the point of view of the aeronaut—maps which differ as much from the ordinary maps of the geographer as much as the latter differ from a mariner's chart of the seas.

A new submarine, undergoing its trials in the Neva before being accepted from the builders by the Russian Admiralty caused the death of several men and the serious injury of nearly a score of others by the explosion of its benzine-motor. The accident happened shortly after noon to-day. The sumbmarine, at the time of the accident, was not su merged, or the disaster would have been terrible as it is alleged that there were quite fifty persons aboard at the time, watching the trials

Nothing is known in Russian official circles of the story circulated somewhat freely by the press to the effect that the present Shah of Persia, a boy in his teens, has expressed a desire to abandon his position and join his father, who will shortly go into voluntary exile in Russia. It is surmised that some unguarded expression of family affection may have been misinterpreted by those who make no allowance for the close ties of affection which existed between the ex-Shah and his son.

Armed attacks on the post-officials are reported from two centres. They were unsuccessful, but in the Province of Moscow, cetween two great manufacturing centres, Klin and Zavidovo the driver of the post-cart and two armed postmen were wounded, the first dangerously. The postmen beat them off with their revolvers, and got through with the post-bags. No arrests have yet been made,

In St Petersburg, Moscow and Odessa there will be elections this Autumn to replace members of the Duma for those cities, the first having lost his seat owing to being brought under the criminal law for a political offence, while the other two seats have been vacated by death. There seems to be a likelihood of a new party emerging at these elections, unless, as some prophesy, half a dozen candidates are started, each supported by a so-called party which may be able to do nothing more than practically nullify the elections, and cause the trouble and expense of a postponed re-election. A spirit of compromise is wanted.

St. Petersburg, August 17th.

The United Zemstvos Organisation, which is responsible for a great deal of the very best constructive work that has been done in the Russian State for a decade past, has at length issued its independent inquiry into the conditions of the Amur Region. In a bulky volume the facts and figures of Government Department publications are brought together with the information gathered on the spot from live men interested in the development of the country. The result is a most valuable work on a country practically unknown even to Russians.

This enormous territory, bounded by a river navigable for three thousand miles from its mouth, was secured by Russia in 1859. For over forty years it was neglected, the attitude of the Government being that the Amur Region might one day serve to take up the superfluous population from other parts of the Empire, but meanwhile was useful only as a place of exile for wrongdoers in the services, who were sent thither to continue their careers after committing offences in the service at home. There was practically no attempt at colonising the country. The efforts of the 'Siberian Committee" were nullified by the views of the Government, which explicitly stated that the transference of working hands from the central provinces to the borders would impoverish the nobles, the land-owning classes, who would feel the shortage of hands to reap their crops and of small farmers to rent their superfluous land For twenty years the region was a dumping ground for religious dissenters whose views were inconvenient to the Government but hardly sufficiently criminal to be dealt with by too drastic methods. Thus one-half the population of the region at this period was composed of Molokani and Dukhobori, and the best agricultural results of the country are still produced by these early settlers, who employ American harvesting machinery and bring under cultivation an area totally disproportioned to their still scanty numbers.

Naturally no attempts were made to survey the new territory, and settlers were planted here and there without any legal titles to the lands they cultivated. There are no complete surveys to this day, nor any which can be called even approximately complete, to say nothing of the other weak point—accuracy.

Between the 80's and the beginning of the present century the Military departments had begun to see the advisability of providing a sturdy body of settlers of Russian birth to hold the country against the pressure from the East and South, Japan and China. After the "troubles" of the revolutionary period, the Government took up vigorously the question of transferring peasants from the central provinces to the Far East, on the principle enunciated in that familiar parody of the Russian proverb which says: 'the farther you go the quieter you'll be!' That the "emigration," as it is called in Russia, is not altogether voluntary appears plainly from the information obtained by the United Zemstvos Organisation, which received the same answer to all its inquiries to the effect that "we were sent here by the authorities," or "they promised us land for nothing and sent us along," or "the Zemsky Nachalnik (rural czarlet) ordered us to go," and so forth. As the book points out, this is not colonisation but merely arbitrary transference of helpless peasants from one part of the Empire to another, according to the wishes of the Government—a practice as old as Russia.

The Amur Region has been a continual drain upon the resources of the central provinces, and up to the year 1907 the deficit accumulated reached nearly eighty million pounds sterling! If to this be added the cost of the Manchurian railway and the Japanese War, the total is 350 millions sterling! The book makes a good point in attacking the old regime for pouring millions into Manchuria over a railway, when territory that had been Russsian for 50 years is still without ordinary roads of any kind.

Colonel Liakhov, in an interview with a representative of the *Novoe Vremja*, points out the growing influence of Germany in Persia. Germany has been working quietly and persistently, and is now in a position to reap some of the rewards of her foresight and caution. He intimates the possibility that the Persian Cossacks will be remodelled on German lines, under German instructors, and hints at the activity of a German Bank and the approaching completion of a German loan to Persia.

According to a Russian paper published at Kharbin, the Manchurian Viceroy proposes to the Chinese F.O. to throw open to foreign trade all

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the considerable towns of Manchuria, with the object of undermining the position that Kharbin has made for itself as the only town which monopolises the land and water routes.

The Russians have increased the number of vessels plying on the River Sungari, but it is reported that the Chinese authorities are doing what lies in their power to hamper Russian trade with the riparian towns.

All the balloons that made an ascent last Friday came safely to ground, the longest distance covered being 240 miles in 9 hours The absence of information was owing to the balloons having reached a district unprovided with any means of communication. Even one balloon that came down within sixty miles of St. Petersburg was unable to get news of its safety to the capital in less than thirty hours.

"Cholera riots" are reported from several centres. At Pskov 36 arrests have been made and a local police master dismissed, as it was proved that his subordinates were the first to create among the peasants the mistrust for the doctors which nearly cost the lives of the latter, while the police looked on indifferently. There are still too many districts throughout Russia where the police consider their whole duty to lie in the "repressing sedition," and while attending to so-called 'political' policing, overlook the protection of the lives and property of Russians from those ill-doers who are merely criminals, and uninteresting to the force which has been for years building up reputations and profits on "hunting out sedition."

The *Novoe Vremja* urges the establishment of an Industrial Bank in Russia to absorb and redistribute the gold that is to be obtained from the foreigner for the further development of Russia. It opposes the principle of concessions and other methods of "letting in the foreigner," which would give the latter some little insight into the real use to which his gold might be be put. The *Novoe Vremja* voices opinions still held in very influential Government circles, which are opposed to anything like the admission of the foreigner to work with foreign money in Russia. Yet this task is really the only way of adequately developing the enormous resources of the Empire. There is neither energy nor knowledge sufficient in the native Russian to push through the gigantic works that must be undertaken within the next decade, nor to operate them satisfactorily when done. The foreigner, and the Englishman best of all, could do all this, and many Russians would welcome the advent of the Britisher with purse in one hand and pick in the other, so to speak.

The official organ *Rossia* to-day contains the intimation that the Russian Government "does not consider it possible to enter into a polemic with "that person," the "terrorist" Burtsev, whose "revelations" in the foreign press about what has happened once on a time in Russia have excited more attention than they deserve.

It is officially denied that the subject of the Dardanelles formed part of the discussion between the British and Russian Ministers at Cowes.

The explosion on the R. submarine appears to have been caused by pumping benzine into the cisterns before stopping the motor: the order to stop was given when fumes were noticed, and a spark fired all the benzine.

St. Petersburg, August 19.

To-day is one of the twelve great feast-days of the Russian Calendar. According to the Church it is the day of the Transfiguration of our Lord. As with so many Russian (and other) festivals the Christian religious significance of the day is, for the masses, entirely overlaid by the popular festival which is probably more ancient by thousands of years than the Christian religion. To the common people of Russia to-day is the "Second Spas," the day on which peasant or town-dweller brings to church a few specimens of the ripe fruits of the orchard, more particularly apples. Until the Church has pronounced her blessing upon the fruit to-day the devout Russian abstains from its use for food. On returning from Church the blessed apples are cut up and passed round, and thenceforth the people are made, so to say, free of the fruits of the trees. There is a good deal more of the "Georgics" about the Russian popular view of this, as of many festivals, than of the Christian Faith.

There seems to be some unhappy fatality about Russia's attempts at aerial flight: or is it simply the old complaint which crops up at every turn in Russia—ignorance? The rigid dirigible ordered in France of the Lebaudy pattern has been set up at the military ballooning park here, its name changed from "Rossia" to "Lebed" (Swan), and an apparatus for chemically producing hydrogen proceeded to fill up the gas-bags of the cigar-shaped balloon. For some reason as yet unexplained, while this operation was in progress the balloon broke loose from its gondola and (?) moorings, and struck the iron roof of its garage, cutting the network and bursting the balloon in several places. In the absence of authoritative information the blame is ironically laid on the "French netting, which was doubtless of poor quality." The attitude of the general public in Russia towards the official efforts to produce a flying machine is one of sheer mockery, much the same, in fact, as the attitude of the public towards the Russian Navy since Tsushima. The reason appears to be the same in both cases: the public never hear anything of either marine or aerial exploits except in the form of accidents and disasters which cannot be entirely concealed. If any successes have been attained they are kept under the seal of secrecy by those who are in authority.

It has been agreed in principle by the Ministries concerned that Chinese goods may be passed into Russia duty-free for transit to Western Europe, the railways engaged being made responsible for the safe transit between the customs port of entry and that of exit from the Russian dominions.

Attention is once more called to the large number of Chinamen of military age and bearing who have for long past been travelling by rail and road towards Urga in small parties as private persons. It is asserted that arms for these obviously drilled men, all of them between the ages of 18 and 30, are being forwarded secretly. Another interesting announcement is that the Chinese settlement opposite Blagovêsçensk recently received a battery of field guns and caused a panic in the Russian town on the opposite side of the Amur river by practising at new ranges there. Chinamen are now quite familiar sights in the very heart of Russia, where they perambulate the populous centres with packs of goods on their backs, and appear to be doing a very good trade.

The *Rêch* says that all the difficulties having been overcome, the Sultan will visit the Emperor at Livadia on August 28th. The Emperor will return the visit on his way to Bari, in Italy, in September.

An interesting and original exhibition will shortly be opend in St. Petersburg in aid of the wounded officers' funds, by a private collector who will exhibit a large collection of the playing cards of all nations covering the 18th and 19th centuries.

The Khabarovsk branch of the Imperial Russian Bank has had a narrow escape of being robed by an enterprising thief who, single-handed, set to work from the attics of the bank to get through the steel walls and heavy Portland cement vaults of the strong room Mysterious sounds being noticed by a watchman led to the discovery that the thief was installed, with bed and a supply of food, in the attics: had already got through the cement vaults and nearly compeled a hole in the steelwalls of the strong-room ceiling sufficient to admit the passage of his body at the one point where the outside sentry could not see anything from the loophole in the door. The tools used were of the finest "English" make. When disturbed the thief made off over the roof, got down a rain water pipe and escaped.

A party of 120 English tourists is at present engaged in visiting the sights of Moscow. Such a number of "Cook's lambs" has not ventured into Russia for half a dozen years past at least, and will doubtless be as surprised as their predecessors to find how peaceful and harmless Russia really is—from the point of view of the honoured foreign visitor.

The expatriation of the ex-Shah has been delayed by the question of the terms on which the new Government of Persia will undertake to settle the debts of their late ruler. The departure of the new Russian Minister to Persia, M. Poklevsky-Koziell, has been put off for the present and will probably not take place until the pending questions have been decided. It is asserted that considerable efforts on the part of the two Powers responsible for Persia, England and Russia, will be necessary to prevent German influence again getting the upper hand in that country.

The inter-departmental commission which has been engaged in studying questions of development of Turkestan and Trans-Caucasia has now decided to formulate rules by which foreign capital and foreign energy will be freely admitted to undertake the recovery of something like a million acres of land now either uncultivated or only bearing cheap crops, but, with proper irrigation, eminently fitted to produce such valuable crops as cotton. A quarter of a million acres are to be selected for treatment in the Province of Samarkand, and over half a million in Trans-Caucasia. The scheme will pass through the Duma and the Upper House, when full particulars will be made known. Meantime it seems certain that every facility will be given to foreign enterprise by the Russian Government. Russia spends about eight millions sterling per annum on imported cotton, which might equally well be grown within her own dominions. The home-grown cotton will compete chiefly with American growths: the Egyptian cotton, or at any rate the finer qualities, will not be affected.

The Russian F. O. has decided to raise the Russian Consulate-General in Morocco to the rank of a Mission.

One of the first public acts of the present Emperor soon after he came to the throne was to recognise, by a handsome subscription to a literary fund, the existence of the class who live by the pen in Russia. From this encouragement sprang a useful literary organisation with a fund for the assistance of those who fall by the way, or their widows and children. A special fund was formed in 1906 with the knowledge of the authorities, and from this fund three amounts have been paid out to writers, or their orphans, whose work is viewed with disfavour by the polititical police. The objectionable work in one of these cases dates thirty years back! Instead of taking less radical measures with the society the police have now closed the entire fund by an exercise of arbitrary power which seems rather discordant at the present day.

CRICKET.

"OVER THIRTY" *vs.* "UNDER THIRTY."

The match between cricketing "Greybeards" and "Children," played on Saturday last at the Cricket Ground, resulted in an easy win for the "Children" by 107 runs, with 4 wickets to spare. The scores were as follow:—

OVER THIRTY.

W. A Morris, c. Buckle, b. Squire	21
H. C. Gregory c Farnsworth, b. Squire	13
A J. Cornes, b. Scott	19
W. D. S. Edwards, b. Bousfield	0
B. C. Foster, b. Squire	17
H. T. Hume, b. Scott	1
L. C Sharman, b. Scott	3
W. Y. Showler, b. Scott	4
L. M. Whyte, not out	2
A. E. Cooper, b. Scott	0
W. White, b. Scott	0
Extras	5
Total	85

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Squire	96	34	4	3
Bousfield	60	31	3	1
Scott	34	15	0	6

UNDER THIRTY

A. G Hearne, st. Cornes, b. Foster	5
B. Deveson, c. Hume, b. Edwards	4
P. E. Bousfield, b. Gregory	50
N. Buckle, c. Sharman, b. Edwards	8
A. P. Scott, c. and b Hume	28
V. Hearne, c. Sharman, b Hume	15
E. Dinsdale, not out	34
E. L. Squire, not out	32
H. S Bell, W. H. Worden, S. T. Farnsworth } did not bat.	
Extras	7
Total	192

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BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Edwards	48	27	1	2
Foster	54	49	0	1
Gregory	42	56	0	1
Hume	24	25	0	2
Cooper	12	28	0	0

P. & O. S.S. "BORNEO," *vs.* Y.C. & A.C.

This game resulted in an easy win for the Club, after a very one sided match. Bell made his 43 very rapidly, hitting eight fours. In one over he hit all over the field in splendid style, compiling five fours. The Borneo men shaped in unfortunate style, and after their first five men had departed for three runs, managed only to score 32, doubling the sorry feat in the subsequent effort after the locals had knocked up a comfortable 128.

P. & O. S.S. "BORNEO."

1ST INNINGS.

T. Vincent, c. and b. Foster	0
H. G. Bamber, b Foster	0
Bullied, b. Foster	0
F. G. Cadiz, (Capt.) c. Bousfield, b. Foster	2
F. H. Towill, b. Gregory	1
J. H. A. Smith, not out	2
Anderson, c. Gregory, b. Bousfield	6
A. Wiles, b. Bousfield	8
Rush, b. Buckle	1
T. R. Richardson, b. Buckle	4
Roberts, b. Buckle	2
Lapper, b. Gregory	1
Extras	5
Total	32

2ND INNINGS.

b. Hume	4
not out	3
b. Morris	0
b. Hume	3
b. Morris	7
b Hume	0
b. Morris	0
c. Foster, b. Morris	7
c. Bell, b. Hume	29
Run Out	1
b. Hume	5
c. Dinsdale, b. Morris	2
Extras	4
Total	65

Bowling.	O.	R.	M.	W.	Bowling.	O.	R.	M.	W.
Foster	5	9	0	4	Dinsdale	4	11	1	0
Gregory	5	1	4	2	Hume	9	25	1	5
Bousfield	3	11	0	2	Morris	6	25	0	5
Buckle	2	6	1	3					

Y. C. & A. C.

N, Buckle, c, Wiles. b. Oincent	26
P. E. Bousfield, c. Reberts, b. Vincent	18
S. T. Farnsworth. c. Wiles, b. Bullied	0
H. C. Gregory, c. Rush, b. Bullied	3
E. K. Dinsdale, b. Bullied	0
B. G. Walker, c. Towill, b. Bullied	1
W. A. Morris, b. Vincent	11
B. C. Foster, c. Vincent, b. Bullied	13
O. T. Gillon, c. Cadiz, b. Bullied	0
H. B. Bell, Not Out	43
H. T. Hume, c. and b. Vincent	7
Extras	6
Total	128

	O.	R.	M.	W.
Vincent	8.5	47	1	4
Anderson	2	23	0	0
Bullied	5	32	0	6
Lapper	1	20	0	0

ENGLISH CRICKET.

KENT WINS THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP.

London, August 29.—In the matches played on August 26, 27 and 28: The Australians beat Sussex at Brighton by one wicket; Yorkshire defeated Essex at Leyton by 151 runs; Surrey beat Worcestershire at Worcester by six wickets; Middlesex defeated Gloucestershire at Bristol by an innings and 31 runs; Lancashire beat Somersetshire at Manchester by 93 runs; Notts defeated Derbyshire at Nottingham by an innings and 94 runs; Kent beat Leicestershire at Dover by an innings and ten runs; and Hampshire defeated Warwickshire at Bournemouth by an innings and 53 runs.

By their victory over Leicestershire last week-end, Kent have won the County Cricket Championship of 1909; for although three matches—Kent *v.* Hampshire, Yorkshire *v.* Sussex and Surrey *v.* Leicestershire—remain to be decided, Kent, if defeated by Hampshire, cannot be displaced from the leading position. Lancashire have completed their list of championship fixtures and have made certain of second place in the table, for their percentage of 55.55 cannot be equalled by any of the counties which are at present lower in the list. Third honours rest between Yorkshire and Sussex. By defeating Sussex, Yorkshire would take third place, but by losing this match would probably drop to fifth place, leaving Surrey in fourth position.—*N.-C. Daily News.*

THE INSHORE FISHERIES.

RUSSIANS CAPTURE FISHERMEN WHO COMPLAIN OF ILL-TREATMENT.

A Tsuruga telegram received by the *Hochi* reports that the yield of inshore fishery this year has amounted to 170,000 *koku* (100,000 *koku* represents a normal year). By virtue of the establishment of an aquatic products guild, there has been an absence of the evil practice of bidding up. The profits are ruled by the Hakodate market and not by the amount of products. The products are making their way to the inland districts of Russia.

Another telegram says that, on July 8, the *Hojo Maru* and the *Tokiwa Maru*, belonging to the Deep-sea Fishery Company, were captured by the Russian watch boat *Silka*. The crew were sent under guard to Petropavlosk, where they were thrown into prison and badly treated. After the lapse of 13 days, they were sent to Vladivostock, sentenced to three months' imprisonment and a fine of 35 *yen*. On their appealing to the Higher Court, they were condemned to four days' imprisonment, and they at length returned to Japan on the 10th instant.

YOKOHOMA CRICKET & ATHLETIC CLUB.

The Hon. Secretary of the Yokohama Cricket & Athletic Club informs us that he received a letter from the Honorary Secretary of the Kobe Cricket Club, Mr. L. S. Hudson, that his Committee cordially accepts the invitation to send Cricket and Baseball teams to this port, in order to play Interport matches next month.

The dates agreed upon are for the Cricket match to commence on the 18th October and Baseball on the 22nd and 23rd idem.

Special interest is being taken in this year's Interport Cricket match as it is the 25th anniversary of the first match played, and the Y. C. & A. C. Committee mean to do all in their power to celebrate the occasion appropiately.

CORRESPONDENCE.

"LOOKING AHEAD."

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—The able and instructive article "Looking Ahead," in your issue of 24th August, has opened up some new facts, but leaves untouched the fact that, however prepared a nation may be, weakness will develop, unforeseen at the time, but readily adjusted afterwards.

England's attitude and bearing is typical of the "strong man," quiet enough, until aroused, but when that stage has been reached, then woe betide the other party in the "trouble."

"Each for himself and God for all" is a saying that has been handed down the ages and is truer to-day than ever. The utter selfishness and greed displayed by individual persons is being followed out by nations, so much so, that each one nowadays must have of the best and largest: the largest force, the largest naval force, and so on ad infinitum, caring nothing for the people so long as their vaulting ambitions are pandered to.

The question arises, can it last, will it last? this foolhardy endeavour of some nations to arm at all points, and then, when questioned, to affirm they do it in the cause of *peace*!

It seems to the onlooker that some of the nations are striving after the unattainable.

England, the mother of nations, has not risen to the honour of being "mistress of the seas" through sheer brutal methods, but has enlarged her fleet gradually as the expansion of her commerce and her overseas possessions demanded, and not with the idea of overawing the nations of the world with her navy.

"The survival of the fittest" may be a good axiom, but what other nation beside England is fitted to hold the title "mistress of the seas"? This position has been freely given to England on account of her naval prowess, building capacity, language facilities, and *fair play to all nations*, also that the English language is supreme for all communication of business, etc.

On these grounds the only other nation that would be tolerated by most of the nations would be the United States of North America; so that if England considered the honour of upholding the "flag" on the seas too onerous, or if some of the dominions beyond the seas—notably, Canada and Australia—take a hand with the "burden," then could England allow another nation to *enjoy* the honour, so that the above named country should receive the mantle of greatness cast off by England.

Such a possibility as sketched is in the womb of time, but if Canada and Australia are sincere in their desire for a strong navy of their "very own" then England need not look or desire to have any very great preponderating naval force over other nations, as England is bearing more, a great deal more, than she should in "policing" the Empire, and the sums contributed by the several "possessions" are greatly inadequate and paltry for the protection they receive and enjoy.

England's ships and men are welcome in every part of the world, while this cannot be said of all nations.

Yours truly, BROBDINGNAGIAN.

DR. COOK'S ACHIEVEMENT.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—In your column containing telegraphic news on September 4th regarding the alleged discovery of the North Pole by Dr. Cook you state that the discovery was not accepted as authentic.—In a later telegram it is stated that Dr. Cook covered "483 miles in 35 days, a remarkable speed when compared with the like experiences of his predecessors."

This remarkable speed is only a little over 13 miles per day, and could hardly be called *remarkable* if one is mindful of the fact that Dr. Kane the Arctic Explorer tells how that a number of dogs, well worn by previous travel, carried him with a fully burdened sledge, between seven and eight hundred miles during the first fortnight after leaving his ship—a mean rate of 57 miles per day, and this by means of Esquimaus dogs alone.

If the doubts in regard to this discovery of Dr Cook are not based on better information than the question of speed of the dogs, I do not think these doubts will hold much authority.

I remain, Yours very truly, P. E. J.

September 4th, 1909.

THE CONGO QUESTION.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL")

SIR,—An extraordinary communication appears in to-day's issue of your valuable paper under the title of "strength for good ends."

I beg to appeal to your sense of fairness in order to be allowed to raise an indignant protest against this lurid accumulation of insults to our venerable King and misrepresentation of the Belgian rule in Africa.

Time after time and one after the other, the allegations of the Congo Reform Association have been proved to be false or groundless. As for the statements of your refined Contributor about the rubber industry methods, about the "bloody terrorism" of the Congo police and their "brutal and bloodthirsty instincts," it is my *personal knowledge*—and I am in position to know—that they have not the slightest foundation. Still some people *will* believe anything printed.

Enclosing my card and thanking you in advance,

I am, Sir, Yours truly, "BELGIAN."

Tokyo, September 4, 1909.

THE CONGO ATROCITIES.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—It is pretty late in the day for anyone to come forward and deny the Congo Atrocities—now as familiar to the public as Armenian Massacres; but when we call to mind that the material interests involved are so enormous that it was considered worth while to employ a New York financier to induce members of the U. S. Congress not to vote for a resolution denouncing the unspeakable cruelties that have been perpetrated in the Congo Valley, it need hardly be wondered at that even here in the Far East there should be someone ready to deny in the most barefaced manner those clearly established facts upon which, and which only, the friendly Gov-

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ernments of England and the United States have made the representations they have. To deny that the statements made in the article published in the *Mail* of the 4th instant have "the slightest foundation," as "Belgian" does in your issue of this morning, is the most amazing piece of effrontery I have ever seen or heard of. To add to its absurdity, "Belgian" declares the groundlessness of the charges to be a matter within his "personal knowledge," as if any single individual could answer for an area larger than the whole of Europe. * * * * What a farce for anyone, I care not who he may be, to "raise an indignant protest" against the denunciation of crimes that have shocked the world! In some unimportant respects the reports of the Congo Reform Association may not have been strictly accurate, but the appalling fact remains that in this boasted Twentieth Century such horrors as the writer of the article in the *Mail* refers to—not "luridly," as "Belgian" declares, but with studied moderation—have been perpetrated by the emissaries of a government hitherto regarded as civilized, not by way of reprisal in a war with savages, nor under any other conditions that might appear to give them even a shadowy justification, but simply for GREED. Oh, for the days of Oliver Cromwell, or even for those of more than one English statesman of the Georgian or early Victorian eras!

Yours truly, ANGLO-AMERICAN.

Yokohama, September 7.

CONCUBINAGE IN JAPAN.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In the article "Concubinage in Japan," appearing on the editorial page of the *Japan Mail* of September 7, it is stated that "Concubinage in Japan has no legal status," that "The law does not recognise such a thing as a concubine," and that "concubinage has no recognised status." In the opening sentence the contrary idea is described as "a very white-headed old error."

These statements I find it impossible to reconcile with the fact that every concubine has to be officially registered as such, or with the still more significant fact that although the line between legitimate and illegitimate children is sharply drawn, the children of a concubine are included among the former.

I am not arguing that the law makes no distinction between the children of a concubine and those of a wife; that is not the question. The question is, Does the law of Japan recognise concubinage? and so long as the facts I have cited are indisputable, it seems to me that only one answer, and that an affirmative one, can be given to the question. It is not necessary that the word "concubine" should appear in the statute book. If concubinage were *illegal*, then we might look for it there. I do not, on the other hand, wish to be understood as attaching special significance to the mere registration of the concubine. But the fact that a concubine's children are lawfully born possesses tremendous import, and it can neither be denied nor explained away.

Yours truly, ANGLO-AMERICAN.

Yokohama, September 8.

THE CONGO QUESTION.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The article published in last Saturday's issue of the *Mail* and entitled "*Strength for good Ends*" was not brought under my notice until this morning.

As it only contains idle declamations and vague accusations, it cannot be said to be stamped with the spirit of fair play, which characterizes most polemics in English papers, and is not therefore worthy of a contradiction.

In order to convince thoroughly the numerous readers of the *Japan Mail*, the writer of the article will, no doubt, venture to leave the domain of generalities and *disclose names, facts and dates*. I may say that such a stand would probably induce the officials concerned to give him a chance to substantiate his charges in a Court.

Yours faithfully A. BASTIN.
Belgian Consul, Yokohama.

Yokohama, 7th September, 1909.

"UNITED STATES OF AMERICA."

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—May I once more ask the courtesy of your columns, for the correction of an error that seems to be rapidly gaining currency?

Three times within the last few weeks—in an editorial, a letter from a correspondent, and an article reproduced from the *Japan Times*—the expression "The United States of North America" has appeared in the *Mail*. Permit me to call attention to the fact that there is no such Government and no such country.

The Declaration of Independence, signed July 4, 1776, was "The unanimous declaration of the thirteen United States of America," and the Constitution, ratified by the same States between 1787 and 1790, is described in its preamble as a "Constitution for the United States of America." From this original designation there has been no departure or deviation during the 133 years that have elapsed since the Declaration of Independence. Postage stamps, the coinage, passports, appointments,—all are inscribed with the words "United States of America." In fact, during twenty-five years' residence in the country I have not on so much as a single occasion known the word "North" to be interpolated, even unofficially and casually. Nor is it customary in England. How it has gained its apparent footing in Japan, I cannot imagine.

Yours truly, ANGLO-AMERICAN.

Yokohama, September 9.

TELEGRAMS.

(Special to the "Japan Mail.")

THE NORTH POLE.

PEARY THIS TIME.

September 7.

Reuter's correspondent at New York sends the following message:—

Indian Harbour v'a Cape Ray, Newfoundland.—Peary reports "Stars and Stripes nailed North Pole."

Commander Peary sailed from New York in the Arctic ship *Roosevelt* in July 1908, on his fifth attempt to reach the Pole. He expected to be gone two years, but was prepared to take three years, if necessary, over his expedition. Mr. Peary probably wintered on the northern shore of Grant Land, at or near his old station, Cape Sheridan, some 500 miles distant from the Pole. From this point it was his intention to set out on the final stage of his journey about March 1st of this year. —Ed. *J.M.*]

Later.

Commander Peary has wired to the Governor of Newfoundland from Indian Harbour, Labrador, announcing that he has discovered the North Pole.

(Reuter's Service.)

THE ALLEGED DISCOVERY OF THE NORTH POLE.

THE ANNOUNCEMENT RECEIVED WITH RESERVE.

London, September 2.

A telegram from Dr. Cook received at Brussels Observatory adds that he discovered land in the far North.

Newspaper comments, interviews and other articles are tinged with a certain reserve pending the receipt of detailed information. The papers naturally draw attention to the difficulty of Dr. Cook's furnishing confirmation of his statements, seeing that he was unaccompanied by any civilized companion.

Later.

Dates presently available imply that Dr. Cook covered 483 miles in 35 days—a remarkable speed, in the light of the experiences of his predecessors.

ANOTHER MOTOR VICTIM.

Lord de Clifford has been killed in a motor-car accident near Brighton.

[This young Irish peer, the 25th Baron de Clifford, was born in 1884. The barony was created by Edward I in 1299.—Ed. *J.M.*]

DR. COOK'S LUCK.

FINDS BIG GAME AND ESQUIMAUX NEAR THE NORTH POLE.

GRAPHIC ACCOUNT OF STRUGGLES.

London, September 3.

Dr. Cook has telegraphed the *New York Herald* an account of his expedition to the North Pole. He says that after a struggle with hunger and cold he reached the Pole. He found a country of big game and then land whereon the most northern rocks in the world are situated. He had great luck in finding a number of Esquimaux, who were gathered for a bear hunt and had a stock of meat and hundreds of healthy dogs. Thus he got expert assistance and a splendid outfit when he was only 700 miles from the Pole.

In describing his approach to the Pole with two Esquimaux and 26 dogs the explorer says that the astronomical observations were daily secured until April 21st, when he was 14 seconds from the Pole. He then advanced the requisite distance and reached the actual Pole. The sun indicated local noon over all meridians that he met, but the distinctions of North, East, and West, vanished, and there was only South in every direction, although the compass which pointed to the magnetic Pole was as useful as ever.

Later.

Cook turned back from the Pole on April 23. He had a long return march, many difficulties and a shortage of food. Frost in September stopped his progress. He lived in an underground den until sunrise in 1909, when he proceeded to Greenland.

THE POLAR DISCOVERY.

DR. COOK'S NARRATIVE NOT WHOLLY CREDITED.

London, September 3.

Dr. Cook's narrative has failed to completely dissipate the reserve maintained towards his account. Even American reluctance to accept an uncorroborated story has not been wholly dispelled.

September 4.

Dr. Cook in an interview has emphasized his statement that the recorded temperature at the North Pole was 83° C below zero.

Later.

Dr. Cook, interviewed, said he was prepared to submit his observations for confirmation to any scientific authority. The most important result of the expedition was not the reaching and discovery of the North Pole but the travelling round thirty thousand square miles of new land.

RECEPTION AT COPENHAGEN.

September 5.

Dr. Cook has been accorded a most enthusiastic reception at Copenhagen. He was received by King Frederick.

THE OWNERSHIP OF THE NEW LAND.

Although Dr. Cook's account has been the subject of considerable scepticism, discussion has already begun regarding the ownership of the newly discovered land.

The American Attorney-General says the Constitution will follow the flag, if the land proves of any value.

THE CHILIAN MURDER CASE.

GERMAN CHANCELLOR SENTENCED.

The Chancellor of the German Legation at Santiago has been sentenced to death by a Chilian Court.

[It will be remembered that in February last the porter of the Legation was found dressed in the Chancellor's clothes and murdered. It was at first thought that the Chancellor himself was the victim.—Ed. *J.M.*]

GERMAN BUDGET.

LARGE DEFICIT.

The final accounts of the German Budget for 1908 show a deficit of six million pounds sterling.

AN "AVIATION WEEK" AT BLACKPOOL.

September 4.

The Blackpool aviation week will begin on the 18th prox.

MULAI HAFID.

In reply to representations from foreign consuls, Mulai Hafid has assured them that the torturing of prisoners would henceforth be abolished.

THE JAPANESE BUSINESS MEN.

Forty-six Japanese business men, repre-

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senting the various Chambers of Commerce, have arrived at Seattle on a three months' visit in order to strengthen the bonds of friendship and trade between America and Japan. They have been welcomed by the Governor of Washington State and by the Mayor of Seattle.

THE KING.

Later.

King Edward has left Marienbad.

An official statement says that his Majesty is in perfect health. His strength is in every way similar to that of a sound man ten years younger.

ANGLO-AUSTRIAN RELATIONS.

September 5.

The Times correspondent at Marienbad telegraphs that, as the result of the King's informal conversations with prominent Austro-Hungarians, Anglo-Austrian relations are in a fair way towards regaining their former cordiality.

ZEPPELIN ENTERTAINS REICHSTAG IN THE AIR.

London, September 6.

Count Zeppelin invited 200 members of the Reichstag and the Federal Council to Freidrichafen and took them up in batches of 15 on airship trips across Lake Constance.

PRESIDENT TAFT CONGRATULATES COOK.

President Taft has telegraphed his congratulations to Dr. Cook.

Later.

Dr. Cook has corrected the statement that the most severe cold was 83 degrees Fahrenheit. Many people, while not doubting Dr. Cook's *bona fides*, question his ability to make accurate observations. Dr. Cook declares that he is perfectly competent, but scientists must await the publication of his book for final proof.

20,000 BOY SCOUTS REVIEWED BY "B. P."

London, September 6.

Lieut.-General Baden-Powell yesterday reviewed at the Crystal Palace 20,000 boy-scouts. The papers are commenting on the remarkable growth of this three-year-old movement. The King sent a message to the boys hoping that they would do their duty as men, should danger threaten the Empire.

DR. COOK ENTERTAINED BY DANISH MAJESTIES.

Dr. Cook has been entertained by the King and Queen of Denmark, who were so interested in the explorer's narrative that they invited him to stay to supper with the Royal Family alone.

OPINIONS DIVIDED.

Opinions on Dr. Cook's feat are still of the most divided nature, especially in America, where it is recalled that Dr. Cook's previous feat of ascending the unconquerable Mount McKinley in Alaska was also accomplished alone and unexpectedly.

THE MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

VIEWED UNFAVOURABLY IN THE U.S.

London, September 7.

The Manchurian Convention is unfavourably commented upon in the United States, where the view is expressed that it gives Japan something like a monopoly of all railroads in Manchuria.

COMMENT OF THE "MORNING POST."

The *Morning Post* declares that the agreement should break down the barriers of ill-feeling and suspicion. Great Britain would warmly welcome such a change, but Chino-Japanese friendship and coöperation is only possible if the Japanese recognize China's difficulties and sensitiveness, and if the Chinese realize the necessity of practical reform.

THE AMERICAN PACIFIC SQUADRON.

LEAVES 'FRISCO FOR THE FAR EAST.

The First Squadron of the American Pacific Fleet, comprising eight armoured cruisers, has sailed from San Francisco on a six months' cruise in the Far East.

GERMAN POLICY IN CHINA.

The *Koelnische Zeitung* of Berlin declares that Germany does not object to Russian participation in Chinese loans, so far as the future is concerned and so long as rights already acquired are unaffected. The principle of Germany's policy in China is that of the open door, which must be recognized for Russia and the United States alike.

PEARY IS MORE POPULAR THAN COOK.

London, September 7.

Commander Peary has telegraphed to the *New York Times* that he reached the North Pole on April 6. He arrived at Chateau Bay to-day, and is telegraphing a full account. The papers are devoting columns to him, in notable contrast to the reserve wherewith Dr. Cook's announcement has been received. There is unquestioned acceptance of Peary's claims.

PEARY CONFIRMS HIS STATEMENT.

Later.

Reuter has received a telegram via Newfoundland, signed Commander Peary, announcing that he has "nailed the Stars and Stripes to the North Pole."

PEARY'S CLAIM.

September 8.

Reuter's correspondent at St. Johns, Newfoundland, telegraphs that Peary claims to be the first man to have reached the Pole.

THE KUNIS TO BE WELL-RECEIVED IN U.S.A.

Extensive official preparations are being made in the United States for the reception of Prince and Princess Kuni, thereby demonstrating the good will of the Government towards Japan.

TSARITSA'S ILL-HEALTH SPOILS TSAR'S TRIP.

It is stated in St. Petersburg that the Tsar's visit to the Sultan and King Victor Emmanuel, which had been fixed for September, has been abandoned owing to the ill-health of the Tsaritsa.

THE BUDGET IMPASSE.

THE UNIONISTS, THE LORDS AND THE BILL.

The Times says that the feeling is daily growing that the House of Commons is not entitled to force a revolution on the nation without obtaining its deliberate assent. It may be exceedingly difficulty for the Unionist leaders to advise the House of Lords not to reject the Budget, though the consequences are certain to be serious, and may, indeed, be incalculably grave.

THE SETTLEMENT.

London, September 8.

The Times pays a tribute to the judgment and courage of the Prince Regent and the ability displayed by Mr. Ijuin and Mr. Liangtunyen in effecting an amicable settlement of the Manchurian question. It trusts they may now be prepared with a practical solution of the question of railway competition by coöperation in construction, and thinks that the Powers would not object to an increase in the import duties if they received assurances that the increases would be applied intelligently and honestly.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

THE QUESTION OF THE LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS.

Mr. Asquith, replying to questions regarding the renewed interest awakened in Germany in the subject of a possible agreement as to naval armaments, said that any intimation that Germany desires to consider such an arrangement will meet with the most cordial response from Great Britain, who had taken the initiative in the matter.

DR. COOK'S CLAIMS ARE NOT EXTRAVAGANT.

MODEST ASSERTION THAT HE WAS NEAR POLE.

London, September 8.

Dr. Cook has lectured before the Danish Geographical Society in the presence of their Majesties the King and Queen and other royalties. The Crown Prince afterwards presented the Society's Gold Medal to Dr. Cook, who did not claim that he had located the exact spot of the Pole, but that, according to the inferences which he drew from the observations he carried out, he was either on the spot or in the immediate locality.

AUGUST TRADE INCREASES.

The figures for the August imports and exports show increases of £5,670,506 and £1,782,024 respectively, including the increase in the cotton turn-out, which amounted to £701,620, and wool, figuring £419,306.

A GENERAL ELECTION IN NOVEMBER.

There is a strong belief among Unionist members of the House of Commons in general that a dissolution of Parliament will shortly take place and that a General Election will follow in November.

PROMINENT RHEIMS AVIATOR KILLED.

Rheims.—The aviator, M. Lefebre, has been killed here whilst trying a new American biplane. The machine suddenly dipped from a height of 30 feet and dashed to the ground.

THE ST. LEGER.

The result of the St. Leger was: (1) Bayardo, (2) Volens, (3) Mirador.

THE NEW PORT OF LONDON SCHEDULE.

London, September 9.

The new Schedule, which has proposed maximum charges by the New Port of London Authority, is adversely criticised as calculated to divert trade from London. The charges, which are subject to ratification by the Board of Trade, apply to all imports, including 3s. 4d. per ton on tea, one shilling on loaf sugar and cube-sugar and other kinds of sugar, and sixpence on coal, and is estimated to yield £70,000.

COOK DID NOT GO OUT OF SIGHT OF LAND.

Commander Peary has telegraphed to Reuter that Dr. Cook's claims should not be taken too seriously. Two Esquimaux who accompanied Dr. Cook say that he went no great distance North—not, indeed, out of sight of land.

ALLAN LINER ASHORE ON CAPE RACE.

PASSENGERS LANDED, BUT CARGO WILL BE LOST.

The Allan liner *Laurentian* has gone ashore at Cape Race. She is a total wreck. The passengers have been landed, but it is impossible to save the cargo.

CROSS-COUNTRY AEROPLANE RECORD NEAR ALDERSHOT.

Aldershot.—Cody has established a cross-country record. He aeroplaned 40½ miles in 63 minutes. He flew over cheering crowds.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

TRAINING SHIP AT SANTIAGO.

While the *Taisei Maru*, Training Ship of the Mercants' Marine School, was at ancho

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in Santiago, she received a friendly welcome from officials and people in general, beginning with the local Chamber of Commerce. She left on the 31st of August. The newspapers of the place argued that this visit furnished a good opportunity for promoting the friendship between Japan and Russia.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

AMERICANS ARE SURPRISED.

London, September 9.

The news that Dr. Cook has reached the north Pole has come as a surprise to Americans. They have had no tidings of the explorer since March, 1908, and it had long been concluded that he had perished.

RUSSIA'S SECRET DIRIGIBLE.

The Times states that Russia is constructing secretly a "dirigible," 200 feet long, invented by the engineer Rostovitch. It is convertible into a flying machine while travelling, and possesses greater lifting-power than other rigid types. The engine is one of 60 hp. and has a speed of 60 miles an hour.

RUSSIA'S EXTRA MILITARY GRANT.

St. Petersburg.—It is announced that the War office will ask the Duma for an additional £5,000,000 for army improvements. The Government has approved of the proposed railway bridge over the Solga at Yaroslav, thus facilitating traffic between Moscow and Siberia.

GERMANY TO RAISE LOAN FOR NATIONAL PURPOSES.

September 3.

Berlin.—The final figures in the German Imperial Finances report for 1908 show a deficit of £6,000,000. It will be necessary to raise a loan.

BUSINESSMEN WELCOMED AT SEATTLE.

New York.—The Japanese businessmen have arrived at Seattle and were welcomed by the Governor of Washington.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

London, September 3.

The movement in opposition to the Budget still continues. According to the *Times*, the opinion is spreading that if the House of Lords decides to disapprove the Finance Bill, it will reject it without any amendment. Some members of the ministry anticipate the rejection of the bill.

MUTINY IN RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg.—A mutiny has taken place in the prison of Schlusselburg. Two jailors were killed.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

Winnipeg.—Sir William White, ex-Chief of the Naval Construction Department, has delivered a speech at the Canada Club to the effect that the most important thing for the Imperial navy is the organization of a central authority and a well-considered plan, whereby the different sections of the Imperial fleet could co-operate as one unit.

DOMINION ASTRONOMER'S OPINION.

Ottawa.—Mr. King, the Dominion astronomer, thinks it possible that Dr. Cook reached the Pole.

SUCCESS OF ANGLO-RUSSIAN DIPLOMACY.

St. Petersburg.—The success of Anglo-Russian diplomacy at Teheran in wresting a political amnesty from the Government evokes many enconiums from the Press.

THE STRIKE IN SWEDEN.

Stockholm.—The general strike has ended.

ACCOMMODATION FOR DIRIGIBLES.

The Times states that the War Office has placed a contract for building a house for dirigible balloons at Aldershot.

DR. COOK INTERVIEWED BY THE "TIMES."

London, September 6.

The *Times* correspondent at Copenhagen has interviewed Dr. Cook. He says that all scepticism is dissipated by the uprightness and honesty which is displayed by Dr. Cook: The lowest temperature recorded was 83° Fathrenheit below zero, not Centigrade. The journeys consisted of about 15 miles daily in company with the Esquimaux who accompanied him to within gunshot of the Pole.

THE MANCHURIAN AGREEMENT DISLIKED IN U.S.A.

In New York the Manchurian agreement has been unfavourably received. The *Tribune* discerns the development of a Japanese railroad monopoly. The *Herald* says that China has been forced to concede all material points.

GERMAN CRUISER'S HIGH SPEED.

Berlin.—The new cruiser *Mainz* has attained a speed of 27½ knots.

FRENCH MACHINE GUN STOLEN.

Paris.—It is understood that the stolen machine gun is in the possession of the German military authorities.

PEARY AND THE POLE.

DATE OF THE DISCOVERY.

London, September 7.

New York.—Peary reports the discovery of the North Pole on April 6th last. Before leaving in 1908 he said that if he succeeded in reaching the Pole, people would hear the result between August 15th and September 15th. He has kept his word.

[It would appear from the above, and from the accounts received of Dr. Cook's feat, that the latter's discovery preceded Peary's by nearly a year.—Ed. *J.M.*]

BRITAIN AND WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

London, September 7.

An agreement to purchase Marconi's six wireless telegraphy shore-stations will be signed immediately by the British Government.

PEARY *vs.* COOK.

Peary's achievement is not being received with the incredulity which attended Cook's claim.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

September 8.

There has been a heavy fall in American securities on the Stock Exchange. The Peking Syndicate shares declined one point.

WILL THE COMMONS GO TO THE COUNTRY?

London, September 8.

The Liberal Party is divided as to the advisability of a constitutioned struggle over the Budget. The possibility of the Commons obtaining the verdict of the country before the Bill is sent to the Lords is mooted.

PERSIAN EX-RULER'S PUBLIC CAREER FINALLY CLOSED.

The Persian Ministers are signing a Protocal containing an arrangement whereby Mohamed Ali will be relieved of this debts, will receive an annual life pension of 100,000 towans, and which provides for his immediate departure to his exile home.

RUSSIA'S NAVAL PROGRAMME.

St. Petersburg—The Admiralty are preparing a programme of Shipbuilding in addition to the Dreadnoughts already laid down.

THE KUNIS IN NEW YORK.

Prince and Ptincess Kuni have arrived in New York and have been enthusiastically received.

FLOODS IN MEXICO.

Floods have destroyed Sololomarina, in Mexico.

PEARY IS GENERALLY BELIEVED IN NEW YORK.

New York scientists unhesitatingly accept Commander Peary's word.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

UNITED STATES.

Berlin, September 2.

It is rumoured that the American explorer, Dr. Cook, who started on his expendition to the Arctic from Utah last year, has at last succeeded in reaching the North Pole.

GERMANY.

Count Zeppelin, after having carried out temporary repairs of the broken propeller of his airship, has started from Wittenberg on his return voyage to Friedrichshafen.

TURKEY.

The Sultan has paid a visit to the tombs of his ancestors at Brussa. The solution of the Ministerial crisis is to be expected after his return to Constantinople.

CRETE.

The Protective Powers have again withdrawn their troops from Canea in Crete.

GERMANY.

Berlin, September 3.

Count Zeppelin has safely returned to Friedrichshafen with his airship after an uninterrupted flight of 22 hours.

AUSTRIA.

Baron Uchida, the Japanese Ambassador at Vienna, writing in the *Pester Lloyd*, contradicted vigorously the reports, published by some papers of St. Petersburg, according to which Japan is said to intend to conclude a military convention with China and to exercise a protectorate over her.

GERMANY.

Berlin, September 5.

Two hundred deputies of the German Reichstag, besides some Ministers and members of the Bundesrat have arrived at Friedrichshafen, following an invitation from Count Zeppelin.

COUNT ZEPPELIN.

Count Zeppelin has made six flights carrying in all 96 members of the Reichstag. They were attended with brilliant success.

PRINCE HENRY.

Prince Heinrich of Prussia, after having resigned the Post of Commander-in-Chief of the Battle Fleet, has been promoted Admiral of the Fleet.

The semi-official *Sueddeutsche Reich-Korrespondendenz* welcomes the declaration of Baron Uchida, the Japanese Ambassador at Vienna, as to the St. Petersburg Press rumour concerning a Convention between Japan and China, as a very effective one. It says that the false ideas of a badly instructed Press, which very often were made use of for declaring such a Convention to be directed against Europe, were absolutely contradicted by the Ambassador's declaration.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails with dates up to August 19th ex Yokohama arrived at Berlin on September 3rd.

Later.

Siberian mails with dates up to August 21st arrived at Berlin on September 5th.

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GREAT BRITAIN.

Rumours from London, according to which a dissolution of Parliament is said to be imminent, are officially denied.

RUSSIA.

It is reported from St. Petersburg that the Tsaritsa is ill. The Tsar's plans of travel will probably be changed.

It is reported by the Russian Press that the Gulf of Finland will be fortified by the Russian Military Administration.

SWEDEN.

The general strike in Sweden has been settled.

DR. COOK.

Dr. Cook has arrived at Helsingfors. The attainment of the North Pole will be scientifically demonstrated by him.

GERMANY.

THE CROWN PRINCE INJURED.

Berlin, September 6.

The Crown Prince, having been injured in his face, has been forced to leave the manœuvre-field and will not be present at the Kaiser Parade at Stuttgart.

COMMANDER LANS PROMOTED.

Captain Lans, the Commander of S.M.S. *Iltis* on the occasion of the bombardment of the Taku forts at the beginning of the Boxer troubles, when he was severely wounded, has been promoted Rear-Admiral.

UNITED STATES.

Berlin, September 7.

Commander Peary, who started on his fifth Arctic Exploration Expedition in 1908, has sent a telegraphic message, according to which he claims to have reached the North Pole in April 1909. He says that he has hoisted the Stars and Stripes at the North Pole.

RUSSIA.

The Tsar and Tsaritsa will go to the Crimea on account of the ill-health of Her Majesty. The Mediterranean trip, which had been fixed for the autumn, has accordingly been abandoned.

GREECE.

The Greek Crown Prince has left Athens for Munich.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Berlin, September 8.

Mr. Asquith, the British Premier, replying in the House of Commons to a question as to a possible agreement with Germany concerning naval armaments, stated that the initiative to carry out such an arrangement had been taken by Great Britain.

[This declaration of Mr. Asquith is based on the fact that the above proposal for such an agreement had been semi-officially presented at Berlin from the British side. This proposal was, however, rejected on the German side, before it was made officially, being unacceptable to Germany on account of its one-sidedness.—ED. *D. J. P.*]

GREECE.

The Princes of the Greecian Royal House have obtained leave of absence for several years to visit Germany.

FRANCE.

The aviator Lefèvre has had an accident with his aeroplane, by which he was killed.

UNITED STATES.

Some of the declarations of Commander Peary, the Arctic explorer, are distinctly directed against the claim of Dr. Cook to have been the first at the North Pole.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

THE WAI-WU-PU IS REASSURING.

Shanghai, September 1.

The Wai-Wu-Pu has telegraphed to all the provincial governors that the negotiations between Japan and China are peacefully progressing, and that, as the negotiations will be concluded to the satisfaction of both the nations, the people should be at ease. The governors have received instructions that the anti-Japanese boycott should be suppressed.

THE ARTICLES AGREED TO BY CHINA AND JAPAN.

Berlin, September 2.

The *Peking Nippo* has published the following nine items relating to the negotiations between Japan and China:—

1. Japan shall acknowledge the supreme power of China over Chientao.

2. The Japanese and the Korean residents at Chientao shall be under the protection of the Japanese government.

3. China shall guard the Japanese against any obstructors that may enter into enterprises at Chientao.

4. China shall grant the lease of the collieries at Fushun and Yentai to Japan, and the latter shall pay the former the mining tax.

5. The stations for the South Manchuria railway and the Peking-Mukden railway shall be constructed at Mukden to facilitate communication.

6. Any railway parallel with the Fakumen and the Manchuria railways shall not be constructed without the consent of Japan.

7. Japan shall extend the railway between Tashichiao and Yingkow as far as New Street to facilitate traffic.

8. The questions relating to the defence of the Antung-Mukden railway and to the police authorities shall be negotiated hereafter.

9. The Hongkeihu Colliery question shall be negotiated at Mukden.

JAPAN'S RAILWAY DISBURSEMENTS.

Seoul, September 2.

It is reported that the Japanese Government will not be able to disburse more than 3,500,000 *yen* in the next financial year for the Keigen, the Sannan and the Heinan railways. The Residency-General is anxious about the matter.

COMMENT ON JAPANESE POLICY.

Shanghai, September 3.

The *Ostasiatische Lloyd* has remarked that the Japanese policy adopted in settling the Manchurian questions shows remarkable ability on the part of Marquis Katsura, and at the same time, the calm characteristic of the Japanese people.

THE CHIENTAO QUESTION.

Seoul, September 4.

It is reported that the Department of Foreign Affairs has made some concession in connection with the settlement of the Chientao question. The Residency-General is taking a gloomy view of it.

ENTERTAINMENT OF THE BUSINESS MEN.

Seattle, September 3.

The party of Japanese business men were invited to a splendid banquet this evening by the members of the Chamber of Commerce and other leading persons of this city. Some 400 persons were present. The president of the Chamber of Commerce and several others addressed the assembly, and Baron Shibusawa spoke in reply.

September 2.

The Seattle fire-brigade, assuming that the Washington Hotel was in flames, performed their drill for the sake of entertaining the party of Japanese business men.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA SIGNED.

Peking, September 4.

The delegates of Japan and China affixed their seals to the agreement relating to the various Manchurian questions at 4 p.m. today. The contents will be announced on receipt of a telegraphic instruction which is to be given by the Japanese Department of Foreign Affairs.

MILLET CROPS IN HEIANDO.

Phyongyang, September 5.

According to an authentic report, the crops of millet in Heiando are expected to show 20 to 30 per cent. decrease below the average yield.

CHINA-RUSSIAN NEGOTIATIONS.

Peking, September 5.

The Prince Regent, who has assisted on the settlement of the pending questions between Japan and China is reported to have instructed the officials concerned in the affairs with Russia to conclude their negotiations in a similarly rapid way, and to inform the Russian Minister at Peking of the date on which the negotiations will be commenced.

THE EAST CHINA RAILWAY.

The leaving of administrative powers over the East China railway to a Russian Company, is disapproved by Great Britain, America, Germany and France. It is rumoured that these Powers will enter a protest.

"JAPAN DAY" AT THE EXPOSITION.

Seattle, September 4.

To-day is "Japan Day" at the Exposition, and the local Japanese celebrated the day in fetes and processions. At 3.30 in the afternoon, a welcome meeting was held in the compound of the Exposition in honour of the Japanese business men. Mr. Gilber (?), President of the Exposition, and Mr. Dollar, the representative of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, presented an address of welcome, and Barons Shibusawa and Kanda, and Messrs. Otani and Nishimura spoke in reply. In the evening, the party were invited to a splendid banquet at the New York Building. Several members of the party have felt the effects of the protracted nature of the warm and generous welcome.

CHOLERA DEATHS AT HARBIN.

Harbin, September 4.

Seven persons are reported to have died from cholera in the Chinese quarter of the town. Nevertheless, the people are trying to conceal the fact that an epidemic is prevalent. On the other hand, the authorities are endeavouring to prevent the spread of the desease.

A BANK FOR MANCHURIA.

Mukden, September 5.

A big meeting of Manchurian businessmen has decided upon the establishment of a bank. The capital is to be over 10,000,000 *yen*. Contingent business developments are anticipated.

The payment of a fixed rate of interest is to be granted by the government, who will also permit the issue of bank-notes.

THE NANGKIN EXHIBITION.

Shanghai, September 5.

It is reported that the Wai-wu-pu has requested the different Powers to send exhibits to the Nangkin Exhibition.

MOTORISTS FETE BUSINESS MEN.

Seattle, September 5.

The Japanese business men have been taken in motor-cars to visit the various churches and to see the sights of the city and its suburbs. Last evening, they were banqueted at the private residences of the motor-car owners. The party is expected to leave for Tacoma tomorrow morning.

MR. FAIRBANKS AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, September 6.

Mr. Fairbanks arrived here to-day.

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AN ALLEGED ABSCONDER.

A man named Wright, former accountant of the Ichang-Hankow Railway, Chinese Department, who is alleged to have absconded, was arrested in this city this morning. The amount at stake is close on $50,000.

YUENSAN WANTS LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT.

Yuensan, September 6.

On the 5th instant, the natives of this town held a meeting with the object of organizing a self-governing association. About 1,000 people were present at the meeting.

SIBERIAN RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Vladivostock, September 6.

According to official announcements the Siberian Railway Accidents during 1908 are detailed as follow:—

Upsetting of cars	3
Collision	54
Collision while on trial run	60
Derailment	92
Derailment of cars on trial run	160
Driving past a station	2
Collision in the compound of a station	9
Collision with horse-carriages and wagons	24
Collision with animals	24
Collision due to intentional obstacles	3
Collision with obstacles	4
Robbers breaking into trains	50
Connecting with wrong trains by mistake	3
Irregular departure	74

ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT URGED.

Peking, September 7.

The *Kokuho* disapproves the recent action of Japan, and is inciting the public to an anti-Japanese boycott, whilst the other papers observe silence. To-day's *Peking Nippo* strenously opposes an anti-Japanese boycott.

TIENTSIN VICEROY ON VISITING TERMS.

Tientsin, September 7.

As regards the exchange of courtesies between the Chinese Viceroy and the Consuls of different Powers, there have been some controversies It has, however, been decided that the former will first visit the latter. The Japanese Consul received a visit this morning.

NEW CHIEF OF U.S.A. FAR EAST BUREAU.

The U.S. Consul-General Mr. Williams, having being promoted to the post of Chief of the Far East Administrative Bureau, will leave for home on the 23rd instant.

MUKDEN'S BUSINESS CIRCLES AND JAPAN.

Mukden, September 7.

According to a report from Hsinmintun, the Chamber of Commerce there has decided not to enter into any business with Japan, with a view of retaliation over the Antung-Mukden railway question. It has, however, not influenced Mukden at all.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF KOREA.

Seoul, September 7.

It is rumoured that the reason why the Korean Agricultural and Industrial Bank has subscribed for so large a number of shares of the Central Bank of Korea, is that some officials belonging to the Korean Department of Finance had applied for 60,000 shares in co-operation with the delegates of the Bank.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES SMUGGLING.

The Korean Government has indicated to the Japanese Foreign Department that the import of weights and measures that are not licensed will be regarded as smuggling.

CHEMULPO'S SPIRITS RISE.)

Chemulpo, September 8.

On account of the good prospects of foreign trade and of the decision in connection with harbour-construction local enthusiasm is reviving.

KOREAN EX-EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY.

Seoul, September 8.

To-day is the birthday of the Korean Emperor. Their Majesties the Ex-Emperor and the Empress, the ministers of state and other high dignitaries paid their respects to his Majesty.

THE CHIENTAO CONVENTION.

The new convention relating to Chientao was promulgated by the Residency-General to-day. The Residency-general is expected to make preparations for the establishment of Consulates. The text was shown to the Korean ministers of state at yesterday's Council.

MR. CHANG CHI-TUNG WANTS 20 DAYS' FURLOUGH.

Peking, September 8.

Mr. Chang Chi-tung has again applied for a 20 days' furlough. In consequence, the present Minister of Communications is being recommended as his successor.

NEW SINO JAPANESE TREATY.

The text of the new Sino-Japanese Treaty with respect to Chientao and Manchuria was published in to-day's *Official Gazette*.

THE KUNIS IN NEW YORK.

New York, September 7.

Prince and Princess Kuni arrived here this evening. Some 150 Japanese and Americans welcomed their Highnesses, among whom were the Japanese Acting-Ambassador Mr. Matsui, Colonel Cheney (?), Dr. Takamine, the Japanese Acting-Consul-General Mr. Yamazaki, the representative of the Mayor of New York, Colonel Thomson, etc. Their Highness were at once taken over to the Hotel Blanzaro (?).

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

IT has been decided that the College of Commerce will be opened to-day.

AT about 1.50 on Saturday morning, last a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. It lasted for 1 minute and 10 seconds.

Mr. TAKAHASHI SHINKICHI, President of the Japan Hopothec Bank, has resigned his portfolio. Probably Mr. Yamamoto Tatsuo will succeed him.

ACCORDING to a Shanghai telegram received by the *Mainichi Dempo*, Mr. Fairbanks is expected to arrive there to-day, whence he will leave for Nagasaki on the 11th instant.

A NEMURO despatch reports that the steamer *No. 3 Nihonkai Maru* ran on a sunken rock off Otoimaushi, Etorofu, on the 30th ultimo. The crew is reported to be safe.

A MAN 26 years of age, named Hotta Kiyohachi, is suspected of having absconded with 9,000 *yen* belonging to his employer, a building-contractor of Kanda, Tokyo.

THE steamer *Dai an Maru* lying at Nagasaki is reported to have had 13 cases of cholera since she left Yingkow. Three persons have died, one of whom was Chief-Engineer Mr. Hashiguchi.

ON the night of the 4th instant, a thunder-storm visited Hamana gori, Shizuoka prefecture. A number of tall trees and high buildings were struck by lighting, but no casualties are reported.

ON Septemper 3 a collision between a passenger and a goods trains occurred in the compound of Muroran Station. In consequence two pointsmen were killed and two wagons were smashed.

ACCORDING to the meteorological authorities, an area of low atmospheric pressure is moving across the central part of Saghalien Island. It is proceeding in a north-eastern direction. A new depression appears to have formed over the northern part of China. High pressure extends from the northern part of the Main Island to the Pacific Occean. On the 2nd instant, the weather, on the whole, was fine in Formosa, while in almost all other districts, it was cloudy or rainy. Thunderstorms were experienced at Kobe and Tadotsu.

THE work of transforming the open space adjoining the Osaka Castle into a public garden has just been commenced. A straight road 8 *ken* wide is being constructed from Maimachi to Shimamachi.

YINGKOW, Newchwang and Antunghsien have been declared by the Home Department as infected districts. All vessels coming from these ports are to be quarantined, if necessary, on and after the 7th instant.

ON the 3rd instant, a clerk of the Post Office at Kumano-gori, Yamaguchi prefecture, named Matsuo Tsunejiro, was arrested on a charge of theft. It is alleged that he had embezzled 969 *yen* belonging to the office.

A CLERK named Kudzunuki Tokijiro, of the Yokohama Commercial Supplementary School has been informed against by the municipa, council on the suspicion of having misappropriated 800 *yen* of public money.

ON September 8, Founder *Ketzan-Zenshi* of *Soji ji*, the head temple of Sodo Sect, at Wajima, Note province, had conferred on him by the Emperor the posthumous title of *Josai-Daichi* for distinguished services in his lifetime.

A FEW days ago, a serpent measuring about 30 feet in length and 3 feet in thickness, was discovered in the Hishigata Pond, Kurihama, near Yokosuka. The villagers are said to be planning a scheme for its destruction.

AN Osaka telegram reports that the prerogative shares of the Central Bank of Korea have shown a sudden fall. On the morning of the 8th inst., the shares for sale were abundant and at noon nobody would purchase even at twenty-five *yen*.

ON the 4th instant, Tamada Shotaro, in whose house the recent Osaka conflagration originated, was sentenced in the Osaka District Court to pay a fine of 300 *yen*, which is the extreme punishment for the offence of causing a fire accidentally.

ON September 1, an iron-foundry at Ejiri-cho, prefecture, was visited by a whirlwind. The roof of the foundry was partially destroyed and a number of planks belonged to a plank factory in the vicinity were shaken up by the wind. No casualties are reported.

THE association for carrying out the abolition of the textiles consumption tax has decided to collect subscriptions amounting to 500,000 *yen*, and it has also been arranged among the leading members that each guild will defray 3,000 *yen* a month until the foundation fund is obtained.

THE Crown Prince is expected to leave Tokyo on the 15th instant on a tour to Gifu and Fukui prefectures. A trout-fishing expedition on the Nagara River and a visit to the Yoro Waterfall have been put off an account of the people in the district having suffered by the recent earthquake

A NAGOYA telephone message says that on the 1st instant, Nagoya and its suburbs were visited by a heavy thunder-storm. Twenty six places were struck by lightning At Ariwake, Chitagori, two persons were killed by a thunderbolt and many others fell unsconscious In Nagoya, over 3,000 houses were submerged.

ON September 5, it was cloudy is most parts of the main island, and a fairly strong wind was experienced in various parts of the eastern districts. Some districts may be visited by showers, but there are at present no appearances of a storm. The 210th day is expected to pass quietly, unless a sudden depression is experienced.

ON the 3rd instant, says a report of the Formosan Government, the aborigines in the Toyen districts appeared near the fortresses occupied by the Aiyu line, and threw stones and fired guns to obstruct the expedition. A forest in front of

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the line was set on fire by them, but it was extinguished before doing much damage. The aborigines also seem to keep a watchful eye on the movements of the Aiyu lines in the Shinchiku districts.

It has been decided that a train at high speed which has made several trial runs between Kobe and Kyoto, will be made to run twice a day at about 43 miles an hour, after March next year. The present railroad will be used for the time being, only increasing the number of sleepers from 11 to 14, and making some improvement on the ballasts.

A Nagasaki telegram reports that Admiral Lambton, Commander of the British China Squadron, has hoisted his flag aboard H.M.S. *Alacrity*. His period of command having expired, he will leave Wei-hai-wei for Yokohama on the 9th instant on a health trip. The *King Alfred* and the *Monmouth* are expected to come to Nagasaki.

Of late, various houses at Takanawa, Shinagawa and Gotenyama in Tokyo, have been visited by a gang of seven rogues. At first the men ask for alms, but if their request is denied, they at once threaten the inmates. They have thus obtained several hundred *yen* a month. Six of them, however, were arrested on the 3rd instant by the Takanawa police.

In connection with the illicit sale of salt at Minobayashi under the jurisdiction of the Muya Monopoly Office, Tokushima prefecture, two clerks belonging to the Minobayashi Detached office have been arrested and an assistant-expert has undergone examination by the police Someone has manufactured 23,000 bags of salt for the purpose of sumggling.

On September 2, the Korean Crown Prince, accompanied by Prince Ito, paid a visit to the Imperial Palace to present their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress with his compliments on returning to the capital. His Highness made a present of a white bear skin to Their Majesties and the latter presented the Prince with an ivory-box and other valuable things in acknowledgement of his gift.

Tokyo papers contain illustrations of the bronze statue of the late Commander Hirose, which is to be erected by May next year at the approach to the Mansei Bridge, in Tokyo. The statue represents Commander Hirose advancing upon the enemy at Port Arthur, holding a signal in his right hand and a marine-glass in his left. Near to the Commander stands Sergeant Sugino with an axe in hand, awaiting the order of the Commander to cut the chain of an anchor. The height of the statue, with its pedestal, is 36 feet.

On the 5th instant, the *Ishimochi* Ceremony (offering of white stones) of the *Daijingu*, Ise province, commenced. It will last until the 11th instant. On the first day, the people of Tokokawa-cho and 13 other streets to the west of the *Geku*, conveyed 24 cart-loads of the white stone to the *Naigu*. These stones were put in wooden tubs and straw bags covered with pieces of fine silk-crape. No sooner had these carts arrived at the proper place, than a large number of people eagerly carried them into an inner yard of the Temple.

The temporary buildings for the prefectural office being completed, the different sections will remove to their new quarters one after another as follow :—

The Governor's Secretariat The Provincial Section	.....On Sept. 18.
The Section of Accounts The Engineering Section	..... " " 19.
The Industrial Section The Police Department	..... " " 20.

The official duties will not be suspended on any day.

Early in the morning of the 8th instant, a fire broke out in a three-storied lodging-house of Komagome, Oiwake-cho, Hongo, Tokyo. As the house was in an ally, the fire-brigade could not work easily and much inconvenience was felt by the refugees. Before the elapse of two hours, the buildings where the fire had originated was burnt down and eleven other houses were partially destroyed. A bachelor of engineering named Kamisaka Kamazo and a university student fell victims to the catastrophe. They were tenants of rooms in the third-s ory and it is supposed that they could not find a way of escape. Among those who barely escaped with their lives are many students who (strangely enough) are now lamenting that they have lost all their important note-books.

YOUNG

MOTHERS

Should know that the purest, sweetest and most economical method of preserving, purifying and beautifying baby's tender skin lies in warm baths with

CUTICURA SOAP

And gentle applications of Cuticura Ointment. For eczemas, rashes, itchings and chafings of childhood and for the prevention of the same, as well as for the sanative, antiseptic cleansing of ulcerated, inflamed mucous surfaces and other uses which suggest themselves to women, these gentle emollients are indispensable.

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; China, Hong Kong Drug Co.; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town etc.; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., 135 Columbus Ave., Boston, Mass.

Post-free, Cuticura Book on Care of the Skin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton market is firm. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is quiet but firm, with prospect of advance. The Woollen business has assumed a better tone.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	37.00 to 38.00
Egyptian	45.25 to 49.50
Indian Broach	31.00 to 32.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	30.00 to 30.50

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	310.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43¼-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Basis business is practically non-existent, and the market as a whole remains dull.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
do Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.85 to 3.97
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No transactions have been done in imported sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 13.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y 240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

The market seems to be a little more active with some enquiries. For known brands several small lots have been booked for sixty and ninety days shipment. Home prices have shown a distinct decline.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	10.70
Flag	"	11.00
Royal	"	11.00
Trophy	"	11.00
Red Seal	4 sacks	11.00
Lion	"	11.30
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00
Japanese :—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 "	2.75
Fuji	6 "	2.85
Pine	6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

Prices have dropped materially, but there is still some difference between sellers and buyers. A good many enquiries are stated to be out for prompt shipment but no actual business has as yet been reported.

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	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15
Red " " "	5.10
Blue Stem	5 30

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. All quotations are weak.

On September 9th stocks were: filatures 18,441 bales Re-reels, 3,878 bales; Kakeda, 797 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse ... ...Y.	1,050
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	980
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	980
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	900
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	—
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	960
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	865
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	—
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	860
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	900
Re-reels—No. 1½	870
Re-reels—No. 2	840
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra... ...	915
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1...	865
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	845
Kakedas—No. 2	830

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

September	Present delivery.	September delivery.	October delivery.	October delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
3rd	876	866	872	876
4th	879	867	875	879
5th	886	871	—	890
6th	879	867	875	879
7th	881	—	—	882
8th	879	867	—	880
9th	873	862	867	873

WASTE SILK.

The business done so far is not large, but the market is very firm with an upward tendency.

On September 9th stocks were: Noshi, 8,903 bales, Kibiso, 9,075 bales; and Sundry, 624 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Infer or	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	115 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium...	105 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	— to —
Rereel—Fair,...	— to —
Rereel—Best...	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is quiet for Fukui and Kanazawa goods, whilst there is a fair demand for Kawamata, and prices, especially for the lighter weights, have advanced.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.50	8.10	7.95	8.20	8.00
27"	8.35	8.00	8.05	8.10	8.10
36"	8.75	8.30	8.30	8.10	8.00

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	7.95	7.85	7.75	7.45
27"	7.95	7.85	7.85	7.60
36"	8.15	8.00	7.80	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.80	10.90	11.80	13.00
36	12.40	14.00	15.70	16.20

COPPER.

London quotations are weaker at the close, and no fresh transactions have transpired here.

According to a London telegram of September 9th, the quotation was £59 17.6.

Refined per 100 kin ... ...Yen	43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin ... ... "	38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin ... ... "	47.00—50.00
Ore ... ... "	29.50—33.00

RICE.

The market is not favourable. A little transaction has taken place locally.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	865,160
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	196,759

Delivery.	Closing Price.
September	—
October	—
November	13.32

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

	(Tokyo.) per *koku*.
Superior	Yen 14.50
Medium	13.50
Common	12.50
Average	13.50

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
August	13.06	August	13.11
September ...	13.06	September...	—
October	12.90	October.....	12.96

TEA.

The quotation has shown a little advance, but the market is still inactive. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to September 9th, the sales amounted to 8,608,200 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 93,400 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y.	—	—
Choice	—	—	
Finest	—	—	
Fine	—	—	
Good Medium	36	—	42
Medium	32	—	36
Good Common	28	—	32
Common	24	—	28

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is firm. Little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
September	131.00
October	130.40
November	129.35

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Sept. 10

London silver ⅛ higher, China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates unchanged, closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T/T	a/c ⅜@$\frac{9}{16}$
— — Bills on demand	a/c $\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	a/c $\frac{1}{2}$
— Private 4 months' sight	a/c $\frac{7}{16}$@$\frac{15}{16}$
— — 6 months' sight	a 1@$\frac{1}{16}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight ..... per $100	86*
— Private 10 days, sight do	84*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87*
— Private 10 days' sight	88½*
India—Bank sight	153¾
— Private 30 days' sight	153¾
America—Bank sight	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50⅜@¼
— Private 4 months' sight	51@¾
Germany—Bank sight	203½
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London)	23¾

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From.	Line	Steamer		Date
Hongkong...	O S S....	Seattle Maru	F.	Sept. 10
Hongkong...	T. K. K....	Tenyo Maru 1	M	Sept. 13
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of China	Tu	Sept. 14
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Tosa Maru	Tu.	Sept. 14
Tacoma	B. L	Oceano	W	Sept. 15
Seattle	N.Y.K....	Aki Maru	Th	Sept. 16
Europe	N. D. L...	P. E. Friedrich	Sa	Sept. 18
Europe	M. M.....	Oceanien	Tu.	Sept. 21
America.....	P. M	China	Tu	Sept. 21
Hongkong...	P. & A...	Henrik Ibsen 2	W.	Sept. 22
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Korea	Tu	Sept. 21
Vancouver...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	W	Sept. 29
America.....	T. K. K..	Chiyo Maru	Sa	Oct. 2
Hongkong ...	B. L	Suveric	Tu	Oct 5

1 Left Hongkong on the 3rd inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 7th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For.	Line	Steamer		Date
Tacoma	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	Sa.	Sept. 11
Europe	N. D. L..	Derfflinger	Sa	Sept. 11
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Siberia	Sa.	Sept. 11
Shanghai ...	N. Y. K..	Kosai Maru	Su	Sept. 12
Vancouver...	C. P. R. ..	Em. of China	Tu	Sept. 14
Europe	N. Y. K..	Hitachi Maru	W	Sept. 15
America.....	T. K. K..	Tenyo Maru	W	Sept. 15
Hongkong...	B. L	Oceano	Th.	Sept. 16
Australia ...	N. Y. K..	Kinkasan Maru	Sa	Sept. 18
Europe	M. M.....	Polynesien	Sa	Sept. 18
Tacoma.....	B. & S....	Keemun	Su	Sept. 19
Hongkong...	N. Y. K....	Aki Maru	M	Sept. 20
America.....	P. M.....	Korea	W.	Sept. 22
Portland.....	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	Th	Sept. 23
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	W	Sept 29
Seattle	N. Y. K..	Shinano Maru	W	Sept 29
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Chiyo Maru	Su	Oct. 3
Tacoma	B. L	Suveric	W	Oct. 6
America.....	C. R.....	A'ral Duperré	W.	Oct. 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, W. E. Filmer, 3rd Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 3rd Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shiokubi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, A. Yamashita, 3rd Sept.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ashtabula, British steamer, 4,527, G. Harding, 4th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Standadr Oil Co.

Karonga, British steamer, 2,932, Leslie, 4th Sept.,—New York via ports, General.—Sale and Frazar.

Hyson, British steamer, 4,232, J. A. Davies, 4th Sept.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General. Butterfield & Swire.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer 2,920, E. Combes, 5th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 6th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fooksang, British steamer, 1,987, T. A. Mitchell, 6th Sept.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Cathy, Danish steamer, 2,993, Kruse, 6th Sept.,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Polynesien, French steamer, 2,916. Broc, 7th Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M, Cie.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8,700, Henry E. Morton, 7th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Suruga, British steamer, 2,727, Chubb, 7th Sept.,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Aymeric, British steamer, 2,789, Boyd, 8th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tacoma Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,830, H. Yamamoto, 8th Sept.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 8th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Machaon, British steamer, 4,277, G. W. Long, 8th Sept.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Palma, British steamer, 4,913, Cockman, 8th Sept.,—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S N. Co.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,500, Iwamatsu, 8th Sept.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kumano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,147, M. Winckler, 9th Sept.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham, 9th Sept.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. —C. P. R. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Kaisow, British steamer, 2,529, Jos. G. Steele, 3rd Sept.,—Sourabaya, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tsurugizan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,559. Nagatsu, 3rd Sept.,—Kobe, Rice.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

C. Ferd Laeisz, German steamer, 3,799, Wagner, 3rd Sept.,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, S. Ishikawa, 4th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Puna, British steamer, 4,100, Fairfield, 4th Sept.,—Lobitos via Muroran and Patta, Ballast.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Australien, French steamer, 2,900, Riquier, 4th Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M Co.

Benlawers, British steamer, 2,510, H. W. Bee, 4th Sept.,—Kuchinotsu.—Cornes & Co.

Ashtabula, British steamer, 4,527, G. Harding, 5th Sept.,—San Francisco, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Karonga, British steamer, 2,932, R. Leslie, 5th Sept., Calcutta, General.—Sale & Frazer.

Hangsang, Korean steamer, 796, J. S. Gundersen, 5th Sept.,—Nagasaki, General.—Japanese.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, W. E. Filmer, 5th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Sudzuki, 5th Sept.,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,360, R. Swain, 5th Sept,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Howard D. Troop, British bark, 2,070, J. A. Duke, 6th Sept.,—Portland, Or., Ballast.—Standard Oil Co.

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Glenavon, British steamer, 2,728, B. Woolfenden, 6th Sept., — Vladivostock, General. — Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Shiokubi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, A. Yamashita, 6th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyson, British steamer, 4,232, J. A. Davies, 7th Sept.,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Fooksang, British steamer, 1,987, T. A. Mitchell, 7th Sept.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, E. Combes, 7th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Borneo, British steamer, 2,944, W. H. S. Hall, 8th Sept.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General. —P. & O. S.N. Co.

Atsuta Maru, Japanese steamer, W. Thompsen, 8th Sept.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8,700, Henry E. Morton, 8th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Cathy, Danish steamer, 2,993, Kruse, 8th Sept.,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Aymeric, British steamer, 2,789, Boyd, 8th Sept.,—Puget Sound Ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. Wada, 9th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Tacoma Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,830, H. Yamamoto, 9th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham 9th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 9th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. E. Barsokewacy, Mr. D. G. McRae, Mr. W. L. Hubbard, Mr. N. Otsuka, Mr. W. Dening, Mrs. W. Dening, Mr. B. F. Crawford, Mrs. B. F. Crawford, Mrs. J. H. Dwight and Miss F. R. Dwight. For Shanghai:—Miss S. L. Dobson. For Hongkong:—Mrs. A. F. Allen, Master Allen, Master John Allen, Mr. H. L. Anderson, Miss B. Charles, Mrs. B. Clare, Mr. H. E. Cutlers, Miss E. Donohne, Miss L. Faint, Mr. J. Heinrich, Mr. H. E. Hennenan, Mrs. H. Kipp, Master H. Kipp, Mr. W. L. Penn, Mrs. W. L. Penn, Mr. G. S. Perez, Mrs. M. Pollarg, Mr. J. H. Rowen, Miss L. Stanley, Mr. P. C. Trimble, Mr. R. Vellguth and Mr. D. R. Williams in cabin.

Per American steamer *Mongolia* from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. S. W. W. Gray, Mr. M. Marshall, Miss Agnes Gray, Mr. Y. Tomono, Mr. R. L. Harding and Mrs. K. Mudra. For San Francisco:—Mr. A. Amado, Mr. W. M. Brown, Mr. C. W. Batdorf, Mr. N. C. Comfort, Mr. G. W. Cram, Mrs. G. W. Cram, Miss M. de la Cruz, Paymaster F. J. Daily, U.S.N., Mr. F. E. Foster, Mr. A. J. Gibson, Master Gibson, Mr. H. D. Gibbs, Mrs. E. Gibbs. Mr. J. F. Gau, Mrs. G. R. Harvey and 2 sons, Mr. R. Kafuka, Mr. Adam A. Kramer, Mrs. Adam Kramer, Mrs. A. Martin, Miss Martin, Mr. A. Mackenzie, Mrs. R. E. McGrath, Mr. V. P. Meehan, Mr. J. S. Ross, Mr. C. C. Scott, Mrs. C. C. Scott, Miss A. N. Smith, Mr. W. E. Sauer, Mr. M. Sammons, Mrs. B. E. Thomas 2 children and servant, Mr. P. W. Tinan, Mr. Tsui Yeng Young, Mr. Tong Man Yuen, Mr. F. E. Walker, Mrs. F. E. Walker, Miss A. Walker, Mr. S. B. Warner, Lt. R. B. Weaver, Mrs. A. V. Weaver, Mr. C. G. Warfel, Mr. G. J. Wagner and Mrs. G. J. Wagner & infant.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Lieut. F. P. O. Bridgeman, Mr. W. Harrison, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. C. Walker, Mrs. C. Lemoine, Baron R. Von Konig, Baroness Von Konig, Mr. P. Gifford, Mrs. Gifford, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. M. Stevens, Mrs. F. Hammond, Miss Z. Furlonge, Mr. F. Barnes, Mr. M. M. Schwabe, Mr. F. Geeson, Mr. H. L. Eppinger and Mr. J. S Cartwright in cabin, Mr. Inn Ichicawa, Professor A. Belshthe and Mr. F. Kudiashoff in Asiatic second class; Mr. Wm. Thompson, Mrs. C. Warn and child, Dr. N. M. Schultz, Dr. W. B. Russell, Mrs. Russell, Mr. E. J. Lee, Mrs. Lee, Dr. D. G. Beebe, Mrs. M. C. Chambers, Mrs. D. McCue, Mr. Lo Tsung Yee, Lieut F. F. Hunt, Mrs. Hunt, Rev. A. G. Sharrock, Mr. H. S. Redfern, Mrs. Redfern and child, Mr. Marges, Mrs. Marges, Mr. D. Campbell, Mr. A. E. Schaffer, Miss E. A. Churchhill, Mr. M. M. Ramsay, Mr. A. B Cauham, Mr. Que Tsehing, Right Hon. The Earl of Berkeley, Mr. R. Berkely Rev. B. R. Lawton, Mrs. Lawton, Mrs. Sharrock, Miss D. Sharrock, Mr. D. J. Carner, Mrs. Carner, Rev. W. D. Dixon, Mr. C. Wetton, Major S. Macdonald, Col. W. B. Lauder, Mr. Thos. Kydd, Mrs. Kydd, Mr. A. Smith and Mrs. Smith in transit; 1 Japanese and 3 Chinese in Asiatic second class; 1 Japanese and 183 Chinese in steerage.

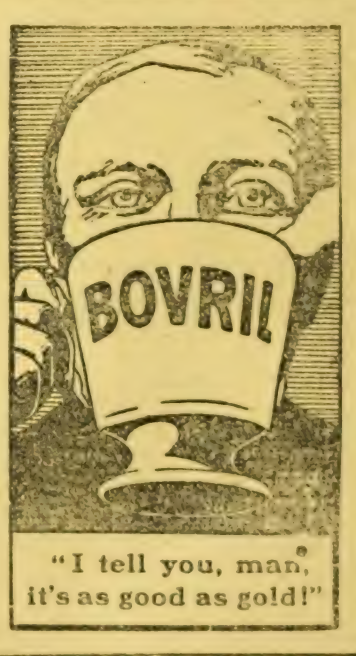
DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Monteagle*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss Rawling, Mr. Tam Wing, Mr. Tong Shan Kiang, Mr. Chan Tuh Shun, Mr. Pon Ming Fun, Capt. Price, Mr. W. S Davidson, Mrs. E. F. William and child, Miss E. Mitchell, Miss Dickie and Miss Furness, in intermediate.

Per French steamer *Australien*, for Marseilles via ports:—Mrs. Ellinger, Miss Fredon and lady and servant, Mr. Ellinger, Mr. and Mrs. C. Rayner and 1 amah, Mr. E. L. G. Whitting, Mr. P. Labeyrie, Mr. Cerima, Mr. Emmannel and Mr. L. M. E. Jane St. Jorre in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru* for Hongkong via ports:—Miss S. L. Dodson, Mrs. A. F. Allen and infant, Master John Allen, Mr. H. C Anderson, Miss B. Charles, Mrs. B. Clark, Mr. H. Cutler, Miss B. Donchoe, Miss Lilian Faint, Mr. Paul O. Trimble, Mr. R Vellguth, Rev. W. D. Gates, Mr. A. R. Riddle, Col. W. R. Abercrombie, Mr. Sia Kum Tu and native servant, Mrs. Gates, Mr. M. Hargreaves, Miss R. Fisher, Mr. J. Heinrich, Mr. H. E. Henneman, Mrs. Howard H. Kipp and infant, Mr. Wm Lee Penn, Mrs. Wm. Lee Penn, Mr. G. S. Perez, Mrs. M. Pollard, Lt. Com. J H. Rowen, U.S.N., Miss L. Stanley, Mr. D. R. Williams, Mr. Yang Kai, Lt. P S. Sabert, Lt. L. B. Chandler, Mr. Henry Wagner, Mr. Lo Kin Su and native servant, Mr. F. S. Morse and Mrs. F. S. Morse in cabin.

Per American steamer *Mongolia* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. I. A Amado, Mr. C. W. Batdorf, Mr M. W. Brown, Mr. Henry Busch, Mr. A. H. Butcher, Mrs. A. H. Butcher, Mr. W. Christoph, Mr. N. C. Comfort, Miss M. G. Cammack, Mr. G. W. Cram, Mrs. G. W. Cram, Mr. J. F. Daly, U.S.N., Miss J. Denton, Mr. F. E. Foster, Prof F. Fulleborn, Mr. J. F. Gau, Mr. H. D. Gibbs, Mrs. E. Gibbs, Mr. A. J. Gibson Master W. Gibson and nurse, Mrs. M. Gieseke, Miss B. Gieseke, Mr. C. K. Hamilton, Mrs. C. K. Hamilton, Miss M. E. Harlow, Mrs. Geo. R. Harvey and 2 children, Mr. R. Kafuku, Madame M. Krajner, Mr. Adam A. Kramer, Mrs. Adam A. Kramer, Mr. Alex Mackenzie, Mrs. A. H. Martin, Miss Martin, Mrs. R. E. McGrath, Dr. Dunlop Moore, Mrs. F. Murai, Mr. J H. Ogle, Mr. O. L. Ogle, Dr. T. N. Phillips, U.S.N., Mrs. P. Ritter and native servant, Miss H. L. Ritter, Master Max Ritter, Mr. J. S. Ross, Miss M. Ruck, Mr. M. Sammons, Mr. W. E. Sauer, Mr. C. C. Scott, Mrs. C. C. Scott, Miss A. N. Smith, Mrs. P. E. Thomas, 2 children and servant, Mr. P. W. Tinan, Mr. Tong Man Yuen, Mr. Tsui Ying Young, Mr. Geo. J. Wagner, Mrs. Geo. J. Wagner and infant, Mr. F. E. Walker, Mrs. F. F. Walker, Miss A. Walker, Mr. S. B. Warner, Mrs. A. V. Weaver, Mrs R. D. Wild, Miss Wild, Dr. Y. Wolf and Mr. C. G. Worfel in cabin.



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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 18TH, 1909.

BIRTH.

On the 16th inst. at 90-c Bluff, to Mr. & Mrs. J. H. CUTCLIFFE GOODBAN, a Son.

DEATH.

CHAIX.—At Yokohama, on September 9th, ALBERT CHAIX, late Agent of the Messageries Maritimes, aged 39.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Crown Prince has left Tokyo on a tour to Gifu, Fukui, Ishikawa and Toyama prefectures.

FOURTEEN Russian youths have arrived at Tsuruga on their way to Yokohama, where they will enter the St. Joseph's College.

A NAGASAKI despatch says that Mr. Fairbanks arrived there from Shanghai on the 13th instant. In the evening, he attended a reception meeting held by governmental officials and private persons at the Koyotei. He appeared very healthy. He was to leave for Manila yesterday by the steamer *Siberia*, and is expected to return home *via* England.

IT is reported that the U.S. Consulate in Yokkaichi will shortly be opened. Rev. Kingsbery has been appointed Consul at that place.

THE American evangelist Dr. Alexander Chapman and his suite are expected to visit Japan about the end of next month, after their travels through China and Korea.

A TOYAMA telegram reports that it rained and hailed heavily in that district on September 9. A large number of houses were damaged by lightning and floods.

MR. SAWAYANAGI, ex-Vice-Minister of Education, has been appointed acting-Principal of the Tokyo Higher Commercial School, in place of Dr. Mano, who was relieved of his post on the 11th instant.

BARON IWASAKI who has been ill for a long time, having gradually become convalescent, left Tokyo by train on the 13th instant, accompanied by Baroness Iwasaki. He intends to recuperate himself in his villa at Oiso.

THE compound of Umeda Station in Osaka, which is said to be largest in Japan, is still the subject of complaint as to its narrowness. The Osaka Chamber of Commerce is reported to contemplate applying for its enlargement.

IT is reported that with reference to the libel case of Mr. Preston *vs. Japan Herald*, which has been carried to the Appeal Court, an attempt is being made to settle the matter out of court. This, however, is denied by the defendants.

ON the 13th instant, Mr. Sudzuki Chubei, ex-Mayor of Yokosuka, and Mr. Sudzuki Fukumatsu, newly elected Mayor of the same city, held a complimentary meeting at the municipal office there. The leading members of the city attended the meeting.

THE Home Department has received an official report that on September 8, an explosion took place in a powder-magazine at Ashiya-cho, Ongagori, Fukuoka prefecture. Neither casualties nor damages to houses are reported. The cause of the accident is as yet unknown.

AN employee of Mr. Satomi, a stock-broker of Osaka, is suspected to have absconded with 15,000 *yen* belonging to his master on the 30th ultimo. It is alleged that he has been imprisoned twice on account of embezzlement. A reward of 1,000 *yen* is offered for his arrest.

A NAGASAKI despatch says that the British warship *Alacrity* arrived there from Weihaiwei on the 9th instant. Admiral Lambton on board the *King Alfred* is now there, and also the *Monmouth* and four torpedo destroyers. The Admiral was to leave for Yokohama on the 18th instant.

THE plan which has recently been presented by the Western Railway Administration Bureau to the Railway Board is to run electric cars between Kyoto and Akashi at the highest possible rate of speed. This plan resembles one that was formerly investigated by Mr. Iwasaki, Head of the Bureau, between Kobe and Akashi, when he was in the Sanyo Railway Company.

THE work of the Trans-Kyushu railway construction has recently progressed so rapidly that the line between Yoshimatsu and Hitoyoshi (the only line not yet opened) will be completed in November, and the opening ceremony is reported to be held on or about the 20th of the same month. On completion of the above line, the service of a through train will be opened between Moji and Kagoshima, the two terminus of the Trans Kyushu railway. The passenger fares will be *yen* 6.93, *yen* 4.16 and *yen* 2.77 for the first, second and third classes respectively.

A PEKING telegram to the *Asahi* says that Mr. Chang Chitung, who had gradually become convalescent under the care of Japanese and Chinese physicians, is reported to have relapsed into an unfavourable condition since undergoing medical treatment by a German physician a few days ago.

FOLLOWING on the Chientao Treaty, the Foreign Department has sent in to the Department of Finance the estimates for establishment of new consulates at Lungchingtsun, Chutszchie, Toutaokon and Paitsaokon at 20,000 *yen*. At the same time, 15,000 *yen* has been estimated for other four consulates at St. Louis, Hamburg, Chingchan and Aihon.

IT is reported that the planters in Hawaii have formed an alliance by which they will employ Russian emigrants. They have decided to engage 250 Russians as a preliminary move, and Mr. Akinson, ex-official of the former Hawaiian Government, who is invested with full powers, has arrived in Japan on his way to Russia *via* Siberia in connection with the venture.

THE baseball team of the Wisconsin College arrived at Yokohama by the N.Y.K. liner *Aki Maru* yesterday, and left at once for Tokyo. The team consists of sixteen players, captained by Mr. Douglas Knight. They will practise on the Keio ground on the 17th and 18th, and play the first match with the team of that College on the 19th. The players are accompanied by a press representative, Mr. Ned Jones.

IT is reported that the Imperial government, taking advantage of the administrative adjustment, will shortly establish a new department for the construction of governmental offices, called the Governmental Office Construction Bureau under the direct control of the Imperial Ministry. On the establishment of the above bureau, the Railway Board and different Departments will no longer need their own bureaux for building and repairs.

IT is reported that the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha has decided to organize its London Branch Office into the supervising office of the affairs of the company in all the European markets. The Hamburg office will come under the control of the London Office, and detached offices are to be newly established at Lyons and Antwerp. Mr. Isomura, Chief of the Business Department of the Head office in Tokyo, will be appointed manager of the London Office.

ON the *Mauretania's* last record-breaking voyage a successful operation for appendicitis was performed. On the first day out from New York, a little boy passenger became ill, and the ship's surgeon, Dr. Sydney Jones, diagnosed the case as appendicitis. Among the passengers was Dr. M'Arthur, a well known Chicago surgeon who, with the assistance of Dr. Jones, performed the operation with such success that the lad was able to leave the vessel at Liverpool.

AN Osaka telegram reports that on the morning of the 10th instant, a large number of people of Sada-mura and Tomorogi-mura, Kitakawachi gori, Kawachi province, surrounded a powder-magazine at Nakaburi, Sada-mura, and behaved in a disorderly manner. The police endeavoured to quiet them, and the crowd dispersed in all directions for a short while, only, however, to assemble again in the playground of the village school. The object of the villagers is to apply for the removal of the magazine.

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THE BOYCOTT.

Friday, September 10.

The Chinese authorities seem to be frankly exercising their power to restrain the organization of an anti-Japanese boycott. Circulars urging recourse to a boycott have been scattered broadcast in Shanghai, but strenuous efforts to obviate their effects are being taken officially. In Hanchow, Canton and Chinkiang there are also some signs of excitement, but here too the local officials are exerting themselves in the right direction, and it is thought unlikely that the trouble will assume serious dimensions. The Chinese Government in ordering these preventive steps, is doubtless animated by a desire to complete and preserve the understanding now happily reached with Japan. But possibly Peking statesmen have also become conscious of the fact that when they conclude an agreement with a foreign Power in the sequel of due deliberation, a popular protest in the form of a boycott is not only unfriendly towards that Power but is also contumelious towards the statesmen themselves. Such demonstrations in common with mass meetings and other expressions of discontent are not infrequent in constitutional countries, but in the case of an unlimited Monarchy like China they are distinct acts of rebellion.

It may be mentioned here that according to the *Kokumin's* Hongkong telegrams, the subjects and citizens of all Powers having tradal relations with China are beginning to regard these boycotts as a serious menace to the stability of their business, and are concerting steps to enter a protest in Peking.

Saturday, September 11.

The Chinese authories seem to be genuinely determined to prevent the organisation or spread of an anti-Japanese boycott. The Taotai of Shanghai has issued a long notice strictly forbidding a boycott and ordering the arrest of anyone who incites to it or who assists in the publication of incendiary matter. We have no doubt that this measure will be successful, but it would be more reassuring to learn that similar steps had been taken by the authorities in other threatened districts.

Sunday, September 12.

The Peking papers appear to be beginning to condemn the Manchurian arrangement very emphatically. The *Kwohpao* published a series of ten articles, ending on the 10th inst. They used most incendiary language and vehemently preached a boycott, but, according to a telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun*, their diatribes have not produced any visible effect. Two other journals, the *Tatung Jipao* and the *Chung yang*, took up the burden of the same song on the 11th inst., but they did not advocate a boycott. They confined themselves to stating that China's sovereign power in Manchuria is limited by the Agreement and that her rights are invaded. They violently attack the Chinese statesmen who are responsible for the conduct of the country's foreign affairs, charging them with being without ability, without experience and without policy.

Meanwhile the Autonomic Association in Hongkong appears to have renewed its agitation. It can not convene public meetings in the face of the official veto, but it can despatch telegrams to Chinese living abroad, and it can distribute anonymous circulars. That is what it appears to be doing vigorously. The circulars are not absolutely anonymous for they bear the inscription "the partriots of China" or "the Chinese students studying in Tokyo" or "the country's defenders," but that they emanate from the Antonomic Association there can be little doubt, and so long as that Association's mischievous activity is not checked, there is no telling what may occur. We note that the *Jiji Shimpo* writes in a hopeful strain. Its conviction is that foreign countries have awoke to the danger of the boycott as a disturber of international trade, and that their representations to Peking will induce the Chinese officials to take effective steps.

Monday, September 13.

The German newspaper of Shanghai, as quoted by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, has a powerful article on the subject of Chinese boycotts. We agree with every word of our contemporary's comments. The gist of what it says is that there has arisen in China a power which defies the restraints of legitimate administrative machinery, and acts in obedience to the dictates of passion and prejudice. In the face of such an arbitrary tribunal the protection guaranteed by treaty to foreign life and property becomes a mere myth, and extra-territorial privileges cease to have any meaning. The Autonomic Association in Canton, which is at the root of all this trouble, was formed originally as an instrument for preparing the path to constitutional government, and investigating the methods of local autonomy. But it has altogether transgressed those limits, and has become an incendiary machine highly dangerous to the conventional rights of all foreigners in China. Several Powers have already suffered at the hands of this lawless Association. France, England, America, Japan and Portugal have all been its victims. The latest case was that of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire, one of the leading firms in the Orient, which, although a judgment had been given in its favour by a British Consular Court in the case of the steamer *Fushan*, was nevertheless obliged ultimately to pay out a large sum of money in order to terminate the operation of a boycott organized by this pestilential Association in Canton. A part of the money was paid to the family of the dead man, and another considerable part went into the hands of the Canton Association, while $1000 were needed to silence the newspapers. The German journal justly declares such a state of affairs to be quite intolerable. Foreign merchants can not carry on their business in China under the jurisdiction of mob law. A united protest from all the treaty Powers is clearly demanded by the situation.

Tuesday, September 14.

Sporadic outbreaks of a boycotting spirit are reported from China. Thus, at Paoting placards are reported to have been posted inciting the people to cease dealing in Japanese merchandise, but they are said to produce no visible effect. In Peking also there has been a movement towards retaliation in this sense, but it appears that the Chamber of Commerce has passed a resolution declaring the absence of any cause for such an extreme measure. The Viceroy of Mukden has considered it expedient to issue a proclamation warning the merchants that recourse to an anti-Japanese boycott would be an uncivilized step calculated merely to injure the friendly relations between the two Empires.

Thursday, September 16.

Telegrams from Mukden indicate that incendiary circulars continue to pour into the city from various quarters. They all claim that Japan has violated Chinese sovereignty, and they all urge a retaliatory boycott. Apparently these incentives have produced some effect, for it is related that the Chinese merchants are beginning to inquire about the nationality of goods offered for sale, and are refraining from purchasing Japanese products. On the other hand, much of the merchandise reaching Manchuria is produced in Japan only or is purchasable from Japanese alone. Consequently the Chinese can not well refuse to buy. Moreover Japan has it in her power to retaliate with considerable efficiency. It would be unfortunate, however, if a war of that sort broke out. The only way to prevent it, however, is for the Chinese Government to adopt some definite measures in order to acquaint people clearly as to the facts of the recent negotiations.

Meanwhile the Chinese papers in Peking are said to be unanimous in vehement and violent combination of the new Agreement, which they describe as entirely favourable to Japan and as correspondingly humiliating to China. Evidently it has not taken long for the fledgling press of China to fall into line with its grey headed contemporaries abroad as a disturber of international amity.

From Tientsin comes a very disquieting telegram to the *Kokumin Shimbun*. It says that a boycott of Japanese goods has commenced in that city. Moreover, it alleges that the Chinese commissioners appointed to effect some adjustment of the heavy debt owed by Chinese tradesmen to foreign and Japanese merchants—namely 30 millions to the former and 10 millions to the latter—have quite divested themselves of their functions of adjustment, and have taken up the political question vehemently, as though this furnished a fair pretext for the evasion of just liabilities. The *Kokumin's* correspondent observes that striking evidences are thus afforded of the reality of the high standing of commercial probity hitherto assigned to Chinese tradesmen.

TOKYO FINANCE.

The Tokyo Municipality finds itself distinctly in financial straits. There is immediate need of 36 new primary schools, and 33 of the old ones call for extensive repairs. On these two accounts 4 million *yen* will be required, which means that the City must disburse altogether for educational purposes 1,300,000 *yen* annually. At present, according to Tokyo newspapers, the annual appropriation, on account of education is only 300,000 *yen*, so that an additional one million is now called for. The only way of providing funds is considered to be an increase of the house tax. A very large increase, too, would be needed, an increase whose dimensions are expressed by putting the present figure at 6 and the proposed figure at 10. In other words, for every 60 *yen* now paid by the citizens, they would have to pay 100 *yen* under the new arrangement. Then there is the great Exhibition, now less than 8 years hence. On this account also the City will have to put up another million *yen* annually, and the house tax will then become 130 *yen* for every 60 now paid. We can not wonder that in these circumstances the Mayor and the aldermen are anxious to get possession of the Tokyo Railway. There would be no difficulty about raising the fare were the Railway in municipal possession, and to obtain one or two million *yen* from that source would be a very simple operation.

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THE PROGRESSISTS AND THE NEW AGREEMENT.

A delegation of the Conservative section of the Progressist Party visited the Foreign Office on the 9th inst. and was received by the Vice-Minister, Mr. Ishii, who, in answer to questions, explained that the sum estimated as the cost of construction of the Kilin-Changchun Railway, namely, 4,400,000 *yen*, had been arrived at by actual examination of the engineering difficulties to be overcome. It might turn out in the end that the estimate was a little excessive or deficient, but no closer approximation could be made at present. With regard to the purchase price of the Hsinmintun-Mukden road, namely 640,000 *yén*, it had been calculated on the actual earnings and disbursements of the Railway.

The deputies seem to have advanced the very singular if not childish objection that nothing special had been gained by Japan asserting her practical right to reconstruct the Antung-Mukden Railway, since the actual work of reconstruction had not made any marked progress. To this Mr. Ishii naturally replied by pointing out that the step in question had been taken on the 8th of August, and an exchange of notes guaranteeing a compromise had been made on the 13th of the same month. It was obviously impossible that the work should make much tangible progress in less than a week, but it was equally obvious that had not a compromise been hastened by Japan's action, the result would have been very different.

The next question put by the delegates was if not actually childish then at least vexatious and indicative of great diplomatic thoughtlessness. They asked why the condition had been inserted about a similarity of gauge with the Peking-Mukden Railway. Their idea was that such a condition sounded offensive and superfluous in view of the fact that it had always been intended to make the gauge the same as that of the South Manchuria line. Mr. Ishii must have found himself perplexed to answer such a naive query. He doubtless felt that it was not for him to supply his visitors with diplomatic brains, so he confined himself to a simple statement that the condition provided for a broad gauge, and had no deep hidden meaning, as the deputies seemed to infer.

With regard to the matter which has caused considerable interest, namely, Japan's alleged abandonment of her plan to utilize the South Manchuria Railway bridge over the Hun River for the purposes of the most westerly section of the Mukden-Antung road, we gather from Mr. Ishii's reply to the deputies that this matter has not yet been definitely settled. The decision hitherto arrived at relates solely to such portions of the line as have been finally surveyed, and an agreement as to the other details has still to be made between the parties. We may mention here, however, that according to a military authority quoted by the *Mainichi Dempo*, a second bridge would have to be built over the Hun River in any circumstances, and it is therefore much better to adopt the Chinese suggestion by carrying the line along an independent route, and thus being sure of having an additional road in case of emergencies. This view is based entirely upon strategical considerations, but it is important so far as concerns the assertion with regard to a second bridge being ultimately necessary whichever plan be adopted.

Mr. Ishii further contradicted the rumour that China had agreed to the proposed site for a Japanese railway station at Antung, and stated that the problem of policing the line had been deferred for future discussion.

As to the interesting question of the Fakumen Railway Mr. Ishii denied in the most emphatic terms that there was anything to be read between the lines of the Agreement. Japan had merely reserved the right of veto secured to her by the Peking Convention. There was no secret understanding of any kind with China as concerns this line.

The deputies also raised the objection that no equivalent has been obtained for the surrender of Korea's claims in Chientao. The continuance of the Yingkow Railway in Japan's possession and its extension into the town were balanced by the extension of the Hsinmingtun-Mukden road into the latter city, and as for the arrangement that any prolongation of the Kilin-Changchun line should be jointly financed, this could not be called a new concession, since it had been guaranteed by previous agreements. To these criticisms the Vice-Minister declined to make any reply. He said that the new Convention was to be judged as a whole. The Government did not conceive any necessity to defend the document, being quite confident as to the verdict it would obtain from impartial readers.

The next question related to the juridical arrangements in Chientao. It appears to have been objected by the deputies that Japan had agreed to dispense with the extra-territorial system by handing Korean subjects over to Chinese jurisdiction. To this criticism Mr. Ishii replied that such a course was inevitable. The privilege of consular jurisdiction had been reserved in the four places which are to be opened to foreign trade and residence, but so soon as China's sovereignty received recognition, it was inevitable that foreigners residing outside the limits of a settlement and within her borders should be subject to her jurisdiction. On the other hand, it was to be noticed that now for the first time had she granted to aliens the rights of residence, land-ownership and trade outside the boundaries of a foreign settlement.

As for the remaining questions at issue between the two Powers, namely, the question of posts, that of salt manufacture in Liaotung and that of litoral fishing, these are to be dealt with by the local authorities. The Pratas Island problem may take some little time owing to the fact that a change of Viceroys has occurred in Canton, but it will doubtless be settled soon.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

The *Asahi Shimbun's* correspondent in Peking telegraphs that the Russian Representative in that city has called at the Japanese Legation to make inquiries into the import of certain doubtful points in the Agreement recently concluded between Japan and China, and that this action on the part of the Russian Representative is regarded as preliminary to negotiations for the settlement of questions pending between Russia and China. It will be observed, however, that the news lends itself to a different construction by the light of telegrams received from Europe. According to these latter, Russian statesmen are somewhat uneasy as to the possibility of a secret understanding between China and Japan of a nature detrimental to Russian interests, and are taking steps to prove the true inwardness of the recent Agreement. The visit now reported from Peking would be a natural beginning of such steps.

THE CENTRAL BANK OF MANCHURIA.

All the leading Tokyo newspapers publish a statement to the effect that the Treasury and the Specie Bank have come to an understanding with regard to the establishment of a Central Bank in Manchuria. The capital is to be 10 million *yen*, and 10,000 shares will be taken by the Treasury and an equal number by the South Manchuria Railway Company. The Bank will of course have note-issuing powers, and the Governor and Vice-Governor will be nominated by the Japanese Government for a period of five years' service. The Directors will be chosen from holders of at least 50 shares, and will serve for four years. As to the question whether the Bank will adopt the silver standard or the gold, or both, it appears to be still under discussion.

Although these details are given by our Tokyo contemporaries with every semblance of assurance, they are to be received with some hesitation. At any rate, the matter can not be decided without previous recourse to the Diet.

There appears to be a difference of opinion about the establishment of a Central Bank in Manchuria, as described in our last issue. Tokyo journals state that the project has the support of Viscount Terauchi, Baron Goto and the officials of the South Manchuria Railway, but that it is opposed resolutely by the Specie Bank and partially by the Treasury. The idea of the supporters is to proceed in every respect on the lines adopted with regard to the Central Bank in Korea. But although the First National Bank consented to be effaced in Korea, the Specie Bank is reported not to be equally complaisant in Manchuria, where after years of more or less expensive experience, it has just succeeded in establishing a profitable business. The Treasury, too, is unwilling to undertake the task of supplying 5 million *yen* in the form of capital and of guaranteeing 6 per cent. interest. At present it is impossible to predict what the outcome will be, but apparently the idea is that the advocates of the measure will succeed in having it submitted to the Diet.

RAILWAY PROJECT.

We find in the *Mainichi Dempo* an interesting article with reference to a railway said to be projected by Russia. The object of the line is purely strategical, namely, to strengthen the defensive capabilities along the Russo-Korean frontier in the northeast. The programme is to take for starting point Hailing, which is a station on the Harbin-Nikolisk Railway. Thence a road would be built to Ningtao, whence it would be continued in a south-easterly direction as far as Hungchun on the Russia frontier, and from the latter point it would proceed to Possiet Bay, thence to be carried northward along the shore of the Sea of Japan to Alasdoria (?), which is described as a point midway between Vladivostock and Nikolisk. From Hailing to Hungchun this line would run through Chinese territory, and the permission of Peking will therefore have to be secured. It is alleged that steps to that end have already been taken. Such a road, if constructed, would run almost parallel to the projected Sino-Japanese line from Chyonjin *viâ* Hoiryong to Kilin. In fact it is to the construction of the latter line that the new Russian plan is to be attributed, according to the *Mainichi Dempo*.

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THE ANGLO-JAPANESE HYDRO ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY.

Friday, September 10.

If all the paragraphs that have appeared about this Company in Japanese newspapers were collected, they would make quite a formidable volume. For some reason which we have never been able to divine the *Asahi Shimbun* has always employed its powerful influence in opposition to the formation of the Company, and it now writes in a decidedly pessimistic strain, declaring that at best a considerable time must elapse before the Company is established, if it ever be established at all. The facts are, so far as we know, that the eminent English experts who lately arrived in Japan, are assiduously surveying the routes and the local conditions, but like wise men they decline to commit themselves to any statement pending the completion of their surveys. There is no reason whatever to construe their silence as indicative of disapproval. Meanwhile everyone will agree with the statement attributed to Mr. K. Sonoda by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, namely, that if Tokyo industries are to prosper and develop they must have cheap motive power.

Saturday, September 11.

We have more than once alluded to the *Hochi Shimbun's* confident statements as to an alleged agreement between the Tokyo Railway Company and the Kinugawa Syndicate for the supply of hydro-electric power by the latter to the former, and we have expressed our belief that the story was baseless. It is now repeated, however, with much additional detail by the *Yorodzu Choho*. That newspaper's version embodies just the spice of scandal and the ascription of mercenary motives that become the columns of an ex-yellow journal. Nevertheless there is no denying that a section of the public credits the tale, for on the 10th inst. the share-rights of the Kinugawa Syndicate rose to over 3 *yen* in the open market. What makes us especially skeptical about the rumour is that the Anglo-Japanese Syndicate, with which the Tokyo Railway Company made original agreement, is now on the threshold of obtaining a final verdict from distinguished experts as to the feasibility of its scheme, and it does not seem to us at all likely that the Tokyo Railway Company would choose this moment to conclude an agreement with another enterprise.

To this context belongs a detailed statement made by the *Hochi Shimbun* to the effect that the three Syndicates now contemplating an investment of English capital in Japan for the development of electric enterprises are thinking of forming a combination. The Syndicates in question are the Japan Financial, the Anglo-Japanese and that represented by Mr. Jackson. The last named financier seems to have been influenced mainly by the statements which Mr. Asano made during his recent visit to London with reference to the great advantages offered by the Agatsuma River as a source of electric power. Closer investigation showed, however, that the waters of this river are so much impregnated with sulphur as to be unsuited for passage through iron pipes, and moreover that the volume of water in the river is subject to very violent fluctuations. This project was therefore abandoned in favour of the Kinugawa, and the projectors of the latter having concluded an arrangement with the Tokyo Railway Company—we quote always from the *Hochi Shimbun*—the Anglo-Japanese Syndicate is confronted by the necessity of either abandoning the field altogether or joining hands with its rivals. It will be seen that the circulators of these rumours are very persistent. Do they derive their inspiration from the share market?

Sunday, September 12.

We find this morning in the *Asahi Shimbun* a most circumstantial statement which in explicit terms confirms the rumour originally started by the *Hochi Shimbun* to the effect that among the four schemes for supplying Tokyo with hydro-electric power, the Kinugawa project has been finally chosen as the most advantageous. Our contemporary says that at a meeting of the Directors of the Tokyo Railway Company held a few days ago it was definitely decided to make a contract with the Kinugawa Syndicate, according to which contract the Railway Company pledges itself to take 25,000 horse power from the Syndicate out of a total supply of 30,000. The terms of the agreement are said to be practically the same as those formerly concluded by the Railway Company with the Anglo-Japanese Syndicate, and work has to be commenced on the project within one year, failing which the contract will become null and void. Our contemporary says that the capital of the Syndicate will be 10 million *yen*, the whole of which will be regarded as the value of the concession. Thus the original shareholders will not be called upon to put up any money, all the funds for construction purposes being borrowed abroad. It is explained that Messrs. Amenomiya and Ono, who are the principal concessionaires of the Katsura-River rights, have strenuously opposed this Kinu-River contract and as they have great influence with the Tokyo Railway Company, their opposition has proved formidable. It is alleged, however, that means have been found to placate them. Mr. Jackson, who represents the English group in this matter, met the projectors of the Kinu scheme at the Imperial Hotel on the 10th inst, the well known barrister, Mr. Akiyama, being present. They discussed the articles of the proposed company, which articles Mr. Jackson will immediately carry to England for the purpose of obtaining British, French and American capital.

Monday, September 13.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* now takes up this subject and alleges confidently that a provisional contract has been concluded between the concessionaires of the Kinu River and the Jackson Syndicate. Our contemporary gives the actual figures, namely, 1·7 per kilowatt per hour, or 20·4 sen for a day of 12 hours. This means that the Tokyo Railway alone, which at present uses 11,250 kilowatts per diem would have to make a payment of 2,295 *yen* for each day. The Kinu River projectors are pledged to form their company within half a year, failing the satisfaction of which condition the agreement will be null and void.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The returns of Japan's foreign trade for the first ten days of the current month are as follow :—

	Yen.
Exports	11,608,000
Imports	8,063,000
Excess of exports	2,555,000

The figures for the whole year up to the 10th inst. are as follow :—

		Compared with 1908.
Exports	262,868,000	+ 15,676,000
Imports	286,773,000	— 44,386,000
Excess of imports	23,905,000	

RICE.

The 220th day having passed without any special atmospheric disturbance, the market price of rice fell in Tokyo to 13.14 *yen* per *koku*, a price which has not been witnessed for the last five years. Much attention is directed to the Rice Exchange in connexion with the transactions of the big broker, Matsutatsu, who, in anticipation of a break in the weather, recently purchased from 500,000 to 600,000 *koku* at something over 14 *yen*, and who now seems likely himself to suffer the fate which he predicted for the weather. If when settling day comes he insists upon actual delivery of the rice, he may place the sellers in a very difficult position, for the whole transaction is in the air. But to do so he will have to be prepared with a capital from 7 to 8 million *yen*, which is of course out of the question.

It is confidently alleged that the rice crop this year will be of wholly unprecedented magnitude. Even though the weather take an unfavourable turn at this juncture, the yield is put at fully 60 million *koku*. Only twice in the history of Japan has the figure of 50 million *koku* been exceeded. Once was in 1904, and the second time was in 1908, when quite a celebration was held to commemorate the event. On the 11th inst., namely, the *nihyaku katsuka*, these facts and forecasts were officially reported to the Emperor. The farmers are naturally in high spirits, and the festival of Nichiren which was held on the 11th and 12th inst. at Kamakura is described as having been the most animated scene witnessed during the Meiji era on a similar occasion. The temple received munificent donations of rice and money.

With regard to this we find a striking article in the *Jiji Shimpo* on the theme of this year's plentiful harvest. The *Jiji* foresees that there will be much merry-making among the rustics on account of the unprecedented rice-crop, and it warns local officials not to misconstrue the Imperial Edict of last spring by checking these legitimate demonstrations of joy. The Emperor never intended that any such restraints should be put upon the people when he issued the celebrated *Boshin no shochoku*.

MR. FAIRBANKS.

Mr. Fairbanks has arrived at Nagasaki on his return voyage from China. An anonymous news agency reports him as having expressed v ry large ideas about the future of China. He thinks that in a few years the monster Empire of the East will have an army and a navy commensurate with her territorial dimensions, and will also have a Constitution to express and give effect to the will of her numberless masses. This is a subject upon which we can well imagine the ex-Vice-President of the United States dilating with all his wonted eloquence. He went on to say that by the time the girls and boys of the present generation reached the stage of fatherhood and motherhood, their country will be able to march abreast with the greatest States of the West. As for the Agreement recently concluded between Japan and China, Mr. Fairbanks had only platitudes to offer. We are of opinion that had he been watching as closely and as long for the first valid evidences of this Chinese regeneration as some of us have been, his eyes would have become by this time a little less hopeful and a little more weary.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY COMPANY.

The *Hochi Shimbun*, with full evidence of assurance, repeats its previous statement that the Tokyo Railway Company has completed a contract with the projectors of the Kinugawa Hydro-electric Power Company. Our contemporary even gives details, and describes them as virtually identical with those formerly agreed upon with the Anglo-Japanese Syndicate. It supplements the story by alleging that after one fourth of the capital of the Company has been called up in Japan, foreign assistance will be enlisted to obtain the remainder, and that negotiations to that end have already been commenced with Mr. Jackson.

It is stated that from the beginning of next month three new sections will be added to the lines of the Tokyo Railway; namely, that from Tora-no-mon to Karasumori-cho; that from Denzuin at Koishikawa to Shiratori-bashi, and that from Azuma-bashi to Narahira-bashi. With the present system of uniform fares nothing is less likely than that these extensions should prove profitable. Indeed if Tokyo is ever to be supplied with a complete net work of electric trams, it will be absolutely necessary to change the present system of fares, for no capitalists would be mad enough to invest money on the construction of railways which were certain not to yield a fair return.

It is stated that the Tokyo Railway Company is now engaged in negotiations for the purchase of land to extend its lines in six other directions.

Several Tokyo newspapers publish paragraphs to the effect that official permission has been virtually pledged for the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway, but in the meeting of the City Assembly on the 13th inst., the Mayor, replying to a question on this subject, said that while he himself had always been in favour of municipalization, it was quite untrue to say that any understanding had been reached with the Government on this subject.

Doubtless this talk about the Railway is inspired by the very marked appreciation which its shares have undergone during the past few weeks. It is plain that investors and speculators believe in the imminence of some settlement of the Railway Company's affairs, but as to the nature of the settlement there is uncertainty.

Rumours are rife about the affairs of the Tokyo Railway, but nobody seems to know anything for certain. The Mayor of Tokyo is quoted as adhering firmly to his often expressed opinion that the Railway should be acquired by the City and worked in the interests of the Municipality. But he denies that any special negotiations to that end have taken place, or are taking place. Indeed, such negotiations could not have much value unless the Government's consent were assured, and the Government has shown no sign of abandoning its former attitude of dissent.

Beyond the above utterances of the Mayor there is nothing worth repeating in the various rumours journalistically circulated. One exception, however, may be made in favour of a statement that the principal shareholders are agitating for a revision of the Company's charter in the sense of altering the 44th Article, which provides that at the expiration of 48 years the Company must hand over the whole of its property gratis to the Government or the City. Not one of the other electric-tram companies in Japan is saddled with such a condition. All are entitled to receive the market price of their property if it be transferred to other hands at the end of a fixed period. The shareholders therefore argue that it is unfair to make a drastic exception in the case of the Tokyo Railway loan.

It must be confessed that this problem is very perplexing to ordinary minds. The Government will not allow an increase of fare, although the City aldermen are willing to allow it. The Government will not allow the City to purchase the Railway, although the City desires to do so and although the Company is willing to sell. The Government will not allow the Company to charge a price which will pay anything like a reasonable rate of interest if proper provision be made for wear and tear, and if a reserve be set aside against the time when the gratuitous surrender of the property is provided in the charter. The Government will not allow the Company to levy fares such as would justify the extension of the lines to the suburbs, though the Company is pledged to make that extension within a certain time. Finally, the Government discriminates against the Tokyo Railway Company in a manner that it does not think of discriminating in the case of any other of the similar enterprises in Japan. How are all these anomalies to be accounted for? Simply by the fact, it appears to us, that among the population of Tokyo there is included a little band of demagogues and roughs whose threats intimidate the authorities.

The *Jiji Shimpo* quotes the Mayor of Tokyo as saying that while he is steadfast in his advocacy of municipalization of the Tokyo Railway, he has no idea of burning his fingers again by concluding an agreement which the Government will not sanction. He is determined therefore to secure the Government's approval, if that be possible, before definitely approaching the Company. He adds that two or three Cabinet Ministers whom he has already approached, have signified approval in their private capacity, but whether the consent of the Cabinet as a whole can be obtained, he is not yet prepared to say.

The same journal quotes Baron Senge, President of the Railway Company, as protesting against the idea that an ordinary commercial enterprise is to be arbitrarily condemned to work at figures which do not yield anything like a profit commensurate with reasonable expectations. At the same time the Company is a thoroughly sound concern, and the Directors are not disposed to make any sacrifice of their property for the sake of selling out to the Municipality. They much prefer to continue their enterprise with slightly increased fares, and they think that the Government would have endorsed the City's agreement to such an increase last year had there not been some rumours about an unsatisfactory state of affairs on the side of the Board of Directors. No ground whatever for such rumours now existed, and the Company was engaged not only in repairing the road-bed on an extensive scale but also in renewing the rolling stock. When these measures were completed, it was not to be expected that the citizens would object to a small rise of fares.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* thinks that the present Cabinet will never consent to municipalization. When the question came upon the tapis last year, Baron Hirata, Viscount Okabe, Baron Oura and Mr. Komatsubara were all opposed to it, and they are not likely to reverse their views now merely because the money market is easier.

THE KILIN-HOIRYONG RAILWAY.

Chinese newspapers, telegraphically reported by the *Asahi Shimbun*, say that the Viceroy of Manchuria and the Governor of Mukden strongly object to the construction of the Kilin-Hoiryong Railway, and that the officials in charge of the Foreign Affairs Bureaux in Kilin and Mukden have resigned their office for the same reason. We find this report very incredible, but as it has much interest we reproduce it.

Yesterday's intelligence represented the Viceroy of Manchuria and the Governor of Kilin as strongly opposed to the building of a railway between Kilin and Hoiryong. This is confirmed by a telegram sent from Peking on the 13th inst. which says that Viceroy Hsi and Governor Chen have addressed to Mr. Na Tung telegrams which in some unaccountable way have come into the hands of the newspaper called the *Tatung Jihpao*. What the Viceroy wired, we are not told, but we are invited to infer that he is hostile to the building of the line. What the Government said, however, is represented to have been that the raising of the capital for the Kilin-Changchun Railway had been effected with great difficulty in the face of vehement opposition from the people of the province, and that any attempt to repeat the operation for the purposes of the Kilin-Hoiryong Railway would be sure to generate a very hostile spirit. We imagine that the omission of any time limit from the provision relating to the construction of this line may be taken as a sign that the statesmen in Peking recognise the difficulty to which Governor Chen now alludes. It may reasonably be hoped, however, that the lapse of time will educate a more sensible mood among the conservative Chinese.

THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

An office has been organized partly with Japanese and partly with Chinese officials for the purpose of purchasing the land traversed by the Mukden-Antung Railway. We do not find anything to show whether the land in question is that actually occupied by the temporary railway or whether it is the additional area required in connection with the work of reconstruction. It will be remembered that *The Times* correspondent in Peking, writing upon this subject on the 19th of July, said:—"The railway, a Decauville line built during the war, is laid upon land—often good corn land, occasionally village house property—for which no compensation was ever paid. An insignificant fraction of the millions spent upon the war, paid in equitable recompense for the land thus appropriated, would have made the owners as contented as they are now aggrieved. . . . Protest against this injustice is the real reason of China's opposition to the rebuilding along a new track of the Antung-Mukden Railway." *The Times*' correspondent in Peking is generally accurate in his information and it may be taken for granted that what he says on this subject is correct. We trust therefore that the reconstruction of the line will be made an opportunity for compensating the Chinese owners. It is very easy to understand that in the circumstances which generally attend the construction of a military line no time was available for dealing with this phase of the question, but it would be only just and fair that the matter should now be duly adjusted.

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KOREA.

We are disposed to think that the campaign against the insurgents in Chhollado has proved a failure. No collison appears to have taken place hitherto, nor can we learn that any arrests have been effected. The explanation seems to be that too much publicity was given to the affair at the outset. What with official discussions and newspaper paragraphs the insurgents must have been fully informed of the measures that were about to be taken against them, and realizing fully that if they attempted any open resistance their retreat would be cut off equally at sea and on shore, they resorted to the obvious expedient of assuming the character of peaceful citizens, a ruse in which they have by this time become adepts. The Japanese troops, aided by the police, are understood to be conducting a house-to-house search, but it does not appear that their efforts have been crowned with any success.

Dr. Hiki, a mineralogical expert, who has just returned from Korea to Kyoto, speaks in very high terms of the mineral wealth of that country. He declares it to be practically inexhaustible. At Pyonyang, for example, there are immense stocks of coal, easily accessible and of excellent quality. At Unsan gold is to be found in large quantities, and the auriferous area is so extensive that prospectors are puzzled to select a point of attack. A French Syndicate with a capital of 10 million *yen* is taking out half a million *yen* worth of gold yearly. The Japanese too are working, but on a conspicuously small scale. Even the Shibusawa claim does not employ more than 30 or 40 Koreans, and altogether the Japanese are much handicapped by want of capital. The rivers in northern Korea abound in gold-bearing sand which can be obtained by digging to a depth of only 8 feet below the surface. Korean subjects are getting gold in various places, but their methods are very primitive. The valley of the Tadong River also is very rich, so rich that traces of gold may be seen even in the [illegible] fields. The Residency-General has done much to encourage mining industry in the Peninsula, but its efforts have not been attended with signal success.

The export of judges and public procurators to Korea in the sequel of the assumption of judiciary duties by Japan is creating an inconvenient scarcity in the home country. As a matter of fact, a scarcity already existed, for the emoluments paid to this class of officials in Japan are far too small to attract anything like competition. The best men go to the bar and the inferior to the bench. The Korean bench, however, does not offer any higher inducements; and, at the same time, the Judicial Department in Japan is naturally anxious to prevent an exodus of material for which there is ample use at home. Thus it is proving no easy matter to equip the Korean Judiciary with Japanese legal experts. There is talk of reducing the qualifications, but naturally that will be avoided as long as possible.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* has a telegram from Seoul which speaks in a somewhat pessimistic strain of the prospects of the new Gas Company which has taken over the enterprise of Messrs. Collbran and Bostwick. The telegram says that the Gas Works have a capacity for supplying 30,000 cubic feet, whereas only 10,000 have thus far been applied for. This will mean an income of only 1,800 *yen* per month, and considering that the inexperience of the staff must have the effect of augmenting expenses of operation, the profits accruing to the Company, according to the present outlook, would be practically *nil*. We do not suppose that the work of supplying gas to a city starts at its high-water mark of expansion from the outset, any more than other enterprises do.

Subscriptions for the stock of the Bank of Korea have amounted to 20,511,614 shares altogether, besides two thousand shares subscribed for by the Imperial Courts in Tokyo and Seoul. The Court subscriptions, says the *Seoul Press*, will have preference, and stock available for the general public is reduced to 67,600 shares. Arithmetic shows that applicants for every 303 shares are entitled to one share. It will probably be a week before the manner of dealing with applications for a smaller number will be finally resolved. Baron Matsuo, Chairman of the Organising Committee of the Bank, announces that the first payment on stock will be called for as soon as the rate of apportionment has been fixed and that the general meeting of shareholders will be convened by the latter part of this month. He adds that Korea will see its central bank fully established early next month.

RUSSIAN RAILWAYS AND RAILWAY GUARDS.

It is telegraphically reported in Tokyo that Russia has increased the number of her railway guards on the section of the line between Manchuria and Harbin, with the result that some excitement has been caused throughout that region, and the prices of commodities have risen. This step is said to be explained on the Russian side as a necessary precaution against outrages by Hunghutsz, who have of late become more numerous and more daring. In other quarters, however, the very incredible inference is drawn that this increase of military force is for the purposes of the proposed new railway which is to run from some point on the East China Railway to Hunchun, and thence to a point between Vladivostock and Nikolaivsk. We use the expression "is to run" because the building of this line is now confidently regarded as part of the Russian programme. In fact, it is alleged that the Russian Representative in Peking has intimated his intention of formally applying for the concession.

Colonel Tanaka, of the Japanese Imperial Engineers, is quoted by the *Kokumin Shimbun* as saying that the construction of such a line by Russia is a perfectly natural measure. In fact, immediately after the War, when people viewed things with military spectacles, there was much talk among both Russians and Japanese of the probability of a Japanese road from Kilin to Hoiryong, and of a Russian road such as described above. The Russian road will be much easier to build than the Japanese, for although the former will have to negotiate the passage of a lake of some magnitude, the remainder of the work will be comparatively easy, whereas the Japanese line will have to pass for the most part through very mountainous regions.

Meanwhile the question is, what measure of credence may be placed in the apprehensions said to have been created in Russian bosoms by the new Agreement between China and Japan? There appears in the columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun* an interesting note on this subject. It takes the somewhat novel view that the Russians, who are nothing if not far-sighted, anticipated the building of a Kilin-Hoiryong Railway by Japan from the very outset, and that their determination to resume the temporarily abandoned programme of an Amur road was dictated by this forecast. It can not be supposed, therefore, that Japan's new Agreement with China has in any sense taken the Russians by surprise. Inasmuch, however, as accomplished facts are always more impressive than mere expectations, this Hoiryong-Railway business has doubtless stirred Russia to fresh activity, and she appears to be pressing China for concessions in Mongolia. Peking, however, is supporting this pressure stoutly, and the fact is apparently suggesting to Russia that China has Japan at her back. But Japan has no desire whatever, nor any valid reason, to oppose Russia's enterprise in the direction of Mongolia, neither can it fairly be supposed that Russia is more conservative in her attitude towards Japan in Manchuria. These ephemeral suspicions are probably due in the main to newspaper agitation, and will soon be dissipated. As for the latest London advice that M. Iswolsky contemplates addressing to Japan some queries about the new Agreement, it is not at all improbable that some step of that kind may be taken in a friendly spirit. Nothing could be more natural than that the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs should seek information through ordinary diplomatic channels about any matter which in any degree perplexes him.

THE ALLEGED TREATY WITH TURKEY.

The great majority of the Tokyo newspapers seem to credit Reuter's telegram with regard to the conclusion of a commercial treaty between Japan and Turkey, the former Power agreeing to dispense with protection of the Capitulations, in other words, to dispense with consular jurisdiction. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* indeed attaches so much credence to the rumour that it recalls a statement made at the time of the Bosnia-Herzegovina complication in the sense that Austria-Hungary had purchased Turkey's complaisance by promising to agree to the abolition of the Capitulations. According to our contemporary's view, the alleged treaty with Japan is an indirect outcome of Vienna's action on that occasion. The *Mainichi Dempo* alone attaches no faith whatever to the story and we ourselves share its scepticism, as does also the *Japan Times*. It would be in our opinion a gratuitously tactless action on Japan's part to take the lead of all the Powers in agreeing to abolish the Capitulations. Such procedure could not fail to prove embarassing to Western States, and would not bring to Japan any corresponding benefit whatever. We regard the story as made out of whole cloth, and are much perplexed to find it circulated by such a trustworthy authority as Reuter.

It is characteristic of the degree of confidence placed by journalists in official statements, or, perhaps we ought to say, characteristic of the value they attach to their own statements, that a diplomatic denial is seldom treated seriously by certain sections of the press. A case in point is the alleged conclusion of a treaty with Turkey. The Foreign Office in Tokyo is understood to explicitly deny anything of the sort, yet the *Mainichi Dempo*, which recently published the denial, now declares that, as a result of its own inquiries, it is persuaded of the truth of the original story. The reasons assigned by our contemporary for this new conviction are not at all convincing. The first is that, as Japan has no subjects residing in Turkey

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and is not likely to have any, even though she concluded a treaty, it could not matter materially whether she possessed or did not possess consular jurisdiction in Turkey. The second is that Turkey and the Balkan Peninsula are the seedplots of European complications, and that it is not desirable for Japan to rely solely on fortuitous intelligence with regard to occurrences in those regions: she ought to have a representative on the spot.

THE RAILWAY QUESTION IN CHINA.

Telegrams reach Tokyo from Peking saying that the discussion which had been going on for some time between the German, French and English groups on one side and the American group on the other with regard to the financing of the Yeh-Han and Chuan-Han Railways, has at length been settled. It is agreed that the loan made by the four groups shall be 60 million *yen*, that is to say 15 million from each group; that the rate of interest shall be 5 per cent.; that the period of redemption shall be 25 years, and that the railways shall be hypothecated as security, with the salt gabelle and the *likin* tax of the provinces of Hupeh and Hunan as collaterals. The engineer-in-chief is to be a British subject on the Yeh-Han line and a German subject on the Chuan-Han, but the selection and appointment of these officials will rest with the Chinese Government. All materials are to be purchased from the above four countries, and if anything is obtained elsewhere, a payment of 5 per cent. shall be made to the four. The work is to be carried out under Chinese supervision.

Referring to this subject, it is interesting to learn from the *Jiji Shimpo* that, largely owing to competition among her foreign friends, China, within the past few years, has been supplied with no less than 6,120 miles of railway. The countries which have been instrumental in the building of these lines are as follow:—

	Miles.
China herself	1,930
Russia	1,077
Belgium	908
Japan	702
Germany	684
England	608
France	291

STATE SECURITIES.

Ever since the spring of this year a prominent feature of the Stock Exchange has been the steady appreciation of Government securities, so that bonds which could be bought at 78 *yen* in 1907 are now quoted at 97 *yen*. There are doubtless several causes for this phenomenon, but the principal are probably those noted by the *Yorodzu Choho*, namely, first the operations of foreign investors; secondly, large purchases by insurance offices and banks which can not find other means for employing their spare funds; and thirdly, distrust of ordinary shares which have seen such sharp fluctuations that prudent people prefer smaller returns so long as they are safer. The same paper notes that there is to be another redemption of State bonds to the amount of 20 million *yen* next month, and this will have the inevitable effect of increasing the stagnation in the money market so that a further reduction of the bank rate of interest will become necessary. State securities will then certainly rise to par or over, and in that event the Government is expected to put into operation its long entertained project of converting a portion of the 5 per cents. into 4 per cents.

HAWAII.

On the occasion of the Progressist deputies' visit to the Foreign Office on the 9th inst. an interesting statement is said to have been made by Mr. Ishii with reference to Hawaii. The deputies, who, true to the traditions of their Party, are nothing if not Jingoes, appear to have objected that the strikers in Hawaii had returned to their work without obtaining any concession whatever from the planters. One marvels *en passant* whether if these politicians had been themselves in power, they would have espoused the cause of the strikers. However that may be, Mr. Ishii is said to have informed them that they laboured under misapprehension. It was true that the strike had ended without any public concession on the part of the planters, but it was also true that the planters had assured the Japanese Consul General of their intention to raise the wages of Japanese labourers after the strikers had returned quietly to their work. As to the question of an alleged abuse of power by the authorities of Honolulu in arresting certain Japanese subjects without a proper warrant, the Foreign Office in Tokyo had duly protested, but the protest had been subsequently withdrawn on discovering that in certain cases such procedure was lawful in Hawaii.

There has been talk lately of a journey made to Russia by Mr. Atkinson, who was commissioned by the Hawaiian planters to employ 250 Russians as labourers on the sugar plantations. This gentleman is expected to soon pass through Japan on his return journey from Russia, and in connexion with the fact, Mr. Saito, Head of the Emigration Bureau in the Foreign Office, has been interviewed by a news agent. He is represented as saying that, in view of the enormous preponderance of Japanese labour in Hawaii, it is quite natural that the planters should desire to have some counterpoise, so as to be prepared for emergencies. It is quite conceivable that some complication should suddenly deprive Hawaii of all its Japanese labour, and in such an event the industry which constitutes the main source of Hawaiian wealth would be completely crippled. By way of provision against such an emergency, efforts have been made to import Chinese labour, Philippine labour and European labour. None of them can be said to have been successful. The present recourse to the Russian labour market is not new; it was tried before, and failed. But in any circumstances it can not be regarded as constituting a serious menace to the Japanese already in the Islands. It will serve merely as a makeweight.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

The organs of public opinion in China do not seem to be getting reconciled to the terms of the recent Agreement. Two of the Peking journals, namely, the *Kwôh-Pao* and the *Tatung-pao*, publish telegrams said to have been sent by the Governor of Kilin to the various Viceroys, denouncing Japan's attitude and protesting against the idea of making any concessions to her. These telegrams were evidently despatched prior to the conclusion of the Agreement, and in all probability while the negotiations were actually going on. The incident forcibly illustrates the complete absence of anything like a sense of discipline on the part of Chinese local officials towards the Central Government. Imagine what would be thought if an English colonial governor or other high local official were to scatter incendiary telegrams broadcast while his government was actually engaged in discussing with a foreign Power the arrangement of a difficult complication. The thing is quite inconceivable. Were anything of the kind permitted, diplomatic relations would at once become a mere farce. The telegraph, instead of having the effect predicted for it, namely, the strengthening of the Central Government's influence over the provinces, seems to have become an instrument for promoting division of authority. Then again, we have the fact that the above telegrams are published by the press. How were they conveyed to the newspapers? Unless all the Powers of the West are flagrantly mistaken in considering that a certain amount of privacy is essential to the successful conduct of international negotiations, this commication of political telegrams to the press in China is an unpardonable violation of all caution. It need hardly be said that the above two newspapers take these telegrams as the text for a vehement attack upon the negotiators of the new Agreement. We also learn that the Literary Society of Tientsin has compiled and circulated a document inciting the people to commence a boycott against Japan, and indicating 12 methods of successfully prosecuting such a campaign.

THE TOKYO CIRCULAR RAILWAY.

We have explained in previous issues that the railway authorities have in prospect to run electric cars over the present circular railway between Shinagawa and Ueno *viâ* Shinjuku and Itabashi. The idea is to link Ueno with Shimbashi ultimately by the central line which has been for so many years in process of construction, but the time when this will be ready for opening is still distant. Meanwhile the circular railway will come into use. Its opening was some time ago spoken of as likely to take place from the 1st of November, but the middle of December is now indicated, and inasmuch as we ourselves, when travelling over this line a few weeks ago, could not perceive anything like full preparations for an electric service, we fail to see how the work can possibly be completed within the next two months. However, Tokyo newspapers speak confidently on the subject. They allege that cars will be run once every 15 minutes between the hours of 5 a.m. and 12 p.m., so that the number of daily journeys will be 76. On the other hand, the 26 trips at present made by locomotive trains will be reduced to 10, so that the total number of journeys per diem by both classes of conveyance will be 86. The idea is to charge a sectional fare of 2 *sen* with a special discount for a through ticket. What this would amount to over the whole route can not of course be calculated without knowing the rate of discount, but as at present there are 9 stations between the two terminal points, a charge of 2 *sen* per section without a discount would come to 20 *sen* over the whole line. The Tokyo Railway has to carry passengers over the same distance for 4 *sen*, under the present arbitrary system. It is said that to-day the Railway Company is making a loss of 250 *yen* per diem, and that it does not expect any special improvement even though it substitutes electricity for steam.

At 2.45 p.m. on the 14th instant, a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Kyoto. It lasted for only 17 seconds.

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THE TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

The *Jiji Shimpo* contains a paragraph, about the affairs of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. Figures are given with regard to the results of the half year ended June 30th 1909, but there is the usual heartbreaking discrepancy between totals and details. Thus the aggregate income of the Company for the half year is stated to have been 2,450,000 *yen*, and the aggregate expenditure 2,520,000 *yen*, showing a balance of 70,000 *yen* on the wrong side. Our contemporary goes on to say, however, that the balance is 192,000 *yen*, and is apparently quite oblivious of the fact that these two results do not tally. However, we gather that the larger figure is correct, and that the Directors attribute this bad showing to the unfavourable state of the maritime carrying trade, but at the same time they offer to the shareholders a crumb of comfort by declaring that they expected a much worse issue. They also explained that the expenditures include a sum of 160,000 *yen* for repairs of the fleet, no part of which money was actually expended. On the other hand, no provision could be made for depreciation, on which account there had previously been a semi-annual appropriation of 350,000 *yen*.

More and more the affairs of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha are attracting public attention. Judging from the returns of the Exchange, the Company is in a decidedly bad way. One can easily recall the time when its 35-*yen*-paid-up shares were quoted at 70 *yen* in the open market, whereas these same shares with 50 *yen* paid up are now quoted at 14 *yen*. The Company has certainly many reasons to complain of fortuitous bad luck. The financial panic and consequent tradal depression in the United States, the depreciation of silver, the *Tatsu Maru* boycott, and the increase of import duty on crude oil after the Company had made special arrangements for carrying the latter, were all factors which could not have been foreseen, and which are largely responsible for the Company's adversity. On the other hand all these unfavourable conditions, with the exception of the last, have now ceased to be operative, yet the Company's affairs show no signs of brightening. From an article in the well known periodical, *Keizai Zasshi*, we gather that for some unaccountable reason the Committee recently appointed to make a thorough investigation of the Company's accounts during several years past has bcome slack in its methods and now seems unlikely to do any really thorough work. On the other hand it is felt that unless and until a really clear insight is obtained into the story of the Company's doings ever since its nominally prosperous days, there can be no hope of placing it on a really sound basis.

This Company is to hold its half-yearly general meeting on the 28th inst., and most lugubrious accounts are published as to the state of its affairs. The latest statement is made by the *Hochi Shimbun*. Whether it is absolutely reliable or not we can not say, but the figures are very striking. Thus we read that the losses incurred during the half-year ended June 30th, totalled 192,200 *yen*, and that the accumulated losses of previous terms were 809,700 *yen*, making an aggregate loss of 1,001,900 *yen*. Further, the Company's loans represent 9,230,000 *yen*, and it is responsible for bills, cheques and overdrafts amounting to 2¼ millions, so that its total liabilities are 11,730,000 *yen*. On the other hand its paid-up capital is 8,125,000 *yen*, so that its liabilities exceed its capital by 2,400,000 *yen*. The only accumulated fund it possesses, according to the *Hochi*, is that for depreciation of property, which amounts to 210,000 *yen*. As for its fleet, with the exception of its two big steamers *Tenyo* and *Chiyo*, it possesses nothing of any special value, as the three vessels *Nippon*, *America* and *Hongkong* are all 12 years old, so that their eligibility for subsidy will soon disappear, while as for the tank-steamers *Toyo* and *Buyo*, they are lying tied up at Yokohama, no profitable employment being procurable owing to the import duty on crude oil. The *Hochi's* pen never shows any want of force in drawing sensational pictures, but we can not forget that the above statement has been more or less confirmed by the *Keizai Zasshi*, and even though it may be exaggerated, the state of affairs that it represents is serious enough.

"THE CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT IN JAPAN."

We have now before us the 7th issue of this work. It has grown by degrees, in the hands of its able editors, to be not only an excellently clear and full record of what its title expresses, but also an invaluable account of the national life of Japan during the period covered. The editors at present are Messrs. Ernest W. Clement and Galen N. Fisher, and in the past the chief editor, if indeed he may not be called the father of the book, was the Reverend D. C. Greene, whose name has been connected with many of the best results of Christian propagandism in Japan, ever since the early seventies when he was associated with Dr. Hepburn and Dr. Brown in the task of translating the New Testament into Japanese. There are 25 chapters in the work, and there is an appendix of 19 sections, followed by a supplement, statistics and other valuable matter. It is written from cover to cover in a simple, straightforward style which attracts attention and invites credence, and as we turn over its pages we become sensible not only that it has established its right to be reckoned a valuable source of historical information, but also that it is "calculated to impress every candid reader with the scope and value, the variety and resourcefulness, of the Christian movement in Japan." Christianity has its detractors and its critics. With some it is a fashion, if not a delight, to attack this faith of their fathers and to inveigh against it with a zeal which would grace a better cause. But through evil report and good report the great creed goes steadily on its way, purifying the lives of men and women and raising humanity always to a higher level. Its propagandists, to whatever sect they belong, whatever special mansion of the Father's house they inhabit, are benefactors of their race and have done incalculable good to Japan. In this book we are enabled to read the story of their doings, set down with all humility and entire freedom from ostentation. All the articles are signed by their writers, and we venture to congratulate them from first to last on the results of their labours. Perhaps of greatest general interest are the chapters headed "Moral and Religious Influences Surrounding younger Students in Japan;" "Physical Culture in Japan;" "Progress of Christianity in Japan during 50 years;" "Attitude of the Japanese People towards Christianity;" "Influence of Christianity upon Japanese Literature," and "Light in the Factories." The facts marshalled in these various chapters are illuminating. They should be read carefully by every one having any connexion with this country, for they convey a lucid idea of the progress that is taking place beneath the surface as well as above it. The book may be had at the Methodist Publishing House in Tokyo.

MR. NA TUNG AND MR. IJUIN.

The well known Peking correspondent of the *Hochi Shimbun*, Mr. Ishikawa Hanzan —who is also a prominent Christian—writes to that journal under date of the 5th inst. He says that China's indisposition to come to a settlement with Japan was largely due to the machinations of one or two Western Powers which are interested in checkmating Japanese policy. Nevertheless China at the eleventh hour awoke to a sense of her own best interests and became conscious that it is is essential for her to be on good terms with Japan. It was well understood among those behind the scenes that Mr. Na Tung would not take part in these negotiations unless he could see his way certainly to a satisfactory settlement. He had earned a very high reputation by his manipulation of the Tsin-Pu Railway complication, and he was not likely to imperil that reputation by associating himself with a fiasco. Hence from the moment that he stepped into the arena it was appreciated that a mutually satisfactory settlement would be reached. In fact, according to this correspondent, Mr. Na may be regarded as the coming man in Chinese politics. The correspondent speaks also in high terms of Mr. Ijuin, Japan's Representative in Peking. He notes the large measure of tact and patience brought to bear by this official upon his arduous work, and he explains that Mr. Ijuin had to devote all his time to the conference at a moment when his little son, only 10 years old, was lying dangerously ill of appendicitis.

CHINA.

Regulations for the use of wireless telegraphy have been promulgated in China. They are said to be based on the regulations of the Telegraphic Union in the Occident, but they do not sanction communication other than between ships.

Telegrams from Yingkow report that some unquiet spirits have scattered leaflets through that town urging a boycott against the Japanese in consequence of their action in Manchuria. The telegraph adds, however, that the local authorities are taking resolute steps to suppress this agitation and that no cause for anxiety exists.

On the 12th inst. a cyclone visited Yingkow. Six people were injured, seven ships (or junks) were upset, 30 tons of coal were taken up into space and 15 acres of millet were devastated.

In the *Mainichi Dempo* and the *Jiji Shimpo* we find a curious telegram from Peking. It is to the effect that whereas the illness of Grand Secretary Chang Chihtung was progressing favourably under the care of Japanese and Chinese physicians, the prescriptions of a young German doctor recently called in have produced a relapse, and Mr. Hiraga, the Japanese military doctor who had been previously in attendance, has declined to have anything more to do with the case and has returned to Tientsin. This story sounds exceedingly apocryphal.

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THE JURISDICTION QUESTION IN CHIENTAO.

It is not unnatural that the apparently exceptional arrangement effected by the recent Agreement with reference to jurisdiction over the Korean subjects settled in Chientao should have caused some surprise in Japan. But the fact is, as the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* justly points out, that this is by no means a new arrangement. A precedent was very recently established by Great Britain in her Treaty of last year with China concerning Thibet. It is there stipulated that Indian subjects of Great Britian shall be allowed to reside and carry on business in any part of Thibet, provided that while residing outside a settlement they shall be subject to local jurisdiction. Those who can recall the incidents of the Treaty-revision struggle in Japan know that this position was always taken by the Japanese Government. It constituted in fact one of the pillars of Japan's argument. She insisted that so long as she was deprived of jurisdiction over aliens, the latter must not be allowed to travel, trade and reside outside treaty limits, since by being permitted to do so they would be at once removed from the scope of consular jurisdiction and placed beyond the reach of Japanese law. That obviously equitable principle has been followed in the adjustment of the Chientao problem: Korean subjects residing within the limits of the settlements will be under the protection of Japanese consular jurisdiction, but those residing outside the settlements will be under Chinese jurisdiction, with a saving clause authorising Japanese intervention in case of a miscarriage of justice, which clause exists also in the Thibetan Convention.

It may be here mentioned that Colonel Saito, who has hitherto been in command of the Japanese gendarmes in Chientao, is to be the first Japanese Consul-General in that district. He will reside at Lungching, which has hitherto been the headquarters of the gendarmerie. The appointment seems very wise, for Colonel Saito must by this time possess a very active knowledge of Chientao affairs, and moreover he has proved himself to be a man of very considerable tact. All accounts agree that the attitude and procedure of Mr. Wu, the principal Chinese official in the region, left a great deal to be desired in point of moderation and courtesy, nevertheless owing to Colonel Saito's judicious management anything like a collision was avoided.

THE DAI NIPPON SUGAR REFINING COMPANY.

A general meeting of this Company was to be held yesterday. Not much expectation seems to have been entertained that a working programme could be at once evolved. The Company's total liabilities are said to be 17,122,190 *yen*. Its assets amount to 24,092,433 *yen*, but of course the greater part of this latter figure represents fixed property which could not readily be converted into cash. The net profits accruing from the industry can scarcely exceed 1,150,000 *yen* annually. It is proposed to issue preferential shares to the amount of 3,300,000 *yen* carrying 7 per cent. interest, and to hand these to the unsecured creditors in full payment of their debts. But this plan is confronted by a legal difficulty, namely, that such shares can not be issued until the total capital is paid up, whereas 3,600,000 *yen* remains to be paid and could not possibly be called up at present. It is difficult to see therefore how this plan could be carried out. It includes a project for spreading over a period of 10 years the customs duties owing to the Government, and paying them by annual installments of 122,000 *yen*. Further concessions would have to be obtained also from other creditors, and altogether the programme seems very difficult of realization. There is another plan upon the tapis, but it involves leaving the shareholders without any dividend whatever for 8 or 9 years.

The interminable complications connected with this Company's existence seem to be at length approaching settlement. A meeting of creditors was held yesterday, and the business first done was to receive a statement from Mr. Kaneko, representing the Suzuki Firm. This firm owes 1,490,000 *yen* to the Company, and upon the recoverability of that debt the Company's prospects may be said to depend. Mr. Kaneko attended in person and declared positively that his firm held sugar to the value of 260,000 *yen* and that a sum of 500,000 *yen* was involved in connexion with the repurchase of debentures, but that he was prepared to repay forthwith the remainder of his debt, namely, 730,000. This declaration seems to have been regarded with much satisfaction and it was then proposed and virtually agreed that the capital of the Company should be cut down by one half so that each holder of two shares would receive one in their place. This would reduce the paid up capital to 4,200,000 *yen*, and would get over the difficulty that the law does not allow any issue of preferential shares until the whole of the capital is paid up. It would then be possible to carry out the next feature in the programme, namely, the issue of preferential shares aggregating 3,300,000 *yen* to the creditors in full satisfaction of their claims, thus bringing the Company's total capital to 7½ millions. This seems the best and most practical programme in the circumstances, but there is still a difficulty to be overcome, namely, that certain debentures were issued by the Industrial Bank on behalf of the Company, and that the consent of the holders of these debentures must be obtained before any change is made in the capital. A meeting of the debenture holders was to be held yesterday, and it seems pretty certain that their consent was obtained.

THE "SEIYU-KAI'S" ANNIVERSARY.

We have already stated that the *Seiyu-kai* leaders projected a grand meeting and entertainment for the 15th and 16th inst. to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Party's birth. The evening of the 11th was fixed as the latest date for applications from the provinces, and by that time more than 300 had been received, while from the city of Tokyo no less than 600 had entered their names. It was evident, therefore, that the demonstration would be on a very large scale and that the provision of suitable accommodation would prove a difficulty. Tokyo journals state that invitations to attend the banquet on the 16th inst. were accepted by Prince Ito, Marquis Inouye, Marquis Katsura, all the Ministers of State, all the Vice-Ministers and a great number of leading business men, so that a total of 60 guests was expected. We may mention here that, since our last reference to the subject of the *Seiyu-kai*, the great Party has received the accession of another member, so that it now commands exactly 200 votes in the Lower House.

September 15 was a red-letter day for the *Seiyukai*. The big Party celebrated the 10th anniversary of its existence, but the proceedings were of a purely formal character. The great banquet is to take place to-day. We need hardly say that Tokyo newspapers publish photographs of the founders of the Party, prominent among them being Prince Ito and Marquis Saionji. It is stated that the Party will shortly receive an access of five new members, bringing its number up to 305.

The general meeting of the *Seiyu-kai* on the 15th inst. was eminently successful, in so far as concerns the great number—about 1000—of members present and the enthusiasm shown by all. Speeches were delivered by Mr. Sugita Teiichi, Marquis Saionji and Mr. Hara Kei. Naturally these eminent men dwelt upon the importance of a great political party as an instrument for giving effect to the principles of constitutional government, and dwelt also upon the record of their own Party in uniting the nation for the purpose of carrying on the War. The proceedings were somewhat marred at the outset by a quarrel between two *soshi*, one of whom inflicted a fatal wound on the other with a sword.

AMERICAN ACTIVITY IN THE FAR EAST.

The *Asahi*, the *Kokumin* and the *Jiji Shimpo* all comment on the recent extension of American financial enterprise into the region of Far Eastern affairs. The fact appears to be regarded with considerable satisfaction in Japan, but we are inclined to think that the dimensions of the movement are somewhat exaggerated. Be that as it may the *Jiji Shimpo*, has a telegram from Peking, which says that according to the opinion prevalent there, this new departure, though in a certain sense a natural sequel to the course of normal events, must be regarded as a deliberate new departure in the foreign policy of the United States of America. The telegram goes on to say that American financiers are taking steps to secure not only the Mowel-shan mines but also the right of exploiting all the mines, forests and other products of the Champeh range (the Long White Mountain). That is a very tall order and it would puzzle geographers to fix the limits of the Long White Mountain as much as it puzzled Japan and China to fix the limits of Chientao.

THE CRITICAL DAYS.

We observe in the columns of a local contemporary a statement of a very misleading nature. It is this:—

> The crop in Japan is this year, we hope, to be a bumper one. But the period of danger has not yet been quite passed, notwithstanding the fact that we have seen the 230th (*sic*) day go by without catastrophe. This matter of particular days is of course superstition purely and simply.

But it is not by any means a matter of "superstition purely and simply." The farmers in Japan have a very shrewd knowledge of times and seasons. They have learned by long experience and close observation that the 210th day of the year (old calendar) is, as nearly as possible, the time when the rice flowers, and that during the next ten days, approximately, the ears form. That is the critical season. The ears once fairly formed, there is little room, comparatively speaking, for destructive storms. Of course everything does not depend upon the two days, *nihyaku toka* and *nihyaku hatsuka*, alone. What is meant is that these two days mark the beginning and the end of the essentially critical period. Superstitution has nothing whatever to do with the matter.

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THE BANKERS' MEETING.

Eighty-four leading bankers of the cities of Tokyo, Kyoto, Nagoya, Osaka, Kobe and Yokohama attended the meeting at the Bankers Club on the evening of the 15th inst., and among the guests were Marquis Katsura, Mr. Wakatsuki, Mr. Mizumachi, Baron Matsuo, Governer of the Bank of Japan and others.

Mr. Toyokawa, President of the Mitsu Bishi Bank, described how these meetings had their origin at the time when State bonds and negotiable securities in general were in a very depressed condition. The bankers of the great tradal centres then met in Osaka, and recommended that the bonds due on account of the nationalization of the railways, should be handed over without delay. This was followed by a meeting in Tokyo which endorsed the decision adopted by the Osaka meeting and embodied it in a representation to the Government after having collected the views of men of science from the various Universities. Subsequently the associated banks had again memorialized the Government urging the redemption of State securities by lot instead of by purchase in the open market. Thereafter the Cabinet of Marquis Katsura had come into powers and, recognising the importance of dealing in a radical manner with the national obligations, had made arrangements for redeeming an immense quantity of State securities; had entirely given up the policy of incurring further debts, and had handed over the whole of the railway bonds amounting to more than 400 million *yen*. In spite of this large addition to the public debt there had been no depreciation. On the contrary, the State securities had steadily risen in the market and now, owing to the excellent financial management of the Government, the general feeling was that a complete change had come over the economic scene. He trusted, however, that there would be no such thing as resting content with what had already been achieved, but that the efforts for adjustment would be steadily pushed with due regard to times and seasons, and he hoped also that as the programme of the banks depended to a large extent upon the financial policy of the Government, the Prime Minister would as far as possible enlighten them upon that subject this evening.

Marquis Katsura then spoke as follows:—

I deem it a great honour that, on this occasion of being invited to dinner by you, gentlemen, who represent the chief banks throughout the country, your Chairman, Mr. Toyokawa, speaking on behalf of you all, has said that since my assumption of office last year the policy I have followed with regard to the finance and economics of the country has tended to exercise a beneficial influence. At the same time I am sensible that inasmuch as a beginning only has been made in the matter of financial and economic adjustment and improvement, and inasmuch as there are very many important problems demanding institutions and undertakings in the future, the day is still too early for me to be the recipient of such a courteous greeting. Since, however, the policy hitherto pursued by me is happily considered to have produced some measure of good result, I hope with your cooperation to strive to the limits of my ability for the still further adjustment of the finances and for the development of economic conditions, so as to bring about the day when we may fairly congratulate ourselves on real prosperity.

In September last, when this Association was opened, I was prevented by illness from attending your meeting, but my colleague, Baron Goto, submitted for your consideration the gist of the financial policy which the Government had determined to pursue. Subsequently, on the basis of that policy, the Government framed its budgetary plan, which, on being submitted to the Diet, was fortunate enough to obtain approval. We were thus enabled to give concrete existence to our financial schemes, and, as you know, Gentlemen, they are now in the course of being actually carried out. Looking back over the past year, we find that there were one or two unfortunate happenings in our domestic economics, but happily the bases of our finance and economics have been consolidated, and further, thanks to the good management of you, Gentlemen, who direct the monetary organs, and above all owing to the fact that the whole nation, profoundly appreciating the circumstances of the time, worked with extraordinary diligence and resolution, the disturbance was confined to one quarter, and, what is more, business people, clearly discriminating "the jewels from the pebbles," sifted out the good from the bad, so that adjustment was naturally effected, and the economic world has advanced quietly step by step towards recovery. Thus, on the one hand, the market price of State bonds and other negotiable securities has steadily appreciated, while, on the other, foreign capital has flowed in so that the money-market has become notably easy, and, judging by present conditions, I greatly rejoice, in common with you, Gentlemen, to think that should nothing unwonted occur, our economics have attained a situation where no cause for apprehension exists.

Briefly enumerated, the things that have been actually carried out on the basis of the policy fixed last year are three:—

(1) In the yearly accounts the amount of the expenditures has been fixed in accordance with the measure of the certain revenue, so as to maintain the balance between incomings and outgoings.

(2) Unissued loans have been cut out of the general accounts; and for the future also reliance on the proceeds of loans has been given up except in special cases. Further, the amount applied to the redemption of existing loans has been increased, so that confidence in our general stocks has been enhanced.

(3) Railway undertakings have been placed on an independent and self-supporting basis, by which means all sources of confusion between the general accounts and the railway accounts have been removed.

The above policy being in truth absolutely essential for maintaining the solidity of the finances, there is not the slightest occasion to-day to change this basic programme. Nay, more, we are resolved to continue the same policy unbroken and consistent into the long future. There is in fact no necessity to iterate this statement, but as it is not impossible that the public may fall into error, I have availed myself of the opportunity to make the assertion.

The Government does not think that it has finished its task because it has given effect to financial adjustments. Having due regard for times and seasons and guided by the state of the resources, it has been my constant resolve ever since I came into office to gradually push on the work of adjustment so as to bring the post-bellum finances into thoroughly sound condition. Therefore, in anticipation of the time for compiling next years's budget, I have determined the cardinal provisions that are to be further carried out in that budget, always within the limit of not disturbing the ten-year programme already fixed, and as the budget will be drafted on the basis of that policy, I will state the principal points for your consideration:—

(1) With regard to taxation, simultaneously with equalizing its incidence, the necessity is recognised of removing as far as possible such imposts as are most painful to the people at large, and wherever resources are happily obtainable adjustments of the taxation system will be effected.

(2) The accounts for 1907-8 showed exceedingly good results: a fair amount of surplus is expected. Of this a portion will be employed to meet pressing and unavoidable expenses, and it has been decided to transfer the remainder as an increase to the National Debts Adjustment Fund. Thus with regard to the amount of debt redemption for the 43rd fiscal year, whereas it was originally intended to take for basis the already fixed figure, and by adding to it the interest on the portion redeemed in the current year, to bring the total to about 53 millions, now by transferring the above surplus the amount of the redemption will be still further augmented.

(3) Recognising that the long appreciated necessity for raising official salaries can no longer be neglected, a bill has been drafted providing for an increase of 30 per cent. At the same time the utmost possible economies will be exercised in the various State Departments, and the monies thus saved will be applied to meet a part of this increase.

I have always firmly believed that the Government and the people of the country are one and the same and that they ought to share each other's fortunes. Therefore the Government should conduct the Administration on the soundest lines, should in all things be guided by the principle of increasing the national prosperity, should adjust its movements, financial and economic alike, to those of the nation, and should take for unique object the development of the country's fortunes. When I applied myself last year to the task of financial adjustment, I did so in obedience to this spirit, and in my plans for next year I have been guided by the same sentiment.

As a result of the great war the burdens laid upon the people's shoulders underwent a large increase, and owing to the rapidity with which certain measures had to be taken, the incidence of taxation became in some cases unequal, so that the effects of heavy imposts were disproportionately felt in some quarters. The necessity of applying a suitable remedy to this state of affairs is recognised. Nevertheless there devolves upon the nation the proper duty of providing for the development of the country's fortunes by such undertakings as are in touch with the time, and as this obligation is constantly increasing, it would be exceedingly embarrassing to effect any diminution of the revenue. Therefore, within the limits of non-interference with the basic stability of the annual accounts, a bill has been drafted for carrying out taxation adjustment. Only a short interval has elapsed since the War, end it is therefore a matter for sincere congratulation that, at a time when administrative duties also are increasing daily, some resources have been found for this adjustment.

With reference to the redemption of national debts, it is happily noticeable that since an increase was made last year in the amount redeemed, confidence has been restored at home and abroad, and as you are all aware the market price of State securities has appreciated conspicuously. Nevertheless, if the prevailing tendency of the national fortunes be considered, it can not be held that a satisfactory degree has yet been reached. Therefore, believing that the plans for redemption must be modified so as to possess greater and more pertinent efficiency, it has been determined to appropriate next year to this purpose any surplus that may be absolutely available in the annual accounts. It is plain that surpluses in the annual accounts, being in the nature of temporary assets, should not be used as resources for meeting permanent expenses. What is more, if these surpluses be applied for the redemption of national debts, the need of capital for purposes of enterprises, which is so greatly felt throughout the whole country, will be in a measure satisfied, and thus the productive capacity of the nation will be stimulated, with the consequence that all classes of the people will be strengthened to bear the national burdens, and consequently these measures may be regarded as an indirect means of largely developing the national resources and as proper concomitants of direct measures for adjustment of taxation. This I regard in fact as an important part of the positive plans for developing the country's strength in existing circumstances.

The above remarks embody the cardinal features of the policy which it is proposed to pursue in next year's finances, and I earnestly trust that you, Gentlemen, who occupy the most influential position in the world of economics, will appreciate the objects we have in view, and by assisting in the development of the country's resources will contribute to the attainment of the con-

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dition of active enterprise and industry which ought to follow in the sequel of the War. As for the present condition of our economics, I repeat what I have of late several times stated, that money is plentiful: that no doubts can any longer be entertained as to a bounteous rice crop; that the wounds felt in various quarters are gradually healing, and that the future presents no conditions calculated to suggest uneasiness. Moreover, the economic conditions in Europe and America tend, as was anticipated, towards a state of properity. I expect therefore that you, Gentlemen, appreciating this state of affairs and recalling the incidents of the past few years, will make stability and moderation your guiding principles in all economic transactions.

The Empire's relations with the Treaty Powers are thoroughly satisfactory and friendly. Especially is this the case with the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. The Governments and people alike of the two countries are constantly strengthening the bond by placing it on a basis of fraternity and sympathy, and are thus furnishing strong pledges of peace. As for the United States of America, a party of our business men are now visiting that country and intimately exchanging views on the subject of the two nations' commerce. With China, also, whose relations with this country were for a moment troubled, all pending questions have been satisfactorily settled by means of a compromise involving mutual concessions, and this result is to be regarded as most fortunate from the point of view of the relations of the two neighbouring Empires. In short all our foreign relations are absolutely satisfactory and successful, and you, Gentlemen, will understand that this fact offers an opportunity for the development of the country's foreign trade and for undertaking enterprises abroad. In utilizing this opportunity nothing is more important than commercial morality in all dealings and the exercise of a spirit of fair give and take as well as mutual consideration. Thus our markets can be extended and increased abroad, while cooperation on sound lines and continuity of effort can be secured at home, qualities which make for the prosperity and happiness of the nation. I most earnestly commend these facts for your consideration and I beg to thank you for the reception you have given me this evening and for the attention you have paid to my words.

The last speech was delivered by Baron Matsuo, Governor of the Bank of Japan. He said that the returns of the clearing House showed plainly that the infelicitous circumstances which had recently existed in the business world were now replaced by better times. He also referred to the unsound boom which followed the War, to the severe reaction which ensued, and to the financial crisis in America at the close of 1907, which had injuriously affected Japan. All these factors of evil had now ceased to be operative, and with prospects of an abundant harvest, with a satisfactory state of foreign trade, and with greatly restored confidence, it could not be too much to say that a period of prosperity might be regarded as in sight. Referring to stagnation in the money market, the Baron said that such a state of affairs was a common feature of the passage from financial depression to the recovery of business activity. It was not by any means peculiar to Japan, but represented an experience common to all nations. As to the duration of this phase, it was of course impossible to speak with certainty, but he ventured to think that the worst was passed, and that a return to greater activity would soon be witnessed. It was notable that European and American financiers predicted a speedy return to prosperity and thought that when that return came it would be very marked. This forecast deserved close attention from Japan, because with an exceptionally fine harvest of rice and with a good silk crop the purchasing power of the people would increase, and simultaneously a general spirit of enterprise would be created. If this should syncronize with the restoration of prosperity in the West a very marked wave of monetary activity might spread over the country. It was sincerely to be hoped that in such an event prudence would be substituted for speculation, and that the banks would help to keep things in a sound groove by granting accommodation to really stable enterprises only.

THE WEATHER.

Friday, September 10.

At last the weather indications have become unfavourable. A centre of depression which declared itself to the south of the Bonin Islands has moved towards the Riukiu Archipelago and may strike the main island. If it hold its present course, that result is inevitable.

Saturday, September 11.

There are two centres of depression now approaching this part of the world. One coming from the southeast of the Riukiu Islands reached Oshima off the Satsuma coast at 6 a.m. on the 11th inst. and was then moving in a north-easterly direction, which would carry it over Kyushu and Shikoku, but whether it will reach the Kwanto can not yet be predicted. The other seems to have had its origin at about the same place, and when the meteorological observations were published on Sunday morning, it had reached Ryukiu, travelling very slowly. The course of this second storm is not yet clearly marked. Neither of the two is of very formidable dimensions.

Monday, September 13.

The heavy rain that commenced on Sunday evening in Tokyo and Yokohama was the result of a small centre of depression which declared itself in the Koshu region. As for the other two centres of depression, which, as reported in our last, had reached Oshima and the south of Kishu, respectively, there they were traced on the evening of the 12th inst. as moving slowly in a northwesterly direction. It is generally the case that centres of depression moving in approximately parallel lines and directions exercise a mutually destructive effect upon each other's violence, and it is therefore not expected by the meteorological authorities that the effects of the above two phenomena will be severely felt. The only danger is that rain may continue for a considerable time with the result of causing floods

In Tokyo on Sunday the rain-fall amounted to 39 mm. per *tsubo*, and several houses in the Honjo and Fukagawa districts were more or less inundated.

In Yokohama, the amount of rain-fall is reported to have been 36 6 mm. per *tsubo*, while fairly strong winds blew in N.N.W. and N.N.E. directions, early in the evening, decreasing in force about midnight.

Tuesday, September 14.

Of the two centres of depression which were recently reported as approaching Japan on parallel lines from the south, the more easterly seems to have been deflected by contact with its comrade, and, turning eastward, has taken its way into the Pacific. Its skirt of rain, however, touched the Kwanto in passing and gave us the wet weather of Sunday and Monday. The other centre—which has a depth of 740 mm.—seems also to have been deflected, and has turned westward, which course, if held, would carry it across to China. But it is moving very slowly, and having now shaken off the interference of the other centre, it may at any moment change its direction and head once more for Japan.

Wednesday, September 15.

In our last issue we stated that the two centres of depression which were approaching Japan from the south had reacted upon each other, with the result that one was driven out eastward into the Pacific, and the other was deflected westward toward China. This second storm had not ceased to be a menace, as there was always a possibility of its changing its course to the north. But up to the morning of the 15th inst. it had not done so, and thus for the moment there appears to be nothing to apprehend.

THE MITSUI FIRM.

There is talk of reorganisation of the great Mitsui Firm, and a meeting of its principal representatives, including Marquis Inouye, has just been held to discuss the matter. The idea is to substitute a joint stock company for the partnership now existing. It is thought that this change would materially add to the business facilities of the great firm and would increase its stability. At present there is an extravagant disproportion between the nominal capital invested and the business done. Thus the Bussan-Kaisha section has a nominal capital of only 1 million *yen*, but the volume of its business aggregates about 200 millions annually, and its reserve funds total from 13 to 14 millions. As for the banking department, it has a capital of only half a million *yen* and its reserves aggregate 13 millions. There is evidently an excessive discrepancy between these various figures, and the idea now is that the new joint stock company will consist of two lines of business, namely, the banking business with a capital of 20 million *yen* and the Bussan business with a corresponding capital. Moreover, by changing the organisation to a joint stock company, there would be a very material reduction in the amount of tax paid to the Government. The mining department would remain as it is at present.

A RECLAMATION SCHEME.

When the railway from Tokyo to Yokohama was first planned, so great was the prejudice in some quarters against employing foreign capital to build lines in this country, that one of the Departments of State peremptorily declined to allow the road to be carried inland at Shinagawa, and the projectors were compelled to fall back upon the resource of laying the line upon an artificial embankment. They circulated a pretext that this plan was the cheapest and most facile, but the truth was well known behind the scenes. Since then the foreshore has been carried out to meet the railway and the wealth of the city of Tokyo has been increased by a large area of reclaimed land. In short, material development has obliterated the evidences of a foolisly conservative policy. We now find the Railway Board forming a plan to reclaim a further area of 20,000 *tsubo* on the sea front of the line; in other words, to make the embankment an inland road in very truth. Application to carry out this project is said to have been recently made to the Municipal authorities, but they decided that to reclaim such a large area as 20,000 *tsubo* would interfere more or less with the plans of harbour construction which are now receiving close attention. Permission has therefore been limited to an area of 10,000 *tsubo*.

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TOKYO.

Since Tokyo obtained the luxury of electric trams the city has expanded in an extraordinary degree. Suburbs hitherto occupied by gardens and rice-fields have now become building sites. This is especially true of the Aoyama, Shibuya and Meguro districts, where many hundreds of houses have been built within the past few years, to the great benefit and comfort of the labouring classes, who, while obtaining much better accommodation at cheaper rates in these suburban regions, are still able to reach their places of employment without any difficulty by the aid of the trams. Meanwhile these suburbs being outside of the urban area, are not subjected to the regulations operative in the city with regard to sanitation and precautions against fire. People build in whatever way seems convenient to them without any regard for the systems which the municipal authorities have been so long endeavouring to enforce within the city. In one of the eminently useful articles for which its columns are conspicuous the *Jiji Shimpo* takes up this subject, and urges that the regulations enforced within the city should be extended without loss of time to the suburbs: in other words, that the limits of the city should be extended so as to embrace a large part, if not the whole, of the new suburbs. Unless some step of this kind is taken, our contemporary points out that the work of city improvement (*shuku kaisei*) will be interminable. This work was commenced in 1888, since which time 18 million *yen* has been expended on it, and the city is now disbursing a million a year on a programme which is expected to last until 1923. But the undertaking will certainly not end in 1923 unless the suburban question be radically solved at once, for the Municipality will then find itself compelled to repeat in the case of its outlying districts the labour and the expense already incurred within the urban area.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, September 10.

Prices moved very little in either direction on the 10th instant, except in the case of the Tokyo Railway shares, which gained a point. The weather having become a menacing element is responsible for the stagnation.

Saturday, September 11

There was a considerable downward tendency on the 11th inst., doubtless attributable in part to a reaction from previous briskness and in part to apprehensions about the weather. The telephone announced that Osaka was suffering from similarly depressing influences, and alike in the forenoon and the afternoon prices declined steadily. Notable exceptions were the shares of the Tokyo Railway Company, which evidently occupy a place all to themselves at present, and the new shares of the Tokyo Stock Exchange which found many buyers.

Tuesday, September 14.

The tone on the Stock Exchange yesterday was very strong. A marked reaction took place from the weakness of the past few days, and all shares rose appreciably. There were some profit-taking sales, but they failed to check the upward tendency. The prophets predict a further rise.

Wednesday, September 15.

The 15th was a slack day on the Stock Exchange owing mainly to profit-taking sales.

Thursday, September 16.

Selling was the order of the day on the 16th instant. The forenoon session was dull, and although some improvement was seen at the close of the afternoon session, the feeling on the whole was not buoyant. We append the quotations for November :—

	Sept. 15th.		Sept. 16th.		
Tokyo Railway	78.50	...	77.95	...	— .55
Kei-hin Railway	72.80	...	72.30	...	— .50
Yusen Kaisha	82.55	...	82.00	...	— .55
Toyo Kisen	—	...	—	...	—
Tanko Kisen	47.55	...	47.10	...	— .45
Tokyo Gas	104.35	...	104.60	...	+ .25
Tokyo Dento	97.35	...	97.20	...	— .15
Fuji Gass Spinning	104.35	...	104.90	...	— .55
Tokyo Spinning	47.65	...	47.30	...	— .35
Kanegafuchi Spinning	115.20	...	115.95	...	+ .75
Beer	82.90	...	82.20	...	— .70
Hoden Oil	87.70	...	88.50	...	+ .80
Nippon Oil	99.70	...	100.00	...	+ .30
Stock Exchange	181.20	...	182.25	...	+1.05

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

According to the returns periodically issued by the Bank of Japan, the statistics for last month show that out of 56 principal staples, 21 appreciated, 15 depreciated and 20 remained without change. The general average shows a rise of 1.4 points. The Bank authorities consider that this is a certain sign of returning prosperity. The purchasing power of the people has evidently increased, and to this has to be added the facts that the rice harvest and the autumn crops of silk promise to be excellent; that money is plentiful; that the banks have lowered their rate of interest and that a favourable balance of trade is showing itself.

For some time past the Municipal authorities of Tokyo have been contemplating a scheme for dredging the Sumida River on a large scale, and employing the outcome for reclamation purposes at Tsukishima. It is calculated that 40,000 *tsubo* of land would thus be obtained, and if the powerful dredgers now employed at the Tone River were used in the Sumida, the work in the latter would soon be accomplished. The dredgers will be available in the near future, and the Municipality are therefore pressing to obtain the consent of the Imperial Household and the Naval Department, which have rights of property in the region concerned. The present expectation is that permission will soon be given on condition that no factory chimneys are erected on the reclaimed land.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Matsujiro Kameyama, Chief of the section of Correspondence and of the section of Archives in the Foreign Office, the sad event taking place on Friday, the 10th inst. The *cortège* will leave No. 1, Iida-machi Itchome at 2 o'clock on Sunday afternoon, and the funeral service will take place at 4 p.m. in the Chapel of the Aoyama Gakuin.

There appears to be a probability of very keen competition between coal-sellers in Shanghai. The total demand for coal at that place is said to be a million tons per annum, of which 800,000 tons were supplied from Japan, and the remainder from Kaiping, Shantung and England up to the second half of last year. Fushun then placed its mineral on the market through the hands of the Mitsui firm, but owing to various causes success did not attend the enterprise, and the South Manchuria Railway Company ultimately withdrew its agency from the Mitsui and established a selling office of its own. The result was that 100,000 tons of Fushun coal were sold in Shinghai in the second half of last year and 200,000 tons in the first half of the current year. The Mitsui Firm has accordingly taken up the gauntlet, and is entering into keen competition for the sale of its own Kyushu mineral as against the Fushun coal.

It appears that the Tokyo Municipality has hitherto been receiving 5.2 per cent. on its fixed desposits in the banks, which is already a considerable reduction on the rate obtained last year. The banks have nevertheless declared that they find themselves no longer in a position to pay such a rate, and that they must have it reduced to 4 8. The strongest banks are said to be very peremptory on the subject, and to declare that if the new rate does not obtain the approval of the Aldermen the money must be withdrawn. In these circumstances it is thought probable that the Municipality will invest its funds in State securities, some of which now return a higher interest than 5 per cent.

We gather from Tokyo journals that the Government is preparing to submit to the Diet next session a draft of a factory law. In two important aspects, however, it will not be possible to follow foreign legislative models in this matter. In the first place, hours of labour can not be limited in Japan as they are in Europe and America. The Japanese workman is not accustomed to remain at his task with strenuous application for many consecutive hours. He likes interludes of rest, and is quite content to prolong his time of nominal work so as to include those intervals. In the second place, it is out of the question under existing conditions to set aside a day of rest weekly. No specific reason is assigned for this latter disability, but it is affirmed as though contradiction were impossible.

The five principal cement manufacturing companies of Japan have just held a meeting in Osaka with a view to forming a combination. They are said to have decided that an invitation shall be extended to all the other companies throughout the country, and it would seem that the project of amalgamation is not without a good chance of success.

Telegrams from Seoul say that it has been determined to immediately withdraw all the Japanese gendarmes from Chientao in conformity with the terms of the new Agreement, and to distribute them among the stations in Korea where the duty of dealing with the insurgents is heaviest.

We read in the columns of the *Shogyo Shimpo* that in view of the development of Japan's foreign trade, the Foreign Office contemplates appointing commercial attaches at the principal tradal centres in Europe and America next year. The Diet will be asked to sanction an expenditure of 100,000 *yen* on this account, and it is expected that a collateral result will be the removal of several of the old Consuls General who have become too aged and rusty to fit themselves to the new system.

It is said to be officially estimated that the autumn silk crop this year will be 20 per cent. better than it was last year, for which the figure was 448,323 *koku*. The reason of this increase is not that the cocoons are better, but that sericulture has been conducted on a larger scale. At all events the result is eminently satisfactory.

The steps for forming a union of hotels throughout Japan appear to be steadily progressing. Over 20 of the principal hotels

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have signified their desire to join the union, and a meeting was to have been held yesterday in the Imperial Hotel to discuss details.

Two statements are telegraphed to Tokyo with regard to Russian railway enterprise in East Asia. One is that she has decided to lay the Amur Railway 50 *versts* further from the bank of the river than was originally contemplated; the other, that surveys are being actually conducted for the laying of the much talked of trans-Baikal road to Kiakta.

The *Yorodzu Choho* contains a somewhat sensational paragraph about competition between Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. and the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha in the bean trade of Manchuria. Our contemporary alleges that the great English firm has erected at Changchun warehouses covering an area of nearly 3½ acres, and has built a branch line connecting them with the South Manchuria Railway. Already contracts for the delivery of 10,000 tons of beans have been concluded, and the work of purchasing is going on merrily. The Mitsui, who started this trade, are not to be outdone. They too are competing vigorously, and it is expected that the bean-growers will find themselves in a very happy situation about the month of November next.

We read in the *Kokumin Shimbun* that the arrangements for linking up the East China Railway and the South Manchuria Railway will go into practical operation from the 20th of October. Through tickets will then be obtainable in Japan for the journey *viâ* Dairen and Harbin to Europe, the short sea voyage being undertaken by vessels of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. Tickets will of course be obtainable for intermediate points also. Thus far, however, these arrangements refer to passengers only. It is not expected that they will be extended to goods until the close of the year.

In connection with the approaching departure of Mr. R. S. Miller to take up the post of Chief of the Far-Eastern Bureau in the Washington Administration, his Excellency Count Komura gave a farewell banquet in his official residence at 1 p.m. on the 14th instant. Among those presents were Mr. Ishii, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Messrs. Kurachi and Hagiwara, Heads of Bureau. Covers were laid for fourteen on fifteen.

It is definitely announced that the payment of the second installment,—namely, 20 million *yen*—of the second war loan will be made on the 30th of October, and the operation of drawing lots will commence on the 1st of that month. Twenty millions of this loan have already been repaid, so that the sum remaining due is 58,700,000. The Treasury officials are said to be of the opinion that the repayment of this money in October will not have any injurious effect upon the market, inasmuch as there is always more or less demand for capital at that season of the year.

We read in Tokyo newspapers that the ceremony of founding the new dock, No. 3, at Kure, has just been performed by Vice-Admiral Yamanouchi. The dock has already been dug out and the operation of lining it has now been commenced. It is apparently to this operation that the above ceremony refers. The striking feature of the dock is its size. It will be capable of accomodating a vessel of 30,000 tons, whereas no dock at Yokosuka is able to admit a larger ship than the *Kawachi* (about 20,000 tons). The date of the completion of the new Kure dock is not definitely known, but is expected to be about 1911.

As has been seen from our advertisement columns, Chilians in Japan will celebrate their National Holiday to-day. It was on September 18th, 1810 that the Republic of Chile threw off allegiance to the Crown of Spain by a Declaration of Independence, and a reception will be held in commemoration if the event at the Chilian Consulate, No. 167, by the Acting Consul-General, Mr. E. W. Frazar.

The quantity of sugar produced in Hawaii from Oct. 1st, 1908 to Sept. 30th, 1909 would be a full year's crop, but as yet the estimate extends to the 1st of August only. The quantity for that period is 530,056 tons, which shows are increase of 15,000 tons compared with the corresponding period of last year. This excellent result is due to the fine weather.

The examination of the Yalu River timber rafts, 4,112 in all, was completed on the 12th instant. The number sold back to the wood men was 3,535, and the number purchased, 1,544. (The figures do not tally.—ED. *J.M.*)

THE BOOKSHELF.

The "Kokka."

Among the illustrations in No. 231 of the *Kokka*, which has just been issued, the two most remarkable are reproductions of paintings from the brushes of the Chinese artist Yen Hui (Yuan Dynasty) and Kano Motonobu. The original of the former is in Marquis Inouye's collection, and that of the latter belongs to the Reiun-in, a monastery within the precincts of the temple Myoshin-ji in Kyoto. Yen Hui's remarkable painting offers a marked contradiction of the theory that the Chinese artists of mediæval days were great in landscape only. The *Kokka's* comment on the picture is very just:—"An inspection of such figure studies must cause the impression that Chinese paintings are closer to those of the West than Japanese pictures are." Motonobu's landscape is in purely Chinese style, broad, delicate and tender. In the letter press the chief essay is from the pen of the editor, Mr. Sei-ichi Taki, being Part II of his highly interesting analysis of "Buddhism and Japanese Art."

A Useful Book.

The Meiji-do Publishing Department have issued a book which can not fail to be of great service to the mercantile community. It is entitled "The Latest Revised Import Tariff of Japan and Traders' Directory 1910," and its contents are as follow:—

List of the Freights and charges of the Principal Imports.
Change Table of Money.
Table of Measures and Weights.
Customs Tariff Law.
Tariff No. related with conventional Tariff in the Classified Order.
Import Tariff (Alphabetical order).
Import Tariff (Classified order).
Conventional Tariff with France, Germany and Great Britain.
Countries entitled to the benefit of Conventional Tariff.
Rules for calculating *ad-valorem* duties.
Rules for the Measurement of Tissues.
Coins, Weights and Measures.
Traders Directory.

The price of the volume is 3 *yen*, and it contains 468 pages.

BUSINESS MEN ARRIVE AT TACOMA.

The party of Japanese business men left Seattle by a special train at 6 a.m. on the 6th instant, and (the ladies, Baron Shibusawa, Mr. Sonoda and a few others remaining in the train) ascended Mount Laurie, where they lodged in the National Park Hotel. On the following day, all the ladies and gentlemen of the party arrived at Tacoma, when they received a warm welcome. In the afternoon, the members of the Tacoma Chamber of Commerce held a welcome meeting, when the Mayor delivered an address to which Baron Shibusawa replied. The Chamber of Commerce presented Mr. Nakahashi, President of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, with a splendid dinner set, in commemoration of the new course taken by the steamer *Tacoma Maru*. In the evening, the party were banqueted by Mr. Hyde, one of the reception committee, at his private residence. On the 8th various factories and newspaper offices were visited by different members of the party. The Mayor subsequently entertained the party in the evening at a grand banquet at the Tacoma Hotel. Baron Shibusawa, Mr. Grieg and several other Japanese and Americans, addressed the meeting. The party left for Portland at 11 o'clock the same night.

ARRIVED AT PORTLAND.

The party of Japanese business men arrived at Portland on the morning of the 11th instant. They were cordially welcomed by the reception committee and the Japanese residents there, and were taken over to the Portland Hotel. In the morning, the party visited various city assemblies by street-car, and after taking luncheon at the Hotel, were photographed and afterwards banqueted at the Commercial Club, when Mr. McArthur, Governor of Oregon State, gave an address of welcome, which was followed by speeches from Baron Kanda and Messrs. Iwahara and Matsukata. The meeting broke up late at night. The party were to leave for Vancouver yesterday to attend a military review, and then to depart for Spokane. Baron Shibusawa and Messrs. Otani and Iwaya each delivered a lecture at a meeting of the Japanese Association, before the party left Portland.

POSTPONEMENT OF THE DATES.

In accordance with the desire of the Japanese business men, their stay in New York, has been limited to ten days, and subsequently, they will leave San Francisco on November 30 by the steamer *Chiyo Maru*.

ARRIVED AT SPOKANE.

On the morning of the 11th instant, the party of Japanese business men left Portland for Vancouver by the steamer specially accommodated for the party. While they were being taken by the vessel on the rivers of Williamettee and Columbia, they visited various factories situated here and there along the rivers. On landing at Vancouver, they attended a military review held for the purpose of entertaining the party, after which they were present at a reception meeting held by the military officers there. Then the party departed for Spokane by train. No sooner had the party arrived at Spokane, than they were taken over by the reception committee there to different banks, schools, hospitals, factories and other public institutions. After taking luncheon at the Chamber of Commerce, all the party saw the sights of the town, and were present at a garden party given in their honour at Mr. Clarke's residence. In the evening, the citizens entertained the whole party with a splendid banquet, at which meeting the Mayor of Spokane gave an address of welcome, and Barons Shibusawa and Kanda and Mr. Kamitono spoke in reply.

MEDALS CARRIED BY BUSINESS MEN WITH THEMSELVES.

The party of business men have carried with themselves 500 pieces of commemorative medals made of silver cloisonne, which represents the emblems of Japan and America. These medals have been received with so much admiration that all of them have been used up, and Mr. Tanaka, the Japanese Consul of Seattle, has telegraphed to the Japanese Foreign Office to forward 1,500 more pieces.

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THE CONGO HORROR.

(COMMUNICATED).

IN a previous article we drew attention, in a general way, to the terrible condition of things prevailing in that vast extent of territory euphoniously described as the Congo "Free" State. That condition of things is such as to have elicited strong condemnation from two of the most highly civilized and enlightened Governments on earth—those of Great Britain and the United States; it has led to the formation of a powerful and disinterested body, the Congo Reform Association, pledged to do all in its power towards the end indicated in its designation; and it has moved the whole body of religious opinion in the British Isles publicly to subscribe to the very strong statements that "*the Congo Basin is to-day the scene of as cruel a tyranny as exists on earth,*" and that "*beyond question at the moment a system which involves many of the worst features of African slavery, or even exceeds it in horror, is prevailing throughout a territory of nearly one million square miles.*" Our article dealing with this question, and entitled "Strength for Good Ends," while receiving hearty endorsement from our correspondent, "Anglo-American," has drawn indignant protests from "A Belgian" and from the Belgian Consul at this port. The line taken by our Belgian correspondents is, in the main, a denial that the state of things described in the above-mentioned article exists at all. The accusations contained therein are described as "groundless," or at least so "vague" as to be hardly worthy of contradiction. It is clear, therefore, that if our Belgian protesters are right, then the Governments of Great Britain and the United States, the Congo Reform Association, and the whole body of religious opinion in the British Isles must all of them be wrong. However, we must be pardoned if we venture to say, entirely without prejudice, that while the fact of Belgian officials supporting their Government is one that need cause no surprise, their judgment cannot be regarded as absolutely impartial. As "Anglo-American" rightly points out, it is absurd to "raise indignant protests" against the denunciation of evils which have shocked the whole civilized world. The thing is out: it is no longer a hole-and-corner business, but is rapidly assuming, if it has not already assumed, the status of an international question. The Congo Government is already arraigned before the bar of public opinion: mere disclaimers and protests from interested parties will not suffice to secure its acquittal.

The criticism has been brought against our previous article that it consisted only of idle declamation and vague accusations—in short, that it lacked definition. It is impossible, of course, to deal adequately in a single newspaper article with so wide a subject; but we hope now in some measure to fill in the picture and remedy the defect alluded to, if defect it was.

We may preface our remarks by saying that it is conceivable that the high officials of the Congo Government may not be fully cognizant of what goes on in the vast extent of territory over which they have at least a nominal jurisdiction. It is the up-country *Chef de Poste*, the man stationed in the heart of that terrible tropical country, who is "the last wheel" in the Congo machine, and who, answerable to his superiors for the required amount of taxation in kind, is left pretty much to his own devices as to how that amount is secured. But all the instruments of government seem to be placed at his disposal, and owing to the inherent evils of the system (to some of which we shall presently allude) the door of abuse is flung wide open. The man falls incontinently into the clutches of that system and becomes, almost before he knows it, "a living whip, a human thumb-screw" to get the uttermost pound of rubber, gum-copal and wax, the uttermost cake of cassava, the uttermost tusk of ivory, out of the natives in his district, in pursuance of the gentle art known as "Forest Exploitation."

Perhaps the worst feature of the whole system of Congo Administration is that which is the outgrowth of the infamous Bonus Proclamation issued by Secretary of State VAN ESTVELDE on June 20th, 1892. According to the terms of this proclamation the up-country *Chef de Poste* finds that besides his pay he can get a bonus on every kilogramme of gum-copal, wax or rubber he extracts from the natives; and that, by a diabolically ingenious sliding scale, *the rate of bonus is increased in proportion as the cost of the stuff decreases.* In other words, it is made the interest of each of these officials to extort the valuable products of the district from the wretched inhabitants for as little as possible. Add to this the fact that in such a man's hand is placed absolute authority—exercised through the instrumentality of the cruellest of savages, in the uniform of the Congo Police—even to the power of life and death; add to all this, that there is not another white man, perhaps, for hundreds of miles; that no enquiries would be made so long as the precious bundles found their way down stream—unless, indeed, there were not enough of them; and is it any wonder that vile and bloody evils have for years past lifted up their heads in this unhappy land? It is, however, in the "disciplinary" and retributive processes employed by these agents, not of lawful industry, but of greed, that the greatest excesses are committed. Will those who constitute themselves the apologists of the Congo Administration deny, for instance, the existence of the repulsive Hostage House system—women and children of a defaulting village impounded like cattle in a foul stockade, because the village had failed to produce its full tale of cassava, copal, or rubber? Will they deny that cruel physical chastisement has been inflicted upon the members of a defaulting village? Will they deny the occurrence of such awful scenes as those that have made the name of Yandalji synonymous with wholesale murder? There are those who say, "Give the present Administrators of the Congo time, before passing comdemnation on their system." It was in August, 1908, that the Congo passed from the hands of King LEOPOLD into those of the Belgian Government. Has the situation shown any marked improvement since that date? Would Sir EDWARD GREY have found it necessary to make further representations to the Belgian Government in June of this year, if it had? Would the very strong manifesto recently issued over the signatures of the Archbishop of CANTERBURY and the representatives of all the religious bodies in Britain have seen the light, in July of this year, if the abuses which have been associated with the Congo Basin for the last quarter of a century had become a thing of the past? We trow not. We fear that the truth is, as Mr. MOREL of the Congo Reform Association says, that in the face of British and American indifference—for thus their inactivity is doubtless construed—"the Authorities on the Congo are becoming more and more arrogant, the machinery of slavery and extortion is working as strongly as ever, and every attempt to obtain real reforms has been defeated." We fear that the truth is that the former condition of things remains practically unaltered, and that such unspeakable atrocities as those detailed in the pamphlet entitled "The Enslavement and Destruction of the Bakuba,"—which is, in effect, the report of the Hon. WILFRED G. THESIGER, D.S.O., H.B.M.'s Consul on the Congo—are likely to be repeated any day. And it is because of this truth—unpalatable as it is disgraceful—in view of the fact that tyranny, forced labour, slavery, extortion, cruelty and horrors unspeakable, are in hideous progress at this very moment in the heart of Darkest Africa, with no better excuse to offer in extenuation than the lust of gain, that we appeal for the First Power strong in the sense of Righteousness—above all that eminently civilized and enlightened Power, Belgium—to take up the cause of these helpless and downtrodden victims of the White Man's Sin, and make that cause its own.

"GERMANY AND ENGLAND."

THE *Deutsche Japan Post* has a most excellent communicated article under the above heading; an article written in such an evidently sincere spirit and preaching such sound doctrine that we gladly help to give it publicity by re-producing it in these columns and by strongly commending it to our readers' perusal. We believe that every frank and fair-minded Englishman will endorse—in the main at any rate—the writer's analysis of the causes underlying the unfortunate umbrage now existing between Englishmen and Germans. The spread of competition has made England wince, and she is angry—or at all events offended—with her very active rival. But in making that confession, which we do without any reserve whatever, we can not but invite the German correspondent's atten-

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tion to the fact that what is true of Englishmen in this respect must be true of Germans also. We do not insist upon a fact which we nevertheless firmly believe, that no nation is constitutionally freer from such qualms than the English nation is. "A fair field and no favour" has always been the Englishman's motto, and we are proud to think that he has lived up to it; not perfectly perhaps, but, on the whole, as fully as any other nation. The correspondent of the *Japan Post*, however, writes as though the sin lay wholly at England's door; as though no such feeling existed in German bosoms. Surely he can not think that? We believe him to be actuated by the best motives. We are persuaded that he earnestly desires to dispel the cloud now enveloping the two countries. But we do not consider that end attainable by the aid of a one-sided diagnosis. In point of fact Englishmen, during the past thirty years, have been saying about Germans precisely what the *Japan Post's* correspondent now says about Englishmen, namely, that commercial jealousy was at the bottom of their apparently unfriendly demeanour. For it is not to be supposed that the feeling of soreness unhappily visible to-day is an affair of purely recent growth. On the contrary, it was detected many years ago by Englishmen, was ascribed by them to German irritation mainly, and was counted an ephemeral phenomenon destined to disappear when both sides had "found their bearings." None of us pretended to be himself immune from such a moral warp—especially when his umbrage was stirred by the spectacle of German official interference in the cause of individual German traders—but it seemed to us that our Teutonic rivals were the chief victims. Yet we are now asked to believe that the fault in this respect is entirely with the Englishman. That is hardly the best way to restore the friendship which our contemporary's correspondent is evidently desirous of promoting. Nor does the correspondent's manner of dealing with the naval question seem more satisfactory. Were it possible to trace any reasonable ratio between the tonnage of Germany's mercantile marine and the immence fleet she is now building, Englishmen would be neither so impertinent nor so unreasonable as to interject suspicious queries. But in the apparently excessive dimensions of that fleet England thinks that she sees a menace to herself, and it is hard for her to feel quite friendly toward a nation which is devoting so much effort to the pickling of a big rod seemingly for her sole chastisement. We would ask too whether the *Japan Post's* correspondent really thinks that in wishing for an understanding as to fleet construction, England proposes to go on building as she herself pleases while setting a limit for Germany? If such an unreasonable proposition could be quoted to her discredit she would deserve to be disliked.

We trust that the *Japan Post's* correspondent will forgive us for plain speaking. Nothing could please us better than to assist in restoring the most cordial relations between Germany and England, and to that end a little frank analysis of the two people's feelings can not fail to conduce.

LORD ROSEBERY—THE DEUS EX MACHINÂ?

THERE is something of the dramatic in the circumstance that the opposition to the Budget introduced—but by no means passed—by the present Liberal Government should be headed by the man who was once a Liberal Prime Minister. The hostility aroused by this Socialistic Budget of 1909 is admittedly strong and widespread; but, on the other hand, the Ministry pledged to its support is, numerically at least, the strongest of modern times. That the measure is open to the gravest objection on the ground that, under cover of being a Finance Bill pure and simple, it constitutes in reality a political measure of an almost revolutionary character, is an argument that will readily appeal to all but the sponsors of the Bill themselves. That the measure, if it reaches the Upper Chamber in an unamended form, will receive scant consideration at the hands of the Lords, has been intimated in the most emphatic manner by Lord LANSDOWNE himself. Nevertheless, unless some way is found—and found quickly—by which the will of the nation can be unmistakably expressed, short of recourse to a General Election, there is reason to believe that the present Liberal Ministry, blinded by quasi-Socialistic theories and urged to obstinacy by the younger members of the Cabinet, may persist in their unpalatable schemes. In our opinion the time has hardly arrived for an appeal to the country. Doubtless, to use a significant, if trite, expression, "the tide has turned." The results of a long series of by-elections have told their unmistakable tale. But whether the reaction against the Government has been sufficient to convert a Liberal majority which stood originally at 300 into a Unionist majority of any practical value, is problematical. Indeed, according to the latest telegraphic advices, the Unionist managers do no more than anticipate that 300 Unionists would be returned, were a General Election held in November, which would give them a controlling influence in the House of Commons, as against "a heterogenous nominal majority." On the other hand, the longer the present Ministry cling to office, the worse they will ultimately fare at the polls. The situation, in short, is full of complexities. The Government no doubt would like to try conclusions with the Lords, but it is equally clear that they are afraid to do so. Such an issue might mean for them political death. Again, to the Lords two courses are open—either to pass the Finance Bill minus the controversial Land Clauses, or to reject it *in toto*. The first of these alternatives would almost certainly lead to another long wrangle in the Commons, rendering difficult the "carrying on of the King's Government." The second would probably force on a General Election, with the unsatisfactory result we have ventured to forecast. It is evident, therefore, that the simplest way out of the present political *impasse* would be for the opinion of the nation on the Budget to be so strongly and unequivocally declared that the Government would be compelled, in deference thereto, to rid their Finance Bill of its objectionable political features, and send it up to the Lords as a purely financial provision for the country's needs, when it would certainly meet with the immediate approval of the Upper House. The advent of Lord ROSEBERY upon the troubled scene appears to be, from this point of view, most happily timed; and if he can succeed in crystallizing public opinion on the great issue now before the country, he will be doing the best work of his life. The ex-Liberal-Premier has always been the "dark horse" of British politics. Ever since his retirement from the leadership of the Liberal Party in favour of the late Sir HENRY CAMPBELL-BANNERMAN, he has rested more or less under a cloud. But his attitude on the Home Rule question, and his well-known Imperialistic sympathies on all questions affecting the welfare of the Empire at large, have won him the respect and confidence of many Unionists; and his brilliant speech at the inaugural banquet of the Imperial Press Conference served to bring him prominently before the public. Since the publication of the exact provisions of the Finance Bill he has taken up a most uncompromising attitude towards that iniquitous measure, and the Anti-Budget League, which owes its formation mainly to Lord ROSEBERY'S initiative, seems likely to prove the present Government's undoing. Addressing a mass meeting of business men at Glasgow on the 10th inst., Lord ROSEBERY delivered another striking speech. Always happy in his choice of metaphor, the great Liberal-Imperialist statesman described the Budget as an attempt to put the future Britain into the melting-pot. The Government, he added, stood at the parting of the ways, and were in danger of moving along the path of Socialism—the end of all things. The influence attaching to Lord ROSEBERY'S utterances is borne out by the comments of the Press. The principal Unionist papers declare that the Glasgow speech makes the rejection of the Budget by the Lords a certainty, while the leading Liberal organ, the *Daily News*, avers that Lord ROSEBERY has definitely joined the Conservatives—an inference to which added probability is given by the announcement, following hard upon the reports of his speech, that the ex-Premier has resigned the Presidency of the Liberal League. In fact, the situation arising out of Lord ROSEBERY'S anti-Budget pronouncement is described as one of "extraordinary tension," and calculated to convert the long-continued discontent in the Liberal ranks into open revolt, should the Ministry maintain its uncompromising attitude. This is precisely the result which might have been expected,

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and, from the country's point of view, is all to the good. It is just this pressure of public feeling, which Lord ROSEBERY, in his position of political independence, is better able to direct than almost any other publicist who could be named, that is required to bring, and will probably have the effect of bringing, the LLOYD-GEORGE-WINSTON CHURCHILL Cabinet to its senses. The Liberal Government would be saved from its own contemplated excesses, the country would be spared the turmoil of a General Election whose result would almost certainly be indecisive, and the constitutional issue of "Lords *versus* Commons" need never see the light —at least for many a year—as a political *cause célèbre*. Lord ROSEBERY deserves the sympathy of all thinking men in his single-handed fight against Liberalism gone mad.

CONCUBINAGE IN JAPAN.

OWING to the persistence of controversialists we find it necessary to revert to this unsavoury subject. In an article published in these columns on the 7th instant we traversed a statement made by a local contemporary to the effect that "concubinage has a recognised status in Japan." Our reply was:—"It has not. It has nothing of the kind. Concubinage in Japan has no legal status; it has no social status. The law does not recognise such a thing as a concubine; society does not admit such a thing." These assertions elicited a letter from a correspondent signing himself "Anglo-American." He said:—

These statements I find it impossible to reconcile with the fact that every concubine has to be officially registered as such, or with the still more significant fact that, although the line between legitimate and illegitimate children is sharply drawn, the children of a concubine are included among the former.

I am not arguing that the law makes no distinction between the children of a concubine and those of a wife; that is not the question. The question is: Does the law of Japan recognise concubinage? and so long as the facts I have cited are indisputable, it seems to me that only one answer, and that an affirmative one, can be given to the question. It is not necessary that the word "concubine" should appear in the statute book. If concubinage were *illegal*, then we might look for it there. I do not, on the other hand, wish to be understood as attaching special significance to the mere registration of the concubine. But the fact that a concubine's children are lawfully born possesses tremendous import, and it can neither be denied nor explained away.

Referring to the above correspondence the *Japan Herald*, which was responsible for the original error, wrote in its issue of the 18th instant:—

In the *Mail* of the 9th instant we notice that its misleading statement has not been allowed to pass unchallenged, and we therefore have pleasure in reproducing the following letter from its correspondence column.

Our contemporary then quotes "Anglo-American's" letter in full.

It will be seen that the questions at issue are very simple. We take them separately. "Anglo-American" says that in Japan "every concubine has to be officially registered as such." Our answer is an unequivocal denial. So far from its being true that "every concubine has to be officially registered as such," we affirm that no concubine has to be officially registered, and, what is more, that if application were made to register a concubine, it would be at once refused. The law totally declines to recognise a concubine in any way. We can not speak more explicitly. Any one acquainted with Japanese law will endorse our assertion.

The next proposition laid down by "Anglo-American" and endorsed by the *Japan Herald* is that "the children of a concubine are included among legitimate children." Again we enter a most emphatic denial. The children of a concubine have no status whatever in the eyes of Japanese law. They can not even be registered as such. The very term "concubine" is not legally known, and to allege that the children of a concubine are included among legitimate children is a mistake so great as to be almost incredible. The *shisei* (illegitimate child) in Japan acquires a status in the eyes of the law when, and not until, his or her father officially declares his recognition (*ninchi*) of the child. The mother does not enter into the question at all. It is the father's recognition that gives the child a legal status. It could never acquire such status from its mother, though she was twenty times a concubine, and in registering the child on recognition by its father, it is registered merely as the father's *shisei* without any reference to the mother. Even when so recognised and registered, the *shisei* necessarily comes after the legitimate child (*jisshi*) for all purposes of inheritance. It is not possible for the father to disinherit a *jisshi* in favour of a *shisei*. These are plain facts, familiar to every student of modern Japanese law. We can not go beyond them or behind them.

It occurs to us as just possible, however, that our correspondent "Anglo-American" may have been misled by a Japanese custom which, from a foreign point of view, is perplexing. We allude to what is called *naiyen*. In ordinary circumstances a married woman takes her husband's name in Japan, just as she does in the Occident. But there is an extraordinary circumstance, namely, when the house of a wife would become extinct were she registered in her husband's name. In such a case the law allows the woman to retain her family name. The marriage is legal and the offspring is legitimate, but the children may be registered in the name either of the wife's family or of the husband's, according to convenience.

We may remark that in allowing the paternal recognition and the registration of an illegitimate child (*shisei*), the modern law of Japan does not in any way condone concubinage. What it does is to guard partially against that most cruel injustice which condemns children to suffer for the transgressions of their parents.

Finally, as to the social status of a concubine in Japan, she has absolutely none. She is not received in any society except that of her paramour's fellow-sinners or her own fellow-transgressors.

Three officials of the Kobe Post Office have been attacked by cholera. The whole building has been carefuly disinfected and all mail matter is to be subjected to the same process.

GERMANY AND ENGLAND.

(COMMUNICATED TO THE "DEUTSCHE JAPAN POST.")

In the pretty little German town of Minden in Westphalia has been celebrated the 150th anniversary of the Battle of Minden, in which Frederick the Great's General, Ferdinand of Brunswick, with Prussian and allied Hanoverian and English troops, defeated the French. British officers of the Lancashire Fusilier regiment presented themselves at the celebration and wrote that their regiment were also celebrating the anniversary. They immediately received an official invitation. The English Minister of War, however, Mr. Haldane,—the same if I am not mistaken, who translated Schopenhauer into English and glories in his knowledge of German thought—forbade them to go. A correspondence immediately followed between the English and the German (Prussian) War Ministries which, however, remained without result.

This is no joke, serious German papers inform us. But the wisest thing to do is to langh at such a short-sighted piece of obstinacy, which is not worth fretting over. It is, however, typical of the policy of a Ministry which calls itself Liberal and which stands towards its Conservative Opposition as a race horse stands to the whip of its jockey.

Germany and England! Who is there who has given any real reason for putting it "Germany v. England" or "England v. Germany"? Someday it will be a really difficult theme for a Doctorate to describe and explain the sources of of what in political language is called the "tension" between the two countries. Let us put the kernel of the matter in a little story.

In a certain small village lived two small shopkeepers. The one was young and very capable; and his business was flourishing; the other was old and feeble; his business was in a bad way and he found it hard to make a living. Personally, however, they were the best of friends. The old man died and his son took over the business. He was full of zeal and enterprise; he procured a new and good stock; worked industriously. First his nearst neighbours became his customers; then he extended his business, the former sole ruler of the market had a rival. It is true he himself bought those goods which he could not himself manufacture, just as the other bought from him; it is true that both extended their business beyond their earlier narrow limits and both made great profits; but the man who had formerly held the market without trouble conceived a growing hatred for his young rival, against whom personally he had no grudge at all, but who merely came across his path in the way of business.

That is the gist of the difficult problem "Germany and England." The economic strengthening of young Germany is a thorn in the flesh of economically strong England. A man has lost a situation. Who has got it? A German. A man has lost an order; a German has received it. It is not asked, were his goods better and cheaper than ours? It is not remembered that by all competition and by all loss of positions, the total effective strength is constantly increasing, that the country advances; that it increases in wealth; for after surprise at the appearance of the rival comes fear of him. He *might* press us still harder; he *might* entirely cripple us. There is nowhere the slightest signs of such a thing happening; but the "he *might*" is a continual bugbear; the anxiety about the economic future is the real kernel of the problem. This is especially clearly seen in the Far East; where the spheres of trade immediately meet. In the English Colonies and spheres of interest where German diligence has won a part of the trade for itself, it is most easily to be perceived that the dislike is due purely to economic reasons, that the English very often like and esteem, the Germans personally; but look askance upon their trade and would willingly destroy it.

It is unnecessary here to enter into a long historical disquisition. This much is clear: that England's existence depends on the prosperity of her trade and the undisturbed transport of her

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necessities of life. For this is required a large mercantile marine and, for the protection of the latter, a strong Navy. The Navy must be all the stronger inasmuch as the Motherland has many colonies which it must protect. As to how strong a Fleet she shall keep, England has always been her own judge and will continue to be so. No one has any right to dictate to her on that point. Also that she now intends to create a larger and better land force is her own business; and can for Germans in particular only be a matter of congratulation; as she has come to understand what such an instrument costs, if it is to be a good one. She must put on the screw in taxation and will continually approximate to us in her tax-rates; while the increase in her cost of industrial production which will be the inevitable consequence will increase our capacity for competition.

What is right for one is reasonable for the other. In what concerns our Army, England makes no criticisms; but with regard to our Fleet it is said that it is getting too large. But nobody forbids England to keep up her famous Two-Power standard if she thinks right and it is not too expensive. And in Germany, nobody thinks of an aggressive war with England, but only of an effective protection for our mercantile marine. It is a fact that England began with the *Dreadnought* type and forced us in our new construction to employ the same type; just as the construction of perfected cannon and their employment in the German Army forced all other Armies to introduce the same or as nearly as possible equivalent type. It is a fact that the time of our new constructions was legally determined and the whole world was informed thereof in a sitting of the Reichstag, It is a fact that in official English quarters false data as to this time were given in the English House of Commons and that these false figures gave rise to all the subsequent discussion, although they were immediately contradicted officially on the German side.

What is to be done to counteract this? It sounds provocative to the English when we merely state these facts! We have sent journalists, Burgomasters and clergymen on their travels and have received similar visitors from the other side. Excellent speeches have been delivered, listened to and commented on. And if we ask as to the results, hitherto they have been contemptible. From the German side everything has been done to live on good terms with England. People in England wished that an understanding could have been come to on the matter of fleet construction. But confidential advice was given to our English cousins not to make the proposal officially as it would be refused. Why should Germany allow England to set any limit for her while England herself goes on building as she pleases?

Let things take their natural course. We Germans have much too long walked behind England and begged for affection where, as Bismarck sarcastically remarked, she simply would not let herself be loved. A little more national spirit would do us no harm, would even only raise us in the eyes of England. Let as go on quietly working without troubling ourselves about the English Naval scare—the mere catchword of an Imperialistic minority, but over which the Liberal Cabinet allowed itself to be duped. That may sound like "rattling the sabre," but it is not so intended in the least. We are always ready for an understanding based on an acknowledgment of perfect equality.—*Japan Herald.*

THE MOST DIVORCED WOMAN IN THE WORLD.

A HINDU WRITER CRITICIZES AMERICAN WEAKNESSES.

Mr. St. Nihal Singh, who has been telling by a series of articles, in the *Hindustan Review* how an Indian sees America, treats in the July number, on divorce. He does not spare our cousins across the water. He says the trinity composing the godhead of the average American is Success, Sensation, and Independence. Those who talk airily about promoting freedom of divorce had better ponder this story. Mr. Singh says:—

Probably the most divorced woman on the globe to-day is Mrs. Grace Snell-Coffin-Coffin-Walker-Coffin-Layman-Love. This woman has been divorced five times, and is now preparing to secure a divorce from her sixth husband. Mrs. Love is not yet forty years old. She began her career as wife at the age of sixteen. Her father was Mr. Amos J. Snell, of Chicago, the millionaire whose murder twenty years ago never has been solved.

The first marriage prospered well for ten years, when Mrs. Coffin discovered "incompatibility of temper" and secured a divorce. Mrs Coffin took the little boy that had been born to them and went East to live, while Mr. Coffin, deprived of his wife's fortune, looked for a job. That same year the son was taken dangerously ill. Mrs. Coffin sent for the father, and he arrived in time to effect a reconciliation over the child's death-bed. Mrs. Coffin-Coffin and her husband returned to Chicago, but she soon discovered that her husband's temper still was "incompatible" with her own. The wife and husband ceased to dine at the same table in the hotel where they lived, and presently Mr. Coffin left altogether.

The chief hotel clerk, Mr. James C. Walker, sympathised with the deserted wife, with the result that early in the year 1899 Mr. Coffin was divorced a second time. Mrs. Coffin had discovered that Walker, who had sympathised with her, had a splendid voice, and she sent him to Europe to have it cultivated, paying all his expenses. He returned a little less than a year later, and she gave him 50,000 dols. and married him.

Suddenly Mrs. Coffin-Coffin-Walker developed literary talent, and started to write a novel. Mr. Walker objected—she declared in court that he was jealous of the heroes she created—at any rate, the court granted her a divorce on the grounds of extreme cruelty. As soon as the law permitted, she again led Frank Nixon Coffin to the altar, on the theory that the third time certainly would bring success in their matrimonial venture.

Everything looked rosy for a time, but before the year had died Coffin disappeared, bag and baggage. About this time Mrs. Coffin-Coffin-Walker-Coffin became discouraged and wandered about the world husbandless for a couple of years. Finally, in 1893, she married Mr. Perkins A. Layman, a hotel clerk at Riverside, California.

This experiment also proved a failure, as Mr. Layman packed his trunk and left her alone before a year had elapsed. Divorce number five followed. In 1906 Mr. Hugh Love, a newspaper writer, volunteered to act as husband to the much divorced woman. They were married and got along together fairly well for two years. However, she is now suing Mr. Love for divorce number 6 on the ground of cruelty.

It is declared that she has a man in view whom she proposes to make husband number 7. Some people venture the opinion that she may marry Mr. Frank Coffin once more. Mrs. Grace Snell-Coffin-Coffin-Walker-Coffin-Layman-Love, speaking of her matrimonial ventures, declares: "If at first you don't succeed, try, try, try again."

DEATH OF M. ALBERT CHAIX.

We regret to announce the death of M. Albert Chaix, the genial and popular representative of the Messageries Maritimes at this port. Monsieur Chaix, who has been stationed here since 1907, after a term of service at Kobe, was taken ill only about a fortnight ago, his symptoms resembling those of sunstroke. He was removed to the German Hospital, where, complications setting in, he passed away on the evening of the 9th inst.

M. Chaix, who was only 39 years, of age leaves a widow, to whom the heartfelt sympathy of the community will be extended.

CREMATION ON SATURDAY: ASHES TO BE SENT TO FRANCE.

The funeral service was held at the German Naval Hospital, on Saturday afternoon last. A short and appropriate service was attended by the staff of the company and several score of the members of the French community, after which M. Flayelle, the French Consul, made kind references to the manly character and business acumen of the deceased gentleman.

A large number of floral tributes were sent by friends.

The body was cremated, preparatory to the ashes being sent to France for interment.

ACCORDING to a Fukushima telegram, an alleged counterfeiter of 50 *sen* silver pieces, named Sanpei Hikotaro, has been arrested.

TOKYO FOREIGN CHILDREN SCHOOL.

The fund for the redemption of the debt by the Tokyo School for Foreign Children at the close of the last school year, is slowly increasing, but has not as yet reached the necessary amount. A large number of circulars were sent out by the Committee having this matter in charge, but as generally speaking the foreigners were not at their homes in Tokyo and Yokohama it is thought probable that a number of people have either failed to receive the circulars altogether or have laid the matter aside until the cooler weather.

The amounts received since the last acknowledgements were published have been:—

	Yen.
Lady MacDonald	100
Peter Augustus Jay	50
Josiah Conder	25
R. S. Gaine	10
H. W. Denison	100
Captain J. H. Sears	50
Captain Boyle	50
Madame Klingen	20

The amounts already acknowledged included 19 names; it will be seen therefore that the total number of subscribers to this fund is less that 30 and as several hundred circulars were sent out making personal requests in addition to private letters written, the Committee has reason to hope that the matter will receive attention now that foreigners have returned to their homes.

AN ENCOURAGING LETTER.

Subscribers to the debt redemption fund include a number of people who are in no way indebted to the School for the education of their children, but the importance of the question impresses itself upon the best and most representative foreigners resident in Tokyo. In this connection a number of letters have been received, and among them the following from Captain Edward L. D. Boyle; in sending in his subscription for *yen* 50 he writes as follows:—

"DEAR MR. MILLER.—"On my return this morning from the Hokkaido I received the appeal of the Committee of Trustees off the School for Foreign Children, for assistance to wipe of a debt of *yen* 3,500.00 and have pleasure in sending you a cheque for *yen* 50,00.

"I have my own arrangements for the education of my children so have no need of the School personally, but a first class preparatory School establish-in foreign cities, where there are considerable alien communities, is of great importance, and if of the right kind would obviate the necessity of Parents being parted from their children for so many of the most important years of the younger generation's lives. The scheme is therefore one which should appeal to all foreign residents and I hope you will be able to get on even terms with your liabilities and also to carry out the improvements suggested.

Yours sincerely, (signed) EDWARD L. D. BOYLE."

Mr. R. S. Miller is leaving in a few days for America and subscriptions to this fund will be received by any member of the Committee or by Mr. J. T. Swift, Secretary of the Tokyo School for Foreign Children.

MR. LOA CHIDONG VS. MESSRS. HELM BROS.

In the beginning of this month, Mr. Loa Chidong of Kotaigo, No. 70, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, applied to Messrs. Helm Bros. of the Yokohama Drayage Co., to take delivery of a certain quantity of oil-cake from a steamer lying in the port. The latter firm entrusted the work to a shipping and landing agent called Mr. Osawa Katsugoro. On taking delivery of the goods in the *Chuo Soko*, it was discovered that no small amount had been lost. Subsequently Mr. Loa Chidong requested that Messrs. Helm Bros. should make good the shortage, but the latter regarding the request as unwarranted declined to pay the cost of it. In the meantime, Mr. Loa Chidong having asked the police to hunt up the offenders, it has at length been discovered that three employees of the shipping and landing agent had stolen some 3,000 *kin* of the goods valued at 100 *yen*, and afterwards sold them. The three employees have been arrested and the stolen goods confiscated.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The August *Chūō Kōron* has an editorial on the present political situation. The writer of the article is of opinion that there can never be anything but war between the Katsura faction and the Saionji faction of politicians. He thinks that Prince Itō's presence in the country will affect the fortunes of the rival parties in various ways. Here is a bare outline of the article under 5 headings.

I. *The most significant feature in the present political situation is the unyielding manner in which the two rival parties confront each other.* Marquis Katsura is inclined to join hands with the Seiyū-kai. He believes in compromising as much as possible, in smoothing over rough places whenever it can be done. But there are circumstances that force him to assume an attitude of opposition to Marquis Saionji and his party.

II. *The resumption of the Presidency of the Privy Council by Prince Itō is calculated to embarrass the Katsura Cabinet in various ways.* It must never be forgotten that Prince Itō and Prince Yamagata are in opposite camps as regards their political views. Prince Yamagata is known to be an advocate of militarism. He never has and never will favour constitutional government. Marquis Katsura largely owes his present position to the influence of Prince Yamagata. Though Prince Itō shows no open opposition to him, it is quite certain that in his heart of hearts he would rather see Marquis Saionji at the head of affairs with the Seiyūkai at his back. Marquis Inoue does much to lessen the evil effects of the rivalry that exists between Princes Itō and Yamagata. He is very friendly with both of them and endeavours to act as a peacemaker between them whenever he can. As long as Marquis Inoue lives Prince Itō's attitude to the Katsura Cabinet is hardly likely to be openly hostile.

III. *The most striking of all the characteristics of Marquis Katsura's personality is his aptitude for effecting compromises, for reducing angularities to a state of roundness.* He is a past master in adjusting the mutual differences of the men with whom he has to deal. He succeeds in establishing friendly relations with rival parties. But it would be a mistake to think that Marquis Katsura is prepared to sacrifice everything for the sake of peace and that he can not put up a good political fight when occasion calls for it. If circumstances should bring him into conflict with Prince Itō, he will stick to his guns resolutely. Even now he has made certain preparations for defending his position from attack from that quarter; the strengthening of his position in the House of Peers being one of them. His attitude towards the House of Peers is the result of the position assumed by the Seiyū-kai in the House of Representatives. That party is supreme there and likely to remain so for a long time to come. The Kaishintō members of the Diet are good debaters, but the Japanese as a people have never been great admirers of loquaciousness. On the contrary it is their wont to regard the man of many words with a certain amount of distrust. Plain and modest unvarnished speech finds more favour with them than anything approaching volubility. Reticence, reserve, fragmentary speech are regarded as commendatory by a very large section of the Japanese people. This may account for the continued success of the Seiyū-kai candidates at the polls. Be this as it may, Marquis Katsura has evidently reached the conclusion that the preponderance of the Seiyū-kai members in the Lower House can only be rendered harmless by the creation in the Peers of an equally strong rival party, and this through Prince Yamagata's influence there he has been able to accomplish (*Sukunaku mo Saionji-tō ga Shūgiin no shimei wo sei suru ga gotoku, Katsura-tō mo yoku Kizokuin wo jiyū ni suru seiryoku ari*). Both leaders, then, have a powerful backing and, seeing that according to the Constitution the power of the two Houses is in all material respects the same, there is no reason why one should yield to the other.

IV. *By far the cleverest and most influential member of the* Seiyū kai, *Mr. Hara Kei, for a long time past has been trying to undermine Marquis Katsura's influence in the House of Peers.* The Bill for abolishing the existing District Government system presented to the Diet when he was Home Minister had this end in view. He was defeated on that occasion principally owing to the skill with which the various factions in the House of Peers were handled by Prince Yamagata's followers in that House. But, nothing daunted, Mr. Hara went on plotting. Count Ōki was set to found the Hakushaku Dōshikai and Viscount Akimoto to establish the Danwakai. Marquis Saionji enticed Viscount Hotta away from his confreres and made him Minister of Communications, and dissensions in the ranks of the Kenkyūkai were brought about by the devices of the Danwakai. But the members of the Kenkyūkai were quite equal to the occasion, and they effectually withstood all efforts to break them up and ended by rendering Marquis Katsura's position in the House of Peers stronger than it had ever been before. And, according to present appearances, no immediate change in the situation is likely to take place. Even supposing that the Seiyūkai should succeed in causing a split in the Kenkyūkai, Katsura's opponents in the Upper House, Tani, Soga, Nijo, Tokugawa, Fujita and Kamada have not a sufficient following to allow of their forming a powerful party. The trump cards are all in Marquis Katsura's hands, where they are likely to stay for some time to come.

V. *The foundation of Marquis Saionji's power is broad and deep. He has the whole country at his back. But for the exercise of that power he is no whit better situated than Marquis Katsura, since the legislative power of the two Houses is the same.* Henceforth the tactics that each statesman will pursue will have as their main objecs the invasion of each other's dominions. The contest between the two champions will be watched with keen interest by our political world. The charm of the English form of constitutional government lies in the part that compromise plays in the formation of parties and Cabinets. There is warm discussion, and the free expression of opinion, but extremes are avoided and a settlement is reached by mutual concessions. In this lies the strength of English government. Marquis Katsura has during his tenure of office shown that he is conscious of the fact that in government the statesman who is prepared to make concessions to his opponents as far as this is possible occupies a more impregnable position than the administrator who is jealous of the slightest encroachment on the territory he occupies. Though Marquis Katsura considers that his position is sufficiently strong to allow of his refusing to yield a single step to Prince Itō or to Marquis Saionji, he prefers not to try issues with them openly if it can possibly be avoided. He deems it wiser to maintain friendly relations by making concessions. To be thoroughly prepared for war, but to refrain from fighting until actually forced to do so, this is Marquis Katsura's policy. Were his preparations for war less thorough than they are, the compromises he effects would be impossible. It is only the strong that can arrange profitable compromises. Such promises bring in their train no loss of prestige. Want of preparation for war to the death on Marquis Katsura's part would mean sure and speedy defeat.

But the precise political situation is as clear to Marquis Saionji as it is to Marquis Katsura. Both statesmen seem to be endeavouring to follow the English political ideal. Both fully realize that though situations can not be forced, they can be skilfully manipulated.

Five writers in the August *Chūō Kōron* analyze the character of Count Komura. They are Doctors Miyage and Hirai, Messrs. Tagawa and Ozaki (Yukio) and a writer signing himself "Fujimitei Shujin." We have only space for a few extracts from the comments of each writer.

(1) *Dr. Miyage Setsurei.*—Luck, dull-wittedness, persistency—these three combined account for the rise of the Foreign Minister to the position he now occupies. The careers of Hayashi and Komura resemble each other. Both men spent years in obscurity, quite content with inferior rank and very limited power before fortune began to favour them with its smiles. Count Komura was respected by his fellow-pupils at school, but in after years he was regarded as nothing more than a very ordinary official. For a long time he suffered much from financial straits which had their origin in the mismanagement and prodigality of others. But two qualities in his character—courage and perseverance—enabled him to surmount all difficulties of this kind. His courage has again and again displayed itself in carrying through important measures against strong opposition. Count Hayashi has asserted that had it not been for the resolute course taken by Count Komura the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, even if it ever came into existence at all, would certainly have been delayed for some years. The opposition of powerful statesmen had to be overcome. (*Moshi kare no gotoku tsutome nakatta naraba, Dōmei wa sōban naru ni shite mo yaya okureta de arō*). One of the peculiarities of Count Komura is his entire independence. He has never attached himself to any political party or school. In politics he has neither parents nor children. As a diplomat he has often been compared to the late Count Mutsu, but in some respects he is much superior to this great statesman. He is more far-seeing. The late Count Mutsu was wrong in his forecasts on three important occasions. (1) When Saigō Takamori took up arms against the Government, he predicted his final success in an unqualified manner. (2) He was confident that Inoue's Treaty Revision draft would be accepted by the Powers and go into effect. (3) He was persuaded that Japan's negotiations with China would never end in war. For general ability, breadth of mind and capacity to fill with credit the highest of all Government posts, that of Minister-President Count Komura is not to be compared to the late Count Mutsu. But as a diplomat the former has had no equal among our Foreign Ministers. The policies he has advocated have always been safe policies. It is his level-headedness that has won for him the confidence of the whole nation.

(2) "*Fujimitei Shujin*" Count Komura gave the world the first glimpse of his diplomatic skill when he was Minister at Peking during the Boxer disturbances. It was then that his fellow-diplomats nicknamed him *Hatsuka nezumi* (the mouse) on account of the quickness of his actions and his alertness. It was not her war with China that led the Western world to attach importance to Japan as much as the part she acted in helping to suppress the Boxer rebellion, and at that time the gallantry shown by our troops was backed by the remarkable tact displayed by our Representative at Peking. . . . Though the whole Western world spoke highly of the part Count Komura played at the Portsmouth Conference, it gave grave offence to the majority of his fellow-countrymen, and so when he returned to Tōkyō he was jeered at by some and coldly received by others. But neither the Emperor nor Marquis Katsura had lost confidence in him and so he was speedily despatched to Peking on an important mission. No man is more thoroughly devoted to the interests of the State than Count Komura. To his private affairs he gives hardly any time at all. With his humble dwelling in Hara-machi, Koishikawa, he is quite content. The management of his household he leaves to others. His whole mind is absorbed in State business; a more public-spirited man it would be hard to find.

(3) *Dr. Hirai Seijirō.*—I knew Count Komura as a boy at school. He subsequently became a law student and had a good knowledge of English. After graduating at the Imperial University he was ordered to go to Harvard University with Mr. Saitō Shinichiro and Kikuchi Takeo. It was at this time that Dr. Hatoyama went to Yale. The Count must have been about 21 or 22 at that time. On his return to Japan he became a Government translator. It was then that he found himself enveloped in the most dreadful financial difficulties owing to the debts accumulated by his father. All outside attempts to right his affairs failed. He himself gave up the task in despair and just lived separately on the small salary he was earning. How the tangle was eventually straightened out I have no idea. In recent years I have seldom met Count Komura

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and know little about him, but to me it seemed that he even in his school days had in him the makings of a great man.

(4) *Mr. Tagawa Daikichi.*—Ten years ago Mr. Nakane, Chief Secretary of the House of Representatives, gave it as his opinion that Count Komura was destined to become Foreign Minister. His prediction evoked much laughter at the time, but he was one of the few men who recognised how much latent power there was in this small man. It was perhaps Count Komura's courage that most commended him to Marquis Katsura. In June last year the Marquis said to me:—"The Count is a small man, but his courage is great. Among the various politicians to-day there is hardly anybody who is a match for him." The address Count Komura delivered in the House of Representatives during the 25th Session of the Diet was an entirely new departure in our political world. In outspokenness, boldness and pointedness it resembled the parliamentary utterances of Western statesmen on important occasions and was a striking contrast to the reserve which has always characterized the public speeches of responsible statesmen in this country. The situation then called for such a candid avowal of policy as was made. With the sentiments expressed by the Count on that occasion I for one entirely disagreed. The emigration policy of the Foreign Office seems to me to be radically wrong, but the Count displayed considerable courage when by a stroke of the pen, as it were, he reversed the traditional colonial policy of the Foreign Office and announced this fact to the Diet in an open manner.

(5). *Mr. Ozaki Yukio.*—What is most remarkable about the career of Count Komura is the long time that he spent in obscurity after graduating in law at Harvard University. Had he been inclined to court the favour of those above him, he would certainly have been promoted earlier. *Taitei no hito wa oyabun wo koshiraeru ga, Komura wa kore wo tsukurazu ..... Honyakukyoku ka nani ka ni hisashiku mumei, musei de otta.*) It was during our war with China when he was acting as *Chargé d'Affaires* at Peking that he first revealed his powers to the world. After this his popularity in official circles steadily increased. Since he attached himself to no faction or clique, he was well received by rival politicians. He was as implicitly trusted by Count Ōkuma as by Prince Yamagata and Marquis Katsura. Though sometimes represented to be a Yamagataite, he never has submitted to any domination such as others have gladly put up with for the sake of the benefits it has enabled them to enjoy. He has reached his present position solely because his merits have been recognized by Japan' leading statesmen. Till this recognition came, for over 10 years, just at a time when energetic men are full of restlessness and ambition, he made no effort to better his position. Quietly, contentedly and diligently he performed the daily tasks given him to do and would not have complained had the world never discovered his capabilities. It was during this time that, partly owing to his father's debts and partly owing to his own, he encountered sufficient trouble to crush any ordinary man, but a certain spirit of indifference combined with no small amount of fortitude enabled him to stem the tide. . . . . If Mutsu and Okuma be excepted, we have had no Foreign Minister to compare with him. He is not a man who ventures to carry though great enterprises with a rush fearless of consequences, but rather a man who sees the need of extreme caution in every step taken. Hence, though achieving no great success, he avoids failures (*Sore yuye ni hijō na seikō ga nai to dōji ni mata shippai mo nai*). Though full of pluck, he can never be accused of rashness. As to the lenient policy towards China now adopted by Marquis Katsura and Count Komura, it seems to some to be a mistaken one. The history of Western dealings with China during the past 100 years seems to show that with that country a stalwart attitude is the only one that succeeds. Leniency is habitually regarded by the Chinese as a proof of weakness.

* * *

Mr. Sawayanagi Masataro, the former Vice-Minister of Education, has been out of office for some time. He has been employing his spare time in writing books. His last work entitled 退耕錄 *Taikōroku* was reviewed at great length by Dr. K. Ukita, the editor of the *Taiyō*, in the July number of that magazine. In the August *Taiyō* Mr. Sawayanagi replies to Dr. Ukita. As the points at issue between these two educationists are of considerable interest, as far as space allows, we propose to state them here in an abbreviated form. In the preface to the *Taikōroku* Mr. Sawayanagi says that there are certain things that he refrained from saying when he was in office. Dr. Ukita interprets this as an indication that officials enjoy no liberty to write and speak as they please, that they have slavishly to follow the lead of their superiors, and so on. To this Mr. Sawayanagi replies that Dr. Ukita has misinterpreted what he wrote. He did not intend to represent himself as under shackles while in office as regards freedom of speech. The fact is that beyond the obligation to abstain from divulging state secrets officials are at liberty to write and speak as they please (*Kwanri to shite wa kwan no himitsu wo morasubekarazaru wa muron naru ga sono ijō ni oite wa genron jō nanto no kensoku wo ukeru mono de wa nai*). But as for liberty of speech, though legally we have it to-day, in reality we are without it, says Mr. Sawayanagi. Is it not true that in non-official ranks very few people say honestly just what they think. Trimming is almost universal and the reason of this is that in writing and speaking most men try to avoid saying things that might cause mischief or that would most certainly be misunderstood. In theory we are free to say what we please, but in reality we are subject to a variety of restraints. Even the greatest advocates of free speech the world has known have had to bow to the principle that though all things may be lawful, all things are not expedient. The freedom of speech for which Dr. Ukita contends does not exist anywhere. As long as misunderstandings and misinterpretations are so common as they are to-day, a certain amount of reserve in expressing one's opinions is certainly called for. The next point taken up by Dr. Ukita concerns the regard felt for officials to-day as compared with that of the early years of the Meiji era.

The tables have been completely reversed. To put it the inimitably concise language used by Mr. Fukuzawa and Sawayanagi, whereas formerly it was a case of *kwanson mimpi* (officials honoured and people despised), it is now a case of *kwampi minson* (officials despised and people honoured). Dr. Ukita rejoices over this change and proceeds to express himself thus:—If it is desired that greater respect should be shown to officials, there are certain things that they should do in order to gain that respect. They should lessen the amount of red-tapeism reverted to, they should curtail business transactions as much as possible, they should dismiss superfluous officials whose presence in offices only adds to the number of formalities to be observed in the most trifling transactions; from the Minister-President down to the lowest rank Government employee, officials should bear in mind that while serving the State loyally they are servants of the public (*kōboku*). With this Mr. Sawayanagi entirely agrees, though he did not deem it necessary to discuss the subject in his book. As regards the number of formalities which the proper discharge of public business renders necessary there is room for much difference of opinion. Every well organized Government certainly must desire to reduce them as much as possible, but a large number of them are designed to insure greater accuracy, to provide against the misuse of money or to collect details that are required for future reference. How far formalities can safely be reduced in number is a question which official experts alone can decide, says Mr. Sawayanagi. He is of opinion that any further change in the way of the curtailing of formalities while the Japanese people think and act as they do to-day would be attended with a certain amount of risk.

As regards the general attitude of officials to the non-official public Mr. Sawayanagi agrees with Dr. Ukita in thinking that it should be characterized by civility, agreeableness and consideration. That officials habitually disregard the interests of the public Mr. Sawayanagi can not bring himself to believe. His experience goes to prove that the contrary is the case. That the decisions which officials reach should give offence to certain persons is quite unavoidable. All measures determined on have the welfare of the majority in view. That in every case grumbling minorities should protest against these measures is only to be expected.

Dr. Ukita takes up the case of the Mombushō regulations relating to Private Schools, and criticises them adversely at considerable length. But Dr. Ukita's defence of these schools is a very poor one, says Mr. Sawayanagi. When he cites the Dōshisha, the Aoyama Gakuin, and two or three others institutions as types of the ordinary Private School as it is found in various parts of the country, he is misleading his readers, as these schools are exceptionally well conducted. The rules observed by the majority of Private Schools in this country won't bear examination. Were they thoroughly efficient, the Department of Education would not interfere with them or pass regulations relating to them. These schools exist because Government schools are insufficient in number. There are of course some private schools that have been founded for the purpose of teaching certain doctrines or enunciating certain principles. But the majority of our private schools have originated in no such way. The demand for instruction in the country has outgrown the supply furnished by the central and local Government and so Private Schools have come to the rescue. Were the Government schools ample throughout the country the *raison d'être* for the Private School would exist no longer. Dr. Ukita contends that Private Schools may reach ideals that Government Schools never can reach. But Mr. Sawayanagi's reply to this is that in Japan with a few exceptions they not only fail to ascend to heights unapproached by Government institutions, but the majority of them are thoroughly inefficient, being run simply as business concerns. They are infinitely inferior to all State Schools regarded from an educational point of view. Mr. Sawayanagi asserts that it is the improvement of the Private School that the authorities have in view and not its suppression. Mr. Sawayanagi maintains that Government schools have their ideals as well as private schools, but that no educational establishment is to be judged by the soundness or excellence of the principles of its founders. By the way in which it is conducted alone can its claim to support and official recognition be based. He asserts most confidently that with the exception of some six or seven schools, Private Schools in this country are not properly conducted.

To Dr. Ukita's assertion that the establishment of Private Schools conduces to the independence of learning, Mr. Sawayanagi replies, that in some cases the opposite is the case. Numerous have been the religious schools which have dismissed able teachers because of their free-thinking tendencies. In none of the Christian schools of Japan are teachers free to propagate any doctrines they please. Learning can not truthfully be called independent as far as these schools are concerned. And apart from religion, Mr. Henry George in a recent work of his tells us that the capitalists of America who found colleges or universities habitually insist on the exclusive propagation of certain economic doctrines by the Professors employed. So that the theory that independence of thought is necessarily secured by the private endowment of schools will not hold water. In such cases everything depends on the breadth of mind possessed by the endower.

* * *

The brilliant Character Sketches and other learned articles penned for publication in the *Taiyō* by the late Mr. Toyabe Shuntei have now been collected and published in 3 volumes under the general title of *Shuntei Zenshū* (A Complete Collection of the works of Shuntei). The whole work covers about 2,000 pages. The price is 4 *yen* 50 *sen* for the 3 volumes.

Vol. I. bears the title *Meiji Jimbutsu Gettan.*—The men dealt with in this volume are all politicians.

Vol. II. bears the same title, but reviews the lives of military men, writers, educationists and business men.

Vol. III. is entitled *Kakushu Hyōron* (Mis-

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cellaneous Reviews). It is universally admitted among literary men that no Japanese writer has succeeded in producing such character sketches as those turned out by the late editor of the *Taiyō*. This work will certainly find a place in every scholar's library.*

YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK LTD.

HALF-YEARLY MEETING YESTERDAY.

The 59th ordinary half-yearly general meeting of the Yokohama Specie Bank was held at the Head Office of that institution on Sept. 10, presided over by Baron Takahashi, the president.

The following is a rough translation of the Chairman's speech:—

GENTLEMEN:—In opening now the 59th semi-annual general meeting of our shareholders, and presenting to you a report covering the first half of the current year and asking for your adoption of the same as well as inviting your resolution of the appropriation of profits, I propose to refer briefly to the economic conditions of the country generally, as well as to the general state of our banking operations.

Our economic conditions, during the first half of the current year appeared at the first glance to be in a somewhat sleepy and inactive state, not much differing from those of the last year; but after close surveys of the situation, matters appear to have altered in a marked degree, for the over-produced merchandise seem to have nearly all been cleared off from the market during the period covering the latter part of the last year toward the spring of this year, and also the greater part of the various enterprises, which suffered from the effect of blows received during the year before last, having steadily recuperated. The market is still exercising caution, although it is now progressing towards a fair recovery, and considering the way in which prosperity is returning in Europe and the United States of America, we can scarcely hope for any immediate activity in onr own market. Consequently we have not yet experienced any marked requirement of money in all grades of enterprises.

In addition to the above state of things, the successful floating of loans abroad for our various cities and concerns, coupled with the sales of the various Government Stocks in foreign countries, having facilitated an influx of capital from foreign monetary centres, our internal money market has become slack, and the interest on money had gradually declined. Indeed, although banks in all parts of the country went so far as to lower their rate of interest, they continually found themselves in difficulties to find the proper outlets for money.

Looking at the state of our foreign trade during the first half year, we find that the exports and imports amount roughly to *yen* 187,000,000 and *yen* 214.510,000 respectively, making a total of *yen* 401,510,000 in all, which figures, compared with those of the corresponding period of the year before, show a falling off amounting to *yen* 38,480,000 in the imports, and an increase of *yen* 13,980,000 in the exports. The net result is therefore a decrease of about *yen* 24,500,000, including both exports and imports.

Of these figures the decrease in the imports chiefly consists of Iron Materials and Machinery, and this we must attribute to the fact that the business men of all classes are engaged in the work of re-organization and are maintaining a cautious and guarded policy, while the increase in exports is due, on one hand, to an improvement in some degree of our trade with China caused by the comparative recovery of the value of Silver, and on the other, to the increased export of Raw Silk, Tea and other articles, consequent upon the general economic conditions of Europe and the United States returning gradually to their normal and favourable level.

In short, although there is a decrease in the foreign trade generally, when compared with the corresponding period of the last year, the general tendency of trade may be said to be favourable to our country, and we see nothing specially to cause any anxiety.

Although, as already referred to, the general aspect of the internal money market has been very dull, and also our external commerce has exhibited a falling off in its totals, the actual condition of our banking operations has differed from the prevailing conditions of things in general, and we have continually met a comparative briskness due to such special circumstances as the very large sales of our Government Stocks abroad, in addition to a marked increase in the export of Silks. During the first half of this year the amount of exchange sold and bought in Japan on foreign countries totalled roughly to *yen* 30,600,000 and *yen* 91,570,000 respectively, and if we compare these figures with those of the corresponding period of the preceding year, we find an increase of of *yen* 5,490,000 in the case of exchange sold and *yen* 9,850,000 exchange bought; while the amounts of exchange bought and sold in foreign countries on Japan were *yen* 79,610,000 and *yen* 29,390,000 respectively. A comparison of these figures with the last corresponding period shows that although there was a decrease of *yen* 2,410,000 in the exchange bought, yet as there was an increase in that sold, amounting to *yen* 4,190,000, the net result was an actual increase of *yen* 17,120.000 in the totals of all the exchange operations in Japan on foreign countries and *vise versa* by all the offices of this Bank.

We have, however, to record here a matter of, great regret, and, that is, that as an outcome of the economic disturbances of the recent years, the collection of some of the bills discounted and foreign exchanges in Kobe, Osaka and Ryojun could not have been effected as it should have been, and their amounts had to be adjusted in the present financial year by either writing off as a loss or by providing funds as bad or doubtful debts. In spite of these unfortunate transactions, our business, as already referred to, having been comparatively active and extensive, all our other offices, both the Head as well as Branch Offices and Agencies, were able to make fair profits, the result being not much differing from that of the preceding period, amounting to *yen* 1,854,164.38, the appropriation of which we have here drafted, and submit for your consideration and adoption.

Before concluding this address I have one more matter to refer to, which is that our Chefoo Agency, which was opened in June of 1905 for the purpose chiefly of adjusting the withdrawal of the War Notes, has now been decided to be closed on the 30th September, as there is no more work of that kind, and the maintenance of the said Agency has become unnecessary.

THE REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.
TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.

GENTLEMEN:—The Directors submit to you the annexed Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Bank, and of the Profit and Loss Account for the Half-year ended 30th June, 1909.

The Gross Profits of the Bank for the past Half-year, including *yen* 1,141,676 90 brought forward from last account, amount to *yen* 11,989,849.29, of which *yen* 8,994,008.01 have been deducted for Interests, Taxes, Current Expenses, Rebate on Bills Current, Bad and Doubtful Debts, Bonus for Officers and Clerks, &c., leaving a balance of *yen* 2,995,841.28 for appropriation.

The Directors now propose that *yen* 400,000.00 be added to the Reserve Fund, and recommend a Dividend at the rate of Twelve per cent., per annum, which will absorb *yen* 1,440,000,00.

The Balance, *yen* 1,155,841.28, will be carried forward to the credit of next account.

BARON KOREKIYO TAKAHASHI, Chairman.

Head Office, Yokohama, September, 10th 1909.

THE YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED.
(Yokohama Shokin Ginko.)

June 30th, 1909.

BALANCE SHEET.

LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Capital (paid up)	24,000,000.00
Reserve Funds	15,500,000.00
Reserve for Doubtful Debts	468,795.79
Notes in Circulation	4,744,993.29
Deposits (Current, Fixed, &c.)	119,409,870.95
Bills Payable, Bills Re-discounted, Acceptances, and other Sums due by the Bank	75,401,779.69
Dividends Unclaimed	4,998.02
Amount brought forward from last Account	1,141'676 90
Net Profit for the past Half-year	1,854.164.38
	242,526,279.02

ASSETS.	Yen.	Yen.
Cash Account:—		
In Hand	15,056,283.82	
At Bankers	17.784,561.93	32,840,845.75
Investment in Public Securities		20,555,994 66
Bills discounted, Loans, Advances, &c.		64.874,187.40
Bills receivable and other Sums due to the Bank		118,715,009 41
Bullion and Foreign Money		2,991,204 11
Bank's Premises, Properties, Furniture, &c.		2.549,037.69
		242,526,279.02

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	Yen.
To Interests, Taxes, Current Expenses on Bills Current, Bad and Doubtful Debts, Bonus for Officers and Clerks, &c.	8,994,008.01
To Reserve Fund	400,000.00
To Dividend— (*yen* 6.00 per Share for 240,000 Shares)	1,440,000.00
To Balance carried forward to next Account	1,155,841.28
	11,989,849.29
By Balance brought forward 31st December, 1908	1,141,676 90
By Amount of Gross Profits for the Half-year ending 30th June, 1909.	10,848,172.39
	11,989,849 29

We have examined the above accounts in detail, comparing them with the Books and Vouchers of the Bank and the Returns from the Branches and Agencies, and have found them to be correct. We have further inspected the Securities, &c., of the Bank, and also those held on account of Loans, Advances, &c., and have found them all to be in accordance with the Books and Accounts of the Bank.

NOBUO TAJIMA, } Auditors.
FUKUSABURO WATANABE, }

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

Notice is hereby given that Tsutsu-zaki Beacon Light on Ose shoal off Tsutsu-zaki, south-western end of Tsushima (see Notification No 781 of Department of Communications, August 1909) has been shown:—

Position:—Lat. 34° 5′ 34″ N., and Long. 129° 9′ 37″ E. (according to the Japanese Admiralty chart No. 173).

Construction and painting:—Circular concrete tower with black and white vertical stripes.

Height of light:—67 feet above the water.

Character of light:—Fifth order flashing white light, showing a flash every 15 seconds.

Illuminated arc:—From S. 79° W., through W., N., E. and S., to S. 7°30′ W. (the magnetic bearings taken from the sea).

Candle power:—15co.

Distance visible:—14 nautical miles in clear weather.

Note:—The light is unwatched. Should the light go out by accident there may be some delay in relighting it.

FATALITIES ON THE RAILWAY.

TWO STATION-MASTERS KILLED.

Accidents resulting in the death of two station-masters are reported within the past few days. On the evening of the 10th inst., at about 8 p.m., the Totsuka station-master, Mr. S. Suzuki, was struck by the Kobe express in attempting to cross the line and is said to have been carried—presumably on the engine's "catcher"—as far as Ofuna. The unfortunate man, however, succumbed to his injuries in the Kamakura hospital on Sunday.

Ofuna was also the scene of a fatal accident on the 12th inst., when Mr. Yamada, Assistant-Station-master, was caught between the buffers of the two parts of a goods train. Mr. Yamada was badly crushed about the upper part of the body, and died half an hour later.

* Since writing the above notice two of the three volumes have been forwarded to us by the Hakubunkan. We hope to deal with them in our next Summary.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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CHINESE NOTES AND NEWS.

As in the case of India and several other countries which depend for sustenance upon a somewhat capricious home climate, the grain reservations of China are matters of the gravest importance. Frequently they stand between an enormous population and a depopulating famine. Consequently every human effort of those people who are assigned to the management of this department of national storage should be devoted unhesitantly to duty. The Chinese official is not noted for his thoroughness in impersonal operations, and it is regrettable to learn that the supposed present reservation of grain in many of the provinces of China is more theoretical than actual. The attention of the Prince Regent has, however, now been called to the state of affairs, and his Highness, recognizing the disastrous conditions that would ensue from famine, has ordered all Viceroys and Governors to direct the closest scrutiny to the management of the provincial granaries, so that abuses will be impossible. It is pointed out that the vitality of the nation,—a consideration to which China's rulers are just now awakening—depends largely upon resources of potential food, and local officials are instructed to direct the gentry to exercise the greatest care in the collection of grain.

* * *

Many students of Western Civilization—not its *critics*—are chiefly noted for their sensitiveness of its glories. The Chinaman, permeated by his own unchanging ancient civic atmosphere, is principally cognisant of its vices and hypocrisies. Now the accurate observer should recognize that Western Civilization, like everything else, has two sides. "Ancient" China, who in 50 years may have progressed so much that the rest of the world will speak of her as "Young China," should be especially aware of this fact. For her own sake she must not entirely distrust Western Civilization. Her "new learning" must not more deeply endue the minds of its scholars with the spirit of aversion. The following paragraph from Mokanshan, illustrates the attitude of the Chinese progressists of to-day:—

"Our new Wukang Magistrate is a young man a little past thirty. He is a product of the new learning now spreading over China. His attitude towards foreigners is outwardly polite, but inwardly he seems to feel a dislike that is difficult to express. The nature of his questions indicates this attitude, *e.g.* what is the use or value of treaties with foreigners? How do foreign governments control their subjects? Are foreign rulers afraid of their people?

This is scepticism *par excellence* of all things Western. It is pertinent to point out to the Chinaman that the white man is not so black as he is painted!

One occasionally hears of a "Young China Party," and our ears are craned to hear all of the whisper and grasp its full portent. One wonders how much interest European and United States educated Chinese students have taken in the actions of the "Young Turkey Party" and the overthrow of the semi-benevolent despot at Teheran. We learn that the number of members of the Tzucheng-yin, the assembly which is to be the initiation of representative Government in China, is fixed at 200 One hundred members will be elected from the provincial assemblies and the rest will be the nominees of the Throne, which, in order still to retain its firm hold of the reins of government, will control the appointment of the President and Vice-President. On the whole, apparently, the parliamentary edifice will bear no marked difference to that which is now pioneering Japan into a futurity of peace and prosperity. There are 65 articles in the statutes, and they will come into operation on October 14. They received the sanction of the Throne on Aug. 23 and were published in the *Official Gazette* three days later.

* * *

All Chinamen are not alike! and yet how confusing their faces are to the casual observer. Time after time has this singular imposition on the mental retina baffled the San Francisco authorities, and, despite all regulations, the Chinese populace in the great Pacific port continually and unaccountably receives into its midst a large number of smuggled sailors. Last month, however, the newly formed plan of the Pacific Mail Steamship Company came into operation, and the 40 Chinese forming the deck crew of the S.S. *Mongolia* were photographed. This will in same measure retard the frequent temporary substitution of others in their places,—followed, usually, by the disappearance of the substitute, upon whom, of course, the Shipping Company has no claim.

* * *

Chinese telegrams announce that great festivities prevailed in the welcome Canton accorded to the much travelled Imperial navy Commissioners Prince Tsai and Admiral Sah. The local officials, from the Acting Viceroy downwards, repaired to the Bogue Forts in gunboats to meet the Commissioners. It is stated that Prince Tsai has telepraphed his report to the Throne of the peaceful conditions prevailing at the places he has visited, and of the favourable sentiments of the gentry and people towards the navy reorganization. The Prince reports that Hsiangshan Bay is suitable for a naval station, and in this connection the Grand Council has decided to deliberate upon the creation of a Board of Admiralty on the Commissioner's return to the capital. It is also proposed that for the present a Naval Academy should not be established, in order to spare the necessarily heavy expenses, but that every year a certain number of students should be selected and sent to foreign countries to receive naval education.

As a result of many conferences, the Naval Commission has reported to the Throne that a sum of 18 million taels will be required as preliminary expenses in the carrying out of the naval reforms as arranged some time ago, and a further annual charge of 2 million taels will be required for maintenance. The report urges that the Board of Finance and the provincial governments may be ordered to provide the above amounts. According to the naval budget, which has been approved by the Throne, the sum of 1½ million taels is for the construction of a naval station, of which amount half a million is repuired forthwith and the other million next year; the remaining 16,500 000 taels are to be spent on the construction of warships, which will cover a period of four years.

* * *

Chinese papers are commenting upon the fact that foreign Powers have latterly feared confusion in China's finances and a consequenced disturbance of the commercial peace of the Far East. The Powers, these papers say, are proposing to appoint delegates to hold a conference on this very momentous subject, and the matters to be considered may be ranged under the following heads:—

1. China contemplates the reorganization of a navy which will entail an enormous sum and affect the national finances considerably.

2.—China is pledged to pay off a certain portion of foreign debts every year, and if once she is unable to discharge her liability, the result will involve serious consequences.

3.—As the commercial interests of the twentieth century are centred in China, any panic in this country would injure the entire commerce of the Powers.

After considering the above points, continue these journals, the Powers will send delegates to China to investigate her finances. What steps, they ask, will China take to ward of his menace of financial disintegration?

FUNERAL OF MRS. H. A. POOLE.

The mortal remains of Mrs. H. A. Poole (whose death we recorded yesterday) were consigned to their last resting place on Sept. 10, in the presence of a large company of mourners and friends. The first part of the funeral service, held in Christ Church, opened with the favourite hymn "Hark! hark, my soul," the Rev. W.P.G. Field and the Right Rev. Bishop McKim reading the solemn opening sentences of the Burial Service and the well-known lesson from 1st Corinthians, respectively. This was followed by Bishop Bickersteth's beautiful hymn "Peace, perfect peace," and the cortège then proceeded to the grave side, where the concluding portion of the Burial Service was read by the Incumbent of Christ Church,

The chief mourners were Mr. H. A. Poole (husband), Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Ballagh (parents of deceased), Rev. J. H. Ballagh, D.D. (uncle), and Mr. and Mrs. Otis A. Poole. The pall-bearers were Messrs. Hamilton Ballagh (brother), C. H. Thorn, E. J. Libeaud, J. S. Nicholl, K. Van R. Smith, and W. Trawn. The large attendance at the graveside was representative of the whole community, and, together with the numerous and beautiful floral tributes, bore testimony to the affection and respect in which the deceased lady was so widely held.

CRICKET.

A game played on Sunday afternoon last resulted in a win for the Club by 37 runs. Some of the ship's team showed very fair form, particularly Sandberg and Simpson.

P. & O. STEAMER "PALMA."

R. Wilkinson, run out	1
G. T. Bell, c. Bell, b. Squire	9
J. McKay, b. Hayward	3
P. L. Sandberg, (Capt.) b. Squire	11
P. A. Cox, c. Strome, b. Hayward	0
A. H. Simpson, c. Burst, b. Hayward	7
B. G. Worthington, c. Strome, b. Hayward	5
J. C. Brown, b. Foster	0
M. Heasley, b. Foster	3
W. R. Meyer, c. Buckle, b. Hayward	0
S. E. Chapman, not out	1
Extras	9
Total	49

	O.	R.	M.	W.
Squire	7	18	1	2
Hayward	8	17	2	5
Foster	2	5	0	2

Y. C. & A. C.

O. Strome, b. Sandberg	2
E. L. Squire, b. Wilkinson	0
N. Buckle, b. Sandberg	6
H. S. Bell, b. Wilkinson	25
E. K. Dinsdale, b. Wilkinson	5
B. C. Foster, (Capt.) b. Sandberg	11
S. G. Stanford, c. Wilkinson, b. Sandberg	9
V. A. Hearne, not out	19
W. Hayward, b. Sandberg	0
H. Burst, l.b.w., b. Simpson	1
S. T. Farnsworth, c. McKay, b. Sandberg	3
Extras	5
Total	86

	O	R.	M.	W.
Sandberg	72	33	0	6
Wilkinson	5	41	0	3
Simpson	2	7	0	1

YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

CALM WEATHER FOR SATURDAY'S SAILING RACES.

The calmest weather prevailed at the commencement of last Saturday's sailing races. The wind was scarcely suffcient to lift a square inch of a pennant.

The Valkyrien Cup (to Uraga). There were seven starters: *Mary*, *Maid Marion*, *Naniwa*, *Aborigine*, *Nereus*, *Cygnet* and *Asagao*. A gentle breeze commenced, and the little vessels soon straggled out. *Mary* led, with *Maid Marion* second and the others well in the rear.

Mary came in about half past five on Sunday evening, an easy winner.

Larks.—Nine starters. No 7 led and had the race well in hand until No. 10 spurted and passed her, finishing first, with No. 7 second and No 13 third. No. 13 took the prize on handicap. The starters were Nos. 1, 5, 2, 11, 12, and 15.

MOSQUITO CLUB

Around the Widow Buoy for the *Edna* Cup

A very close race ensued between *Edna* and *Winsome*. *Edna* held ahead until near home when she was outdistanced by *Winsome*, who won by a few lengths. *Pele* was third. The Cup went to *Edna* on handicap. The owner however, gave it to the next boat—*Pele*.

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, August 21.

The great Russian manœuvres this month, in the presence of the Emperor, will again lack the newest instruments of military reconnaissance. flying machines. Owing to the uninterrupted series of mishaps there is not a machine of any kind available, and the Army will fall back once more upon the time-honoured balloon and a few kites. There is talk of repairing the French-built aeroplane and the great rigid dirigible which was allowed to dash itself to pieces against the roof of its garage the other day, but it is doubtful if either the aeroplanes ordered abroad or those experimented with at home, to say nothing of the rigid machine of the Lebaudy type, will actually take any part this year in any triumphs of aviation in Russia.

The closing of the Literary Fund owing to alleged irregularities in the expenditure of a special sum set apart since 1906 and asserted by the authorities to have been spent in assisting the widow and orphans of two persons who were charged with "political" offences, one of them a generation ago, and of another literary man who is compelled to live in exile, has roused a great deal of feeling in Russia. It is defended by the official organ the *Rossia*, on the suppositious ground that, for all that is at present known, these persons may probably have been engaged in the revolutionary struggle against the Government. From the point of view of the outsider this drastic action, if it is not only another specimen of that over-zeal which frequently hampers the wisest governments, seems to indicate that the "revolutionary movement in Russia" is still to be accounted a formidable enemy, just when the world was beginning to settle down to the belief that Russia was making progress along the lines which lead to constitutional rule. On the whole it appears probable that this arbitrary action is due to over-zeal in some ambitious subordinate, and when the Premier returns from his leave with other Ministers, it is hoped a less despotic form of discipline, if any real offence has been committed, will be found sufficient to meet the justice of the case.

M. Kokovtsev, Minister of Finance, is stated to have expressed himself as confident that the Budget for 1910 will be satisfactorily arranged thanks to ample assistance expected from abroad, to follow on the great revival expected in international trade with Russia. The hint is interpreted to refer to England chiefly, if not entirely. At the same time there are rumours once more of an intention to institute an income-tax in Russia.

During manœuvres about the fortress of Brest-Litovsk an officer has been shot thorough the heart under circumstances which indicate intention. The troops were firing blank cartridge at the time.

A St. Petersburg hospital having recently refused to take in a sick man brought to them by the police in fetters, unless the latter were removed, the dispute has been referred to the legal advisers of the Government. Their decision is understood to support the action of the hospital authorities, whose right to object to any extraneous conditions that militate against the curative treatment of a proposed patient is upheld. Fetters, which in Russia are welded on to ankles or wrists with a hammer, are recognised as coming under the category of conditions unfavourable for medical treatment. It is to be hoped that this decision will carry also in the special prison hospitals where it is by no means an uncommon thing, according to common talk, for patients to lie in sick beds heavily ironed.

The organs of both conservative and liberal parties in Russia alike scout the attempts of the Austrian semi-official papers to take advantage of King Edward's friendly telegram to the Emperor Josef in order to "whitewash Austria" in respect to recent international complications. "England," says the *Novoe Vremja*, "may perhaps come to understand Austria better, as this paper desires, but it is very questionable if a better understanding of Austrian methods will be at all to the advantage of Austria herself." The *Rèch* interprets the arguments of Germanism to be in plain language this: What can England offer to Russia? She is backing Russia as a weak and not dangerous Power that is both strong and dangerous, thereby forcing Russia into the struggle, a struggle that is of no profit to Russia and is actually opposed to her real interests —at Constantinople, in the Balkans, and in farther Asia. Germany perhaps would do more for Russia in the East. It only needs to strike a little bargain and Russia may have a perfectly free hand in the Balkans,—much the same carte blanche as she got from these same Germans in— Manchuria!" There is no mistaking the generally hostile tone, even bitterly hostile in some cases, which the Russian press has lately shown towards "Germanism." The *Novoe Vremja*, after an Germanophobe article, usually mitigates its hostility by an article in a contradictory sense a day or two later, but the liberal and independent press is consistent in its hostility.

"Japan in the last decade has increased the area of her territory by 286,000 square kilometres, that is, by 75 per cent. of her former area. Such an astonishing and rapid extension of territory, since the discovery of America, has never been experienced by any country either of Europe or of Asia. If we take into account also the actual fact that Japan has laid firm hold upon southern Manchuria, and has acquired the fishing rights along the Russian coast-line, the picture of Japanese aggrandizement is still more striking." The *Novoe Vremja*, opening with the above words, proceeds to show that Japan is pursuing a policy of aggrandizement, that she never had any natural need to extend her territory, which was ample for her population for long enough to come if her waste lands were brought under cultivation, and that the unexampled and rapid growth of the Island Power of the Far East is a manace to the civilised world, which is felt, or will be felt, not alone by Russia but by the United States of America, by Canada, and by Australia.

A local collector in the town of Kerch has presented to the Moscow Museum a most valuable gift of archaeological specimens obtained by him during the excavations for a new house in Kerch. The collection is a specially complete assemblage of weapons of the time of Mithridates.

The failure of the cedar-nuts this year over vast tracts of central Siberia has caused a most rare phenomenon, the wholesale migration of millions of squirrels, which have appeared about the Urals. Although at this time of year the skins are practically worthless, the migrants are in such numbers that they are hunted even in the outskirts of the townlets, not only by boys and men, but by dogs and even cats. The squirrels, according to the meagre accounts received, are passing in millions, close arrayed, swimming rivers in their path, and have appeared as far West as Ekateringburg.

From the Province of Tver comes the story of the treatment of a rural priest on the occasion of the annual Church holiday. It is the custom on these days for the local priest with his deacon and a few choir-boys to perambulate the villages, entering the huts of the peasants and holding brief services, the eikon of the church being carried round before him. The richer villagers give money for these services, but even the poorest offer a drink of vodka On the occasion in question the priest towards evening, after a long round, and frequent offerings of vodka, was overcome and fell asleep. Some village ruffians shaved his beard and cut off his hair while he was incapacitated. Two arrests have been made, and the culprits are now lying in gaol awaiting trial for a freak which ranks as a heinous crime, according to religious notions in Russia.

St. Petersburg, August 26.

In the best-informed circles here opinions as to the progress in Persia do not incline to the optimistic. At Teheran, after the excitement of a month ago, things are rather "flat," while in the provinces nothing of consequence appears to be happening. The Governor of Tabriz has arrived at his post, but has brought no troops with him, and the Russian force at Kazvin, which recently moved a few miles from that town in the direction of Teheran, seeking for a more healthy site for their camp, are again looking out for a change of site, and will probably this time choose ground to the north of Kazvin. The two Russian roads are of course kept open for traffic, thanks to the presence of Russian troops in Persia, and an attempt is being made to open the road between Tabriz and Ardebil for exchange of merchandise. The road beyond Ardebil, connecting that town with the little port of Astara on the Caspian, is particularly infested with robbers, and Russian merchants are suffering loss and deterioration of goods, which are perforce kept lying at Astara, where there are no customs or other form of warehousing accommodation.

Private letters from Teheran relate some of the curious incidents that accompanied the successes of the popular party last month. For instance, the Persian general sent to oppose the entrance of Sapehdar into the capital, reported that his "militia threw away their arms and ran away", and he himself "returned home as he did not think himself the support of the militia."

The indignation aroused by the administrative order closing the Literary Fund, before, as is alleged, any official inquiry into its actions had been made, is still growing. It appears that the principle on which the fund was managed was this: on the death of a member, or other occasion demanding assistance either for himself or his widow and orphans, the members were called upon to pay in a fixed amount each. This system has been in practice for sixteen years past, and the arbitrary closing of the Fund makes it utterly impossible to satisfy the requirements of justice to the members, some of whom in the past have paid as much as 1,000 roubles at various times on the call of charity, and will now not only receive nothing whatever on the liquidation of the Fund, but their widows and orphans in case of death will receive no help. The Committee of the Fund maintain that they were perfectly within their rights, according to the articles of the foundation, sanctioned by authority, in assisting members in need, that sums were not paid out to, for instance, the assassin of the Minister Sipaagin: it was the father of this youth who, as a member and a literary man, received assistance. Further they allege that the police have been fully informed of the activity of the Fund during the past three years, that is, ever since the formation of the special fund to which objection has been taken only now.

The municipality of St. Petersburg has opened, the first of its kind, a "Municipal Chemist's Shop" (Apteka) for the benefit of the poor of the capital. Prescriptions will be made up at cost price of ingredients, and medical analyses will be performed at nominal rates.

The "Cadets," or Constitutional Democratic Party, of St. Petersburg, who carried all three of their candidates at the last Election, declare that they will not consent to the offering of the seat vacated by their member Koljubakin, to any non-party candidate. They consider themselves strong enough in Petersburg to carry their own candidate against all the other parties united together. It was hoped to set up, as a non-party progressist, Professor Maxim Kovalevsky, lately an elective member of the Upper House, retired on the completion of his term, and his candidature would undoubtedly have united all parties save the extreme Right, who are a cipher at election times, and the extreme Left, who have lost weight considerably as the country quietens down. The "Cadet" candidate will probably be M. Kutler, who was a member of previous Dumas, and is an authority on Finance, having held high office in the Ministry of Finance in former days.

M. Lopukhin went into exile yesterday. The only precautions taken were to mislead the public as to the date of his removal. He left in charge of an officer and two men of the convoy brigade by a train that left Petersburg just after midnight. He is reported to have looked fairly well, though even the prison doctors were not satisfied with his original place of confinement, which was injuring his health. With him in the carriage travelled his wife and brother-in-law. The party will reach Jakutsk in about nine days.

The 25th sitting of the Finnish Court which is trying the charge of murder of Prof Herzenstein, the Jewish member of the 1st Duma, against the members of the Black Gang, took place yesterday,

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and some progress was made. The Black Gang turned up to the number of several hundreds, and had been talking loudly both in their special organs and in public about the demonstration they would make. The Finnish authorities took precautions by holding in readiness an imposing force of police, and admitting only a select number of the Black Gang members into the hall of justice. The only protests made were the verbal ones of the Black Gang advocate Bulatsel, who took every opportunity to insult the Finnish Court and the Judge, without, however, being able to create any excitement. He again declared that there existed no power in Russia which could bring to justice the head of the Black Gang, Dr. Dubrovin, who has never yet appeared despite the numerous citations of the Finnish authorities. From the demeanour of the Black Gang at this last meeting it is augured that their game is now up, and the next meeting of the Court may be expected to do justice upon these slippery "patriots" who have evidently lost all the support they ever had from the Russian authorities.

The police have arrested the two heads of a firm calling itself the "Franco-Russian Company," and consisting of a Karaim Jew and another, who busied themselves in procuring medals for exhibitors at various international exhibitions, and who sell the medals. The police discovered an enormous number of medals distributed all over Russia, mostly of exhibitions that never were held!

The Black Gang organisation at Moscow has declared its intention of doing all in its power to hinder the return visit of English Members of Parliament and others who may accept the invitation given by the Duma members during their recent visit to England. The declaration is merely an echo of former activity on the last occasion, when a premature visit was proposed by a certain group of parliamentary people professedly sympathising with Russia. But in those days the Black Gang was able occasionally to secure the backing of constituted authority. This has now been withdrawn, and the protest will be as inoperative as the interesting protests against the Emperor's visit to England last month.

St. Petersburg, August 24.

Russian public opinion is being severely exercised by the consideration of possibilities in the development of the Far East. The Manchurian railway, which costs the Russian taxpayer about a million sterling a year to make up the regular deficit, serves the interests of the population of Northern China and brings in a handsome profit to the Japanese exploiters of the southern branch of the line. The development of Dalny (Talienwan) as a port was intentionally pushed by Russia to the injury of the Russian port of Vladivostock. In Japanese hands the process has gone still farther. The *Novoe Vremja* complains in a series of articles that Japan has not met Russia in a friendly spirit, and it is evident that the island Empire is determined to make all it can out of the present yielding disposition of Russia and the still unawakened strength of China. Russia is unprepared; she has no railways on Russian territory except the short line between Khabarovsk and Vladivostock, which is hung up in air, so-to speak, during the six or seven months when the navigation of the Amur river is closed by the long Winter. The Amur region has no roads except sledge tracks over the Winter snow. The Russian population is not self-supporting and depends not only on the services of Chinese, but even upon the import of some of the first necessaries of life. On top of all these weighty considerations comes the news from Kharbin, that Japan and China have concluded a military convention, the terms of which are kept secret, but supposed to, relate to the possibilities of warlike activity in Manchuria. Already the northern garrison-towns are being strongly reinforced. For example three foot regiments and six companies of field-artillery are reported to have recently reached Telin. The Mukden garrison, which last month received a reinforcement of 22,000 soldiers, has again been reinforced by 19 squadrons of irregular cavalry and 23 mountain batteries.

A terrible conflagration broke out yesterday at Rremenchug in the Province of Poltava. The fire began among vast stores of timber, spread to the neighbouring saw-mills, and thence to the town, three whole divisions of which have been utterly destroyed. Thousands of families are homeless. The money-loss has been roughly estimated at about half a million sterling.

On Sunday evening, about 8 o'clock (i.e. 6 p.m. Greenwich time) a dirigible passed over the town of Reval going West. It is supposed to be a Swedish vessel, but no farther particulars have been received.

It appears that the flying-machine inventor, upon whom the Russian War Office has pinned its faith, Tatarinov, has no intention of making any attempt to fly, as announced, this month. The terms of his contract with the War Office will be satisfied if he produces by the end of this month a toy-model that will mount up vertically into the air. "Had I merely wished to fly," Tatarinov is reported to have said, "my machine would long ago have been ready: my task is to solve the problem of rising vertically in air." The papers make unpleasant comparisons between the uniformly unhappy attempts in Russia to fly even in the old pattern balloon without more or less serious accidents, and the frequency and immunity from accident of such flights everywhere else in the world, to say nothing of actual aviation. As the time for fulfilling certain promises held out to the public draws near it is becoming more and more plain that there will be no flying yet awhile in Russia. Even the demonstrations with the Wright aeroplanes are now declared off, and there appears to be some doubt as to whether anything whatever will be done this year in the sphere of aviation. The public will not be admitted to view any trials of Tatarinov's invention if it comes off.

Good stories about the Haroun al Rashid adventures of Russian Ministers have usually been fathered on Ministers of Railways, apparently for the reason that private detective inspection work seems to be more needed in this department than in any other. The new Minister, M. Rukhlov, like his predecessors, especially the great Prince Khilkov, seems to find it necessary to travel incognito and inspect with his own eyes. The other day, at a well-known watering-place in the Caucasus, the Minister entered a famous restaurant and was kept waiting over an hour for his modest wants to be supplied owing to the presence of regular guests of the "champagne in baths" order. When the local chief of police heard of the occurrence he circulated all over the town a number of photographs of the Minister, with strict orders that due respect should be paid to him everywhere by everyone!

The new strictness enforced on Russian railways to curtail the abuse of tipping the "conductors' brigade" in order to travel without ticket, led to a curious variation of the favourite methods of the class known as "hares" in Russia, that is, in English, "dead-heads." A particularly sharp inspector noticed a number of potato sacks thrust under the seats of third-class carriages. The first time he passed them on the explanation of the guard that the owners were too late to get them registered as baggage and put in the luggage-van. Coming to yet another consignment of bulky potato sacks further along the train the inspector investigated with his boot-toe, and of course discovered a "hare" in every sack. He returned along the train as quickly as possible to trap the first lot of potato sack deadheads, but both they and the sacks had promptly disappeared as soon as he had passed. It is not so very long ago that there was a common saying in Russia: "only the fool thinks of paying for a railway ticket!"

The report of the sanitary commission appointed by the Prefect of Police to thoroughly inspect St. Petersburg beggars all description. The town-markets and the offices there are apparently among the worst and filthiest spots in the city, which is saying a good deal. All the filth is poured freely into the numerous rivers and canals. One whole quarter of the town has absolutely no sanitary contrivances of any kind, public or private. From sweet factories where the girls employed in wrapping up bonbons in fancy papers, live and work under filthy conditions, to the arrangements for conveying the dead to the cemeteries, whereby scores of corpses that should have been underground days before are left waiting in sidings in railway trucks, the picture is one of unmitigated horrors. Even in the best quarters, the centre of palaces and princes there are plague-spots in abundance. Quite apart from the cholera, which unaccountably keeps very low considering all things, the death rate of St. Petersburg enormously exceeds that of any other capital.

M. Lopukhin, the ex-Chief of Secret Police and Adjunct Minister of the Interior, recently sentenced to penal exile for having "joined an anti-government organisation, to wit the terrorists," or as most people think, for having brought to light the peculiar doings of the police provocatures, with Azev at their head, will shortly proceed to his place of exil. This will be the Province of Eniseisk. He will be accompanied by his wife, and his two daughters will join him later.

The only privilege allowed to this distinguished exile is that of paying his fare second class by rail to this destination, for himself and his convoy of an officer and two men. According to the rule still obtaining in Russia the charges are reckoned as in the days before railways, at the cost of so many horses per verst covered, and at this rate M. Lopukhin will have also to pay the return fare of his convoy. All Russian officials travelling on service receive allowances on this archaic rate, and even quite junior chinovniks net a pretty income with every journey made. The higher the rank the more horses allowed. No notice has yet been taken in Russia of the fact that railways exist and are used by all classes.

Snow fell yesterday in the Urals at an unprecedentedly early date, while heavy rains are reported from various centres. But the weather in the northern provinces continues unusually warm and summery.

TABLE OF SERIOUS RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

According to an official investigation, the following serious accidents have occurred in different sections of the Japanese railway, since the beginning of April last year, ending on the 31st of July this year:—

Date.	Place.	Cause.	Died	Injured.
23. 4.08	Idzuki, Kyushu	Disregard of Signal	—	6
17. 5.08	Nakahara, Kyushu	Fault of Deputy-master	2	—
13. 6.08	Mejiro, Central	Fault of a Station man	—	4
20. 6.08	Karukawa, Northern	Mischief	1	20
27. 6.08	Kyoto, Western	Fault of an Engine driver.	—	4
29. 9.08	Akatsuka, Eastern	Fault of Deputy-master	—	5
11 10.08	Kashiwara Western	Fault of men in charge	—	4
12 11.08	Tsuge and Kata, Eastern	Damage of wheels	—	3
1 12.08	Shirosawa, Eastern	Unknown	—	—
16.12.08	Ohio, Kyushu	Fault of a stationman	—	22
27 12.08	Hakkawa Bridge, Eastern	Unknown	—	5
13 1 09	Ofuna & Kamakura, Central	Fault of Deputy-master	—	6
16. 3.09	Nozaki, Eastern	Unknown	—	4
16. 3 .9	Nijo, Western	Fault of a man in charge of carriages.	—	—
2. 4.09	Kawashima, Western	Fault of a pointsman	—	—
7. 4.09	Nouchiura-cho Estern	Steam	—	33
8. 4.09	Kariwanosaki, Eastern	Collapse of embankment.	7	4
19. 4.09	Rokugo Bridge Central	Door left opened	2	6
7. 5.09	Owari Hirohata, Eastern	Rain	—	1
12 6.09	Akaiwa, Eastern	Suffocation of engine-drivers	4	30
16. 6.09	Tsuchiura, Eastern	Fault of a station-man	—	33
31. 7.09	Uyeno, East.rn	Disregard of signal	—	34

The weather on the *Hassaku* (the first day of the eighth month, *i.e.*, yesterday), was, on the whole, calm throughout the different districts of Japan. The depression which was near Okinawa was gradually deflected westward, and the centre of high pressure passed to the east of the main island and Hokkaido, indicating over 768 mm., which decreased towards the south-western direction. Riukiu and Formosa were visited by heavy storms, and much damage is believed have been suffered in those districts.

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GREAT REVIVALS OF RELIGION.

Great Revivals of Religion are to be numbered among the great events in the World's History.

Jesus was the great Revivalist: reviving the elements of truth in the Hebrew Religion, and replacing a misplaced emphasis by putting it on the conduct of life, instead of on ceremonial observances. His was a revival of personal and social righteousness utterly democratic in character.

His enemies hoped that His death would end the movement inaugurated in many minds, but it went on gathering force for centuries.

When it became the victim of imperial patronage, it began to fall away from its original purity. It had been a life. Now it began to assume a form and ceremonial.

Thirteen hundred years afterwards, a Revival of world wide event, voiced by Martin Luther, revived the Augustinian doctrine of Salvation by faith alone, and rebuked the morals of Monks and Popes.

George Fox and John Wesley followed: the revolt of the Netherlands in the last quarter of the sixteenth century: the American Revolution of the eighteenth century, were Revivals: the idea of human Brotherhood, and the idea of Justice being the dominant feature of each.

Revivals are the spontaneous and mighty upheavals of the human mind and heart full of tenderness, reverence, penetrating power and spiritual perception. They are born of the largeness, the mystery and the glory of human life, and all that vast outlying Infinite that folds it close in its embracing arms.

A Revival declares that Christianity shall be no longer held responsible for the false issues created by its enemies, and thus commands the allegiance of thousands of earnest and thoughtful minds for those elements of truth that form the essential fabric of Jesus' teaching.

Modern Superficialism is constantly affirming the old Roman idea regarding Pagan Religion: that is, that it was false to all the wise, and true, and to all the ignorant, as applicable to Christianity.

This in many forms of Infidelity, Rationalism, Agnosticism and that hydra-headed nondescript called Metaphysics.

A world wide event was needed in the form of a Christian Religious Revival by which the truths of Christ's doctrine might be restored as the renaissance of His teaching: that the tendencies of thought, intelligence, and motive be attracted thereto.

First, as to believers whose differences are not those of difference of system or particular belief. Some are in the right, but narrow and harsh: others in the wrong, with humanity and breadth. Here a Revival must mean that the old doctrines are not discarded, but held to with more humanity and breadth.

Second, as to the world of unsaved "humanity."

The eighteenth century witnessed the death of political and Social tyranny through the American and French Revolutions: the nineteenth century broke the fetters of the slave: the twentieth century will witness a Revival of Religion, in which the Religion of Jesus will compel the shuddering conscience of the sinful world to cry out for pardon and peace.

The movement, called Religions Revival, which has been spreading over England, Scotland, Wales, and a large portion of the United States in the widening of its circles, reached the shores of Australia during May, 1909.

It was led by Dr. Wilbur Chapman and called the Chapman-Alexander Mission, Mr. Charles Alexander, known everywhere as the master of massed, choirs being associated with Dr. Chapman.

Melbourne, where the Mission was inaugurated, was said to be chilled with life-long devotion to sport, religious indifference and even antagonism to Missions.

The Press was frigidly courteous: the people atrophied in their religious nerves. Evangelists were associated with patent medicine: as iron voiced, leather lunged, adventurers—advocates of emotional insanity.

Within one month all is changed. Business men devoted their luncheon hour for weeks to religious meetings; old men and youths forego business or pleasure to await hours for the opening of doors in buildings where Jesus is talked about, and prayed to.

Rain and mud and cold and hunger and discomfiture in many forms present no obstacles to the thousands that throng these auditoriums to hear—the old old story.

Husbands and wives, fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, deny themselves to send each other where the message is being delivered, the street arab and the scullery girl whistle and sing gospel hymns. Drinking saloons are gladly surrendered during the business hours (all trade being stopped) for devotional services, at which hymns are sung, the Bible read and explained, and earnest prayer offered. Policemen and Railway and Tramway Employees are holding special meetings.

Thousands are converted and join the Churches: homes institute family prayer and Bible reading: the very houses have their windows placarded with announcements that the residents are busy with "The King's Business." Streets are blocked with open-air services, and the Spirit of God seems to brood over all. What is it? A Revival of Religion! a great event in World history!

A Press and Literature propaganda extending into the most remote settlements is organized and in active co-operation with the Missioners.

Three thousand conversions are registered in Melbourne and its suburbs.

A brief glance at the man who is leading this movement shows a figure like that of the 1st Napoleon with some portions of face contour which heighten the similarity, notably the shape and length of the upper lip, and the chin. "The expression of the face is unmistakably sad, as though life's burdens had found lodgment in the soul. An eye alert, incisive and interrogative: a figure compact with nervous energy and hands that throb and grasp and reach or challenge or beckon, with all the fingers and both thumbs: and a voice alike imperious, persuasive or pathetic, tremulous with love, or trumpet-toned in warning.

His one word "Listen," as though shot from the dead level of a gun, finds the last man away down behind the 10,000 against the wall and strikes him personally as though whispered in his ear. His "Hear me" catches any hearer in its individual summons as though there was a roll-call in progress to which each must answer.

Always calm . . . . self-poised, intense and direct, he assures you of great reserve power, and a perfect control of the audience. On occasion, when the enthusiasm seemed threatening, he has stayed it absolutely by simply raising his hands.

"God never called me to denounce men" said he, "but," naming a certain sin, "I hate it."

He never wastes a moment or any portion of his ammunition. His one purpose—"The redemption of mens' lives from sin"—stands first, last and always in the foreground of all he does or says.

Results are the true measure of such work, and it is safe to say that those following this work in Victoria, cover the entire area of the State, include all classes, denominations, ages, sexes, occupations and conditions, and that the individual, home, society, and the State itself, are all better, truer, stronger, and better equipped to meet life.

It is not too much to say that he, who had been met with cynicism, incredulity, and sneers on the part of the General Public, and anxiety, doubt, and fear in many christian centres, within two brief weeks, won his way to all hearts by revealing a sweet reasonableness, a patient tactfulness, and a consecrated holiness, directing every energy of soul, mind and body in tireless devotion to the Master's cause and the need of men, until everybody loved him, and recognized him as a great workman of God's, until University men said "His logic is clean and true."

Agnostics and Rationalists said—"His work is unique in that it leaves no vulnerable place to attack," and Sectarians said—"He attacks nobody and a attracts everybody."

Three Bishops of the church of England, representing the whole state in their denomination, honoured him by an elegant banquet, an incident unparalled as far as this part of the World is concerned.

Studying him closely at the end of all this, the writer never detected one moment of egoism, pride or excitement. He said, however deeply his heart was touched, he recognized all of this graceful courtesy as a tribute to His Master's cause, his Master Himself.

The thousands that thronged the Railway Station at his departure, and literally prayed and sang him out of town, could not have done more to honour Royalty than love did to honour him.

(The writer of the above article is a lawyer who had a brilliant career in New Zealand and Australia as a teacher of an Ethical System based on Christian Science, Socialism, and Christianity. Finding no peace for himself in this propaganda he abandoned the whole system, and left an immense following to the delusions he had foisted upon them. Five years ago he accepted Christ as his Saviour, and during the Chapman—Alexander mission in Australia, he made a public statement of his changed views.)

BASEBALL AT YOKOHAMA.

WASEDA COMFORTABLY BEAT Y.C. & A.C. BY 15 TO 2.

The Y.C. & A.C. and Waseda University match on Saturday afternoon last attracted a large crowd of baseball enthusiasts to the Recreation Ground. A keenly fought game ensued, though the Waseda boys overran their opponents with apparent ease. Up to the last inning they were ahead by 9 to 2, when they managed to obtain a further 6 Nicolle and Correa got the runs for the local team, who will have to show better style than they did if they want to maintain even their present status for long.

Details:—

SCORES.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Tl.
Waseda	2	1	2	2	0	0	1	1	6	=15
Y.C. & A.C. ...	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	c	= 2

The teams:—

Y.C. & A.C.	POSITION.	WASEDA.
Nicolle.....	P.	.....Masuda.
Walker	C.	.....Yamawaki.
Da Costa	1B	.....Hida.
Tomeya	2B	.....Hara.
Correa.....	3B	.....Iseda.
Benedict.....	SS	.....Nonomura
Kellog.....	L.F.	.....Omura.
Dickie	C.F.	.....Ogawa.
McChesney.....	R F.	.....Oi.

Mr. D. H. Blake officiated as umpire.

A KOREAN INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION.

About ten Korean officers, who were placed on the reserve list in consequence of the abolition of the War Department, says the *Seoul Press*, have lately been promoting a scheme to organise an industrial association under the name Taihan Kongop Hoi (Great Korean Industrial Association). Their proposal having been approved of by many of their friends and former comrades, they held a few days ago the inauguration meeting at the training ground inside the East Gate. There were present over one hundred Koreans. Major Chyong In whan acted as chairman for the occasion and delivered an address, in which he set forth the need of such an organisation in this country. Major Pak Munpyong then read a prospectus, and the regulations of the association consisting of twenty-three articles were discussed and adopted. Finally a number of officials were elected. In this connection we may mention that a despatch from here to Tokyo papers a few days ago states that those Korean officers are dissatisfied because, whereas at their dismissal they received no monetary allowance, this has been granted to the officers of the War Department on the recent abolition of the office. The dissatisfied officers have now begun to agitate for equal treatment with the latter, and have formed the society for the furtherance of their purpose. We hope that the report is groundless and that the aim of the association is really, as it professes to be, the development of industry in this country.

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YOKOHAMA.

The German steamer *Derfflinger* which was temporarily stranded on her voyage to Japan recently arrived here safely on the 11th instant, after having undergone repairs at Hongkong.

The British cruiser *Bedford* and the German cruiser *Arcona*, which arrived here on the 11th and 12th instant respectively, are expected to leave for San Francisco within a week to attend the Open Port Jubilee there.

The Russian steamer *Kotik* arrived here from Petropavlosk on the 13th instant. She has on board seven tons of the skin of seals and other marine animals.

An Italian Mr. E. Bartesaghi who stays in the Phœnix Hotel of this city, is visiting various quarters on inspection of commercial education.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended September 9th are as follows :—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	4	11	—	—	—
Died	—	—	4	—	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	6	35	1	—	—
Died	—	3	1	—	—	—

A clerk of the Yokohama Post Office named Kaneko Katsutaro, is believed to have absconded since the 28th ultimo, with a value-marked letter containing 300 *yen*.

At about 11 o'clock on Tuesday night last, a fire broke out in the second-storey of a three-storied Japanese hotel at Hanasaki-cho, Itchome. As it occurred before the dead of night, the neighbours and the fire brigades ran up to the spot immediately and managed to put out the fire, before the whole building was in a blaze. No casualties are reported.

On the occasion of the Hanasaki-cho fire on the 14th instant, the marines belonging to the British cruiser *Bedford* gave such assistance as enabled the fire-brigade to extinguish the flames before it became serious. A policeman and a fireman were injured. The damage is estimated at about 2,500 *yen*.

It has been decided at a meeting of the member's of the Municipal Council of this city that the rate of income tax fixed this year by the Yokohama Taxation Office being too high as compared with Tokyo and Kobe, a committee will be elected to remonstrate with the Head of the Taxation Office with respect to the unreasonableness of his decision. In the meantime, re-investigation will be requested by all the tax-payers to the inquiry committee.

It is reported that among the infringers of election law, who have undergone a preliminary examination at the Yokohama Local Court, are included 11 members of the House of Representatives, 22 members of village assemblies, 1 member of the Municipal Council, 2 village headmen, 3 village headmen's assistants and 1 revenue officer.

"THE OVERLAND MONTHLY."

A NUMBER DEVOTED TO JAPAN.

The Overland Monthly, a magazine published in San Francisco, will devote the entire space of its Christmas edition to Japan.

This is one of the oldest magazines in America and the most reputable on the Pacific Coast. According to the Directories the Overland Monthly has a normal circulation of 70,000 monthly, but the Manager of the magazine, Mr. C. E. Ferguson, who is at present in Japan making arrangements for the publication, announces that the Company will print 300,000 copies of the Overland Monthly Christmas Number.

It is interesting to note that one of the first proprietors of the Overland Monthly and Editor, was Bret Harte, the famous author and humourist; Mark Twain was also for many years a contributor to this magazine.

It is now published by a strong Company, having a large plant in San Francisco. A number of the best known writers on Japanese subjects have consented to contribute articles to this magazine, and there is reason to believe that it will be a Number illustrative of Japan, and valuable, because of the information given by men of high authority, both Japanese and foreign, in its pages.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A MAN who is suspected of having killed Mr. Suzuki, at Masampho, was arrested in Chiba prefecture on the 14th instant.

THE Toyo Kisen Kaisha's steamer *Kiyo Maru* (9320 tons) which has been built at Nagasaki, will be launched on the 3rd proximo.

ON September 15, a man attempted to approach the carriage of the Crown Prince at Gifu Station to make a direct appeal to his Highness. He was arrested.

THE training ship *Chitose*, which has been on an ocean navigation voyage since the beginning of April last, safely returned to Yokosuka on the 12th instant.

IT is causally reported that some change of constitution will be effected in the British squadrons in the Far East. The commander of each squadron will probably be a rear-admiral.

ON the 13th instant, the Emperor sent a telegram to the U. S. President, thanking him for his kind reception of Prince and Princess Kuni. On the 15th, a cordial telegraphic reply was received.

ACCORDING to a Yamaguchi despatch, a number of speculators on rice exchange have recently been arrested in Yamaguchi, Hagi and several other districts. Further enquiries are still progressing.

A CORRESPONDENT writes that a fairly strong earthquake which lasted about 4 secs., was felt over Karuizawa on Sunday night 12th inst., at 7.50 p.m. The average temperature now is 59° with wet weather.

A NAGASAKI telegram reports that the Russian governor of the Vladivostock Prison, who is said to have embezzled official money and fled to Nagasaki, has been arrested after negotiations between Japan and Russia.

THE Foreign Department has notified the governors of Kanagawa, Hiogo and Nagasaki prefectures that all emigrants, without exception, going to the United States of America shall have to pass ocular test examinations.

IT is likely to be published in a few days that Baron Takahira, just returned from America, being relieved of his portfolio, Mr. Uchida, Ambassador-resident in Austria, will be appointed the Ambassador to Washington.

A MOSAMPHO telegram reports that the dead body of Mr. Sudzuki, Supervisor of the Fishery Union of Chiba Prefecture, was discovered on the 12th instant. It is suspected that he may have been killed about three days before the discovery.

ON September 8, the vicinity of the Ikao hot-spring, Gumma prefecture, was visited by a gale. The Monokiki Bridge was carried down the stream for a distance of a few yards. The banks of the stream were damaged at various points.

A SENDAI telegram reports that on account of a large accumulation of coarse manufactured *Habutae* in Yokohama and many foreign markets, the dealers of the line in that prefecture have suffered a panic. Most of them have suspended their business.

HITHERTO all the Japanese buildings displayed in foreign exhibitions have been those representing temples and shrines. The Forestry Bureau, however is contemplating the exhibition of a purely Japanese-styled parlour in the forthcoming London Exhibition, and has ordered Mr. Oshima Yeishu to design such a building. According to his plan, the building will be of the time of the Tokugawa Shogunate.

ON the 12th instant, a goods train ran over a heap of stones in the compound of Shinjuku Station, when it had to avoid a passenger train coming from Shinagawa. The engine was so much damaged that the service of the Yamate line was interrupted for about an hour.

ON September 10, a heavy thunder-storm visited Morioka. Many buildings were struck by lightning, among which a house was partially destroyed by fire, and one girl was killed and two other inmates were injured. The electric light company stopped the transmission of electricity.

A TAKATA (Echigo) telegram reports that, on September 11, a passenger train ran on a wrong line in the compound of Kuroi Station, and collided with a goods train there. Six passengers and three men in charge were more or less severely injured. The damage is estimated at 700 *yen*.

EARLY in the morning of September 14, an electric-car belonging to the Keihin Electric Railway Company, collided with and broke an electric pole in the compound of Kanagawa Station, when it was being taken to the platform. Fortunately there was no passenger in it at the time.

ON the 11th instant, a goods train coming from Numadzu accidentally stopped at Namamugi, near Kanagawa, owing to some obstruction in the engine. In consequence, all the trains which arrived there after the accident, from both the east and the west, were delayed for about two hours.

ON the 11th inst., the electric-cars in the streets of Tokyo remained standing for over three hours at various sections. This occurred in the time when many people were on their way to office, and much inconvenience was felt by many people. There was some obstruction in the Iida-machi electric-power house.

ON the 8th instant, a young woman who is supposed to have belonged to a well to-do family, threw herself in front of a train coming from Osaka, when it was about to enter Shinagawa Station. According to a letter found on her, she had made up her mind to commit suicide on account of suffering from eye-affection.

IT is reported that on the 8th instant, a fracas took place between Japanese and Korean workmen who were engaged in entrenchment work in the compound of the Ujigawa Electric Company, Yamashiro. As a result, four Japanese and one Korean were more or less severely injured. It is said that the strife originated in a quarrel between a Japanese and a Korean, the latter of whom was prevented by others from being taken into custody by a policemen.

AN Osaka telegram received by the *Asahi* says that in connection with the financial readjustment of the Nitto Kaisha, Mr. Kaneko, Manager of Messrs. Suzuki Shoten of Kobe, has said that he would rather prefer the issue of preferential shares than to have the debts of the company to be redeemed by yearly instalment. According to his opinion, the issue of preferential shares will make the basis of the company firmer and by this means, an enemy can be tamed to become a supporter.

ACCORDING to the *Asahi*, the Canadian Government having exchanged several times communications with the Home Government in connection with the qualification of Mr. Preston as a commercial agent, the latter has accepted the request of the former. It has been decided that in future a commercial agent of Canada shall be appointed and despatched to foreign countries, after the British and the Canadian Governments have consulted upon the latter. The British Ambassadors and Ministers resident in foreign countries shall officially notify the Governments of foreign countries where they reside as to the

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above, and are responsible to make clear she qualification of a commercial agent. In the meantime, the British Ambassadors and Ministers shall not interfere with the commercial agent. It is *en passant* reported that Mr. Preston will be appointed Consul of Germany, Belgium, Denmark and Holland.

THE marriage of Miss Takeko Otani, younger sister of Count Otani, to Baron Yoshimune Kujo, younger brother of Prince Kujo, was celebrated according to purely Japanese rites on the 15th instant at the residence of Prince Kujo. The middleman, Viscount Sugi, and many relations of both the families, attended the ceremony. Afterwards all the relations were banqueted at the *Kwazoku-Kwaikwan*, where the formal announcement was made.

EARLY in the morning of the 11th instant, a fire broke out in an unoccupied house at Sakamoto-cho, Nihonbashi-ku, Tokyo. The houses in the place are of rude construction, and four were quickly burnt down and eight more partially destroyed, before the fire was extinguished, about an hour later. A strong south wind helped to spread the flames and the people in the vicinity were in great fear for sometime. The damages are said to be some 7,000 *yen* in all. One fireman was injured.

With reference to the fire in Hyogo on Tuesday last, it is further reported that four godowns belonging to the bamboo factory where the fire originated and a timber-yard of the Inouye Soko were burnt down. The total damage is estimated at some 500,000 *yen*, including the losses sustained by various smaller timber and bamboo dealers. The policy of 20,000 *yen*, issued by the Yokohama Fire Insurance Company, is the only one so far known. One fireman was seriously injured. The fire was extinguished a little past midnight.

AT about seven o'clock on the 11th inst., Mr. A. Buisson of No. 93, and Mr. Josan of No. 80, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, together with a Japanese, when returning from Tomioka in the yacht *Chocho*, were caught in a gale off Honmoku. The Water Police and the Yamate Police, having received the intelligence, hastily went to the rescue on board the steam-launch *Hiryu*. The yachtsmen, however, had managed to swim ashore after bringing their vessel to anchor. The yacht was recovered yesterday morning near the coast, and towed into port.

THE greatest problem of the near future was the adaptation of turbines to tramp steamers, which, says *Engineering*, did by far the greatest part of the carrying trade of the world. The difficulties were enormous, as the speed of the turbine was five or six times too great. It had been amply proved that for such ships the slow-revolution propeller was the best. These vessels took seldom more than 3000 horse-power, and 2000 horse-power would be more usual. With powers of this class a suitable arrangement might, perhaps, be found in having two turbines in the engine-room of 1000 horse-power each, gearing with one large wheel on the propeller-shaft. In this way each set of teeth would only have to transmit about 1000 horse-powers, while already powers of 800-900 horse-power were transmitted by cast- iron gears. With cut gears, small teeth, and all the modern refinements of this kind of transmission, this would not be an impossible arrangement.

AS the result of the recent experimental runs of fast trains between Kyoto and Kobe, says the *Kobe Herald*, it has been ascertained that an expenditure of about *yen* 110,000 for improvement of the track etc., is necessary before a regular express service can be established. Negotiations have consequently been in progress between the Railway Office and the Western Railway Administration Bureau as to the possibility of defraying this expenditure, but as no money is available out of the railway budget for the current year for such a purpose, it has been suggested that the scheme should be postponed to the next fiscal year. As however, it is known that the Kyoto-Osaka Electric Tramway will open traffic in February next, the Bureau is most anxious to put its project into execution before that date. It is therefore endeavouring to find a means of raising about *yen* 80,000 for the more urgent improvements, and it is thought probable that this course will be adopted. If not, the Railway Office is determined to carry out the scheme during the next financial year, so that it may be regarded as certain that a fast service will be started at no distant date.

A FEW days ago, about 200 fishermen of Odawara went out on a tunny fishing expedition off Suruga and Totomi provinces. They met with a gale on their way home, and were driven near the coast of Miho, Suruga. Here, unfortunately, they were attacked by a larger body of fishermen of that village, who mistook them for pirates and compelled them to surrender a part of their catch. A few days later, another group of Odawara fishermen were deprived of a part of their catch near Tagonoura by the fishermen of Shizuoka prefecture. Complications between the Kanagawa and the Shizuoka prefectural authorities are anticipated.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

JAPAN AND TURKEY CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT.

London, September 9.

The *Daily Telegraph* correspondent at Constantinople says that the negotiations for the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan have been concluded. Japan has waived the demand for capitulations to be extended to the Japanese.

KAISER IS GUEST OF FRANZ JOSEF.

The Kaiser is attending the Austrian Army manœuvres at Moravia as the guest of the Emperor Franz Josef.

LORD ROSEBERY WILL MOVE BUDGET'S REJECTION.

The *Standard* declares that Lord Rosebery will move the rejection of the Budget in the Lords.

RUSSIAN NAVAL EXPANSION.

Later.

The Russian Admiralty is preparing a further programme of shipbuilding in addition to the four Dreadnoughts already laid down.

PORT OF LONDON DUES.

It is officially explained that the schedule of maximum dues for the Port of London is simply a rough draft. No definite decision has been arrived at.

KITCHENER'S FAREWELL.

INDIAN ARMY UNAFFECTED BY SEDITION.

Lord Kitchener in a farewell order to the Indian Army praises the excellent work done and emphasizes the fact that the Army is quite unaffected by the recent attempts to undermine its loyalty.

A BUDGET AMENDMENT.

London, September 10.

Mr. Lloyd George has given notice of an amendment to the Budget enabling payment to the State of succession duties, in respect of real property, wholly or partially in land or houses.

DEATH OF MR. HARRIMAN.

Later.

Mr. Harriman, the American railway magnate, is dead. The knowledge that he was sinking produced a severe depression on the New York Exchange.

THE EX-SHAH.

Reuter telegraphs from Teheran that the ex-Shah has left for Russia.

COOK *VS.* PEARY.

Dr. Cook starts for New York to-day.

The rapidity of Peary's final dash for the Pole, covering 34 miles on the last day and averaging 30 miles a day, has created a revulsion of feeling in favour of the credibility of Dr. Cook's account.

LORD ROSEBERY VOICES PEERS' OBJECTION.

Lord Rosebery at a great meeting of business men in Glasgow described the Budget as a revolution which would put future Britain in the melting-pot, and said that in the best interests of the nation it should not become law.

THE ANHUI MINE RIGHTS.

SIR J. LISTER-KAYE WRITES TO THE "TIMES."

September 11.

Sir John Lister-Kaye, writing to the *Times*, complains of China's breach of faith regarding the Anhui mines and says that he hopes His Majesty's government, in considering any other compromise, will not allow the question of British rights to be made a matter of discussion, but will maintain the strong attitude adopted by Sir John Jordan and insist on the payment of a fair price in the event of a compulsory sale of property.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S MESSAGE TO JAPANESE EMPEROR.

President Taft has sent, through Prince Kuni, a personal message of good-will to the Emperor.

SOCIALISM THE END OF ALL THINGS.

LORD ROSEBERY'S POWERFUL OPPOSITION TO THE BUDGET.

London, September 11.

Lord Rosebery has declared that the Budget will result in an immediate increase of the unemployed, owing to the deflection of capital. No property is now safe, and the country's financial position is the gravest since 1832. The government is at the parting of the ways and moving along the path of Socialism. He considered Tariff Reform as an evil, but Socialism would be the end of all things.

The comments of the Press on Lord Rosebery's speech are of the most varied nature. The *Standard*, the *Daily Mail* and the *Daily Telegraph* say that the speech makes the rejection of the Budget by the Lords a certainty.

The Liberals consider the situation to be unchanged.

The *Daily News* says that Lord Rosebery has definitely joined the Conservatives.

LORD ROSEBERY LEAVING THE LIBERALS?

RESIGNS PRESIDENCY OF THE LIBERAL LEAGUE.

London, September 12.

Lord Rosebery resigned the Presidency of the Liberal League before making his speech at Glasgow.

THE KAISER IS INCLUDED IN CZECHIAN BOYCOTT.

In connection with the attendance of the Kaiser at the Austrian Army manœuvres at Moravia the Czech population is boycotting the manœuvre area and the Czech press is bitterly attacking the Kaiser's anti-Polish policy.

ATTEMPT ON THE LIFE OF THE KAISER.

The train conveying the Kaiser from the Austrian Army manœuvres was held up for some time by a detonator which had been placed on the metals, it is supposed, by mischievous individuals.

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PEARY SENDS OFFICIAL CABLES.

THAT HE HAS TAKEN POSSESSION OF POLAR REGIONS.

Commander Peary has cabled the Navy and State Departments notifying them officially that he has hoisted the Stars and Stripes at the North Pole, and that he has taken possession of the entire region in the name of the President of the United States.

THE KAISER AND PEACE.

London, September 13.

Karlsruhe.—The Emperor has ordered a cessation of the manœuvres. Replying to an address he said that the German army constituted a rock of bronze whereon peace would be built, and would preserve a place in the world befitting Germany.

NEWS OF PEARY.

The Captain of a Newfoundland steamer has met Peary's ship, the *Roosevelt*, in Battle Harbour, Labrador. The vessel had been roughly handled by the elements, the crew were pitifully thin and weakly, and the whole made a gruesome spectacle showing the arduousness of the expedition.

COOK VS. PEARY.

ANOTHER STRANGE STORY

London, September 13.

DR. HANSEN (? Nansen) has given the Copenhagen journal *Politiken* a remarkable story furnished him by Dr. COOK to the effect that when Dr. Cook returned starving to the depôt of provisions, arms and ammunition he had established at Annatok, he found in possession a man that Peary had placed there, and who for many months had been bartering stores to the Esquimaux.

GENERAL ELECTION LOOMING.

UNIONIST PROSPECTS.

It is stated that the managing agents of the Unionist party anticipate that at least 300 Unionists would be returned at a General Election, were that to take place, as seems probable, in November. This number, they consider, would be sufficient to control the House of Commons against a heterogeneous nominal majority.

THE LIBERAL LEAGUE.

Later.

The Liberal League will probably be disolved.

[This would appear to be the immediate consequence of Lord Rosebery's resignation of the Presidency of the League.—ED. *J.M.*]

ANOTHER ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

Captain Scott will start on another expedition to the South Pole next August.

EXTENSIVE GERMAN MANŒUVRES.

In the German manœuvres 1,200,000 men, 29,100 horses and 540 guns have been engaged. The figures are unprecedented. The participation of military airships fitted with wireless telegraphy was a feature of the proceedings.

AVIATION AT BRESCIA.

At an aviation meeting held at Brescia, the American Curtiss won the Grand Prix of £1,200 for flying 50 kilometres in 49 min. 24 secs. Curtiss and Rongier were inundated with offers of engagements, the prices rivalling those paid to Caruso.

U.S.A.'S PRECAUTIONS IN THE PACIFIC.

London, September 14.

The contract has been signed at Washington for the construction of a large drydock at Hawaii.

FELLOW-POLAR EXPLORERS WERE SENT BACK!

The crew of the S. S. *Roosevelt* report that Commander Peary reached the Pole accompanied only by one Esquimau. The other members of the party were sent back as the expedition neared the Pole.

THE CROPS IN ENGLAND.

SPLENDID PROSPECTS RUINED BY WET WEATHER.

London, September 14.

While the prospects of a bountiful world-harvest remain unchanged, the prolonged wet weather has ruined the splendid agricultural prospects in England. Grave anxiety now prevails, as the crops are still to a large extent uncut.

GERMAN AIRSHIP'S MISHAPS.

The first day's work of the military airship at the German manœuvres resolved itself into a series of mishaps. The airship was eventually caught in a tree and captured in the evening.

A NEW MILITARY WEAPON.

Numerous British and foreign military notables were present at Faversham to witness the tests of the so-called rifle grenade, which can be fixed by affixing a simple apparatus to any rifle. General Willcocks was much impressed by its possibilities for Indian frontier warfare. Spain has ordered a large number of the new weapons for use at Melilla.

SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD'S RETURN.

London, September 15.

Sir Claude MacDonald has left London for Tokyo. He will travel via Siberia.

"I AM THE ONLY MAN WHO EVER REACHED THE POLE."

COMMANDER PEARY'S DECLARATION.

Commander Peary, interviewed at Battle Harbour, declared: "I am the only man who ever reached the Pole. I am prepared to prove it. I have concrete proof that Dr. Cook never reached the Pole. I intend to wait for Dr. Cook to issue a statement, and will then make public information whereon scientific bodies may pass judgment.

MUTILATION PREFERRED TO DEATH.

UNIQUE EXCUSE FOR CRUELTY TO PRISONERS ADVANCED BY MOROCCAN SULTAN.

In an interesting interview with the Sultan of Morocco at Fez, the foreign consuls formally presented a protest against the treatment of prisoners by the Sultan. The latter replied that his action had really been dictated by the spirit of mercy. His prisoners preferred mutilation to death. Moreover the Moroccans were not really a civilized people, and he was obliged to use methods unusual in Europe. However, he hoped that similar circumstances would not arise again. He was not desirous of repeating the punishment.

ANOTHER AERIAL FEAT.

M. SANTOS-DUMONT IS SUCCESSFUL, AND GENEROUS.

September 16.

M. Santos-Dumont, with the smallest and cheapest aeroplane in existence, made a cross-country flight at Steyr in Upper Austria, covering five miles in five minutes. The speed is a record. In order to encourage aviation he is making the public a present of his patent rights.

LORD TWEEDMOUTH SINKING.

Lord Tweedmouth, who has long been ill, is sinking.

[Lord Tweedmouth's state of health had previously compelled him to resign his position as Lord President of the Council.—ED. *J.M.*]

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

THE JAPANESE BUSINESS MEN.

After consultation with the Committee, the Japanese Business-men have decided to stay for 10 days in New York. Thus their other engagements will be deferred for a week each, and they will not leave San Francisco until Nov. 30th, by the *Chiyo Maru*.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE "TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

EXPLORATION GIVES PLACE TO CONTROVERSY.

London, September 9.

New York.—A letter from Commander Peary, written before he sailed in 1908, is published in the *Times*. It accuses Cook of appropriating the services of Esquimaux trained by Peary and says that Cook's going north secretly with a view to forestalling him (Peary) is an action of which an honourable man would not have been guilty.

A PASSENGER AEROPLANE.

Aldershot.—Col. Cody has made four flights in his aeroplane, carrying passengers.

EXIT THE SHAH.

Teheran.—Mahommed Ali has left for Europe, accompanied by his Queen and four children.

ROSEBERY'S ANTI-BUDGET SPEECH.

London, September 11.

Lord Rosebery's anti-Budget speech has created extraordinary tension. The situation is calculated to convert the long continued discontent of the Liberal ranks into open revolt should the ministry maintain its uncompromising attitude. This attitude is expected to have a powerful influence on the electorate, which is gradually realizing the effects of the proposals. It is noted, however, that Lord Rosebery does not offer to lead the dissenting Liberals.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE SLIGHTLY COMPROMISES.

Mr. Lloyd George has agreed to modify the budget stamp duties in deference to the wishes of the leaders on the Stock exchange.

THE NORTH POLE CLAIMS.

THE MOST COLOSSAL FAKE AMERICA HAS EVER PRODUCED.

Opinion is strongly against Cook. Osborn, of the Arctic Club of America, however, offers to produce affidavits stamping the whole affair as the most colossal fake the country has ever produced. He accuses Peary of opening Cook's trunk and reading the rival explorer's observation's, and of opening his letters and M.S.S. and re-sealing them.

A DESPATCH FROM PEARY.

London, September 13.

The *New York Herald* publishes a despatch from Peary, sent in August, stating that Cook told Whitney at Etah that he had found new land in the North, but none beyond that reached by Peary in 1906. He made no mention of having reached the Pole.

ANOTHER ANTARCTIC EXPEDITION.

The Times announces that Captain Scott, of the *Discovery*, is preparing a Antarctic expedition to start next August. A second base will be established in King Edward VII. Land, 400 miles east of McMurdo Sound. Ponies, dogs and motors will constitute the means of transport.

RUSSIAN PRESS SUSPICIOUS.

St. Petersburg.—The press, referring to the treaty between China and Japan, suggest that the latter will probably fortify the mouth of the Tumen River, menacing Vladivostock. Diplomatic circles are anxious lest the understanding between China and Japan should conceal designs against Russia. M. Iswolsky will communicate with the Japanese Government immediately.

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JAPANESE BONDS ALL RIGHT ON CHANGE.

London, September 14.

The Stock Exchange is experiencing a steady purchase of Nagoya and Osaka bonds and of Yokohama scrip.

SIR CLAUD MACDONALD EN ROUTE.

London, September 14.

Sir Claud Macdonald, British Ambassador to Japan, has left for Tokyo. He will travel via Siberia.

ONE ESQUIMAU ACCOMPANIED PEARY.

New York telegrams from Battle Harbour state on the authority of members of the Peary expedition that one Esquimau only accompanied Peary to the Pole. The others returned South.

TAFT TO "STUMP" THE COUNTRY.

London, September 15.

New York.—Taft starts to-day on a journey of 13,000 miles, which is to be devoted to speech-making and unfolding his programme of legislation. This is expected to deal mainly with the conservation of natural resources, currency reform, and amendment of the anti-trust laws.

SANTOS-DUMONT.

Paris.—Santos-Dumont in his aeroplane has made a flight of 8 kilometres in 12 minutes at Steyr.

RUSSIAN GOLD IMPORTS.

St. Petersburg.—Recent Russian imports of gold exceed £3,000,000. This is due to the favourable condition of trade, which is likely to be increased by the harvest.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

GERMANY.

Berlin, September 9.

The Kaiser has arrived at Meseritzsch to attend the Austrian Imperial manœuvres and has been received with great enthusiasm by the populace. After the manœuvres are finished he will go to Château Rominten (East Prussia) for his usual autumn shoot.

A company with a capital of three million marks has been founded at Frankfurt a/M., by which regular airship communication between the larger German cities will be instituted.

RUSSIA.

A big naval review is being held at Sebastopol on Sept. 10th in the presence of the Tsar and the Tsaritsa, after which Their Majesties will go to the Crimea for the benefit of the health of the Tsaritsa, who is suffering from kidney trouble.

HOLLAND.

The Dutch Budget for Netherlands India for 1910 has a deficit of 24 million Fl., which has arisen owing to extraordinary expenses for commercial and economical affairs and for railway construction. The ordinary expenses are fully covered by the ordinary receipts.

UNITED STATES.

Berlin, September 10.

President Taft, speaking on the occasion of the conclusion of the International Sailing Regatta, toasted the Kaiser, emphasizing the friendly relations between Germany and America.

Mr. Harriman, the great American railway magnate, is dead. In spite of general anticipation this event has not had any influence upon the tone of the Exchanges.

GERMANY.

The Kaiser has presented a gift of 10,000 marks to the people of the St. Catharina Valley in Mexico, who suffered so much by the last inundations.

Mr. Churchill, the President of the British Board of Trade, who has been invited by the Kaiser to participate in the German Imperial Manœuvres to be held in Wuertemberg, has arrived at Stuttgart.

The Japanese Embassy at Berlin has sent a communication to the German Press, stating that the character of the new Convention between Japan and China was quite peaceful.

Mr. Orville Wright, now staying at Berlin, carries out daily successful flights with his aeroplane amid the great enthusiasm of the populace.

AUSTRIA.

Berlin, September 11.

The Kaiser, after having attended the Imperial Austrian manœuvres in Bohemia, has been given a most cordial send off by Emperor Francis Joseph, both monarchs expressing the wish of meeting again in the near future. To a Swiss Staff Officer, who attended the manœuvres, the Kaiser has expressed the wish to take part in the Swiss manœuvres.

HOLLAND.

The Nord-Deutsche Lloyd's East Asia steamers are not calling at Rotterdam for the present, owing to the prevalence of cholera at that port.

FRANCE.

The French Budget for 1910 has deficit of 200 million francs.

GERMANY.

The Kaiser, speaking at Karlsruhe (Baden), where he stayed after the Imperial manœuvres in Bohemia were finished, said that the best guarantee of the preservation of peace was the martial spirit of a people. The Grand Duke of Baden has been nominated Field Marshal of the Army by the Kaiser.

ITALY.

The Vatican has expressed a wish to have a permanent diplomatic representative in London.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Berlin, September 12.

Siberian mails, with dates up to August 27th *ex* Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on September 12th.

GERMANY.

Berlin, September 13.

Prince Heinrich of Prussia and Count Zeppelin have become President and Vice-President of the Committee for exploration of the Arctic by means of an airship and for the scientific elaboration of the results of the explorations.

UNITED STATES.

Mr. Knox, the American Secretary of State, has sent a circular letter to all commercial and industrial circles in the United States, demanding a full and selected participation in the American Exposition, to be opened at Berlin next year.

GREECE.

Berlin, September 14.

M. Theotokis, the Greek Minister for War, has resigned his post.

FRANCE.

The French aviator, M. Santos Dumont, has covered 8 kilometers in 5 minutes with his monoplane, thus making a record.

UNITED STATES.

Mr. Castles, the President of the Union Trust at New York, his committed suicide.

GERMANY.

Berlin, September 16.

The Kaiser, in criticising the manœuvres, expressed himself as especially satisfied with the conduct of the Bavarian troops. The Austrian successor to the Throne, who took part in the manœuvres, was everywhere received with great enthusiasm.

PRINCE BUELOW TO RETIRE.

Ex-Chancellor Prince Buelow has refused to accept any mandate to the Reichstag. He wishes to enjoy a retirement from the political arena.

SPAIN.

A new movement is preparing in Spain as a protest against the withdrawal of the Constitution. The Press is expressing itself in very strong terms against the censure, laid upon it as to Melilla, but without success until now.

MOROCCO.

The French troops have beaten the rebellious tribes in Mauretania.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Imperial Council will introduce to the Duma a new law, providing for the construction of a second railway line round Lake Baikal, circling it to the North. Both Chambers of the Duma are in favour of the proposal.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

THE BUSINESS MEN IN TACOMA.

Tacoma, September 8.

The citizens here held a splendid banquet this evening in honour of the Japanese business men. Mr. Doi, representing the six Japanese Chambers of Commerce, addressed the meeting, and Mr. Nakahashi, President of the Shosen Kaisha, expressed thanks for the sincere reception of the citizens.

CANTONESE DO NOT WANT A BOYCOTT.

Canton, September 9.

The people here are not in much sympathy with the anti-Japanese boycott.

CHOLERA VICTIMS AT SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, September 9.

It is suspected that two foreign gentlemen, one of whom was the superviser of the Pacific Submarine Telegraphic Company, and the other an oculist, and who died to-day, were victims of cholera.

PRINCE TSAI AND ADMIRAL SAH.

Prince Tsai and Admiral Sah arrived here yesterday morning on their way to Canton. A guard of honour met them, and an Imperial salute was fired. The Prince and the Admiral paid a formal visit to the Governmental Office and, in the evening, were banqueted by the leading Chinese residents.

RUMOURS OF RAILWAY CESSIONS IN CHINA.

It is rumoured that the Russian Government has claimed the cession of the Chichipal-Hongchun railway. Another rumour says that the British Minister at Peking has formally requested the cession of the railway between Szechuan and Tibet, which the Wai-wu-pu has declined to agree to.

THE KUNIS LEAVE NEW YORK.

New York, September 10.

Prince and Princess Kuni left here yesterday for Boston. Their Highnesses, accompanied by the Japanese Acting-Ambassador Mr. Matsui, visited President Taft at Beverly, Massachusetts, to-day. His Excellency received them with respectful treatment and conversed about the intimate relations between Japan and America (Mr. Matsui interpreting). Their Highnesses returned to Boston in the afternoon.

HARRIMAN'S FABULOUS FORTUNE.

In consequence of the death of Mr. Harriman great consternation has been displayed on the stock market, Mr. Morgan and other leading members desperately endeavouring

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to prevent bargaining in railway stocks. He controlled 64,000 miles of railway valued at $5,200,000,000, and the shares in his possession numbered 1,563,000, amounting to $217,200,000. His total income was $72,854,000.

COALITION DISCUSSION AT TSINGTSIN.

Tsingtsin, September 11.

The Isshin and the Daikan Associations decided the coalition question at their respective general meetings yesterday. A combined meeting will be held shortly.

PRINCE TSAI AND ADMIRAL SAH.

Shanghai, September 11.

Prince Tsai and Admiral Sah are expected to arrive here on the 13th instant.

MR. FAIRBANKS EN ROUTE FOR MANILA.

Mr. Fairbanks left here this morning for Nagasaki by the steamer *Chikugo Maru*. He is expected to visit Manila.

CHINESE POLITICS.

Peking, September 7.

The *Kokuho's* editorial on the suject of the anti-Japanese boycott has not much influenced the general public. On the other hand, the *Chuo Daido Nippo* commenced in to-day's editorial a criticism on the five articles of the recent treaty, stating that great caution is necessary with respect to the restriction of China's supreme power and the deprivation of her rights.

KIRIN-HOIRYONG RAILWAY.

Shanghai, September 16.

The Viceroy of Manchuria and the Governor of Mukden are in opposition to the concession relating to the Kilin-Hoiryong railway construction. The *Shimbunho* reports that the governor of Kilin and the officials in charge of the Foreign Affairs Bureau in Kilin and Mukden have tendered their resignation.

WIRELESS AT SHANGHAI.

The wireless telegraphic service under the control of the Chinese Government will shortly be opened. The regulations based on the international telegraphic union regulations, have been published. Communications, are limited to ships.

JAPAN'S CONSUL AT SHANGHAI.

The Japanese Consul, Mr. Nagasaki, who will not return here after his contemplated departure, will be the guest of his countrymen at a "send off," this evening, at the Japanese Club. He will be presented with a souvenir. The members of the Chinese Chamber of Commerce entertained a party to luncheon to day in his honour. Mr. Nagataki, on his part, banqueted the leading members of Japanese and Chinese last night.

SALMON IN THE AMUR RIVER.

Harbin, September 12.

The salmon fisheries this year in the Amur River have been on an unprecedented scale. Consequently prices have much declined.

EXPORTATION FROM MANCHURIA.

Mr. Hillkof (?) left for Vladivostock this morning, accompanied by a few experts. He will make arrangements in connection with extensive exportation of the agricultural products of North Manchuria.

THE AMUR RAILWAY SCHEME.

The bill in connection with railway extension on the Amur, 50 Russian miles farther than was first contemplated, has been passed and investigations have been commenced.

THE SINO JAPANESE TREATY.

Peking, September 13.

The Russian Minister here visited the Japanese Minister to-day. The former interpollated the latter about doubtful points in the Sino-Japanese treaty.

THE EAST CHINA RAILWAY.

The negotiations between China and Russia in connection with the administrative question of the East China railway, will probably not be commenced before the Russian delegate's return to his post. He is now at home.

PRINCE TSAI AND ADMIRAL SAH.

Shanghai, September 13.

Prince Tsai and Admiral Sah will arrive here to-morrow.

FOREIGN BANK NOTES IN CHINA.

It is rumoured that the Chinese Government is contemplating the prohibition of the circulation of foreign bank notes.

Three Dutch cruisers are expected to arrive here on the 18th instant. They will proceed to Takow, Kobe and Yokohama, and to Hongkong in the beginning of November.

SPIRIT LICENSING IN HONGKONG.

The Hongkong Government has withdrawn the bill for increasing the license-fee of spirits, in lieu of which a proposal for imposing an import duty on every alcoholic beverage consumed in the colony, has been made. The tariff is the same as that put in operation in the settlement. Many people, however, disapprove the establishment of the Hongkong Customs.

CHOLERA AT CHEMULPO.

Chemulpo, Septemher 13.

Since the 5th instant, cholera has prevailed locally. There have been 71 cases, of which 33 are reported to have died. Two were Japanese, and the rest Koreans.

TIENTSIN L. S. AND THE ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Tientsin, September 14.

The Literary Society here is distributing a manifesto in connection with anti-Japanese boycott. It consists of twelve articles.

CHINA'S CONCESSION TO JAPAN.

Peking, September 14.

The *Daido Nippo* and the *Kokuho* censure the concession of China in connection with the recent negotiations between Japan and China. Various telegrams communicated between the Viceroy of Manchuria and the Wai-wu-pu and those of memorials presented by the Governor of Kilin to the Wai-wu-pu and the Viceroy of Manchuria, have been published in these papers. They are suspected of exaggerating the situation.

CHINNAMPHO AND PYONGYANG STATIONS.

Chinnampho, September 14

The laying of foundation stones for the buildings of Pyongyang and Chinnampho Stations, is expected to be celebrated on the 1st proximo.

A NEW PYONGYANG DAILY.

Phyongyang, September 14.

The first issue of a new daily Pyongyang paper will be published to-morrow.

RUSSIA'S RAILWAY RIGHTS.

Shanghai, September 14.

According to a Peking telegram of the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, the Viceroy of Manchuria has reported that on account of Russia having increased the railway guards between Manchuria and Harbin, the public are so enraged that prices have advanced. The Russian Minister at Peking declares that the guards have been increased on account of the increase of the Chunchuses, and that Russia will claim the cession of the right of railway construction between Vladivostock and Hongchun, and Chichihal and Hongchun.

PRINCE TSAI AND ADMIRAL SAH.

Prince Tsai and Admiral Sah have arrived here. They will leave for Kaochow, to-morrow.

JAPAN'S CONSUL AT SHANGHAI.

The Japanese Consul, Mr. Nagataki, left for home to-day by the steamer *Kasuga Maru*. All the foreign papers commend his ability and regret his departure.

LORD KITCHENER AT HONGKONG.

September 14.

Lord Kitchener is now at Hongkong.

CHINA'S NAVAL COMMISSIONER.

Shanghai, September 15.

Prince Tsai and Admiral Sah have inspected the Chinese volunteers. The colours will shortly be presented. The troops are expected to return to Peking by the end of this month, after visiting Kiangryong, Nangking, Fuhu and Hankow.

CHINESE MAGNATE'S LOYALTY.

A Chinese wealthy merchant named Mr. Chundenchin (?) offered to contribute 200,000 dollars towards the Chinese Naval Revival Fund. Prince Tsai received him in audience and promised to report his loyalty to the Prince Regent. The Governor of Chekiang has also offered a contribution of 1,000,000 dollars.

BABY BORN WITH TERRIBLE ECZEMA

Which Spread Over Body, Head and Limbs—No Rest or Sleep for Mother or Child—Doctor Would Not Let Him be Bathed—Tiny Sufferer Grew Worse Every Day.

FOUND A PERFECT CURE IN CUTICURA

"My little boy was born with his legs and the lower part of his body covered with eczema. I told the doctor about it. He gave me a lotion for it and told me not to wash the little one. I carried out my orders until his head, face and shoulders were covered with the humour. Then I informed the doctor that the lotion was doing no good. He gave me a different lotion and an ointment, but still insisted on saying not to bathe the baby. I used the remedies but he got no better. There was no rest, no sleep for baby or myself and I was worn out. Baby was very thin and seemed to be getting worse every day. I resolved to give the Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment a trial. I am thankful to-day that I did for one set cured him. He is as fat now and sleeps as well as any child of fifteen months and I still use Cuticura Soap for his bath. Mrs. Gauld, Oldboghead, Rothienorman, Aberdeenshire, Scotland, Jan. 15, 1908."

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

SANATIVE

Antiseptic Cleansing Is Best Accomplished by Cuticura.

Women, especially mothers, find Cuticura Soap, Ointment and Pills the purest, sweetest and most effective remedies, for preserving, purifying and beautifying the skin, scalp, hair and hands, for the treatment of inflammatory and ulcerative conditions, as well as for restoring to health, strength and beauty pale, weak, nervous, prematurely faded, run-down women.

Cuticura Remedies are sold throughout the world. A Single Set often Cures. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; South Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U. S. A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

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Original from UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

THE INJURY DONE TO BRITISH INDUSTRIES BY "FREE TRADE."

STIKING ILLUSTRATION FRO M THE STEEL TRADE

A remarkable instance of the manner in which Free Trade is steadily bringing ruin to the great British industries is provided in the annual report of the Ebbw Vale Steel, Iron, and Coal Company, Limited. The company's output of finished steel for the past year was 138,872 tons, showing a decrease on the year of 37,245 tons.

"The blast furnace plant at Ebbw Vale was standing idle for sixteen consecutive weeks, ending September, and they were idle again for the whole of the month of March," stated Mr. Joseph Brailsford, chairman of the company, at the annual meeting of shareholders. "The steel works have on a number of occasions had to go on short time with twelve entire blank weeks.

"The chief and the dominating cause for the unsatisfactory state of things I have described is on account of the largely increased quantity of foreign material which has been imported into this country from abroad during the year, principally from Germany.

GERMAN IMPORTS.

"That brings me to the subject of foreign competition, and before discussing it in any way I should like to say this—I am conscious there may be some gentlemen among the shareholders who hold strong political views upon the general subject of Free Trade. I wish to tell those gentlemen that I have no desire and no intention of hurting their feelings in any way.

"I speak simply as a steel-maker, standing here in my place as chairman of a company which is extensively engaged in the trade; and my remarks will be confined strictly to the steel trade, and more especially to that particular branch of it which is one of the chief products of this company, namely semi-wrought mild steel in the shape of billets and bar.

"During the past year the German export into this country of billets and bars was an exceedingly heavy one. Finding their own market shared some of the general depression, the Germans adopted the simple expedient of exporting heavily into our free English market. By so doing they insured for themselves regularity of employment and economy of working cost, and they at the same time effectually deprived the English maker of both these advantages.

"The Germans made the volume of their own trade very much better, and they made ours very much worse.

"The total British make of billets and bars for the year 1908 was 2,072,000 tons. The amount of the foreign import I give for the two years, so as to enable you to make the comparison. The import of foreign billets and bars into Britain for 1907 was 327,207 tons; for 1908 it was 560,538 tons, showing an increase last year of 233,331 tons, which is an increase of no less than 71 per cent. over the previous year.

ONE FOURTH THE OUTPUT.

"You will observe that the quantity imported from abroad amounted to one-fourth of the entire British make, in addition to which there was the enormous quantity which was exported by Germany into our Colonies and neutral markets.

"Throughout the month of April 1908, while thousands of tons of foreign billets were being dumped on the wharves at Newport, our works were standing idle for want of orders, and what is more, they were on short time for long enough afterwards!

"I say, without fear of contradiction, the English steel maker can produce steel as cheaply and of as good quality as any one in the world, but under our present fiscal system his position is scarcely a happy one. If he competes against the German in his own English home market he has to face a German subsidy of 16s. 6d. per ton. If he wishes to return the compliment and export into Germany, he is met by a tariff wall of 30s. per ton.

"He finds, in addition, that his working cost is enormously increased by the irregular and intermittent working, and he finds the price of his raw material is unduly inflated and kept up owing to the very considerable quantities it is necessary for the German to buy to carry out his export programme. Thus the unfortunate English maker is hit in three places at the same time, and with the same foreign weapon—in his price, in his working cost, and in his raw material."

A MILLION OF CAPITAL IDLE.

It may be added that the subscribed capital of the Ebbw Vale Company is nearly £1,000,000. This enormous sum has practically to lie idle, and men to be out of employment for sixteen weeks at a time, to enable German firms to dump manufactured steel considerably below the cost of production.

HEAT WAVE OVER THE BRITISH ISLES.

CAUSES A RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

During the week ended Aug. 14th a heat wave prevailed over both Atlantic coasts. It appears to have been worst in America; but in Britain it brought the warmest weather for over three months. In may parts of Scotland the temperature has registered over 75 degs. in the shade, while in London, for the first time since May 22, it reached a maximum of fully 80 degs.

An alarming accident, resulting in the death of two railway servants and injuries to several passengers, occurred on the morning of Aug. 11th on the London and North-Western Railway at a place a quarter of a mile on the Mossley side of Friezland Station, close to the Yorkshire border. The train involved was an express which left Huddersfield at 9.20 for Stockport. When the point mentioned was reached, the carriages began to rock in an alarming manner. The theory is that the train, on a curve just beyond a viaduct, ran on to a length of permanent way where the intense heat had buckled the metals. The passengers immediately became aware that something was amiss. After running for a short distance in this fashion the engine left the rails, and, swinging round, fell on its side, dragging the three passenger carriages, which had twenty or thirty occuponts, with it. The engine, which was almost smashed to pieces, was embedded in the permanent way. The first coach dashed into the engine, but somehow maintained its position on its wheels. The passengers in this coach included a funeral party from Cleckheaton, all of whom complained of shock. The other coaches kept their position on the line.

The driver and stoker, who pluckily remained at their post, were found dead, and partially buried beneath the débris. Both bodies were shockingly mangled. The guard was injured about the head, but did his best to assist the passengers, about a dozen of whom were more or less injured, mostly by the shock. The engine was practically reduced to scrap, and considerable damage was done to the permanent way, the rails being twisted and torn up for a distance of about two hundred yards.

A PASSENGER'S NARRATIVE.

Mr. F. W Hirst, of Huddersfield who was a first-class passenger by the train, stated, on arrival at Birmingham, that they were travelling at fifty or sixty miles an hour when the express began to oscillate. Thinking the train was off the line, he lay down on the floor, and to this he attributed his escape, On gaining his liberty he saw the whole of the carriages standing upright, and the engine had turned completely round. On proceeding to the front of the engine a sad sight presented itself. One man was lying on his face, apparently dead, and another lay near with blood flowing from his mouth. They were carried to the bank, where one was found to be dead, and the other soon breathed his last. They had evidently been thrown from the engine, and subsequently run over. The guard, though bleeding from the head, rushed to the signal box to prevent the possibility of a further accident.

SEVERAL PEOPLE SUCCUMB.

Two deaths from the heat have occured in Nottingham district, the victims being John Clark, a Corporation employee, who fell dead while working on a haystack, and an ex engine driver, named Thomas Duncan Garrett, who expired in the street at Mansfield while teaching his brother-in-law to cycle.

At Birmingham on Aug. 10th a cushion and mattress maker named James Osborne, aged between fifty and sixty, suddenly collapsed while making a purchase in a Corporation Street shop and died almost immediately. Death is attributed to the intense heat.

EFFECT IN LONDON.

In the ordinary way the week end holiday (writes a London correspondent) might have been expected to end on Monday morning, but it did not. One stream of people certainly returned to town, but another army, equally numerous, made their way jubilantly to the seaside and country, while London itself contained numberless holiday-makers. At the Oval there was a crowd of 30.000 spectators to see Bardsley make his century for the Australians, and a big gathering of people visited the White City; Earl's Court attracted an equal number; and almost every place of public amusement was well patronised, while there was another big concourse on the river.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton market is firm. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is quiet but firm, with prospect of advance. The Woollen business has assumed a better tone.

RAW COTTON.	PER PICUL.
American Middling... ... —	37 00 to 38 00
Egyptian	45.25 to 49.50
Indian Broach...	31.00 to 32.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	30.00 to 30.50
COTTON YARN	**PER BALE.**
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	310 00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed...	420.00 to 460.00
COTTON PIECE GOODS.	
White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.... ...	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43¼-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints— 24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches ...	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere...	0.80 to 0.90
WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.	
Flannels... ... ...Y	0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30 32 inches Common to Medium..	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0 36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4 25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0 70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin— No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Basis business is practically non-existent, and the market as a whole remains dull.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel. Bar, flat, round at square ... ...Y	3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4 30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated..	10.70 to 11.00
d. Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments ...	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 108lbs. I.C.W.	7 00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2 09 to 2.15

KEROSENE

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester ... ...Y	3.85 to 3 97
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3 39 to 3 54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

No transactions have been done in imported sugars.

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		PER PICUL.
Brown Manila		Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China		—
Brown Java		9.90 to 10.50
White Java		14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)		15.50 to 18.90
„ (Hongkong)		14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y. 240.00
„ second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
„ second	280.00
Madras, first	—
„ second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

The market seems to be a little more active with some enquiries. For known brands several small lots have been booked for sixty and ninety days shipment. Home prices have shown a distinct decline.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	10.70
Flag	„	11.00
Royal	„	11.00
Trophy	„	11.00
Red Seal	4 sacks	11.00
Lion	„	11.30
Portland	„	11.20
Premier	„	11.00
Japanese :—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 „	2.78
Fuji	6 „	2.85
Pine	6 „	2.90

WHEAT.

Prices have dropped materially, but there is still some difference between sellers and buyers. A good many enquiries are stated to be out for prompt shipment but no actual business has as yet been reported.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15
Red „ „ „	5.10
Blue Stem	5.30

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. All quotations are weak.

On September 16th stocks were: filatures 19,301 bales Re-reels, 4,691 bales; Kakeda, 965 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	Y. 1,050
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	980
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	980
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	900
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	—
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	960
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	865
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	—
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	860
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	900
Re-reels—No. 1½	870
Re-reels—No. 2	840
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	915
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	865
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	845
Kakedas—No. 2	830

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

September	Present delivery.	September delivery.	October delivery.	October delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
10th	874	866	—	876
11th	872	858	864	872
12th	—	—	—	—
13th	874	859	867	874
14th	866	856	863	869
15th	867	853	860	868
16th	859	842	850	859

WASTE SILK.

The business done so far is not large, but the market is very firm with an upward tendency.

On September 16th stocks were: Noshi, 10,308 bales, Kibiso, 10,118 bales; and Sundry, 669 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	— to —
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	125 to 130
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	115 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	105 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	— to —
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

The market is quiet for Fukui and Kanazawa goods, whilst there is a fair demand for Kawamata, and prices, especially for the lighter weights, have advanced.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.50	8.10	7.95	8.20	8.00
27″	8.35	8.00	8.05	8.10	8.10
36″	8.75	8.30	8.30	8.10	8.00

"GOLD" MARK.

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	7.95	7.85	7.75	7.45
27″	7.95	7.85	7.85	7.60
36″	8.15	8.00	7.80	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.80	10.90	11.80	13.00
36	12.40	14.00	15.70	16.20

COPPER.

London quotations are weaker at the close, and no fresh transactions have transpired here.

According to a London telegram of September 9th, the quotation was £59.1.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

The market is not favourable and the quotation fluctuates. A little transaction has taken place locally.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	901,220
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	193,130
Delivery.	Closing Price.
September	—
October	—
November	12.48

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku.*
Superior	Yen 13.70
Medium	12.70
Common	11.70
Average	12.70

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
August	12.15	August	12.10
September	12.29	September	12.08
October	12.30	October	12.18

TEA.

The quotation has shown a little advance, but the market is still inactive. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to September 16th, the sales amounted to 8,701,800 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 38,700 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	— —
Good Medium	36 — 43
Medium	32 — 36
Good Common	28 — 32
Common	24 — 28

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is inactive. Little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
September	128.60
October	128.00
November	127.25

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Sept. 16

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ higher and China sterling quotations $\frac{1}{16}$ @ $\frac{1}{8}$ higher have caused local rates on China to rule lower accordingly, other rates are unaltered.

London	Bank T.T	2/0 15/16 @ 2/0 31/32
—	Bills on demand	2/0 31/32
—	4 months' sight	2/0¾
—	Private 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8 @ 2/0 15/16
—	6 months' sight	2/0 15/16 @ 2/1
Paris & Lyons	Bank sight	257½
—	Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong	Bank sight per $100	86¼*
—	Private 10 days, sight do	84½*
Shanghai	Bank sight	86¾*
—	Private 10 days' sight	88¼*
India	Bank sight	153¼
—	Private 40 days' sight	153¾
America	Bank sight	103¾
—	Private 30 days' sight	50 3/4 @ 51 1/4
—	Private 4 months' sight	51 @ 51 1/8
Germany	Bank sight	208½
—	Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver	London	23 13/16

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
Tacoma	B. L	Oceano	F. Sept. 17
Europe	N. D. L	P. E. Friedrich	Sa Sept. 18
Europe	M. M	Oceanien 1	Tu. Sept. 21
America	P. M	China	Tu Sept. 21
Hongkong	P. & A	Henrik Ibsen 2	W. Sept. 22
Hongkong	P. M	Korea	W Sept. 22
Hongkong	C. P. R	Monteagle	Tu Sept. 28
Hongkong	N.Y.K	Shinano Maru 3	Tu. Sept. 28
Vancouver	C. P. R	Em. of Japan	W Sept. 29
Seattle	N.Y.K	Iyo Maru	F. Sept. 30
America	T. K. K	Chiyo Maru 4	Sa. Oct. 2
Hongkong	T. K. K	Nippon Maru	Tu Oct. 5
Hongkong	B. L	Suveric	Tu Oct. 5
Hongkong	O S S	Tacoma Maru	F. Oct. 15

1 Left Hongkong on the 13th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 7th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 14th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 14th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	B. L	Oceano	F. Sept. 17
Australia	N. Y. K	Kumano Maru	Sa Sept. 18
Europe	M. M	Polynesien	Sa Sept. 18
Tacoma	B. & S	Keemun	Su Sept. 19
Shanghai	N. Y. K	Chikugo Maru	Su Sept. 19
Hongkong	N.Y.K	Aki Maru	M Sept. 20
Hongkong	P. M	China	W. Sept. 22
America	P. M	Korea	Th Sept. 23
Portland	P. & A	Henrik Ibsen	Th. Sept. 23
Europe	N. D. L	P. E. Friedrich	Sa Sept. 25
Vancouver	C. P. R	Monteagle	Tu Sept. 28
Seattle	N. Y. K	Shinano Maru	W Sept. 29
Europe	N Y. K	Kanagawa M.	W Sept. 29
Hongkong	C. P. R	Em. of Japan	W. Sept. 29
Hongkong	T. K. K	Chiyo Maru	Su. Oct. 3
America	T. K. K	Nippon Maru	W. Oct. 6
Tacoma	B. L	Suveric	W Oct. 6
Tacoma	O. S. S	Tacoma Maru	Sa. Oct. 16
America	C. R	A'ral Duperré	W. Oct. 20

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Ogawa, 9th Sept..—Keelung via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miyazaki Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,270, Wm. Bainbridge, 9th Sept.,—Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 10th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 10th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tydeus, British steamer, 4,800, D. P. Campbell, 10th Sept.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Seattle Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,832, T. Saito, 10th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co. (O.S.K. American line)

Bedford, British cruiser, 9,800, Capt. Fitzhubert, 11th Sept.,—Wei-hai-wei

Ambria, German steamer, 3,288, Deinat, 11th Sept.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Glenstrae, British steamer, 3,054, J. McGillivary, 11th Sept.,—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Bullmouth, British tank steamer, 2,607, Powell, 11th Sept.,—Palembang via Kobe, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,460, Hinokuma, 11th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Derfflinger, German steamer, 5,241, E. Zachariae, 11th Sept.,—Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Arcona, German cruiser, 2,700, Fregattenkapitaen von Hippel, 12th Sept.,—Tsingtao.

Benvenue, British steamer, 2,505, R. Kroble, 12th Sept.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Flintshire, British steamer, 2,476, G. C. Cundy, 12th Sept.,—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, W. Davison, 13th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 684, Martin Bitte, 13th Sept.,—Petropavlovsk, General.—Smith Baker & Co.

Taikosan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,944, Yogima, 13th Sept.,—Java, General.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 13th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Earnest Bent, 14th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

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Japan, British steamer, 3,806, Olifant, 14th Sept.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.
Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,820, T. Murai, 15th Sept.,—Antwerp London and via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Nile, British steamer, 4,197, E. P. Martin, 16th Sept.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Atholl, British steamer, 3,031, Ch. D. Kemp, 16th Sept.,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

DEPARTURES.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 10th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.
Seattle Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,832, T. Saito, 11th Sept.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., (Osaka Shosen Kaisha America Line).
Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 12th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, Ogawa, 12th Sept.,—Takao via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Glenstrae, British steamer, 3,054, J. McGillivary, 14th Sept.,—Vladivostock, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.
Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, W. Davison, 14th Sept.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Palma, British steamer, 4,913, Cockman, 14th Sept.,—Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Derfflinger, German steamer, 5,241, E. Zachariar, 15th Sept.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.
Ambria, German steamer, 3,288, Deinat, 15th Sept.,—Marseilles, Antwerp and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.
Hitachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,163, N. Matheson, 15th Sept.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Ernest Bent, 15th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
America Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,460, Hinokuma, 15th Sept.,—Valparaiso via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irizawa, 16th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Benvenue, British steamer, 2,505, R. Kroble, 16th Sept.,—Mi ke.—Cornes & Co
Flintshire, British steamer, 2,476, G. C. Cundy, 16th Sept.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.
Suruga, British steamer, 2,727, Chubb, 16th Sept.,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.
Japan, British steamer, 3,806, Olifant, 16th Sept.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Siberia* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. L. C. Atkinson, Mr. M. E. Brown, Mrs. M. E. Brown, Miss V. D Carlsen, Mrs. H. E. Cole, Dr. O. Cloos, Miss M. Cloos, Miss A. M. Fyock, Mr. E. Gilles, F. A. Gillies, Mr. N. Igarashi, Rev. J. I. Jones, Mrs. J. I. Jones and infant, Mr. H. L. Jones, Mr. H. Tsurushima, Mrs. Tsurushima, Miss Tsurushima, Miss E. C. Klemm, Mr. J. E. Moss, Mrs. J. E. Moss, Mr. H. R. Spencer, Miss M. M. Stevens, Dr. F. O. Wolf, Mr. T. Miyakawa, Mr. C. H. Hayes, Mr. W. B. Cole, Mr. T. D. Gamewell, Mrs. T. D, Gamewell, Mr. H. M. Lorber, Mrs. H. M. Lorber, Miss J. E. Hutchinson, Mrs. C. H. McKinstry, Mrs. H. M. Bull, Miss E. Bull, Mr. A. L. Bull, Mr. G B. Ellis, Mrs. G. B. Ellis, F. T. Furnald, Mr. A. R. Hargreaves, Mrs. A. Harnby, Miss I M. Harnby, Rev. H. Natsch, Mr. W. E. Peck, Miss E. M. Peck, Mr. H. L. Pim, Miss F. W. Sibley and Mr. F. Hagen. For Kobe:—Rev. J. Y. Crothers, Miss K. A. Gibbons, Miss M. Jameson, Rev. C. N. Weems, Mrs. C. N. Weems, Mr. D. Weems, Master C. Weems, Rev. E. R. Winn and Mrs. Winn. For Nagasaki:—Miss A W. Cheshire, Miss E. T. Cheshire, Miss A. F. Gates, Miss I. N. Porter, Mrs. F. Jensch, Rev. B. H. Paddock, Mrs. B. H. Paddock, Miss C. E. Park, Miss E. C. Piper, Miss M. Pyle and Miss E. R. Soong. For Manila:—Mrs. L. S. Adams, Master L. S. Adams, Mr. H. L. Baleh, Miss K. T. Black, Mrs. C. Black, Lieut. O. F. Cooper, U.S.N., Mr. F. H. Exeter, Mr. A. G. Escamilla, Mr. H. E. Guyer, Miss E. King, Major C. H. McKinstry, U.S.A., Hon. Pablo Ocampo, Judge J. S. Powell, Mr. O. N. Powell, Mr. A. Seale, Mrs. Seale, Mr. L. Smith, Mr. R. J. Strang, Mr. H. E. S. Thomas and Mrs. H. E. S. Thomas. For Hongkong:—Mr. A. A. Biegen, Gen. R. G. Broadwood, Mr. J. H. Britton, Rev. J. C. Butcher, Mrs. J. C. Butcher, Miss E. Butcher, Miss F. Butcher, Mr. W. G. Hartrauft, Capt. R. C. Heathcote. Mr. J. Keemans, Miss M. Landrum, Miss F. E. Leprieto, Miss A. Meebold, Miss H. Montogomery, Rev. F. Neeld, Dr. J. J. Noll, Mrs. J. J. Noll, Miss R. Oldrayd, Miss A. C. Reaume, Dr. E. T. Tappey and Mrs. E. T. Tappey in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* from Hongkong via ports:—Miss A. Chapman, Rev. and Mrs. Asher, Miss Breckinridge, Mr. H. R. Kinnear, Mr. V. Dent and 1 servant, Mr. W. A. Bradley, Mr. P. Fraser, Dr. Hreet, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Hall, Miss Hall and Mr. Nazaki. For Vancouver B.C.:—Lieut. Bramble, R.M.L.I., Mr. Ng Cho Wah, Mr. Wu Shung, Mr. Ng Cho Chee, Mr. Ng Cho San, Mr. P. Nagel, Lieut. A. Creery, R.A., Miss Jean Adams, Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Clark, Mr. H. C. Henry, Mrs. O. Diehl, Mr. O R. Diehl and Mr. J. W. Sharpen in cabin; 45 in Asiatic second class; 359 in Asiatic steerage.

Per Japanese steamer *Tenyo Maru* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. A. H. Brooks, Mr. E. O. Child, Mr. Robert I. Fearon and Mr. F. P. Vaughan. For San Francisco:—Mr. W. E. Lichman, The Hon. W. T. Whiteley, Mr. L. H Moore, Mrs. L. H. Moore, Mr. W. K. Blessing, Miss Laura Johnson, Mr. C. C. Osborne, Mrs. C. C. Osborne, Mr. E. K. Howe, Mr. P. H. Heintzleman, Mr. R Koidzumi, Mr. J Grainger and Mr. J. Cuthbert in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, for Hongkong, via ports:—Lieut. F. W Bugbie, Mrs. Bugbie and child, Mr R. Bale, Miss Ellis, Capt. P. M. Shaffer, Mr. W. C Robenstine, Miss Bangs, Mrs. and Miss Greig, Mr. Bullard, Mrs McCallum and 2 children, Mr H. P Wilkinson, Mr. F. West, Mr. J. Holland, Mrs W. Bullard and son, Mrs. Bullard's maid, Mr. J. R. Michall, Mrs. Bradley and 2 children, Miss Bradley, Mr. Mounce and Mrs. Mounce, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* for Vancouver, B.C.:—Miss Jean Adams, Lieut. Bramble, R.M.L.I., Mr. T. A. Clark, Mrs Clark, Mr. E. P. Clapham, Mrs. A. M. M. Coke, Miss Coke, Lieut. Creery, R.A., Mr. O. Diehl, Mr O R. Diehl, Mr. H. O. Henry, Dr. Ing. Theo. Koerner, Major R. H. F. McCulloch, Mr. C. P. Mounit, Mrs. Mounit, Mr. P. Nagel, Mr. Ng Cho Wah, Mr. Ng Cho Chu, Mr. Ng Cho San, Mr. Jno. Sharpen, Mr. Frank West Mr. W. P. Wilson and Mr. Wu Sheung in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tenyo Maru*, for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. W. H. Avery, Mr. W. K. Blessing, Mrs. G. A. Caswell, Miss E. M. Cram, Mr J. Guthbert, Mrs. C. K. Dunlap, Miss Sydney Dunlap, Mr. James Grainger, Mr. P. H. Heintzleman, Mr. E. K. Howe, Mr W. B. Hull, Mr. M. Ikeda, Mr. K. Iwakami, Miss L. Johnson, Mr. M. Kawahara, Mr. R. Koidzumi, Mr. W. E. Lishman, Mr. V, P. Meehan, Mr. L. H. Moore, Mrs. L. H. Moore, Mr. K. Nakahama, Mr. W. H. Nafey, Mrs. W. H. Nafey, Mr. T. Niinomi, Mr. J. F. Oglevee, Mrs. J. F. Oglevee, Mr. C. C. Osborne, Mrs. C. C. Osborne, Mr. H. Prudhomme, Mrs H. Prudhomme and infant, Miss Nora Prudhomme, Master Hector Prudhomme, Miss K. Scott, Mr. A. H. Seaver, Mrs. R. M. Simson, Mr. S. Sugimoto, Mr. Torikata, Hon. W. T. Whiteley, Dr. U. Yamamura and Mr. H. A. Ensworth in cabin.

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to H.M. THE KING.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, SEPT. 25TH, 1909.

DEATHS.

SULZER-ZIEGLER.—At Winterthur (Switzerland) Mrs. A. SULZER ZIEGLER, beloved mother of Mr. R. Sulzer of Yokohama. (by cable).

SETH WARD.—On the 20th instant, at five o'clock, Bishop SETH WARD, D.D. of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, of America.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

DYSENTERY is prevalent in Odawara, Sagami province. About 50 persons are at present suffering from the epidemic.

THE London *Charivari* draws attention to the fact that two valuable statuettes, relics of Pompeii, have been stolen from the bronze room in the National Museum at Naples. This is possibly an exaggeration. They may merely have been taken as mementos by American admirers.

ON September 21, an official of the Yodobashi Clearing Office lost 500 *yen* out of 2,917 *yen* which he had received the cash-delivery office of the Tokyo Municipality.

A NAGANO despatch reports that the celebration of full harvest is being held in different districts of Nagano prefecture. Fancy fire-works are displayed on these occasions.

WE are informed by the Yokohama Police Authorities that of late many stray dogs have been found about the streets, without either collar or muzzle. Owners are warned against this.

IT is reported that on the occasion of the forthcoming celebration in San Francisco, various kinds of fireworks will be displayed. A few days ago, a large order was given to the Kagiya of Tokyo.

THE U.S. Consul at Hakodate, Mr. L. J. King, had his gold watch and chain stolen by a thief, when lodging in a Japanese hotel at Iro-machi, Otaru. The stolen articles are valued at about 500 *yen*.

ON the night of the 13th instant, a burglar broke into the Siamese Legation at Shirokane-Shida-cho, Shiba-ku, Tokyo, and got away with a gold watch and many other valuable articles belonging to the Siamese Minister.

THE Home Secretary's order that Borstal Prison shall henceforth be known as Borstal Institution has greatly encouraged those persons, says *Punch*, who are desirous that Holloway shall be converted into a comfortable Ladies' Club.

ON September 22, the celebration of the establishment of the Tokyo Higher Commercial School was held at the Lecture-Hall. Principal Sawayanagi delivered a complimentary address, which was followed by congratulatory speeches from Count Okuma, Dr. Nitobe, Principal of the First High School and Dr. Miyake (Setsurei). Various entertainments were held.

ACCORDING to an official statistical table, 61,058 cases of divorce happened in Japan during the year 1907, showing a decrease of 4,340 as compared with 1906. A larger number of the cases have occurred in Niigata, Tokyo, Shizuoka, Aichi, Hiroshima, Fukuoka and Hyogo, whilst in Nara Miyazaki, Okinawa and Yamanashi, the number is comparatively small.

IT is declared that Baron Uchida, Ambassador-resident in Austria, is to succeed Baron Takahira who has just returned from America. Mr Secretary Abe, who is on his way home from China, is to be transferred to the Embassy in London; Mr. Nagataki from the Consulate-General of Shanghai, to that of Chientao which is shortly to be established, and Mr. Secretary Matsuoka, of the Peking Legation is to be appointed Acting Consul-General at Shanghai.

IN their first annual report the committee of the Anti Suffrage League congratulate the League on having so far achieved its object by giving a distinct check to the women suffrage movement. The response which the League elicited, they state, was no spasmodic outburst of indignation at the excesses of the fighting suffragists, but the continued support they received indicated a steady determination to organize resistance to the claim of the suffragist women who for so many years had asserted that they represented the best and most advanced opinion of the women of England. "There is every indication that the English public is getting bored with the suffragettes, and is absolutely uninterested in the suffragists." The League possesses 9,000 members.

AN unexpected result of the heat wave which visited the British Isles in the early part of August is reported from Bideford, North Devon. The great heat has brought a number of sharks into the Bay. One about 5ft. in length ascended the Torridge and was caught in a net above the Bridge Pool. Two others were captured by fishermen in salmon nets lower down the river.

A MOJI message says that up to the present the N.Y.K. has used pilots for the passage through the Inland Sea on the steamers of its European, American, and Australian services. As, however, the Japanese Captains who have now replaced foreigners on board most of these vessels do not require piloting in the Inland Sea, pilots will not henceforth be employed. The Company has also given up the use of pilots between Woosung and Shanghai.

IT is seldom that a death has to be recorded as having arisen out of a game of cricket. On the 9th ult., an inquest was held at Hull on the body of Mr. G. H. Cockcroft, a district bank manager and an enthusiastic cricketer. He was batting in a match on the previous Saturday when he was struck near the heart with the ball, and, after making four runs, was taken ill and died. A verdict of death from fatty degeneration of the heart, accelerated by a blow from a cricket ball, was returned.

AN Osaka telegram received by the *Asahi* states that the Vehicle Trust has at last come into existence with the assistance of Marquis Inouye. The Railway Car Manufacturing Company, the Kawasaki Shipbuilding Yard and the Japan Vehicle Company have combined to establish the Trust, and Mr. Hiraoka, Managing Director of the Railway Car Manufacturing Company, has assumed the post of Chief Manager. The business will be started with the repairing of 200 engines of the South Manchuria Railway Company, which are properly distributed among these three companies.

THE most remarkable "stonewalling" feat accomplished during the "No Confidence" debate in the House of Representatives, Melbourne, was the speech, lasting 9 hours and 40 minutes, made by Mr. Webster, a New South Wales Labour Member. Mr. Webster absorbed the whole of two days' sittings. He began on the morning of July 9 and concluded on the 20th at 10 10 p.m., the usual Friday afternoon to Tuesday afternoon adjournment intervening. His speech has cost the country hundreds of pounds, for he spoke over 700,000 words, and the record of his utterance would fill fifty newspaper columns.

ON the night of the 17th instant, a passenger train just left Omori, was running towards Shinagawa, when a conductor discovered one of the second-class carriages quite unoccupied, whilst a few drops of blood stained the floor. On tracing the blood-stains, it was found that somebody had jumped on to the railroad from the door of the carriage and at last a mutilated body was discovered close by the railroad. It was identified as that of Mr. Toyozumi Hidendo, a nephew of Baron Takagi Kanehiro. It is reported that Mr. Toyozumi returned from Germany a few days ago after having completed his medical studies in different parts of Germany, France and England. The cause of his suicide is as yet unknown.

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THE BOYCOTT.

Friday, September 17.

On the 15th instant the *Kwoh-pao* and the *Tatung Ji-pao* were both suspended by order of the Peking Government. We alluded in a previous issue to the action taken by these journals in giving publicity to telegrams said to have been sent by the Governor of Kilin to the various Viceroys, prior to the negotiations which led to the new Agreement. It is for publishing these telegrams and for adding incendiary articles that the two journals have been suspended. There are only three vernacular newspapers in Peking, the above two and the *Peking Ji-pao* (*Peking Daily News*).

The writings of the above two journals do not seem to have produced much effect in Peking, but in Tientsin a boycott is already in full swing. All sorts of devices are resorted to to excite the people—circulars, posters, handbills, post-cards and anonymous letters. Success has been achieved to a considerable extent, and it is said that Japanese trade in that city has diminished by fully one-half.

As for Mukden, several different circulars are said to have been scattered broadcast there, all coming from South China or from Japan. In fact, it would seem that the Chinese students in Japan and the Autonomic Association in Canton are chiefly responsible for all the trouble. Nevertheless it is stated that in Tientsin there are several officials among the agitators. The respectable merchants in Mukden, however, are said to regard the notion of a boycott with disapproval, and the Chamber of Commerce in that city is concerting measures to avert the catastrophe.

At Tiehling things threatened for a moment to enter an evil phase. On the 13th inst. there reached that city from Yingkow some members of a secret association who had banded themselves together for the purpose of inciting a Japanese boycott. They preached their doctrine vehemently in Tiehling, urging not only that Japanese merchandise should be tabooed, but also that no employment of any kind should be accepted from Japanese subjects. Things looked very threatening for a moment, but owing to the skilful steps taken by Mr. Consul Murayama the commotion was subdued, and business returned to its normal channels.

It will be seen from the above that the only place where a boycott has been really put into operation is Tientsin, and our readers will probably agree with us in suspecting that there is a special local reason for this, namely, that the Chinese merchants of Tientsin are only too glad to find a pretext for indefinitely postponing all further negotiations for the repayment of their heavy debt to the Japanese resident merchants. The telegrams received by Tokyo newspapers indicate that the unquiet spirits in South China and the Chinese students in Japan are the chief incendiaries, but Tientsin ought probably to be placed in a special category.

The *Asahi Shimbun* takes rather a pessimistic view of the situation. It thinks that if things remained comparatively quiet at the outset, the fact was entirely attributable to the repressive methods adopted by the Peking Government. So soon as the official hand was withdrawn, the trouble declared itself. The Japanese Government, according to our Tokyo contemporary, rely implicitly on the good faith of China's statesmen to restrain their nation from any course injurious to international relations, but the *Asahi* is not so hopeful. It evidently apprehends that the originally happy results of the new Agreement may be endangered by the intemperance of the Chinese people.

Saturday, September 18.

Rumours about the boycott reach Tokyo daily. With regard to Mukden it is stated that, in spite of vehement circulars addressed to tradesmen in that place by Chinese students in Japan, the local merchants appreciate the injury they would themselves suffer from a boycott, and they accordingly refrain from any such foolishness. The *Manchuria Daily News*, a vernacular newspaper, witnessing this apparent indifference, is reported to have published a vehement article reminding its countrymen of the great effect produced by the anti-American boycott some years ago, and asking them why they are slumbering in the face of a much more serious injury suffered by their country at the hands of Japan.

At Kilin it appears that the Chinese Chamber of Commerce passed a resolution in favour of a boycott, but in consequence of strenuous representations from the Japanese Consul, the Governor obliged the Chamber to cancel this resolution.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a somewhat pessimistic paragraph on this subject. It says that the Japanese Government having urged the Peking Authorities to make known to the people the untimeliness and impropriety of a boycott, communications in that sense have been despatched from Peking to the various provincial centres; and, as a general rule, the Viceroys and Governors are exerting themselves to avert anything untoward. Exceptions to this rule, however, are noted in the case of Viceroy Yuan at Canton, and Viceroy Hsi at Mukden. The demeanour of these two satraps is anything but friendly towards Japan, and thus, in spite of the efforts of Mr. Consul-General Koike, dangerous embers of disturbance are smouldering in Manchuria. It is patent that the leaders of the anti-Japanese movement are Chinese students, who in consequence of the summer holidays find leisure for their mischievous work.

Sunday, September 19.

On the 15th inst. a public meeting was held in Kilin, and is said to have been attended by about 2,000 persons, but whether they were merchants or coolies we do not learn. They passed a resolution declaring a boycott of Japanese goods, and they took steps to communicate the fact to the surrounding districts.

There is no further news on this important subject at present, but we observe that the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* has an able article dealing with the matter. It sets out by doubting whether the Chinese students in Japan have really taken the incendiary course attributed to them, or whether their names have not been forged by other agitators. Whatever be the truth as to that, our Tokyo contemporary warns the Chinese that they are acting like the proverbial imbecile who spat at the sky. A boycott may have a temporary effect in checking trade, but the subsequent reaction more than redresses the balance. The Chinese people are the first in the world who have ever imported this weapon into international relations, and they will find it not only ineffectual, but also suicidal.

In our (*Japan Mail*) opinion, however, the folks by whom the boycott is engineered in China are not influenced by reason at all: they are simply victims of prejudice. It is of no use therefore appealing to their judgment or discrimination. The only effective resource is to hold the Central Government responsible for conduct which is undoubtedly in violation of the Empire's treaties. There is a plain conflict of fact and theory when the people of a country which has pledged itself to freely permit the pursuit of foreign commerce within its borders are suffered to organise themselves for the restraint and destruction of that commerce. It comes to this, that either the boycott must be stopped, or the Chinese Government must stand convicted of inability to discharge its treaty relations.

Monday, September 20.

The Chinese authorities are not hesitating to check the publication of incendiary articles. They have suspended a Chinese paper issued in Kilin and another issued in Yingkow. These journals are said to have written in a most inflammatory strain, attacking Japan and urging the advisability of a boycott.

With regard to the boycott in Tientsin, the *Asahi Shimbun* has a telegram from that city saying that the Japanese stores have begun to suffer, but that the Viceroy, at the instance of the Japanese Consul, has ordered the police to strictly prevent the circulation of inflammatory documents, and to instruct the people as to the mischievous and inexpedient results of any attempt to organise a boycott.

From Antung also comes news in the sense that a secret meeting of public men has been held there, and has arrived at the decision to oppose not only the reconstruction of the Antung-Mukden line, but also the building of a bridge over the river Yalu. No steps have yet been taken, apparently, to give effect to this decision, nor do we anticipate that any will be taken, for it is evident that the future prosperity of Antung depends largely upon the reconstruction of the railway and the building of the bridge.

It must be admitted that the Chinese are pretty busy at present wielding the boycott weapon. They have not by any means completely abandoned the anti Japanese boycott in connexion with the *Tatsu Maru*, and now they are commencing another similar movement in connexion with the Antung-Mukden Railway. Meanwhile they have a boycott in full swing at Canton against the Portuguese, and another at Kukiang against the English. When the *Tatsu Maru* boycott was inaugurated, and when it received a measure of approval from some of our English local contemporaries, we ventured to point out that to allow the Chinese to wield such a weapon against one nationality might ultimately be found highly inconvenient to all. Our prediction has been verified much too quickly. The fact is that if things be left to travel in their present groove, commercial intercourse between China and foreign countries must soon become practically impossible. It is most unfortunate for Japan that she should stand in the forefront of this commotion, but she must face the position boldly, and discharge its duties unhesitatingly. Western nations will soon recognise that she is fighting their battle as well as her own.

Tuesday, September 21.

There is no telegraphic news this morning as to the progress of the boycott, but the *Jiji Shimpo* quotes some interesting views attributed to an anonymous official. He says that the potentiality of the Autonomic Association at Canton is for the moment very great, owing to the fact that the new Viceroy has not yet had time to fully grasp the reins. The Association may therefore succeed in creating temporary trouble, but Canton is so remote from Manchuria and the two have so little in common that the Cantonese are not

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likely to lend themselves with any zeal to the purposes of a boycott. In Manchuria, however, this official seems to see genuine cause for uneasiness. He considers that the Mukden Viceroy and Governor Cheng of Kilin are radically opposed to the new Agreement, and if they are not secretly fomenting the boycott, they are certainly doing nothing to suppress it. It is plain that unless these officials exert themselves, the boycott may flame out into a fierce conflagration, and something of the kind is evidently apprehended by the *Jiji's* informant. It is to be sincerely hoped that this diagnosis is incorrect, for if the Viceroy and the Governor ignore the instructions of the Central Government while pretending to observe them, an exceedingly difficult situation may be created.

Wednesday, September 22.

It seems that a very violent circular has been issued in Yingkow under the auspices of a body of men calling themselves "The Popular Association of the Three Eastern Provinces." The circular sets out by accusing Japan of every conceivable international offence. It says that she is a law unto herself in China; that she began by appropriating several smaller islands belonging to the Middle Kingdom, and that she then proceeded to swallow up Formosa and Liaotung; that she insults the Chinese people; that without consulting China she proceeded to construct a railway from Mukden to Antung; that for the purposes of this work she devastated arable lands and requisitioned labour from house to house; that any reluctance on the part of the inhabitants called forth blows and even death; that women are insulted and men terrorized; that no form of violence is neglected by the Japanese in their treatment of the Chinese people; that Manchuria has been rescued from Russia merely for the purpose of being appropriated by Japan, and that the Chinese people are simply food for the Japanese tiger. The circular goes on to say that unfortunately China is too weak in a military sense to offer any armed resistance to these outrages, but that every patriotic and filial Chinaman will recognise the duty of assisting to vindicate his country's honour as far as in him lies by uniting to boycott Japanese merchandise. Japan is a commercal country and China is her best customer. If then the Chinese abstain from purchasing Japanese merchandise, the result must be ruin for Japan in a few years. By thus acting the Chinese will not only save their country from foreign aggression but will also materially assist the foreign policy of their Government. All students and all persons who value freedom are called upon to propagate the doctrines set forth in the circular and to join in adopting its programme. If they fail to do so, they are threatened with the vengeance of the Association and even with death. No one is to buy any more Japanese goods, and persons who have already bought such goods are to refrain from selling them until Japan shows signs of repentance, when of course the old relations with her may be restored. The document concludes by exhorting everyone into whose hands it falls to make reprints and copies of it and to scatter them broadcast so that the whole of the vast multitude of China's people may be united for the purposes of the boycott. Finally Chinese vehicles and vessels are urged not to transport any Japanese goods.

We owe the news of the above circular to the *Nichi Nichi Shumbun*, which journal also relates that some vehement attempts have been made in Shanghai to start a boycott, but that thus far no success had attended them. The most violent leader in the anti-Japanese campaign is a paper called the *Hsenchow Ji pao*, which, according to our Tokyo contemporary, offered originally to sell its columns to the Japanese Consul, and when its offer was refused, began immediately to advocate a boycott in the bitterest terms.

From Tientsin the news is much the same as that previously received, namely, that a boycott was actually inaugurated, but that it does not seeem likely to attain any considerable dimensions.

From Tiehling, on the contrary, an anti-boycott manifest has been circulated. It says that students have no business to interfere in international politics, and that to boycott Japanese goods would spell ruin for Manchuria, since the South Manchuria Railway might refuse to transport all Chinese merchandise.

The Chinese Government is said to have issued instructions to all the telegraph offices throughout the Empire not to forward any journalistic messages relating to the affairs of Manchuria. This step will exclude the telegraph at any rate from the list of vehicles of propagandism.

Shanghai telegraphs that in view of the prevalence of the belief among various nationalities as to the existence of a secret treaty between China and Japan in addition to the new Agreement, the Japanese Consul has published an emphatic denial.

THE JAPANESE BUSINESS MEN.

On the 19th inst. the Japanese business men were the guests of the Lafayette Club at Minneapolis, where they had the honour of meeting the President, who shook hands with them all round. Baron Shibusawa having spoken a few words of thanks for the kindly welcome given to his colleagues and himself, Mr. Taft is reported to have made a graceful speech. At the outset he alluded to the fact that he himself, like the Japanese visitors, was making a two months' tour through the States, and he could therefore appreciate the troubles they had to encounter. When he was in Japan some years ago he met with a welcome so hearty that it threw into the shade anything done by the American people by way of greeting to Baron Shibusawa and his comrades. He had paid seven or eight visits to Japan and on the third occasion he had been the guest of his Majesty the Emperor, as well as the object of courtesies which he should never forget. He did not doubt that their Japanese visitors were observing everything in America with keen eyes, and he recommended his own countrymen to keep their eyes open. In saying this, however, he did not wish to be understood as advocating anything like selfish and exclusive development. He believed, on the contrary, that the best interests of every civilized Power were promoted by the prosperity of its neighbouring States, and he applied that principle unequivocally to Japan. The great Eastern State was struggling vigorously to promote its commerce and industry and he sincerely wished it the fullest measure of success. On the other hand he warned the Japanese also to be on their guard, for while not claiming any special sharpness for the American people, he did claim that they were determined not to be left behind in the race, and that they also must be expected to progress. Unfortunately there were newspapers which, for the sake of obtaining a wide circle of readers, did not hesitate to write things injurious to international relations. Happily they had ceased to find materials for such mischief-making in the case of Japan and the United States. He confidently believed in the stability of the two countries' friendship and he concluded by eulogising in strong terms the sagacity and benevolence of the Emperor of Japan.

Several of the Tokyo newspapers fill a large space in their columns with telegraphic reproductions of the speeches delivered by President Taft and Baron Shibusawa at the banquet in the Lafayette Club in Minneapolis. With regard to the President's speech, we can not find anything to add to the epitomised report already published in these columns. But Baron Shibusawa's reply is now telegraphed for the first time. He referred to the fact that on the occasion of a previous visit to the States, seven years ago, when he had the honour of being presented to President Roosevelt, the latter had spoken of the Japanese Army and Navy and of Japanese art, but had said nothing whatever about Japanese commerce and industry. The Baron had then conceived a hope that should it be his good fortune to re-visit America at some future date, he would find that in the interval reasons had grown up sufficient to direct American attention to this vital topic. He had therefore listened with great satisfaction to the speech delivered by President Taft that evening. The Japanese had no more earnest desire than to cement in perpetuity their profound friendship for the people of the United States, and to extend the commercial relations between the two countries. They wanted in short to buy more from the Americans and to sell more to them, and they wanted to silence all sounds of discord for ever. The representatives of Japanese trade and industry in whose behalf he spoke that evening, were themselves representatives of the whole Japanese nation, and therefore he could assure his audience that they were listening to the voice of that nation when he assured them that Japan had nothing nearer to her heart than amity with her great neighbour. The Emperor of Japan himself had taken an unprecedented step in order to show his sympathy with the purposes of the mission. His Majesty had invited the speaker and his colleagues to a banquet in the Palace, and through the mouth of the Minister of the Imperial Household had assured them that he entirely approved of their mission and earnestly hoped for its entire success. American citizens might therefore rest assured that their country was regarded with the most friendly possible eyes by everyone in Japan from the Sovereign to the lowest subject. The Baron of course, spoke in warm terms of the hearty welcome he and his colleagues had received in the United States, but we need not reproduce these expressions of courtesy.

The party of Japanese business men reached St. Paul on the morning of the 21st instant. Soon after their arrival, they visited the West Law School, a brewery and other factories, after which they were entertained at the Auditorium, when Mayor Roller and Mr. James J. Hill, President of the Great Northern Railway Company, delivered an addresses of welcome. Barons Shibusawa and Kanda replied. In the afternoon, the party inspected several leather factories and left for Madison in the evening. Although Governor Johnson, of that State, had died that day the citizens received the business men with great enthusiasm. Baron Shibusawa, Messrs. Zumoto and Matsukata and Consul General Mizuno were specially entertained by Mr. Hill.

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KOREA.

Friday, September 17.

We take the following from the *Seoul Press* with the comment that, as experience shows, the Korean insurgents being adepts in the form of changing themselves into the guise of peaceful citizens when occasion demands such a metamorphosis, no implicit reliance can be placed on any account of their condition at a given time :—

During the past few months no marked change has been noticeable in the condition of the insurgents. With the advent of this month, however, a decided improvement in the situation is reported to be observable, their activity having very much subsided throughout Korea. This is especially the case in the two provinces of North and South Chonla, where the insurrection has hitherto been most serious. It is generally peaceful in Kyongki province, though the districts of Tangju, Pochon and Chan tan are occasionally visited by remnants of the bands under Chyong Yangtai and Kang Keuitong. The inhabitants of Whanghai province too are in the enjoyment of peace, no longer being seriously annoyed by the insurgents. A few robbers, however, still appear here and there in the province, but can do no great harm to the inhabitants. In the northern districts of Kangwon province no powerful band of insurgents has been seen since last month, only a band consisting of between thirty and forty fellows led by Kim Sichung being seen once in a while. The insurgents at Pongwha and Sunheung in North Kyongsang province have also greatly dwindled in strength owing to frequent attacks made on them by our soldiers or gendarmes, and their leaders Kim Songtai, Ha Chyongpaik and Keum Hyongtai have disappeared from sight. The state of things in Choongchong province is generally quiet, except in the districts of Tangyang and Choongpoong, which are occasionally visited by a small band. The provinces of Hamkyong and Pyongan continue to be quiet. On the whole the insurrection is now fast becoming a matter of the past, and there is at present no sign that the insurgents will rise in great force again.

Saturday, September 18.

Lieut.-General Baron Nishijima, who, having hitherto been in command of the Sixth Division, which is quartered in northern Korea, has just been placed upon the reserve list, returned to Nagasaki on the 17th inst. and had to undergo the usual newspaper interview. He is quoted as saying that the insurgents are practically quelled in Korea, with the exception of a mere handful in Chhollado who would be more properly described as bandits than as rebels. With regard to the well known insurgent leader, Yi, who has been prowling about in the neighbourhood of the Russian frontier and sometimes making Vladivostock his headquarters, it is stated that the Russian local authorities have instituted a system of personal examination which will make it virtually impossible for turbulent Korean subjects to frequent Russian territory.

Mr. Mikami, Civil Engineer of the Korean Household Department, has arrived at Shimonoseki on a brief visit to Japan. He is reported to have said that, since the Imperial Household's mines were transferred to the Government and thrown open for foreign and Japanese exploitation equally, the number of mining concessions obtained by Japanese subjects has been 600 in all, 300 of which are gold mines. The royalties payable upon these mines amounted last year to 760,000 *yen*, whereas the sum actually paid was only 60,000. Unless the arrears be paid up immediately, which is highly improbable, these concessions will be revoked *de facto*. Indeed, it appears from this expert's accounts that Japanese enterprise in the field of mining can not by any means be called energetic or successful. In the great majority of cases the concessionnaires have no idea of really exploiting the properties assigned to them, their sole purpose being to sell those properties to foreign capitalists at a profit. A very different story is to be told about foreign concessionnaires. They do not fail to go to work in a genuinely practical manner, and they are consequently achieving successes which contrast vividly with the failures made by Japanese. Mr. Mikami adds somewhat naively that he endeavoured to reserve some of the best gold mines in the name of the Korean Household Department with the object of ultimately assigning them to really earnest Japanese capitalists, but Mr. (now Baron) Hayashi, who was then Japanese Representative in Korea, declined to entertain the idea.

Sunday, September 19.

The sum which it was originally proposed that Japan should advance on Korea's account during the 43rd and the 44 fiscal years was 4 million *yen* annually, but this amount should be reduced by 1,400,000 *yen* in consideration of the fact that Japan has taken upon her own shoulders the expenses of the Korean judiciary. Seoul telegrams to the *Asahi Shimbun* say, however, that the Korean Home Department is pressing for the full amount of the loan, the object being to apply the money to road building, in accordance with the programme of the new Resident-General. This would mean, in effect, that Japan, instead of accommodating Korea to the extent of 8 million *yen* within the next two years, would really accommodate her to the extent of 10,800,000. The *Asahi* not unnaturally asks whether the present financial condition of Japan justifies such munificence.

With reference to the new Judiciary in Korea, telegrams to the same journal (*Asahi Shimbun*) state that the reform system is to be put into force from November, instead of being postponed until next spring, as was originally intended. It will be remembered that some time ago complaints were heard of the impossibility of obtaining a sufficient number of Japanese legal experts to form the personnel of the new Korean Judiciary. Apparently this difficulty has not proved prohibitive. Meanwhile we read that the present organization of the judicial system is to be continued.

Monday, September 20.

News from Korea says that the organization of the new courts is proceeding, but there is some difficulty in finding legal experts qualified to sit upon the bench. The Court of Cassation, the three Courts of Appeal and the three Local Courts are already in working order; but in the case of the 120 district courts, which are to take the place of the 40 minor tribunals now in existence, these have not yet had their benches filled by any means. The new system is to be put into operation from next month, and as Japan has to bear the cost, it will be necessary for the Emperor of this country to issue an urgency ordinance authorising the temporary payment of the money required from the reserves.

Our readers are aware that there has been talk of building two new railways in Korea : one in the south from Tajong, a point on the Seoul-Fusan line, to Mokpho; the other from Gensan to Seoul. The Treasury in Tokyo, however, having intimated the impossibility of engaging in the construction of the two lines simultaneously, the question arose which should be chosen, and it is said that the Seoul Gensan road has finally been selected. The southern line would have special uses, since it would facilitate the restoration of peace in the disturbed district of Chhollado. But it appears that the latter province is more tranquil than is supposed. The troops recently despatched thither, under Major-General Watanabe, to conduct a special campaign do not seem to have encountered any serious resistance. Two reports of their doings have been published. One says that on the 1st of September they had an engagement lasting a few hours with a body of insurgents, who were repulsed after killing one Japanese private : another says that they have captured a large number of insurgents in the north of the province. At all events, the record of their campaign up to the present suggests that there is not much for them to do, and in these circumstances the Tajong-Mokpho Railway loses something of its immediate importance. This fact has helped the Residency-General to decide in favour of the Gensan-Seoul route, which is evidently the more important of the two from a commercial point of view.

Meanwhile, work has been vigorously commenced on the Pyongyang-Chinnampho Railway. The latter place lies at the mouth of the Tadong River, and is about 38 miles from Pyongyang. At a point midway between the two places there is an excellent harbour known as Kyomi-pho. It is stated that the railway has been divided into five sections, and that work has been commenced simultaneously on all of them.

Wednesday, September 22.

Cholera seems to have obtained quite a hold in the Korean capital. It will be remembered that some time ago a case was reported to have occurred within the precincts of the Palace, and the Emperor vetoed all audiences in consequence. A telegram dated the 21st inst. says that there were 65 cases on the 20th, and that among them two or three occurred in the staff of the Residency-General, which has accordingly been closed for purposes of thorough disinfection. Court audiences have also been again suspended. Mr. Ono, President of the Ono Bank, who recently proceeded on a visit to Korea accompanied by some of his Ehime fellow-countrymen, was attacked by the fell disease and expired on the 20th inst.

Pyongyang also has fallen within the circle of infection. There have been two cases there, one of which ended fatally.

Viscount Sone is said to be again laid up. The *Asahi Shimbun's* correspondent alleges that his symptoms are very disquieting and that although his physicians persist in denying the existence of cancer, they do not attempt to deny that the malady is serious.

It would appear after all that the public has been entirely misinformed as to the progress of the campaign under Major-General Watanabe against the insurgents in Chholla province. So far from the operations having been futile, they appear to have been, on the contrary, distinctly successful. No serious encounters have taken place, for the reason mainly that no considerable resistance is offered, the insurgents never showing themselves in any strength. But thorough investigations are being conducted as the troops advance. From 30 to 50 persons are apprehended daily, and in the sequel of careful investigation 80 of them have been proved to be unquestionably insurgents. The plan of campaign is to drive the insurgents steadily southward until they find themselves between the troops in their rear, on the one hand, and the marines landed from the gunboats, on the other. The *coup de grâce* will therefore not be delivered until the closing episodes of the programme, but up to the present everything has proceeded satisfactorily. With regard to the

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encounter reported a few days ago as having resulted in the death of a Japanese soldier near Masampho, it is now explained that this soldier was a post-office guard, and that the incident was in no way connected with General Watanabe's movement. There have not been any casualties whatever among his troops since the commencement of the operations. The above information is forwarded by the *Jiji Shimpo's* Seoul correspondent.

Thursday, September 23.

A mysterious telegram reaches the *Kokumin Shimbun* from Seoul to the effect that one of the Court ladies of the ex-Emperor has been arrested, and that on examination she was found to have several accomplices. The telegram says nothing whatever about the nature of the offence, but adds that the affair is likely to have wide ramifications.

It would seem that vigorous efforts have been made at Chemulpo to keep the cholera at arms length and that they have been thus far successful. On the island of Yongchong there were three cases on the 21st inst., but the trouble seems to have stopped there. In Seoul on the contrary the fell disase is evidently gaining ground. About 50 new patients are reported daily. It has been found necessary to close the schools and suspend all public conclaves. Moreover drastic measures of sanitation are being taken. Fortunately the disease did not make its appearance until the eve of the cold weather, so that its ravages will be probably more or less limited. It seems to have exhausted itself at Shin-Wiju.

CHINESE OPINION.

It will be remembered that some time ago two vernacular journals of Peking, namely, the *Kwoh-pao* and the *Tatung Ji-pao*, were suspended for publishing a text of telegrams said to have been despatched from the Viceroy of Manchuria and the Governor of Kilin to the Waiwupu. These telegrams were promptly copied into the columns of a Chinese paper in Shanghai, namely, the *Hsienchow Ji-pao*, and from thence they have been telegraphed to the *Jiji Shimpo*. The first is from Viceroy Hsi to Mr. Na Tung. It was evidently despatched at an early stage of the negotiations, for the Viceroy speaks of conversation between himself and Consul General Koike with regards to the terms which Japan is likely to ask. His Excellency gathers that Japan is disposed to demand the opening of Chientao to foreign trade and residence, and a concession to build a railway from Kilin to Hoiryong, with a branch to Ningtau. The Viceroy says that if such a concession be granted Kilin will be brought within the sphere of Japanese influence, and that the consequences are doubtless fully apparent without any explanation from him. He adds that should this concession be made to Japan, Russia will inevitably follow with similar demands on her own account.

The second of the telegrams is the Waiwupu's answer to the above message from the Viceroy. It says that with regard to the Railway question, the Japanese Representative in Peking had brought up the 3rd Article of the Kilin-Changchun Railway Convention, which provides that in the event of any extension of this line being made, and in the event of China being unable to undertake the work without foreign financial aid, recourse must be had to Japan, and the latter Power must be duly notified before hand. Mr. Iijuin had now proposed that the above extension should be made to Hoiryong, and that the South Manchuria Railway Company should furnish one half of the required capital. The Waiwupu had strongly objected to this proposal, but as Mr. Iijuin intimated that in the event of the objection being maintained, Japan would revert to the position originally taken by her with regard to sovereignty in Chientao, the Waiwupu had deemed it expedient to agree to the proposal. Viceroy Hsi was, however, invited to observe that the Railway was to be built by China and owned by China, Japan's only part in the transaction being to furnish part of the capital.

The third telegram is from Governor Chen of Kilin who sets out by saying that as he served in the position of Warden of the Marches in Chientao, his experience qualifies him to speak and moreover requires that he should not keep silence at this crisis. He says that the adroitness of the Japanese in extending their territorial influence is extraordinary. In this case they began quietly in a small and hitherto neglected corner of Korea, namely, Chyongjin, and having established a port there, they then linked up the place with Hoiryong on the Chientao frontier. Now they proposed to extend this Chyongjin-Hoiryong Railway to Kilin. In Governor Chen's opinion these railway projects constituted most potent factors of aggression, and so far as Japan was concerned, she ought to be amply satisfied if she obtains jurisdiction over the Korean settlers in Chientao, which concession was the utmost that should be made to her. Her real purpose was perfectly apparent. Russia had never abandoned the idea of being revenged on her recent victor. As a step in the programme of vengeance she had converted Vladivostock from a free port into a naval station, and she was daily pouring into the place troops and munitions of war. Japan evidently appreciated the situation, and it was for that reason that she sought a concession to build the Kilin-Hoiryong line, which would place her on the flank of the Russian concentration, and would enable her to mass a big army in Eastern Manchuria at short notice. If this concession were granted to Japan, Russia would inevitably come forward with an even more comprehensive demand on the ground of equal treatment, and thus the renewal of the struggle between the great Northern Power and Japan would be precipitated. Moreover from a domestic point of view Japan's proposal was to be strongly condemned. It had already proved sufficiently difficult to allay the animosity caused among Chinese subjects by the Kilin-Changchun Railway question, and if this very much greater concession of an extension from Kilin to Hoiryong were granted, the excitement among the people might be confidently foreseen.

Our Tokyo comtemporary promises to continue the publication of these interesting telegrams.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The returns of Japan's foreign trade for the 10 days ended the 20th instant are :—

	Yen.
Exports	9,613,000
Imports	11,258,000
Excess of Imports	1,645,000

The figures for the period January 1st to September 20th are :—

	Yen.	Compared with 1908. Yen.
Exports	274,125,000	+15,863,000
Imports	299,198,000	—41,516,000
Excess of Imports	25,073,000	

RUSSIAN RAILWAYS.

Once again Tokyo is in receipt of news about Russian railway activities. The Chinese Representative in St. Petersburg telegraphs to the Waiwupu in the sense that the Russian Government, in consideration of the Sino-Japanese project for a railway from Kilin to Hoiryong, has asked China to agree to a branch of the trans-Asian Railway to Yaonan and also to the building of a line from Irkutsk to Urga. Whether this story is an echo of rumours already contradicted, or whether it is a really credible piece of intelligence we are not in a position to form any opinion, but we should have thought that Russia has quite enough occupation at present doubling her trans-Baikal line and building the new Amur Railway.

In this context we note that, according to telegrams received by the *Jiji Shimpo* from London, some of the St. Petersburg papers are writing in an almost delirious strain about Russo-Japanese relations. The *Novoe Vremya* is as usual conspicuous. It speaks of the mobilization of Chinese troops along the frontier, whatever that may mean; it says that Japanese houses are closed at Vladivostock, that the place is filled with Japanese spies, and that war between Russia and Japan will probably break out next spring. Another Russian newspaper, the name of which we can not identify, is said to be writing in a similar strain.

Probably induced by the above journalistic campaign, Baron Uchida, Japanese Representative in Vienna, has addressed to the *Neue Freie Presse* a letter emphatically denying that there are any causes of conflict between Russia and Japan, and declaring that the relations between the two Powers are on the best possible footing.

PATENTS AND TRADE-MARKS.

Tokyo newspapers state that on the 14th inst. there was signed in Tokyo an agreement between France and Japan with regard to the mutual protection of patents, trademarks and copyright in China and Korea. It will be remembered that the United States of America took the lead in this matter last year, and agreed that jurisdiction in such matters, so far as Korea was concerned, should be entrusted to Japanese tribunals. This last condition seems to have inspired some hesitation on the part of other Powers to follow the example of the United States, but it is understood that negotiations have been in progress for some time between Japan, on the one hand, and England, Germany and France, on the other, so that the compact now arranged with France will probably soon be followed by similar agreements with England and Germany.

It was a mistake to say that in the matter of patents, trademarks and copyright France has concluded with Japan a convention on the same lines as the recent American Convention, so far as concerns consular jurisdiction in Korea. The French Government has apparently declined to divest itself of its extraterritorial privileges in Korea for this purpose. The fact is regarded by Tokyo newspapers as a failure on the part of Japanese diplomacy, but the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* suggests that a private agreement has probably been concluded providing for the abolition of consular jurisdiction in this field so soon as the Korean courts are properly organised.

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CHINA.

Friday, September 17.

A telegram to the *Jiji Shimbun* from Peking says that a new hitch has occurred in the negotiations with regard to the Yeh-Han and Chuan-Han Railways. At one moment recently, it looked as though things would be settled forthwith, but, for some reason not clearly explained by our contemporary's correspondent, the American group have become dissatisfied, and a final settlement is once more postponed. The Germans are said to be pressing most earnestly for an understanding.

Saturday, September 18.

The Viceroy of Manchuria seems to be confronted by a difficult financial situation. By reductions of staff and other economies he has effected a total saving of over a million *yen*, but the fact still remains that against an expenditure of 9,400,000 *yen* the revenue available is only 5,800,000, so that there is a deficit of 3,600,000. How this is to be met no suggestions are offered.

In a short time there will be held in Peking the usual annual examination of students to be despatched to foreign countries. The numbers presenting themselves this year are said to be unusually great. There are 710 applicants for despatch to Europe and America, and 414 for Japan.

A telegram received by the *Asahi Shimbun* says that Mr. Butler Wright, chief treasurer of the Chinese funds of the Yeh-Han Railway, has been arrested on a charge of embezzling trust funds, and has been sent to Canton for trial by the British Consulate.

Tuesday, September 21.

It is stated that the railway from Peking to Changkiakow (Kalgan) is being vigorously pushed on and will be completely opened to traffic within a short time.

Mr. Li Chaku, who recently visited Japan as commissioner to inquire into the constitutional system existing in this country, has submitted his report to the Prince Regent and that he is entirely in favour of China adopting the same system.

Wednesday, September 22.

Telegrams received in Tokyo by the *Asahi Shimbun* speak of the recommendations made by Prince Chun (Jr.) and Admiral Sa with regard to creating a Chinese navy. These two officials recently made a tour of inspection, and they are now reported to have advised, in the sequel of their tour, that the projected navy should be divided into a squadron for inland waters and one for ocean-going purposes; that naval colleges should be established at Chefoo, Nanking, Foochow and Canton; that the Kiangnan Arsenal should be extended and completed and placed under the direct orders of the Navy; and that the chief naval base should be at Hsiangshan-wan. It appears that a visit will by and by be paid by a commission under Prince Chow to Japan and the principal naval States of the West, after which tour of inspection final steps for the creation of a navy will be taken.

Thursday, September 23.

When the Chinese Government organised the first body of Imperial Guards the officers were taken entirely from the Manchu belonging to the Eight Banner Corps. It was then supposed that in spite of the nominal abolition of all distinction between Manchu and Chinese, the Guards Division was to be kept exclusively in the hands of the former. It has now been announced, however, according to an *Asahi* telegram, that, in forming the second section of the Division, men of Chinese extraction will be freely taken as officers, and that this rule will be always observed hereafter.

The same journal's Peking correspondent telegraphs that on the 22nd inst. the memorials presented by Mr. Li in connexion with the system of local autonomy in Japan, the system of the Imperial Household, and the method of issuing Imperial decrees have been published in the *Official Gazette*. The memorial referring to local autonomy is said to show exceptional insight and care. It will be remembered that these memorials, when presented to the Prince Regent, are said to have received his warm approval. Mr. Li, by whom the reports were compiled, served for several years as Chinese Representative in Tokyo, and on being relieved from the duties of that post, was ordered to remain in Japan for the purpose of conducting the above investigations. He is an excellent English and Japanese scholar.

Shanghai sends to Peking one of those telegrams which do not encourage public confidence in the trustworthiness of the Model Settlement's sources of information. It says that Germany, France, and the United States of America consider their countries' interest in Manchuria to be imperilled by the recently concluded conventions between Russia and China and between Japan and China. The Representatives of the above three discontented Powers are alleged to have approached the Waiwupu for the purpose of getting the Convention altered. We presume that the particular Convention referred to in the case of Russia and China is that relating to jurisdiction in the regions traversed by the East China Railway, but the reference in Japan's case is more obscure, for her new Agreement with China does not create for her any additional privileges or powers to which exception can be taken by a foreign country.

FINANCE.

It will have been observed by readers of Marquis Katsura's speech delivered at the Bankers Club on the 16th inst. that his Excellency spoke of adding to the National Debts Redemption Fund for next year any surplus available from the accounts for the 41st fiscal year. In connexion with this subject a great deal of conjecture is indulged in by the Tokyo press. The actual amount of the redemptions in the current year is 40,800,000 *yen*, and if to this be added the interest on that sum, the amount redeemed next year will be 53 millions, in round numbers. To this latter sum the surplus of the 41st year will be added. Some publicists predict that that sum will be 10 million *yen*; others speak of 20 millions, and yet others of 15. It is at any rate generally believed that the redemptions effected will be over 60 million *yen*. It may possibly occur to some of our readers that to pay back with one hand 10 or 15 millions of the national debts, and to borrow with the other some 30 million *yen* for purposes of railway construction and improvement, is a somewhat contradictory policy. But it has to be remembered that the Railway Budget is now on a wholly independent basis, and that the Government is determined to keep it distinct from the general accounts.

It may be mentioned here that the speech of the Prime Minister has elicited various expressions of opinion from leading financiers and business men. Thus Mr. Kushida, of the Mitsu Bishi Bank, is quoted as saying that Marquis Katsura's utterances produced an excellent effect upon the money market, and were probably responsible for the fact that the 5 per cent. State bonds rose to 98 *yen* on the day following the delivery of the speech. It would be a mistake to suppose, however, that these official utterances are likely to cause any violent revival of business enterprise. They will have no influence in that direction. Things will continue to move smoothly in their present groove of gradual development.

Mr. Kato Masayoshi, Vice-President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, is said to have made the very shrewd comment that, however important may be the speedy redemption of the national debts, the adjustment of taxation is more important, from an industrial and commercial point of view, and the nation will anxiously wait to see what steps are taken in that respect.

Mr. Naruse, of the Fifteenth Bank, devotes his remarks mainly to the question of reducing the rate of interest on deposits. He sees no necessity for such a course in the case of banks which are paying only 5 per cent. Those that pay a higher rate than 5 per cent. are differently circumstanced; but, as a matter of fact, to reduce the rate from 5½ to 5 per cent. would produce much more effect than to reduce it from 5 per cent. to 4½. Were it pushed down to 4, however, the case would be different. Mr. Naruse fully agrees with the prediction uttered by the Governor of the Bank of Japan, namely, that the demand for money will grow brisk in October and November. He bases this prediction upon the certainty of plentiful crops in Japan and upon the similar prospect in the United States.

DEATH OF PROFESSOR MITSUKURI KAKICHI.

One of a very celebrated family of scholars has gone to his long account in the person of Professor Mitsukuri Kakichi, who held the Chair of Natural Philosophy in the Imperial University. He died on the 16th instant of suffusion of blood on the brain, at the early age of 52. Excessive application to study was doubtless the cause. Two years ago Mr. Mitsukuri had a similar attack, but he recovered and was soon able to resume his professorial duties. He originally studied foreign science under a physician of the Dutch School, Mr. Ogata Kosai, and he subsequently entered Mr. Fukuzawa's School, the Keio Gijuku, passing thence to the Imperial University. Afterwards he proceeded to America, and studied successively at the Middle School in Connecticut, at Yale, and at the John Hopkins University, where he obtained a scholarship of $250 for proficiency in zoology. Ultimately he entered Cambridge University, in in England, and there became a pupil of Professor Balfour. In 1881, he returned to Japan, and after a year in the Educational Department, he was appointed a teacher in the Imperial University, receiving the degree of *hakase* in 1889. He contributed several essays to the Proceedings of learned institutions, and it is said that some further works of his will be published posthumously. From his father, Mitsukuri Dempo, downwards, the Mitsukuri family has been a nursery of scholars. It numbers no less than seven Professors, among whom are Baron Kikuchi, Mr. Tsuboi and Mr. Mitsukuri Rinsho. The interment took place at Yanaka on the 19th instant, and was very largely attended.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

The public still hears only conflicting opinions about the prospects of the Tokyo Railway. The idea of municipalization has evidently taken strong root in some minds, but other authorities deny it, their ground being that the Central Government has not changed its opinion as to the inadvisability of transferring such an enterprise to municipal management. We imagine that foreign onlookers in general will endorse this view. The really sound course to pursue with regard to the Railway would be to leave it in the hands of the present Company, and to allow the latter to charge a fare such as would warrant the full extension of the system to the suburbs and the provision of better cars.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* repeats the rumour about the Railway Company having concluded a compact with the Kinu-River Syndicate for a supply of hydraulic electric power. Our contemporary adds that the Syndicate is pledged to begin the work of construction within one year, and to be in a position to supply the required power by the end of two years. We give this rumour for what it may be worth, merely remarking that the Syndicate will have to develop extraordinary rapidity of construction in order to satisfy such terms.

The *Kokumin Shimbun*, which has hitherto maintained strict silence with regard to the question of the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway, now comes out with a significant paragraph, in which the opinions of an alleged high official of the Home Department are quoted. This gentleman is made to say that as no definite negotiations had yet taken place between the Municipality and the Company, the time had not come for the Government to express a conclusive opinion. Three points presented themselves, however, for consideration. The first was that, according to its charter, the Tokyo Railway would come into the possession of the City within a fixed number of years, and it was difficult therefore to appreciate why there should be so much anxiety to anticipate the arrival of that period. The second was that the Tokyo Railway must be regarded as an essential element of the citizens' comfort and prosperity, and the Government would have to consider whether that feature of the enterprise would be sufficiently regarded by the Municipality. In the third place, the question arose whether the enterprise would be conducted as skilfully and as economically in the hands of the City as it is in the hands of a private Company. That, however, was an affair of personality. If the City found good men to manage the enterprise, and if a reasonable agreement could be arrived at with the Company, the Government could not refuse its consent.

Our contemporary prints the latter part of the above statement in double leaded type, and coming from such a source with such emphasis, it amounts almost to a semi-official declaration. For our own part we believe that if the trams pass into the hands of the Municipality, the citizens will have reason to regret the transfer. Nevertheless, we can not lose sight of the fact that many influential men think differently, and that any definite solution of this troublesome problem is better than leaving it unsettled. We observe that the *Asahi*, another eminent authority, believes that the problem has now narrowed itself to the possibility of an agreement between the Municipality and the Company. In this context it is to be noted that the Company's shares are now quoted some 20 points higher than they stood at when the negotiations were opened last year Doubtless a considerable part of the rise is due to the expectation of municipalization, and can not therefore be properly taken into account in discussing terms of purchase.

It is stated that a definite proposal for the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway was expected to have been submitted at the Aldermen's Council on the 21st inst. This expectation was not fulfilled, however, and according to the *Yorodzu Choho* the reason was that the price demanded by the Railway Company seemed to the Aldermen to be too high, and accordingly they postponed any definite action so far as the city is concerned until a private understanding could be come to with the Company. We do not by any means vouch for the accuracy of this rumour, nor do we think that things have yet reached the stage for the Municipality and the Company to discuss terms of purchase.

There is nothing new this morning about the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway. Several papers contain notes on the subject but they do not advance our knowledge. Their gist is that although the principle of municipalization is no longer open to dispute, two important points have to be settled. One is the purchase price; the other, the means of procuring funds. With regard to the latter point the city could probably borrow abroad at 4½ per cent. interest, but such an operation might interfere with the Government's financial projects.

AGRICULTURE IN JAPAN.

Mr. Oshikawa, Vice-Minister of Home Affairs, is quoted as having submitted for the consideration of the agricultural guilds throughout the country the necessity of taking immediate steps for the readjustment of agricultural lands. This question (*kochi-seiri*), was first started by Marquis (then Count) Inouye in the year 1887, after his resignation of the portfolio of Foreign Affairs. He went about the country demonstrating to the farmers that, owing to the existing uneconomical distribution of farm lands, not only was much labour wasted uselessly but also the space available for crop-growing was needlessly reduced. The main defects of the system were that instead of arranging so that the land tilled by each farmer was all in one place, it was often divided into several portions more or less removed from each other, and thus enormous waste of labour was entailed. Added to this was the fact that owing to the petty dimensions of each rice field, a wide area of land which might have been made productive was wasted in embankments. This latter feature of Japanese farming must have struck every intelligent observer, for the fields are usually so small as to suggest lilliputian agriculture. The subject has now been vigorously taken up by the Home Department. Mr. Oshikawa is said to have furnished statistics showing that the quantity of rice now actually produced in Japan is annually 2 million *koku* short of the national consumption. On the other hand, the population is increasing rapidly—much more rapidly than the area of land under cultivation. If this continue for a few years the shortage of rice will amount to at least 10 million *koku*, which represents 150 million *yen* in money. The possibilities underlying readjustment become very striking when we observe that the total area of land under cultivation throughout the Empire is 5 million *cho* (one *cho* equals 2½ acres), and the area which might be added by the proposed readjustments is no less than 1,600,000 *cho*, whereas the additional area which might be made arable seems not to exceed one million *cho*. Hitherto, readjustment has been effected in the case of 145,000 *cho* alone. It is obvious that the importance of this reform can scarcely be over-estimated.

A NEW SPINNING COMPANY.

There is talk of establishing a new cotton-spinning company at Iriyoshi-machi in the province of Etchu. This idea appears to have been suggested by two facts. One is that nearly all the female factory hands who work in the already established spinning mills are obtained from Etchu and the surrounding provinces. The other is that hitherto the spinning factories have all been established on the Pacific slope of Japan, mainly because better facilities for railway communication exist there. This latter argument, however, has now ceased to have any potency, the west coast also being intersected by railways. It goes without saying that the people of Iriyoshi are very keen to see the project carried out. They have offered to give 35,000 *tsubo* of land free of all charge; to supply 500 workmen for the purposes of construction, and to grant without any payment a concession for harnessing the water-power of the Kurobei River, which is only 7 miles distant, and which can be made to deliver 20,000 h.p. at the proposed site of the factory. This concession alone is valued at half a million *yen*. The original idea was that the Iriyoshi factory should be a branch of the Nisshin-Boseki Kaisha, which was established after the recent war. But the Directors of the Nisshin, while taking a very rosy view of the prospect, do not feel disposed to extend their enterprise any further immediately, as they have only just erected their second factory in the Honjo district. They will, however, render every possible assistance, and it is proposed to give them preferential shares. The capital of the new company is put at 2 million *yen*, and it will have 300,000 spindles turning out 62,80 and 100 counts.

DEATH OF MR. T. D. MCKAY.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. T. D. McKay, the popular passenger agent of the Pacific Mail Company and for many years a familiar figure at this port. A telegram has been received to the effect that Mr. McKay, who has been in poor health for some time, passed away at San Francisco on the 15th inst.

Mr. McKay was a personalty who will be much missed by a large member of people. He associated largely with everyone in his neighbourhood, which was fairly extensive, and kept him in touch with Egypt, India, Java, Australia, New Zealand, and many other of the Eastern Ports. Mr. McKay was born in North Mississipi some 61 years ago, and early in life displayed a commercial aggressiveness and business acumen which attracted the attention of his superiors. He is first recalled in his employment as train boy in his native locality, and then as canvasser for the Western American passenger traffic, after which, between 1885 and the latter end of the nineties he rose high up the ladder working for the Burlington, at San Francisco. He became Assistant Emigration Agent and did an extensive business. He was always well-dressed and became quite a figure in Eastern Ports and never lacked a circle of friends of both sexes. He was a rapid talker and usually had something interesting to-day.

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DEPARTMENTAL OUTLAYS IN THE NEXT BUDGET.

All the Tokyo journals agree in the following statement of appropriations appearing in next year's Budget for the various Departments of State :—

The statement commences with the Naval Department. Two million *yen* are assigned for the maintenance of the new warships which will be added to the fleet during next year, and an increase of 150,000 *yen* is asked for in connexion with the Tokoyama Factory for turning out coal briquettes. The above two items appear in the list of ordinary expenses. On the extraordinary side, we find an item of 150,000 *yen* for the refrigeration of powder magazines.

In the Department of War there appears an adition of 3 million *yen* to the ordinary outlays, that sum being required for increased pay and allowances. But, on the other hand, an economy of nearly two millions is effected in consequence of the progress hitherto made in organising, equipping and housing the new Divisions.

The Department of Justice asks for an addition of only 600,000 *yen*, to be expended on the improvement of prisons and the construction of law-courts.

The Department of Communications applies for an increase of 2 millions under the heading of ordinary expenditures. This money is to be applied to increasing the number of post offices; to establishing a system for testing electric meters, and to establishing savings bureaux into which taxes may be paid direct.

The Department of Agriculture and Commerce asks for an increase in its ordinary outlays, as a consequence of having erected into separate bureaux the two sections of commerce and industry, which have hitherto been combined in one. The expenditure on this account is 100,000 *yen*. Then in the extraordinary column there is a sum of 300,000 *yen* to meet outlays in connexion with the increase of the country's foreign commerce and the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition.

In the Foreign Office section the only item calling for notice is an addition of 200,000 *yen* for establishing consulates at Aigun and four other places.

The Department of Education asks for a total increment of 1,300,000, against which, however, has to be set half a million accruing in the form of interest on the Education Capital Fund set aside after the war with China. This money is to be expended upon the Engineering college in Fukuoka, as well as on six or seven technical schools in other districts, and upon extending the buildings of the Medical Schools in Sendai and Kanazawa.

The Department of Finance asks for a total increment of 6 millions, out of which 380,000 *yen* is to be devoted to the encouragement of race clubs; 3½ millions to preliminary expenses in connexion with the new Houses of the Diet and to assistance of irrigation works, and the remainder to riverine improvements.

The Department of Home Affairs asks for 3 million *yen* as an installment of the cost of constructing a car-ferry between Moji and Bakan, and for various minor sums on account of harbour works, etc.

THE DAI NIPPON SUGAR COMPANY.

Friday, September 17.

It was hoped that at the meeting of debenture holders of the Dai Nippon Sugar Company on the 16th inst., an understanding would have been reached as to the issue of preferential shares in payment of the debentures. But unfortunately the Fujimoto Bank seems to be unable to endorse this arrangement. It sent a barrister, Mr. Hirata, to represent it at the meeting, and this gentleman seemed bent upon exhausting the patience of his audience by the length of his speeches. The meeting rose without accomplishing anything, but was to come together again on the 17th inst. It does not follow by any means that a settlement is hopeless, but so long as some creditors insist upon a call of 10 *yen* per share, nothing satisfactory can be anticipated. It would be absurd to demand such a payment from the shareholders at such a juncture. Their refusal to pay even a *sen* is a foregone conclusion.

Saturday, September 18.

The meetings of the Directors and creditors of this Company continue to be held daily, and that some sort of compromise will be reached little doubt is entertained. By the meeting on the 17th inst. two schemes were rejected. The first was that the shareholders should be required to pay up 10 *yen* per share of the capital remaining uncalled. The creditors considered that some sacrifice should be made by the shareholders in consideration of the lenient attitude of the creditors. But this programme was finally abandoned, the hopelessness of inducing the shareholders to take such a course having been recognised. The second programme was then considered. Its main features were that the Company should pledge itself to discharge its debts by annual installments, hypothecating its Formosa factory to the creditors as security for the discharge of that obligation. This also was rejected on the ground that the agreement of the Finance Department, which is one of the principal creditors, could not possibly be obtained to such an arrangement. The meeting then broke up, but was to come together again on the 18th inst.

Tuesday, September 21.

The creditors of this Company held their sixth meeting on the 20th inst. They had a very animated discussion, but the points at issue have become so involved that it would only perplex our readers to attempt to explain them. We may say, however, that a settlement more or less satisfactory seems to be in sight. Mr. Suzuki, whose relations with the Company constituted a serious difficulty, has been induced to agree to the latest proposals, and the general opinion is that this meeting on the 20th inst. preludes a final settlement.

THE "SEIYU-KAI."

The *Seiyu-kai's* grand banquet at the Seiyoken in Uyeno Park took place on the evening of the 16th inst. Unfortunately Prince Ito was prevented by illness from attending, and his absence robbed the meeting of one important feature. The speech of the President, Marquis Saionji, was in the main a tribute to the efforts of Prince Ito in the cause of constitutional government. The Marquis plainly attributed the inception of the *Seiyu-kai* to Prince Ito, and said that, although in certain points the great Party did not yet come up to its founder's ideals, it might nevertheless congratulate itself on having attained a certain degree of discipline and on having developed considerable influence in the national counsels. The Marquis spoke as though he himself were nothing more than Prince Ito's lieutenant, pledged to carry out his illustrious chief's plans, and desirous solely of deserving his approval. In conclusion, he begged his hearers to be perfectly frank in pointing out any features which seemed to call for amendment, and he promised that no effort should be spared to correct them.

Marquis Katsura, whose speech was awaited with much interest, confined himself to thanking his hosts for the invitation they had extended to him, and to acknowledging in very vivid terms the debt which the nation owed to the *Seiyu-kai*. He hoped sincerely that the Party would grow and prosper under the leadership of its illustrious chief, Marquis Saionji.

Brief messages of congratulation and good wishes were read from Prince Ito and Marquis Inouye, who both alluded in terms of satisfaction to the growth of the Party and to its public services.

All the Cabinet Ministers now in Tokyo were present, a fact which may perhaps be taken as significant of the relations existing between the *Seiyu-kai* and the Ministry.

REUTER'S SERVICE.

Periodical attacks are made upon Reuter's agents on the ground of alleged partiality. These agents must number many hundreds, scattered all over the world, and it is a little difficult to imagine them all marshalled into the same line of anti-this or anti-that conspiracy. The latest instance of this amusing criticism is furnished by the *Japan Chronicle*, which actually finds fault with the great telegraphic Agency for not wiring the fact that "the Liberals have succeeded in retaining four seats in recent bye elections." Imagine what would be the public's attitude towards Reuter if his agents occupied themselves scattering such stories broadcast. The loss of a seat by the party in power in a constituency where it has hitherto been dominant is an event sufficiently significant to deserve telegraphic publication, but the mere fact of keeping a seat is of no special consequence. On the whole, it has always seemed to us that Reuter's attitude is eminently impartial. It is impossible for his agents to please everybody, but that they succeed so far as success is attainable, must be admitted, we think, by every reasonable critic.

THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

It appears that a radical difference of opinion has arisen between the Chinese and the Japanese Commissioners of the Mukden-Antung Railway with regard to the construction of the last section of the line, namely, that between Chenhsiangtun and Mukden. The Chinese insist that the road shall be built so as to communicate direct with the Peking-Mukden Railway, after the latter's extension to the city of Mukden. In other words, the Chinese propose that the Mukden-Antung line should become virtually a continuation of the Peking-Mukden road. The Japanese, on the other hand, claim that as the Mukden-Antung Railway is to be built with Japanese money and will be Japanese property until the time of its purchase by the Chinese, it ought to form, as it does at present, a part of the South Manchuria Railway system; in other words, it ought to communicate direct with the South Manchuria line. It has been found impossible to compose this difficulty, for the present at all events, and the telegraph says that the Commissioners of the two Powers will return home in a few days.

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RAILWAY IMPROVEMENT AND EXTENSION.

We read in the *Mainichi Dempo* that in the estimates for next year the total revenue of the State railways is reckoned at 90,400,000 *yen* and the total expenditure at 80,800,000 *yen*, showing a net profit of 9,600,000 *yen*. These figures of course include all payments of interest on account of the railway bonds. The total under the heading of net profit is half a million *yen* greater than the corresponding figure in this year's budget. As for extensions and improvements of the present system, an item of 20 millions appears under each heading, making 40 millions in all, and if from this we deduct the net profit of 9,600,000, the total sum to be raised by floating bonds is a little over 20 millions.

With regard to the sums of *yen* 20 million each which are reported to be included in the railway budget for next year for the extension and improvement of railways, it is explained in the *Kokumin* that this question of improvement has really been on the tapis since 1907, when the nationalization of the railways was concluded. It was then fully recognised that extensive improvements were required, but the matter had to be postponed on account of various complications connected with the organization of the new system. It is now felt, however, that two years having elapsed since nationalization became an accomplished fact, the time has come when the work of improvement has to be seriously taken up. Hence the inclusion of a sum of 20 million on that account in the railway budget. Among the improvements contemplated the following may be mentioned as the most important: There is, first, the quadrupling of the Yokohama-Tokyo line and the addition of electric power to the present system of locomotives. There is, secondly, the preparation of the Kyoto-Kobe line so that a very much higher speed may be developed by trains on that section. In the third place, there is the work of linking up the Kyushu lines with those of the mainland by building a boat-bridge between Moji and Bakan. About 10 million *yen* in all will be required for the purposes of this last improvement. Then, in the fourth place, there is the doubling of the Tokaido line, the Kyushu line and the Hokkaido line, and there is the building of roads at Yokohama, Nagoya and Osaka to connect the present railways with the harbour. Then finally, there is the construction of the big central railway depot in Tokyo, and the conversion of the road over the Usui-toge into an electric tram. It is considered much better economy to effect these improvements instead of spending the same money upon the construction of new branch lines.

THE KINU-GAWA HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME.

The *Nichi Nichi Shumbun* now takes up this subject and publishes full details of the programme said to have been arranged between Mr. Jackson, on the part of certain English capitalists, and the Kinu-gawa concessionnaires. Briefly speaking, the project provides that 300,000 *yen* shall be paid over as establishment expenses; that 3 million *yen* worth of shares shall be given to the concessionnaires as the value of the concession; that 6,700,000 *yen* shall be applied to the first hydro-electric scheme, which will supply Tokyo with 28,000 horse-power, and that the second scheme, which will involve a further expenditure of 10 million *yen*, will bring the total supply of power delivered in Tokyo to 75,000 h.p. Of course, the consummation of these plans depends upon the verdict of the experts who are to be summoned from England to inspect the ground and make reports.

Meanwhile the *Niroku Shimbun* alleges that Mr. Ono, one of the Directors of the Tokyo Railway Company, is opposed to this Kinugawa scheme on the ground that it will not furnish hydro-electric power to the Railway at the cheapest possible rate. Mr. Ono seems to think that a more economical method of obtaining power would be to rely upon Japanese capital instead of having recourse to foreign.

This project has been so long on the tapis without reaching maturity, that its ultimate achievement has naturally become a subject of doubt. But we now read in the *Kokumin Shimbun* that the eminent English engineers who have just concluded their inspection of the ground, and who have extended their investigations to the principal of the other schemes for supplying Tokyo with hydro-electric power, are emphatically in favour of the Oi-gawa plan. They admit that the facilities for obtaining hydro-electric power in Japan are not as great as those existing in America, but they think that for the purposes of a big city the Oi gawa project is best suited to meet all requirements, and they are of opinion that any engineering difficulties which present themselves can be satisfactorily overcome.

These experts have certainly not allowed the grass to grow under their feet since their arrival in Japan. One may almost say that they have worked day and night, and inasmuch as no better qualified engineers could be found, we presume that their verdict will carry weight.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

It is stated that Russian emigration to the Amur region is proceeding vigorously. The number of families that emigrated thither from January to August this year was 2,755, representing 15,584 individuals, which latter figure shows an increase of 7,763, as compared with 1908.

The *Asahi* has a telegram from Vladivostock which says that the movement in favour of inaugurating horse races there has fallen very flat. There are no present prospects of success, and several of the Japanese who had proceeded thither to take part in the enterprise have turned their faces homewards. Others are said to have consoled themselves by establishing gambling clubs among their countrymen resident at the place; and the police, although not ignorant of what is going on, are refraining from taking action, as they are unwilling to discourage the zeal of the horse-racing fraternity.

HAWAII.

It does not appear after all that the planters in Hawaii gave any pledge to increase the wages of their Japanese labourers or that they have any intention of increasing them. They are in fact determined that the strike shall not be recognised as having attained any of its objects. But the *Asahi Shimbun* says that they have concluded some kind of agreement with the Japanese Consul General as to the advisability of effecting certain improvements in the condition and general treatment of his countrymen. Meanwhile the strikers have all returned to their work, with the exception of a few who are holding out for special reasons.

GRAND SECRETARY CHANG.

In our last issue we published the gist of a telegram received by the *Mainichi Dempo* to the effect that Grand Secretary Chang's illness, which had promised to yield to the remedies prescribed by Dr. Hiraga, became once more serious under the treatment of a young German physician, and when the aged statesman would have placed himself again in Dr. Hiraga's care, the latter declined to interfere and left Peking for Tientsin. A later telegram to the *Kokumin Shimbun* tells the same story, but with one or two important modifications. Thus, it does not say that the foreign doctor consulted was a German, nor does it say that Dr. Hiraga refused to resume charge of the case. On the contrary, he revisited the Grand Secretary and prescribed for him successfully. But the telegram adds that his Excellency's condition still inspires alarm.

There is a telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* saying that Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung's malady has yielded to the remedies prescribed by Doctors Hiraga and Shimose and that he is now out of danger. The progress of his illness has been anxiously watched by the foreigners of various nationalities who are interested in the question of the railway loans. It has been definitely ascertained that the Grand Secretary's malady is not cancer of the stomach, but the medical diagnoses have not yet indicated the ultimate source of the trouble.

FAREWELL DINNER TO MR. R. S. MILLER.

A farewell banquet was given to Mr. R. S. Miller, of the United States Embassy, at the Tokyo Club on the evening of the 15th inst. About fifty covers were laid. Baron Makino, in an excellent speech, expressed the regret felt by the whole Tokyo community at losing Mr. Miller, for whom, during his 14 years of residence, all nationalities had conceived feelings of respect and affection; and Mr. Miller replied in well chosen terms. Several other speeches followed, their general tone bearing strong testimony to the quality of the friendship Mr. Miller has won in Japan. There is, indeed, a marked sense of sorrow for his transfer, but, on the other hand, all rejoice at his promotion, and feel that, in his new position at the head of the Division of Far Eastern Affairs, his attainments as a Japanese scholar and his intimate knowledge of Japanese affairs can not fail to be of much benefit to the relations between Tokyo and Washington.

PRESIDENT TAFT AND THE BUSINESS MEN.

Some of the Tokyo leading newspapers express great satisfaction at the utterances of President Taft in the Lafayette Club on the occasion of the entertainment given to the business men of Japan. The *Jiji Shimpo*, the *Asahi Shimbun*, the Tokyo Correspondent of the *Kokumin* and the *Hochi Shimbun*, all concur in thanking the President heartily for his courteous and friendly words, and in predicting that these utterances, coming from the chief magistrate, will dispel the last remnant of doubt entertained by American citizens with regard to the mood of their own Government and with regard to Japan's mood. As for the *Mainichi Dempo*, it discusses the incident from the point of view of its probable effect upon the anti-Japanese section in California, who can scarcely fail now to appreciate the error of their sentiments about Japan.]

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THE WEATHER.

Monday, September 20.

The almost continuous rain of the past few days does not imply the approach of a centre of depression. So far as any serious atmospheric disturbance is concerned, Japan seems to be exceptionally fortunate this year. What happens almost invariably about the period of the autumnal equinox is that one or more centres of depression, generated in the south of Formosa or of the Bonin Islands, travel northwards and invade this country. During the present month there have been two storms which, judging from their genesis, ought to have fulfilled the usual programme, but both in succession have turned to the north-west and confined themselves to attacking China. A tolerably heavy and incessant rainfall seems likely to be the limit of Japan's unpleasant experiences; and rain at this time, if it does not last too long or produce floods, inflicts no special injury on the rice crop. The meteorological authorities predict that the present rain will continue for two or three days longer in the interior. Already the provinces of Noto, Etchu, Kaga and Owari seem to have had as much wet as they care for, and it is quite possible that if no improvement takes place soon, these places may suffer more or less severely.

Tuesday, September 21.

Formosa was visited on the 19th inst. by another centre of depression, which traversed the waist of the island, producing deluges of rain but no proportionately violent storm. The disturbance made its way northward and crossed to the Chinese coast. As for the weather throughout Japan, the meteorological authorities seem to be one day behind the mark. They predicted a continuance of the rains of the past week until the morning of the 22nd inst., but the 21st saw the restoration of glorious sunshine, accompanied by the delightful autumnal freshness which generally marks the *higan* season.

Thursday, September 23.

A centre of depression has declared itself on the south of the Bonin Islands, but of course its future movements can not yet be predicted.

THE DEATH OF THE SIAMESE PRINCE.

A very sad event has occurred at Kobe. A young Siamese Prince, eldest son of the Siamese Minister of Foreign Affairs, expired on the 18th inst. in the hospital for infectious diseases after an illness of only five days. His Highness had been working at the Kawasaki Dockyard since May, 1908, and had shrunk from no labour necessary to promote his knowledge of the art of shipbuilding. He seems to have won golden opinions from all those with whom he came in contact, and he was universally regarded as a most promising student. On the 13th inst. he had a sharp access of fever, and on the following day his malady was diagnosed as pest, whereupon he was at once removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital where he died.

The *Jiji Shimpo* writes in the most sympathetic strain about the lamentable death of the young Siamese Prince in Kobe. It appears that he was only 19 years of age. That while residing in Japan he should have been carried off by a disease like pest, whose ravages are much more severe in his own country than in this, renders the event doubly sad. There are at present 6 Siamese studying in Japan, namely, one at the Keio Gijuku; two at the Seijo Gakko; one at the Bijitsu Gakko and two at the Kogyo Gakko. Two others arrived recently but have not yet entered any educational institution.

THE TROUBLE IN THE RICE MARKET.

The dispute between buyers and sellers on the Tokyo Rice Exchange continues unsettled. The sellers, headed by Mr. Matsutatsu, have put up all the extra bargain money called for, and are maintaining a firm attitude. In consequence of this the amount of bargain money has been again increased, and it is apparently the intention of the Directors to continue this course until the hands of the disputants are forced. Some newspapers state that the sellers have already lowered their flag and entrusted to the directors the task of effecting a settlement.

The commotion on the Rice Exchange has not been settled and it would now seem that official interference will be necessary. Mr. Matsutatsu and his co-operators, who endeavoured to corner the market in the belief that an unfavourable change of weather would take place, are now threatened with having to put up a sum of from six hundred to seven hundred thousand *yen* or becoming bankrupt. For a moment it seemed as though a compromise would be effected through the intervention of Mr. Takahiko, but the Matsutatsu group were unwilling to entrust him with plenipotentiary powers, and thus the trouble has drifted into an impasse. In any case the Exchange itself is likely to suffer heavy loss.

THE TOKYO EXHIBITION.

The proposed Tokyo Exhibition of 1911 has acted for some time in a most mysterious manner, at one moment disappearing altogether from sight, and at another thrusting itself again upon public attention. Of late we have been resting in the conviction that all idea of organising such an enterprise had been abandoned, but evidently the Tokyo Guild of Weavers regard the Exhibition as still possessing some vitality. They have held a meeting in the capital and denounced the Exhibition as an unwise project, which would add greatly to the citizen' burdens and confer no commensurate benefits. The meeting rose after passing this resolution, and after appointing a committee to make representations to the Mayor and the aldermen.

The much talked of Tokyo Exhibition seems to have at last received its *coup de grâce*. It has hitherto lived a sort of visionary existence on a basis of 700,000 *yen*, one half to be subscribed by the City and the remainder by the suburbs. But after the opposition of the weavers, as described in our last issue, even the most ardent advocates of the scheme limited their proposals to one half of the above amount. This proved the last straw, and the exhibition may now be regarded as having made its final exit from the stage.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

Our readers are aware that at the last general meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha the President, Mr. Kondo, stated that the Directors had not yet determined whether they would keep the Company's fleet under the provisions of the old law for the encouragement of navigation, or whether they would bring the ships under the new law. The former course would produce a larger amount of subsidy, but, on the other hand, the ships would cease altogether to be eligible for State aid after a few years. The choice between the two methods therefore caused much perplexity. We now read in Tokyo journals that the Directors recently held a meeting, and decided to adopt the latter of the above two methods as promising greater permanency. This decision appears to have been partially prompted by the fact that the authorities had already drafted the budget on the basis of the new law, and that officialdom is expected not to be too exacting in its manner of applying the provision of the altered system.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, September 17.

The 17th instant was an excited day on the Stock Exchange. The forenoon session was very brisk, no less than 56,590 shares changing hands, but in the afternoon news came that in Osaka a debacle had set in, and for a moment Tokyo was thrown into a panic. Some recovery took place before closing, however, and the final figures showed an increase in most cases.

Saturday, September 18.

Profit-taking sales were the order of the day on the 18th inst., especially in the case of the Tokyo Railway, and all shares declined accordingly. Whether this is the beginning of a continuous downward movement, or whether it is only a temporary check, can not be predicted.

Tuesday, September 21.

The tone in the forenoon session on the 21st was strong, but it weakened in the afternoon, especially in the case of the Tokyo Railway, about which people seemed to have become suspicious.

Wednesday, September 22.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange seems to have entered a downward grade. Excessive speculation had produced an unwarranted appreciation of prices, and the inevitable reaction appears to have set in. Osaka remains firm, with the exception of the Exchange's shares, but the bears and the profit-takers are having an innings in Tokyo.

Thursday, September 23.

A dull state of affairs prevailed on the market yesterday, especially in the case of the cottons, which fall sharply. The afternoon session witnessed a somewhat firmer tone, but neither bears nor bulls seemed to have any confidence. We append the quotations for November:—

	Sept. 22nd.	Sept. 23rd.	
Tokyo Railway	75.95	75.65	— .30
Kei-hin Railway	69.70	68.45	—1.25
Yusen Kaisha	81.00	80.70	— .30
Toyo Kisen	14.20	14.20	—
Tanko Kisen	46.20	45.35	— .85
Tokyo Gas	103.20	102.05	—1.15
Tokyo Dento	96.40	96.40	—
Fuji Gass Spinning	101.90	99.55	—2.35
Tokyo Spinning	45.95	44.80	—1.15
Kanegafuchi Spinning	112.45	109.05	—3.40
Beer	8 .70	8 1.40	— .30
Hoden Oil	84.55	84.80	+ .25
Nippon Oil	96.20	96.70	+ .50
Stock Exchange	179.05	176.50	—2.55

LORD OSBORNE BEAUCLERK, of Great Britain, who has been staying in Kyoto, left for Kagoshima on the 16th instant on a tour through Kyushu.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It is stated that on the 13th inst. a definite agreement was formed between the sugar-growers of Formosa and the Government with regard to the question of encouraging the production of this staple. The arrangement made was that every 1,000 catties of cane should receive one *yen* of encouragement money, and inasmuch as 1,000 catties of cane produce one picul of sugar, this means a bounty of one *yen* per picul. Tokyo newspapers state that the cost of producing a picul of sugar in Formosa is 5 *yen*, and the consumption tax being also 5 *yen*, it is obvious that when sugar sells for 12.00 or 12.50 *yen* per picul in the open market, a profit remains to the producer of 2.50 *yen* per picul, to which has to be added the one *yen* of bounty. This arrangement is said to be satisfactory to the growers, as well it may be. From the Government's point of view, however, the bounty is no small burden. The four sugar companies in Formosa produce a total of more than a million and a half piculs of sugar; namely, the Taiwan Company 800,000; the Yensui Company 380,000; the Toyo Company 200,000, and the Meiji 200,000.

It is a strange infatuation that Socialists, who profess to be in favour of the reorganisation of production, distribution, and exchange for the benefit of the public, should be continually urging the disorganisation of the State service—to the detriment of the public, of the whole nation, and of other nations not parties to the dispute. Socialistic agencies often seem to engage in an organised conspiracy to destroy Government or to embarrass the forces of Government. This can scarcely be regarded as a *bonâ fide* industrial act; the issues are too great. There is never any great trouble in securing some aggressive men for the purpose, while others pull the strings. It may be that Governments are not always in all things wise, but that is not a matter for debate in the streets. Again, wilful damage to State property is not in accordance with supposed Socialistic principles; quite the contrary. Unfortunately, the injury of the most unwise, if not actually criminal, strikes employed by Socialists as means to their very dubious ends, falls upon the innocent and helpless even more than on the instigators.

It is stated by Tokyo papers that the large scheme of Mr. Kawashima Jun., Governor of Hokkaido, for the speedy development of that region, had obtained the approval of the Home Department and been forwarded to the Finance Department, where, however, its dimensions are likely to be considerably cut down. Our readers will remember that Mr. Kawashima's argument is that Hokkaido is one of the only colonies in the world which makes a substantial contribution every year to the Central Government's exchequer, and that, if its resources were resolutely developed, it would soon become one of the most valuable regions in the Empire. He asks for an annual appropriation of 5 millions during 15 years. The Treasury is reported to be anxious to reduce the figure to 2½ millions, but it is thought probable that a compromise will be effected at about 3½. The Prime Minister is said to be in favour of the programme.

In describing the state of affairs on the Tokyo Stock Exchange on the 17th inst., we alluded briefly to the sudden receipt of news that a violent debacle was reported from Osaka. The reason of this was alleged to be that many of the leading brokers in that city has been very hard hit by the recent continuous upward movement. They had sold short to a large extent, and the result was in many cases disastrous. Losses of from half a million to 2 million *yen* were said to have been incurred in several cases, and the probability of an imminent smash naturally produced a depressing effect. This was the explanation given by Tokyo newspapers, but to us it appears that there is a more satisfactory explanation, namely, that no panic whatever has taken place in Osaka. Whether something of the kind may not be imminent we can not say, but thus far it has not occurred.

It is stated that a charter has just been granted by the Government for the construction of a railway which will run right across the waist of Japan from Sugamo, in the north-west suburb of Tokyo, to Nagaoka, in the province of Echigo, on the west coast. The distance is 146 miles, and the line will pass through many important trading centres. The chief promoters, namely, Mr. Ueno Dengoyemon and Mr. Uchida Sangoyemon, are gentlemen whose names have not hitherto been heard in connexion with large enterprises, but we judge them to be provincial magnates. In Tokyo the principal persons associated are Messrs. Ono Kinroku, Seki Seiyei and Fukuzawa Momosuke etc. It is said that Count Okuma has always been a warm advocate of this line. The amount of capital required is put at 6 million *yen*, but nothing is stated as to the time when the shares will be offered to the public.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* denies, evidently with good authority, that there is any truth in the recently circulated rumour of a new Russian railway from a point (Hailin) in the neighbourhood of Ningtau to Funchun, and thence by Possiet Bay to Vladivostock. This road was supposed to be a counterblast to the Sino-Japanese project of a railway from Kilin to Hoiryong, but some publicists said that it had been projected by Russia from the time of the signature of the Portsmouth Treaty. The *Kokumin*, however, declares the whole story to be a pure fabrication, and alleges that Russia is devoting her entire strength to the doubling of the Siberian line and to the construction of the Amur Railway. She has not made any application whatever to China for a concession to build the alleged Hailin-Funchun road.

The process of removing the cemetery at the temple Kaifuku-ji, in the Fukugawa suburb of Tokyo, has revealed another corpse in a perfect state of preservation. It is that of Honda Tadasada, feudal chief of Awaji, whose representative in the 14th generation is the present Viscount Honda. The burial took place in 1723, and the body had therefore been lying in the grave for 186 years. The casket containing it consisted of two square boxes of thick wood, one inside the other, the outer case being of pine and the inner of *hinoki*. Inside there was a jar of *raku* pottery, 4ft. high and 3ft. in circumference, and within it, in a sitting posture, holding a rosary in his clasped hands, was found the body of the ancient *daimyo*. The corpse was surrounded with some kind of powder the exact nature of which has not been analysed. The general appearance is best described by the Japanese expression *shirō* (dead wax). A strange feature of the body is that the flesh is comparatively soft, and therefore the term "fossilized" does not properly apply. The corpse and its receptacles have been handed over to the museum of the Imperial University, but the probability is that contact with the air will speedily produce decomposition.

It does not appear by any means that the aborigines of Formosa are tamely submitting to the advance of the Aiyu lines in the Toyen district. Collisions are frequently reported, and although the Aiyu are gaining ground steadily, their progress is very far from being conspicuously rapid, nor is it unattended with casualties. On the 16th inst. an attempt to occupy the point of greatest vantage on a mountain called Rokuchiku led to a hot conflict, in which the Aiyu detachment was at first beaten back, but, being reinforced, carried the position ultimately with a loss of five killed and three wounded, two of the latter being transport coolies. This manœuvre was part of a movement in the nature of an outflanking operation from the right and the left simultaneously. The work of the Aiyu is said to be of the most arduous nature, as can easily be supposed when we remember that they are operating in a country wholly without roads and often of a most precipitous character.

It is stated that the Tokyo Electric Light Company has decided to call up 10 *yen* on each of its new shares, and that the money will have to be paid between the 15th and the 21st of December. These funds are to be applied to extending the second hydro-electric-power project of the Company. The original intention was to obtain 35,000 h.p., but this is to be extended to 50,000. It is expected that the work will be concluded by the end of 1910, but there were so many postponements in connexion with the completion of the first water-power scheme of this Company that the public will feel some scepticism in this second instance.

It is stated that the next budget will contain an appropriation of 800,000 *yen* for the purposes of harbour construction at Tsuruga. This money is to be spread over four years in equal portions. A correspondent of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that the project is condemned in many quarters as being of a temporizing nature. Even when the proposed works are completed, it will not be possible for a big steamer to approach the wharf, and it is therefore thought that the wiser plan would be to postpone work for the present or to undertake it on a larger scale.

On the morning of the 22nd inst. the Emperor, in the presence of Field-Marshals Princes Oyama and Yamagata, the Minister of War and other high dignitaries, handed regimental colours to four newly organized regiments of cavalry. The regiments were, the 13th and the 14th which are attached to the Third Brigade of Infantry having its headquarters at Morioka; and the 25th and 26th which are attached to the Fourth Brigade at Toyohashi. It is not to be understood of course that this represents any new increment of the Japanese Army. The organization of these cavalry regiments is a part of the post-bellum programme.

A ray of sunshine has at last made its appearance on the horizon of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. The Directors are said to have concluded an agreement with the Hoden Oil Company, by which agreement they will be enabled to use three tank steamers for the importation of crude oil, within the limits of 60,000 tons yearly at a freight of 15 *yen* per ton. This will give employment to two of the Company's steamers which are now tied up.

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LINKING UP THE EMPIRE.

THAT phase of national forethought and virility which has come to be known among citizens of the British Empire as "Imperial Defence" has lately undergone development to an extent, and at a rate, which its most ardent votaries could hardly have dared to hope for. Whether in the outlying Dominions or in the homeland itself, there has been substantial progress to report. In Australia, New Zealand—and we may add, Canada—new Navies have been born, while the Imperial forces in Eastern waters have been remodelled on a firmer basis. South Africa by its Act of Union has removed a possible source of weakness, and thereby added to the general security. At home the Territorial system of reorganization for the military forces of the British Isles is giving results so satisfactory that the alternative scheme of compulsory universal training, advanced by Lord ROBERTS and the National Service League, is making but scant headway; while the redistribution of naval strength so as to effect an overwhelming concentration of force in the North Sea has received the rare praise of a unanimous benediction from the experts. It is now the turn of that region, which may be said to form the connecting bond between the heart of the Empire and its most distant members, to feel the hand of reform. We refer to the decision, conveyed in a recent Order in Council and coupled with the name of Lord KITCHENER, to make the Mediterranean an important link in the chain of Imperial Defence. The official statement announcing the appointment of Lord KITCHENER to his new command shows a recognition of the importance attached to the Mediterranean *vis a vis* the Empire as a whole. "Lord KITCHENER," runs the statement, "in conformity with the wishes of H.M. Government, has accepted the position of High Commissioner and Field Marshal Commanding in the Mediterranean. On vacating the chief command in India he will be promoted by his Majesty to the rank of Field Marshal. . . . He will have a seat on the Committee of Imperial Defence. . . . In view of new developments in organization, the Mediterranean command assumes increased importance, and it will be taken up by LORD KITCHENER with the object of giving it its proper place in the general scheme of Imperial defence." The announcement is one of unusual interest for two reasons—the personality of the new High Commissioner, and the "developments" alluded to in the latter part of the statement as having the effect of "increasing the importance of the Mediterranean command." The appointment, says a service paper, "has created a splendid impression throughout the Empire." Not only has it been made at a time when the question of Imperial Defence is occupying the chief attention of a Conference specially convened to enable the home authorities to consider it in conjunction with delegates from the great self-governing Colonies, but it may safely be said that there is no man in the whole of the Empire who commands in a greater degree the confidence of his fellow-countrymen. The victor of Omdurman — to mention the particular incident which brought him fame—is not only a military genius of the highest order, but is gifted with a wonderful capacity for organization. It is this capacity of organization which, in reality, won the Soudan from desert savagery to peace and civilization, which made for the final success of the British arms in the South African War, and has removed from India, farther than ever before in its history, the bugbear of foreign invasion. Lord KITCHENER will find in his new sphere ample room for the display of his unique abilities. There has been a disposition in the past to look upon the Mediterranean command as somewhat of a sinecure, or at least of only second-rate importance. But so much depends upon the man. Just as Mr. Joseph CHAMBERLAIN was able, by sheer ability and force of personality, to raise the position of Secretary of State for the Colonies to one of the first Imperial importance, so there is little doubt that Lord KITCHENER will bring his genius and his invincible energy to bear upon the possibilities of his new position with similar happy results.

Interesting, however, as the appointment is on account of the personality of its future holder, it is fully as interesting by reason of the strategical importance with which the new command has been invested. There was a time, not more than a decade ago, when it was the fashion with a certain school of naval experts—amongst whom the late Sir W. LAIRD CLOWES was prominent—to advocate the abandonment by England of the Mediterranean, on the ground that its defence would prove a source of weakness. In those days the students of naval strategy were wont to reckon up the fleets of France and Russia against those of Britain; and the double task which would fall to a British fleet, based on Malta, namely, that of watching the Dardanelles on the one hand, and the Straits of Gibraltar on the other, while at the same time manœuvring to prevent a junction of the two opposing fleets, was held to necessitate the maintenance of an unnecessarily large force in the great land-locked Sea, for war. However, advocates of this weak kneed policy never succeeded in obtaining official recognition for their views. Political considerations alone forbid the contemplation of such a proposal as the abandonment of the Mediterranean. Nevertheless, owing to the rise of Germany as a maritime Power, the naval centre of gravity has in recent years shifted to the North Sea; and, in consequence, the squadron maintained by Great Britain in the Mediterranean has gradually been reduced from fourteen first-class battleships to eight, while the premier position among the fleets of England passed first to the Channel, and then to the Home, or North Sea, Fleet. The Mediterranean command, as evidenced by the scope of the new appointment, is now regarded in the light of Imperial, rather than local necessities, and as possessing a military, rather than a naval, value. It will devolve upon the new High Commissioner to bring into co-ordination the forces in Egypt—and indeed throughout the Anglo-African possessions—with the British garrisons at present in the Middle Sea, and to make of them an efficient and mobile whole. At the same time, an increase in the strength of the Mediterranean Fleet may be looked for, as a necessary consequence of the decision of Germany's Mediterranean allies—Austria and Italy — to inaugurate an era of naval expansion on their own account. Whether regarded, however, from the naval or from the military standpoint, the importance of the Mediterranean must be fully allowed for in any well-ordered scheme of Imperial Defence. The fact that it is the high road to India and to our numerous possessions in the Far East, the fact that it is the gate of Egypt, and thus of Africa, the fact that it forms the approach to that great waterway the Suez Canal—all these are weighty considerations, quite apart from the requirements of European politics. It is consoling to think that the problem of the Mediterranean in its relation to the Empire will soon receive capable and vigorous handling from one of the most trusted servants of the Empire.

ENGLAND AND GERMANY.

THE subject of Anglo-German relations certainly ranks as among the most momentous which can be discussed, and is fraught with the profoundest interest for each member of two great and powerful, and still growing, nations. That being so, we make no apology for referring to one or two points raised by the correspondent of our German contemporary—with whose article, in the main, we have already expressed ourselves as being in the heartiest agreement—and to the prosposal advanced in a lengthy letter which appeared in our columns on the 18th inst. The great questions which students of public affairs are now putting to themselves, we believe we may say, in every part of the world, are these—(1) What are the causes underlying the present unfortunate relations between the two countries? (2) Are they capable of removal? We believe that every frank attempt to discover these causes, when prompted by a sincere desire for their final dissipation, is so much to the good. From this point of view, every lover of peace and goodwill on earth will welcome the appearance of a valuable contribution to this great subject in the shape of a book entitled "Deutschland und England," by the popular and influential *literateur*, Von KARL BLEIBTREN. The first sentence in the book reveals the writer's object: "The Englishman and the German are more closely related to each other than are any two nations on earth." Herr

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BLEIBTREN goes on to enquire into the feelings of suspicion and animosity which unfortunately actuate the two peoples, and which, he confidently asserts, have absolutely no foundation on either side. In other words, ignorance is at the bottom of all the differences between the Englishman and the Teuton. Each presents to the other "a false and ignoble picture" of his real character, aspirations and sentiments, and if only these illusions could be dispelled by better knowledge, the clouds of mutual distrust and dislike would disappear. We have already remarked in these columns that the average German seems to be taught to look upon England as effete, and in the act of succumbing to the inevitable working of the law of the "survival of the fittest." Herr BLEIBTREN more than confirms our opinion. This is the picture presented, he says, by the Englishman and his country "in the average German view":—

The incarnation of selfish arrogance and vainglory, inordinately proud of a history in which his success has been largely fortuitous . . . . a "shopkeeper" with his eye bent fixedly on the main chance, and only now and then throwing up by some unaccountable accident a fiery genius like Shakespeare or Byron, who stands out brilliantly against a background of petty, materialistic minds, devoid of all sense of the ideal. . . The nation is well-nigh bankrupt in all moral and material power not depending directly on the control of money, and even that control is fast disappearing. The Army . . a laughing-stock, only fit to be clapped into prison if it showed itself on German soil; the Fleet, undermanned and wretchedly constructed, is being rapidly outstripped by the young marine of Germany.

This image having been set up in the sight of his countrymen, Herr BLEIBTREN proceeds to show that it is false, and "to demolish it with many a heavy hammerstroke." He shows that England is not be treated lightly in any sphere, intellectual or material, and that if Germans cherish such an idea, it is a dangerous delusion. As to the building up of the British Empire, which many Germans attribute to good luck—where they do not impute worse methods—Herr BLEIBTREN is of the opinion that the task has presented vastly greater difficulties than those connected with the Thirty Years War, to which the Teuton is wont to ascribe Germany's comparative lateness in development as a world-Power:—

If Germany allowed itself to be depressed by such circumstances while England, under the most difficult conditions, struggled indefatigably onwards—an extraordinary achievement for a nation originally owning but one-eighth the population of Germany—what can this denote but a great intellectual, moral, and physical superiority? Has any German ever had a true conception of the bitter toil which it has cost to bring the British world-power to its bloom? Good luck? A nation of three millions under Cromwell, of ten millions at the time of Napoleon, ventures on a war to the knife with the Corsican giant, who controlled in France alone a force of forty millions, and had forty millions more as his obedient vassals in Europe.

Finally, so far from the Titan having grown weary of the burden of empire, England says this authority, is stronger and better equipped than ever before, not only on sea, but, relatively to her needs, on land as well. "She has plenty of good stuff available to repel any possible invasion, while Germany must for ever toil in vain to reach the magnificent development of the British Fleet, which is superior to that of the whole of Europe."

However, Herr BLEIBTREN does not confine himself to a one-sided discussion of the subject. The principal complaint he has to make against the Englishman is his national self-conceit, his self-complacency, and his "slowness to recognize the high qualities and achievements of alien races." We fear there is much truth in this, and that the manner of the Englishman abroad, inimitably described by Frenchmen in the phrase *la morgue anglaise*, excites deserved indignation or ridicule—according to temperament—on the Continent of Europe. Herr BLEIBTREN repeatedly refers also in terms of severe condemnation to Mr. FITCHETT'S, and others', stories for boys on themes connected with the growth of the British Empire; though, in reply to this criticism, it may be urged that stories intended for the consumption of boys at school are hardly the stuff of which national animosities are made.

On the whole, however, we are inclined to think that our German *literateur* is right. The present regrettable state of Anglo-German relations is due, in the first place, to ignorance. But there is more. There is alarm on one side, and there is jealousy on the other. England is a little alarmed, perhaps, because of German competition in trade, but she is genuinely alarmed at German competition in naval armaments. This is regarded as a direct, and quite unnecessary, challenge to England, involving the ultimate loss of her national security, because her navy is all that she has to depend upon for her own safety and that of a scattered Empire. Germany, on the other hand, is jealous of England's commercial and maritime supremacy, which is unreasonably regarded, by the advocates of Pan-Germanic expansion, as the only obstacle in the way of a universal Teutonic hegemony. England is thus falsely presented to the mind of the patriotic German as the lion in the path of his ambitions, and, therefore, his natural enemy. But this, we repeat, is unreasonable. England's commercial supremacy is no sin to be laid to her charge; and, as to her maritime supremacy, that has been forced upon her by the circumstances of her position and by the most primitive of all instincts, self-preservation. Why are Germans not content to recognize these facts and leave them as they are? The correspondent of the *Deutsche Japan Post* says "We are always ready for an understanding based on an acknowledgement of perfect equality." We presume he refers to the question of armaments. If so, then it only remains to point out that equality already exists. Germany's army is already vastly superior to that of England who, indeed, can never hope to obtain so magnificent a force. As to fleets, let it be admitted that England has the superiority in this respect. Does not the one counterpoise the other? If England possessed an army at all comparable with that of Germany and, in addition, insisted on maintaining a preponderant navy, then it would be time for Teutons to complain of England's superiority in armaments. Let us assume, for the sake of argument, that the condition advanced by our contemporary's correspondent was fulfilled, and that "perfect equality" existed between the British and German Fleets. Then, in the event of war, there would be at least an even chance that the British navy would suffer defeat, and that Germany would obtain the command of the sea. What would England then have to prevent an invasion in force by overwhelming German armies, against which her own land forces would be, numerically, as nothing? What would prevent Germany from helping herself to the British Colonies, one by one, at her leisure? Could the statesman entrusted with the destinies of England and the British Empire dare to contemplate, even if they were so minded, the creating of a position involving such tremendous risks? No, the point is that England's Fleet is "her all in all," whereas Germany, who has already the most powerful Army in the world, seems to take it amiss that her attempts to build an equally overwhelming Navy should be regarded with suspicion and alarm! It is not unreasonable to ask that those who are concerned in this great question should consider it dispassionately and with frank recognition of these fundamental facts. Germans should recognize England's necessity for a maritime superiority, and also that that superiority, which has arisen out of the defensive instinct, will never be used for purposes of aggression. Englishmen, on the other hand, will freely admit the magnificent superiority of the German army, and are also prepared to admit the desirability of a strong German fleet—but not a fleet so powerful as to deprive England of her sole defence. It is along these lines, coupled with increased mutual knowledge, that the two peoples must look for such an understanding as would finally put a period to the fever of armaments and the unrest of the world.

WHITE-HEADED CANARDS.

WE observe from correspondence in the *New York Journal of Commerce*, as reproduced by the *Japan Times*, that a hoary-headed canard has been revived. Once more the public is entertained with a tale about the encouragement of Japanese foreign commerce by state benevolence. One count in this charge has already been dealt with at least twice in these columns, and dealt with precisely as the *Japan Times* now deals with it. We allude to the assertions that "the Japanese Government advances all the necessary funds for facilitating shipments of native

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cotton manufactures," that it "lends the money to the cotton-shippers at the low rate of 2 per cent., to enable them to control the market in cotton fabrics;" and that it "obtains the money for this purpose by borrowing abroad at 5½ per cent. interest." It is evident that unless some resident foreigners believed this, the "Special Correspondent" of the New York journal could not have found any one to mislead him. Yet there is difficulty in crediting any resident with such a misconception. A stranger ignorant of the facts that Japan has such a things as a Budget, a Parliament and an Audit Bureau, so that every *yen* of money handled by the Government has to be publicly accounted for, might possibly be betrayed into the silly blunder published by the American journal's correspondent. But a resident, supposing him to have some knowledge and a little intelligence—the thing is scarcely conceivable. The Japanese Government is not in a position to play such tricks, even were it disposed to do so. However, we have disposed of this canard so completely in the past and it has now been so forcibly refuted by the *Japan Times* that further reference would be superfluous. But it seems worth while to allude to another paragraph in the correspondent's letter:—

> All the leading Japanese steamship companies are heavily subsidized by the Government, by which they are enabled to pay the promised dividends, while they cut freight rates sufficiently to interfere seriously with the carrying trade of all foreign competitors. A familiar example of this is the fact that the Japanese cotton manufacturers are able to import the raw material from Bombay, pay the freight on it and manufacture it, and then export the fabric to India, cheaper than the Indian manufacturers can produce the same goods on the ground. Hence, though it may appear a mistaken financial policy to pay profits by subsidy, it may none the less prove effective as a temporary expedient to secure permanent control of the coveted market.

This really deserves a moment's examination. The Indian manufacturer has the raw cotton at his door; he has also cheap British capital and he has an abundant supply of cheap Indian labour. Yet he allows himself to be beaten in the Indian market by the Japanese manufacturer who carries the cotton from India, and having spun it into yarns in Japan, then carries it back to India, which well nigh miraculous feat the said Japanese is enabled to achieve by the cheap rates of freight he obtains from steamers receiving State aid. If the steamers charged nothing at all, the thing would be wonderful enough. But even this correspondent does not pretend that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's vessels carry cotton thousands of miles twice between India and Japan gratis. It is merely a question of low rates. Yet the Indian manufacturer is beaten by his marvellous Japanese rival. And what are the facts? The Indian manufacturer is not beaten in his own market. So far from being beaten there, he is able to hold his own stoutly against his Japanese rival in the distant market of China. Japanese steamers do not grant any specially cheap rates to shippers of raw cotton from Bombay to Japan or to shippers of cotton yarns from Japan to Bombay: British steamers and steamers of other nationalities grant just the same rates. Japanese steamers plying between India and Japan are not subsidized: they do not receive aid of any kind from the State. Every one of this correspondent's premises is false, every one of his conclusions extravagant. Nevertheless we should not question his sincerity did his story stop there. However grossly a man may be misled by his own fancy or by an ignorant friend, we have no right to impugn his honesty. But the *New York Journal's* correspondent goes on to say:—

> Foreign merchants in the Far East are unanimous in the conviction that this extraordinary method of supplanting competition in trade will ultimately react against Japanese interests in Great Britain and the United States, from which countries most of the capital thus utilized is borrowed.

Here we are at once confronted by a new phase of the argument. It is quite impossible for any correspondent to ascertain the "unanimous conviction" of foreign merchants in the Far East. When a writer, above all a writer with very brief experience, claims to have performed such a feat, he at once writes himself down a tamperer with the truth. We are well acquainted with that type of controversialist who goes to the market-place, shouts aloud his own opinions and then interprets their echoes as the voice of the world. It is a dispensation of Providence that men so untrustworthy should be impelled to betray their own insincerity. As for "foreign merchants in the Far East," however, they are much too clear-sighted, so far as our experience goes, to subscribe to doctrines like that of this correspondent.

NAVAL CASSANDRAS.

PERHAPS the most serious attack of the many which have been made upon the present Admiralty is that embodied in the statement addressed to the Prime Minister by Lord CHARLES BERESFORD in April last, shortly after the latter had hauled down his flag at Portsmouth. The charges brought by the distinguished Admiral were of so grave and comprehensive a character that it was deemed advisable to make an official inquiry into the whole question, and the task was entrusted to a special sub-committee of the Committee of Imperial Defence. This sub-committee consisted of the following members:—The Prime Minister, Mr. ASQUITH; the Foreign Secretary, Sir E. GREY, the success of whose generally approved diplomacy depends largely on the fleet; the Secretary for India, Viscount MORLEY, the safety of which great Dependency from external foes rests ultimately on the Navy; the Secretary for War, Mr. HALDANE, whose whole policy is based upon the sufficiency and efficiency of the fleet to command the sea; and, lastly, the Earl of CREWE, Secretary of State for the Colonies. In addition, as a sort of referee on technical points, the expert services of Admiral of the Fleet Sir A. WILSON were requisitioned. Naturally a committee composed of men so able and judicious could not fail to command the respect of all concerned; but it was open to one objection, namely, that it consisted entirely of members of the Government. In other words, as was pointed out some months ago by more than one service paper, a section of the Cabinet was called upon (1) to adjudicate upon the work of the First Sea Lord; (2) to try the Board of Admiralty as a whole; and (3) to pass judgment on the Cabinet itself, as being, in the last resort, the authority responsible to the nation. In a sense, therefore, the members of this Committee may be said to have found themselves in the difficult position of having to judge themselves. The situation being of so delicate a character, it would have been advisable, in order to secure absolute impartiality, that the Opposition should have been represented—in the persons of Mr. BALFOUR and Lord CAWDOR, a former Lord of the Admiralty—on the naval jury. However, Lord CHARLES BERESFORD himself seems to have definitely described the Committee as an excellent one, and as fair as any he had ever been summoned before. On the other hand, the strictures passed by the late Commander-in-Chief of the Channel Fleet cannot but have lost some of their force from the fact, familiar to all by this time, that serious differences have long existed between Lord CHARLES and his official chief, Sir JOHN FISHER, the First Sea Lord, whose strong reforming hand the Navy has felt for the past five years. Be that as it may, Lord CHARLES appealed to Cæsar, and has now received his verdict. While it is the case that a great deal passed at the Committee's meetings which it is not in the interests of the nation to disclose—upwards of 2,500 questions in all were put, answered and examined into—it will suffice to say that on no point of importance was the indictment brought by Lord CHARLES allowed to stand, as will be seen from the following parallel:—

LORD CHARLES' CHARGES.	FINDINGS OF THE COMMITTEE.
(*a*) Organization of the fleet in home waters.	
Channel fleet was never, "even for a day," equal to the force which it might have had to encounter in home waters.	Channel fleet was "always superior" to even the nominal strength of the most formidable fleet of any other nation.
The Home fleet—old régime—could not have been ready in less than six months.	The evidence showed that the nucleus-crew ships were capable of very rapid mobilisation, and had attained a satisfactory standard of efficiency.
There should be one large homogeneous fleet complete in all its units trained under the orders of one Commander-in Chief, maintained at sea, and in full commission; the administration of the various divisions being entrusted to the admirals in command of them. (This statement was made in April.)	Since March, 1909, such a fleet has in effect existed, and to the creation of such a fleet Admiralty organization was directed during the period when Lord Charles was afloat in command of the Channel fleet under conditions not "ideally perfect." (This fleet was formed in March.)
Under the new scheme for the redistribution of the fleet the true principles of organization for war are infringed in those essentials to the neglect of which it has been my duty to direct the attention of the constituted authority from time to time during my tenure of the command of the Channel fleet.	There is no difference in principle between the suggestions made by Lord Charles Beresford and the plan recently adopted by the Admiralty, towards which the Board claimed that their previous dispositions had been directed.

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Under these conditions the principles (1) of homogeneity and (2) of single supreme control are not observed, and a policy of dispersal of forces instead of one of concentration has been adopted.

Lord Charles regarded the situation as "a danger to national security" and demanding "immediate action."

The Committee concur with Sir Arthur Wilson in regarding the present organization as free from the objections which might be urged against the former and temporary organization.

No danger to the country resu'ted from the Admiralty's arrangements for war.

(*b*) Alleged deficiency in small craft.

The necessary small craft are not in existence, and the majority of the torpedo craft are unsuitable for the purposes required.

In Lord Charles Beresford's opinion the Admiralty were not in a position to make adequate provision for the protection of trade.

They are satisfied that as regards vessels of these classes there is no such deficiency as to constitute a risk to the safety of the country.

The evidence leads the committee to the opinion that there is no sufficient foundation for Lord Charles Beresford's apprehensions.

(*c*) Alleged absence of strategical plan.

"Upon assuming command of the Channel fleet I was unable to obtain any strategical scheme or plan for the disposal in war of the forces under my command."

In connection with the question of war plans, Lord Charles Beresford attributed many of the Admiralty's alleged shortcomings to the absence of a proper strategical department.

Serious as (in April) was the Dreadnought crisis, the condition of the fleet had been and was still far more serious, owing to defective organization.

This statement was modified under cross-examination, and the committee are satisfield that he had no substantial grounds for complaint in this matter.

The First Lord furnished a résumé of the steps which have recently been taken to develop a war staff at the Admiralty, and indicated further advances in this direction which are in contemplation.

No danger to the country resulted from the Admiralty's arrangements for war, whether considered from the standpoint of the organization and distribution of the fleets, the number of ships, or the preparation of war plans.

In the conclusion of their report the Committee make the following admission, of which Lord CHARLES BERESFORD is justified in making the most he can:—

The Board of Admiralty do not appear to have taken Lord Charles Beresford sufficiently into their confidence as to the reasons for dispositions to which he took exception;

though with praiseworthy impartiality they add:—

Lord Charles Beresford, on the other hand, appears to have failed to appreciate and carry out the spirit of the instructions of the Board, and to recognise their paramount authority;

and proceed to express the pious hope that things will be better in future:—

The Committee have been impressed with the differences of opinion amongst officers of high rank and professional attainments regarding important principles of naval strategy and tactics, and they look forward with much confidence to the further development of a Naval War Staff, from which the naval members of the Board and flag officers and their staffs at sea may be expected to derive common benefit.

In this concluding paragraph we have the one sole result of the long-drawn BERESFORD-FISHER controversy and of the Naval Enquiry to which it led; but the attempt of the ex-Commander in Chief to represent the British Navy as in a dangerously inefficient state has failed all along the line. The garb of the prophet of ill does not hang well on the gallant Admiral's shoulders. The hero of the Condor and the idol of the British tar is essentially a man of action; and the man of action is sometimes out of place in the field of controversy.

Less distinguished, but quite as demonstrative, in the *rôle* of naval Cassandras, are Messrs. WYATT and HORTON-SMITH, of the Imperial Maritime League. These stalwarts, who last year brought about the schism of the Navy League, represent the extreme "forward school" in naval matters. Their views may be gathered from their booklet "The True Truth about the Navy," the object of which, as stated in a prefatory note, is "to place before the British public. . . . some of the facts respecting the present state of the British Navy—facts of which no pageantry and no journalistic Admiralty-inspired puffs can obscure the terrible significance." According to these critics, there is not a good word to be said for the British Navy. It has deteriorated rapidly within the past five years (the period of the Fisher *règime*), and is still pursuing same the downward course. From the sub-title of the book—"Under the shadow of the German Sword"—and the fact that every page has something about the manifold iniquities of Sir John FISHER, the seeker after what must presumably be called "the true true truth about the Navy" will gauge the general character of its contents. The fact is that the present condition of the British Navy, while none would set up a claim for perfection, is not such as can fairly be described as "terrible," or "fraught with danger." The future of the British Navy will demand the most watchful care from those entrusted with its maintenance: but there is no reason to suppose that that trust has been betrayed. To come down to recent history—if the present Liberal Government, in view of the undoubted acceleration of the German programme of new construction, had refused to lay down the four additional or "contingent" Dreadnoughts, there might have been some ground for this outcry of prophetic souls. As it is, this decision of the Government—even granting that it was reached against their will—should produce a salutary effect among the noisy ones of both countries. Those, too, who make so much of the alleged unpreparedness of England in the face of the invasion danger, should remember that she maintains at present in the "narrow seas" 22 fully-commissioned battleships and 14 armoured cruisers of the most powerful types—a force fifty per cent. greater than could be assembled against it from the commissioned strength of any single Power. Whatever the future may hold in store for British maritime supremacy, its present state is such as to leave no scope whatever for gloomy vaticinations.

FIELD-MARSHAL LORD KITCHENER.

It is stated that Field-Marshal Viscount Kitchener will leave Peking on the 20th of October and arrive in Tokyo on November 2nd, having devoted the greater part of that interval to travelling in Manchuria, where he will be accompanied by Major-General Sir Henry Rawlinson, Lt. Colonel R. W. Boger, Military Attaché in Tokyo, Lt. Colonel the Hon. W. Lambton and Captain Fitzgerald, Personal Adjutant to his Lordship. We understand that the Japanese authorities have formed a reception committee and are sparing no effort to ensure the success of the tour. They have placed the "national guest car" at Lord Kitchener's disposal. We append a statement of Lord Kitchener's services:—

KITCHENER OF KHARTOUM. H.H. VISCOUNT, FIELD MARSHAL.

SOUDAN EXPEDITION 1884-5, NILE.—As Deputy Assistant Adjutant and Quarter Master General. Despatches, London Gazette, 25 August, 1885, Medal with clasp, bronze star; Brevet of Lieutenant-Colonel.

OPERATIONS ROUND SUAKIN 1886.—In command at the action of Handoub (severely wounded.)

SOUDAN 1888-9. Action at Gamaizah; in command of a brigade of the Egyptian Army. Despatches, London Gazette, 11 January, 1889, action of Toski. Despatches, London Gazette, 6 September, 1889, 2 clasps, Companion of the Bath.

EXPEDITION TO DONGOLA 1896.—Commanded the Expeditionary Force; operations of 7 June and 19 September. Promoted Major-General for distinguished service; Knight Commander of the Bath, 1st class Osmanieh; Egyptian medal with 2 clasps.

NILE EXPEDITION 1897.—Was the General Officer Commanding in Chief the Expeditionary Force throughout the operations. Despatches, London Gazette, 25 January 1898. Clasp to Egyptian medal.

NILE EXPEDITION 1898.—Was General Commanding in Chief the Expeditionary Force throughout the operations, including the battles of the Atbara and Khartoum. Despatches, London Gazette, 24 May and 30 September 1898. Raised to the Peerage; Grand Cross of the Bath, thanked by both House of Parliament, 2 clasps to Egptian Medal.

SOUTH AFRICAN WAR 1899-1902.—Chief of the Staff. Operations in the Orange Free State, February to May 1900, including the operations at Paardeburg (17 to 26 February.) Operations in the Transvaal in May and June 1900 including actions near Johannesburg and Pretoria. Operations in the Transvaal, east of Pretoria, July to 29 November 1900. Operations in the Transvaal west of Pretoria, July to 29 November 1900, including actions at Venterskroon, (7 to 9 August). Operations in Orange River Colony May to 29 November 1900. Operations in Cape Colony, south of Orange River 1899-1900.

Afterwards General Officer Commanding in Chief the Forces in South Africa, operations in the Transvaal, Orange River Colony, on the Zululand frontier of Natal and in Cape Colony 30 November 1900 to 31 May 1902. Despatches, London *Gazette*, 8 February and 16 April 1901. Promoted Lieutenant-General and General for distinguished service. Queen's medal with 3 clasps. King's medal with 2 clasps. Grand Cross St. Michael and St. George.

Promoted Field Marshal 14 September 1909.

Lord Kitchener is an Engineer officer. He was appointed to command the Army in India on 28 November 1902.

MR. IIJUIN.

It would seem that rumours have been recently in circulation as to Mr. Iijuin's recall from Peking and a change of Minister in that city. These rumours had not reached our ears, but we observe that the *Kokumin Shumbun* takes the trouble to deny them emphatically. It says that not only his exceptional knowledge of Chinese affairs but also his skilful diplomacy have won for Mr. Iijuin the full confidence of the Chinese Government and indicate him as eminently fitted to preside at the Japanese Legation in Peking. It is true, however, that he is about to return to Japan for a short time owing to the illness of his eldest son, who is just recovering from peritonitis and for whom the rigours of a Peking winter are not thought expedient. Mr. Iijuin will return *viâ* Manchuria and is expected to reach Tokyo by about the 3rd of November.

Mr. Imamura Nobuyuki, a judge of the Supreme Court, who was the father of Mr. Imamura Kyotaro, one of the eminent judges of the present generation, passed away on the 21st instant.

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A NEW SOLUTION OF AN OLD PROBLEM.

When a little child is born, one of the first thoughts to assert itself in the breast of the parents has regard to the duty of educating the little one, and the pleasure that there will be in watching the gradual unfolding of its powers, and especially the development of its intelligence.

The necessity of education is felt more keenly to-day than ever before. Wherever people are congregated in numbers, the body politic takes the matter in hand, and naturally gets far better results than where each family has to deal with the problem unaided by the co-operation of other members of the community. In the older countries, and where the civilization is homogeneous, the school-master and the school-house are never far distant, but to-day there is an ever increasing number of those who are out on some far-flung line of pioneering in a newly opened country, or who are living a practically solitary life among the alien population of some of the older civilizations. To such families the problem of the suitable education of children is one of the most trying. Many anxious, sleepless nights are spent over it, and on account of the lack of educational facilities families are often broken up years before they ought to be.

The writer, having spent some twenty years on the mission field, has seen much of the anxieties and difficulties of others, and has had difficulties of his own. No one wishes to be separated from his children earlier than is absolutely necessary, and in escaping from this horn of the dilemma, he is immediately cast on the other of depriving his little ones of such educational advantages as he himself enjoyed, and which seem to be only the right of the child. When, therefore he saw, a few months ago, an advertisement of the Calvert School, of Baltimore, Md., and noted at the bottom a word about Home Instruction Courses, he immediately wondered whether the Courses offered by this institution would not present at least a partial solution of this difficulty.

It is not that the mothers of isolated families do not have time to teach, for they reserve time for that very purpose. Nor is it that they themselves lack education, for they have perhaps spent several years in the school-room as teachers. The difficulty is that they are almost invariably removed far, in time, from modern pedagogical methods, are not acquainted with the most modern equipment of text-books, are somewhat mystified by the modern system of grading, and, never having made a study of it, are at a loss to know how to carry on that most difficult thing, viz., home instruction.

An examination showed that the plan offered was a splendid one for people living within ready mailing distance of Baltimore, say a thousand miles. There were courses of study covering six years of work. For each year an outfit of text books, and material was furnished. A week's supply of daily lesson outlines of the specific work to be done each day, together with instructions to the home teacher, are mailed to as to reach the pupil each Monday morning. Every twentieth lesson is a written and oral test of the work covered to that point, and is to be sent to the school to be examined and graded for criticism and suggestion.

As I looked over the prospectus I could not help but be delighted with the plan and the method of carrying it out, but feared that it would be confusing and in other ways ill-adapted to the needs of those living on the other side of the world from Baltimore. A few days later, as I was on the point of writing to ascertain if it were not possible to obtain the whole outfit at one time, with the daily lesson outlines for a year's work, thus obviating expense and trouble, I received from the same source a prospectus of their Abridged Home Instruction Course, and on examination found that it offered the very thing I was seeking for, and at a much cheaper rate.

The Unabridged Course is naturally the more desirable, and if the daily lesson outlines for the whole year or for half the year could be obtained at once, this arrangement would be worth the difference in price, but I am inclined to think that since the courses and the outfit of books is in the main the same in either course, most missionary mothers, at least, would get as good results from the abridged Course with its Manual of Instruction for the year as from the other.

It seemed to me that by asking the Calvert School to submit for examination the Outfit and Manual of Instruction for a couple of years of the course, and writing a description of the plan, I would be doing a Golden Rule service for very many isolated ones, so I communicated with them on the subject, and they were good enough to send me for examination the outfit for the first and for the fifth years.

There are courses of study for six years. They find that by the use of their methods, and since the teaching is largely individual, rather more can be done in the six years than is attained in the first eight years of the Common School, or at least as much. The course stops short of algebra, and the grammar hardly goes beyond the eighth grade, but the general education obtained, and skill in reading and composition would be above the requirements for grades above the eighth. It is understood, of course, that under the arrangement the teacher may extend or contract the time spent on the course according to circumstances.

The outfit for the first year includes fourteen books, four of them booklets, thirty-five Perry pictures, blank pads, pencils, eraser, etc., for the year. With this comes the Parents' Manual, which when carefully studied and digested, supplies the means for making the outfit effective. The price is $15.00. A family may be stationed at the mines in Korea or over beyond the Great Wall, but for this $15.00 the perplexing problems of What text-books? and How shall I use them? are solved. When this order arrives, the parent is as well off as if he had spent several evenings in careful consultation with an expert in education, and at some city book-store had been able, under his direction, to buy a stock of stationery and an outfit of the latest and best school books. He is better off, for he can consult his adviser during the year as he teaches, and when the outfit of books has been properly studied, he can find out from the same source just what step to take next. The outfit of the second year costs $16.00, of the third year $17.00, and so on, a dollar additional each year. In a letter the Head-Master says, "To missionaries using more than one set, we would quote the following discount: Two or more sets ordered at the same time, 20 per cent." I am inclined to think that it is the "two or more sets ordered at one time" that secures the discount, rather than the "missionaries." For the Unabridged Course, covering a complete course of instruction for thirty-two weeks and including all books and materials used by the pupil, the fee is fifty dollars.

The First Year books comprise four primers, for the simultaneous use of two of which, and the use of the others for sight reading, careful instructions are given. Next come three Nature Study Books, three Story Books (Folklore Stories, Stories of Myths, and Old-time Stories), one Poetry Book, one Arithmetic, and four brochures of History (Washington, Columbus, Franklin and the Pilgrims). With this comes the Parents' Manual, a pamphlet to be sure, but carefully setting forth the methods to be used. No one with children to educate can look over this set of books and read the manual without a very keen desire to start right in. If he has had experience already, he will breathe a sigh of relief as he sees the work systematically blocked out for him.

The school recommends that one or two batches of the pupil's work, a sample of each kind, during the year, be sent to receive criticisms and suggestion, and to make sure that the work is proceeding along right lines. Advice and a solution of perplexities may also be asked. The charge for either of the services is two dollars, for both at one time, three dollars.

In addition to Stationery Supplies, Pictures, Mounts, and the Manual for each year, there are for the Second Year, 14 books; for the Third Year, 13; for the Fourth Year, 14; for the Fifth Year, 18; and for the Sixth Year, 15 books. The books of each succeeding year are, of course, larger and more expensive.

It would not be easy to review one of the Manuals for Instruction. It is enough to say that they explain how to go at the work, how to complete it, and how to sustain the interest of the pupil throughout.

The books of the Fifth year comprise seven Classics, among them The Man without a country, Treasure Island, Sketch Book, The Last Days of Pompeii, etc.: Histories of Rome and of Greece, 275 pages each: one Poetry Book; one Nature Study Book: one Astronomy: one Geology: one Geography: one Arithmetic: one Speller: one Grammar: one Dictionary. These books are, of course, up to date, and the best obtainable for their purpose.

The prospectus of the Abridged Course which I received devotes several pages to setting forth the attainments that a pupil should have in order to begin a given year's work with satisfaction. For example, to enter the Fifth Year, Age: Pupil should be about 11 years old.

Reading: He should have read a number of whole books (not school books) by himself, and should be able to read with ease and expression a selection like the following in 45 seconds or less. Here follows a selection from Rip Van Winkle of ninety words.

Composition and Spelling:—He should be able to write an original composition on such a subject as "A Fire" or "My Favorite Study" at the rate of 50 words in 10 minutes with no more than two words spelled for him.

Grammar:—So much. Arithmetic:—So much. History:—So much. Geography:—So much. Without giving the whole of the requirements in each branch, the above will give an idea of how readily the course may be taken up by a pupil that has been studying for several years already.

The writer hopes that the readers of this article will understand that he is not an advertiser or promoter of educational institutions, but that in writing this article he has been engaged in a labour of love. He is about to separate from his family, leaving them in the United States for two years, principally for the sake of education. Had the proposition of the Calvert School come to his attention earlier, he might have found a less painful solution for his educational problem.

Among the names of the directors of the Calvert School are to be found those of some of the most distinguished citizens of Baltimore. Judging from my own experience, a letter of inquiry will receive the most courteous attention.

A. V. S. PEEKE.

THE BOOKSHELF.

Old as the World, by J. BRODIE INNES. George Bell and Sons, London.

ALTHOUGH the author puts in no such claim on its behalf, this book deserves to be called a romance, for, despite the ever present background of Continental police, it breathes the simple charm of bygone ages and the romantic spirit of heroes now forgotten, save in the world of legendary lore. The interest of the reader is awakened, from the very first chapter, by the fascinating yet mysterious personality of the Countess d'Attalaye; and if the fastidious critic, anxious to pursue her adventures, is apt to complain that there is "too much antiquary," he will forget his grumble in the interest of the *dénouement*. Mona Macleod, the heroine of the old-world island, is a delightfully drawn character, and the reader feels it is a fitting "act of God" that the thirsty, silent bog should overwhelm the gang of ruffians on her track.

Priscilla of the Good Intent: A Romance of the Grey Fells, by HALLIWELL SUTCLIFFE. George Bell and Sons, London.

THE fiction-loving public do not need to have Mr. Sutcliffe commended to their notice: they know him already as a clever writer of rural romances—not quite, to be sure, on the same plane as Blackmore or Thomas Hardy, but still with well-established claims to merit. "Miss Good Intent" is, indeed, a charming personage, to whom the stern beauties of the north-country moors and the fresh delights of spring (of which Mr. Sutcliffe speaks a great deal) make a fitting background. The author in this story performs the

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difficult feat—which apparently he had set before himself at the beginning—of gradually winning the reader's sympathy for a man who at the start is represented in the most unfavourable light—as being disliked, for reasons vaguely hinted, by every inhabitant of Garth Valley. Nevertheless the average reader finds himself regretting that the fine and wholesome yeoman, David the Smith, loses the fair Priscilla just because he is slow of tongue.

A Village Temptress, by FRED. WISHAW. George Bell and Sons, London.

THE scene of Mr. Wishaw's latest book is laid in Russia but the incidents recounted in the story—with the possible exception of the transportation to Siberia—might just as well have taken place in any other land. It is a tale of a village beauty, whose character is far inferior to her face, and who sets herself to dissuade, by means of her physical charms, a young man of her acquaintance from taking the vows of priesthood. Her persuasions failing, she resorts to jealousy as her last weapon, but here she is carried out of her depth. To save herself from violence at the hand of the intended rival, she uses a dagger on him with apparently fatal effects. The real lover sacrifices himself to save her, and is banished to Siberia. However, the truth comes out, and the girl is exchanged for her innocent and generous friend. But she is not left to ignominy, for another of her admirers, who is blest with wealth, pursues her to her prison, effects her release by the aid of his gold and marries her in spite of all! Subsequently the young priest finds one more after his own heart, so all ends well—too well, indeed, since the village temptress and would-be murderess finishes by becoming a Baroness! But it was ever thus. Did not the Psalmist see the wicked spreading himself and flourishing "like a green bay-tree"?

CHINESE NOTES AND NEWS.

It appears that John D. Rockefeller, who has so often been associated with Sunday School teaching in America, is interesting himself in education in China. Dr. Ernest de Witt Burton, of the University of Chicago, who recently arrived in San Francisco from the Far East, has spent the past year in the China neighbourhood studying its educational conditions. These studies have been made, it is said, as the initial movement in an enterprise which will have far-reaching educational effects on the Chinese people, and which will involve a preparatary outlay of a million dollars. The primary stages of the scheme will be worked out by Dr. Burton and Professor T. C. Chamberlain, of the Chicago University, who accompanied Dr. Burton during part of his travels.

Dr. Burton got quite out of the beaten trail of tourist travel in Western China and has many interesting stories to recount of his observations. This side trip occupied two months The journey to Chentu was made by steamer, house boat and sedan chair. There were six in the Burton party, and they had 65 servants to take care of them, as well as a military escort. For 14 days they travelled over a stone road, hundreds of years old and well preserved. "This road," said Doctor Burton, "runs through the most thoroughly cultivated country I ever saw. At night we stayed in Chinese inns, which are extremely uncomfortable. There was nothing else to do, however, as during our 14 days' journey along that road I saw only one spot where there was room to pitch a tent. In this province there are said to be 60,000,000 people. They neither export nor import anything. Their territory is absolutely self-supporting. Chentu, our destination, in the middle of this almost inaccessible land, is the finest native city I saw in China. It is far superior to Peking. In the city proper are about 300,000 inhabitants The population of the suburbs is about 10,000,000. Chentu is a walled city and in many respects quite modern. The streets are clean and well lighted; there are no beggars, business is good, and in the inclosure where the imperial city once stood are six schools where, 1,900 students are being educated."

The vastness of the mission field of China has sometimes had depressing effects on the leaders who are responsible for the worldly guidance of the Christian movement there. No one will deny that the English branch of the Protestant Church has fully shared with any other existing organization the gigantic work which has so far been undertaken in the Celestial Empire. For some time however, the feeling has existed in England that the missionary stations are not of that co-ordinate nature which conduces to the greatest possible achievements. With the object of supplying this believed shortcoming, and of forming what might be called an advisory Council of the Chinese missionaries, three British missionary secretaries will commence tours of inspection of the missionary stations in China during the next few months. Bishop Ingham is already on his way as the representative of the Church Missionary Society. In October the Rev. C. Stedeford, the newly appointed secretary of the United Methodist Church Missions, will start on a nine months' tour, extending from Shanghai to Yunnan. The other missionary tourist is the Rev. G. Currie Martin, the newly-appointed secretary of the London Missionary Society, who leaves London early in November. He will visit all the stations from Peking to Hongkong.

* * *

China militant! What enormous changes might the world quickly see if this idea were more than a mental picture: and, though the possibility seems to belie all traditions which history and association with the Chinese race have coupled with its members—that they are "all for peace and never for war," and "that the Chinese honour the civilian and despise the soldier,"—it seems that the spirit of militarism is permeating the mind of officialdom in the Middle Kingdom in a degree that was formerly unknown. Chinese diplomats might explain, with that ingenuous art for which they are so far and so long famed—that China's adaptation of western methods of preserving peace, by the creation of a huge army and navy, simply indicates the continuance of her historic adoration of peaceful pursuits!

Considerable interest attaches to a letter addressed to *The Nation* by Mr. E. W. Sawdon, who writes from the Friends' Mission in Chungking, West China. "We have to realise" that the comforting belief of China's historic abhorrence of all things warlike is in danger of becoming obsolete, however true in may have been in the past. Military drill, he says, is being rapidly introduced into the Chinese Government schools, and even into many mission schools. The Chinese are as keen on a big navy as some of the nations of the West, and are only held back by lack of money from building a strong fleet. Further, quite recently, an edict has been issued favouring conscription, and proposing four years' compulsory service under arms. A month ago we threw open our school play-ground for a combined display, on the part of all the schools in this city, of athletic sports. One of the Chinese schools, we were surprised to fined, wished to give an exhibition of rifle drill, but receiving from us an expression of opinion that this was not in accordance with our principles, they very courteously submitted something more peaceful for it. Their drill instructors, howevery, were all dressed in military garb."

* * *

The poppy is just now, perhaps, the most persecuted flower on earth. Continuing the war against it, in the Spring of the present year, the Chinese Board of Finance appointed several officials to investigate the suppression of the cultivation of the poppy in the Provinces of Kiangnan, Anhui, Honan, Shantung and Shansi. They have now reported as follows:—With regard to Kiangran, the cultivation of the poppy is confined to some fifteen districts within the Prefectures of Hwaingan, Suchow, Hanchow, and Tungchow. Of these the districts of Fung, Pei, Siao and Tangshan produce the most. In the year before last there were disastrous floods in Kiangpeh and the authorities attributed the fact that the people had not stored grain for such emergencies to the cultivation of the poppy and at once issued proclamations for the suppression of the growing of the opium plant. Last year the area under cultivation was reduced by more than one-half and this year it is reduced by quite 99 per cent. It can, therefore, be confidently hoped that the cultivation of the poppy will entirely cease in the Province of Kiangnan. The South of Anhui is not suitable for the cultivation of the poppy and it is confined to the North. Most of it is grown in Fungyang Fu and Yingchow Fu but small quantities are also grown here and there in the other districts. Since the proclamations for its suppression were issued last year the quantity grown has been reduced.

Opium is grown in most districts in Shantung but the districts of Teng Hsien, Tsining, Kinhsiang and Tan Hsien produce the most. Last year the Governor of Shantung issued a proclamation suppressing the cultivation of the poppy and he sent deputies to all parts of the province to make investigations with power to have all opium plants uprooted if they should find them. However, with regard to the three districts of Tsining, Kinhsiang and Tan Hsien, leave has been granted to the poor people to finish the present crop, as seeds have already been sown and if they are forced to uproot their opium plants they would be deprived of their means of livelihood; but it has been made clear to them that they must cease growing during the second-half of the year. On the whole the area under cultivation in Shantung is much reduced as compared with former years.

In Honan the districts of Hsiayih, Shangkiu and Yungcheng in Kweiteh Fu, and Hsu Chow, Siangcheng and Changkoh in Hsuchow Fu, produce the most opium for the market. Last Autumn the Governor of Honan ordered his subordinates to prohibit its cultivation and this Spring he sent out deputies to make investigations with power to uproot all opium plants found growing. But a lot is still grown in the Yungning district, for the same state of things is prevailing there as in Tsining, Kinhsiang and Tan Hsien. The local authorities petitioned to let the people finish the present crop on condition that they are to cease growing entirely during the second half of the year. As to the rest of the opium-growing districts, if cultivation has not entirely ceased, very little is grown.

Opium is grown practically all over the Provinces of Shansi. Since the proclamations for the suppression of the cultivation of the peppy were issued no more has been grown in the south, and although it has not been entirely suppressed in the north, only very little is grown here and there on the Mongolian Border.

FLOODS.

On the night of September 18, the Kanazawa (Kaga) neighbourhood was visited by a heavy rain. The Tetori and the Oumi Rivers have risen five feet and nine feet respectively. A number of houses were submerged and various parts of the district are threatened with inundations.

In Taihoku of Formosa, the Tamsui River has risen 17 feet in consequence of the continuous rainfall since the night of the 18th instant. Two thousand houses were submerged and eleven were washed away.

On September 18, heavy rain fell in Sumoto, Awaji province. Most of the houses in the city were submerged, and a number of bridges were washed away by torrent and streams of water. In the suburbs, some 980 acres of rice-fields are under water, but the damage to crops is believed to be comparatively small.

On the same day, Takaoka experienced a heavy rainfall and the banks of rivers there broke down in various parts.

On the 19th and 20th instant, heavy rain fell throughout Gifu prefecture. The Kiso and several other rivers rose over 20 feet. Reports of expected damage are not yet forthcoming.

In Ishikawa prefecture, rain fell from the 18th to the 20 inst. A large area of rice-fields along the Nanae railway line is submerged.

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OUR LONDON LETTER: SOME NEW BOOKS AND AN OLD ONE.

London, August.

"Kingsmead" is a novel by Baroness Von Hutten. It is, as is duly explained in a brief foreword, a sequel to those volumes which have already gained the authoress popularity, "Pam," "What became of Pam" and "The Halo." Its connection with them, however, is of the slightest, and in no way detrimental to the enjoyment of those who in "Kingsmead" meet Pam, Lensky, the young Earl and the beautiful Brigit for the first time. The story at present to be dealt with is extremely simple. The young Earl of Kingsmead (who, by the way, seems to be called "Tommy" by practically everybody) has been compelled by bad health and lack of funds to spend some years in his lonely little domain in Italy. He sells his ancestral acres to a Croesus who has invented an imperishable enamel for lining bath tubs, and who is also the father of Kingsmead's great college friend, Teddy Lansing. In chapter I. the family, consisting of Mr. and Mrs. Lansing, the son just mentioned and a daughter, Inez are already in possession, and Lord Kingsmead coming to pay them a visit (in his own old house) mistakes his host for the butler.

Tommy, an innocent, sympathetic and sensitive soul, is soon drawn into the Lansing affairs, which are not happy, for the children are irked by their parents' want of education and culture, and the parents are deeply wounded at their children's attitude. Quixotically, Lord Kingsmead sets his lance in rest and engages on their behalf. He wishes to gratify the daughter's social ambitions, that she may see her parents' sterling qualities appreciated and their sincerity honoured by those great ones of the earth whose opinion she so much values, and thus herself learn to estimate them at their true worth. He wishes, above all things, to give his friend Teddy Lansing his heart's desire, and to help this rich and handsome young man in his wooing of Nanny Gilpin, a young, charming and slightly mysterious widow.

Lord Kingsmead's enthusiastic and youthful altruism and the pass to which it brings him and his friends, these are the themes of this simple and rather wistful tale. That sort of playing with fire, which is involved when a man too passionately pleads his friend's cause with a woman, and its dire results are old subjects with the weavers of romance. It is treated here not perhaps very strikingly, but with great neatness, delicacy and charm.

The story ends as it should, somewhat sadly, but not hopelessly. Lord Kingsmead, taking the better part, escapes to his lonely little castle by the Italian sea. There Nanny Gilpin follows him, but finishes by bidding him farewell, leaving with him as a keepsake a little silver mirror which she was wont to wear hanging at her side: "From under her cloak she brought the silver mirror, and put it into his hand. 'I will keep it? Yes. Now, good-bye.' For a moment they looked at each other, and then she left him and went down the steps without turning. He, the glass in his hand, stood on the parapet above the path, looking after her as she went, following through the olives the dancing round light of the lantern.

"The moonlight shed, as it fell through the olive trees, lacy shadows about her, and he could see that her head was bowed. He did not think that she was crying: she was not a tearful woman, just as she was not a rebellious one.

"Her extraordinary step in following him to the Castelletto was, he knew, very indicative of her gentle courage, but her quiet departure without a scene, without any display of passion or resentment was a characteristic. She had gone and he would not see her again. . . The lantern bobbed in and out down the steep path, and he still could see her little figure pathetically following it—then at a sharp turning it was gone.

"After five minutes or so, he saw again the bobbing light, but it was among thick set fir trees now, and the moonlight could not penetrate them. He no longer saw her. At last he drew a deep breath, and walking slowly back to the sea front, knelt by the parapet and putting the little mirror down on the rough stone between his outstretched arms, laid his cheek against it."

Tommy, the hero of "Kingsmead" is a delicate young man of the "Little Billee" type. His character is drawn with a good deal of sympathetic insight, humour and tenderness. His innocence, romantic qualities, his charm of manner, his nervousness are all convincing. The pathetic aspect of his nature is perhaps too much insisted upon. In this connection the author does not rely sufficiently upon the power of suggestion, and the whole thing becomes rather overstrained and sentimental in consequence. Somewhat obvious also is the contrast between Lord Kingsmead and his friend young Lansing, a person of Apollo-like appearance, not altogether uncommon in fiction. Teddy Lansing is a terrible stick. How infinitely difficult it would seem to be to draw an absolutely healthy normal character in a convincing way. Other faults of the book are a certain thinness, a lack of roundness and completeness in the presentation of the minor characters. That of Inez is very conspicuous in this respect—and a vague looseness of construction which allows persons to go wandering aimlessly in and out of the action. This is a bar to that pure singleness of purpose which is the very triumph of art, through which the simplest story attains tragic proportions. "Kingsmead" stops short of this, but is a very pretty tale.

* * *

Faith, by T. B Cunninghame Graham, possesses in a marked degree that very quality of single-mindedness in artistic creation of which mention has just been made. The book is composed of a number of quite short stories, sketches, impressions, essays or what-not, all modest in conception, possessed for the most part of the very frailest thread of plot, yet withal so arresting that he who reads wonders that he is so much impressed and sets down the book saying: "This is the real thing" Little incidents are treated, obscure characters and small episodes of travel, but from these are wrung the very soul, the poetry and the utmost meaning, and the whole is told in a style so limpid, so fresh and flowing, that one swears that all had come easy to the writer and that he had set down his thoughts just as they came. But this idea is put out of mind by the opening words of the preface: "Everything that a man writes brings sorrow to him of one kind or another. Especially is this the case as time goes on, and catches one a thinking on the days when that which now is but a shadow, even though fairly stamped upon a page in moulded letters, was once a living thing. Let nobody deceive himself (as is the wont of many, here in this island home of ours) that books are spun out from the inner consciousness, after the fashion that the learned German evoked his elephant, or of him who made the fiddle out of his own head and still had wood sufficient left in it to make another violin

"All that they (men) write, even the sonnets, those of Shakespeare and of Keats, has cost them labour and much biting of their pens." The writer goes on to say that all his stories are sad, and explains the melancholy of this his confession of faith:—"Is it not better to write truthfully, when all is sad, than to write on sad things after the manner of your only jig maker.

"Cooped underneath the sky, like butterflies shut up by schoolboys under a fingerbowl, we can but flutter, or if we fly, rise only to the middle of the glass. What we can do is to look out as far as possible through the imprisoning crystal and set down what we see. So, I have written all the sketches in the book as clearly as my vision serves me to peep out." The author has given us about a dozen and a half brief pieces They deal with various countries and various points of view, some of them are mystical, others merely descriptive. Perhaps he is at his best when he writes of the old towns of Spain or of Spanish monastic life, as he does in "Sor Candida" and the Bird," the first story in the book. The tale is of a dying bird, rescued by a nun to become the darling of the cloister. The good Mother Superior is much exercised lest Sor Candida's love for the singing bird should be a stumbling block in her way to Heaven, yet she cannot find it in her heart to banish it. At last, upon a great Saint's day in the heat of the Summer, a day of processions and services and religious excitement, the little bird was forgotten and nightfall beheld "Sor Candida sobbing and calling down the curses of the Lord upon her head. Before her on a chair was set the little cage, where once the rescued bird had sat upon his perch, and had poured forth the melodies which, as the nuns averred, were praises to the Lord.

"The cage was there, a lump of sugar and a piece of groundsel, dried brown with heat, were sticking in its bars. The earthen water vessel was upset and dry, and in the bottom lay a little bundle of dishevelled feathers, out of which stuck a head with glassy eyes and beak wide open, showing that the poor occupant of the cane cell had died of thirst; but rescued, as it seemed, to taste once more the bitterness of death by an inexorable fate.

"Tears blurred the eyes of the good-natured prioress. Twice she essayed to speak, and then Sor Candida, rising from her knees, looked at her wildly and exclaimed. 'This is the sin against the Holy Ghost I have committed.' So there is tragedy in the passing of a singing bird."

* * *

Mr. Maurice Hewlett is well known as a writer of romance, he is famed for his picturesque style, his power of telling a good story, his faculty for presenting the life of past ages in a manner remarkably striking and vivid, full of colour and sound. *Artemision*, lately published, is his first volume of poetry (excepting a slight essay in verse which appeared in 1896), and it is naturally regarded with a good deal of interest. As is shown by the name of his book, Mr. Hewlett has chosen a classical theme, but, as was to be expected from one of Mr. Hewlett's literary temper, he has treated the subject in the romantic manner. It is delightful to observe how the poet has held his exuberance in leash. The poetry of *Artemision* is characterized by an unexpected restraint, a beautiful dignity and severity. These qualities are, it may be, in some degree borrowed from the classic muse, but the love of vagueness, of twilights and misty landscapes, the idea of the mysticism and the paths of youth, the intimate love of nature in every mood, the feeling for the value of the grotesque, these are the signs of the romantic poet, and they are everywhere to be found in Mr. Hewlett's work.

Artemision is for the most part devoted to the presentation of various aspects of the personality of the Goddess Artemis. The longer pieces are three "Idylls of the Huntress," *Leto's Child*, *The Niobids* and *Latmos*. There is also a sonnet sequence, called *Hymnia's Wreath*, and a few short songs collected under the title of *Tribute*. In *Latmos* Endymion's flock in the gloaming is beautifully described:

"Below him as he lay the muffled sheep
Like tombs adown the hillside seemed to creep. . . ."

and when the Goddess appeared to him:—

"She seem'd a thing compact of windy water
And rays of light as if the Sun had wrought her
Of his own fire, and temper'd what he made
With the cold ripple whence his skill had caught her.
From him she had her beam of falchion blade,
In all else of shrill wind she was the daughter."

Very characteristic too are the lines in the second Idyll which tell of the death of Niobe's children:— . . .

"That day there never came
The leap of fire, nor ever more should dart
Fire from that precinct, for Phthia held her heart
And sobbed and fell down; and her mother turn'd
Holding the torch aside, kneeling, and yearn'd
Over her while she counted her faint breaths
And saw creep up that colour which is Death's.
Was that sharp cry half choking and half grief,
Agenor's? Lo he smileth; but no leaf
Strung to the aspen by invisible thread
Shivers more lightly-nay, he droops his head
Into his bosom suddenly! The rest
Is folding of hands upon the the breast."

At the end of the book are a few short poems of a

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different character. Of these, "Ask me not how much I love you,' is very reminiscent of Elizabethan song writers. "In a Church" is quite modern in spirit and in treatment, and is a beautiful suggestive little poem, depending more for its effect upon what is left unsaid than upon what is set down. This is the most insidious sort of poetry, for its aim is to make poets of us, ourselves all unawares. Which is preposterous.

* * *

Great regret has been felt in literary, political and social circles at the death of Sir Theodore Martin, essayist, scholar, poet, translator, author of the "Life of the Prince Consort." He died last week at the great age of ninety-three, at Bryntysilio in Wales, after an illness of some weeks.

Theodore Martin was born in Edinburgh in 1816, he was educated there, but before he was thirty years old he came to live in London and to begin his literary career. In 1845 there appeared "The Book of Ballads." edited by Bon Gaultier, which was in reality the work of Theodore Martin and his friend, Professor Aytoun of Edinburgh University. Later Martin became famous as a translater. He has translated at various times in his long life portions of Virgil, Horace, Catullus, Goethe, Dante and Leopardi. In 1867 he undertook by request to write a Life of the Prince Consort, and acquitted himself with great honour in this delicate and difficult task. In 1883 he brought out a *Life of Lord Lyndhurst*, the Chancellor, in 1894 there appeared "Madona Pia" and other Dramas, one of his rare contributions to the body of English Poetry.

Sir Theodore Martin could remember Sir Walter Scott. As a boy he saw Scott often "Walking down Princes Street—a very tall old man with a club foot, leaning heavily upon a stick round which his legs seemed to twist as he walked." He said, "I can vividly recall Sir Walter sitting as clerk in the Court of Session. He would sometimes seem to go to sleep during the proceedings and then suddenly wake up and begin scratching upon paper with a quill."

Sir Theodore was familiar with Lord Lytton, with Thackeray, Dickens, Kingsley, Tennyson and George Eliot. He was present at the reconciliation between Dickens and Thackeray after their quarrel over Edmund Yates at the Garrick Club. He thought Thackeray was the kindest and the most generous, the most tender-hearted of men. Afterwards Sir Theodore Martin saw Dicknens at Thackeray's funeral, and on that occasion he wrote: "I am sure Dickens must have been very glad that they had shaken hands and been restored to the old footing before Thackeray died. The estrangement must have been very painful to Thackeray, who had a high opinion of Dickens and wrote the most laudatory things about him that ever were written." Concerning Thackeray, Sir Theodore Martin said: "He was not a brilliant talker at he dinner table, but on the contrary was singularly taciturn in general society. Sitting chatting with us in the morning he was like a great large-hearted schoolboy, but at a dinner table in the evening he would probably only utter a few sentences. He was a very reserved man except when among those with whom he felt quite at his ease."

I have before me Bon Gaultier's Ballads and read the *Envoy* that went with them when they first appeared for the delectation of delighted literary England:—

"Come buy my lays and read them if you list;
My pensive public, if you list not, buy.
Come, for you know me. I am he who sang
Of Mister Colt, and I am he who framed
Of Widdicomb the wild and wistful song.
Come, listen to my lays and you shall hear
How Wordsworth battling for the Laureate's wreath,
Bore to the dust the terrible Fitzhall;
How N. P. Willis for his country's good,
In complete steel, all bowie knived at point,
Took lodgings in the Snapping Turtle's womb.
For you 'bright harped Tennyson shall sing,'
Macaulay chant a more than Roman Lay,
And Bulwer Lytton, Lytton Bulwer erst,
Unseen amidst a metaphysic fog,
Howl melancholy homage to the moon;
For you once more Montgomery shall rave
In all his wrapt rabidity of rhyme;
Nankeened Cockaigne shall pipe his pining note
And our young England's penny trumpet blow."

"Bon Gaultier" produced his ballads not merely to amuse, but also to strike at some prevailing literary craze or perversion of taste. Every decade has its own, and they pass and die forgotten. In the years 1840-45 there was an immense vogue for novels, songs and plays of which the ruffians of the Newgate Calendar were the accepted heroes. The deeds of Dick Turpin and Jack Sheppard were celebrated, "Paul Clifford" and "Eugene Aram" occupied honourable positions in high romance. To ridicule this dangerous and degrading taste "Bon Gaultier" included in his Book of Ballads, a poem in the best mock heroic style, *The Death of Duval*. It describes in sounding numbers the end of that worthy at Tyburn Tree.

". . . . . His story,
He knew was graven on the page of Time.
Tyburn to him was as a field of glory.
Where he must stoop to death his head sublime.
Hymned in full many an elegiac rhyme.
He left his deeds behind him, and his name—
For he, like Caesar, had lived long enough for fame."

As the brothers Smith in their *Rejected Addresses* deliciously parodied Scott, Byron, Coleridge, Wordsworth and Southey, so "Bon Gaultier" dealt with Macaulay, Tennyson, Mrs Browning and Leigh Hunt. *Locksley Hall* is taken off in *The Lay of the Lovelorn*, beginning:—"Comrades, you may pass the rosy. With permission of the chair, I shall leave you for a little for I'd like to take the air." The hero dreams of an Utopia in the African wilds.

"There, methinks would be enjoyment, where no envious rule prevents;
Sink the steamboats! Cuss the railways! Rot O rot the three per cents.
There the passions cramped no longer, shall have space to breathe, my cousin:
I will wed some savage woman—nay, I'll wed at least a dozen."

Turning over the pages we find jokes about Leigh Hunt's metrical affectations, jokes about the Prince Consort, jokes about Schiller and German romance, jokes about Astly's circus, topical jokes about the Scotch. The book has pictures too, by Doyle, and Leech and Crowquill—it affords the same kind of pleasure as an old volume of *Punch*.

Alas for the humour that has become so faint and obscure with the swift passage of years. Aforetime it was fresh, and sharp and bubbling. It caused ladies in ringlets and skirts flounced to smile genteely, and gentlemen in nankin trousers to roar with laughter. Now to the general reader it is so much old-fashioned stuff, and the tender-hearted regard it rather pitifully. Shall they then have no reward, who in their time have faithfully served the Comic Muse, their Mistress? They are crowned with vine leaves, and garlands of hops which fade quickly and drop from their foreheads into the dust. And the elusive nymph runs here and there upon her cloven feet, and smiles her faun's smile, enigmatical.

THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL OF PROTESTANT CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

Probably but few persons realize that protestant missions in Japan are only fifty years old. Yet it is brought to mind by the announcement that the Semi-Centennial of the Planting of Protestant Christianity in Japan is to be celebrated at Tokyo October 5th-10th by a national congress of Christian Workers. But although the first missionaries came just 50 years ago, the Japanese church itself is barely 37 years old. Indeed, one of the unique features of the forthcoming celebration will be the presence of not a few Japanese and missionaries who have seen the church grow from nothing to its present proportions. Even more impressive is the fact that of the pioneer missionaries, Dr. Hepburn and Bishop Williams, are still living, and messages from them will probably be read at the celebration. The re counting at this gathering of the perils and discouragements and painfully slow progress of the earlier decades will serve to throw into bold relief the present strength of the Christian forces in the Empire.

This Semi-Centennial will also be noteworthy because in it the Japanese and the missionaries will co-operate for the first time, in an event of this kind, on an equal footing. In 1883 and 1900 national conventions were held, but they were composed exclusively of missionaries.

The Centennial of Protestant Missions in China, celebrated in 1907, was likewise a gathering of missionaries only. There were doubtless good reasons in those cases for such exclusiveness. But that day has passed in Japan, by virtue of the growth in numbers and in leadership of the Japanese church. No one realizes this more clearly than the missionaries, and it was at their suggestion that the approaching celebration was made a joint affair. The Japanese leaders responded eagerly to the proposal, and for a year past a joint committee of 22 members has been making preparations for the gathering.

The programme is striking for the scope of the topics to be considered, as well as for the ability of those who are to discuss them. Altogether the occasion gives promise of being a significant and memorable event in the history of Christianity in Japan.

INTERPORT GOLF.

The annual interport golf match between teams representing Yokohama and Kobe will take place on the Rokkosan links next Sunday, the 26th inst. says the *Kobe Herald*. The Singles will be played in the morning, and the Foursomes in the afternoon. The Yokohama team will be the guests of the Kobe Golf Club at lunch on the day of the match. The following are the players chosen to do battle for their respective ports:—

KOBE.—A. S. Clarke, J. L. Crockatt, J. M. Mollison, J. F. Rabbitt, W. Ross, H. C. Sandford, J. D. Thomson, J. P. Warren (Captain).

YOKOHAMA.—G. G. Brady, W. W. Clark, F. E. Colchester. P. A. Cox, W. Galloway, K. Haraman, E. C. Jeffery, A. B. Lowson (Captain).

The Amateur Golf Championship of Japan is to be played for on Rokkosan on Saturday, 25th inst. Particular interest attaches to the Championship this year, as among the competitors are Mr. A. B. Lowson, of Yokohama, who won the Championship at Rokkosan in 1907, Mr. F. E. Colchester, of Yokohama, who won at Yokohama in 1908, Captain E. I. M. Barret, who was runner up for the Shanghai Championship this year, and Lieutenant Monteith, who has just won the Hongkong Championship, beating that well-known golfer, Mr. Walkinshaw, in the final by 1 up. In addition to the above, Mr. J. L. Crockatt and Mr. A. S. Clarke of Kobe may be heard of, as both these gentlemen have been playing good Golf at Rokkosan this season, and everything therefore points to a very fine and close struggle for the coveted trophy.

YACHTING.

Sailing races took place on Saturday last under the disagreeable conditions of a light breeze and heavy rain.

The large boats raced over the Kawasaki Course, distance 14—25 miles, for a Club prize. Only two boats started *Mary* allowing *Asagao* 40 minutes. The former took the lead from the start and won easily.

Six 22-raters sailed over the Mandarin Bluff and Lightship Course:—*Edna*, *Pele*, *Winsome*, *Sunbeam*, and *Valkyrien Windspiel* Of these *Winsome* led from start to finish, crossing the line two minutes ahead of *Pele*, the second boat; *Edna* was third.

Eight larks sailed over the usual course. No. 2 (sailed by Mr. N. Brocklurst) won with ease; No. 4 second; No. 12 third, the last mentioned being awarded the prize on handicap.

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, August 28th.

A Black Gang paper has discovered that the Beast of the Apocalypse is—Count Tolstoy! The "proof" is the usual juggle with figures to produce the "number of the Beast." In the present case it is ingeniously done by adding up the value of the Slavonic letters forming the Count's name and patronymic: these amount to 277. Then the value of the letters T-o-l-s-t-o-y are added up, making 980. The veritable "number of the Beast" is procured by subtracting the first from the last, that is, all that belongs personally to the writer from the name he bears in common with others. The Russian word for "free-thinker," according to the value of the Slavonic letters as figures, also adds up to 666.

The question of syndicates and trusts in Russia is treated in the official organ of the Ministry of Finance in such a way as to indicate that practically all the great industries of Russia to-day are trusts to all intents and purposes, at least in so far as the consumer is concerned. This is especially marked in two cases; those industries which are specially fostered by the Government, and those which have been entirely founded on foreign capital. To the former belongs the Sugar Industry. In the last two decades the production of sugar has more than doubled, yet the number of refineries was twenty years ago 19 and is now only 23. To the other category belong chiefly the metallurgical industries. 12 Ural mills hold 75 per cent. of the production of roofing-iron: 7 (out of a total of 13) rail rolling mills turn out 90 per cent of the rails produced in Russia: coal is in the hands of a couple of dozen firms, of which all but two are already formally amalgamated into the trust known as "Produgol" *i.e.* "Coal-sel." The amount of concentration found in Russian industries is shown in the speaking figures which follow.

All the "large industrial undertakings" *i.e.* those employing 500 hands and upwards number only from 2 per cent. to 5 per cent. of the total number of factories, mills, etc. in Russia: but they turn out 75 per cent. of the total production.

In a turf bog near Tobolsk has been found in a fair state of preservation, a Mongolian warrior, with wooden armour, an iron sword with bronze hilt, leather sword-belt and sheath. The sword hilt is graved with hieroglyphics said to be Japanese, and scholars date the find as belonging to the IV. or V. Century of the Christian era.

An Exhibition of Russian toys, that is of toys used in Russia, including the innumerable alien races that go to make up "All the Russias" is being arranged for under the auspices of the Moscow *Zemstvo*.

The usual annual manœuvres before the Emperor at the camp of Krasnoe Selo and surrounding country were concluded to day, and next week the Imperial Family will leave for the Crimea, to rest at the Palace of Livadia before visiting the King of Italy at Buri. This Italian town has a special interest for Russians inasmuch as it is the only place in the world outside the Russian dominions where are preserved the holy relics so revered by the Orthodox under the name of *mosci*. If my memory does not betray me it is the relics of a Saint Nicholas which are still preserved at Bari.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW WITH COLONEL LIAKHOV.

Late Commanding the Persian Cossacks of the Shah:—

"The Persian Cossacks," said Colonel Liakhov, "are a body of men specially recruited for long service, properly equipped, armed, housed and fed; practically the service means a career for life for a good man. They are the only force in Persia which can be called a military force according to the meaning of that term elsewhere in the world. As such they have had a double duty to perform, firstly as the only military force in Persia, and secondly what I may call the international police duty of guaranteeing the lives and property of the foreign residents in Persia. I never had under me more than 1750 men, and of that number 750 as a maximum and 500 as a minimum were always away on special duty. My Brigade, for instance, provided the guards to all the foreign Missions and Consulates in Teheran, with the exception of the Russian and the British, both of which had their own guards. Various foreign establishments, Banks, Commercial houses, were regularly guarded by my Cossacks, Convoys of bullion for the Imperial Bank of Persia from one town to another were provided by the Brigade. These were regular demands upon my resources in men, but I was frequently asked to detach men for special purposes, and invariably did so. I treated all nations equally and have given assistance to British, German, French and others as well as Russians with perfect impartiality. It is false, though it has been often stated that I used the Brigade in any way whatever to push Russian views or Russian interests. (Col Liakhov here gave a large number of instances where different nationalities had profited by the assistance of his men in the most varied ways). In the capacity of international police we had thus plenty to do and the demands made upon our little force were always large in proportion to its strength.

As a military force my Brigade has on two occasions been engaged under conditions which it has been found necessary to carefully analyse: these two occasions are, the events of June 23rd last year, the fighting at the Mejlis, and the events of only a few days ago preceding the entryof the popular party in arms into Teheran. What happened on the first occasion is briefly this. A small force of the Persian Cossacks was sent out, as had happened often before, on purely police duty. It was treacherously fired upon from behind, 25 men were killed and twice as many wounded. Every man at the two guns was killed, all the horses either killed or disabled, and the guns with the ammunition train left in the square under fire entirely without cover. This act of treachery, and its results constituted a condition of things which I, as Commander of the Brigade, on my arrival on the scene, considered to justify me in dropping the rôle of police and proceeding to purely military measures. I frankly confess that I acted entirely on my own initiative in this, and I believe that no military man of experience will find any fault with my decision.

The second occasion on which the Brigade acted as a military force was in the events of a few weeks ago. In June last the Shah was in residence at Sultanetabad about eight miles from Teheran. It became known that large bodies of more or less disciplined rebels—their actions made them rebels by this time—were marching on the Capital along two roads It was decided, for military reasons, to attack the approaching enemy at a considerable distance from the city. A force of sarbazes, stiffened with 130 of the Persian Cossacks, sat astride the road from Teheran to Ispahan to meet the attack of Sardar Assad. The Kazvin road was occupied by the Brigade, one body of 400 men holding the mainroad sixteen miles from Teheran, the other of 300 men the branch road at about twelve miles from the capital. The two roads join within a few miles of Teheran. Owing to the absence of the Shah from Teheran my small force was necessarily scattered: it was impossible to leave our headquarters in the capital unprovided for; it was necessary to provide an adequate body-guard from the Brigade for the Shah in residence eight miles away from Teheran; thus only 700 men could be spared for active operations in the field. To these were added some 350 sarbazes, an addition which did not increase the fighting value of the force.

The enemy marching on the Kazvin road line of advance was doubly formidable in that they had an admirable leader in Sapehdar, and in their ranks were from 1,000 to 1,500 Caucasians (*i.e.* Russian subjects of various races from the Caucasus) men who had been engaged in revolutionary fighting for years and were armed with the best weapons procurable. Including this contingent from the Caucasus, Sapehdar had 2,500 men under him. On June 20-3 July his force made an attempt to turn the flank of the Cossack force astride the Kazvin road and a sharp action took place. Sapehdar lost about fifty killed and as many wounded, and we beat off the attack. There were other attacks made without any definite results for either side. The severest was made on June 27-28, July 10-11, by 5,000 of the enemy, that is, Sapehdar's entire force, including the Caucasians, and a force of 2,500 men who had marched round from the other line of advance on the Ispahan road. We were also reinforced from the Ispahan defending force, and an indecisive engagement took place. After this a council of war was held, and the decision arrived at was for us to attack in force on July 1 and 14. The disposition of the forces on the Kazvin road, and the road forking from it was then as follows; our right flank was occupied by a force of the Brigade with 4 guns; our left flank was likewise occupied by the Brigade, with 2 guns, and the two wings were about five miles apart. Between them, and slightly in advance was the force sent up from the Ispahan road, forming our centre. In spite of great numerical inferiority we expected to be able to give a good account of ourselves, inasmuch as we had a superior artillery. The enemy had many more guns, but ours were more modern and more powerful. But the fight never came off, for on the night of June 29 and July 12 something happened between the enemy and the Persian force occupying our centre—what precisely occurred I do not know to this day—but before morning the main body of the enemy was allowed to pass through the centre of our position, between the two forces of my Brigade, and, avoiding the roads, made across country to Teheran, entirely unopposed. I was at the headquarters in the city and ordered a couple of guns and all the men I was able to muster, to oppose the entrance of the enemy at the city gates. Before my force got away, however, the news came that the enemy were already at the gate. There remained then nothing but to stand fast and defend our headquarters. By my orders the body of Persian Cossacks on the right flank of our intended order of battle drew off across country to the Shah's Palace, and the left flank body hastened into Teheran to headquarters.

Our position was now a desperate one. I had only 350 men with me. Outside, all round the barracks, was a city of 300,000 inhabitan, of whom 70,000 I knew were armed, and of these not less than 20,000 perfectly capable of using their arms with advantage against us. There were, besides, the forces of the late enemy now marching into Teheran. I made the best dispositions possible by seizing posts in advance of the four corners of our barracks, and prepared to resist attack while trusting to be relieved from Sultanetabad, where there was an ample force of all arms. An attempt to relieve us was made on July 1st and 14th, but without avail. Two attempts were made from different points on the following day, likewise without being pushed home. After this the Sultanetabed forces appeared to have accepted it as an impossibility to relieve us. We were thus four and three nights besieged in our barracks and attacked all the time, both rifle fire and guns being employed against us. On the morning of the 3rd and 16th July the Shah took sanctuary in the Russian Mission and our task was over."

St. Petersburg, August 31.

Two Imperial ukazes are published to day. One, dated Aug. 12/25th at Peterhof, and countersigned by the Minister of War, abolishes the "Committee of State Defence," which was established in 1905 Its object was not, as erroneously supposed abroad at the time, to deal with the question of the defence of the State from foes without: the word "defence" has a technical meaning in Russia, and signifies the defence of the regime from its internal foes. The so called "political" or "secret" police of Russia exist likewise for the "defence" of the State, and their Russian title contains the same word. It is a promising sign that this very suddenly created Committee of Defence is now abolished.

The other ukaz, dated 8/21 August, also at Peterhof, re-enacts for one year more the measures for the "defence" of the State which enable any part of the Empire to be put under martial law. It is likewise a promising sign in this ukaz that the enactment is "for one year or until such time as a new law replaces these measures if such law be enacted before the expiry of the year for which this ukaz runs." Evidently it is considered

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possible that the Duma may shortly take in hand the consideration of the basis upon which the "extraodinary measures of defence" by virtue of which martial law replaces the law of the land over so great an area of Russia.

Both these ukazes indicate a growing satisfaction with the state of the pupular feeling in Russia on the part of the highest authorities, and are therefore to be welcomed by all who look forward to an era of slow and steady constitutional progress.

The Minister of Commerce, M. Timirjazev, who recently accompanied to a German Kurort his ailing wife has now received news of her somewhat sudden death at Nauheim, and has taken leave of absence to attend the funeral.

M. Stolipin arrives in St. Petersburg this evening. The President of the Duma, M. Khomiakov, will return within a fortnight with other leading members, and sittings of the Budget Committee will immediately begin, in preparation for the forthcoming Autumn Session.

The sporting world of St. Petersburg is greatly interested in an endurance trial of motor-cars between the capital and Riga, there and back. Twenty-three started and 20 have arrived at Riga, the other three having abandoned the trial. Prizes will be given not for speed so much as for marks obtained under various heads, absence from minor mishaps, duration of enforced stops etc., en route, a member of the committee of judges accompanying each car.

The mail train on the Great Siberian Line has been robbed at a small station about a hundred miles beyond Mariinsk (1200 miles from St Petersburg). At the station Kritovo the engine was detached and sent off at speed down the line: it wrecked a goods train before stopping. Meantime the robbers secured the valuables in the mail train, in particular the takings of the Eastern section of the line, which were being conveyed to headquarters.

Moscow is preparing to rebuild in a more-substantial form the so-called "Borodino" bridge leading from the city to the spot where the famous Council of War took place at which it was decided to abandon Moscow to Napoleon. It has been proposed to adorn the new bridge with statues of the foremost actors in the "national war" of 1812.

Capt. Grigoriev of the 91st Infantry Regt, who was taken ill with cholera on coming off guard at the Winter Palace last week, has since died.

The headmaster of a school founded and administered by him for the past 25 years at Odessa, conceiving himself wrongly treated by the authorities who summarily dismissed him, set fire to the building, which was partially destroyed His successor, a member of the Odessa Black Gang, who held a subordinate post under the headmaster, was in the building at the time and died of heart shock.

As usual at this time of year in Russia extensive fires are reported from various districts. After the scorching suns of Summer the wooden houses of Russian villages are as inflammable as touchwood, and the least lack of care with artificial lights in the early Autumn evening leads to appalling conflagrations. A thousand homes were destroyed in these three fires.

Large quantities of mommoth bone are found in the Province of Jakutsk, and a certain amount is exported. The mammoth bone is a peculiarly dense form of ivory. It is found in tons in peat-bogs, and elsewhere. The local authorities are arranging to send boys to Moscow to be instructed in the art of ivory carving with a view to utilising these rich deposits of antiquity to the best advantage by constructing on the spot all kinds of little objects in mammoth ivory. The best pieces have acquired a greenish tinge here and there in the ivory white of the bone, others are brownish, with veins of green.

The *Novoe Vremja* correspondent at Blagovêsçensk tells a curious story of the manners and customs of Siberian merchants ambitious of dealing in gold. Siberia is still unsurveyed over by far the greatest part of its extent, and the surveys that exist are very superficial and inaccurate. It is impossible to say what gold there may be, or where it is. Thus for generations past all the homeless men of the Russian Far East, the runaway exiles, convicts, and deserting soldiers, to say nothing of the natives and enterprising yellow men from Manchuria, have been in the habit of exploring for gold without troubling about a license. The moment news comes that in such and such a place there are "gold-explorers" at work, the artful merchant of the towns files a claim to this or that purely suppositious spot of land where he supposes the explorers to be working. If they find any gold he takes immediate steps to secure it, and, in the absence of proper surveys, practically plants his claim on any spot where gold has been found, the police and, if necessary, the army supporting him. Certain districts of Siberia are said to be filled with the "pegs" of claims created in this hypothetical manner. The system is so prevalent that these men have got the name "gold claim-peggers" in the local jargon. It is to be surmised that some of these claims so secured occasionally figure in equally reprehensive forms of "business" outside Siberia, even as far West as London!

Panoff, the Bulgarian renegade who figured so largely in the events of last and the present year in Persia, has been expelled from Russia after doing three months' imprisonment in Moscow, where he was caught by the police with false passports endeavouring to smuggle arms and dynamite into Persia. It was the letters of this wretched adventurer to a leading St. Petersburg paper, together with the communications of a Persian revolutionary who then filled the post of regular correspondent to a leading London paper (the only representative of a London paper in Tehran at the time) which so entirely perverted men's minds as to what was really happening in Persia under the Anglo-Russian Convention. The leading English newspaper only discarded this correspondent early in the Present year, while the Russian paper continued to print Panoff's extraordinary falsehoods long after it had been proved that he was an irresponsible adventurer.

St. Petersburg, September 2.

The usually well-informed organ of the Octobrist Party states that the seat of Government in the Russian Far East will shortly be moved from Khabarovsk to Chita. The former town is, from the strategic point of view, too far forward, and threatened from the rear. Chita is only six hundred miles beyond Irkutsk and is four hundred miles beyond the nearest frontier line of China, being thus exposed to no risk whatever in case of war. Khabarovsk rests upon the river Amur, which is no longer the special property of Russian vessels, and is unsupported by any kind of available roads for military purposes in its rear. None the less, the decision to move back the centre of Government by some thousand odd miles is significant of a great change in the position occupied by Russia in the Far East since the Japanese War.

A correspondent of the *Novoe Vremja* writing from Kharbin, that destined Capital of a new Russian Empire of the Far East, states that henceforth all Russian vessels on the Amur River and Sungari River are to be placed under the control of Chinese officials, to whom all dues will have to be paid. Presumably there is some exaggeration in this statement, but there is no doubt that the Chinese are energetically colonising what has hitherto been considered the Russian Far East. In the first six months of the present year there passed through Vladivostock into Russian territory 17,549 Chinamen. These came by sea: there are no statistics of the probably still larger numbers filtering across the frontier, which is perfectly open for some three thousand miles. The most significant point, however, is not the mere number of these immigrants by sea, but the fact that for the first time since Russia obtained possession of this territory, these Chinese immigrants are bringing their women with them, no less than 262 Chinese women having passed in through Vladivostok by the sea-route. The total number of Russian subjects entering the Russian Far East during the same period reached only 14,000 of both sexes. For the past fifty years, during which Russia has held this region, the services of the Chinese have been essential to the life of the Russian there. From the present moment onwards, the struggle between white and yellow promises to become increasingly severe. In the recent army manœuvres about Vladivostok the men were exercised chiefly in throwing up fortifications to defend that port from the land side, and it is reported that men and officers alike threw themselves into the work with an energy quite exceptional in Russian manœuvres, the general feeling being that the time may possibly be not far distant when the defences may be needed in good earnest.

It has been decided to bridge the Volga at Jaroslavl, to link up the railway from Moscow via Jaroslavl and Vologda to Archangel.

The Commandant of the Fortress of Kars has taken a leaf out of the newest English book on militarism, and has enlisted a chosen band of 40 boys between the ages of 7 and 14 for instruction in drill and rifle practice.

A South Russian Railway has estimated that in a twelvemonth no less than 17,000 "hares" (people travelling without tickets by bribing the conductors' brigade, railway 'deadheads') use their line with impunity. On one of the Northern roads the other day an unlucky "hare," fearing discovery by the revising inspector threw himself from the train in motion, and was so fortunate as to escape without a scratch, though the whole of the long train passed over him: but when picked up he had lost the use of speech from the fright he had undergone.

The *Novoe Vremja* says Germany is intriguing between England and Russia in the most determined manner, her object being to persuade Russia that she has nothing to fear from Germany, who is preparing to break the power of England, and, on the other hand, to persuade England that German preparations need not cause her any anxiety as they are merely intended to reduce Russia to a proper state of mind, restore the old régime which was much better suited to German ambitions, and reduce Russia economically to a state of servitude to Germany. A new tariff is indicated as the price that Russia will be called upon to pay for yielding, if she does yield, to Germany's representations, and abstain from interference in that country's quarrels with western powers. A Black Gang meeting has actually drawn up a telegram to the Emperor declaring their desire that Russia should return to the old policy of friendship with Germany, which supported the autocratic régime, of which the Black Gang profess themselves the devoted adherents. It is doubtful if the telegram has been sent to His Majesty, who showed at Poltava his personal opinion of the extravagant pretensions of this archaic organisation.

A Specialist organ gives some interesting facts about Russian townships from the sanitary point of view. Out of 1084 townships, capitals of Provinces or Territories or Districts or, independent boroughs, only 75 are lighted by electricity: 33 have gas-lighting. Of the rest the great majority only light the principal streets, while in no less than 193 towns there is no lighting of any kind whatsoever.

Only 38 townships possess any sewerage system or other methods of dealing with refuse. This reckoning considers the cess-pool dealt with by night-carts at intervals as a sewerage system. Thus 1045 Russian towns simply live above the cess-pools created over the whole area of the town, and their comparative immunity from the worst forms of disease must indicate either the youth of the towns and the still unexhausted receptive capacity of the soil, or—inefficient registration and statistics of disease and mortality.

In the matter of paving, only 14 towns are paved throughout; the rest pave only the main streets—with cobbles for the most part. Even in wealthy Moscow twenty per cent. of the mileage of streets is simply mother earth, innocent of any kind of road-metal. But 320 considerable towns have absolutely no paving anywhere, not even in their principal streets. Among them are such important centres as Tomsk, Chita, Krasnojarsk etc.

In the three towns of St. Petersburg, Moscow and Odessa there have been in the past three years 4747 fatal cases of suicide, without counting innumerable unsuccessful attempts. This means 30 deaths from suicide per week, or ten per week in each of these three towns. Moreover the figures show a continuous increase:

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in the first of the three years the number was 1042, then 1518 and last year 2187. Interim figures for the current year indicate that this increase is being maintained. Compared with these figures of voluntary deaths the much-bewailed "executions" of desperadoes seem insignificant.

The *Rech* asserts that the Minister of Finance has decided to go behind the Duma and procure funds to make up the deficit anticipated by pawning the so-called "Northern Railways," a group of lines some thousands of miles long, to a British syndicate of capitalists on the following terms. The price to be 250 millions of roubles for a term of 61 or 81 years, as may hereafter be decided. The syndicate to have complete control of the lines for that period and leave to construct lines anywhere in connection with these main lines as feeders. The demand of the British group that engines, waggons, etc., and other fittings should enter Russia duty-free for their purposes was opposed by Russian manufacturers and refused by the Minister. The amalgamated railways will be placed under the direction of a well-known Russian railway magnate who, in fact, built, as private concerns, most of the lines involved in the scheme. By raising money in this manner the Minister of Finance, says the *Rech*, is independent of the Duma, which may certainly be expected to oppose a policy which began by taking private railways out of their owners' hands to the State, and is now handing them to the foreigner after the State has failed to make them pay.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

On the morning of the 17th instant, the engine of an express train coming from Shimbashi was derailed, when the train was running a little south of Mukomachi, the next station from Kyoto to the west. In consequence, some passengers had their heads injured by contact with window-panes, while others were thrown out of their sleepers. A number of railway workmen, under the command of engineers, were soon despatched to the spot from Yumasaki, Mukomachi and Kyoto Stations, and the carriages, in which there were 232 passengers, were taken back to Mukomachi Station by another engine sent to the rescue. Fortunately no casualties are reported.

On September 19, a landslide occurred near Sakashita Station on the Central line. Communication between Sakashita and Mitomeno is interrupted.

On the same day, another landslide took place near the line between Kurikara and Ishido on the Hokuroku section. The line is blocked.

A goods train coming from Ozaki came to a standstill to a little west of Kawasaki Station on the 18th instant. The mishap is said to have been caused by some obstruction in the engine. An engine was despatched to the rescue from Yokohama Station.

On the 18th instant, a wagon was derailed in the compound of Takaoka Station, when the wagons of a goods train were being changed. The interruption was removed half an hour later.

On September 19, the engine of a train which had left Tsuhata Station was derailed not far from the station, owing to a landslide. Two hundred coolies were despatched to the spot and the engine was righted with great difficulty. The Kurikara Tunnel is blocked. Another train coming from Kanazawa came to a standstill near Yoshikawa Station, owing to the railroad being submerged. The service of the Nanao line was still interrupted on the 20th instant.

FIRES.

A Miyasaki telegram says that on the 15th instant, a fire occurred at Tahara-mura, Nishi-Usuki-gori, Miyasaki prefecture. In consequence, 42 houses, including the Tahara Post Office, were burnt down, and five persons were killed.

Early in the morning of September 16, a fire broke out at Yoichi-machi, Shiribeshi, Hokkaido. The Post Office and 20 other houses were destroyed. Two persons are reported to have been killed.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS (SEASON 1908-09.)

The following report of the Yokohama Literary and Musical Society for the Twenty-fourth Session, 1908-1909, to be presented at the Annual General Meeting, to be held in Van Schaick Hall on Friday, 1st October, 1909:—

The Committee feel that this may be regarded as one of the most successful sessions in the annals of the Society. The papers presented were generally of an exceptionally high standard, while the musical programmes were remarkable for uniform excellence. The attendance, also, with one or two marked exceptions, was especially large, and indicated the keen interest taken by members in the Society's proceedings.

MEMBERSHIP.—A steady increase in the roll of membership may be noted, the totals now being: Ladies, 161; gentlemen, 230; families. 19. Last year the totals were: Ladies, 168; gentlemen, 182; families, 21.

ACCOUNTS.—The accounts for the year show very satisfactory results. Expenses were in some respects heavier than in former years, and a special donation of *yen* 50.00 was made to the Bijou Orchestra. The cost of the new lantern was *yen* 146.00, and there is an item of *yen* 190.10 for lantern slides and charges, which includes the hire of a lantern for lectures in the earlier part of the session, while the Christmas Entertainment shows a loss of *yen* 67.88. The income, however, has been more than sufficient to cover all expenses, and a credit balance is shown of *yen* 276.90.

LANTERN.—The new lantern mentioned in the last annual report duly arrived, and was used during a portion of the session, but while showing good results was found to be not exactly suited to the Society's needs. The Committee have, therefore, ordered a further lantern, from a special expert specification drawn up with a full knowledge of the Society's requirements. This lantern will arrive about the end of the year, and should greatly enhance the value of the illustrated lectures. The total cost with duty (50 per cent.) is estimated at *yen* 400.00.

LECTURES.—The papers read before the Society during the Session were as follow.—

1908.

Oct. 16th.—"A Trip through the Malay States" (Illustrated), Mr. W. K. Vincent.

Oct. 30th.—"Dante and the Divina Comedia," Rev. C. F. Sweet.

Nov. 11th.—"A Journey through French Indo-China".....Mr. J. de Cuers de Coglin.

Nov. 27th.—"Royal Deeside" (Illustrated)..... Mr. Jas. Macbeth.

Dec. 11th.—"Milton Tercentenary"..... Mr. J. Carey Hall, I.S.O.

Dec. 18th.—"Christmas Meeting"

1909.

Jan. 8th.—"Reminiscences of Yokohama" (Illustrated) .....Mr. J. P. Mollison.

Jan. 22nd.—"An Hour with Shakespeare"..... Rev. T. Roseberry Good, B.A.

Feb. 5th.—"Music and Musicians of the Eighteenth Century" .....Miss F. M. Hadfield.

Feb. 19th.—"Abraham Lincoln Centenary"..... Mr. F. S. Booth.

Mar. 5th.—"Champlain, the Father of New France" (Illustrated) .....Rev. C. J. L. Bates.

Mar. 19th.—"Charles Dickens"..... Rev. H. B. Walton, M.A.

April 2nd.—"Devon: Its Historical Associations and Scenic Beauties" (Illustrated)..... Mr. A. W. Sherriff.

April 16th.—"Athens and Constantinople" (Illustrated) .....Rev. Geo. Wallace.

April 30th.—"Vagaries of Musicians and Listeners" .....Prof. F. Griffith, A.R.A.M.

APPRECIATION.—To the ladies and gentlemen who so generously assisted in the above syllabus, as well as to the many ladies and gentlemen, both within and without the ranks of the Society, who contributed to the musical programmes during the Session and to the Christmas Entertainment, the Committee tender their sincere thanks. They wish especially to acknowledge the valuable and expert assistance of Mr. J. H Phelps in putting the new lantern into working order, and, together with Mr. Karl Lewis and Mr. A. W. S. Austen, manipulating same during the session. Thanks are also tendered the members of the Bijou Orchestra for their assistance at the Christmas Entertainment, and to the Yokohama Amateur Dramatic Club for the loan of scenery on that occasion.

THE CURRENT SESSION.—On behalf of the incoming Officers, an appeal is made to the members generally for their active co-operation in the work of the Society. The Musical Committee found the task of arranging musical programmes twice a month especially onerous, and it is hoped that more of those who are able will be found willing to give their assistance.

Members are requested to kindly notify the Hon. Secretary of any change of address, or departure from or return to Yokohama. Careful attention to this small detail will greatly assist the Secretary, and obviate the annoyance caused by cards going to an old address.

OUTGOING OFFICERS.—The Officers and Committees during the past year were as follow:—President, Mr. J. Pender Mollison; Vice-President, Mr. W. K. Vincent; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. G. Kenderdine; Hon. Secretary, Mr. A. E. Pawsey. Literary Committee: Mr. W. K. Vincent, Rev. E. S. Booth, Mr. A. W. Sherriff, and Mr. A. E. Pawsey. Musical Committee: Mrs. J. Pender Mollison, Miss Hall, Mrs. J. Macbeth, Mr. D. Maas, Miss Blundell, and Mr. S. H. Somerton.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT, SEASON 1908-09.

RECEIPTS.			Yen.
To Balance from Last Season			274.10
„ Members' Subscriptions:—			
	Yen.	Yen.	
161 Ladies @	2.00	322.00	
230 Gents @.....	3.00	690.00	
19 Families @	10.00	190.00	1,202.00
To Sale of Non-Members' Tickets.....			38.00
„ Sale of Tickets Christmas Entertainment			116.00
			1,630.10

EXPENDITURE.	Yen.
By Secretary's Expenses.....	137.22
„ Treasurer's Expenses.....	2.50
„ Piano Hire and Tuning.....	25.00
„ Fire Insurance	9.88
„ Printing and Advertising, etc	258.62
„ Lantern Slides and Charges.....	190.10
„ Hire of Public Hall and Expenses, Christmas Entertainment.....	189.88
„ Bijou Orchestra	50.00
„ Rent Van Schaick Hall	300.00
„ Cost of New Lantern.....	146.00
„ Collecting Subscriptions.....	44.00
„ Balance at Bank.....	258.58
„ Balance in Hand	18.32
	1,630.10

G. KENDERDINE,
Hon. Treasurer.

Examined with vouchers and found correct.
W. M. SQUIRE.

WEDDING IN TOKYO.

An interesting wedding took place in Tokyo yesterday, the contracting parties being Miss Annie Pauline McKim, daughter of Right Rev. Bishop John McKim, D.D., and Mrs. McKim, of Tokyo, and Mr. Adolph Ancrum Williamson, son of Mr. John C. Williamson, of Washington, D.C.

The ceremony was performed in Trinity Cathedral at 4 p.m., the officiating clergyman being the bride's father, Bishop McKim, while Mr. Caldwell, American Deputy-Vice-Consul was present in his official capacity. Miss Nellie McKim, sister of the bride, acted as Maid of Honour, and the bridesmaids were Miss Eleanor Wallace (cousin of the bride) and Miss Agnes Sweet, of Tokyo. Rev. J. Lloyd acted as best man, while the musical portion of the service was in the capable hands of Mrs. W. P. G. Field.

After the ceremony, which was witnessed by a large number of friends and acquaintances, a reception was held at the home of the bride's parents, No. 38, Tsukiji, at which the bride and bridegroom were the recipients of warm congratulations and expressions of good-will.

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A TRIBUTE TO ENGLAND'S INFLUENCE ON CHRISTENDOM.

In the *Contemporary Review* for August appears the address which Dr. Harnack delivered before the English pastors on their recent visit to Berlin. It is entitled "International and National Christian Literature," and is chiefly remarkable for the graceful compliment which Dr. Harnack pays to the influences of English writers and thinkers upon the Universal Church.

ENGLISH INFLUENCE IN THE MIDDLE AGES.

The following tribute will be read with equal gratification and surprise:—

If the question is raised as to who—leaving aside the ecclesiastical institutions—created the spiritual unity of the Middle Ages, to whom is the chief credit due, I answer without hesitation: England. The great triple constellation, Bede, Boniface, and Alcuin, represents the concrete effective theology and the religious culture of the time. Rome in the seventh century was not in a position directly to offer the gifts of civilisation and theological culture to the peoples whom she influenced; but in the Green Island and in Great Britain after the coming of Augustine of Canterbury, work was carried on with such devotion that already about the year 700 the metropolis of theological science and antiquarian knowledge, so far as such then existed, was in Great Britain. Thence Charlemagne was supported by Alcuin and others; they created the college at Tours; they revived Augustine; and their effectiveness endures to the present day, for it may be said that the letters which we now write and print are those which after the barbarism of the Merovingian period, were fashioned in the school of Alcuin according to the best examples of antiquity. We write to-day in Alcuin's characters. To Englishmen who came to the Continent is due what the Middle Ages possessed of science, intellectual vigour, and alertness.

A TRIBUTE TO WICLIF.

Still later in the history of Europe Dr. Harnack finds evidence of English influence. He says:—

There is really only one statesman in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries, and again he is found in England, in the person of Wiclif, who exercised a most energetic direct influence upon the Bohemian Movement, and indirectly through this and other channels also upon us. If we ask, what is the greatest national movement of pre-Reformation times, contending with that internationality which no longer sufficed, the answer must again be that the greatest national movement within Christendom before the Reformation is the English Movement under Wiclif, since this had certain not inconsiderable international consequences for the whole of Western Christianity.

THE WORK OF THE ENGLISH DEISTS.

The third great English influence on international religious thought to which Dr. Harnack bears testimony was that of the English Deists of the seventeenth century:—

We cannot here discuss how this originated in English political and social relations; it is a simple fact that these men, of whom but a few were of the first rank, but very many of the second, have changed the spiritual (*geistig*) face of Europe. The English theosophy, the movement of *Aufklärung* proceeding from England in the second half of the seventeenth and the begining of the eighteenth century, worked as a unity, and as a penetrating ferment, upon the educated society of Europe. The *Aufklärung* of the eighteenth century is in its modern and valuable issues far less conditioned by Voltaire than by the English Deists, whose writings were copiously translated into German and are an essential precondition of our Rationalism and our *Aufklärung*; they created at that time among Christian men the consciousness of a spiritual depth mediated by God. Not until Jean Jacques Rousseau did the significance and influence of the English Deists cease to be the first in Western Europe.

ENGLAND AND THE CONGO.

The articles which appeared recently in these columns on the subject of Congo misrule may have appeared to some of our readers as more strongly worded than the occasion warranted, and they drew disclaimers from more than one of the local Belgian residents. They would seem, however, to be fully borne out by the statements of Sir A. Conan Doyle, who in the course of a letter to *The Times* on the inactivity of England in regard to this question, writes as follows:—

Our guilt of national acquiescence is only second to that of the gang of cosmopolitan scoundrels who have been actively concerned in turning all Central Africa into a huge slave State, with such attendant horrors as even the dark story of the slave trade has never shown. In the slave trade the victim was of market value, and to that extent was protected from death or mutilation. In this case the State is the owner of all, so that if one be dismembered or shot, another is always available.

As I write, my study table is covered with photographs of these unhappy people. They bear the marks of the tortures they have endured. Some have their feet lopped off, some their hands. One is a child, surprisingly beautiful and intelligent, even by European standards. His arm has been hacked off. Another with his right foot and left hand missing stares before him with a strange, thoughtful puzzled face. These are the people whom "in the name of Almighty God" we guaranteed. Under each of the mutilated frames might, in all truth, be printed "I was guaranteed by you."

The dreadful story is a commonplace now. It is impossible to deny any part of it. Its authenticity comes from many sources: from missionary reports, Swedish, Belgian and American, as well as British, from official Consular despatches, from the report of the Belgian Commission of 1905, from the memoirs of returned officers, above all from the incorruptible evidence of the kodak. The story, I say, is a commonplace; but it has been a commonplace for at least 14 years, for those who chose to read the evidence. When is something going to be done?

Last year the business was taken over by Belgium. There were hopes that methods would be changed. But they have not been changed. M. Renkin, the Colonial Minister of Belgium, has frankly said that they would not be changed. He has gone out to the Congo to report. But he is himself an ex concessionaire who has been a fervent defender of the system in the Parliament. As well send Rockefeller to report on the Standard Oil abuses! Are we children to be deluded by such devices as these? Do we not know the course which events will take? M. Renkin will return about Christmas. Six more months will have been gained for squeezing the country. Then he must not be hurried in his report—six more months for that. Then there is the legislation. Time must be allowed for that. Then legislation must be gradually enforced; and so on and through the time-honoured round. And all the time more mutilations, more murders, more extortions, in order that a rich King may be richer and a few companies pay 300 per cent. If we wait for any practical result from M. Renkin's visit then we wait, with our eyes open, for at least three more years of this orgie of blood, lust, and greed.

What should be done? The first thing is in a single comprehensive State paper to lay before every civilized Power the evidence which calls for action, and to ask them to convene a European conference for the purpose of taking from Belgium a trust which has been so dreadfully abused, and making such fresh arrangements, either by an international government or by a partition of the State amongst its neighbours, as may give some assurance of just and honest treatment to these unhappy natives.

IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

OUTLINE OF THE DEFENCE CONFERENCE DECISIONS.

A Parliamentary statement, recently issued, gives the gist of the results attained by the Imperial Defence Conference. The lines upon which the defence of the Empire will be developed are as follows:

(1) The Dominion of New Zealand will continue to make an annual contribution—recently fixed at £100,000—to the maintenance of the Royal Navy, and in addition will present a Dreadnought cruiser, which will be stationed in the Pacific.

(2) The Commonwealth will cease to pay a voluntary subvention to the Royal Navy and will proceeded to organise a Fleet of her own. For the Dreadnought battleship which was offered there will be substituted a Dreadnought cruiser, which will also be stationed in Pacific waters.

(3) The Dominion of Canada is about to found a small Navy of her own, consisting at first only of a few second-class cruisers and destroyers. Canada will take over the dock-yards at Esquimalt and Halifax.

(4) The Union of South Africa not being complete, there new Dominion has been able to come to no decision, but will probably fall into line with New Zealand in contributing to the Royal Navy.

THE REMODELLING OF THE FAR EASTERN FLEETS.

(5) A Pacific Fleet, to consist of three units in (*a*) the East Indies, (*b*) Australia, and (*c*) China Seas, each consisting, with some possible slight variations, of:—

(*a*) One large armoured cruiser of the improved Indomitable type, of 18,000 tons.

(*b*) Three second class cruisers of the Bristol type, of 4,800 tons,

(*c*) Six destroyers of the "river" class,

(*d*) Three submarines of the "C" class.

UNITY OF ORGANIZATION.

The Commonwealth Government subscribes to the important principle of unity in standards of construction and fleet organization covering the following important points:—

The Australian squadron of the Imperial Fleet must offer a permanent career to the officers and men engaged in the Service. The personnel must be trained and disciplined under regulations similar to those established in the Royal Navy, in order to allow of both interchange and union between the British and the over-Dominion services.

The standard of vessels and armaments must be uniform for the same reason.

It is believed that the other Dominions will follow suit in this important respect.

HOW TO DRESS IN A "HEAT-WAVE."

MR. PUNCH'S ADVICE.

According to advices from England, they have been having a heat wave in the old country. Mr. Punch has naturally availed himself of the opportunity to make some useful suggestions as to costume under such conditions—suggestions which, we are sure, will be appreciated by our readers and stored up for a future occasion, as there seems little prospect of their being put to a practical test this year.

Quite apart from Mr. Redford, says the writer of "Hints for hot holidays," there is one great difficulty about clothing yourself suitably in this weather; namely, that the more clothes you put on to keep the heat out the more heat (somehow) you keep in. For this reason it is generally agreed now that, the lighter your clothes are, the better. In the case of both men and women it has been found possible to reduce the weight of the wardrobe to the merest trifle.

MAN'S DRESS.

1 gold-beater's skin suit	1 oz.
1 asbestos shirt front	2 dr.
1 diamond tie pin	2 dr.
1 pr. open-work aluminium socks	1 dr.
1 pr. sandals	1 oz.
1 india-rubber collar	1 oz.

The idea of the diamond pin is to focus all the rays of the sun upon your chest, which is of course rendered immune by the asbestos Richard. Should you, however, fall into the sea (I shall refer to this more fully later on) the india-rubber collar will be found both helpful and stimulating.

WOMAN'S DRESS.

Though the feminine wardrobe comes well within the province of this article, it hardly comes within that of this paper. But I am told it works out as follows:—

1 muslin frock	1 oz.
Et-cætera	2 oz.
Hat	12 lbs. 13 oz.
Total	13 lbs. 0 oz.

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THE PRESTON-YOUNG CASE.

RESUMED HEARING.

In the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on the 17th inst., says the *Kobe Herald*, the hearing was resumed of the action instituted by Mr. W. T. R. Preston, Canadian Trade Commissioner, against Mr. Robert Young, Editor and Publisher of the *Japan Chronicle*, Kobe, to obtain payment of *yen* 20,000 as solatium, damages for alleged defamation of character, and the expenses of publishing an apology in various newspapers in foreign countries and in Japan. Mr. Kishi, of Tokyo, represented Plaintiff, and Mr. Hirata the Defendant, who was also present in Court.

Mr. Kishi, for Plaintiff, submitted exhibits A No. 10—15. Exhibit A No. 10 was an extract from Webster's dictionary explaining the meaning of the word "unscrupulous," which is one of the points in dispute between the parties. Exhibit A 11 consisted of nine extracts from English journals published in Japan and were intended to show that it is not uncommon for journals published in Japan to use the words "Japs" and "natives" for Japanese. Three of these were cuttings from the *Japan Advertiser* of July 6, Sept. 4 and another date, in 1907, in which the word "Jap" was used, and three were extracts from the *Box of Curios*, June 22, July 13 and Sept. 28, 1907, containing the word "natives" in reference to Japanese. The seventh was a paragraph from the *Japan Daily Herald* of Nov. 7, 1908, in which the word "natives" was employed for Japanese. The last two were extracts from the *Japan Chronicle* of December 15, 1908 and the *Japan Weekly Chronicle* of Jan. 18, 1906, in which the word "native" was used for Japanese. Exhibit A. 12 was a passage from Underhill's Law of Torts relating to convictions for libel in England. Exhibit A. 13 was withdrawn. Exhibit A 14 was an extract from the record of the meetings of the Public Accounts Committee of the Canadian Parliament. This was submitted with a view to rebutting an allegation by Defendant to the effect that Plaintiff had been charged with a certain dishonest act, in connection with a general election and the North Atlantic Trading Company. Exhibit A. 15 was a written statement by Sir Wilfrid Laurier certifying that Mr. Preston had never been involved in any of the alleged dishonest acts.

Mr. Hirata, for Defendant, said that Exhibit A. 10 showed only the meaning of the word "scrupulous," that portion of the definition being pointed out which suited Plaintiff's contention. The meanings of "unscrupulous" and "not scrupulous" were not always exactly the same, the latter being weaker in some cases. As to Exhibit A. 11, Counsel pointed out that in most cases the words "Japs" and "natives" were not the journals' own expressions, but appeared in correspondence to the journals. Moreover, Plaintiff's counsel translated the word "natives" in all cases as "dojin," which had a contemptuons significance, but this was quite incorrect. As used in the exhibits the word "natives" was simply used as the antithesis of "foreigners." The phrase "native and foreigner" should be translated as "Naigai jin." The most extraordinary translation given by Plaintiff's Counsel, Mr. Hirata proceeded, was *Dojin Shimbun* for "the native press."

Mr. Hirata subsequently submitted Exhibits B. Nos, 5-8. B. 5. was a passage from an older edition of Underhill's Law of Torts than this submitted by Mr. Kishi, in order to prove that comments on the public acts of a public man were not libels. Exhibit B7 was an extract from the record of a meeting of the Public Accounts Committee of the Canadian Parliament, and was intended to show that certain alleged dishonest acts on the part of Mr. Preston with regard to the general election and the North Atlantic Trading Company question were reported to the Committee. Exhibit B 7 was a copy of the *Vancouver Daily Province* which contained an article concerning political corruption, in which Mr. Preston was said to be involved. Mr. Hirata remarked that although Sir Wilfred Laurier was well aware of Mr. Preston's dishonest acts, he could not dismiss the latter as he was too well acquainted with the secrets of the Government. Exhibit B. 8 was produced to justify the allegation that Plaintiff was not very scrupulous.

Mr. Hirata said he could not accept the translations of Plaintiff's Exbibits A, and applied for leave to obtain expert evidence on the point from a Court interpreter.

The Court retired for consultation, and on the sitting being resumed the application was rejected.

As Mr. Hirata was not prepared to deal with Exhibits A 14 and 15 until he had investigated them, as they had not been previously submitted, he urged that the hearing could not be proceeded with. Mr. Kishi, for Plaintiff, however desired that the hearing of the case should be concluded. The Court therefore suggested to Mr. Kashi that the exhibits in question should be withdrawn, and this course was adopted.

On the sitting being resumed after the tiffin interval, Mr. Kishi, for Plaintiff, asked the Court to allow certain alterations to be made in the claim, so as to make it a claim for the payment of a solatium to the amount of *yen*10,000, of which *yen*5,000 would be in regard to Exhibit A 1 (the alleged libellous article in the *Japan Chronicle* of Nov. 10, 1908), and *yen* 5,000 in regard to Exhibit A 2 (the article published by the Chronicle on Nov. 14, 1908), in addition to the publication of an apology in various newspapers as already stated. Mr. Kishi then deliverd his final argument for Plaintiff. He contended that the effect of the publication of Exhibits A 1 and 2 was to cause the public to think that Plaintiff had acted in a mean and contemptible manner, and that while acting as Trade Commissioner he had acted against the policy and interests of his Government. Such suggestions were a great insult to a man in Plaintiff's official position, and it was evident that they must have done great damage to the reputation and status of the Plaintiff. The statements in the articles, Counsel declared, were untrue and entirely unfounded, and Defendant had reproduced them from the *Victoria Daily Colonist* without making enquiries as to their correctness, thus misleading the public and endangering Plaintiff's position. Consequently, Defendant was liable so compensate Plaintiff for the injury he had done him. As to the amount of claim such a small sum did not adequately represent the damage sustained by Plaintiff, but as the latter was not trying to make money out of the action he would be content with the sum asked for.

Mr. Hirata, for Defendant, contended that in deciding a libel case it must first be considered whether or not the publication of the statement complained of had influenced the public estimation of the complainant. Furthermore, damages for loss of reputatation could only be given if the publication of the libel was an illegal act. As to the first point, Mr. Hirata said that the loss of reputution suffered by a virgin if an insult was published concerning her would be far greater than that sustained by a prostitute. Plaintiff had not an unblemished reputation, as he had been charged before a Committee of the Canadian Parliament with dishonest acts, although he was not convicted. The fact that Mr. Preston had been promoted from the position of Trade Commissioner in a small insular country such as Japan to a more important position of a similar kind in Europe showed that his reputation had not in any way lost the confidence of his Government through the alleged libels. Mr. Hirata then dwelt at length on Mr. Preston's political relations and concluded by contending that Plaintiff's claim was altogether unreasonable.

After some further discussion between Counsel the hearing was concluded, the Court reserving judgment until the 29th inst.

THE CHARTERED BANK.

The Agent of the Yokohama branch of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China informs us that he is in receipt of a telegram from the London Office intimating that the Directors of the Bank have declared an interim dividend for the half-year ended 30th June last at the rate of 13 per cent. per annum, free of Income Tax.

YOKOHAMA.

It was officially reported that the police authorities would carry out the killing of ownerless dogs on and after the 20th instant.

On the 16th instant, Mr. Hayashi Kwango, Chief-clerk of the Yokohama Gas Bureau, was put on the retired list, and Mr. Sugiyama Kiyoshi, one of the clerks, was appointed acting Chief-clerk.

At 4.42 a.m. on September 17, a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. It lasted for 2 minutes 48 seconds.

At Miyoshi-cho, Ni-chome, two men were poisoned as the result of eating tetraodon a few days ago. One of the men died and the other is seriously ill.

Dr. H. Waenlyd (?) who has been engaged as a professor of the Imperial Law College, arrived here from Germany on the 18th instant, by the steamer *Prinz Eitel Friedrich* Professor Matsuoka welcomed him, on behalf of the Imperial University.

A few days ago, a villain popularly known as *Meiji-kozo*, was arrested in the park here by a detective of the Water Police. It is alleged that he has committed every description of crime, murder, incendiarism, robbery, etc. He has confessed that he broke into a godown belonging to Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co. of this city on the night preceding his arrest, and stole some valuable articles.

Dr. G. Staude, German Vice-Consul at this city, has been transferred to Tientsin. A farewell dinner will be given by the German residents of this port in a few days.

A few days ago, a Portuguese named Souza, formerly resident at 295 Bluff, obtained some valuable silk dresses on credit from S. Goto's silk-store in Benten-dori, and pawned the garments. He has not yet been arrested.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended September 16th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	1	4	3	—	—
Died	—	2	1	3	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	12	17	1	—	—
Died	—	3	7	—	—	—

The Noge Savings Bank has decided to decrease its capital of 60,000 *yen* to 30,000 *yen*, in order to effect financial readjustment.

On the 22nd instant, the Commander of the French cruiser *Alger*, in company with the French Consul, M. Flayelle, visited Baron Sufu's Prefectural Office. The Governor was absent and the visitors were received by the Secretary, who had an interview with them. M. Flayelle will leave here on the 2nd proximo for his new post in China.

"ALL JAPAN" SHOOTING MATCH.

The Final Notice to participants in this contest comprises the following conditions:—

(1). Owing to the excessive number of contestants, (eighty-four) it has been decided to begin the above mentioned Match on Friday, September 24th, 09, at 8 a.m. sharp, and continue same on Saturday, and Sunday.

(2). The Match will be held regardless of weather.

(3). In accordance with the foregoing conditions contestants are requested to be on the Grounds at the hour shooting commences.

(4). Contestants must wear their "shooting badge," in a conspicuous place, either on their hat or breast.

(5), Contestants not being in attendance before Sunday, September 26th, at 11 a.m. will forfeit their privilege to shoot.

(6). Contestants requiring further information may apply to the Committee.

(7). Prizes will be presented on Sunday afternoon, September 26th, 1909.

By order of the Committee,
Yokohama Shooting Club.

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IMPROVEMENT OF THE RYOMO LINE.

With a view to facilitate the traffic on the Ryomo line (Takasaki, Oyama and the neighbouring quarters), the Eastern Railway Administration Bureau has amended the time-table and reduced the fares and charges as follow :—

PASSENGER FARE.

	1st Class. Yen.	2nd Class. Yen.	3rd Class. Yen.
Uyeno to Sano	4.50	2.70	1.80
„ Tomita ...	4.50	2.70	1.80
„ Ashikaga.	4.50	2.70	1.80
„ Yamamae	4.75	2.85	1.90
„ Komata...	5.00	3.00	2.00
„ Kiryu ...	5.25	3.15	2.10
„ Omama ..	5.50	3.30	2.20

CHARGE ON GOODS.

	1st Grade. Sen.	2nd Grade. Sen.	3rd Grade. Sen.	4th Grade. Sen.
Tokyo to Ashikaga...	9	10	15½	16
„ Kiryu	15	16	17½	22
„ Sano	8½	11½	14	20
Sano to Tokyo	11	13	16	22

CRICKET.

There was no cricket in Yokohama on Saturday afternoon last owing to the persistent rain but on Sunday afternoon, a six a side game was played against the P. & O. *Nile*, though the rain prevented more than one innings each. The Club went in first and made 90, V. A. Hearne being top scorer with 22, while the *Nile* only succeeded in compiling 23, owing to some excellent bowling by H. T. Hume, who took three wickets for nine runs.

CORRESPONDENCE.

ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

"TOO MUCH ROTHSCHILD," PUBLIC OPINION AND THE PRESS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—In discussing the above topic, with which you have dealt in your issue of the 14th inst., kindly permit me, for the sake of a better understanding of the issues involved, to reproduce from your issue of the 1st inst. the following extract :—

"Recent reference, now famous, to Lord Rothschild, by Mr. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer :

"I think," he said, "we are having too much Lord Rothschild. We are not to have temperance reform in this country. Why? Because Lord Rothschild sent a circular to the Peers to say so. We must have more Dreadnoughts. Why? Lord Rothschild said so at a meeting in the City. We must not pay for them when we have got them. Why? Lord Rothschild said so. You must not have estate duty and super-taxes. Why? Lord Rothschild signed a protest on behalf of the bankers to say he would not stand it.

"You must tax reversions. Why? Lord Rothschild, as chairman of an insurance company, said so. You must not put a tax on undeveloped land. Why? Lord Rothschild, as chairman of an industrial housing corporation, said so. You ought not to have old age pensions. Why? Lord Rothschild was a member of the committee who said it could not be done.

"Really, is Lord Rothschild the dictator of this country? Are we really to have all ways of reform, financial and social, blocked simply by a notice board, 'No thoroughfare.—By order, Nathaniel Rothschild'?"

The speech was on the Budget before a full house."

That is precisely the trouble with, or in, the relations between England and Germany. There is "*too much Rothschild*" in them and all that that means. Some time ago—I think it was in a letter to yourself which you were kind enough to publish—I referred to the International government of the world, giving amongst others the names of the fifteen reigning and *governing* houses. It is they and not the nominal Sovereigns, who do but their bidding, who rule the world and through the press, which they own or control, the relations of the nations of the world. A Rothschild, for instance, is the chairman of one of the London dailies, and through the Triple Alliance between Wolff, Reuter and the Associated Press, whose London offices in former years were in Reuter's Bureau, decrees of Rothschild and his fellow regents are published. With the Associated Press the New York *American* and New York *Sun* some years ago occupied themselves in a way that should have led to a libel suit, in which heavy damages would have been certain if the plaintiffs had brought a suit and proved that the terms in which they and their business were described were libellous. But no suit was brought, and the New York *Sun* is no longer the paper it was then

Reuter financed the first European trip of the late Shah Nasr-ed-Din at an expense of £300,000, in return for which he got all the concessions in Persia which it was in Nasr-ed-Din's power to grant Herbert de Reuter, who had large concessions in Columbia, from alleged patriotic motives, owing to his German origin, offered the protectorate of that Republic, to the German Empire. The offer was declined, as the Foreign Office had its doubts on the subject.

Reuter also engineered the seating in parliament of the Parsee Dadobhia Naojiro, a native of Bombay, for Finsbury, and together with him established the "Muhamedan Agency," as he said in a letter to Dr. Engländer "to politically and financially fructify the reform movement in Islam, which caused headaches to many a European statesman, and with which the striking revival of Mohamedan proselytism is in the closest connection."

On the program of that Agency it was, amongst others, "to arouse discontent amongst the Mohamedans in Asia Minor and desire for *political connection with their brethren in India*.

An agreement was also made between Isidor Löwe and Reuter, which gave the latter the sole agency of the "German Arms and Ammunition Factory" (Deutsche Waffen und Munitiensfabrik) for Persia, Egypt and Colombia.

To those who can put two and two together these brief facts, to which, but for the exigencies of space, many others might be added, will show how relations between nations are affected, and how wars and rebellions are made by the Sovereigns of Finance and their organs. But there is public opinion, some may exclaim. Sometimes there is, but how and where can it express itself, where are its organs? It has none. It can consider itself fortunate if it finds an editor who has sufficient control over his paper to open his columns to a "letter to the editor," and what, after all, is public opinion founded upon? Upon news manufactured for its consumption, but which has nothing to do with public interests, or upon impressions of the moment. How many are there who study, or who have the time and inclination to study, political works and memoirs of the present and past, and who thus get at, or at least near, the sources of information as to the *causes* of the events that affect them, or are to be brought about in the cause of objects and interests of finance barons who have become kings and emperors of finance. Very few, very few indeed, and those few as a rule, find but sceptic and unwilling ears if they tell what they know.

Under the circumstances Cabinet Ministers are not in a much different position. Sydney Smith, therefore, once suggested that each Minister should be provided with a "foolometer," by which he meant "the acquaintance and society of three or four regular British fools as a test of *public opinion*." By that foolometer, he said, every Cabinet Minister should judge of all his measures, as a navigator crowds or shortens sail by the barometer in his cabin.

Fox often used to say, "I wonder what Lord B. will think of this?' As Lord B. happened to be a very stupid person, Fox's friends asked him why he should attach importance to the opinions of so ordinary and commonplace a man. "This opinion," explained Fox, "is of much more importance than you are aware of. He is an exact *representative of all the British commonplace prejudices*, and what Lord B. thinks of any measure the English people will think of it."

Not very complimentary, but I think we may bow to the authority of Sydney Smith and Fox. I only regret that we Germans have not had some one to say the same things to us. I have related these two ancedotes to show the very safe and wide foundations upon which the news manufacturing pillars—if the term be permissible—of the International Government of the world is founded, which admits the public to its show from a halfpenny upwards a peep and makes up its mind for it. The public does not yet know and apparently does not much care to know how much "Rothschild" there is in all this.

The British Secret Service supply carries from £30,000 to £50,000 a year, and an additional £10,000 is payable every year out of the Consolidated Fund for the Home Secret Service. The fifteen finance Sovereigns have at most any multiple of those sums at their disposition for their secret or any service, and for their public press which, to all practical intents and purposes, is but a branch of their secret service, or rather, its visible evidence.

The only power that could, in the course of a few years, break their power would be a combination of four European great powers, which would be effected by means of an alliance between England and Germany, and to prevent that contingency their agents are active all over the world by means of their financial institutes and their press. The mutual visits of burgomasters, newspapermen, parsons, etc., are simply amusements which they laugh at, and which will not throw a single grain into one scale or the other.

Such an alliance would speedily make both England and Germany truly free and independent again, which neither country is at present. England perhaps has more to gain from such an alliance—it would be well if it were concluded before the course of events forces her into it—but she has also more to give. Let us see what she has to gain. All the needless and artificial, or manufactured, anxiety of a German invasion would disappear. The Russian fleet does not and in measurable time will not count much in European affairs, and the French fleet against the fleets of England and of the present Triple Alliance for as little, whilst the united fleets of the Quadruple Alliance would be a supreme naval power without possible equal or rival. In the event of an Indian rebellion, which would not *suffer from any lack of arms and ammunition*, England could send every soldier out of the country and line the road from Lands End to Cape Comorin with British ships. I might say her coasts would be guarded by German ships, but there would be no power against which they would have to be guarded. For the same reason no rebellion in Egypt or in Ireland,—events which would be likely to follow an Indian uprising—would have to be feared, nor any trouble in the Soudan, or in Somaliland, nor elsewhere in Africa, for England would be absolutely safe at home and could use all her military and naval power abroad. Further in the case of another war in the Far East, she could also throw her full weight into the scale and recover from the effects of her abdication in favour of Japan, which she now feels in an ever increasing degree. For she would be absolutely safe at home and stronger, through her kindred allies, abroad, and, German though I am, I must say that I have always felt the pride and glory of England to be *my* pride and glory too. I have travelled much with Englishmen and amongst Englishmen both by sea and land, and I know that Germans abroad, especially in out of the way places where a man's life often depends on his quickness of eye and hand, Germans are naturally drawn towards Englishmen and *trust* them. How much quicker, how much closer then, would not an Anglo-German Alliance draw the two nations together. There is hardly room for the question, what has England to give us for her security? The question is not a generous one. Let us rather ask what has she not already given us wherever the British flag flies. If there is room at all for the first question, the answer is that the Alliance would secure us a continued share of trade in British markets all over the world which otherwise would be endangered by rebellions and wars. Enough on that subject therefore. England could and would remain just as good friends with Japan as she is to-day, but, in view of the above facts, there can be no doubt but that the alliance with Germany would be the more valuable of the two, if simply on the elementary principle that the friendship of a near neighbour is worth more than that of a stranger at the other end of the world. That is just as certain as that Germans, if they had the choice between an alliance with say, Mexico or England, they would unanimously proclaim for the *English* alliance.

Had it existed to-day, Spain would not have been involved in her present war in Africa. Here are a few facts that will serve to show a light upon the causes of that war. They are taken from an extremely well informed paper. The present Queen of Spain is the great granddaughter of Joseph Hanoke, a banker of Wilno, in Russian Poland, and since the event of her marriage with King Alfonso (who is entirely in the hands of the clergy) Spain has been got ready to act as the military tool of one of the offshoots of the African Venture Syndicate, which was formed by a group of cosmopolitan financiers after the Boer war. That offshoot managed to acquire claims to certain mines in Northern Morocco, to which they asserted their claims, with the usual result of a conflict with the natives who resented the intrusion. The further result was the war. But how is the war to benefit the A. V. Syndicate? In this way: It may give them a firmer foothold in Morocco, and, for the present, it will furnish the Vickers, Son & Maxim Co. further employment and profits. They are constructing the naval dockyard at Ferrol where King Alfonso has just attended the laying of the keel of the first Spanish *Dreadnought*, and they are also furnishing the powder and shot for the present war. And what has the Vickers Co. to do with the African Venture Syndicate? This: many of the shareholders of the latter are also shareholders of the former.

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Amongst the principal shareholders of the Vickers Co. are Lord Rothschild and several members of his family, besides a swarm of Joliwiczs, Landsbergs, Strausses, Nanheims, Goetzes, Loewes, and other similar "Anglo-saxons." That is why the Spaniards and Moors are now slaughtering one another and why the Spaniards have the good sense to refuse to continue to do the slaughtering, as their blood would only be shed to provide dividends for an alien ship and gun building Co.

The reader will see that there is more or less Rothschild in that war too, and there would be a great deal more of it if Rothschild and his fellow Sovereigns can drive England and Germany into a war, which would deliver them, no matter in whose favour the issue, bound hand and foot into their power. Not for ever, perhaps, but for many, many years. An Anglo-German Alliance would destroy that power which to-day makes the whole world pay tribute to it. It has its foothold in Japan also through the same Company and, for its benefit, through that Company it will drive Japan into another war with China as soon as it suits its ends. The present alleged apprehensions of Russia on account of the recent Convention in China are simply a press manœuvre which those who are inclined to follow the clues given in these lines will readily recognise as such by the earmarks. There is some "Rothschild" in it. Thanking you for the courtesy of your columns, I am, Sir,

Yours very truly, "PLAINDEALER."

Yokohama, September 14, 1909.

"GLASS HOUSES," ETC.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I was sorry to see in the Summary of the Religious Press in a recent issue of your paper that the editor of the *Koe* (The R. Catholic organ) has been indulging in charges against Protestant Christian teaching as being dangerous to the Japanese national sentiment.

It is said that "The general effect of this teaching on certain young men, and women, is to make them impatient of control, and to lead them to despise authority, and trample on sacred traditions of every kind." Now the editor of the *Koe* would have done well to have remembered that there is already enough of ignorant prejudice in this country against our Christianity without his using his recognized literary ability to give unbelievers an excuse for more, by the making of such charges as the foregoing. In fact it only gives an opportunity to our opponents to make his work, as well as ours, more difficult; and postpones for so much longer the Christianization of Japan.

But, as to his charge, now that the matter has been brought up, I have been teaching Christianity in this country for over twenty years, and I have yet to see the baleful effects of Protestant teaching to which the editor of the *Koe* refers.

There may be anarchistic tendencies in Japanese society, but to most people they are not very apparent. And when they are found, I think the source will have to be looked for elsewhere than in Protestant Christian teachings.

Protestants teach that the Bible should be our guide in social, religious and political life. That every man, with the help of the Holy Spirit, can interpret it for himself. This is taught in such passages as Acts 17.10-13, 1 Cor. 3.16, and in 2 Tim. 3.15-17

Have the Roman Catholics any safer book to offer as a guide?

Let us see whether its teaching is safe. The Bible teaches unqualified obedience to parents, and rulers, except when their commands contravene morality. See Eph. 6: 1-3, 1 Pe. 2: 13-17.

These passages even teach us to submit to oppression from the constituted authorities, committing our selves to God to requite us (1 Pe. 2: 18-23). Now I would like to ask the editor of the '*Koe*' if he can say as much for the teaching of the Roman Catholic Church, as illustrated by the people and government of France? Is it not a fact that, with the Pope at their head, a good many of the good Roman Catholic citizens of France are now in rebellion against the constituted authorities in a matter that does not require them to go against any moral law? Is not the right claimed by the Roman Catholic Church to revise, or annul, the law of any land in which the church has been set up on the sole decision of a so-called "Infallible Pope"?

With thanks for your space,

I am yours, etc., A PROTESTANT.

Mito, Japan.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—If the author of the correspondence "Glass houses" etc. which appeared in the number of the *Japan Mail* of September 20th had taken the trouble to read or to have read to him that very Article of the Koye which he presumed to answer he would not have concluded that the Koye "has been indulging in charges against Protestant Christianity teaching" as dangerous to the Japanese national sentiment.

Although the extracts of the Press in the *Japan Mail*, which represent a considerable number of articles, are in general well edited, still it would be well to have recourse to the original text if one wishes to arrive at the exact thought of the writer. It is, ordinarily, at least a necessary precaution for those who undertake to make an extract of these articles. We would therefore induce him who signs himself "A Protestant" either to read attentively or have read to him the Article of the Koye No. 404.

He will be able to see for himself the true meaning of those parts of the article which treat of Protestant Sects.

(1) The Koye avoids explicity all discussion on the filiation which could exist between the Principle of Protestantism in general and certain doctrines which tend to overthrow authority "*ronsen wo kokoromin lo suru mono ni arazu.*"

(2) The Koye notes that if certain representatives of Eduction in Japan, as Dr. Kato Hiroyuki, regard Christianity as a danger to the nation, there are others who far from considering it as such, esteem it as a sure guarantee for the faithful and conscientious discharge of the duties of loyal citizenship. *Kiristo-kyo taru mono wa kokumin no gimu wo kwanzen ni okonau to gai to narazaru nomi narazu, kaette seishin sei i kore wo kwanzen ni okonau koto wo hōshō suru.*

(3). The Koye speaks of the distrust that some administrative centres seem to have in regard to certain sects (the Koye does not say of Protestantism in general) *Aru ha ni tsuite wa ikubun no fushinyo wo idekaru mono no gotoshi.*

(4) It reproduces the complaints heard from various quarters by reason of its intercourse with certain sects, of not a small number of young men and women and even of those of mature age, who show a spirit of independence, who willingly criticize and oppose Authority, who profess, more or less, all sorts of subversive ideas and give proof of their socialistic tendencies (*Aru ha ni sesshoku shitaru ga tame ni seinen danjo oyobi seijuku seru hito no tasū ga akiraka ni fuki no seishin wo tori, ken-i ni taishite kore ga sōgisha tari kōkyōsha taru koto wo shimeshi, tashō hakwaiteki naru arayuru shisō wo idaki, shakwai shugi ni shitashimi.* Such is in substance what the Koye says on the subject in question. It is our opinion that in the discussion which forms the basis of its editorial account should have been taken of those facts. They cannot be denied, nor can any one deny this further truth that in the famous arrest of the socialists last year by the police most of the men and women taken declared themselves Protestants. The *Koye* refrained from speaking of this at the time though it could have done so most explicitly.

We think we have said enough to show that the Koye did not, or does not, launch out into generalization. Of this the correspondent will have proof if he refer to the Article in question as was advised in the beginning of the letter.

We advise him moreover, to study more closely the question of the so-called Revolt against the Constituted Authorities "of a good many Roman Catholic citizens in France." After an unbiassed study of the facts he will decrease the number given of those who "revolted" and also limit the extent of the territory over which the so-called rebels moved. He will above all avoid the words that it deals with "a matter that does not require them to go against any moral law." The Commandment "thou shall not steal," is as binding as much on a Government, be it Republican, or even Radical as on the individual, and if some Catholics, seeing their Churches and Religious Institutions spoliated, have considered that spoliation robbery," pure and simple, nay more a dangerous precedent on which the Socialist of to-morrow may rely in taking his neighbour's goods, they have but expressed a universal opinion and taken an attitude ratified by justice now, and which will be undoubtedly sanctioned by History.

Apologizing for trespassing on your space.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

"THE EDITOR OF THE KOYE."

THE GENTLE ART OF DOG-KILLING.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Now that the so-called dog-killer is said to be on his round of destruction, and referring to a recent letter on the subject which appeared in one of last night's papers, it may be interesting to your readers to hear something about this functionary and his methods.

About a year ago one of my dogs disappeared, and as the dog-killer was then on the war path I sent my cook to his house, somewhere in the country to the west of the city, to see if by any chance my dog had been taken up and was awaiting the supposed 48 hours of grace before being butchered. My cook returned and reported that the dog was not there, and gave me some particulars as to how the *inu koroshi hito* makes a living.

Armed with police authority he goes round the town and takes up all the dogs he can get hold of. No dog is safe. He is supposed to take only such dogs as have no collars, but he will grab any dog, especially good dogs. These poor animals are taken way out into the country, where it is as difficult as possible to get hold of them and there are held, supposedly, for two days, and if unclaimed are disposed of.

As to the disposition of the dogs, the dog killer first tries to sell them. Tokyo is a great market for dogs from Yokohama. White fox terriers, that is to say, fox terriers with as few markings as possible are in great demand, both alive, and for their skins. Those dogs which the dog killer cannot sell alive, he slaughters, and sells skin, bones and flesh. Dog meat is sold and eaten by Japanese. Like the Chicago hog, all parts of the dog can be disposed of. The dog-killer comes of the very lowest class of Japanese.

I would warn all dog owners and dog lovers to keep their pets securely locked up while this legalized butcher and robber is on the warpath. No appeal to the police will save one's dog when once in the clutches of this person

If the S.P.C.A. wants to accomplish some real good in Yokohama let it get hold of authority from the city to deal with stray dogs, in place of that authority now held by the dog killer. Until that time comes, dog owners and dog lovers, look out for your pets!

It would not surprise me in the least to hear that some policemen get a squeeze from the dog-killer.

Yours truly, DOG OWNER AND LOVER.

Yokohama, September 22, 1909.

TELEGRAMS.

(Special Reuter's Cable to the "Japan Mail.")

PRESIDENT TAFT MEETS BUSINESS MEN.

AND TOASTS JAPANESE EMPEROR AS "WARM AND SINCERE FRIEND OF AMERICA."

New York, September 20.

Minneapolis dispatches say that President Taft met the Japanese Commercial Commissioners at luncheon on Sunday, at the Commercial Club, and toasted the Emperor of Japan as "the warm and sincere friend of America."

(Reuter's Service.)

BRITISH CONCESSIONS IN CHINA.

IMPROPER METHODS DENIED

London, September 16.

Mr. McKinnon Wood, Under Secretary of of State for Foreign Affairs, replying to Mr. Ginnell, Nationalist M. P. for West Meath, said that he was not aware that British railway concessions had ever been obtained by improper methods or that diplomatic pressure had been applied except in cases where the Chinese authorities had manifestly failed to comply with terms to which they had voluntarily agreed.

LORD KITCHENER EN ROUTE.

Lord Kitchener has left Colombo on board the Messageries Maritimes liner *Sydney*, bound for the Far East.

[The telegram which appeared in our yesterday's issue and which represented Lord Kitchener as having arrived at Hongkong was in error, owing to a misprint in the Japanese journal from which it was translated.—Ed. *J.M.*]

GERMAN STEAMER AGROUND AT SUEZ.

Lloyd's agents at Port Said telegraphs that the German steamer *Samnia* (?) from Shanghai, ran aground at the entrance to the Suez Canal. The steamer remains aground on a sandy bottom, a mile north of the port.

AIRSHIPS AT FRENCH MANŒUVRES.

The French army manœuvres began yesterday. A dirigible travelled a circuit of 60 miles in two hours, at a height of

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3,500 feet, successfully communicating its valuable observations to those below. The Gross airship was equally useful yesterday at the general manœuvres.

PEARY EXPLAINS.

Asked why he had not permitted a white man to accompany him to the Pole, Peary replied, "Because after my life-long efforts I dearly wanted the honour myself."

AMERICA'S UNSATISFACTORY BANKING SYSTEMS.

London, September 16.

Mr. Taft, addressing the Boston Chamber of Commerce, urged the necessity of the adoption by America of satisfactory monetary banking systems before the end of the present administration.

LORD TWEEDMOUTH'S DEATH.

The Earl of Tweedmouth, Lord President of the Council, is dead.

PEARY WILL NOW GO SOUTH.

St. Johns.—Mail advices from Labrador say that Peary and Bartlett have decided on an expedition to the South Pole. They are already preparing furs and sledges aboard the *Roosevelt*.

RUSSIAN IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

St. Petersburg.—A cabinet decree ordains that all legislative questions concerning Imperial defence shall be subject to the sanction of the Tsar, as supreme Warlord.

CANADA AND ORIENTAL IMMIGRATION.

The directors of the Grand Trunk Pacific Co. have discussed with Sir Wilfred Laurier, Canada's Premier, the introduction of Oriental labour. Sir Wilfred pointed out that Canada had discouraged Oriental immigration for many years. He would, however, see that the matter was considered.

CHINESE COLONEL AT BRITISH ARMY MANŒUVRES.

September 17.

Colonel Liao has arrived in London to attend the army manœuvres.

S.S. "SAMNIA" REFLOATED.

The S.S. *Samnia* has been refloated.

PEARY *VS.* COOK.

MORE ALLEGATIONS.

London, September 17.

Peary declares that he has obtained statements and drawings from the Eskimaux who accompanied Cook from which it is clear that the latter made only two marches toward the Pole and then returned.

SUICIDE OF RETIRED HIGH COMMISSIONER.

INSOMNIA INDUCES INSANITY.

Sir R. D. R. Moor committed suicide by taking cyanide of potassium. A verdict of temporary insanity following insomnia was brought in. The evidence showed the deceased had been suffering from the after-effects of West African fevers.

[Sir Ralph Denham Rayment Moor K.C.M.G. was born in 1860 and served in W. Africa from 1892. He has been associated with the administration of our West African presessions since 1892, being Commissioner and Consul-General of the Niger Coast Protectorate from 1896-1900 and High Commissioner of Southern Nigeria from 1900 until his retirement in 1903. The deceased Commissioner is not to be confoun ded with the Right Hon. F. R. Moor, Premier of Natal.—ED *J.M.*]

THE BUDGET.

A PROPOSED LABOURITE AMENDMENT.

The Labourites have decided to propose an amendment to the Budget reducing the duty on tea to three-pence.

MR. HARRIMAN'S WILL.

EVERYTHING LEFT TO HIS WIFE.

By Mr. Harriman's will everything is left to his wife. His estate is estimated at from 50 to 150 milllon dollars.

THE BOYCOTT IN CHINA.

CONTRAST DRAWN BETWEEN BRITISH AND JAPANESE TREATMENT OF THE MATTER.

London, September 18.

The Shanghai correspondent of the *Times* contrasts the unchecked boycott of British shipping companies on the Yangtse, with a similar anti-Japanese movement by the student classes, in connection with which the Taotai intervened under pressure from Japan.

EXTENSIVE MANŒUVRES IN BRITAIN.

INCREASING IMPORTANCE ATTACHED THERETO BY FOREIGNERS.

Divisional manœuvres have been proceeding in Britain on an extended scale during the past week, preparatory to the Army manœuvres next week. Many senior foreign officers, including Chinese and Japanese representatives, will be present during the last three days. This is considered to be significant of the increasing importance foreigners attach to the tactics of British troops.

THE LIBERALS AND THE BUDGET.

SERIOUSNESS OF LORD ROSEBERY'S ATTACK ADMITTED.

Later.

Mr. Asquith has admitted the seriousness of the charges made by a statesman of Lord Rosebery's standing.

The interference of the House of Lords with the Budget would be the most formidable revolution of recent times. The Liberals, however, were eager to accept the challenge.

MR. ASQUITH AT BIRMINGHAM.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENES.

Later.

Premier Asquith had a remarkable reception at Birmingham, speaking to an audience of seven thousand assembled at Sincley Hall. He afterwards addressed an overflow meeting of four thousand people, described the meeting as a demonstration of the popular determination to secure equitable distribution of the burden of taxation, and defended the land taxes. Being asked what was Lord Rosebery's alternative, he said that Tariff Reform was the only alternative.

The suffragettes behaved in the most violent manner. They tried to break through the cordon of police, led by a woman with an axe and a hammer. Two women, armed with axes, climbed the roof of an adjacent factory and showered bricks and slates on the police, who brought them down by means of a fire-escape after a desperate struggle on the edge of the coping.

AERIAL NAVIGATION.

ANOTHER RECORD.

London, September 19.

Berlin.—Orville Wright has made a world's record flight of 96 minutes with a passenger.

BIG FAILURE IN ARKANSAS.

Little Rock, Arkansas.—The Buch Company, one of the largest grain businesses in America, has failed. The annual turnover used to vary from 4 to 7 million dollars.

UPROAR AT FEZ.

Paris.—A telegram received from Morocco says that all Fez is enraged at the Consular protests regarding torturing of prisoners. The Sultan has had the Pretender shot in the presence of the whole Imperial harem.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE MAY COMPROMISE.

LORD ONSLOW LEADS BIG PEACEMAKING DEPUTATION.

London, September 20.

The *News of the World* states that Mr. Lloyd George will to-morrow announce substantial concessions to landowners, as the outcome of a deputation on the provisions of the Finance Bill which he has received, headed by Lord Onslow, who acted as peacemaker. The deputation submitted a scheme which, it is believed, will lead to an understanding between the Government and the Lords.

ENGLISH CROPS ARE NOT WHOLLY RUINED.

London, September 20.

The dry weather in England during the past few days has done much to retrieve the ruin of the crops, which was almost achieved by the climatic conditions on, and subsequent, to September 14.

MR. LLOYD GEORGE AND THE LANDLORDS.

Mr. Lloyd George has admitted that he will make a statement to-day, which, he hopes, will remove the grievance of the agricultural landlords.

September 21.

In the House of Commons Mr. Lloyd George announced that a concession would be made to agricultural landowners entitling them, on making a declaration* with due data, to a reduction of 25 per cent. under schedule in respect of repairs and management. He said that this concession would cost half a million.

Mr. Balfour did not think this adequate.

SIR A. PEASE SECEDES FROM THE LIBERAL PARTY.

Sir Alfred Pease has withdrawn his support from the Liberal Party, whose social and financial policy he condemns.

AUSTRIA'S NAVAL ESTIMATES REDUCED.

The Austro-Hungarian Ministry has reduced the naval estimates by £1,160,000 sterling.

THE OSTEND AVIATION WEEK.

M. Paulban has won the 25,000 francs aviation prize at Ostend. He flew 47½ kilometres in 61 minutes.

PRESIDENT TAFT ON TOUR.

MEETING WITH THE JAPANESE COMMISSIONERS.

London, September 21.

President Taft has started for a 12,000-mile tour through the United States. At Minneapolis he met fifty Japanese Commercial Commissioners at luncheon. He paid a tribute to Japanese industry and patriotism, and toasted the Mikado, whom he described as a warm and sincere friend of America. He scouted the idea of there ever having been the slightest trouble between America and Japan.

THE BRITISH POST OFFICE IN TIENTSIN

Col. Seely, Under Secretary for the Colonies, replying to Mr. Henniker-Heaton, said he understood that arrangements had been made to maintain the British Post Office in Tientsin for the present.

LIBERAL LEAGUE CORDIALLY RECEIVES ROSEBERY.

London, September 21.

At a meeting of the executive of the Liberal League Lord Rosebery was cordially received. His Lordship explained the position in which he felt himself in connection with his resignation of the Presidency, and the meeting unanimously recorded its deep gratitude for his services and the League's high appreciation of the unselfish reasons dictating his resignation

THE BEFOULING OF A FRENCH FLAG

AND THE ANTI-PATRIOTISM OF M. HERVE.

The French public is intensely moved at

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the incident which has occurred at Macon, following upon the manœuvres. The flag of a regiment was stolen from the barracks and thrown into a latrine. At a big meeting in Paris M. Hervé, the anti-militarist leader, glorified the deed, and hoped the whole idea of patriotism would be similarly befouled.

FRANZ JOSEF RECEIVES GERMAN CHANCELLOR.

The Emperor Franz Josef has received Herr von Bethman-Hollweg in private audience.

ANOTHER AEROPLANE RECORD.

M. Rougier has reached in his aeroplane a height of 645 feet—which constitutes a record.

THE SPANIARDS ARE SUCCESSFUL.

The Spaniards began an advance from Melilla yesterday, supported by warships. The enemy was repulsed with severe losses, while the Spanish losses were slight. The troops advanced and occupied Brescia.

THE C.P.R. AND THE PACIFIC.

London, September 22.

Sir Thomas Shaughnessy, President of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, speaking at Vancouver, said that the C.P.R. must have larger and faster vessels for the Pacific, in view of the growth of the Oriental Trade.

DR. COOK AT NEW YORK.

Dr. Cook has arrived at New York, where he met with a great reception.

AUSTRALIA'S DEFENCE BILL.

Melbourne.—The Minister of Defence, moving the second reading of the Defence Bill, said that the time had arrived for Australia to be a buttress to Britain, and not a burden. Britain had no battleships on the Pacific, while Japan had 15; Britain had 4 armoured cruisers, Japan 12, the United States, 11. He believed that when the Australian fleet was in full operation it would be the most potent argument for peace.

The Bill provides for compulsory naval and military training.

OBITUARY.

Johnson, Governor of Minnesota, and candidate for the Presidency at the last Election.

MISSISSIPPI GALE CAUSES TERRIBLE HAVOC.

CONTINUES UNABATED AND IS SPREADING.

London, September 22.

A disastrous hurricane has occurred on the Mississippi. The damage to New Orleans is estimated at a million dollars. Five people perished. The storm is general along the Gulf coast. The waterfront streets of Mobile are flooded, and shipping is greatly endangered. The gale continues unabated, and is spreading over the Ohio valley and towards the Great Lakes.

Later.

A hurricane accompanied by a tidal wave on the Louisiana coast has caused serious damage. The cotton crops and sugar plantations in the interior are also much injured. In Baton Rouge and its vicinity over two million dollars' worth of damage has been done. It is reported that scores of people have perished.

AUSTRO-GERMAN INTIMACIES.

DECISION IN FAVOUR OF STATUS QUO IN NEAR EAST.

A semi-official communique has been issued in Vienna, in regard to the conferences which have taken place between Baron Aerenthal and Herr Bethmann-Hollweg. Both countries, it is declared, are anxious to maintain the *status quo* in the Near East. It has been agreed to maintain an attitude of reserve towards Crete and the crisis in Greece, out of friendliness to the Ally who is actively engaged therein.

Later.

The Emperor Francis Joseph has personally decorated the German Chancellor with the Cross of St. Stephen.

ANOTHER FINANCE BILL CLAUSE PASSED.

The House of Commons has passed clause 50 of the Finance Bill, including servants resident abroad in the income-tax, the exception to which was also extended to ex-servants.

CHINESE PORK QUITE SOUND.

The Medical officer of the Port of London has reported that he has not found any traces of trichinosis in the Chinese pork.

COTTON FOR GERMAN COLONIES.

September 23.

Herr Dernberg has started on a tour through the cotton districts of the United States in connection with a scheme for promoting cotton-growing in German colonies.

CHINA AND THE UNITED STATES.

New York.—Mr. Crane, the new Minister to Peking, at a farewell banquet said that he believed that China had a great problem to solve and that she was perfectly capable of solving it alone, if she kept free from menace. She will require much foreign material for her development, and America is determined to have her share in furnishing it.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

CONSECRATION OF NEW BISHOPS.

London, September 16.

The Bishops of Hunan, Kyushu and Hokkaido will be consecrated on November 30.

THE LORDS AND THE BUDGET.

WHAT WILL THEY DO WITH IT? THE GENERAL ELECTION.

The *Times* states that is regarded as practically certain that if the Lords reject the Budget Government will bring in a bill to accelerate the date of the Register. The election is expected for the end of November.

DR. WILSON TO ACCOMPANY COMMANDER SCOTT.

Dr. Wilson, formerly medical officer on the *Discovery*, has been appointed doctor to the forthcoming Scott Polar expedition.

ADMIRAL LAMBTON MAY COMMAND MEDITERRANEAN FLEET.

Owing to the illness of Admiral Sir Curzon Howe, Commanding the Mediterranen Squadron it is reported that Admiral Lambton, commanding on the China station, is likely to return to take up the position. It is suggested that Prince Louis of Battenberg will proceed to China.

AUSTRIA'S NAVAL PROGRAMME

Vienna.—The navy estimates have been submitted to a joint conference of ministers. The construction of four dreadnoughts, three cruisers, and twelve torpedo boats, at a cost of £11,000,000, is contemplated. The programme will be spread over seven years, commencing in January.

CANADA MAY NOT AGREE WITH GERMANY.

Ottawa.—The Commercial Intelligence Committee, referring to Germany's anxiety for a treaty with Canada, says that it would be unfortunate if the Dominion strengthened Britain's commercial rival whilst the anti-German sentiment continued in England.

PERSIAN PREMIER ELECT LACKS FAITH.

Teheran.—There is a strong demand that the money promised by the Nationalists shall be forthcoming without delay. The scarcity of money is placing the Government in a serious position. The failure of Nazrul-Mulk, the premier-elect, to return, is regarded as a want of faith in the new regime.

CANADA, THE U.S., AND THE EMPIRE.

LORD CHARLES' ENTHUSIASM.

London, September 18.

New York.—Lord Charles Beresford, in a conversation with the correspondent of *The Times*, declared that he found in Canada the friendliest feeling towards the United States, combined with unswerving loyalty to the Empire. He is enthusiastic with regard to the future of the Dominion.

THE PREMIER'S POOR SPEECH.

London, September 18.

Mr. Asquith's speech in repy to Lord Rosebery is regarded as disappointing, Many Liberals remain convinced of the necessity of taxation being raised without resorting to admittedly Socialistic principles.

It is recognized that the land tax will be expanded in future towards nationalization. The challenge to the Lords lacked sincerity.

PEARY IS NOT AFRAID OF SCRUTINY.

Commander Peary hints that he is prepared to submit evidence to an international body which will disprove Dr. Cook's claim to have reached the north Pole.

ANTI-MILITARIST CAMPAIGN.

London, September 20.

Paris.—The anti militarist campaign continues. Regimental flags are being desecrated.

AMBASSADOR UCHIDA.

The transfer of Ambassador Uchida to Washington is confirmed.

THE OWNERSHIP OF THE POLE.

Vienna.—Mr. Lucien Wolf, discussing Canada's claim to the Pole, says that the hinterland doctrine is insufficient. In the absence of any treaty claim, it is doubtful if Peary's annexation will prove to be authorized.

SOCIALISM IN GERMANY.

REVOLUTIONARY POLICY DECIDED ON

Berlin.—The Socialist Congress has resolved unanimously upon a revolutionary policy based on class war.

THE TSAR AND HIS TRAVELS.

September 21.

St. Petersburg.—The Tsar may visit Berlin on his way to Rome. It is rumoured in naval circles that the Sultan is going to Livadia.

SPANISH SUCCESSES AT MELILLA.

London, September 21.

Melilla.—Operations have begun in a westerly direction with 15,000 troops. The forts successfully bombarded a village where 1000 Moors surrendered. The excellent work of the Spanish cavalry is favourably commented on.

The Spaniards now hold the peninsula from sea to sea.

THE FIFTH GERMAN DREADNOUGHT.

September 22.

Berlin.—The fifth German Dreadnought is expected to be launched at Kiel on Saturday. It is stated that its displacement will exceed 20,000 tons, whereas previous Dreadnoughts were officially given as 19,500 tons.

AMERICAN POLICY IN CHINA.

New York.—Minister Crane, bidding farewell to the Asiatic Association, quoted Mr. Taft's speech at Shanghai in 1907,

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to the effect that the United States sought no Chinese territory. The Chinese, he added, were capable of solving their own problems, if unmenaced.

ANTI-MILITARISM IN FRANCE.

Paris.—The guard at Alençon barracks attacked the anti-militarist soldiers and injured several of them.

TAFT ON SWOLLEN FORTUNES.

London, September 23.

New York.—President Taft, speaking at Denver, reiterated his conviction that the State should check the evil of swollen fortunes by a law of inheritance requiring their division among children and descendants, and not permitting millionaires to hoard their money.

Secretary Moss recommends a heavy graduated inheritance-tax.

(Received at the Foreign Office)

AN ENTIRELY CHINESE RAILWAY.

The railway between Peking and Changkiakau has been constructed, it is said, wholly with Chinese capital and materials and by Chinese experts. It has taken four full years to build, and the cost has been 6½ million taels, which was obtained from the profits of the Peking-Mukden road.

[This is the statement which, when made some time ago in these columns, elicited an emphatic denial from a correspondent.—Ed. *J.M.*]

VIOLENT STORM AT FUCHOW.

At dawn—5 a.m.—on the 15th instant Fuchow was visited by a violent storm. A great number of trees and telegraph-posts were broken, and many houses wrecked. Several hundreds of junks were sunk or smashed, and hundreds of people were killed. A large tree within the compound of the Japanese Consulate was thrown down and the building was injured. At Mamei also, a Chinese warship ran on the rocks, and a steamer belonging to a Formosan went down, several Formosans who were on board and 50 or 60 Chinese being drowned.

[The above telegram comes from Fuchow, but had to be sent round by Shanghai an account of the line being interrupted.—Ed. *J.M.*]

(Special Telegram to the "Japan Mail.")

DEATH OF BISHOP SETH WARD.

NEAR KOBE, YESTERDAY, FROM TUMOUR ON THE BRAIN.

Kobe, September 20.

Bishop Seth Ward, D.D. of the Methodist Episcopal Church South, died at Kwansei Gakuin, near here, this afternoon, from a tumour on the brain.

A memorial service will be held on Wednesday afternoon at four o'clock, at the Kobe Methodist Church, to which all friends are invited.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

RUSSIA AND PERSIA.

Berlin, September 16.

The Russian Government has lodged a protest against the appearance of Persian robber bands in Russian districts.

GERMANY.

Another visit of the Kaiser to Austria is not to be expected this year, contrary to statements reported by some papers.

RELATIONS WITH FRANCE AND RUSSIA.

A long discussion and exchange of very friendly expressions of sympathy has taken place at Berlin between the new Chancellor and M. Jules Cambon, the French Ambassador, as reported by the *Temps*. The commercial interests of both States in Morocco were discussed and the Orient question was also touched on.

A meeting took place last Tuesday at the Russian Embassy at Berlin between the new Chancellor and M. Isvolsky, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, who was staying *incognito* at Berlin.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Lord Tweedmouth, the former Lord President of the Council who had been long seriously ill, is dead.

[Edward Marjoribanks, 2nd Baron Tweedmouth, was born July 8th, 1849. He married a daughter of the 7th Duke of Marlborough in 1874. He was M.P. for Berwick, 1880-94; Comptroller to the Household, 1886; Chief Liberal Whip, 1892-4; Lord Privy Seal and Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, 1894-5; Lord President of the Council, 1908. His heir is Hon. Dudley Churchill Marjoribanks, born 1874.]

GERMANY.

Berlin, September 17.

M. Iswolsky, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, on the occasion of his meeting with Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new German Chancellor, stated that the Russian policy, neither at the conclusion of the *entente* with Great Britain at Reval, nor after this event, had followed any aims unfriendly to Germany.

Other than European questions were not touched on at the meeting.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, on the occasion of his meeting with M. Jules Cambon, the French Ambassador at Berlin, expressed himself very hopefully as to the reorganisation of Turkey.

Prince Regent Luitpold of Bavaria has ordered the bust of Field-Marshal Count Moltke to be placed in the Bavarian Walhalla, the Temple of Fame.

GERMANY.

Berlin, September 18.

Mahmut Shefket Pasha, the Generalissimo of the Turkish Army and leader of the Young Turkish reform movement, who attended the German Imperial manœuvres, averred that he had been treated by the Kaiser with special cordiality and that he had been also presented by him to the Austrian heir-apparent, Arch-Duke Franz Ferdinand. Mahmut Pasha will stay for two days at Berlin and pay visits to the Krupp, Arhardt and Mauser works. Afterwards he will go to Paris, whence he will return to Constantinople by ship.

GENERAL VON MOLTKE.

General von Moltke, the Chief of the General Staff of the Army, has been honoured by the Kaiser with the high order of the Black Eagle for his success in carrying out the Imperial manœuvres of the present year.

The *Kreuz Zeitung*, which is the principal organ of the Prussian Conservatives, publishes a letter, in which the writer demands that the Conservatives extended to Prince Buelow conciliatory measures.

The Kaiser has accepted the Hon. Presidency of the Aero Club.

Orville Wright, now at Berlin, has obtained a height record of 172 meters in a flight in the presence of the Kaiserin.

The Kaiser, now staying at Munich, was welcomed by the Ober-Buergermeister in the City Hall. The Kaiser, replying to the welcome extended to him, quoted the words of King Ludwig of Bavaria, who said that a man who did not know Munich had no knowledge of Germany. He also thanked him for the present of the Golden Medal for Art and Science and praised the patriotic feeling of the populace of Munich. Concluding, he emphasized the government of the Prince Regent, which was productive of splendid results in every respect.

Berlin, September 19.

The Schack Gallery has been inaugurated and presented to the Prince Regent and the City of Munich by the Kaiser. Very cordial toasts have been exchanged on this occasion, the Kaiser repeatedly emphasizing that he took the best of all impressions with him from Munich. Prince Regent Luitpold and Prince Ludwig received the new Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, on the same occasion.

(The Gallery of Count Schack, famous for its small, but excellent selection of pictures, was presented to the Kaiser by the late Count: the Kaiser, however, ordering the Gallery to be retained by Munich and transported to the new palace of the late Count, also presented to him—Ed. *D.J.-P.*)

The discount-rate of the German Reichsbank has been raised, which is a certain signal of warning after the boom of the Exchange during the last months.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Berlin, September 18.

The British Under Secretary of State of the Exchequer, has resigned his post.

MOROCCO.

Bu Hamara, the Rogki and Pretender for the throne of Morocco, who had been taken prisoner by Mulai Hafid, the Sultan, has been shot at Fez.

Berlin, September 20.

The Government of Morocco has presented to the Corps Diplomatique at Tangier a communication concerning the Spanish war against the Kabyles of the Rif, in which it seems to have demanded intervention of the Powers.

AUSTRIA.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new German Chancellor, has gone to Vienna and presented himself to Emperor Franz Jeseph. The *Wiener Fremdenblatt* welcomes the new Chancellor on the occasion of his first visit to Austria.

Baron Uchida, the Japanese Ambassador at Vienna, writing in the *Freie Presse*, has again stated that the Japanese policy concerning China and Russia remains absolutely peaceful.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails with dates up to Sept. 4th ex Yokohama arrived at Berlin on Sept. 20th.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Le Temps at Paris is responsible for the report that King Edward has required Lord Lansdowne and Lord Rosebery to avoid any conflict as to the Budget in the House of Peers.

RUSSIA.

A bomb depôt has been discovered at Baku in Russian Trans-Coucasia; the Chief of the secret police bureau has been arrested and committed for trial.

GERMANY.

Berlin, September 21.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new German Chancellor, now on a visit at Vienna, has had very long conferences with Freiherr von Aehrenthal, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, especially as to the Orient question and the economic interests of Germany and Austria in the Orient.

Count Zeppelin's airship No. III. has carried out a new trip, visiting Duesseldorf and Essen.

Mahmud Shevket Pasha, the Turkish Generalissimo, in several interviews, has expressed himself as very satisfied with his participation in the Imperial manœuvres. He is astonished at the progress of the German Army with regard to the introduction of all reforms, based upon the experiences of the late war, as well as with

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regard to the excellent marching capacity of the troops.

MOROCCO.

The Government of Morocco has presented to the Corps Diplomatique at Tangier a Note of protest against the further advance of the Spanish troops at the Rif.

CRETE.

The Protective Powers are demanding that Crete fulfil the Turkish claim of highest judicial administration in the island.

UNITED STATES.

Berlin, September 22.

Dr. Cook has arrived at New York and has been received very enthusiastically.

GERMANY.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new German Chancellor, in an interview with some Austrian journalists, emphasised that he revered the Emperor Francis Joseph very much and that the continuance of the Triple Alliance was absolutely certain.

A Communiqué of the Governments of Austria and Germany has been published, stating that both Powers are earnestly aiming at the maintenance of the *status quo* in the Near East. Both Powers wish to see the strengthening and consolidation of the new Government of Turkey. They take, however, a very reserved attitude as to the Cretan question and the Greek crisis.

HOLLAND.

The speech from the throne on the occasion of the opening of the Session of the Dutch Parliament mentions the happy event of the birth of a Princess. It further promises the introduction of forced insurance to meet sickness, invalidity and old age. The foreign relations of the Kingdom are of a most friendly character and the situation in the Colonies is satisfying, good news even being reported from Atjeh in Sumatra. New Bills will be introduced as to an increase of the Inheritance Tax, the revision of the Customs Tariff and of the Income Tax; also for the improvement of coast defence.

MOROCCO.

An exchange of opinion is taking place between the Powers as to the further extension of the Spanish war at the Rif in Morocco.

GREECE.

The Greek Crown Prince will return to Athens, the crisis having been settled in Parliament.

RUSSIA.

The Russian harvest is reported to be most excellent.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

RUSSIAN WAR DEPARTMENT DISCREPANCES.

Vladivostock, September 16.

As a result of the examination of public accounts of the War Department in St. Petersburg, great discrepances have been discovered. It is reported that complete reorganization will shortly take place in the Financial Head Division of that Department.

BARON COZEN'S TOUR.

Baron Cozen, Inspector of the Far Eastern Emigrants, left for Japan yesterday on a tour.

CHINESE PAPERS SUSPENDED.

Peking, September 15.

The two Chinese papers the *Kokuho* and the *Daido Nippo*, after publishing a violent criticism of the Sino-Japanese Treaty, have been ordered to suspend publication. The sale of the papers has been prohibited.

DEUTCHE-JAPAN SCHOOL AT TSINGTAO.

Peking, September 16.

The Special Higher Speciality School established at Tsingtao in the joint interest of China and Germany will shortly be opened. The Department of Education has drafted the regulations and notified different schools that the applicants for admission are to pass an entrance examination.

JAPANESE TOURISTS AT ANTUNG.

Antung, September 15.

A party of sightseers consisting of 35 persons of Tochigi prefecture arrived here yesterday. They were welcomed by the members of the Chamber of Commerce and the settlement corporation, and left for Mukden to-day.

JAPANESE TROOPS AT TIELING.

Tieling, September 16.

The Japanese Relief Troops under the command of No. 22 Brigade Commander Tachibana, arrived here last night, and a portion of the Relieved Troops left for Japan this morning. The rest will leave to-morrow.

HANKOW'S WATER SUPPLY.

Hankow, September 15.

The supply of water from the waterworks commenced yesterday. The result is highly successful, and the laying of pipes in the settlement is contemplated for the end of this year.

RESIGNATION OF MR. CHANG CHITUNG.

Shanghai, September 17.

The resignation of Mr. Chang Chitung is rumoured to have been accepted as far as the discharge of his duties as Superintendent of the Hupeh and Huwan railway is concerned.

BUTLER WRIGHT SENT UNDER GUARD.

Butler Wright, arrested on charge of embezzlement, has been sent under guard to Canton, where he will be examined by the British Consul.

DEPARTURE OF MINISTER CHANG.

Mr. Chang, newly appointed Chinese Minister to Washington, will leave Peking to-morrow for his post.

ISSUE OF NOTES BY THE BANK OF CHINA.

Mukden, September 17.

The Mukden Branch office of the Bank of China has issued three larger and five smaller kinds of bank-notes, amounting to 500,000 taels in all.

RAILWAY TO CHENHSIANTUN.

Mukden, September 18.

As to the railway line westward to Chenhsiangtun, the manager of the South Manchuria Railway Company and the Commissioner of China hold different views. The latter insists on constructing the railway as near as possible to the city of Mukden, in anticipation of connecting the line with the Peking-Mukden line.

THE JAPANESE LOAN TO KOREA.

Seoul, September 18.

The balance of the Japanese loan to the Korean Government is 4,000,000 *yen* in each of the next two financial years. Though it is rumoured that some increase will be made from next financial year, this is totally groundless.

A TELEGRAPHIC GUARD KILLED.

Masampo, September 18.

One of the telegraphic guard was killed by rioters at Reisan on the 16th instant,

MINNEAPOLIS RECEPTION.

Duluth, September 18.

The Japanese business men are expected to be received in audience by the President at Minneapolis to-morrow. The ill-health of the governor of the State of Minnesota, may, however, prevent the ceremony from taking place.

EMIGRATION FROM EUROPEAN RUSSIA.

Vladivostock, September 18.

During the period commencing on the 1st of January and ending on the 20th of August this year, 2,755 families, consisting of 15,584 men and women, emigrated from European Russia to the Valley of the Amur River. This shows an increase of 7,763 persons over last year's figures.

RUSSIAN WAR DEPARTMENT ORDERS AUTOS.

Vladivostock, September 19.

It is reported that the Russian Department of War has placed abroad a large order for motor-cars.

RUSSIA'S SENATE REFORM BILL.

The Senate Reform Bill will be brought before the Duma.

THE ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Harbin, September 18.

On the 13th instant, over 2000 people of Kilin held a meeting, at which they decided to enforce the anti-Japanese boycott.

DAIREN AND THE S. M. R. CHARGES.

Dairen, September 19.

The local Business Association, deeming the alteration of the South Manchuria Railway charges to militate against local prosperity, presented a petition to the Railway Company. The petition was rejected and a great mass meeting has taken place.

MR. CHANG CHITUNG'S CONDITION.

Peking, September 20.

The condition of Mr. Chang Chitung, who has been reported seriously ill, has much improved since yesterday, under the care of two Japanese surgeons, Drs. Hiraga and Shimose. The patient is not, as was feared, suffering from cancer of the stomach.

THE WUCHANG RAILWAY.

The construction of the Peking-Changkiakow railway has been completed. The Minister of Communications and other leading members concerned left here yesterday to inspect the line. The opening ceremony is expected to be held on the 2nd proximo.

THE VLADIVOSTOCK RACES.

Vladivostock, September 19.

The races ended to-day. No Russian horses have been successful, and the success of Japanese horses is much commented on.

Y. S. BANK AT CHANGSHUN.

Changshun, September 20.

The frame work of the building of the Changshun Branch Office of the Yokohama Specie Bank having been completed, celebrations was held to-day. The leading members and residents attended the meeting.

BRITISH WARSHIP MISSING.

Shanghai, September 20.

The British sloop *Clio*, which left here for Hongkong on the 11th instant, has not arrived at its destination. The British cruiser *Astræa* was despatched from here yesterday to search for the missing vessel.

ANOTHER STEAMER WRECKED.

The British steamer *Maori King* has been wrecked off Ningpo.

VISITING CANTON'S NEW VICEROY.

Hongkong, September 20.

To return the courtesies of the Viceroy

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Yuen, who called at the Hongkong Government Office on his way to his post, the Governor of Hongkong visited the Viceroy at Canton to-day, in his steam-launch *Stanley*.

IMPORT DUTY ON SPIRITS IN HONGKONG.

The Legislature of this place has decided to impose an import duty on spirits in order to make up the deficit of the annual revenue. It was enforced from yesterday.

SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY CHARGES.

Dairen, September 20.

The great mass meeting in opposition to the revised railway charges, which was to be held last night, was suspended through the mediation of Mr. Chikaraichi, Head of the Civil Administration Office. The South Manchuria Railway Company will probably compromise to meet the desire of the citizens.

MR. TAFT AND OSAKA.

Minneapolis, September 20.

President Taft, who recalls the congratulatory telegram received from the Osaka Chamber of Commerce when he was elected Presi lent, has expressed thanks to Mr. Doi, President of the Chamber, stating that he is glad to welcome the representative of Osaka, the centre of commerce and industry in Japan. The President conversed freely with Mr. Doi.

DR. COOK WELCOMED BY NEW YORKERS.

New York, September 21.

Dr. Cook arrived here at 10 a.m. to-day. Over 3000 people went out in boats to welcome him, every steamer in the harbour blew its whistle, and the wharf was crowded to a tremendous extent. So great a reception has not previously been accorded to any private individual. Dr. Cook was overcome with emotion, and could not utter a word. He will publish nothing about his exploration until he has met Commander Peary and exchanged opinions. He possesses a quantity of evidence which he intends to present to the University of Copenhagen prior to making it public.

CHOLERA IN SEOUL.

Seoul, September 21.

On September 20, 65 cases of cholera were reported in this city. The Korean Emperor has suspended audiences, and the Residency-General was closed to-day on account of three relatives of the officials being attacked. Mr. Ono Kumataro, President of the Ono Bank of Ehime Prefecture, who has been staying here on holiday, died from the disease to-day.

NO SECRET AGREEMENT.

Shanghai, September 21.

Owing to the fact that many Chinese and other foreigners believe that a secret understanding exists in addition to the recent Sino Japanese Treaty, the Japanese Consulate has published a denial in Chinese and other foreign papers.

DREDGING AT KOPHO.

The dredging work at Kopho was suspended to-day on expiration of the contract. It is reported that the Dredging Bureau is unable to renew the contract through lack of funds. The Consuls are deliberating upon a plan of action.

THE WAI-WU-PU AND THE MANCHURIAN CONFERENCE.

According to a Peking telegram, the Wai-wu-pu has ordered the Telegraph Office not to despatch to different provinces any intelligence relating to the conference concerning Manchuria.

CHINA'S NAVAL COMMISSIONERS.

Peking, September 21.

Prince Tsai and Admiral Sah, who are expected to return to the capital in a few days, will report upon their naval investigations, after which the following plans will be put in operation:—

1. The fleet shall be divided into two parts; viz., the ocean going and the riverine.
2. The naval academies in Chefoo, Nangking, Foochow and Canton will be improved.
3. The arsenal in Kiangnang will be put under the direct control of the Naval Department.
4. Shozan Harbour will be reconstructed and made into a naval base.

Further fundamental reforms are also contemplated subsequent to Prince Tsai's inspection of the naval conditions of Japan and other foreign Powers.

AN AERIAL "PASSAGE OF THE ALPS."

GRAPHIC ACCOUNT OF CAPT. SPELTERINI'S FEAT IN THE DIRIGIBLE "SIRIUS."

A graphic account of the crossing of the Alps in the balloon *Sirius* by Captain Spelterini, from Chamounix to Pizzo di Ruscada, a distance of 140 kilomètres, is given in the *Figaro* by Mr. Frantz Reichel, who was one of the passengers.

M Reichel describes the way in which the mountains, the peaks, the glaciers, the gorges, and the valleys seemed, as by a kind of optical illusion, "to rise as if they were surprised and curious to see the four impertinent individuals who were leaping so easily over these terrible obstacles." The balloon did not cross Mont Blanc. It was caught at a height of 3,000 mètres by an air current which carried it towards the Brevent.

"The *Sirius* traverses the Mer de Glace, veers round the Aiguillie du Dru, enters upon the Glacier of L'Argentière, bounds at a height of 4,000 mètres over the Tour Noir. The spectacle is prodigious and defies description. In front of us the sovereign mass of Mont Blanc, with her *cortège* of peaks. To the left the glorious infinite spaces of the valleys of the Alps, which our eyes discern, dominated by the Cervin with its summits of incomparable splendour clean cut against the blue. Behind us a gigantic amphitheatre of rock and ice, the Dent du Midi, the Diablerets, and the enormous and shapely group of the Jungfrau. Between all these gigantic forms wind green valleys, some of them narrow, others spacious and charming, like that of the Rhone, which runs broad towards Martigny and the lake of Geneva. . . . We continue to rise. The *Sirius* is now sailing at a height of 5,600 mètres. It passes in front of the Zinal Rothorn, leaps the Weisshorn, and floats over the marvellous valley of Zermatt.

"Ahead of us soars the Cervin in its proud and rare beauty, but the picture has become terrifying. Between the earth and us, as we pass over the Dom, immense clouds have glided and we perceive the earth now merely through the rents in them. It appears to us further away. The spectacle is both magnificent and fraught with positive anguish; this vision of walls, abysses, precipices, and glaciers from whose horrors we are slowly borne by the wind. The horizon behind us has become dark, while on our left the Jungfrau and the gigantic glacier of the Aletsch are draped in white clouds, which slowly hide them from our eyes, wearied with wonders. Ahead of us rise Italy and, in the far distance, the lakes and the plains of Lombardy.

"The sun sets. Already night falls and Spelterini reflects sadly that we shall have to interrupt this indescribable voyage and return to earth. But where? Imperceptibly the wind is carrying us well away from the plain outside the broad valley of Domodossola, and keeping us within the mountains. Beneath the *Sirius* there are nothing but sharp peaks or narrow gorges. We have now only five sacks of ballast left. Night at hand and a storm threatens. To proceed further, says Spelterini, would be madness. We must come to ground at any cost. The wind is driving us towards the Pizzo di Ruscada, which looms at a height of 2000 metres over the parallel valleys of the Melezza and the Onsernone. A narrow neck which bears its name joins it to the chain. Beyond there is a sort of platform. If we miss it we shall be launched upon the unknown. But the captain, who is a wonderful master of his balloon, calmly prepares the daring feat of coming to earth at that point, aims at the spot, and lands gently just at the edge of the precipice, without letting out any gas."

Mountaineers shortly arrived and helped Captain Spelterini to let out the gas. He and his companions passed the night on the mountain. At 1 a.m. on the following day, after a walk of seven hours in the rain, they reached Locarno, on Lake Maggiore. Captain Spelterini took a large number of photographs during the voyage.

BRITISH PLAY CENSOR ATTACKED AND DEFENDED.

MR. J. M. BARRIE AND MR. FORBES ROBERTSON HOLD OPPOSITE VIEWS.

The doings and misdoings of the censor were still the subject of inquiry by the Joint Committee on the Censorship late last month, when the evidence of Mr. J. M. Barrie, the well-known author and dramatist, was taken.

First of all, Colonel Sir Douglas Dawson, Comptroller of the Lord Chamberlain's Department, gave evidence as to the general working of the department with regard to stage-plays.

If the Examiner of Plays is in doubt about a play, said witness, he would confer with the manager seeking a licence for it, and try to arrange the difficulties. Failing this, he would consult with the Lord Chamberlain or the Comptroller—the final decision being given by the Lord Chamberlain.

Here are the numbers of plays licensed and refused of recent years:—

	Licensed.	Refused.
1905	520	2
1906	579	2
1907	536	3
1908	560	5

With regard to smoking in theatres, Sir Douglas said some theatre managers had approached the Lord Chamberlain to have the restriction against smoking removed. After due Consideration the Lord Chamberlain decided that it would be possible that the restriction should be withdrawn.

The skit on "An Englishman's Home" was refused a licence because it would have given offence to a "particular foreign Power."

Mr. J. M. Barrie, author and playwright, said that he was opposed to the censorship. The theatre should be licensed, and the licence could be withdrawn if improper plays were performed. Local authorities could decide what was improper.

The Chairman: The vast majority of theatres in this country are licensed by local authorities. Do you feel disposed to trust them to decide whether or not improprieties are being committed?—Yes.

Take the case of a play which some people thought was directly and deliberately offensive to a foreign Power, but which other people thought was not offensive. Would you consider that a matter which was fit for decision by local authorities, perhaps in opposite directions in different towns?—I suppose if it were stopped in one town it would be stopped in all. A play is usually produced in London first and then goes to the provinces.

Asked if he considered that the present censorship exercised an evil effect on the English drama, Mr. Barrie said he felt that strongly. The censorship was a stigma on all who wrote plays.

Would you say Ibsen was a conventional author?—No, unconventional.

But is it not the case that all his plays have been performed in England except one?—Yes, but

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Ibsen is a tremendous man. We don't happen to have any Ibsens ourselves.

What category of plays do you think ought to be prohibited by local authorities if their production was attempted? Grossly indecent plays, obviously?—Yes, or anything political that was offensive to a foreign Power.

Take a play obviously meant to be offensive to a foreign Power. Do you think it would be better to allow its production and prosecute it, or better to prevent its production?—I think it would be better to prevent its production if you could do that without having a censor.

Mr. Barrie suggested that when a play was banned the Lord Chamberlain should appoint one person, the Authors' Society should appoint a second, and these two should appoint a third, and between them they should decide if it was a play which should be produced.

Mr. Forbes-Robertson was the next witness. He said his view was that the censor should be retained, and that he should have more liberty. The Examiner of Plays should be entirely independent of any outside influence.

The Chairman: It is the Lord Chamberlain you object to more than the Examiner of Plays?—Yes; because his position is based on change. I would rather see a permanent official.

In his own personal experience Mr. Forbes-Robertson said he had not come across a case in which the existence of the censor caused inconvenience or detriment to the stage.

He though the censor should be allowed greater latitude, and not be required to ban all Scriptural plays without regard to their merits.

THE IDEAL.

The Chairman: Do you think the censorship has influenced the growth of serious drama in England?—I think it has been unfortunate in some cases. I think it is unfortunate that a play like "The Devil" should be allowed and "Monna Vanna" set aside.

You think the working in practice is open to some criticism, but the censorship is right in principle?—Yes.

Asked by Mr. Hugh Law to indicate the kind of person a censor should be, Mr. Forbes-Robertson said he should be a man of mature age, one who had been abroad a good deal, who was familiar with French and German, and who was recognised as a broad-minded man.

The Committee adjourned.

THE CONDITION OF WEI-HAI-WEI.

COMMISSIONER'S ANNUAL REPORT.

Sir J. H. Stuart Lockhart, Commissioner, has sent home his report on the Territory of Wei-hai wei for the year 1908. In the course of it he remarks:

The revenue collected during the year amounted to $83,277, as compared with $80,331 during the previous year. The expenditure during the year amounted to $168,740, as compared with $173,340 the expenditure of the previous year. There are no capitalists resident in this Territory and wealthy merchants at Shanghai are not inclined under existing conditions to invest their capital here. This is illustrated by the attitude of the Shanghai public in regard to the question of starting a fruit-growing company here. The results of the fruit-growing experiments made by Government have proved conclusively that fruit could be successfully and profitably produced in this Territory, and certain persons were very anxious to form a company, buy or rent ground, and start business, but owing to the uncertainty of tenure it was found impossible to raise the small capital required. It cannot, however, be said that trade is either stagnant or diminishing, though owing to the place being a free port it is not possible to give accurate returns of imports as there are no Customs returns. A general report on the growing of fruit, trees, shrubs, flowers, and vegetables at Wei-hai-wei from 1905 to 1909 has been prepared by Mr. Gibbons, horticulturist, specially appointed to superintend the growing of fruit in this Territory. Mr. Gibbons states that "the result of four years' experiment has been to demonstrate very clearly that the culture of fruit can be engaged in as a commercial proposition," and that "the experiment has proved to my satisfaction that fruit culture at Wei-hai-wei would be a safe investment." In order to encourage the Chinese to undertake fruit culture and tree planting a small pamphlet prepared by Mr. Gibbons has been translated into simple Chinese and widely distributed in the Territory. The pamphlet gives general elementary instructions as to pruning, manuring, propagating, &c., and should prove of benefit to Chinese. Both of the Magistrates' Courts have been fully occupied with the litigation which is so marked a feature of Chinese village life in Wei-hai-wei. The magistrates endeavour, as far as possible, to decide the civil cases which arise in accordance with Chinese law and customs, and the fact that the villagers seek the assistance of the courts more and more every year shows that these efforts are appreciated. The system of having duly authorised petition writers has been abolished at the suggestion of the district officer because it was found that these petition writers grossly abuse their positions, charged extortionate fees, and stirred up litigation on their own account. The general condition of the affairs of this Territory during the past year may be considered as satisfactory as circumstances permit. Whilst trade has not increased appreciably, the general standard of living among the Chinese population appears to be steadily improving. The harvests have been good, the people appear to be contented, and there has been but little crime. The number of visitors during the summer months was the largest on record, and there is every indication that it will continue to increase.

ORIENTAL TOBACCO COMPANY.

WILL GIVE WORK TO 5000 KOREANS.

As already reported, says the *Seoul Press*, the construction work of a factory for the Oriental Tobacco Company has lately been commenced. In connection with its establishment, Mr. Sasa, President of the Company, is quoted as having spoken to the following effect:—As the purpose of the proposed factory is to manufacture and sell tobacco so as to meet the demand of consumers in this country, it goes without saying that when the factory is completed it will have much effect upon industrial circles in this country. Of various industries the manufacture of tobacco needs a comparatively large number of workmen. It is expected that more than 5000 hands will be employed in the proposed factory, including a number of women and children. Consequently many of the lower class people of this country, who suffer much from want of occupation, will then be able to gain wages, estimated to amount at least to 40,000 *yen* per month. Besides, the wages paid to people for conveyance of the material necessary to the factory will surely enrich the pockets of Koreans directly or indirectly. Of course the work is undertaken for gain on the part of the Company, but at the same time it will benefit Koreans too, as it will provide them with remunerative work. It is a fact that in Japan people residing in the neighbourhood of tobacco factories thrive steadily year after year. Having this fact in view, the Company hopes to conduct its affairs steadily and energetically, and to do all in its power to help in the development of this country.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A SHANGHAI despatch says that the British sloop *Clio*, which was missing, is safe.

AN Osaka telegram says that a case of pest was discovered at Nishijima-cho, Nishi-ku, on the 21st instant.

THE Hokuroku and the Nanao Railway lines, which have been blocked by accidents, were restored on the evening of September 20.

THE total of the contributions towards the relief-fund for the earthquake-stricken districts in Shiga prefecture is over 100,000 *yen*, including the Imperial donation. Further contributions are being remitted.

COUNT OTANI, Abbot of Nishi-Hongwanji, and Countess Otani will leave Kobe, by the steamer *Oriental* for an exploring tour through India.

ON September 21, His Majesty the Emperor despatched a cordial telegram to the Siamese Emperor, containing congratulations for his birthday.

MR. NAKAHASHI TOKUGORO, one of the Japanese business men who is visiting America, left the body of the party at Grand Forks and started for home.

IT has been decided that Mr. Arakawa Meiji, Minister-resident in Mexico, will be appointed minister to Madrid, and Mr. Nabeshima Keiji will succeed him.

THE Yokosuka Naval Station has decided to build a new torpedo discharging place at Iseyama Point, Hashirimizu, Uraga. The breakwater is now being constructed.

AN Osaka telegram reports that a large number of rogues have found their way to the city since the recent fire. The Sonesaki police succeeded in arresting 80 of them on the 16th instant.

WE have to record the death, on September 17, of Mr. Watanabe Kensai, of Yokohama. He was looked up to as the first physician of the city, and was recognized as a doctor of the European school.

THEIR MAJESTIES the Emperor and the Empress have granted 300 *yen* to be bestowed on each of Kochi and Ehime prefectures for the relief of sufferers from the recent storm off Hantagori, Kochi prefecture.

MR. R. S. MILLER, Secretary of the U.S. Embassy, who has been lately promoted Head of the Oriental Bureau in Washington, left Shimbashi on September 23. He sails from Yokohama by the steamer *Korea*.

EARLY on the morning of the 19th instant, a burglar broke into a curio-store of Oki-mura, Minami-Katsushika gori, Tokyo-fu. The master of the house, his wife and their daughter were all killed by the man.

A GIFU despatch says that the 500 *yen* recently bestowed on that city by the Crown Prince will be saved for a hundred years without being diverted for any purpose. The principal and interest will then total 1,250,000 *yen*.

A FUKUI telegram reports that a man named Tanaka, of Miye prefecture, about 30 years of age, was taken in charge by the police. He is said to have carried on his person a letter of direct appeal to the Crown Prince.

A FEW days ago, over 50 persons of a village in Kitatsugaru-gori, Aomori prefecture, were poisoned as the result of eating a kind of shrimp caught in a marsh near by. Three of the victims are reported to have died in consequence.

THE opening ceremony of the Choko-kwan (antique collection building) which has just been built at Yamada, Ise province, at a cost of 170,000 *yen*, will be celebrated on the 20th instant. Prince Arisugawa will attend the ceremony.

ON September 16, a man who was a passenger in an express running westward from Ofune, discovered that he had taken the wrong train by mistake and suddenly jumped out of the carriage. He was much injured but his life is not in danger.

RIGAKU HAKUSHI Mitsukuri Kakichi, who has been ill for a long time, passed away on the 16th instant. Just before his death, the Second Grade of the third-class rank and the Double-rays of the Rising Sun were by special order conferred on him.

AT 1 a.m. on the 22nd instant, a fire broke out in the coal bunker of the Japanese steamer *Katori Maru* (2,206 tons) lying in Yokohama Harbour. The crew, aided by several steam-launches sent by the Water Police, the Harbour Office and the

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Custom House, endeavoured to prevent the fire spreading, but the coal was already ablaze, and some eight hours were occupied in putting out the flames.

THE steamer *Satsuma Mura* arrived at Moji on the 22nd instant from Fusan, and was discovered to have had on board a Korean passenger who has been suffering from cholera. The steamer has been detained for five days for medical inspection.

PRINCESS FUSHIMI (Jr.) who is expected to visit Europe shortly, paid a visit to the Imperial Palace on the 21st instant to take her leave of their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress. Her Highness will leave Shimbashi by the 8.40 a.m. train on September 25.

ON the 2nd and 5th of October, the installation ceremony will be celebrated in the *Naigu* and the *Geku* respective'y. The sacred treasures which are to be presented to both the shrines will be forwarded to Yamada in a few days after inspection by the Emperor.

ON the 19th instant, a horse drawing a wagon was killed by leakage of electricity, when it was driven near an electric-light pole at Sakumacho Itchome, Kanda, Tokyo. The driver was slightly affected by the current, but he saved himself by immediately letting go the reins.

ACCORDING to a Formosa report, the aborigines at Toyen made several sudden sallies from their covert on a hill near the Rokuchiku-san on the 15th instant. They were driven back each time by the government troops. Four men were killed or wounded on the latter side.

ACCORDING to the *Aashi*, speculation is rife among local Chinese merchants as to why the Japanese press has recently published so much relating to the anti-Japanese boycott. Judging by the correspondence they have received from home, the matter has been exaggerated.

IN consequence of long continued rain, the roads and the banks along the Hine River, running through Nishikubiki-gori, Niigata prefecture, have been damaged A number of houses and bridges have been washed away by the inundations. The damage is estimated at some 174,000 *yen*.

IT is reported that only two of the eight warships belonging to the U.S. Squadron at present cruising in the Pacific, will visit Yokohama on December 15. The rest will call at Kobe, Shanghai and Hongkong, two at each port. The squadron will subsequently assemble, probably at Manila, and return to home waters.

IT is reported that on September 24, a religious celebration will be held by Mr. Hishigaki and other Japanese sympathisers at Kashino ura, Oshima-mura, Higashi-Muro-gori, Kii province, in remembrance of the Turkish Special Envoy and his suite who found a watery grave off Kashinoura twenty years ago.

THE northern districts of Formosa were visited by a heavy storm on the 14th instant. In consequence, 18 houses were totally destroyed; 12, half destroyed and 2 390, submerged. In addition to these, a number of other buildings were destroyed and damaged, and much damage was put on railways, bridges, electric poles, etc.

ON the 21st instant, a man belonging to a party of actors, sent by railway from Omiya to Takasaki a trunk containing sulphur, saltpetre and realgar, intended for use in theatrical performances. When the trunk arrived at Takasaki Station a porter let it fall, and a loud explosion occurred. Fortunately, no serious consequence is reported.

ON the evening of the 21st instant, a motor-car in which were Mr. Royen, the Dutch Minister in Tokyo, and Mrs. Royen, came along the street of Takanawa-Kita-machi, on the way home from Yokohama, when it was found that the road was not wide enough to allow of passage, as the electric railway line was under repair. The driver, named Iwabori Chuhichi, hesitated to alter the course of the car. At this juncture, an electric-car for Uyeno came up from behind and crashed into the motor car, the back part of which was broken, though fortunately no harm was inflicted on the occupants. The driver is undergoing examination as to the accident.

IT is rumoured that the Exhibition Committee are contemplating the introduction of a bill providing an additional 400,000 *yen* for the expenses of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition. Insurance of the exhibits and expenses for night openings, which were at first not taken into account, are the principal items for which the increase in expenditure is required.

ON the 21st instant, Mr. Saito, Minister of the Navy, banqueted Mr. Miller of the U.S. Embassy who has been appointed Chief of the Far Eastern Bureau in Washington, at the official residence of the Minister. Mrs. Miller and a number of Japanese and American officials attended the dinner. Mr. and Mrs. Miller are expected to leave Tokyo to-day.

THE Crown Prince, who has just visited Gifu, reported to have granted 500 *yen* to be bestowed on Gifu City, and 200 *yen* on the sufferers by the recent earthquake. In commemoration of his third visit to the city, his Highness planted a pine tree in a garden of the Hongwanji Detached Temple there. While his Highness was on his way through the districts damaged by the earthquake, he gave evidences of the greatest sympathy.

THE Japanese steamer *Yumihari Maru* (999 tons) belonging to Messrs. Utsunomiya Kaisoten of Tokyo, went ashore on the 16th instant near the Kyoshi Islands some 40 miles south east off Mokpho, when she was on her way from Yokohama to Chemulpo with a full cargo. The vessel was damaged in her bow and two of her holds were submerged. The cargo is being transhipped to another vessel lying at an adjacent island. No casualties are reported.

THE subsidy of $10,000, promised by the Mexican Government to the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, was expected to be approved by the Republican Assembly on or about the 15th instant. The company's steamers will commence calling at Manzanillo with the *America Maru*, which leaves Yokohama shortly. In the meantime, the Mexican Oriental Steamship Company of Hongkong has decided to resume the service to Salina Cruz. The steamer *Montrose* will leave Hongkong in October next.

AN old man named Nemoto Kichibei, of Kushikata-mura, Taga-gori, Ibaraki prefecture, discovered on the 19th instant an antique relic the shape of a dolphin, about four feet long and one and a half feet wide, in the Juo River which flows through the village. The relic is of wood, bright black in colour, with beautiful scale-shaped figures carved on the surface. It is of the kind called *S kishu shachi*, rarely seen in China, and never before seen in Japan. It has been presented to the Imperial Museum in Tokyo.

ON the night of the 18th instant, Sub-lieutenant Shinozuka Tamaki, commissioned to the battleship *Shikishima*, met with a fatal accident. The battleship has been in the Yokosuka Dockyard for repair. On that night, the officer had inspected a boat lying outside the dockyard, and was about to board the battleship, when he stumbled against a water-hose hanging over the bulwark and fell head foremost into the dock, a depth of about 30 feet, and was killed instantly. He was interred with full naval honours on the 20th instant.

ON the 19th instant, 15 marines from the British the cruiser *Monmouth*, which was about to leave Nagasaki for Urashita, deserted. Five of them landed at the Hatoba, when they were pursued by the police. They "annexed" a boat belonging to a laundryman and tried to escape in it, but a number of the water-police followed in a steam-launch, when the marines unsheathed their swords and, throwing pieces of wood at their pursuers, awaited the attack. At length they attempted to take refuge in a British steamer anchored near by, but the gangway was raised before they could do so. They then seized a Japanese boat and tried to flee to the offing. At this juncture, ten more marines were despatched from the cruiser, and they co-operated with the police in arresting the disorderly men. The deserters, it appears, had broken into the compound of the Mitsubishi Dockyard, overcome the watchmen, and helped themselves to a quantity of sake in a neighbouring house. They were arrested after a pursuit lasting altogether some four hours.

IT has been gloomy these last few days in Tokyo and neighbourhood. This may have been caused by the depression that appeared a few days ago to the south-west of the Bonin Islands. Loochoo, Formosa and the southern districts of Kyushu and Shikoku have been visited by storms. In the main island, it has, on the whole, been cloudy or rainy, excepting in Hokkaido, where fair weather is reported The centre of depression which was over the Yayeyama Islands, is expected to be deflected towards China, when the atmospheric pressure will gradually increase. As we are now approaching the period of *Higan*, constant fair weather can not be hoped for.

ON the night of September 20, a man named Shibata Kinjiro attempted to kill his father-in-law and family at Tsurumi, Kanagawa prefecture. At first, the man tried to destroy by fire the house in which the father-in-law and his family lived, and when the mother-in-law ran out of the house, he aimed a blow at her with a cooking-knife and then rushing into the room where her husband and their little girl were in bed, stabbed them. In the meantime, the man, seeing a number of neighbours coming to the rescue, fled and threw himself under a passing train It is said that the man had been compelled a few days ago to divorce his wife, in accordance with the request of the father-in-law.

ABOUT midnight on the 17th instant, the attention of a policeman who was patrolling near Namamugi, Kanagawa, was attracted to a cart-load in charge of a coolie. The load consisted of twelve packages. An examination disclosed that they contained pictures, writings and many other Chinese curios valued at some 10,000 *yen*, which had been brought from Newchang by the steamer *Sakata Maru* a few days ago. The owner of the goods is said to be a man called Yoshiye Taichiro of Dairen, who bribed two of the men belonging to the steamer to pass the Customs without paying any tax. The goods were landed secretly on the beach at Koyoso, and were on the way to the owner's house in Tokyo.

GENERAL LEONARD WOOD, of the United States Army, stated at Boston that it is a fact that Germany has completed preparations for the movement of an invading army of 650,000 men. Everything is in readiness. The necessary stores are held in depots at German seaports, and the ships to be used as transports have been selected. Germany, the General says, is prepared for the immediate invasion of any foreign country. No idea of a German invasion of the United States was ever entertained in this connection. Nevertheless, the known preparedness of a friendly Power for military operations along the lines in which the American defensive equipment is weak carries a lesson.

IT is disturbing, says, a home service paper, to reflect that the nations with whom we are allied by national heredity, treaty, or tradition are not pursuing an aggressively active building policy. The United States building votes for the two latest years have been decreased; in 1909 from 15,000,000*l*.. asked for by the Naval Board, to 5,800,000*l*. granted by Congress, and the number of battleships from four to two Financial exigencies in Japan have commanded a reduction in the building programme. The French navy is in a "deplorable condition," owing to lack of 'continuity of effort in method and in practical sense," and to the fact that defence of territory rather than destruction of the enemy's naval force is dominant in the organisation of fleets. On the other hand, nations which may be allied against us are full of enterprise. Of Germany's work there is no need to write; Austria has practically

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decided upon a programme of four Dreadnoughts which may co-operate with the Germans; and although Italy, in the increase of her navy by four similar ships, is actuated by the need of adjusting the balance in Adriatic waters, we must not in the scheme of international politics ignore the possibilities of the Triple Alliance.

WORLD FAMED

EMOLLIENTS FOR THE SKIN

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; China, Hong Kong Drug Co.; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; Russia, Ferrein, Moscow; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton market begins to show some activity. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is quiet but firm, with prospect of advance. In Woollen business buyers are clearing purchases, but forward business is still dull.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	39.00 to 39.50
Egyptian	46.25 to 50.50
Indian Broach	31.50 to 32.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	29.50 to 30.00

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	310.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43¼-44 in.	
Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in.	
Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Conditions seem to be improving, though local ideas are still more or less under home value.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
do Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.85 to 3.97
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.15 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

The market has ruled quiet and no transactions have been done in imported refined sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y 240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Accompanying lower values in wheat, quotations for flour have slightly receded, and some small buying is reported.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	11.50
Flag	"	10.60
Royal	"	10.60
Trophy	"	10.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.60
Lion	"	12.00
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00
Japanese:—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 "	2.78
Fuji	6 "	2.85
Pine	6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

Firm offers from mills have been made but without result. It is expected that lower prices will be seen presently.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15 to 5.30
Red " " "	5.10 to 5.20
Blue Stem	5.30 to 5.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. All quotations are weak.

On September 23rd stocks were: filatures 21,090 bales Re-reels, 4,928 bales; Kakeda, 818 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	V.1,040
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	965
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	980
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	905
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	1,000
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	960
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	865
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	950
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	860
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	900
Re-reels—No. 1½	865
Re-reels—No. 2	830
Kakedas—Gold Cup Chop Extra	915
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	865
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	845
Kakedas—No. 2	830

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

September	Present delivery.	September delivery.	October delivery.	October delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
17th	862	844	851	860
18th	861	844	853	863
19th	—	—	—	—
20th	862	—	—	861
21st	865	—	854	864
22nd	865	—	854	864
23rd	877	855	868	877

WASTE SILK.

Market quiet with some business. Quotations slightly easier.

On September 23rd stocks were: Noshi, 10,963 bales, Kibiso, 11,267 bales; and Sundry, 733 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	158
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	132½
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	112½
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	— to —
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	78 to 90
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	— to —
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127 to 132
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	115 to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	105 to 115
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	— to —
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—The production is still small, and, with the increased demand which has set in, prices have an upward tendency.

Kanazawa:—Prices are somewhat higher owing to decreased production and to a demand principally in 27" and 36" for better grades for America.

Kawamata:—There is no change to report. There is a steady demand for 36" in better grades and in 27" in lower qualities.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.50	8.10	7.95	8.10	7.90
27"	8.45	8.10	8.30	8.10	8.00
36"	8.75	8.30	8.45	8.30	8.15

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.10	8.00	7.95	7.60
27"	8.05	8.00	8.00	7.60
36"	8.20	8.00	7.85	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.80	10.90	11.80	13.00
36	12.40	14.00	15.70	16.20

COPPER.

London quotations are weaker at the close, and no fresh transactions have transpired here.

According to a London telegram of September 23rd, the quotation was £60.0.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

The market is not favourable and the quotation

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fluctuates. A little transaction has taken place locally.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	901,549
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	185,139

Delivery.	Closing Price.
September	—
October	—
November	12.32

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*.
Superior.....	Yen 13.10
Medium	12.10
Common	11.10
Average	12.10

(Osaka.)	(Kobe.)
August 11.80	August 11.85
September ... 12.00	September... 11.88
October 12.10	October..... 11 93

TEA.

The quotation has shown a little advance, but the market is still inactive. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to September 23rd, the sales amounted to 8,748,100 kin. The stock on Monday aggregated 98,400 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

	Y.		
Choicest	—		—
Choice	—		—
Finest...	—		—
Fine	—		—
Good Medium	36	—	43
Medium	32	—	36
Good Common	28	—	32
Common	24	—	28

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is inactive. Little business has been done.

Delivery.	Yen.
September.....	128.70
October	128.75
November.....	128.35

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
America.....	P. M.....	Manchuria	Sa	Sept. 25
Hongkong...	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	M.	Sept. 27
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Monteagle	Tu	Sept. 28
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Shinano Maru 1	Tu.	Sept. 28
Vancouver...	C. P. R...	Em. of Japan 2	W	Sept. 29
Seattle	N.Y.K....	Iyo Maru	F.	Sept. 30
America.....	T. K. K...	Chiyo Maru 3	Sa.	Oct. 2
Seattle	G. N.....	Minnesota	Sa	Oct. 2
Europe	N. D. L...	Luetzow	Su.	Oct. 3
Europe	M. M.....	Sydney	Tu.	Oct. 5
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Nippon Maru	Tu	Oct. 5
Hongkong...	B. L	Suveric	Tu	Oct. 5
Tacoma.....	O. S. S....	Fitzpatrik	Sa.	Oct. 9
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Siberia	M	Oct. 11
Tacoma.....	B. L	Kumeric	M	Oct. 11
Hongkong...	O S S....	Tacoma Maru	F.	Oct. 15

1 Left Hongkong on the 14th inst.
2 Left Vancouver on the 15th inst.
3 Left Honolulu on the 21st inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer		Date
Europe	N. D. L...	P. E. Friedrich	Sa	Sept. 25
Shanghai ...	N. Y. K..	Chikuzen Maru	Su	Sept. 26
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Manchuria	Su.	Sept. 26
Vancouver...	C. P. R. .	Monteagle	Tu	Sept. 28
Portland.....	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	Tu	Sept. 28
Seattle	N. Y. K..	Shinano Maru	W	Sept. 29
Europe	N Y. K..	Kanagawa M.	W	Sept. 29
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	W.	Sept. 29
Europe	M M.....	Oceanien	Sa.	Oct. 2
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Chiyo Maru	Su.	Oct. 3
Hongkong...	N. Y. K....	Iyo Maru	M	Oct. 4
Hongkong...	G. N.....	Minnesota	Tu	Oct. 5
America.....	T K K..	Nippon Maru	W.	Oct. 6
Hongkong...	O. S S....	Fitzpatrik	Su.	Oct. 10
Hongkong...	L. L	Kumeric	Tu.	Oct. 12
America.....	P. M.....	Siberia	Tu	Oct. 12
Tacoma.....	B. L	Suveric	Th	Oct. 14
Australia ...	N. Y. K....	Yawata Maru	Sa	Oct. 16
Tacoma.....	B. & S....	Oanfa	Su	Oct. 17
Tacoma.....	O. S. S....	Tacoma Maru	Sa.	Oct. 16
America.....	C. R.....	A'ral Duperré	W.	Oct. 20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Sept. 23.

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower but no change in the sterling quotations from China and local rates on China are unaltered, but higher discounts from London have caused an advance of $\frac{1}{16}$ in private sterling rates, other rates being unaltered and closing as under for the mail via Siberia leaving to-morrow, which happens to be a Holiday with all the Banks.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0 $\frac{5}{16}$
— — Bills on demand	2/0 $\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight.....	2/0 $\frac{3}{4}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0 $\frac{11}{16}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 $\frac{1}{16}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262
Hongkong—Bank sight .....per $100	85¾*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83¼*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87½*
— Private 10 days' sight.....	89*
India—Bank sight	153¾
— Private 30 days' sight	155¾
America—Bank sight.....	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50¾ @ 3/8
— Private 4 months' sight	51 @ ⅛
Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London).....	23 $\frac{1}{16}$

* Nominal.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 16th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,796, I. Sato, 16th Sept.,—Takao via ports, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, T. Noguchi, 16th Sept.,—Newchwang via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, K. Sato, 16th Sept.,—Seattle, Wash., B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 17th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 16th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceano, British steamer, 3,050, W. R. Davies, 17th Sept.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, Tsuda, 18th Sept.,—Muroran, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Eitel Friedrich, German steamer, 5,001, E. Malchow, 18th Sept.,—Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens and Co., Nachf.

Idzumo, Japanese cruiser, 9,906, Captain I. Takihita, 18th Sept.,—Yokosuka.

Hyogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Sudzuki, 19th Sept.,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 20th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alger, French cruiser, Capt. Delzano, 20th Sept.,—Fusan.

Keemun, British steamer, 5,727, R. Conradi, 20th Sept.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Palembang, Dutch tank steamer, 1,856, L. C. Lagaay, 21st Sept.,—Palembang via Taketoyo, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 21st Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 3,186, D. F. Friele, 21st Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,104, Sellier, 22nd Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 22nd Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, 21st Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610 T. Terada, 21st Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 22nd Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Tjikini, Dutch steamer, 3,014, H. Koops, 22nd Sept.,—Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Wakamiya Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,156, Nozaki, 22nd Sept.,—Takao via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, Asakawa, 23rd Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taito Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,246, 23rd Sept.,—Moji, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Bullmouth, British tank steamer, 2,607, Powell, 16th Sept.,—Singapore, Kerosene Oil.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 17th Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oceano, British steamer, 3,050, W. R. Davies 17th Sept.,—Manila and Hongkong, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Arcona, German steamer, 2,700, von Hippell, 17th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu.

Kumano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,147, M. Winckler, 18th Sept.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tydeus, British steamer, 4,800, D. P. Campbell, 18th Sept.,—Marseilles, Havre and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Polynesien, French steamer, 2,916, Broc, 18th Sept.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Cie.

Bedford, British cruiser, 9,800, Capt. Fitzhubert, 18th Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 19th Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, Tsuda, 19th Sepr.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, K. Sato, 20th Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer 2,920, E. Combes, 20th Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 20th Sept.,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Idzumo, Japanese cruiser, 9,906, Capt. I. Takihita, 20th Sept.,—San Francisco.

Keemun, British steamer, 5,727, R. Conradi, 20th Sept.,—Puget Sound Ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Machaon, British steamer, 4,277, G. W. Long, 21st Sept.,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nile, British steamer, 4,197, E. P. Martin, 21st Sept.,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, T. Noguchi, 22nd Sept.,—Newchwang via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 3,186, D. E. Friele, 22nd Sept.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Taikosan Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,044, Yagima, 21st Sept.,—Miike.—Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 21st Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Palembang, Dutch tank steamer, 1,856, L. C. Lagaay, 22nd Sept.,—Palembang, Samuel Samuel & Co.

Choshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, T. Yasunaga, 23rd Sept.,—Nagoya, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,360, R. Swain, 23rd Sept,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 23rd Sept.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 23rd Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 23rd Sept.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Atholl, British steamer, 3,031, Ch. D. Kemp, 23rd Sept.,—New York and Boston via ports, General,—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 23rd Sept.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 23rd Sept.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

PASSENGERS

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *China*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. W. G. Alexander, Mrs W. G. Alexander, Miss Grace Alexander, Mr. Charles Campbell, Jr. Miss Maud L. Coffin, Mr. F. A. Diekoff, Mrs. F. A. Diekoff, Miss G. Diekoff, Mr. F. W. Field, Miss Grace Fordham, Mr. L. Groenier, Mrs. L. Groenier and infant, Miss Alice Groenier, Dr. M. Gunther Mr. J. D. Hatch, Mr. J. H. Hem-

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perly Mrs. J. H. Hemperly, Mrs. Millie Humphrey, Mrs. A. Kaufner, Mr. I. N. Miller, Jr., Mrs. I. N. Miller, Jr., Brother Michael Scheleich, Mr. J. T. Swift, Miss A. Swift, Dr. W. H. Taylor, Miss H. Reygran, Miss J. C. Locke, Mr. F. K. Lindsay, Mr. Wm. C. Elding and wife, Mr. C. F. Brissel, Miss C. Sullivan, Mr. H. Withers, Mrs. H. Withers and Mr. Pang Chong, wife and 5 children. For Kobe:—Mr. F. C. Brown, Mr. E. D. Hill, Mrs. E. D. Hill and infant, Mr. Lloyd Kiser, Miss E. Naille, Miss F. Naille, Mr. H. F. Roush, Miss Kathryn Rucker, Mr. B. L. Stoner and Mr. A. E. Tlifton. For Nagasaki:—Master Wm. Pitkin, Mrs. C. W. Pruitt, Dr. C. W. Pruitt, Master Dudley McC. Pruitt and Master Robert E. Pruitt. For Shanghai:—Miss Mary Darroch, Miss Edith Gordon, Mr. W. S. Horne, Mrs. W. S. Horne, Mrs. M. Leake, Miss R. McKenzie, Mrs. W. L. Merriman, Miss Dorothy J. Merriman, Miss Muriel Molland, Dr. M. E. Poland, Mrs. M. E. Poland, Master F. H. Poland, Mr. Robert Scott, Mrs. A. Sherwood, Mrs. M. Wanzer and Mr. W. B. Williston. For Hongkong:—Mr. F. A. Aced, Dr. R. E. Beddoe, Mr. G. R. Bubb, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Buckner, Master Robert C. Buckner, Miss Henrietta J. Buckner, Master Henry F. Buckner, Mr. D. Connell, Mrs. Wm. Crozier and infant, Mrs. A. I. Deal, Mr. Geo. F. Desdien, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Dronberger, Miss Antonio Fong, Rev. A. A. Fulton, Mrs. Fulton, Master Horace Fulton, Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Garr, Mrs. W. A. Glassford, Miss Georgiana Goodhue, Mrs. B. Hesse, Mr. and Mrs. Fong Hong, Mrs. M. Huntington, Dr. C. R. Johnson, Mr. Lau Che, Mrs. Lau Che and infant, Master Lau Sik Fook, Master Lau How Fook, Mr. Roy A. Lind, Mr. M. G. McElhannon, Mr. M. G. McLean, Mr. James J. Peterson, Miss A. M. Sandalin, Miss C. Searle, Mr. Fong Shing, Mr. I. J. Spiegel, Mr. R. Wainwright, Mrs. P. Warde, Mrs. Z. Willard and Miss Grace M. Woods, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Korea* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Geo. H. Mooser and servant, Mrs. H. Kirby, Miss Hughes, S F., Mr. W. E. Smith, Major Kirby, U.S.A. and Master Harry Kirby. For San Francisco:—Mr. G. L. Austin, Captain Chas. E. Etti, Mr. R. J. Harrison, Mrs. M. Marshall, Mrs. W. E. Smith, Master Walter Smith, Col. John R. White, Mr. P. B. Danky, Mr. Eugene Gourin, Miss J. V. Hughes, Miss Carolyn Smith, Miss Anna Smith and Mr. Wang Tsin Shan in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Polynesien* for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Refaret, Mr. Thomsen, Mr. Dehmar, Mr. A. B. Lowson, Mr. G. G. Brady, Mr. F. E. Colchester, Mr. F. P. Pratt, Mr. A. H. Brooks, Mr. R. S. Fearon, Mme. Mahe, 1 baby and 1 boy, Mlle. A. Sontag and servant, Mme. Chaix and amah, Pere J. Weig, Mr. Gibbal and Mr. A. G. Belastiguigoite in cabin.

Per American steamer *Korea* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. G. L. Austin, Mrs. Geo. Ball, Miss Marian Ball, Mr. Enrico Bartesaghi, Mrs. R. C. H. Brock and maid, Mr. Henry G. Brock, Miss Alice G Brock, Mr. A N. Connett, Mr C. E. Cowman, Mrs. C. E. Cowman, Mr. P. B. Danky, Capt. Chas. E. Etti, Mr. G. Fitzgerald, Miss Mary Gibson, Mr. N. Gottlieb, Mr. Eugene Gourin, Mr. R. J. Harrison, Mr. A. T. Hellyer, Mr. K. Hiraoka, Miss V. Hughes, Mr. F. Ludovici, Mrs. M. Marshall, Mr. R. S. Miller, Mrs. R. S. Miller, Miss Lilian Miller, Miss Harriet Miller, Mr. Sydney C. Morgan, Mrs. W. E. Smith, Master W. Smith, Miss C. Smith, Miss A. Smith, Mr. S. Takagi, Mr. Wang Tsin Shan, Mr. J. E. Ward, Mrs. J. E. Ward, Col. R. J. White and and Mr. B. Wickham in cabin.

CARGO.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Polynesien*:—

	Raw.				Waste.			
	Marseilles Option.	Lyon.	Moscow	Milan.	France.	Switland	Trieste.	Peignes.
Sieber, & Co.	103	—	—	10	—	—	—	—
Hara Yushutsuten.	95	—	35	—	—	—	—	—
Siber Wolff & Co.	70	71	—	—	—	—	—	—
do Tamaito	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boyer, Mazet Guillee & Co.	65	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	64	—	—	—	7	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	62	—	—	—	8	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	60	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
L. Mettet	20	—	10	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co.	10	9	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pila & Co.	—	182	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	—	85	20	St. Etienne	—	—	—	—
do	—	—	15	St. Chamond	—	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co.	—	56	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett and Bent	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Strahler & Co.	—	19	—	—	—	—	—	—
P. Dourille	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	561	457	80	10	15	—	—	—

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SILK SHIPPERS.

Silk shippers by *Seattle Maru*, for Tacoma, on the 13th Sept.:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	110
Nabholz & Co.	45
Bavier & Co.	40
F. Strahler & Co.	30
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	10
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	232
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	116
Total	583

Per steamship *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C., on 4th Sept.:—

	Bales.
Siber, Wolff & Co.	155
Varenne & Co.	37
China & Japan Trading Co.,	36
F. Strahler & Co.	35
Vivanti Bros.	15
Nabholz & Co.	20
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	10
L. Mottet	10
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	111
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	95
Hara Yushutsuten	75
Total	619

Silk shippers by *Tenyo Maru*, for San Francisco on the 15th Sept.:—

	Bales.
Jewett and Bent	56
Pila & Co.	25
Bavier & Co.	15
Comptoirs Soies	15
L. Mottet	15
Varenne & Co.	13
Nabholz & Co.	10
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	168
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	105
Total	441

Silk shippers by *Keemun*, for Puget Sound Ports, on the 21st Sept.:—

	Bales.
F. Strahler & Co.	160
Vivanti Bros.	150
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	113
Jewett and Bent	45
Nabholz & Co.	22
L. Mottet	14
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	228
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	90
Total	822

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 9TH, 1909.

MARRIAGE.

PETTEE—PETTEE.—In Auburndale, Mass., U.S.A., Sept. 9, by Dr. Francis E. Clark, assisted by the bride's father, Rev. J. H. Pettee, D.D., of Okayama, Mr. HORACE J. PETTEE, of Chicago, Ill., and ANNA H. PETTEE, a teacher for three years past in Kobe College, Kobe.

DEATHS.

HOLMES.—On 20th September, 1909, at Sea, on board the S.S. *Chiyo Maru*, JAMES EDMUND HOLMES, aged 50 years.

MEIKLEJOHN.—At No. 11, Bluff, Yokohama, on October 4th, LOUISE MEIKLEJOHN, eldest daughter of the late ROBERT MEIKLEJOHN, aged 27.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Yokohama Specie Bank closed its branch office at Chefoo on the 1st instant, transferring the business to a German firm there.

A NAGOYA despatch reports that a branch of the Keiwo University will shortly be established at Handa, Chita-gori, Aichi prefecture. The cost is estimated at 100,000 *yen*. The townspeople of Handa will contribute 30,000 *yen* towards the fund.

THE Japanese Consulates in Vladivostock, Hongkong, Canton and Hankow were raised to the rank of Consulates-General on October 1.

MESSRS. OSHIMA, MATSUMURA AND ARIYOSHI, it is reported, have been appointed Consul Generals at Vladivostock, Canton and Shanghai respectively.

ADMIRAL LAMBTON, who is shortly to return home, will arrive at Yokohama on the 15th instant on board the *King Alfred*, with the *Monmouth*, to pay official and private farewells.

H. E. SIR CLAUDE MACDONALD, the British Ambassador, who recently returned to his post at Tokyo, was received in audience on the 6th inst. by the Emperor and subsequently by the Empress.

THE railways in Korea will most probably come under the control of the Imperial Railway Board. Resident-General Sone, however, objects to the separation of railway affairs from the sphere of the Residency-General.

STATISTICIANS believe that the United States census to be taken next year will show a population of between 90,000,000 and 95,000,000 persons. They would not be surprised if the figures ran as high as 100,000,000.

AT 7 p.m. on October 11, Premier Katsura will give a dinner to the members of the International Press Association of Japan, at his official residence, Nagata-cho, Tokyo. Prince Ito and Count Okuma will attend the meeting.

THE Toyo Kisen Kaisha's new steamer *Kiyo Maru* was successfully launched on the 3rd inst., from the Mitsubishi Dockyard at Nagasaki. The *Kiyo* is the largest cargo-vessel yet built in this country, her tonnage being 9,300.

WE would remind our readers that Professor Lloyd's lectures on the Shin-shu Sect will begin on Oct. 21st at 4 p.m. at the Methodist Publishing House, Tokyo. Tickets can be obtained at the first lecture, and persons attending the course will be entitled to a copy of the lectures when published.

THE U.S. Ambassador, Mr. T. J. O'Brien, who has been on furlough, was to leave San Francisco on the 5th instant for Yokohama by the steamer *Mongolia*. Mr. Crane, the new U.S. Minister to Peking, was to leave for his post on board the same steamer, but his sailing has been postponed, he having been recalled to Washington.

REFERRING to rumours that Prince Ito became unconscious on the 3rd instant at the residence of Marquis Katsura, the *Asahi* says that the Prince visited the Marquis on the afternoon of the 30th ultimo, when he was taken slightly sick, but returned home after taking a stimulant in accordance with the doctor's orders. There is nothing unusual the matter with the Prince.

WITH a view to making Tairen an ideal colony, the South Manchuria Railway Company has been endeavouring to make improvements in the streets there. The company, taking advantage of the opening of an electric tramway, proposes to establish a recreation ground in the suburbs. The same plan is being contemplated for Changchun, Liaoyang and other places along the railway.

A FEW days ago, a lad of thirteen, from Kumamoto prefecture, conveyed himself from Torisu to Nagasaki by clinging to the brake-beam underneath a railway carriage. The journey lasted seven hours, in the course of which the boy was covered with soot and oil from head to foot, while his clothes were badly torn. Unfortunately he had mistaken the Nagasaki train for one going to Kumamoto, so that, greatly to his distress, his adventurous ride proved of no avail. The boy was finally taken in charge by the police at the southern port.

THE Mitsui Bussan Kaisha were recently summoned at the Hongkong Magistracy for having in their possession four scales which were unjust. It appears that an inspector went on board the steamer *Fukkui Maru*, and of the seven scales for weighing the coal, he found that four were unjust, being two per cent. in all against the purchaser. The maximum penalty of $800 was imposed on the Company.

REFERRING to the telegrams complaining that Americans had treated indifferently those Japanese visitors who are not members of the Chambers of Commerce, Consul-General Midzuno has wired that these telegrams must have been sent by some of the business men's servants, who are not entitled to the same treatment as the guests. The Consul adds that the incident is very regrettable, in view of the extreme kindness of the Americans.

FISHGUARD BAY in Pembrokeshire has been chosen by the Cunard Company as their new landing place for mails and passengers. It is 2902 miles from New York, *i.e.*, 51 miles nearer than Holyhead, 55 miles nearer than Plymouth, 113 miles nearer than Liverpool, and 175 miles nearer than Southampton. Further, it is a good harbour in itself, the approach to it offering the fewest dangers in the matter of navigation, and it is comparatively free from fog.

THE family of Mr. Akidzuki Takaomi, formerly a procurator, who was run over and killed by a train at a crossing at Shibuya, Tokyo, in October last, has brought an action against Baron Goto, President of the Railway Board, claiming 24,400 *yen* damages. Of this sum, 10,000 *yen* is for the relief of the family and the remainder is to cover the loss resulting from the cessation of deceased's business.

THE Yokohama Branch Office of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha has received a report from South America that the expulsion of the Chinese is eagerly demanded in Chili, the landing of all Oriental immigrants being absolutely forbidden. In consequence of this news the Company has decided to take in future those only of the merchant class and those emigrants returning to the country, who possess certificates and who are in good health.

THE four military officers and one surgeon, despatched by the British Government early in the summer of last year to Japan, and who have been studying Japanese during the time, joined on the 1st instant the regiments stationed at Sendai, Utsunomiya, Yokosuka and the garrison hospital in Tokyo, respectively. They are to study in this country until the end of March next. Seven other British officers who came to Japan during the spring of this year, are also expected to join regiments in Kyushu or in the central provinces.

ON September 30, President Taft visited the Japanese Hall in the Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exposition. Subsequently Baron Oura, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, sent a telegram through the Japanese Commissioner, thanking the President for his visit. His Excellency asked the Commissioner to convey his appreciation of the telegram to the Minister. In addition, he said that the presence of the Japanese Hall has contributed largely to the success of the Exposition, and that America will return this service in the forthcoming Exhibition in Japan, in which she is fully prepared to take her part.

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CHINA.

Friday, October 1.

The reported changes in Chinese high officials are now declared to be not imminent, whatever the future may bring forth. It is said, however (*Asahi's* telegrams), that the Viceroy of Mukden is disposed to resign, and that the Peking Government is perplexed to find a successor to him. As for the alleged restoration of Yuan Shihkai to power, that, too, is now denied. Mr. Abe, Secretary of Legation in Peking, who is now in Japan, is quoted as saying that he regards Yuan's return to office as most improbable, for the present, at all events. The causes which led to Yuan's downfall remain just as potent as they ever were, and in those circumstances Peking is not at all likely to reinstate him. It is of course possible that he might be deliberately invited to discharge specially difficult duties, in which case his success, if he made a success, would be scored to the credit of the Central Government, and his failures would fall upon his own head. Yuan knows this very well and is far too shrewd a man to return to office with such a prospect before him. He has built a new house in Honan and is devoting himself to landscape gardening and flower culture, with the evident idea of not returning to office for the present at all events.

Saturday, October 2.

A telegram from Hupeh shows that the elections for the local Assembly there have passed off quietly. The Assembly is to be convened on the 3rd inst. and will choose its vice-President on the following day, after which it will rise until the 14th when its regular session will commence. Thus far the inaugural steps of constitutional government have been taken quite quietly in China, and we shall now have an opportunity of estimating from the proceedings of the local assemblies what degree of aptitude the Chinese people possess for managing their own affairs. We ourselves entertain very little doubt about the result. The Chinese, in our opinion, possess all the qualifications for self-government, and in their hands the machine ought to work smoothly and satisfactorily. The only serious difficulty is that of communications. Unless railway construction proceeds much faster than it is doing at present, it is hard to see how the deputies from the various provinces are to reach the National Assembly without making some almost deterrent journeys. A great deal has been said about the language obstacle, but as most of the highly educated Chinese are familiar with the Mandarin dialect we do not see that this difficulty is likely to be insuperable. As for the question what China will do when the voice of the people becomes paramount, it is too large to warrant speculation.

The Naval Commission under the leadership of Prince Tsai Hsun is to leave China on the 10th inst. and proceed in the first place to England where it will thoroughly investigate naval affairs. From thence it will go for the same purpose to France, Germany and Russia, and will then return by the Siberian Railway to China. The Commissioners' visit to Japan will not take place until next spring. It was supposed at one time that Admiral Sah would be among the Commissioners, but such does not appear to be the case.

Sunday, October 3.

The opening ceremony of the railway from Peking to Changkiakow took place on the 7th inst. and is said to have been attended by all the foreign Representatives in Peking. The statement is reiterated that China is especially proud of this line because it was built with her own money and by her own engineering experts without any foreign assistance in either direction.

A telegram from Hongkong to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that the question of Pratas Island is at length on the verge of settlement, but it appears that the sum paid to Mr. Nishizawa will be only 20,000 *yen*. In fact, it is very clear that Mr. Nishizawa is believed to have asked for an extravagant amount at the outset. There is an immense gulf between half a million *yen* and 20,000, and we can not be surprised that some months have been required to pare the first proposal down to reasonable limits.

Monday, October 4.

China seems to be at last on the verge of having a paper currency of her own. This is a luxury that she has hitherto denied herself and it would indeed have been impossible without some effective regulation of her monetary system. Telegrams now received in Tokyo indicate that the report compiled by the Commissioners recently sent to the United States to investigate the question of note issues had been approved by the Central Government and that tenders are now invited for equipping a Peking mint with the necessary machinery.

Tuesday, October 5.

The illness of his Excellency Grand Councillor Chang is again occupying attention in Peking. The *Asahi's* correspondent wires that, in consequence of his Excellency frequently changing his physicians and his prescriptions, the Japanese military doctor who has been hitherto attending him, has declined to continue his ministrations and has returned to Tientsin. The same is true of an English physican, and the Grand Councillor is now attended by Chinese only. All the doctors have recognised, according to this correspondent, that the illness is mortal, but that statement does not accord with previous reports. The sick man is said to have applied for permission to resign his various appointments, but the Prince Regent has replied merely by desiring him to rest and take care of himself. Meanwhile it is said that, recognising his Excellency's parlous condition, the Representatives of Germany, France, the United States and Great Britian are conjointly pressing for a settlement of the railway question, and it is expected that their efforts will be successful in the course of the next week.

Since the above was in type, news of the death of Chang has been received.

A great deal has been heard of late from time to time about the finances of Manchuria, and various figures have been published, all differing more or less, but all going to show that the Treasury at Mukden is in a most embarrassing condition. The *Asahi's* Mukden correspondent now telegraphs the most pessimistic view hitherto published. He says that the incomes of the Three Provinces stand at 5 million *taels* for Mukden, 3 millions for Kilin and 2 millions for Amur, whereas the expenditures are estimated at 8 millions, 5 millions and 4 millions, respectively. There is here a deficit of 7 million *taels*, against which the only available asset is 2 million *taels* contributed by the Central Treasury. No hint is given by the corresponden as tot the measures contemplated to pull the Three Provinces out of the slough of impecuniosity. One can not be surprised to learn that Viceroy Hsu wants to resign.

It would seem that the Viceroy of Manchuria is definitely determined to resign his post. The *Jiji Shimpo* undertakes to analyze his motives for doing so, and at the head of them places chagrin on account of the settlement effected with Japan. His Excellency from the first assumed an obdurate attitude towards these questions, and he even went so far as to countenance at the outset the institution of an anti-Japanese boycott in various places. It was therefore with extreme reluctance that, in deference to the policy and instructions of the Central Government, he had to change his methods and to placate, instead of inciting, the people under his jurisdiction. He would have resigned then and there, had the Peking Government consented to his withdrawal from Manchuria, but being a Manchu of the Eight Banner Corps, he was regarded as eminently adapted for administering the Three Eastern Provinces, and thus Peking showed much reluctance to release him from his post. Financial difficulties had proved another factor of dissatisfaction. As we explained in a recent issue, the accounts of the Three Provinces show a balance of about 5 million *taels* on the wrong side, and if the Viceroy resorts to the obvious expedient of reducing administrative expenditures, he will find himself in collision with Governor Ting of Kilin. Altogether the Viceroyalty of Manchuria is something wholly different from the corresponding position previously held by Mr. Hsi in Szchuan and Yunnan, and there can be no question that he is very anxious to resign.

Wednesday, October 6.

The death of Chang Chih-tung of course occupies a prominent place in Japanese public notice. That the Chinese Government appreciated his services is proved by the very earnest character of the Rescript addressed to him in answer to his application for sick leave, and by the fact that the Prince Regent himself visited Chang's yamen and conversed with him about the affairs of the country. The Rescript spoke of Chang's long services, his loyalty, his patriotism and his ability. Referring to his application for leave, the message said that he was to remain in office, while taking any steps that might seem necessary for the treatment of his malady.

It appears the Grand Tutor, Sun Chia-nai, also is seriously ill. Two months' leave has been granted to him to repair his health. Sun graduated four years earlier than Chang Chih-tung, and has always been regarded, in combination with Chang, as the chief instrument for preserving good relations between the Chinese and the Manchu sections of the Government. He is a man of much enlightenment and has such a reputation for erudition that he was appointed Principal of the new Imperial University in 1898.

Japanese newspapers devote many columns to discussing the deceased statesman. The fact is recalled that, strongly pro-Japanese as he was during the past 13 or 14 years of his life, he was at one time not only ignorant of but anti-pathetic to, this country, and after the War of 1894-5 he was so averse to surrendering Formosa to Japan that he advocated its cession to England as a means of purchasing the latter's assistance against Japan. He abandoned this mood ultimately, however, and became as warm a friend of Japan as he had once been her enemy. Officials of the Foreign Office are quoted as saying that lamentable as Chang's death is on account of his country, the event is not likely to have any effect upon Japanese relations with China, since

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Japan's policy towards her neighbour has always been founded on principles, not on persons. It was for that reason that the retirement of Yuan Shih-kai did not inconvenience her.

Mr. Abe, Secretary of the Japanese Legation in Peking, who is now in Tokyo, is quoted as saying that Chang's death leaves in the ranks of the Grand Council only one representative of the Chinese section, namely, Mr. Lu Chuan-lin. The Central Government will be somewhat embarrassed to restore the balance of power in the person of Chang's successor. Mr. Abe appears to think that the choice will fall either upon Mr. Chao Erh-hsun, formerly Viceroy of Manchuria and now Viceroy of Szchuan, or on Mr. Hsu Shih-chang, Viceroy of Manchuria.

Prof. Hattori, who is credited with special knowledge of Chinese affairs, lays great stress upon the question of the balance of power between Chinese and Manchu. He says that the former may now be said to be represented by Sun Chia-nai alone, and he is supposed to be mortally ill. The Professor dismisses as quite untenable the theory that Yuan Shih-kai is likely to return to power. He declares that the two men occupy wholly different places in public esteem, Chang having always been regarded as an absolutely altruistic patriot and pure-minded scholar, whereas Yuan is recognised to be essentially a self-seeking man. The same eminent authority gives an interesting explanation of the cause of Yuan's downfall. He attributes it to the latter's intrigue to effect an alliance with England and America against Japan, for which purpose Yuan sent Mr. Tang Shaoi on a mission to Europe and America. Prof. Hattori evidently does not entertain as high an opinion of Yuan's abilities as does the Peking correspondent of *The Times*.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has interviewed a member of the staff of the Chinese Legation in Tokyo and has been informed that Chang's frequent change of physicians is nothing strange in China. Such is the invariable custom when an illness becomes dangerous. The same authority recalls the fact that the deceased statesman's belief in Japan was sufficiently great to induce him to send two of his grandsons to this country for purposes of education.

The rights-recovery mania is evidently very acute in China. Telegrams from that country announce that the repurchase of mining concessions held by British subjects in Szchuan has been virtually completed, and that a strong agitation has been set on foot to recover the concessions held by German subjects in Shantung.

Thursday, October 7.

An Imperial decree has been issued in connexion with the demise of Chang Chih-tung. It speaks in the strongest terms of his loyalty and zeal during his 44 years of service; it orders that his spirit shall be worshipped in the Ancestral Hall, and it confers on him the posthumous rank of Grand Tutor to the Prince Imperial.

Japanese newspapers continue to write long articles about the deceased statesman. All agree in eulogising his high qualities and in lamenting his death as a great national loss.

Telegrams received in Tokyo say that Mr. Tsai Hungtse has been appointed to succeed Chang as a member of the Grand Council.

This Mr. Tsai has been for the past three years President of the Board of Justice. He is said to be a man of studious and somewhat retiring habits, but his character is absolutely above reproach, and in that respect he resembles the statesman whom he replaces. It goes without saying that he is Chinese, being, in fact, a native of Canton, and thus his appointment to the Grand Council will restore the balance of power between the Manchus and the Chinese.

Another telegram says that the student class and the reformers, while fully recognising the patriotism and loyalty of the deceased statesman, are disposed to welcome his death as removing one of the obstacles to educational progress and to the inauguration of constitutional government. They say that great as were Chang's qualities, his conservatism did not operate for his country's good.

It appears that the agreement with regard to supplying capital for the Yeh-Han Railway was to have been concluded in the very week on the second day of which Chang Chih-tung died. Of course this is disastrous for the negotiating Powers, as in all probability the inhabitants of Hupeh and Hunan will now be encouraged to enter fresh protests against the employment of foreign capital for the building of the lines, and a considerable time must elapse before anybody is found competent or willing to take up the reins dropped by Chang.

A telegram to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* from Mukden under date of the 6th inst., says that the former United States Consul in that city, Mr. Straight, arrived there a short time ago, and was excellently received by Viceroy Hsu. A further conference lasting for fully three hours took place between the two. It is reported to have been connected with some concessions which Mr. Straight was anxious to obtain as a set-off to the arrangement recently concluded between Japan and China in the matter of the Kilin-Chientao road. Our contemporary's correspondent adds that Mr. Straight is believed to have partially succeeded in obtaining his object.

THE BOYCOTT.

Friday, October 1.

News comes from Hongkong to the *Kokumin Shimbun* that on the 28th ultimo the Autonomic Society held a meeting in Hongkong and decided that telegrams must be despatched to all localities in connexion with what is now known as the Manchuria Agreement. We presume that the reference here is to the Hongkong branch of the Canton Autonomic Society, though it is just possible that the principal members of the Society in Canton may have taken advantage of the freedom of public meeting enjoyed in Hongkong to hold a gathering there. Nothing is said as to the purport of the above telegraphic circular, but this silence may be confidently construed to mean that the intention is to foment an anti-Japanese boycott. Our Tokyo contemporary's correspondent adds that the apparently general opinion among foreigners is that the time has fully come for Viceroy Yuan of Canton to take vigorous steps. It will be fresh in our readers' recollection that previous telegrams represented the Viceroy as having hitherto abstained from adopting any decisive course against the anti-Japanese agitators as he was still new to his viceregal duties. Nobody suggests, however, that his Excellency is at all disposed to encourage the boycotters.

Saturday, October 2.

The boycott agitators in China appear to have resorted to a new weapon. They have spread rumours injurious to the credit of the Specie Bank, and the result is that for the past few days numerous applications have been made at the Peking branch of the Bank for hard money against notes. This petty run—if it deserves to have such a term applied to it—reached 16,0 0 *yen* on the 30th ultimo. The incident is construed as a sign that the boycotters are perplexed for expedients to make their influence felt. But of course the affair may have no connexion whatever with the boycott.

From Hongkong, however, comes news that the Autonomic Association is obstinately agitating for a boycott and is resorting to all sorts of means to obtain currency for its opinions.

Monday, October 4.

It appears from a telegram received by the *Asahi* that the British Government has deemed it wise to take a hand in the boycott performance. On the 18th of September, the Governor of Hongkong addressed to the Viceroy of Canton, through the British Consulate at the latter place, a statement to the effect that inflammatory circulars were reaching Hongkong from Canton and that the Colonial authorities were adopting every means of suppressing them, but these efforts could never prove wholly successful until the evil was cut off at its root, namely, Canton. The Governor therefore requested that the Viceroy of Canton should cooperate with the Government of Hongkong to put an end to this abuse.

We are sincerely glad to learn that this step has been taken, and we feel justified in assuming that it was dictated from Downing Street. All foreign Powers having relations with China are equally interested in protecting their merchants against being made the victims of every diplomatic disagreement that may occur with China. Business would soon cease altogether to be possible were it subjected to such vicissitudes.

THE MITSUI FAMILY.

The change of this important family's business organization, as recently outlined in these columns, has now been carried into practice. Hitherto the Firm has been registered as a partnership with unlimited liabilities, but it has now become a joint-stock limited company. It will have three departments, namely, the Department of Products, the Department of Banking and the Department of Mining; the capitals of which are fixed respectively at 20 million *yen*, 20 millions, and 10 millions respectively. Hitherto the nominal capitals of these three Departments had been one million, five millions and two millions respectively; and there has been occasionally some perplexity on the public's part, in view of the fact that with a capital of only one million the Department was conducting a business which represented about 100 millions annually. But the fact is that this Department, in addition to its nominal capital of one million, has reserves of 13 millions, and a shipping fund of 6 millions. Similarly the Banking Department, though its capital is only 5 millions, has reserves totalling 15,600,000, and the Mining Department with a capital of 2 millions has reserves totalling 10 millions.

This change of organization seems to be very generally approved. We note that, according to certain Tokyo journals, the cost of registering the newly organized Company is said to have been one million *yen*.

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KOREA.

Saturday, October 2.

Major-General Watanabe's troops seem to have made their way right through the province of Chhollado, for the General himself and his staff reached Mokpho on the 30th ultimo, at which place the head-quarters will be stationed for some time. Nothing explicit is stated with regard to the results of this movement, and in the absence of such statement one is inclined to think that the greater part of the insurgents managed to conceal themselves at the approach of the troops. That of course is the great difficulty. Nothing is easier than for a man to be at one moment an insurgent and at another a peaceful citizen, when his outward appearance is the same in both cases and when he can rely upon his countrymen not to betray him. It is probable that most of the Koreans are by this time heartily sick of the insurgents and their turbulent doings, but when it comes to helping to identify an insurgent or betraying his whereabouts there is always the danger of subsequent retaliation.

It appears to be true that the control of the Korean railways is to be transferred to the Railway Board in Japan from the Residency General. Viscount Sone is quoted as saying that it is a matter of indifference to him whether the railways are under the control of the Residency-General or under that of the Railway Board. All that concerns him is that the lines from Gensan to Seoul and from Tajong to Mokpho should be constructed. His Excellency believes that the Japanese Government will consent to this. Mr. Kobayashi, Councillor of the Railway Bureau in Korea, is quoted by the *Mainichi Dempo* as saying that the difficulty at present is that the railways in Korea do not pay their expenses, but that is only a temporary trouble. He believes that they will be in a paying condition by next year and that unless a period of very great depression prevails in Korea, the proposed new roads can not fail to prove profitable.

Steps are being rapidly taken in Korea to obtain the personnel of the new Bench. One hundred judges and procurators are immediately required and it is stated that, although there does not exist any provisional law in that sense, these judges and procurators are to be placed on a special footing as regards permanency of tenure.

It is stated that the assets which the First Bank is to transfer to the new Central Bank of Korea are as follow:—Houses and lands, 1½ million *yen*; loans to the Korean Government, 11 millions; deposits, 10 millions; and loans to the general public, 600,000. These figures make it plain that the bulk of the business done by the Bank has hitherto been of an official or semi-official character.

On the 1st inst. matters relating to the capital of the Central Bank of Korea were disposed of in the Tokyo office of that institution, and the payment of the first instalment on the shares will take place on the 14th inst. The total number of shares to be allotted was 69,600, out of which number 1000 each are assigned to the Imperial Households of Korea and Japan, leaving 67,600 for the general public. The applications for these shares totalled 20,350,374, and it results that only one share will be allotted against every 300 applied for.

Tuesday. October 5.

On the night of the 3rd inst. the Japanese and Korean residents of Mokpho held a meeting and organized a party calling itself an "association for bringing about the construction of railways in South Korea." It was decided to petition the Resident-General and the two Houses of the Diet. Moreover a committee of 40 was appointed, and several strenuous speeches are said to have been delivered.

The cholera seems to be abating its ravages in Seoul, owing mainly to the advent of the cold weather. When the epidemic was at its height, the number of new patients daily averaged about 80, but on the 3rd inst. there were only 24 seizures, 18 of them being Japanese. Prince Yi Seung-eun, a relative of the late Tai-won-kun, who had attained his 80th year, has succumbed to the disease.

Wednesday, October 6.

On the 4th inst. there were only 14 new cases of cholera in Seoul, among which one was a Japanese.

It appears that in connexion with the cholera a somewhat serious complication has occurred between the Residency and the Waterworks Company, which is virtually a British syndicate. The accounts are rather obscure, but we gather that Mr. Resident Miura, having applied to have a better supply of drinking water for the Japanese settlement in view of the cholera, was met by a refusal on the part of the Company unless a sum of 5,000 *yen* was put up for the purpose of laying pipes. Some other vexatious procedure is also attributed to the Company, and it is said that the Resident is considering how far it is safe to entrust to one Company the monopoly of such a business as supplying water to a city.

There is again talk of a change of Cabinet in Korea. Mr. Yi, Minister of Education, has resigned his portfolio, and is supposed to be working in concert with Mr. Im, Minister of Finance, who, although still nominally retaining his portfolio, has not discharged any of his ministerial duties for a long time.

Thursday, October 7.

The withdrawal of Mr. Yi, Minister of Education, and that of Mr. Im, Minister of Finance, are not regarded seriously at the Residency-General, according to telegrams received in Tokyo. The motive underlying the resignation of these two statesmen is said to be disapproval of the policy of transferring judicial power to Japanese hands. The two Ministers protested strongly against this measure at the time it was taken, but were induced to acquiesce by the representations of their colleagues. It would seem, however, that they never became really reconciled to the change, and that they remained in office merely until a more suitable time for resigning presented itself.

There is quite an interesting struggle going on between the merchants in Mokpho, on the one hand, and those of Seoul and Gensan, on the other, as to whether the construction of the Tajong-Mokpho Railway or that of the Seoul-Gensan line shall have precedence. In a recent issue we described the steps taken by the Mokpho folks to secure their object, and we have previously spoken of demonstrations made in Gensan. It now appears that the Chamber of Commerce in Seoul is disposed to favour the Gensan proposal, for a meeting is reported to have been held in the Korean capital with the object of memorialising the Tokyo Government in that sense. These things give additional salience to Japan's need of capital. The above lines in Korea are not at all likely to attract private capitalists, for even the lines already in operation do not yet pay expenses. The proposed roads must therefore be constructed with State funds, if they are to be constructed at all; and it is not easy to see how the Japanese Government can find funds to carry out a programme of railway development in Korea and Japan simultaneously, to say nothing of Manchuria.

RAILWAYS IN MANCHURIA.

Mr. Kunisawa, Vice-President of the South Manchuria Railway, who has just returned to Moji, is quoted as saying that work is proceeding vigorously on the Mukden-Antung line. The section of 23 miles between Antung and Shihchaotsz is expected to be finished and opened for traffic by the 3rd of November. With regard to the section on the extreme west, namely, that between Chenhsiangtun and Mukden, about which there has been some discussion, a temporary line is to be laid down for the present. Mr. Kunisawa goes on to say that some difficulty was experienced at the outset in getting Chinese navvies to work, as they were unacquainted with the nature of the task expected of them. They are now, however, working industriously and giving every satisfaction. Offices have been established in 16 places for the purpose of purchasing land and crops from Chinese owners, and that part of the operation is not presenting any difficulty. Of course, the cold weather will more or less interrupt the work of construction: operations will then have to be limited to tunnelling. Nevertheless the present estimate is that the whole line will be finished by 1911.

With regard to the Kilin-Changchun Railway, the chief engineer, Mr. Nagao, is now in Peking concluding the necessary arrangements, and according to the present outlook the work will be commenced next March or April.

The same authority says that the doubling of the South Manchuria track will be completed by the season when transport is most demanded, which somewhat ambiguous statement may mean either the time of the breaking up of the ice or the time of harvesting the bean crop. A full understanding has not yet been reached with Russia as to the through traffic to Harbin. The charges on the section of the line north of Changchun are still high in comparison with the charges south of that place, and it is hoped that some closer approximation of rates will be effected before the operation of doubling the track is completed.

With regard to freight rates over the South Manchuria road, Mr. Kunisawa is represented as saying that from the 1st of this month special facilities have been granted. Hitherto the privilege of hiring the whole of a goods-car had been granted only to owners of goods travelling outward from Manchuria, but the same privilege has now been accorded to inward traffic.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The figures for the foreign trade of Japan during the last ten days of September were as follow:—

	Yen.
Exports	12,089,000
Imports	8,900,000
Excess of Exports	3,189,000

The figures for the 9 months ended Sept. 30th were:—

	Yen.	Compared with same period of 1908. Yen.
Exports	286,214,000	+17,656,000
Imports	308,099,000	—41,562,000
Excess of Imports	21,885,000	

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MR. ABE.

Mr. Abe, Secretary of Legation in Peking, is quoted by several Tokyo journals as having made some interesting remarks about the state of affairs in the Chinese capital. The words attributed to him vary more or less in the different journals, but their gist when collated is this:—Chinese officials pay extraordinary attention to the contents of the press. They carefully scan not only the columns of their own newspapers but also those of Japanese journals. If they find anything at all of an insulting or unfriendly character in the Japanese press, they attach high importance to it, and allow it to mar the effects of all the efforts made by Japanese diplomats to throw light on the real sentiments of the Japanese nation towards its neighbour. Mr. Abe urges therefore the prime importance of exercising extreme discretion in writing about Chinese affairs. We imagine that everyone will endorse this wise comment, for although it can not be said that Japanese journals have ever made towards the Chinese nation any display of contempt and intolerance such as that of which their own country was once the habitual, and is still the occasional, victim, we can not honestly say that the Tokyo press, taken as a whole, writes in a manner calculated to invite Chinese friendship. If it is not absolutely antipathetic, it is at all events not sympathetic, and in that respect it does not truly reflect what our own experience teaches us is the mood of educated Japanese towards China.

Mr. Abe goes on to speak of China's progress towards constitutional government. The first and not the least important step in that direction was recently taken. It was the election of members to attend the various local assemblies which have been organised by way of preparation for a national parliament. It was apprehended that some violent scenes would be witnessed in connexion with these elections, or at any rate that various objectionable characters would be returned by the constituencies. Both forecasts have been falsified by facts. Everything has passed off quietly, and in every case men of high reputation and good standing have been chosen. It is true that these local assemblies will not have any legislative power, but will merely be consultative bodies. Still, the opening of the assemblies on the first day of the ninth month (old calendar, corresponding to the 13th of October) will be a landmark in China's political history. Mr. Abe on the whole takes a highly optimistic view of the prospects of constitutional government in China. He deprecates the gloomy forecasts of many foreign critics, and he affirms that nothing can exceed the earnestness and energy which Chinese officials in Peking are bringing to bear upon the work of preparation for the great event. So keen are they and so confident, that Mr. Yu Shihmei, who was sent as commissioner to Germany and who reported that it would still be premature for China to adopt a constitution, found himself obliged to resign his office, such opprobrium did his opinion evoke. There was for a moment some hesitation in fixing a date for the convention of the first National Assembly, but finally the 9th year of the Hsuantung era (1918) was selected.

Another interesting comment made by Mr. Abe confirms some remarks published recently by Prof. Hattori in the *Educational Magazine* (*Kyoiku Zasshi*). It is well known to all students of the Japanese language that very large additions had to be made to the vocabulary for the purposes of compiling the codes in the first place and the Constitution in the second. For the construction of these new words recourse was necessarily had to the Chinese language. Not that the Chinese language contained any exact equivalents, but that its wonderful potentialities furnished a mine of materials with which any conceivable idea could be expressed. The Japanese compilers of the codes and the Constitution took the Chinese monosyllabic roots, and with them built up hundreds of dissyllabic or trisyllabic words which practically constituted a new vocabulary and which satisfied all the needs of the occasion. Precisely a similar task now confronts the Chinese compilers, and they are having free recourse to the terms constructed by their Japanese predecessors. It is not impossible that in some instances improvements may be effected, but on the whole the Japanese vocabulary will be used *en bloc*, and thus the Chinese codes and Constitution will bear indelible marks of the source from which they were taken. It appears that the men engaged in the work of compiling are for the most part Chinese students educated in Japan. The whole story is a striking tribute to the elasticity of the Chinese language.

We learn from the same source that the Chinese Government has definitely decided upon the nationalization of the railways. That policy will be hereafter pursued in every case, and will be applied to all lines now in private hands as opportunity presents itself. Moreover the rights-recovery mood prevails strongly among the people, and in the face of this combination very little margin offers for syndicates seeking concessions. It is not perhaps to be assumed that the struggle between four or five nationalities over the Yeh-Han and Chuan-Han Railways has inspired China with this resolve, but it certainly has confirmed her in it. Foreign syndicates content to suffer some loss by waiting patiently until occasion offers may still find opportunities, but any projector who looks for speedy success will be disappointed.

A VOICE FROM THE PAST.

On one of the heights of Takanawa there stands a temple called Cho o-ji. It was established in the days of Iyeyasu for the sake of a favourite *bonze* who had accompanied him from Mikawa to Yedo. In connexion with the scheme of city improvement it has been deemed necessary to remove this temple, and when the operation was undertaken there were found in one corner of the cemetery two tombstones dedicated to the memory of two Chinese buried there under Japanese names. These strangers appear to have emigrated from their own country at the time of the fall of the Ming dynasty, and to have received hospitable treatment in Japan, where one of them entered the service of Matsudaira, feudal chief of Sanuki, as an expert in *No* dancing. In those days it was customary to speak of foreigners as *ibesu*, which ideographs, read according to the pure Japanese pronunciation, become "Isarago." The street where the temple stands is now known as Isarago-machi, but it would seem that not until to-day has the source of the name been ascertained. We have thus another addition to street names in Tokyo owing their origin to foreign relations. Already there were Yaesu-cho, Anjin-cho and Hachikan-cho (which name was derived from the fact that eight Chinese subjects resided in the street), and now Isarago-machi is added to the number.

RUSSIAN OPINION?

The *Novoe Vremya* is rapidly acquiring a title to rank with certain American newspapers as the worst enemy of the world's peace in this 20th century. In one of its recent issues it publishes an article which has of course been translated into the Japanese press, and which may justly be called one of the most inflammatory utterances of modern times. The St. Petersburg journal declares that China concluded her recent Agreement with Japan because she felt the Japanese sword at her throat. The navy of her powerful neighbour was ready to move and the army to march at a moment's notice when Japanese diplomats were thrusting the Agreement into China's face. It was signed under the pressure of dire necessity, and the situation thus created is of the most serious character for Russia. When the Peking Treaty of 1905 was concluded, nobody paid much attention to the Mukden-Antung Railway. It was regarded as a merely temporary line, which, having fulfilled its immediate purpose, would never be endowed with any permanent carrying capacity. But Japan has insisted on converting it into an effective road, and this means that the commercial character imparted by the Portsmouth Treaty to the Russian and Japanese lines in Manchuria is entirely nullified. Japan will certainly push with all her might the construction of the Mukden-Antung road, and when it is finished, as it will be in the near future, she will be able at any moment to carry an army *viâ* Fusan to Mukden and to cut Russia's communications with the Far East. The *Novoe Vremya* adds a great deal in the same strain, but enough has been set down here to show the general character of its writing. Distortion is inevitable if one gazes at an object with prejudiced eyes. The *Novoe Vremya* is an agitator of the worst type, for it sets itself to read evil motives into every act done by Japan.

THE JAPANESE POLICE.

It is curious to discover how radically opinions may differ. Thus, with reference to the Japanese police we find the following in the columns of a local contemporary:—

> It is an unfortuna e but nevertheless very patent fact that the relations between the people at large and the police are anything but amicable. This is claimed to be largely due to the fact that the latter still fondly cling to the ideas of feudal days, when under a despotic government, the police belonged to the two-sworded class and held the common people in profound contempt.

Now were we asked to express our view as to the relations between the people of Japan at large and the police, we should reply that nothing could well be better than those relations. And in making the statement we should be guided, not by any extraordinary tale recounted in the columns of a sensational vernacular newspaper, but by many years of close observation and by much information obtained from Japanese folk. We have never met a Japanese who had not a good word to say for the police, for their unfailing courtesy, their helpfulness and their patience. As for the charge that the police "still fondly cling to the ideas of feudal days" and that they hold the common people in profound contempt, well, without any desire to be rude, we regard it as a mere flippancy emanating from the imagination of a paragraphist who had to manufacture a striking prelude to an incredible story. The Japanese police are very grossly libelled when such things are said of them.

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THE TOKYO RICE EXCHANGE.

Saturday, October 2.

The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce has taken an extreme step by removing from office Mr. Aoki Shotaro, the Chief Managing Director of the Rice Exchange, Mr. Matsumura Tatsujiro (Matsutatsu), Auditor, and Mr. Yoshida Sadashichi, another Auditor. These are the three principal representatives of the brokers who have been buying for a rise. The commotion caused by them was settled so far as concerned the deliveries for September, their purchases, which amounted to 120,000 *koku*, having been taken over at 14.29 *yen*. But the deliveries for October present a still more difficult problem, as harvest prospects are growing better every day and the price of rice is steadily declining. In these circumstances the above three brokers are said to have had recourse to what the public evidently regards as a very mean device. They employed a barrister to institute legal proceedings against ten of the sellers who had not entered their transactions in the register of the Exchange. This device of not entering a transaction is said to be quite common among brokers, and has been frequently practised by the very men who have now attempted to make it the subject of legal inquiry. Of course the object was simply to embarrass the other party, namely, the sellers, and thus to compel them to accept any terms of compromise offered by the buyers. The drastic measure adopted by the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce will check this manœuvre, but can not unravel the entanglement itself. In fact it may well be supposed that the action of the Matsutatsu coterie has tended to accentuate the trouble. Practically all the newspapers of Tokyo condemn these men.

Sunday, October 3.

The commotion on the Tokyo Rice Exchange has by no means subsided. After the dismissal of three leading officials of the Exchange by order of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, the Director, upon whom the duty of management devolved, namely, Mr. Kikushima, summoned Mr. Matsutatsu and the other principal sellers and informed them that they must put up an additional 50 *sen* per *koku* bargain money. As the quantity of rice involved is 420,000 *koku*, this means that the buyers have to provided additional security to the extent of 210,000 *yen*, not a very formidable figure. Had Mr. Kikushima's procedure stopped there, the commotion might have subsided, but according to newspaper reports, he proceeded to summon to his presence the ten principal brokers who represented the sellers, and informed them that unless they effected an amicable compromise with the buyers they too would suffer the same fate as had overtaken the three officials. This was at 1 o'clock on the afternoon of the 2nd inst. The ten brokers, among whom are said to be included some of the most respectable men of their class, asked for time to consider the matter, and it was agreed that they should have till 4 o'clock. At half-past three, however, an order arrived from Mr. Kikushima suspending them from the practice of their business as brokers. This action had the natural effect of greatly accentuating the situation, as it suggested that the acting chief Director was behaving with marked partiality towards the sellers. It must of course be noted, in justice to Mr. Kikushima, that the deliberations of the 10 brokers showed no sign whatever of placability, and that they were about to despatch a deputation to the Department of Agriculture and Commerce when he issued his order of suspension. The ten brokers, however, are reported to be exceedingly irate. They are said to have determined that in their capacity as shareholders they will apply for an official scrutiny of the ledgers of the Exchange, which scrutiny they affirm will clearly prove the partiality exercised by the Directors. Public sympathy in this matter seems to be entirely with the sellers, if we may judge from the utterances of the press. The *Chuo Shimbun* writes in an extraordinary strain. It says that any merchant acting in Tokugawa days as Mr. Matsutatsu has acted, would have been liable to crucifixion according to law, or at any rate would have run great risk of having his house pulled about his ears by the enraged populace. We fail totally to comprehend such a declaration. It is true that regraters have always been objects of public antipathy in every country. But is it possible to apply the term to Mr Matsutatsu and his fellow-operators? The idea of attempting to corner the rice market by purchases totalling only 420,000 *koku* is almost ludicrous. What these brokers did was to buy for a rise, which they expected to take place in consequence of a change of weather. If no such change of weather took place, they would lose their money. If the anticipated change did take place, then rice would have risen under the influence of a factor compared with which the action of the Matsutatsu group was a mere flea bite. The only irregularity we can discover in the matter is that the transactions were not duly registered in the ledgers of the Exchange. That, however, appears to be quite a common habit. It may be also that sufficient bargain money was not exacted from the buyers, and that the Directors of the Exchange showed undue anxiety to save the speculators. It is also to be observed that the most trustworthy brokers are among the sellers, and that the price at which they are asked to compromise is much higher than the price of rice actually ruling in the market.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* alleges that with the connivance of the Directors of the Stock Exchange Mr. Matsutatsu and the other buyers, instead of putting up the bargain money in cash, have been allowed to put up worthless shares, and even mortgages on their houses and lands. This is contrary to all the rules of the Exchange, and it is to expose this irregularity that the sellers are seeking an official examination of the books.

Monday, October 4.

A settlement of the trouble on the Tokyo Rice Exchange seems to be as distant as ever. The situation has become very complicated, and though the buyers show a disposition to compromise, the sellers, indignant at the treatment they have received, are maintaining an obdurate front. It is stated that out of the 420,600 *koku* of rice which formed the basis of the transaction, no less than 300,000 are held by the ten brokers who have been suspended by order of the Acting Manager. Evidently the idea of the latter was that if he could control these ten men, he would be in a position to dictate to the 30 odd holders of the remaining fraction. Both sides were anxious to engage the services of Mr. Amenomiya as mediator, but that gentleman being confined to his house by illness, delegates of the disputants were obliged to repair thither. He gave it as his opinion that unless the Exchange itself consented to shoulder a considerable portion of the loss, no settlement was possible.

Tuesday, October 5.

The trouble on the Tokyo Rice Exchange remains unsettled. The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Mr. Oura, is doing his best to effect a compromise, but the sellers hold on firmly, and unless they can be induced to yield, the Exchange will suffer, it is said, a loss of from 800,000 to 900,000 *yen*. There is great indignation against Mr. Matsutatsu and Mr. Aoki, the former Managing Director. These brokers are said to have assigned away all their property in expectation of a crash. The sellers are quoted as saying that, if the buyers showed any sincere desire to compromise, they would gladly meet them half way, but the buyers demand a settlement at over 14 *yen*, whereas the real selling price is in the neighbourhood of 12 *yen*. By agreeing to such terms the sellers would make an actual loss, whereas they are entitled to a big profit. They are men of substance and they are determined not to be bullied. It is probable that some kind of settlement will be eventually reached, but at present the prospects are gloomy.

Wednesday, October 6.

The complication on the Tokyo Rice Exchange is not yet disposed of. The actual points of the dispute are now clear. It appears that the buyers forced the price up to 15.40 *yen* per *koku* for October delivery, and that in consideration of this undue inflation, transactions were suspended on the 8th of September, but were resumed after a few days, the buyers having put up the necessary bargain money. The price of the same rice is now quoted on the Exchange at 12.30 *yen* per *koku*, so that the sellers stand to make 3.10 *yen* per *koku* and the buyers to lose a corresponding amount. But the buyers now propose that their losses shall be limited to 1.10 *yen* per *koku*; in other words, that the whole transaction shall be settled at 14.30 *yen* per *koku*, and, further, that the price for the sellers shall be 14 *yen*, the Exchange itself shouldering the difference of 30 *sen*. But the Exchange is not willing to accept any such loss, and moreover the actual dealers in rice (*shomaishi*) complain that they have not been consulted at all. Naturally the sellers had to make provision of the staple sold by them in view of the contingency that the buyers might call for delivery, and this entailed large purchases by the dealers in rice, who thus stand to lose heavily on the transaction. These complications are evidently difficult to unravel. Meanwhile four of the leading sellers have made themselves scarce, and as these are among the most important brokers, their absence effectually prevents a settlement. The effect of all this is practically to suspend business alike on the Rice Exchange and the Stock Exchange.

Thursday, October 7.

No light whatever has yet begun to glimmer on the horizon of the Tokyo Rice Exchange. Affairs have assumed a very serious complexion, and the wisdom of the Authorities will be taxed to the utmost to save the situation in any material degree. To-day (Thursday) the buyers have to put up 200,000 *yen* as additional bargain money, and a similar sum on the 9th inst. But it is not believed that they can possibly find the necessary funds, and meanwhile their position grows more and more desperate, for the price of rice is steadily falling. It is reported that the bargain money recently put up by them

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included shares of the Pisciculture Company and of the Wool Spinning Factory, which were received by the Exchange at prices four times greater than their market value. This fact suffices to show that the officials of the Exchange exercised a singular amount of discretion in favour of the buyers, and to show also that the buyers were very hard pressed to find the bargain money then called for. It is highly improbable, therefore, that they will be able to fill in the further margin created by the increased fall in the price of rice. Meanwhile the rice dealers are also said to be much incensed. They laid in large quantities of the staple in obedience to the orders of the sellers, and then suddenly, without consulting them at all, the sellers agreed to close the transaction at 14 *yen* a *koku*. The rice dealers accordingly took steps to inform the sellers that the latter had forfeited all confidence, and that the dealers would insist upon their legal right to be paid the prices at which they were instructed to lay in the staple. Under this pressure the sellers solemnly pledged themselves not to accept any terms offered by the buyers without obtaining the preliminary assent of the dealers, and thus, though the latter are now strongly disposed to compromise, terms admissible by both sides have become farther than ever removed. Our readers will remember that the Acting Managing-Director of the Exchange has expunged from the list of brokers the names of the ten principal sellers, and it becomes necessary to-day (Thursday) to obtain the endorsement of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce for this expulsion. Thus the Government is finally drawn into the maelstrom. The sellers are represented by Mr. Kishi, the well-known barrister, and as they appear to have entrusted the management of the situation to his hands, the public may be confident that in future, at all events, all irregularities will be avoided. But we shall not be at all surprised if the crisis ends disastrously for the Rice Exchange, and in that case the share market will receive a heavy set-back.

JAPAN AND TURKEY.

The rumour is renewed with much insistence that all the preliminaries for a treaty between Turkey and Japan have been arranged between the Japanese and Turkish Ambassadors in London, and that the agreement will not include any clause providing for consular jurisdiction. The *Yomiuri Shimbun* is quite positive about this, and declares that official denials are not to be taken seriously. The *Jiji Shimpo* also has a telegram of a more general character but in the same sense.

The rumour as to the conclusion of a commercial treaty between Japan and Turkey refuses to be still. This morning (Monday), all the Tokyo newspapers publish paragraphs saying that the Treaty has been actually concluded; that it dispenses with the Capitulations, and that it is to be signed immediately in Vienna prior to Baron Uchida's departure from that city. In the face of such persistent and now unanimous allegations, it is impossible to remain altogether incredulous. Of one thing we may be assured, however; namely, that in this matter Japan is not acting without the approval of Western Powers. None the less, she must expect to incur a certain measure of opprobrium if she really has taken the lead in recognising Turkey's judicial autonomy.

A representative of the *Jiji Shimpo* has interviewed Mr. Kurachi of the Foreign Office with regard to the rumours recently circulated about a treaty between Turkey and Japan. Mr. Kurachi does not positively deny, though it can scarcely be said that he constructively confirms, these rumours. He explains that negotiations may be said to have been commenced at the time when Viscount Aoki represented his country in Berlin, but as no satisfactory exit from the Consular-jurisdiction situation could then be discovered, no substantial progress was made. It is a fact, however, that the subject came upon the tapis again recently, not in Vienna, as rumour said, but in London. Exactly how far the negotiation has reached, the Japanese Government, in the absence of explicit information from Mr. Kato, is not in a position to state. But it is probable that the report as to the negotiations having been concluded had its provenance in Constantinople, and if so, there may be grounds for assuming that a satisfactory *modus vivendi* has been found. The *Kokumin Shimbun*, however, which is generally absolutely trustworthy on such questions, declares that the Treaty will be published in a few days, and in view of this assertion additional interest is imparted to the *Japan Post's* telegram that "the Turkish Government, expecting a cancellation of the capitulations with the foreign Powers as to the right of extraterritoriality, has given orders to the local authorities to treat foreigners with special respect."

FORMOSA.

In spite of occasional reports to the contrary, the aborigines of Formosa appear to be giving much trouble. They are using hand-grenades, which must be supplied to them by Chinese sympathisers, and they are resorting to trench digging for the purpose of approaching the Aiyu fortifications. It is said that some of the officers on the Japanese side have conceived the idea of using balloons to drop explosives into the camps of these troublesome folks. But the officials of the Army Department are represented as alleging that such a device could not be expected to prove of much value. The balloons would have to be captive balloons (*keiri keikyu*), and this means that roads would have to be built in almost inaccessible regions. Even then it would be very difficult to do any commensurate execution, for the aborigines have their fastnesses in the most secret positions. The balloons would certainly exercise a terrifying effect, but that result would hardly compensate for the cost and trouble.

THE CANADIAN TRADE COMMISSIONER.

With reference to the telegram from Ottawa which appeared in our issue of yesterday, we are informed on good authority that the letter written by the Canadian Commissioner of Trade at this port, and referred to in the telegram, was a private letter and had reference to only one Japanese firm, the information respecting which had, it is alleged, been obtained from other Japanese, and not foreign, sources.

It seems to us extraordinary that a private letter, so limited in scope, should have created such a pother, or that the Dominion Government should use a steam-hammer to crack a nut. The incident is only another illustration of the extreme care which should be used in matters intimately concerning the reputation of others.

A BLOW TO HONGKONG.

Hongkong has fallen on evil times. It is to lose its unique pride of place as the one free port of the Far East. The Legislative Council has passed an "Ordinance to provide for the collection of a revenue of excise upon intoxicating liquors." Money is wanted and the best way to obtain it, according to the views of the Governor his advisers and his coadjutors, is to levy a tax upon all alcoholic liquors imported into the Colony. The need for such a measure is special and general: special because the Colony loses half a million dollars by the abolition of the opium dues, and general because the ordinary sources of revenue are not as elastic as the outgoings. Of course, so soon as an excise tax is to be levied, there must be a custom house to collect it, and that involves almost as great a departure from free-trade practice as though a protective tariff were fully imposed. The *Hongkong Daily Press* is much distressed at the prospect, and does not by any means endorse the official forecast that preventive machinery on a very small scale will suffice. "So far as consignments for European firms are concerned," writes our contemporary, "the Government, in order to secure due observance of the Ordinance, can, no doubt, confidently rely on the co-operation of the big firms in the Colony and on the heavy penalties to which offenders would render themselves liable; but when we think of the thousands of Chinese who come into the Colony daily from Canton and Macao, most of them with bags and baggage of some kind, when we realise that there will be a difference of something like 30 or 40 per cent. in the price of whisky between Canton and Hongkong prices,—even on the revised scale—is not the smuggling of spirituous liquors from these other places on the China coast likely to tax the vigilance of a very much larger preventive staff than that which the Government appears to have in view?"

It is undoubtedly the first insertion of the wedge, and the residents of Hongkong may well lament the change which the hard times dictate.

THE ALLEGED AMERICAN PROTEST.

A Washington message coming *viâ* San Francisco to the *Asahi Shimbun* confirms what every thoughtful person had already supposed, namely, that the Washington Government has no intention of entering any protest with reference to the new Agreement between Japan and China. The message adds, however, that American public opinion finds much to traverse in the Agreement on the ground that it confers excessive privileges on Japan. Apparently this applies to the clause which requires that Japan's consent will be obtained for the construction by China of the Fakumen Railway; to the clause which grants mining rights to Japanese subjects along the Mukden-Antung Railway, and to the clause which entitles Japan to become a partner with China in the construction of the Kilin-Hoiryong line. We cannot clearly follow the line of argument said to be adopted with regard to these matters. In the case of the Hoiryong Railway and the mines, the arrangement made providing for cöoperative enterprise certainly does not seem to invite any special objection, and with regard to the Fakumen line, China has been merely required to particularize a condition to which she was already pledged in general terms.

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PRATAS ISLAND.

It will have been observed that the official information published on the 4th inst. was of a very vague character, as might have been expected, seeing that an agreement had not yet been actually signed. From particulars published in Tokyo, however, we gather that the rumour recently circulated as to the amount of compensation which is to be paid to Mr. Nishizawa was erroneous, and that instead of 20,000 *yen* (*ni-man*), the actual sum is about 120,000 (*ju ni-man*). This mistake is explicable enough, in view of the Japanese method of counting. It is said that Mr. Nishizawa originally put in a claim for half a million and based it on the amount of capital said to have been actually sunk. But when the commissioners of the two Governments proceeded to the Island and inspected the outlays actually made, they found nothing but a few sheds and a short length of light railway. Evidently such property scarcely admitted of any valuation at all, and nothing remained to be asked for except some compensation for the loss of his business by Mr. Nishizawa. The Chinese, however, refused to entertain any proposal of that nature, and thus, as our readers doubtless remember, the negotiations drifted into an *impasse*. It was not until the change of Viceroys at Canton and the amicable settlement of the Chientao problem as well as its concomitant questions, that the Chinese consented to reopen the Pratas Island affair, and it was then settled on the lines that Mr. Nishizawa should receive a sum by way of compensation for the loss of his business, minus a charge for the Chinese property destroyed by him on the Island. It would seem therefore—we take these particulars from the *Asahi Shimbun*—that Chinese property was destroyed after all, in spite of the strenuous denials formerly published in certain quarters. The net result is believed to be that about 120,000 *yen* will come into Mr. Nishizawa's hands, and it appears to us that he may consider himself very fortunate, although of course he must have spent a great deal more than the value of the property on the Island actually represents.

The *Jiji Shimpo* prints in large type a statement that the long pending conference between the Viceroy at Canton and the Japanese Consul-General, Mr. Segawa, has at last been concluded. Japan has fully recognised China's sovereign title to the Island, and on the other hand China has consented to pay 130,000 *yen* by way of compensation to Mr. Nishizawa, who agrees to immediately abandon all work on the Island and to hand over any property created by him there. The original claim put forward on Mr. Nishizawa's behalf was 160,000 *yen*, but it was reduced by 30,000, in compensation for the shrine which originally stood upon the island and which was burned by Mr. Nishizawa's people. We do not suppose that the shrine was really worth 30,000 *yen*, for it has always been spoken of as a paltry edifice. But whatever its dimensions, there can be no manner of doubt that Nishizawa's people were not justified in destroying it, and the fact that they took such a measure imparts a filibustering character to their whole enterprise.

THE JAPANESE EMIGRANTS TO PERU.

There are very conflicting accounts about the results of Japanese emigration to Peru. The *Hongkong Maru*, which carried 630 emigrants thither last June, has now returned, and her master speaks most favourably of the outlook. He says that, owing to disquieting rumours, Mr. Heki, Japanese Consul in Chili, recently proceeded to Peru and held an investigation. The result was that, with the exception of 11 invalids, all the Japanese immigrants were found to be well and happy. Arrangements were made for the repatriation of these 11, but at the last moment two of them declared themselves sufficiently recovered to remain. The captain goes on to say that, although the Chinese immigrants are disliked and distrusted, the Japanese are very popular and their future looks very bright.

On the other hand, the *Asahi* quotes the members of the first band of emigrants in a diametrically opposite sense. These men, 600 in number, went to Peru in 1907. At first things prospered with them, for they earned over 2 *yen* a day and were able to live for 25 *yen* a month. But by degrees the price of provisions was raised, and the quantity of gum obtainable from the forests became gradually less and less, until it was finally obvious that the only prudent course was to return to Japan, carrying the money they had succeeded in saving, namely, about 700 *yen*, before it had to be devoted to the expense of living. These men congratulate themselves on having escaped comfortably, but the case of the next batch of 600, who left for Peru in September 1908, is very different. They soon found themselves plunged in serious difficulties, unable to pay their way if they remained, and unable to return on account of their debt to the shipping company.

The *Jiji Shimpo* also publishes an interview with some of the returned men and makes them speak in very strong terms of condemnation. They say that there is practically no sanitation and no police control, and that if anybody wants practical evidence as to the results of Japanese emigration, he has only to consult the churchyards.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

It appears to be now regarded as certain that the Government will abolish the transit tax so far as the three cities are concerned. With reference to this we find an entertaining article in the *Mainichi Dempo*. Our contemporary assumes that when the tax is abolished the Directors of the Tokyo Railway will apply to be allowed to continue to collect it, which would mean an increase of fare to the immense extent of half a farthing. The *Mainichi* enumerates the various reasons which in its opinion—or rather in the opinion of an anonymous railway official whom it conveniently quotes—militate against making any such concession to the Company. But it carefully omits to note that the Company's charter, while reserving to the Municipality and to the Government the right of fixing a superior limit for the fares, constructively enacts that the limit shall not be fixed at a figure giving the Company less than 7 per cent. dividend. The high sense of justice which animates some of the Tokyo journals when discussing problems of this nature can not be too much admired.

The violent fall in the market price of the Tokyo Railway shares which took place on the 6th inst. is attributed to a sudden access of pessimism as to the feasibility of municipalization. Osaka as usual took the lead, and the news that the shares had begun to tumble down in that city seems to have given Tokyo the cue. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* says that it is a question of terms, and that the difference between the price offered by the City and the price demanded by the Company is too great to permit any hope of agreement. The City, according to our Tokyo contemporary, is offering only 70 *yen*, paid in 5 per cent. bonds at their face value, whereas the Company is asking 90 *yen*. We can not credit the offer attributed to the City. Seventy *yen* paid with 5 per cent. bonds, which would not be worth more than 90 *yen* in the open market, means that the City asks the Company to part with its property at 63 *yen* per share, whereas the offer made a year ago was 87 *yen*. Ninety *yen* paid with 5 per cent. bonds would represent 81 *yen* per share, and that appears to be a very moderate price indeed.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER COMPANY.

On the 2nd instant the promoters of the above enterprise and their technical advisers held a meeting at the residence of Marquis Inouye. The experts who lately came out from England to examine into the project, and Mr. Furuichi, the eminent Japanese engineer, were present. According to the *Hochi Shimbun*, which alone gives a report of the meeting, Mr. Mitchell declared that as the result of the examination conducted by his colleague and himself, the Oigawa project was the most advantageous of all those hitherto formed for the purpose of supplying hydro-electric power to Tokyo. He explained that they recommended the reduction of the height of the retaining wall from 300 feet to 200, and a change in the site of the reservoir, which change would entail a lengthening of the route to the extent of 6 miles, but would confer more than compensatory advantages. Mr. Furuichi then rose and endorsed Mr. Mitchell's report from point to point. It would seem, therefore, that the establishment of the Anglo-Japanese Company is now at last on the eve of becoming an accomplished fact.

It is to be observed that total silence has succeeded all the talk recently heard about a contract between the Tokyo Railway Company and the Kinugawa Syndicate. The only effect produced by the rumours so busily circulated was too drive up the share rights of the Syndicate by 4 *yen*, and very likely the investors who were tempted to buy are in a large degree ignorant country folk who will have only their losses to set against their credulity.

THE SUGAR COMPANY.

It is now stated that the one obstacle hitherto lying in the path of the Sugar Refining Company gives promise of being removed. It will be remembered that the representative of the Fujimoto Bank demanded a ready-money payment of 450,000 *yen*, his plea being that the Bank had to consider its responsibility towards its own depositors, and that even though the Bank itself might be willing to make a concession, the depositors would not endorse its action. Since the last meeting, however, the Bank is said to have found an opportunity of consulting with its depositors, and has been advised by them that they considered a lenient course towards the Company most likely to conduce to general advantage. In these circumstances an expectation is entertained that at the meeting on the 5th inst. the Sugar Company's affairs will be at length placed on a working basis.

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THE TOKYO MUSIC SCHOOL.

Some attempts are being made to create a scandal in connexion with the withdrawal of Miss Koda and Mrs. Shibata from the Tokyo School of Music and the termination of Prof. Heydrich's engagement. Tokyo papers allege that the Professor has written an open letter denouncing these changes, and describing them as the outcome of a malicious attempt to deal a death-blow to the School and to the cause of foreign music in Japan. The *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Hochi Shimbun* publish passages verbatim from the Professor's letter, but the *Kokumin* confines itself to giving the gist of the document. Professor Heydrich is represented as alleging that in spite of their eminent abilities and the great services rendered by them to the cause of music in Japan, Mrs. Shibata and Miss Koda were suddenly and unceremoniously removed from office, and he himself ceased to be connected with the School, while Prof. von Koeber resigned rather than continue his relations with such an institution. Japan has made such progress in nearly all branches of education that she can afford to dispense with foreign aid. But that is not true with musical education, in which branch she must still depend upon Western assistance. Prof. Heydrich does not apparently formulate his charges with much explicitness, but he goes so far as to say that such doings inspire a feeling of nausea and impel any self-respecting man to stand aside. Some Tokyo journals quote explanations attributed to Japanese professors in the School. They make very light of Prof. Heydrich's accusations, and while acknowledging his great musical abilities, declare that so far as the internal economy of the School was concerned, he had no knowledge whatever.

As to the rights and wrongs of this affair we do not pretend to have any special information, but when four persons of such eminence as Dr. von Koeber, Prof. Heydrich, Miss Koda and Mrs. Shibata suddenly withdraw from the Tokyo Music School, whether of their own volition or at the instance of the Authorities, we can not but think that the School has received a terrible blow, nor can we for a moment consider that the flippant explanations attributed to some of the Japanese staff are at all appropriate to the situation. It is true that an American musician, Mr. Reuter (?), has been engaged to replace Prof. Heydrich; that Miss Kambei Aya, who is said to be a first-rate pianist, takes Miss Koda's post, and that a successor to Dr. von Koeber will soon be obtained. But why these changes? Are we really invited to believe that musicians like Dr. von Koeber, Prof. Heydrich, Mrs. Shibata and Miss Koda are to be had for the asking, and that their removal from a music school is a light matter?

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

There has been considerable discussion as to the propriety of sending Japan's national art treasures to a foreign country for purposes of exhibition. The loss of these treasures would be irreparable, and though the same may be said of the treasures which are sent by one European country to another for a similar purpose, it has to be remembered that the distances between countries in Europe are comparatively insignificant, and that, except for the short voyage between Dover and Calais, the perils of the sea have not to be encountered. Very different is the case when such precious heirlooms have to be placed on board ship for a journey of 10,000 miles, and we can well sympathise with the Japanese, including Viscount Kaneko, who have been strenuously objecting to such a risk. The Japanese had a very bitter experience in connexion with the Paris Exposition of five and thirty years ago, when the steamer *Nil* went down almost within sight of home and carried with her to the bottom a number of unique works of art. It appears, however, that in the present case the controversy has ended in favour of taking the risk, with the proviso that this shall not be regarded as a precedent, and that the exception made in favour of England shall never be repeated. Thirty-three objects fall within the category affected. They are the finest specimens of painting and sculpture preserved in the great temples, and as these beautiful specimens have never previously been brought together for inspection, it is evident that the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition will present an absolutely unique opportunity to view the masterpieces of Japan's ancient art.

AN INSURRECTION IN ANNAM.

Tokyo newspapers publish a telegram apparently received by a news agency and therefore to be regarded with great caution, even if its contents did not suffice to inspire doubt. The gist of the message is that the insurrection recently reported to have arisen in Annam is a much more serious affair than was originally supposed. On the 25th Sept., a battalion of French troops attacked the insurgents and drove them back with some loss, killing one of their leaders and taking 30 or 40 prisoners. That is credible enough, but now comes the apocryphal part, namely, that on the following day the insurgents rallied, attacked the French and drove them back with heavy loss. It is added that the insurgents are armed with the best modern weapons, and that the Governor of Annam is in much perplexity. There is of course no reason whatever why Chinese troops well armed and well trained should not gain a victory over any troops in the world, and since the days of Langsou, Annam has an evil reputation; nevertheless the above news requires a great deal of confirmation.

THE RICE CROP.

The second official estimate of the rice crop for the current year has been published. It is dated 24th of September, namely, at the time of the autumnal equinox, and it shows a crop of 54,712,051 *koku*. The previous estimate, published a week before the 210th day, showed a yield of 54,373,138 *koku* and it will thus be observed that the second estimate exceeds the first, whereas the converse is almost invariably the rule. There has been no such crop during the past ten years. In fact there never has been such a crop previously in Japan. It is greater than the crop of last year, which was already without precedent. The actual figures are as follow:—

		Koku.
1899		39,698,251
1900		41,466,422
1901		46,914,434
1902		36,932,266
1903		46,473,298
1904		51,430,221
1905		38,172,560
1906		46,302,530
1907		49,052,015
1908		51,932,831
1909	First estimate	54,373,138
	Second estimate	54,712,051
	Average	46,286,135

LORD KITCHENER.

According to the *Hochi Shimbun* there is some doubt as to the character in which Lord Kitchener is to visit Japan. Some believe that he is coming merely as an English Field Marshal to view the Autumn Manœuvres, and that he simply takes Japan en route for Australasia, whereas others hold that he has a mission from King Edward to closely inspect the whole of the Japanese military system with a view to introducing conscription in England. At any rate he is to be treated as the nation's guest, and the Japanese Government has decided to exercise the greatest possible openness in laying before him every detail relating to the Army of this country. If we may credit our contemporary, no definite official intimation has yet been given as to Lord Kitchener's status for the purposes of this visit, but while it is extremely unlikely that there has been such an omission, we may point out that nearly a full month must intervene before Lord Kitchener's arrival in Japan, and that there is therefore plenty of time to prepare for his reception in any character.

SUBSIDIZING OF THE AMERICAN MERCANTILE MARINE.

From a speech made by President Taft in Seattle, the gist of which is telegraphed to the *Asahi Shimbun*, we gather that the President is in favour of granting State aid for the purpose of developing the American mercantile marine. Mr. Taft is reported to have said that he would not speak of the inadequacy of the manner in which the American flag is represented on the Pacific, neither would he speak of the rapid development of Japanese commerce, but he did not hesitate to express the wish that the shipping of the United States should emerge from a position which does not redound to its credit, and he considered that this was one of the questions to which attention must be paid by American legislators.

These utterances of the President seem to bring subsidies appreciably nearer. Indeed, the President alluded very plainly to the zeal shown by the Japanese nation in building up its mercantile marine, and we can not avoid the inference that competition with this country was in his mind when he spoke.

THE TANKO S.S. COMPANY.

The 50 *yen* paid-up shares of the Tanko S. S. Company were quoted in the market at 41.60 *yen* on the 6th inst., although the dividend paid by the Company last term was 6.50, and although there is apparently no apprehension that it will fall below that figure next term. Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, President of the Company, has been interviewed on the subject, and he strongly deprecates all pessimism. He admits that the market for coal is in a depressed condition, but he says that large orders had been lately received at the Company's mines, and that the prospect has distinctly improved. In addition to its mines, the Company is engaging in lucrative electric lighting work and in the lumber industry. Moreover, the Iron Foundry (Seitetsujo), at which successful experiments were recently conducted, will be opened in a couple of months. From every point of view, therefore, the outlook of the Company may be said to be rosy.

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THE JAPANESE BUSINESS MEN.

His Excellency, Mr. O'Brien, happened to be on a visit to his native place, Grand Rapids, when the Japanese business men arrived there in the course of their tour. He is reported to have met them at dinner on the 29th ultimo and to have made one of his felicitous speeches. He said that during the whole two years of his residence in Japan he himself personally and his countrymen collectively had received every possible mark of kindness and courtesy from the Japanese Government and the Japanese people. It might fairly be said that the day of groundless suspicion and baseless distrust had entirely gone by. Japan undoubtedly had a great commercial future before her, and in achieving it her interest would be to walk hand in hand with her eastern neighbour, for the more the two countries prospered, the fuller reason would there be for their friendship.

The telegraph reports that on their visit to Detroit the Japanese business men were addressed by Mr. Edwin Denby. The most important part of his speech was a drastic condemnation of the shallow and designing folks who talked of war between the two countries, and an emphatic declaration of confidence that neither nation would allow itself to be misled by such language. He also alluded to the labour question, and said that it should not be in Japan's interests to allow her producing classes to emigrate to a foreign country, but so far as this question affected the two countries, the steps taken by Japan were entirely satisfactory to America. Doubtless commercial competition might assume a more or less acute form, but that would always be a peaceful contest. He was persuaded that whatever ambitions Japan might entertain in the Orient, she courted the best possible relations with Western Powers. In conclusion Mr. Denby observed that their guests could not carry away from Detroit any vivid impression of great factories or huge warehouses, but he hoped that they would carry away a conviction of Detroit's desire to be always on the most friendly terms with their country.

It may be mentioned here that some one of the mischief makers who unfortunately abound, published recently in a Denver paper a statement, purporting to emanate from Japan, in the sense that although great attention was paid in America to the leaders of the Japanese business men, the rank and file were quite neglected. This pernicious allegation has evoked an emphatic contradiction, which declares that the very opposite is the truth and that from first to last the tourists have been the recipients of the most extreme courtesy and hospitality. In fact it is not too much to say that the travellers are astonished by the thoroughness of the preparations made for their accommodation. Everything conceivable has been done to promote their comfort and enjoyment. Not only have they been carried free of charge from end to end of the country, but also they have been dined and wined and even kept supplied with tobacco on an almost extravagant scale. Trains have been delayed in order to afford them an opportunity of inspecting specially beautiful prospects, and the long and short of the matter is that if they had been emperors or kings, they could not have been treated with greater honour or hospitality. It is calculated that by the time they leave the States their hosts will have expended about 6,000 *yen* on each visitor. America has indeed treated her guests most royally.

During the morning of September 30, the party of Japanese business men visited a famous carriage manufactory at South Bend and the Notre Dame Catholic University in the suburbs. After partaking of luncheon at the University, the party attended a welcome meeting held in the Young Men's Association Building. In the evening the members of the Chamber of Commerce gave a dinner in honour of the visitors, at which the Mayor and several members of the Senate and the House of Representatives addressed the gathering, all the speakers desiring the further development of commercial relations between Japan and America. Barons Shibusawa and Kanda replied on behalf of the party.

On Oct. 1 the members visited various factories, hospitals, etc. in Detroit, while the ladies and several gentlemen of the party were taken over to the residence of Mr. Frear, where a number of old paintings and other objects of fire art were shown to them. Mr. Frear being on a tour through China, the visitors drank a toast to his portrait. In the evening, the members of the Chamber of Commerce gave a dinner in honour of the party, at which the President of the Chamber and several others had each a speech of welcome. Barons Shibusawa and Kanda and Consul-General Midzuno replied. The party left for Cleveland during the night.

At 9 a.m. on the 3rd instant, the party arrived at the Hollenden Hotel, Cleveland, where they were invited to a luncheon by the members of the Chamber of Commerce The President of the Chamber and the Mayor each gave an address of welcome, to which Baron Shibusawa replied. The son of the late General Garfield attended the meeting. In the afternoon the party visited the parks in the city and the grave of General Garfield, passing through the garden belonging to Mr. Rockefeller. Baron Shibusawa placed a wreath on the grave of the late Secretary of State Mr. Hay. Mr. Henrick, ex-Governor of Ohio, gave a reception in honour of the party. There was a splendid ball at the evening reception at the Country Club. During the morning, when Messrs. Nakano, Doi, Iwaya, Watase, Ito and Minami called on Mr. Rockefeller at his villa, they found him playing a game in the garden with some friends. The visitors were received graciously and conversed with him for a while.

On the morning of the 4th instant the members visited the American Steel and Iron Works and the Technical High School at Buffalo, and in the afternoon individual members inspected the various factories, schools and institutions, while the ladies visited the Kindergartens and Grammar schools. In the evening a dinner party was given by the members of the Chamber of Commerce in honour of the visitors, when Mr. Bruce, President of the Chamber, Mr. Garfield son of the late President, and Mr. Tredway, Vice-Governor of the State, delivered speeches, to which Barons Shibusawa and Kanda replied. In spite of his advanced age Mr. Rockefeller attended the dinner.

THE NIPPON DENKI TETSUDO.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* vehemently espouses the cause of the projectors of an electric railway between Tokyo and Osaka, its main reasons being that the present Government road is quite inadequate to perform the services required of it, and that the interests of tradal communications demand another and a more efficient road. On the other hand, a member of the former Cabinet is quoted as saying that there is not the smallest chance of the Government sanctioning such a line. The reasons he adduces have already been noted in these columns. They are that 100 million *yen* would not suffice for the work; that the enterprise could not possibly pay according to the programme of its projectors, and that ruinous competition would be inevitable between the two parallel roads.

So far as the inadequacy of the present Tokaido Railway is concerned, we may note that the process of doubling the rails is now going on rapidly and will soon be completed. Transport facilities can not fail to be then largely increased. This doubling of tracks is to be extended from next year to the Sanyo Railway also, and the budget for 1910-11 will contain an appropriation of 70,000 *yen* for the purpose of preliminary expenses.

THE COTTON SPINNING COMPANIES.

There is a division in the camp of the Japanese cotton spinners. The Kwansei men are anxious to break away from the arrangement for restricting production (*sogyo tanshuku*), and to work their mills to the full capacity, whereas the Kwanto spinners are in favour of adhering to the present method of cöoperative restriction. The former party talk of hiring cheap steamers to bring their supplies of raw cotton from India to Japan, their idea evidently being that in these times of depression in the realm of the maritime carrying trade, tramp steamers could be obtained to work at cheaper rates than those charged by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's Bombay service. Representatives of the Kwansei men are now in Tokyo, but they do not appear to have come provided with any plan of compromise, and it is not thought likely that they will succeed in their project.

No agreement has yet been reached between the sections of the cotton spinning companies. The Kwansei men still show a strong disposition to break away from the combine and to work on their own account, whereas the Kwanto men insist that the time has not yet come for abandoning the policy of restricted output. This is another factor which has the effect of depressing the share market. It is thought probable that the influence of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha will be employed in the interests of a settlement.

RUSSIA IN THE AMUR PROVINCE.

It is all very fine for China to rebel against the employment of foreign soldiers to guard railway zones in Manchuria and against the administration of these zones by foreign Governments. The motive of such objections is fully appreciated by everyone, and China's titular right to make them is admitted. But her protest will prove unavailing until she shows herself competent to fully protect foreign life and property without the coöperation of any outsiders. It appears that she failed to accomplish this in the Amur province, and Russian subjects are the sufferers. Accordingly, the St. Petersburg Government is said to have recently instructed its Representative in Peking to seek China's concurrence in the despatch of a Russian military force to the Amur region, for the purpose of dealing drastically with the Hunghutsz and other disturbers of the peace who frequent the province. The Peking Government was naturally taken greatly aback by this proposal. They promised to administer the affairs of the province in a more efficient manner, and at once issued instructions in that sense to the local authorities.

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THE WEATHER.

A centre of depression is travelling up steadily in the direction of Kyushu and the main island. It has already produced cloudy weather in Osaka, and the meteorological authorities expect that it will break over Japan on the afternoon of the 4th. There is just a possibility that it may change its course to the north-east, in which case the danger would be averted, but present appearances are all in favour of the invasion of these islands. The rice crop may suffer some damage, but it is now virtually secure against anything but inundations.

It would seem that a storm was raging in Formosa on the 3rd inst., and that communications between that place and Tokyo were interrupted. So far as can now be foreseen, the centre of depression will strike either the west or the east of Japan. If the former, it will be felt during the night of the 4th inst., and if the latter, on the morning of the 5th.

The weather reports have become somewhat confusing. We hear nothing more of the centre of depression which was expected to invade these regions on the night of the 4th or the morning of the 5th, but we do hear of a new centre of depression which has now developed on the north of Ryukyu and is travelling towards Kyushu. There is also a similar phenomenon in the north of the Sea of Japan, and Hokkaido is probably suffering. The Ryukyu depression is not of serious dimensions.

It appears after all that we may escape without any severe storm, although several districts are still warned.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

On the 30th ultimo the public trial of the Directors and other defendants connected with the frauds of the Marine Products Company was commenced in Tokyo. Nothing could exceed the vehemence of the Public Procurator's speech for the prosecution. He denounced the action of the Directors in most unmeasured terms; emphatically denied that any extenuating circumstances whatever could be adduced, and demanded that Lieut.-General Yenya and Mr. Hiroya should each be sentenced to 8 years' penal servitude, Mr. Suzuki to 6 years, and the rest to major imprisonment from three years downwards.

As announced telegraphically elsewhere in our columns, the British Dreadnought *Neptune* has just been launched at Portsmouth. Orders have been placed by the Admiralty for her successors, namely, the battleship and battleship-cruiser which are to be laid down, at Portsmouth and Devonport respectively, on November 1st. The Portsmouth "super-Dreadnought" will resemble, in general, the *Neptune* of 20,250 tons which she will succeed on the slip; while the Devonport vessel will be an improved *Indomitable*. The four "contingent," or extra, Dreadnoughts, to be laid down on April 1st of next year, will be built by contract.

It appears that the officers and men of the great Atlantic Squadron have subscribed no less than 4,000 *yen* to be expended on a loving cup which will be presented to the Japanese Navy in commemoration of the welcome given to the Atlantic Squadron last year, when it visited Japan. The Cup is to be made of gold and will no doubt be a fine example of the Philadelphia goldsmiths' art. A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that Prince Kuni will be asked to carry the Cup with him to Japan.

The fall of the Marine Products Company has pulled down the Waseda Bank, a small concern not to be in any way associated with the Waseda University. It appears that some of the Bank's creditors are foreigners and that the application for bankruptcy emanated from the United States Consulate in Yokohama.

On the 1st inst. the drawing by lot for the redemption of 20 million *yen* of national bonds took place at the Finance Department. The amount was exceeded by 7,250 *yen*, owing to the nature of the bonds which came out for redemption. This is the last drawing which will take place during the current year.

Colonel Boger, Military attaché of the British Embassy in Tokyo, is to leave Yokohama on the 10th instant by the *Kagi Maru* for the purpose of meeting Lord Kitchener on the latter's arrival at Shanhaikwan.

The amalgamation of the principal cement companies, which was recently talked of, is said to be unlikely to take place, for the present at all events. The principal Companies, namely, the Onoda and the Asano, are in favour of free competition, and so long as they remain in that mood the rest cannot accomplish anything.

As might have been inferred from the sharp appreciation showed by the shares of the Keihin Electric Railway on the 2nd inst., it turns out that the long pending negotiations between the Railway and Messrs. Sale and Frazer have at length been brought to a favourable conclusion. The amount of the loan is said to be 1½ million *yen*; the rate of interest 6.2 per cent., and the redemption period 20 years. The Company has the right of applying a part of the money to electric light purposes. Messrs. Sale and Frazer have thus taken the lead in procuring foreign money for Japan under the new law of tramway hypothecation.

We read in the *Mainichi Dempo* that the balance of opinion sways strongly in favour of granting to foreigners the privilege of land-ownership, and that this change will probably be effected at the time of the drafting of the new treaty. The privilege will not be extended to Formosa or Hokkaido.

The total losses incurred by the various insurance offices in connexion with the Osaka fire are now published as follow:—

	Yen.
Nippon Kasai	1,6 4,462
Tokyo Kasai	901,631
Yokohama Kasai	640,000
Kyodo Kasai	520,294
Kobe Kasai	514,848
Meiji Kasai	492,744
Nippon Kaijo Kasai	210,865
Osaka Kasai	115,857
	5,000,701

The complication between the Russian and German authorities in Harbin seems to be growing more acute. Readers of our St. Petersburg letter will have observed that the origin of this trouble was a refusal on the part of the German Consul to recognise the right of the Russian authorities to impose town taxes. A telegram to the *Mainichi Dempo* now says that the Russian Municipal authorities levied a distraint upon a German beer-store in the city, but when the Russian officials attempted to sell the distrained property, its German owners resorted to force and thrashed the officers of the law. The matter has now been taken up diplomatically, but in the meanwhile the Russians are said to have inaugurated a boycott against the Germans in Harbin. This is a quaint *dénouement*, for it is plain that if foreigners intend to use the boycott as a weapon in their own international disputes, they can not possibly blame the Chinese if they resort to a similar course.

We mentioned in a recent issue that the Tokyo Municipality was perplexed to find an investment for its reserve funds, inasmuch as the banks where these funds had hitherto been deposited declined to hold them at a remunerative rate of interest. Three hundred and seventy thousand *yen* of the City's funds was then invested in municipal loan bonds, and there is now talk of investing a further sum of 420,000 *yen* in the same way. The Municipal Council, however, has not yet passed this measure, some doubt being entertained as to whether the most suitable time has come.

On the 21st of September the *Hochi Shimbun* published a detailed statement of the financial affairs of the Seikosho, and to-day (Thursday) the *Mainichi Dempo* gives what purports to be a *précis* of decisions taken by the Directors of that Company with regard to the issue of debentures at their meeting on the 6th inst. We have reason to think that both of the above articles are more or less erroneous, but the interesting question is whether a great enterprise like the Seikosho finds it impossible to preserve the privacy which is considered essential in the case of similar enterprises in Europe and America. Newspapers may have very long ears, but they can not hear a sound where absolute silence exists, and it appears to us that if Japanese companies could find trustworthy employees, they should be able to avoid the nuisance of having their doings posted upon the market cross.

Japanese newspapers state that the Government is busily engaged compiling a scheme of revised taxation, but as the total sum involved does not exceed 10 million *yen*, it is evident that nothing very extensive is contemplated. The principal change will be in the income tax. The total collected from this source is expected to be 4 million *yen*, and the reduction will be chiefly in the case of salaries, the tax upon capital remaining unchanged. It is stated that the methods pursued will be to reduce the taxable amount of salaries by 20 per cent., and thus a man receiving 400 *yen* per annum will be reckoned as having an income of only 320 *yen*. The next change in point of importance will be the abolition of the transit tax within the limits of the four principal cities. All the other principal taxes will be more or less affected, with the exception of that on *saké*.

DEATH OF MR. J. E. HOLMES.

We regret to record the death, on board the *Chiyo Maru*, while between San Francisco and Japan, of Mr. James Edmund Holmes, for several years a resident of Japan, and who for some two years filled the position of book keeper in the office of Messrs. Kelly & Walsh at this port. Mr. Holmes, who was suffering from tuberculosis, had proceeded to Canada for his health and was on his way back to Yokohama when death occurred. The deceased, who was fifty years of age, leaves a widow and two children to mourn his loss. The funeral took place at the Negishi Cemetery on the 5th inst, at 9.30 a.m.

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ENGLAND AND THE GERMAN FLEET.

IT will readily be conceded, we believe, by every impartial student of affairs that the naval rivalry which at present consumes the nations of Europe and has, moreover, spread like an infectious fever to the American continent, is the most disturbing element in the life of the world to-day. The disease, for such it is in reality, is found in its acutest form in two countries which Nature has divided only by a narrow sea. One of these nations owes her growth for centuries past, and her existence at the present time, to sea-power; the other may, by comparison, be called a Maritime Infant. Sea-power has played no part in the formation of this essentially military Empire: indeed, it is only within the past decade that it has given evidence of serious naval ambitions. But, once proclaimed, the new faith, or destiny, has been embraced with all a convert's zeal, and no efforts have been spared towards the speedy realization of the new national ideal of maritime supremacy. The consequence of this sudden birth and rapid growth of a new national force has been to introduce a new element into the sphere of world-politics. This new element, it must be admitted, has brought with it a certain amount of apprehension, for this sole but very substantial reason, namely, that *the Power which has thus set before itself the goal of naval ascendancy is, at the same time, the greatest Military Power on earth.* What is the necessary effect of maritime supremacy upon a nation's potentialities *vis à vis* its neighbours? It is to place in that nation's hand the power of invasion. The nation to whom belongs the command of the sea has nothing to prevent it from landing armed forces on the coasts of any country it may see fit to attack, and at any time it may please. Why is it then that all the nations of the world are not in a continual state of apprehension on account of England's supremacy at sea, which has been hers, beyond dispute, since 1805? Because—leaving on one side questions of policy, national traits of aggressiveness and the like—England has, by comparison with the other Great Powers, no Army. The nations of the world in general, and of the Continent in particular know full well that, even if England were disposed to assume an aggressive policy towards other nations, or to hold continually over their heads the threat of invasion, she could never strike a mortal blow, or translate a victory at sea into territorial conquest, because of the insignificant military force at her command. But if it were possible to conceive of England not only as a Power supreme at sea but also in possession of an army admittedly superior to any in existence, the situation would immediately assume a very different complexion. The nations of the world would be in a position to complain of being exposed to a continual Menace, incompatible with the possession of any sense of security. It is thus easily understood why the world in general is disposed to look askance at that naval expansion on the part of Germany which has been the outstanding feature of European politics during the past ten years—in fact, ever since the famous "mailed fist" speech and the subsequent despatch of a German squadron to Kiaochow. It will also be understood why recent extraordinary developments in Germany, connected with the acceleration of an already immense programme, have given rise to serious apprehensions in more countries than one. That these apprehensions are beginning to be recognized as natural even in Germany is evidenced by such remarks as those of Dr. LEONHART. Discussing the subject of the German Fleet in its relation to England, this member of the Radical People's party in the Reichstag writes in the *Berliner Tageblatt*:—

> German public opinion should not with superficial phases make light of the *English apprehensions* by alleging that they are merely a matter of scare-mongering. On the contrary, it is urgently necessary to pay attention to and carefully examine *the real truth of all English utterances on the subject. The official declarations that we are completing our fleet solely to meet our own needs is only an empty phrase, because these needs are determined by the fleets of other Powers.* The fact that our Imperial Government declined to enter into any understanding cannot be too sharply accentuated, because the German people would heartily welcome the day on which it would be possible to reduce the expenditure on armaments, which is now hardly bearable.

Incidentally the writer confirms what we have often insisted on in these columns, as to the aims and motives of German naval expansion. It is useless to deny that the expansion is in progress, or the ultimate object in view, when it is borne out not only by such facts and figures as we shall presently quote, but by such dicta from the highest quarters, as "our future is on the water," "the trident must be in our grasp," etc., and the intention, unequivocally set forth in the preamble to the German Navy Act of 1900, of creating a fleet able to hold its own with that of the strongest Naval Power. The following figures from a Parliamentary return issued last month illustrate in a striking manner the remarkable character of German naval expansion within the past four years, as compared with that of the two other leading Powers:—

	Total Expenditure.	
	1906-7.	1909-10.
	£	£
Great Britain	31,472,087	35,142,700
Germany	12,005,871	19,538,188
United States	21,358,198	28,778,777
	New Construction.	
	1906-7.	1909-10.
	£	£
Great Britain	10,846,397	10,256,194
Germany	5,342,466	10,571,468
United States	8,600,774	10,015,101

These figures are eloquent of two facts which should silence all apologists or deniers of Germany's "immense" development: (1) the amount set apart for new construction by Germany this year is double of that set apart four years ago, and exceeds that set apart by any other Power; (2) the British vote for the same purpose has actually diminished, rather than increased, in recent years. Such incontrovertible evidence as this justifies all we have said on the subject of German naval expansion, and is amply sufficient to account for the "English apprehensions" referred to by the German writer. The ambitious nature of German policy in recent years, with its perhaps unnecessary tendency to the "rattling of the sabre;" the formidable force of the German army, with its millions of trained soldiers animated by a warlike spirit; the present and rapidly growing strength of the German navy—these three form a trio of such a character that "apprehensions" on the part of other nations are no matter for surprise.

With regard to the general relations of the two countries, we have already expressed our belief, in a previous article, that mutual ignorance is, to a large extent, at the bottom of the antagonism said to exist between the peoples of England and Germany. While still adhering to that opinion, we may add that the press of both countries, and of Germany in particular, is largely responsible for the unfriendly sentiment which prevails. We say, of Germany in particular, because while many English periodicals contain articles resentful of German naval expansion—an expansion, be it remembered, which endangers their country's safety—they do not speak of Germans or of Germany with contempt. Indeed, so far as we can judge, they evince a wholesome respect for their Teutonic rivals. On the other hand, so many German journals adopt just such a tone of contempt as that so ably described, and so strongly deprecated, by Herr BLEIBTREU in his work on Anglo-German relations, reviewed recently in these columns. That is not the tone which a self-respecting nation, any more then a self-respecting individual, can adopt towards another without provoking the strongest feelings of enmity. There is no occasion to multiply the numerous examples we have already quoted from German papers illustrating this attitude of mind, but an extract from a recent issue of the *Japan Herald* will make our meaning clear. *A propos* of that comparatively harmless movement among the schools of England known as "the Boy-Scout Movement," there appeared in that journal the following editorial sneer:—

> The "Boy Scouts" movement seems to have had a remarkable success in England. No doubt many well-intentioned people see matter for congratulation in this; but personally we can only lament the insidious encroachments of the hateful spirit of militarism. Hitherto at least, young men have been left in peace up to the age of twenty at any rate except in so far as in some cases pressure may have been brought upon them to join school and college rifle brigadier and cadet corps. But now the all-devouring Moloch of militarism is, it seems, to extend his sway. The King of England has telegraphed to the 20,000 "boy-scouts" at the review that he hopes they will "do their duty as men," killing, being killed and assisting killers to kill "if the Empire is endangered." We can imagine the contemptuous smile on the lips of Continental military men as they read of this review and ask if England has not men enough to defend her without calling up boys of twelve and thirteen.

The idea of a German organ, of all others, lamenting the spread of the "Moloch of militarism" in England is not without a humour of its own; but the venomous contortion of King EDWARD'S telegram of

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congratulation and the empty sneer of the concluding sentence are remarkable productions, indeed—even for the English editor of a German journal. Such sneering utterances do more harm to the relations between the two nations than any amount of facts and figures, soberly discussed, can possibly effect.

In this context, and *à propos* of Herr BLEIBTREU's book, we avail ourselves of the opportunity of undeceiving the writer of the articles on Anglo-German relations in the *Deutsche Japan-Post*. Our reference to the above-mentioned book was not prompted by his review of it in the *Deutsche Japan-Post*. We had not read the article in question in the original, nor were we aware that the book had been reviewed in that journal. Dr. WERTHEIMER therefore does quite unmerited credit to our "acumen."

THE CANADIAN TRADE COMMISSIONER.

WE regret to find in the columns of the *Asahi Shimbun* a statement which certainly is not calculated to promote good fellowship between the foreign residents and their Japanese fellow-tradesmen, but which can not be passed over in silence, because, although we believe that some of the facts related are erroneous, the article has its uses as indicating the impression that prevails among the Japanese with regard to the temper of the foreign community. The writer sets out by saying that the attitude taken by Mr. PRESTON during his sojourn in Japan had prepared the Japanese people to find in every Canadian Trade Commissioner a sincere sympathiser with this country. There was consequently not a little surprise and regret when it was learned from a telegram in *The Times* that Mr. HARRIS, the new Commissioner, had reported unfavourably on the standard of commercial morality prevailing in Japan, and had declared Japanese merchants to be unworthy of trust. The writer in the *Asahi* condemns the rashness of preferring such accusations in the sequel of a few weeks' direct observation of Japan and the Japanese, but attributes the attitude of Mr. HARRIS to influence brought to bear on him by the foreign residents. These latter, being apprehensive lest by following in the footsteps of Mr. PRESTON and recommending direct trade, the new Commissioner might seriously impair the prospects of the foreign middleman, laid themselves out to capture Mr. HARRIS by dining him, wining him and welcoming him in every possible way, while at the same time they supplemented these hospitalities by filling him up with anti-Japanese prejudices. He was invited here and feted there, and on the recommendation of Mr. HENSON, who represents the great English firm of JARDINE MATHESON, he was made an honorary member of the Board of Trade. The result of all this was that Mr. HARRIS finally committed himself to the injurious appreciation telegraphed to *The Times*.

The above constitutes the exordium of our contemporary's article. The writer then goes on to say that, having these things in view, he waited on Mr. HARRIS and expostulated with him on the precipitancy shown in attributing such a character to Japanese merchants on the strength of only a very brief acquaintance. Mr. HARRIS replied, in effect, that he had been greatly misrepresented. In his capacity of Tradal Commissioner he was liable to have inquiries addressed to him by Canadian merchants concerning the reputation of individual Japanese firms with whom it was proposed to open business. A Toronto merchant recently addressed such a query to him with reference to a certain Japanese firm, and after making specific inquiries, he had been compelled to forward an unfavourable report. Had the query related to any of the well known business establishments in Japan, he would have had no hesitation in making a commendatory report, but inasmuch as the particular firm in question did not enjoy a high reputation, no alternative presented itself consistently with his duty. He hoped in the future to be able to forward to his Government such appreciations of the Japanese as would effectually prove his good will. As for the statement that he had been made an honorary member of the Board of Trade at the instance of its President, Mr. HENSON, the truth was that he had himself applied for membership.

We quote the above at some length because it furnishes an index to the character which the foreign residents bear in the eyes of many Japanese; a character which we believe to be entirely due to the uniformly unfriendly tone of certain foreign newspapers published in our midst. Comment is unnecessary, further than to say that, without going back to the sentiments which prevailed at the time of the treaty revision contest, we have no hesitation in affirming that the attitude of the leaders of the foreign community of Yokohama has been eminently friendly to Japan during recent years, and it is particularly unjust to Mr. HENSON that his name should be dragged into this discussion, seeing that he is precisely one of the foreigners most amicably disposed towards the Japanese and most capable of appreciating them, owing to his long residence and to his exceptional knowledge of their language.

THE LATE CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

BY the death of His Excellency CHANG CHIH-TUNG, Grand Councillor, Grand Secretary, Comptroller-General of the Board of Education and Director-General of the Hankow-Canton Railway, not China alone but the world has lost a very great man. CHANG had held office for over 44 years. He obtained his degree of Tertius in 1863 and was appointed Judicial Commissioner of Kwangtung in March 1865. Seventeen years' service sufficed to procure for him the rank of Governor (Shansi), and two years later (1884) he was appointed Viceroy of the Two Kwang. Thereafter he served twice as Viceroy of Hu-Kuang and twice as Viceroy of Liang-Kiang. In 1903 he was summoned to Peking, and rumour alleged that his career had terminated, but in the same year he resumed his old position as Viceroy of Hu-Kuang, and after a year and a half of viceregal life, he was nominated (1907) Assistant Grand Secretary, and, immediately afterwards, Grand Secretary, the same year seeing him appointed Grand Councillor and Comptroller-General of the Board of Education. Looking back over his long career and recalling its many checkered incidents, we recognise that his salient qualities were originality, courage and integrity. He had no love for foreigners—hard indeed would it be for any Chinese to have such a love—but he had a very distinct appreciation of many of the products of foreign civilization. The former disposition found very marked expression in 1891 when he paid not the slightest attention to instructions for the reception of the TSAREVITCH on the occasion of his Imperial Highness' visit to China, and when he adopted an attitude of absolute rudeness towards the Russian Admiral who journeyed to Wuchang to arrange the details of the reception. But however closely he adhered in this respect to the prejudices of the old-fashioned Chinese official, he never allowed such traditions to stand in the way when foreigners could be utilized for the benefit of China, nor did he ever hesitate to adopt any scheme which seemed likely to prove to the advantage of his country. The vast sums that he spent on manufacturing enterprises in both his viceroyalties, and the apparently small results achieved seemed again and again certain to result in his downfall, and such would assuredly have been their outcome had they been associated with any taint of corruption. But throughout the whole of CHANG's long career the absolute purity of his hands was never for a moment doubted, and those who query the value attaching to such integrity in China will do well to study the record of this great satrap. He had at least the satisfaction to witness the partial success of his most costly undertakings, for the ironworks at Hanyang are now able to turn out much material for which China used to be dependent on foreign countries. Practicality, however, was never one of his conspicuous traits. It is related of him that at one time when China's foreign relations were in a disquieting condition, he proposed to guard the coast of the Metropolitan Province against the approach of Western vessels by sinking tiers of junks from Talien Bay to the promontory of Shantung; and that when a Japanese expedition was expected to land at Shanhaikwan *en route* for Peking, he suggested the advisability of catching the invaders in a trap by digging a huge trench around their place of debarcation. Yet this same visionary statesman was one of the most liberal employers of

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foreign technical and military experts, and one of the most ardent advocates of Occidental education, though he owed much of his own success to an intimate knowledge of the Chinese Classics and to conspicuous ability as an essayist. Outside his well-loved country CHANG'S name will be remembered chiefly for the entirely successful precautions he took to protect foreign life and property throughout the Yangtsz Valley during the Boxer *emeute*, and for his remarkable pamphlet, "China's Only Hope," which contains a singularly striking compendium of pedantry and wisdom, credulous conservatism and astute liberalism. It was a strange freak of fate to burden the Old Viceroy's last days with a weight of sordid complications about railways; he who had written that the railway is the one power which can "open the door of learning for the scholar, the farmer, the workman, the merchant and the soldier." China has indeed suffered a heavy loss by the death of this noble-minded scholar. But how prolific China is of such men! What a long list of them could be compiled by any student of her history during the past cycle! And yet the average Occidental regards China with contempt.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN ENGLAND.

LATEST advices from London indicate that the Budget still dominates the public mind at home—ousting even the quarrel over the discovery of the North Pole from pride of place in the view of the average citizen. For it is the almost universal opinion that there is every prospect of an Autumn General Election arising out of the apparently interminable controversy of land taxation, the veto of the Lords, Tariff Reform and so forth; and it is more than probable that nobody, with the possible exception of the Election Agent, views the arrival of such a general upheaval with feelings of satisfaction.

Lord ROSEBERY'S definite severance from the Liberal Party and his unsparing denunciation of the Budget in his speech at Glasgow, have undoubtedly helped to stiffen the ranks of the Opposition. The reception with which the speech met from the accredited leaders of the two parties is interesting, if somewhat diverse. According to a home journal, the Chief Liberal Whip, on reading the earliest reports of the speech, remarked that his party was "prepared for battle." On the other hand, Sir A. ACLAND-HOOD, the Chief Conservative Whip, is said to have described the speech as "glorious," and this sentiment appears to have been echoed among Conservatives generally. Those of bellicose tendencies, while hoping that the speech would induce the Lords to spurn the moderate counsels of Lord LANSDOWNE, deplore the fact that Lord ROSEBERY had not stepped boldly over the narrow borderline now separating him from the Tariff Reformers and from the Unionist party as a whole. All parties appear to think that if the Finance Bill is rejected by the Lords the ex-Prime Minister must now share much of the responsibility. Will the Lords do the deed? Lord ROSEBERY did not venture to prophesy, but the readers of his speech—Unionists, Liberals, Nationalists, and Labour men—all appear to be voicing the same conviction, although in varying phraseology—namely, that the bill's rejection and a speedy dissolution are as certain as anything can be in the uncertain domain of politics.

However, Lord LANSDOWNE'S influence with the Unionist peers is very powerful—hence, no doubt, the jeering references of Ministeralists to "King" LANSDOWNE—and should he advise his followers to pass the bill, it would be found, in all probability, that his leadership was honoured with obedience. There is no doubt, as Lord ROSEBERY has observed, that the Government, or at least some of its members, would like to see the quarrel between the two Houses brought to a head over the Budget. In certain circles that fact would be regarded as a substantial reason for declining to oblige, and no doubt in finally determining the end, the Conservative chiefs will pay it due regard; but it is not always the highest wisdom to refrain from action because opponents happen to think it may play into their hands. Nevertheless, judging from expressions of opinion in several responsible Conservative newspapers, a considerable section of the Unionist party favours the precipitation of the crisis at whatever cost. The Budget is regarded by them, not as finance but as rampant Socialism, and it is felt that the sooner that issue is placed before the electorate the better must it be for the country's welfare. Certain ex-Ministers, who not long ago were inclined to hesitate, are said to have come to this conclusion, on the ground that though many, and great, difficulties may follow the rejection of the Bill by the Lords, yet rejection and its results will prove to be the least of all the possible evils of the situation.

As for the Ministerial side of the Legislature, Mr. LLOYD-GEORGE, the begetter of this memorable Budget, is quite cocksure of its success, for to a newspaper correspondent he declared that "the battle of the Budget has already been won," and later this optimistic Chancellor went out of his way to assure the *Daily Mail*, much apparently to that journal's satisfaction, that "whether the Lords throw it out or not, the Budget will be the law of the land before the end of this financial year." "This," remarks one of the leading Unionist reviews, "is sheer nonsense, for Mr. LLOYD GEORGE well knows that should the Finance Bill be rejected by the Peers—'the backwoodsmen, the wild Peers who take no actual part in the work of Parliament, and only come when anything is brought forward which especially affects their interests,' as he insolently describes them—it would be virtually impossible for that monstrous scheme of Socialist finance to become law before March 31st next. This could only happen if an appeal to the country were made this autumn and if, as the result of the large Ministerial majority being maintained, desperate expedients were adopted to force the Finance Bill through the new Parliament. But who," asks the same authority, "believes that such will be the issue of a general election? Mr. LLOYD GEORGE professes to do so, but there is not another Member of the Cabinet who honestly does; whilst Unionists are more than hopeful, indeed confident, of wiping out the Radical majority and the Government together, and sending their Budget to the limbo of welcome failures."

The situation is further complicated, and an additional element of uncertainty introduced, by the undoubted fact that Tariff Reform will be made one of the leading issues in the coming contest, and that, indeed, it will be offered to the electorate as an all-sufficient substitute for the revolutionary financial policy of the Government. While this course of action commends itself to the vast majority of Unionists, there is unfortunately a not inconsiderable section, headed by Lord ROBERT CECIL, who are sworn to the contrary policy of Free Trade. It would gravely imperil the prospects of the Unionist party if they went to the polls divided upon this question, but such, indeed, at present appears likely to be the case. It is, we suppose, on account of the complexity and uncertainty of the situation that, as recorded elsewhere in our issue of to-day, "the highest influences," are being brought to bear upon Ministers, in the hope of avoiding a constitutional crisis at the present juncture. Mr. ASQUITH, Reuter informs us, has been telegraphically summoned to Balmoral, and this despite the fact that the KING returns to London on Monday. This sudden departure of the Prime Minister to the North has created a good deal of excitement. According to one telegram, "the greatest importance is attached to the visit in Liberal circles and the Lobbies;" while another despatch represents Cabinet Ministers as denying that it foreshadows a sudden change in the situation. A still later despatch tells that Lord LANSDONWE, as well, has been summoned to Balmoral, and that rumours are afloat of a possible dropping of the objectionable Land Taxes. It is to be hoped that some such middle course will be followed, for that way lies peace. Should, however, the unexpected happen, and the Budget, as it stands, become the law of the land before the end of the financial year—thus postponing for a time the inevitable struggle between the Radicals and the Upper Chamber—we do not believe the Unionist party would lose thereby in the end. If the indignation of the country is so great at the mere prospect of the Budget, what will its feelings be when the provisions of that measure are enforced? The longer the present Government remains in power, the stronger will be the reaction against its abuse of that power, and the greater the final triumph of Unionism.

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THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, October 1.

The 1st instant was only half a day on the Stock Exchange, and scarcely any business was done.

Saturday, October 2.

The Stock Exchange showed some little briskness on the forenoon of the 2nd instant, but was thrown back effectually in the afternoon by a panic produced on the Rice Exchange in connexion with the official dismissal of several of the latter's officers. The shares (forwards) of the Rice Exchange fell nearly 8 points, as the Exchange will have to shoulder the losses resulting from breach of contract by its registered brokers. There is no telling how far this panic may spread. It interrupted business almost entirely on the Stock Exchange on Saturday afternoon.

Monday, October 4.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange continues to be much perturbed by the commotion in the rice market. Nearly all shares fell yesterday, and no recovery is expected until the Matsutatsu trouble is adjusted.

Tuesday, October 5.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange continues to be obsessed by nervousness in connection with the trouble on the Rice Exchange. There is a prospect, however, that the difficulty will soon be disposed of.

Wednesday, October 6.

Three factors cöoperated to produce something like a debacle on the Stock Exchange yesterday. They were (1) the dissension among the cotton-spinners, as described elsewhere in our columns; (2) the failure to effect any settlement of the Rice-Exchange trouble; and (3) rumours that the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway would not be effected. Everything dropped heavily, the shares of the Rice Exchange falling 4.50 points and those of the Stock Exchange and the Tokyo Railway 4.20 points. As large purchases of Tokyo Railways had been made, it is expected that they will continue to fall under the influence of this panic.

Thursday, October 7.

The following are the quotations for December delivery:—

	Oct. 6th.	Oct. 7th.	
Tokyo Railway	72.80	75.60	+2.80
Kei-hin Railway	66.00	65.00	—1.00
Yusen Kaisha	79.80	80.00	+ .20
Toyo Kisen	—	—	.—
Tanko Kisen	41.60	42.00	+ .40
Tokyo Gas	99.25	99.95	+ .70
Tokyo Dento	92.20	93.00	+ .80
Fuji Gass Spinning	94.55	94.25	— .30
Tokyo Spinning	44.40	45.00	+ .60
Kanegafuchi Spinning	106.75	106.00	— .70
Beer	81.35	81.80	+ .45
Hoden Oil	87.30	86.90	— .40
Nippon Oil	95.20	94.95	— .25
Rice Exchange	85.50	84.55	— .95
Stock Exchange	167.20	163.10	—4.10

DINNER TO THE WISCONSIN TEAM.

On the 6th instant, at the famous Japanese restaurant Chitose-ro in this city, the members of the Wisconsin University Baseball team, now visiting this country, were entertained at dinner by the graduates of Keio University. There were present a large number of influential Japanese, including Mr. Mitsuhashi, the local Mayor, and other officials. During the evening Mr. Mitsuhashi addressed the gathering as follows:

Prof. McCarthy and members of the Wisconsin University Team:—I desire to say a few words to express my share of the hearty welcome which the sporting community of Tokyo recently extended to you and that of Yokohama in doing the honour to-night. I deem it quite unnecessary that I should allude to the relations existing between Japan and the United States both politically and commercially. Suffice it to say, that they are of a very intimate and friendly character. It was just a year ago that I had the honour and pleasure of welcoming here in this port your Atlantic Battleship Fleet and the honorary representatives of the Pacific Coast Chambers of Commerce. This welcome, though not in grand or pompous style, was certainly a genuine, heartfelt and spontaneous one, and I was very glad to observe that it is so regarded and appreciated on the other side of the Pacific Ocean, and, further, this very moment, the party of our businessmen who have proceeded to America, in response to an invitation of certain Chambers of Commerce, are meeting with hearty reception and lavish hospitality wherever they go in the States, a fact which, to every one of us, is a source of high appreciation and deep gratitude.

Now a few words to the members of the Wisconsin team in particular. As I am not a sportsman myself, I cannot speak with authority on the subject. But I may say that it was not until the year 1884, if I remember rightly, that the game of baseball was introduced into Japan. But, since then, the game has been eagerly taken up by the students of public schools and other young men; so that it is now played not only in Tokyo, Yokohama and the neighbourhood, but all over the Empire, and I fully expect that before long baseball will become the national game, as in the United States. And I am highly pleased to see such frequent exchange of visits between American and Japanese teams and, more particularly, the present visit of yourselves—a team from a great institution such as the Wisconsin University, because I am convinced that these international matches played in this country cannot fail to arouse further keen interest in the game and give a great impetus to the practice of baseball, which is decidedly one of the best means for the improvement of the physical condition of the people. I feel further gratified because the commingling of both peoples for purposes of this nature will, I am sure, have the effect of cementing those intimate and friendly relations of their nationals, as I stated before, still firmer and closer.

I sincerely trust that your visit may prove one of interest and enjoyment to you, as it certainly has been to our sporting community, and that you will carry away pleasant memories of your sojourn amongst us. And, in conclusion, I beg to tender my best wishes for your continued good health, success and prosperity.

ANOTHER TYPHOON AT FOOCHOW.

FOREIGN SETTLEMENT SEVERELY DAMAGED.

The Foochow correspondent of the *North-China Daily News* wrote as follows on Sept. 23:—Following the great typhoon of September 15, Foochow and vicinity were visited by another typhoon on Sunday the 18th, which did great damage. At Kuliang the wind was very strong, blowing down walls and carrying away tiles. At Foochow the wind was not the serious part of the storm. Both at Kuliang and at Foochow the houses had been unroofed and practically wrecked, while from the rains the ground and walls were full of water and treacherous. On Sunday morning, just as all had begun to hope that the trouble was over, it began to rain again. The wires were all down, so that we had no warning of a typhoon except that the glass was going down, but all were soon convinced that we were in the midst of another typhoon rain. In about twenty hours there was a measured rain-fall of 10.51 inches. This, coming upon the waterslaked ground, walls and houses, caused great damage. At Kuliang there were many landslides which caused great damage. The bank behind the Rev. Ernest B. Caldwell's new house slid down upon the house completely wrecking a part of the building, so that the entire servants' quarters will have to be rebuilt. Luckily the family had gone to Foochow, else the servants must have been crushed. Miss Linan's new house also suffered extensively by a landslide and the breaking of her retaining wall. Landslides, the falling of walls and partitions—this was the order of the day at Kuliang. At Foochow walls fell on every hand, so that there was scarcely a whole wall standing in the foreign community. In the Methodist compound a large section of the house wall, or rather the verandah wall of the house occupied by Mr. Lacy, fell to the ground. In other places servants' quarters were brought to the ground. At Sharp Peak the damage was also great. The English sanitarium, the telegraph station and the Methodist sanitarium were the heaviest losers. The estimates of the heavy loss of life on the river and coast are being verified daily by the recovery of bodies. Several bodies have drifted ashore at the bathing beach at Sharp Peak, while the river is full of floating bodies along its lower reaches; probably hundreds have already been picked up. There is no estimating what the loss along the coast must have been. A messenger up from Ngucheng reports that after the great storm of the 15th a company of fishermen dragging their nets in the Haitan channel brought up at one time twenty-six bodies, among which were the bodies of two foreigners, though the nationality could not be given. At another time sixteen bodies were brought up, and smaller numbers at other times. This but shows something of the loss that must have occurred along this coast.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

At 8.30 p.m. on 1st inst., at the Van Schaick Hall, the Yokohama Literary and Musical Society held the opening meeting of its new session. Mr. J. P. Mollison presided, and there was a fair attendance of members and their friends. After a few well-chosen words by the President, the annual business meeting was proceeded with; and after the report and accounts (already published in these columns) had been adopted, the election of the officers and the various committees took place. The following were elected:—

President.....Mr. J. Pender Mollison.
Vice-President .....Mr. W. Karl Vincent.
Hon. Treasurer.....Mr. T. H. Gordon Kenderdine.
Hon. Secretary.....Mr. R. Box.

LITERARY COMMITTEE

Mr. A. W. Sheriff. Rev. E. S. Booth.

MUSICAL COMMITTEE.

Mrs. J. Pender Mollison. Miss Hall.
Miss Blundell. Mr. S. H. Somerton.
Mrs. Field. Mr. W. H. Lewis.

On the conclusion of the business, the following musical programme was carried out. All the items were excellently rendered, and were greatly appreciated by the audience.

PROGRAMME.

Pianoforte Duet.....(*a*) Minuetto, (*b*) Musette } .....Sibelius.
Miss Blundell and Mr. W. Karl Vincent.
Song .. .."Bedouin Love Song".....Pinsuti.
Mr W. M. Stewart.
Reading.....Selections.....Paul Dunbar.
Rev. W. B. Parshley.

The next meeting will be held on Friday, the 15th inst., when Mr. W. H. Lewis will lecture on George Meredith, the lately deceased novelist.

YACHTING.

In a light northerly breeze and a smooth sea on the 2nd inst., the Yokohama Yacht Club sent five of their boats over the Kawasaki—Widow Buoy Course for the *Valkyrien* Cup. *Mary* began by taking the lead, drew away from the rest and won easily. *Maid Marion* came in second, *Asagao* third. *Naniwa* and *Nereus* did not complete the course.

The Mosquito Club arranged a race over the Mandarin Bluff, Tachibana and Lightship Course for a prize presented by Mr. F. J. Hall.

Of the four starters—*Pele*, *Winsome*, *Sunbeam* and *Elsa*—*Winsome* led through the harbour entrance and kept the lead throughout the race, winning from *Pele* by about a minute. The other two were badly beaten.

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RECEPTION OF THE JAPANESE BUSINESS MEN AT SPOKANE, WASH.

[*This communication is authorized by the Spokane Chamber of Commerce.*]

Noblemen, financiers, captains of industry, agriculturists, educators, law-makers and men prominent in the affairs of the empire, composing the honorary Commercial Commission of Japan, voiced sentiments of hearty goodwill as they stood on the rear platform of their special train at the Great Northern Station in Spokane the evening of September 13 to begin the second leg of their trans-continental tour to occupy 90 days as guests of the Associated Chambers of Commerce of the Pacific Coast.

The reception and entertainment of the envoys was a series of surprises to the Orientals, from their arrival the morning of September 11, when 2,000 business and professional men opened the portals of the city and extended cordial welcomes, until the last farewells were said, when the visitors carried with them the kindly wishes of every one of the 122,000 men, women and children in Spokane, as symbolized by the golden key presented by Mayor Nelson S. Pratt to Baron Eiichi Shibusawa, head of the party.

The entertainment began with an informal reception, which was typically western in spirit, at the Northern Pacific railway station, where Mayor Pratt and Frederick E. Goodall, president, Levi Grant Monroe, secretary, and C. Herbert Moore, former mayor of Spokane and representative with the party on its tour, officially represented the city and the Spokane Chamber of Commerce. More than 2,000 residents and visitors in Spokane were gathered on the platform, and the meeting of the men of the orient with those of the Occident was one that left no doubt as to its real meaning. Baron Shibusawa responded cordially to the warm reception by gathering the ladies of his party and the envoys around him and expressing words of greeting.

Following a tour of the manufacturing district and inspecting the lumber and flour mills, water power and telephone plants, banks, mercantile houses and the public schools, there was a luncheon in the assembly hall of the Chamber of Commerce, where President Goodall formally welcomed the visitors to the home of the commercial organization. Baron Shibusawa responded to the address of welcome, his remarks being interpreted in excellent English by Baron Kanda, a graduate of Amherst College. He said in part:

"It gives me great pleasure to express the appreciation on behalf of our party for the warm welcome you have accorded us. Since our arrival in this magnificent country we have been greeted most cordially.

"In our journey inland from the Pacific Coast we are astounded by the stupendousness of your country. Your mountains are large, your trees are large and the hearts of your people are large.

"On our entire trip we have been keeping our eyes open and our ears open, and we are taking in and observing all of this magnificent progress and development that we may carry it home and utilize it in developing our country. We are learning much. We have been ignorant of many things in your country and are attempting to observe all.

"But we are also on a peace mission, with the purpose of drawing the countries more closely together and establishing stronger relations in all lines. I am sure that we are being brought closer together in the sense of acquaintance.

"Often we have travelled in England and Europe and in the smoky cities we have seen signs, 'English spoken.' To-day in your beautiful city we have seen 'Japanese Spokane.'"

The delightful play of words brought vociferous applause from those seated at the tables, and it was fully a half minute before Baron Kanda was permitted to resume his seat.

By unanimous vote the envoys were made honorary members of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce, the first time this distinction has been accorded to foreigners by this organization. The visitors were pleased when the announcement was made by Secretary Monroe, through Mr. Zumoto, part owner of the *Japan Times*.

The early afternoon was passed in seeing Spokane in automobiles, more than 200 machines being in the parade. This was followed by a lawn fête at the residence of F. Lewis Clark, where the Baroness Shibusawa and ladies of the party were guests of honour. A formal banquet at the Hall of the Doges in the evening brought the day to a close. The decorations were elaborate. The pergola at the entrance, were stood guards in the armour of the ancient Samurai, and the hallway were lined with flags of the two nations and a wealth of flowers, while in the main hall vines with great clusters of grapes were used with fine effect, the chrysanthemums and wistaria giving the room a distinctly Oriental atmosphere. Big baskets of fruit, gathered together from various parts of the Inland Empire, on the tables were adorned with American and Japanese flags and miniature emblems. In the centre of the hall was an illuminated fountain, built of fruit and decorated with "rising sun" banners.

President Goodall presented as the first speaker Mayor Pratt, who warmly welcomed the visitors and gave them the freedom of the city. Baron Shibusawa's glowing response was frequently interrupted by applause from the Orientals, while when Mr. Zumoto translated the nobleman's remarks into English there were prolonged cheers at frequent intervals. He said in part:

"You have spoken in warm terms of our progress, but you have not mentioned the fact that we owe it all to America. If it had not been for America—for Commodore Perry—we would not to-day have been able to boast of the progress of which we have been so proud.

"This visit has opened a new era in the intercourse of our nations. We have come among you as envoys of commerce and of peace, and the very warmth of your reception has been based on your sincere desire to increase the scope of that commerce and that peace.

"You are citizens of the Inland Empire of the west, while we are of the Island Empire of the east. I have heard that Spokane means 'sons of the sun,' while our nation, too, claims descent from the goddess of the sun, so that our two peoples would after all seem to be really one.

"There is an Oriental proverb that an animal endowed with certain traits is forbidden to possess others. For instance, an animal of great strength can not fly, and *vice versa*. But this proverb is upset in America. This nation seems to have been endowed with all the advantages not given to others, and I may add that Nature has been lavish in her gift to the people of your district, which is a veritable empire in itself.

"My ambition is that when our journey shall have been ended and we return to our homes, we shall take with us your hearts as trophies of our visit."

The Spokane Elks' quartet then sang the Japanese anthem, "Kimigayo," in the native tongue, swinging into "The Star Spangled Banner," in which guests and hosts joined. The quartet also sang "Sunny Old Spokane," giving the chorus in the Japanese tongue. Toasts were drunk standing to the health of the Emperor of Japan and the President of the United States.

William H. Acuff, special commissioner of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce to Japan in 1908, who spoke to the toast, "My Impressions of the Flowery Kingdom," declared with emphasis that the two nations are better friends to-day than they have ever been before, and scouted the recently prevalent rumours of war. Quoting "Fighting Bob" Evans, he said: "The only war there will ever be between Japan and the United States will be one of commercial rivalry."

Referring to the genuineness of the welcome extended to the American envoys in Japan last year, Mr. Acuff said:

"We were told at the outset on our landing in Japan that the welcome with which we were met might be largely formal and official, but when we went into the country and looked into the faces of thousands of children, there was no doubt of the sincerity of the nation's greeting."

Baron Kanda, educator, and K. Kadona, a banker, spoke at length on the value of education in empire building, other speakers being Nelson W. Durham, editor-in-chief of the *Spokesman Review*, who had as his subject, "Building an Empire," and Congressman Miles Poindexter, who told of "The Wealth of the Inland Empire."

Mr. Durham described graphically what has been accomplished in the Spokane country and throughout the Northwest within the lifetime of a generation, and predicted that the next two decades would witness the accomplishment of things which would make the Northwest what it is destined to be—the home of millions of prosperous and contented people.

Mr. Poindexter referred to the peculiarly strategic position occupied by the Inland Empire in the stretch of territory between the Rocky Mountains and Puget Sound, showing its wealth-production, exclusive of manufactures and imports, to be $145,410,000 in 1908, or $267 per capita of a population estimated at 543,710 and the equivalent of $1,200 for the average family. He apportioned this wealth as follows:

Minerals, $40,000,000; wheat, $36,160,000; lumber, $18,000,000; livestock and poultry, $16,000,000; farm and garden products, $15,250,000; apples and other fruits, $14,000,000, and dairy products, $6,000,000.

Mr. Poindexter was cheered to the echo in closing his remarks with the declaration that the wealth of forest and water on the mountain slopes belongs to the people and should be protected for their benefit.

During the afternoon Mrs. Robert B. Paterson entertained the Japanese ladies at an American luncheon in her home. The guests of honour were gowned in native costumes. Mrs. George Turner, wife of former United States Senator Turner, gave a dinner party at the Turner residence in the evening, while in the afternoon Mrs. F. Lewis Clark was hostess at a lawn fête. Mrs. Clark was assisted by Mesdames R. C. Paterson, Samuel Glasgow, A. L. Wright, Patrick Clark, C. Herbert Moore, Frederick H. Mason, J. J. Browne, Austin Corbin II., David T. Ham, William H. Cowles, Samuel Stern, Frederic M. Dudley, R. Lewis Ritter, F. Wilson, Frederick E. Goodall, Miles Poindexter, George Turner, T. F. Spencer, Horace Kimball, E. F. Cartier Van Dissel, Fred B. Grinnell, Charles Jones, Frank T. McCollough, George T. Doolittle, D. A. Clement, Henri Crommelin, D. L. Huntington and Waldo G. Paine.

Baron Shibusawa, Dr. T. Kanagai and Consul Takaka of Seattle were the chief speakers at the reception in the assembly hall of the Chamber of Commerce by the Japanese Commercial Club of Spokane, the afternoon of the second day. K. Kambe, president, presided. The speakers offered words of encouragement to their fellow countrymen in Spokane and urged them to strive for greater things. The envoys were entertained at a theatre party in the evening by officers of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Glasgow being hosts for the ladies at a dinner and box party. Mr. and Mrs. J. J. Browne entertained the agricultural experts at their home on Moran Prairie. The party, which was headed by T. Minami, professor of the agricultural department at the Teihoku Imperial University, Hokkaido, also visited the experimental stations at Moscow, Idaho, and Pullman, Wash., and the irrigation plants in the Spokane valley.

The commissioners and a hundred residents of Spokane journeyed through the wheat belt in the Palouse country the third day, on the way to Potlatch, Idaho, where they inspected the Potlach Lumber Company's sawmills, being afterwards entertained at an elaborate luncheon by A. W. Laird and William Deary, officials of the company, J. P. Mc Goldrick, chairman of the Western Pine Manufactures' Association and president of the McGoldrick Lumber Company, was at the head of the committee having charge of the party, which included lumbermen from various parts of the district.

Mr. Nishimura, member of parliament and president of the Kyoto Chamber of Commerce, who has started transportation projects, with capital aggregating $500,000,000, headed a party of bankers and experts to the Washington Water Power Company's works, under escort of Messrs. Goodall and Acuff and W. H. Fawcett, mechanical superintendent, and they expressed keen interest over what they saw in the way of machinery and turbines. The falls of the Spokane river, where

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thousands of horse-power electrical energy is generated, also proved a source of interest.

After the farewells at the station platform, Baron Shibusawa said through his interpreter to President Goodall of the Chamber of Commerce :

"One of the many surprises in this wonderful inland empire of the west which members of our party and myself are unable to understand, is how your business and professional men, energetic and enterprising as they must be to keep in the van of progress, could afford to give so much valuable time to our entertainment and comfort.

"There are many things which the Oriental mind fails to grasp, but the foremost of these is what I have mentioned. In the Orient the cheapest things are time and labour, while in America they are the highest. I appreciate the fact that minutes mean dollars to the Americans and why your professional men, mechanics and labourers are paid what to us would be princely incomes, but I cannot understand how hundreds of your busiest men could lay everything aside for three days, as they have during out stay in Spokane, solely for the purpose of making our visit one of pleasure and profit.

"We shall long remember the warm friendship, hospitality and kindly courtesy of the people of Spokane and the Inland Empir ."

The tour, which began at Seattle, is through Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, District of Columbia, Maryland, Missouri, Nebraska, Colorado, New Mexico, and California, taking in 60 important trade centres. The party will sail for Japan early in December.

SEMI-CENTENNIAL CONFERENCE.

Address by Dr. William Imbrie.

The history of Japan during the past fifty years is a wonderful history. The opening of the nation to the world after a long period of strict seclusion; the Restoration of the Emperor; the Imperial Pledge that Japan should seek for knowledge far and wide; the introduction of the railroad, the newspaper, the university; the enactment of new codes of law; government under a constitution; the achievement of singular prestige under circumstances calling for a marked degree of energy, wisdom, courage and patience; the conclusion of a great war in the spirit of moderation; the founding of the Church of Christ. That is a wonderful series of events to be crowded into the short span of half a century.

Fifty years ago notice-boards were standing on the highways declaring Christianity a forbidden religion; to-day those same notice-boards are seen standing in the Museum in Tokyo as things of historical interest. Fifty years ago religious liberty was a phrase not yet minted in Japan; to-day it is written in the Constitution of the nation. Less than fifty years ago the Christian Scriptures could be printed only in secret; to-day Bible Societies scatter them far and wide without let or hindrance. Fifty years ago there was not a Protestant Christian in Japan; to-day they are to be found among the members of the Imperial Diet, the judges in the courts, the professors in the Imperial University, the editors of influential newspapers, the officers of the army and navy. Even forty years ago there was not an organized Church in all Japan: to-day there are Synods and Conferences and Associations with congregations dotting the empire from the Hokkaido to Formosa. To-day Christians from north and south and east and west gather together in the capital to celebrate the Semi-Centennial of the planting of Protestant Christianity in Japan, and men of high position in the nation cordially recognize the fact that Christianity in Japan has won for itself a place worthy of recognition. It sometimes happens that the participants in a scene do not themselves clearly perceive the meaning of the scene; but in truth this assembly in itself is a fact of profound significance.

The advance of Protestant Christianity after its first years will always be memorable in the history of the Church. The interest in Christianity, or at least curiosity regarding it, was wide spread. Invitations to make it known were so common that they ceased to cause surprise. It was an easy thing to gather in a hall or theatre an audience of four or five hundred men and women who for a whole afternoon would listen to speaker after speaker. Men went out to do the work of evangelists full of enthusiasm and followed by the prayers of the congregations. In every three years the membership of the Churches doubled. The congregations were growing so fast that the problem of financial independence was beginning to solve itself.

The condition of affairs was so promising that the Council of Missions co-operating with the Church of Christ in Japan prepared a statement narrating the facts, and asking the Boards of Foreign Missions to make "special effort for Japan a part of their general policy." From that statement I quote a single paragraph: "A century ago there was heard once more a voice saying, Go teach all nations; and men asked, Where shall we go? To-day a man stands on the shores of Japan crying, Come over into Asia and help us. And we must go now. There is a tide in the affairs of nations as well as of men. There is a time to reap; and it is into the harvest fields white unto harvest that our Lord bids us to pray that labourers be sent. Other nations may wait; but this nation can not wait. For he is not dealing so with any other nation." That was the message that the Council of Missions co-operating with the Church of Christ in Japan sent to the Churches in America and Scotland.

Then came a change, at first gradually and then more and more rapidly; the change that is known as the Reaction. The interest in Christianity gave way to indifference and even hostility. The number of the lapsed in the Churches was so great that the congregations not only ceased to grow but even to hold their own. Congregations that had been financially independent were no longer independent. The enthusiasm for evangelization which had burned so bright began to burn low. Young men from America, who had heard a tale of wonderful success, and who had come to Japan to do their part in a great Christian movement, found themselves standing idle in the market-place with no one to call them; and some of them were tempted to ask whether they had not been deceived by a zeal wi hout knowledge.

That was the Reaction. What was the cause of it? The fundamental cause was this: The national movement towards the civilization of the west was running a strong flood tide; and Christianity was recognized as one of the elements of that civilization. Many therefore accepted it; but in the case of many the acceptance was only superficial, and with little or no personal experience of its transforming power. Therefore when the birds of the air came they carried away the good seed; when the sun grew hot the stalks withered; when the thorns sprang up the good seed was choked. And the birds of the air did come; the sun did grow hot; the thorns did spring up.

The National Constitution was proclaimed and the National Diet established; and the minds of men were filed with new thought and new interests. The daily newspaper was a rival with which the gospels could no longer successfully compete. The engrossing thought of the day was of necessity political. Think what would happen in Europe or America if a radical change in the form of government should be made. The result was inevitable; there was no more room for Christ in the inn. Then suddenly there sprang up an anti-foreign spirit. A new attempt at treaty revision had failed, and the nation was in a state of irritation. Foreign customs, foreign ideals, foreign thought were no more to the mind of the people as they had been; and Christianity as something foreign could not possibly escape the influence; and the cry was raised that the spirit of Christianity and the spirit of Japan were antagonistic and could not dwell together in peace. To all this must be added the incoming of a highly rationalistic type of Christianity which was benumbing.

So the Reaction came. Nevertheless those years of the first Advance and the Reaction that followed were years of moment; and they will always hold a place of their own in the history of the Churches of Japan. There was much chaff with the wheat, but there was much wheat also. There were many men and women who accepted Christ sincerely and have served him faithfully; and the whole Protestant Church of Christ in Japan to-day is the outcome of those years.

One thing more before passing on. During the years of the Advance the question was sometimes asked regarding other lands where Christianity was making slow progress, Can it be that the right methods are not employed? When the Reaction came the question was asked by some, Can it be that we ourselves have been using the right methods? But the one question was as superficial as the other. God was in the Advance and God was in the Reaction; and in both alike he was teaching the Churches in Japan, and the Churches in other lands also, great lessons —the greatest of them, that the Lord God omnipotent reigneth in the history of nations.

But now the Reaction is past and the Recovery is come. What then is the outlook?

There are Christian schools, some of them now long established, doing a constant work year in and year out, and exerting an influence that can not be told in figures; though the figures themselves are very impressive. Each school with a history of its own, some with one of peculiar interest; and it is a thing to be remembered that in Japan the birthplace of the Christian Church was the Christian School. There is the Young Mens' Christian Association; going in and out among young men, delivering them from evil, giving them new interests and new ideals, lifting them to a higher life; ready, too, for every good work, and commended for its work by the highest in the nation. The Young Women's Christian Association is here, the Bible Society, the Tract Society, the Temperance Society, and other societies for reform. There are homes for the fatherless and the motherless; rescue homes and homes for the leper; hospitals and dispensaries, of which the Master will say, I was sick and ye visited me; homes of which he will say, I was in prison and ye came unto me. All these are forces for the extension, for the illustration, for the commendation of Christianity that can be counted on.

The Protestant Christians in Japan now number seventy-five thousand, with many more allied to them by conviction if not by confession. The number of men ordained to the ministry is more than five hundred; the number of students preparing for the ministry more than three hundred. There are nearly two hundred congregations financially independent and paying the salaries of their pastors; more than five hundred that are not yet entirely independent; and nearly a thousand others not yet organized as churches. There are nearly twelve hundred Sunday-schools, with nearly ninety thousand teachers and scholars. The contributions of the Churches last year were 260,000 *yen*. So much for statistics.

But to estimate aright the Recovery and conditions now present, there are other things to consider. The Churches, especially the older and stronger ones, have come to a deeper self-consciousness as Churches, and as Churches of Japan; and this self-consciousness has awakened within them new aspirations and a deeper sense of responsibility as Churches, and as Churches of Japan. It has brought with it also a new vigour of action. As never before the principle is asserted and accepted that financial independence is intimately connected with spiritual health and growth; that a congregation without it fails to fulfil the ends of its organization, and is not entitled to a place in the Church that belongs to a congregation that is financially sndependent. Far more systematically, far more teriously than formerly, the Churches through their various evangelistic organizations are carrying on the work of evangelization. It is still a day of small things; but the mustard seed is growing and will grow. In the days of the Advance and the Reaction, the leaders in the Churches for the most part were young men. Those young men are now men still in the prime of life, with the lessons of the Advance and the Reaction well learned to guide them in their guidance of the Churches; and with them are younger men worthy of a place alongside of them. But organization and leadership, essential

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as they are, are not everything. The Church of Christ conquering and to conquer must have a message. That message the Churches in Japan have. More firmly, more intelligently, with a deeper conviction born of experience, it is surely believed among them that the power of God unto salvation is the gospel of God in Christ. One thing more I will add. If the Churches in Japan have been made ready, it is also true that the men and women who have come from other lands to join with the Churches of Japan in declaring the gospel of God have also been made ready.

But while the Spirit of God has been at work among the Churches and among those auxiliary to them, no less truly has He been at work abroad in the nation itself. Christian truths and Christian principles are finding their way into the minds of the people. Christian literature is read far more widely than many think by non-Christians as well as Christians. The words of the Prophets and Apostles are quoted in the daily newspapers alongside of the words of the ancient Sages of China; and many of the sayings of Christ are coming to be household words. No other religious books are so generally read and pondered as the Christian Scriptures. Amid the present confusion in ethical thought, Christian ethics are recognized by many as being the highest standard of living; and their straight gate and narrow way are to lead to life even by those who do not themselves enter them. The Christian world-view is growing more and more familiar; and when the Christian preacher standing in the presence of men of education, speaks of God, he seldom any longer needs to say that when he speaks of God he means the infinite eternal unchangeable and yet personal Presence that fills all the universe with his glory. Thus around the Churches there is forming an ever widening ring of those who are seeking after God if haply they may find him.

That is the outlook. There is a voice heard in the land, the voice of one crying, and the cry is this: The valleys are being exalted, the mountains and hills made low, the uneven level, the rough places a plain, and the way of the Lord prepared.

The way of the Lord is being prepared; there is an open door. But let us not deceive ourselves. The great work is yet to be done.

In recent years a motto has been made familiar: The evangelization of the world in this generation. But the evangelization of the world in any high sense of the word, the presentation of Christianity to the world in such a way that it shall be intelligently accepted or rejected, is a stupendous undertaking; the most stupendous undertaking that was ever undertaken. Think of the intellectual hindrances; of the great systems of philosophy antagonistic to the philosophy of God and the universe underlying Christianity. Think of the social and moral hindrances in the way of any sympathetic or even candid hearing of a religion whose fundamental law is, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and thy neighbour as thyself. Think of China and India and Africa; and of Christendom with nineteen hundred years of Christianity behind it.

And what is true of the world is true in only a less degree of a nation; true in only a less degree of Japan. The optimism that thinks otherwise is the optimism of a zeal without knowledge. The evangelization of Japan, in any sense worthy of the name, can not but be a work both of toil and of time. Not an act but a process; and a process in which time itself is an essential element. The right figure to employ is the figure of a siege; a siege peremptorily calling for patience, for perseverance, for endurance; a siege like the siege of Port Arthur. Thou therefore endure; endure hardness; hardness like a good soldier; like a good soldier of Jesus Christ. That is the injunction to be taken to heart by the Churches of Christ in Japan.

[*A general Report of the Proceedings of the Conference will appear in our next issue.—Ed. J.M.*]

MR. TANANOGI KEIKICHI of the *Hochi Shimbun* has, it is stated, established an institution in Tokyo called the Japan Press Agency.

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, September 11.

Among the changes that a twelvemonth's epidemic of cholera is bringing about in the life of St Petersburg, perhaps the most important is, the new tendency to seek for healthier quarters within reach of, but at some distance from, the capital. Landowners for twenty miles all round St Petersburg are selling off their property for building lots, and a number of companies has sprung up to facilitate the sale of such lands to all but the poorest classes of the population The new movement is facilitated by the fact that it has always been the custom of town-dwellers in Russia to spend the summer away from the scorching heat of the towns, with inevitable clouds of pernicious dust, which are said to account for the very high infant mortality in all Russian towns among the classes that are unable to afford the luxury of a summer house for a few months in the year. Within a decade a large proportion of the population of St. Petersburg will be living, as does the population of London, several miles away from the centre. The service of electric trams, the proposed electrification of several suburban railways, the circular railway to connect all the St. Petersburg termini, likewise aid this new development. But, undoubtedly, the main moving factor has been the dread of cholera.

The Government is taking up the question of the sale of suburban lands with the intention of guaranteeing that the new sub-metropolitan "settlements" shall be constructed on sanitary lines, with wide streets and all due precautions taken against fire. For, of course, the houses in these suburban resorts are all entirely built of wood. There is room for foreign enterprise in this new movement, in two directions. The first and most obvious is, of course, the improvement of the means of communication between the centre of St. Petersburg and the health-resorts which are at distances of from five to twenty miles outside the city. Foreign firms, British as well as German, and some French, have long been paying atttention to the possibilities offered for improving the means of locomotion in view of the new developments. The other opening that offers is the foundation of a building society to facilitate the construction of wooden houses by buyers of real property outside the capital who require to be assisted on the "easy payment" system. This scheme is, I understand, being laid before capitalists in Berlin, and there is little doubt that the matter will be actively taken up, as the amount of capital required is not very large, while the certain profits of the undertaking are considerable, apart from the proposed combinations with fire insurance companies and other undertakings connected with the new developments.

The Government is discussing a modified form of local self-government for special application to these "sub-metropolitan" settlements, and a Congress of persons interested in the questions raised is now sitting in St. Petersburg.

It is estimated that about one-third of the population of St. Petersburg annually spend four to five months of the year away from their town-houses. Of late years something like fifty thousand families have taken up their permanent residence at a suburban resort formerly only frequented during the summer. With the rapid increase in this movement life in St. Petersburg will doubtless be somewhat cheapened, at any rate for the middle classes. The poorest class are still compelled to live in the immediate neighbourhood of their work, and as they are the chief causes of various epidemics, it seems a pity that nothing in the nature of "workmen's trains" has yet been evolved in Russia to enable the lower classes to get away from the centre and live in comparatively wholesome surroundings at a distance from their daily work. Doubtless that, too, will come in due time; at present the facilities are being offered to the middle classes only.

The ex-Shah of Persia has left Teheran and will reach the Russian frontier in a couple of weeks, escorted thither by a special convoy, Anglo-Russian in effect. It is said that the ex-Shah will reside, at any rate for a time, in Odessa, where a house is being got ready for him. It is not the opinion of those best qualified to speak on Persian affairs that the departure of the ex-Shah will very largely affect the condition of affairs in Persia, though it will doubtless lighten the difficulties and anxieties of diplomatists in that country.

Colonel Liakhov, whom I saw to-day, said that the general feeling of the country, of the people, was a desire for peace and quiet first and foremost: reforms are of course desired, but have become quite a secondary consideration to the mass of the population who have now been suffering for many months from the troubles, and these mean to the masses of the population only exaggerated forms of oppression; they have been harried and pillaged by all sides in turn for so long that their one desire is for rest and breathing time. What is going on now in Persia is but the beginning of and by no means the end of Persia's troubles.

The same idea was more forcibly put to me by another extremely well-informed authority on Persia, who declared that the present state of culture in Persia is in general such that no matter what so-called party may get the upper hand there will be no vital change in the course of Persian affairs. It is in the Persian nature that those who have the power will use it for their own ends, which means, in ninety-nine cases out of a hundred, not only personal aggrandizement, not indeed so much place and power as material advantages, or in plain English, robbery and embezzlement, oppression and peculation. Constitutional government under such conditions of culture is really too far off to enter into the calculations of practical politicians who have been forced to reckon with it, thanks to the pressure exercised by idealists who do not know much about Persia as it really is.

An Exhibition of Sports and Athletics has been opened in St. Petersburg under Grand Ducal patronage. Swedish gymnastics are the main subject of exhibition, and the opening ceremony was appropriately performed by the Russian Grand Duchess who recently became Duchess of Sudermanland.

The Lebaudy semi-rigid dirigible of the Russian War Office, the *Lebed* (Swan) ex-*Rossia*, has made a second successful flight of somewhat longer duration than the first twenty-minute trial.

Archangel, like most of the northern provinces of Russia, is the special home of superstitions. Among them is the firm belief that on the heels of cholera comes the "pest," or plague. Cholera was spread this year in the province of Archangel by travellers from St. Petersburg. The wiseacres set about a story that on a certain mysterious date exactly at midnight the plague would go the round of the country villages in the form of a bent old hag. Many villages kept awake all night, not with any intention of destroying the unwelcome visitor, but merely to be sure that each householder had his own doors securely barred. In one village a man, either more daring than his fellows, or perhaps less sober, went out with a stout staff to meet and destroy the hag who was to bring the plague. As ill luck had it he actually did come across a poor old woman who when challenged gave her name and said she was making her way to such and such a nunnery, on pilgrimage. He struck her down and shouted to the inhabitants cowering in their huts, who hurried out to help beat the "pest-hag." Her life, for the moment, was saved only by the appearance of the local postmaster, who got her away from the mob in a shocking condition.

M. Stolipin has rescinded the order arbitrarily closing the Literary Fund, subject to certain inquiries to be made.

A monument to the Czar-Liberator, Alexander the Second, is to be erected on the St. Michael's Square within sight of the magnificent Church "on the Blood" at the spot where Alexander III. wasassassi nated.

St. Petersburg, September 14

According to newspaper reports the difficulties of Russia in the Far East, felt ever since the unsuccessful issue of the war with Japan, are approaching the intolerable. A correspondent of the *Novoe Vremja* reports that the newly installed German Consul at Kharbin had not been there three days before he defied the Russian authorities

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on behalf of a German firm that refused to pay the town dues, declaring that he, the German Consul, recognised there no other authority than that of China. The Russians had closed the firm's shops and put official seals on the doors. These the German Consul tore off, threatening to send for German troops to support his action if the Russians insisted. The blow strikes Russia in a peculiarly sensitive spot, inasmuch as Kharbin is a town entirely created by the action of the Government, which intended Kharbin to be the centre of administration and the seat of the Viceroy of the Far East. Moreover, the German Consul's declaration that he can recognise only Chinese authority in Kharbin is represented as tantamount to refusing to recognise any authority but his own will, inasmuch as there is said to be no Chinese authority in the town of Kharbin. There seems to be the makings of a very pretty little quarrel in this alleged action of a German official, whom the *Novoe Vremja* charitably supposes to be suffering from sunstroke. It is significant, however, that this leading Russian newspaper in dealing with such an outrage as the above merely expresses the hope, in a leader, that the German Government will not allow the over-zeal of minor officials in distant regions to be made a cause of quarrel between two nations that have so very much in common. Needless to say, the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs is trounced as usual by the *Novoe Vremja* for "lowering the dignity of the Russian nation" by permitting such an outrage to occur.

Other accounts note the increase of outrages by the Khungusi (the "Red-Beards"), those redoubtable Chinese highwaymen who are again with perfect impunity raiding both Chinese villages and Russian settlements on the frontiers of Manchuria. It is also pointed out that Russian trade is being killed by the competition of prices just across the river Amur. On the Russian bank, for example, a gallon of vodka costs over six shillings: on the Chinese side it can be had for less than eighteen pence. A pound of sugar is sevenpence on the Russian side, 5d. on the Chinese: a pound of tea from two to four shillings on the Russian side and about a quarter that price on the Chinese side. The physical impossibility of adequately guarding three thousand miles of such a river as the Amur, which has very few populated points on the Russian side, makes this frontier practically open to free trade in spite of customs tariffs on paper, and in this way the Russian wares are being entirely ousted.

A note in the official organ of the Ministry of Finance points out that in all Russia out of some 874 miles of tramways no less than 724 are in the hands of foreigners: out of 42 tramway companies, 34 are Belgian and 3 are French. A single trust, having its headquarters in Belgium, commands the most important tramways, and practically all Russian tramways are in the hands of five foreign combinations. This movement is spreading, inasmuch as one or other of these foreign combines still hold many concessions as yet unrealised, and seven new companies are announced as in process of formation.

Presumably these figures do not refer to electric trams, though the influence of Belgian enterprise is marked there also, especially since a combination has been entered into with an all-powerful German company which seems so placed as to be certain of nine-tenths of all electrical orders from municipalities in Russia.

The Russian dirigible "Lebed" (Swan, ex-Rossia), a Lebaudy type built in France, came to grief on its third attempt to fly. The first flight lasted twenty minutes, and covered some ten or twelve miles; the second was "somewhat longer": the third ended in disaster to the unfortunate machine without causing injury to life. It is freely surmised that the cause was the imperfect repairing of the rents in the balloon after it had been allowed to wreck itself against the roof of its shed before the first attempt was made: but the papers uncharitably assert that France must have sold Russia damaged goods, "in the same way as Russia gets inferior battleships from abroad." The plain truth is one that unhappily runs throughout affairs Russian; namely, that there are two classes of persons in Russia in all things technical: namely, the educated and uneducated. The former hold the rank of University graduates, rise high in the public services, wear uniforms, medals and orders, but are especially careful to keep "clean hands" in the sense of never doing any work of any kind with them. The other class are the uneducated, whose ignorance is a positive quantity, and as they have the actual handling of everything, from a battleship to a piledriver, accidents are almost inevitable. Left to himself the Russian muzhik is one of the ablest "handy men" in the world, but his methods are primitive in the extreme: he can do wonders with an axe, and will tackle appalling engineering problems with means that must be as old as Noah, but disaster follows when he is put to carry out operations with delicate machinery or by modern methods. It is time Russia recognised the value of the grand old Elizabethan watchword—was it not Sir Walter Raleigh's?—"I must have the gentlemen to haul and pull with the mariners."

Orders have been issued by the Railway Department that through travellers by the Great Siberian Railway to the Far East are not to be worried with the usual course of baggage inspection at the various frontiers, but the Customs officials are to make their inspection in the train "giving as little trouble as possible to such passengers." The order relieving the same category of travellers from some of the more irksome demands of the passport system has already been referred to.

Captain Kozlov, who has been absent for two years on an expedition, under the auspices of the Russian Imperial Geographical Society, in Mongolia, has returned to civilisation and will reach St. Petersburg in about a fortnight. He is reported to have discovered the lost city of Sjan-Sjan, which has not been heard of for five hundred years past, when it was destroyed by the Manchus, who call it Khara-Khoto. In the ruins Capt. Kozlov has found a singularly complete and perfectly preserved set of ancient objects of Buddhist worship, books in Thibetan, Chinese and Manchurian languages, valuable manuscripts etc.

The *Rèch* says that M. Stolipin has sent circular orders to the Governors of Provinces to reduce as far as possible the application of martial law and to bring offenders under the jurisdiction of the ordinary law of the land. In particular the passing of the death sentence is to be restricted in view of the increasing tranquillity observed throughout Russia.

The Moscow University Council is endeavouring to get the Minister of Education to relax his order which compelled the expulsion of fifty Jew students already entered on the books of the University in accordance with the regulations as hitherto understood and practised. It is pointed out that the excess of Jews (5 per cent. instead of 3 per cent.) in the Moscow University is due to some extent to the acceptance by the University Council of a number of Jewish students specially recommended to their notice by predecessors of the present Minister.

A Cossack of the Imperial Guard ran amok with a sabre last night in St. Petersburg, killing several people. He was drunk at the time. Among those he seriously wounded are an old woman, a young girl and two children.

St. Petersburg, September 16.

Some months ago advantage was taken of the temporary absence of the Premier, M. Stolipin, from his post through illness, to start, as was supposed by many, a crusade against the Russian Constitution. The pretext was found in the fact that the Premier had laid before the Duma and the Upper House certain Bills dealing with the fighting forces of the Empire. In doing this M. Stolipin was repeating this year what he had done the year before, when the special orders of the Emperor to that effect had been received by him. The cry raised was that the Premier was guilty of encroaching on the prerogatives of the Crown in laying before the legislative houses matters concerning the administration of the fighting forces. The Army and Navy, particularly the latter, took up the cue, and a great deal of most dangerous unrest as to the future was produced, causing Russia some loss of the ground so painfully gained in the estimation of friends abroad, who were led to believe that another reactionary *coup d'état* was impending. The R.N. consistently opposed this view of the situation created by what was, at worst, merely one of those little errors almost inevitable in a period of transition from a despotism to a new form of rule, and may very well have been an error for which M. Stolipin will not be held responsible by the future historian of the period. On the Premier's recovery and return to work the whole matter was settled by the Emperor, by referring to a specially constituted committee including M. Stolipin and the heads of the fighting services the question of the proper interpretation for the future of sect. 86 and 96 of the Fundamental Laws of the Russian Empire, ed. 1906, as revised to suit the new forms of government. The conclusions amicably arrived at by this committee will henceforth govern the situation. They are published to-day.

Sect. 86 is the corner-stone of the Russian Constitution: it says—"No new law whatsoever can come into being without the approval of the Upper House and of the State Duma and acquire the force of law without the confirmation of His Majesty." That is the full text of Sect. 86. Sect. 96 is the complicated attempt to maintain the fighting forces independent of the legislative houses while recognising the rights of the latter in the matter of money votes. The Emperor has now confirmed the decision of the Committee of Ministers embodying the results of the work of the special committee in the form of a number of "rules for the application of Sect. 96" in actual practice. The rules are too long for reproducing here, but, in general, they extend the privileges of the fighting forces and correspondingly narrow the control of the legislative houses. Moreover, certain expressions seem to offer loopholes, in case of dispute again arising, for the fighting services still further to extend their privileges. When more money is wanted from the nation a Bill must be passed through the two houses, but the War Office and Admiralty have the express right to do as seems good to them without reference to parliament if their measures cost no more than may be "expected to be saved" out of votes already extracted. These departments are further expressly relieved of the necessity of definitely estimating the cost of new measures when presenting a demand for more money. As to Sect. 86 it is saddled with a rider that Bills relating to Army and Navy shall be discussed by parliament only as to such parts of them, if any, as may necessitate changes in existing laws or affect the status of the citizen before the law.

Thus the storm which was erroneously represented abroad, to the great injury of Russian credit, as only too likely to shipwreck the Russian Constitution, has been finally settled. The whole story was, in point of fact, as often stated in these pages, merely an attack upon M. Stolipin as Premier by rivals ambitious of succeeding to his post. The Constitution, such as it is, remains—and so does M. Stolipin.

The powerfully supported Archaeological Society of Moscow has entered a strong protest with the Municipality against the disfigurement of the historic Grand Square of the "premier capital" with its monuments of antiquity by the erection of electric traction standards "in all directions." The Municipality have decided to "take no notice of" this protest.

The aerial flight inventor, Tartarinov, who has been turned out of his workshops on Government ground and generally treated by the War Office as if he were an impostor for having failed to carry out the terms of his contract to rise in a vertical line from rest by the date agreed upon, writes to the press a lengthy explanation, which hardly makes his case any better. Everybody and everything appears to be to blame except—Tartarinov. On the other hand, if it be true, as he alleges, that the Minister of War with a brilliant suite paid a special visit to Tartarinov's workshops for the express purpose of inspecting the test on the expiry of the term of the inventor's contract with the War Office, and spent there no more than three minutes, inspected nothing whatever, and merely asked if Tartarinov were prepared to fulfil his contract, the peculiarly bureaucratic treatment of a science still in its infancy is dis-

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closed in a light little encouraging to invention in Russia.

The vast forest fires that have occurred in farther Siberia have driven out, among other animals, so many bears that these shy beasts are now becoming quite common sights near the villages and even towns in the districts of Eniseisk and Minusinsk. Several unexpected and dangerous encounters are reported, while on the steamship river routes bears seem to be as common as hares elsewhere and equally indifferent to the sight and noise of a puffing "side-wheeler."

Notwithstanding official dementis the alleged readiness of Russia's representatives in Manchuria to sacrifice Russian interests to anybody that makes an injurious demand against a Russian, still continues to vex the mind of the *Novoe Vremya*, which is peculiarly patriotic in matters that can be adversely interpreted against the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The latest charge brought by this paper is that the Russian police at Kharbin handed over to Chinese justice two Russian workmen, carpenters, charged with brawling, and the Chinese authorities (the *Novoe Vremya* said there were none at Kharbin the other day!) bastinadoed both of them, one now "lying between life and death, and the other probably crippled for the remainder of his days."

The police have discovered at Warsaw in active operation an illegal "Assaying Office" which has assumed the rights of the Imperial office that stamps gold and silver articles with the Russian equivalent for a hall mark.

Four artillerymen of a regiment stationed in St. Petersburg recently succeeded in stealing and conveying away from barracks no less an article than a complete field-gun. It was sold in parts as scrap metal to the dealers, and the police have recovered about five hundred weight of metal parts. Another curious theft occurred on the Nicholas Railway, several workmen getting away with the steam-jack used to lift locomotives. It was temporarily hid in a ditch, where the police lay in ambush to catch the thieves as they came to remove their booty by night. On their appearance the police began firing, and shots were fired by the robbers in reply—without result on either side, except that the thieves made off and the police are now "following up a clue."

An attempt is being made in the Caucasus by wealthy landowners to grow olives on an extended scale. The want of proper organisation for the sale is said to be the sole cause of the slight commercial success so far achieved, as the climate is admirably adapted for the purpose.

An Agricultural Exhibition is to be opened shortly at Ekaterinoslav, to display practically everything that can be considered as bearing upon agriculture, from ploughs to railways.

THE WITHERS CONCERT COMPANY.

A large and appreciative audience gathered at the Gaiety on the evening of the 2nd inst. to hear the first of the two Withers Concerts. As the members of this Company have already established themselves as favourites in Yokohama, it is needless to say that they met with an enthusiastic reception. The items of the programme were, one and all, rendered with that finished ease which has come to be associated with the performances of these talented artistes. Madame Elzy's delightful skill upon the pianoforte was never more convincingly demonstrated than in her magnificent, and yet dainty, rendering of the wonderful Hungarian Rhapsodie of Liszt—if one item may be selected for praise to the exclusion of another; while Mr. Withers showed all his wonted mastery of his instrument. Mr. Bennett proved to be in splendid voice and, to the joy of the audience, was most generous in the matter of encores, singing twice—in response to continuous applause—the delightful and ever-popular "Rolling down to Rio." If one might venture upon a suggestion, it is that this accomplished singer would sometimes sing without playing his own accompaniment, when listeners in all parts of the hall would hear his fine voice to equal advantage.

MME. ELZY.

1st Encore—
Scène de Ballet.....Cowen

MR. WITHERS.

1st Encore—
Mémoire .....Popper

2nd Encore—
L'Escarpole XI. .....Ethel Barnes

MR. BENNETT.

1st Encore—
"All thro' the Night".....Old Welsh

2nd Encore—
"Rolling down to Rio" .....German

3rd Encore—
a. The Donovans.....Alice Needham
b. Look the other way.....Norton

The second and last Concert of the Herbert Withers Company took place on the 6th instant. The splendid programme provided attracted a full house, and the audience showed their appreciation of these talented artistes by encoring almost every item.

CRICKET.

YOKOHAMA *vs.* TOKYO.

This two-days' match was begun at 1.30 p.m. on Saturday (2nd inst.), in fine weather, on the Y.C. & A.C. ground. The first day's play resulted greatly in favour of the visitors, who knocked up the respectable score of 160 runs, the principal stand being made for the second wicket by Hulton and Wyatt, who carried the score from 21 to 100. Yokohama's response, owing to the excellent bowling of Hulton and Hunton, was not brilliant. Eight wickets went down for 70, and by lucky play the score was raised to 91 for 9, when stumps were drawn for the day.

TOKYO.—1ST INNINGS.

J. M. Hulton, c. Duff, b. Hayward	72
K. Hardman, c. Foster, b. Squire	6
Capt. S. N. Wyatt, b. Foster	30
H. T. Rice, b. Foster	0
N. Henderson, b. Foster	21
S. L. Hunton, c. Cornes, b. Foster	27
E. J. Libeaud, run out	3
Lt. Col. R. W. Boger, b. Foster	1
H. Rumbold, c. Hearne, b. Squire	0
A. W. Medley, b. Squire	0
J. R. Kennedy, not out	0
A. W. McLean, b. Foster	0
Extras	0
Total	160

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Squire	60	37	1	3
Bousfield	42	37	0	0
Gregory	24	24	1	0
Foster	72	46	1	6
Hayward	30	16	0	1

YOKOHAMA.—1ST INNINGS.

A. G. Hearne, st. Henderson, b. Hulton	6
B. Deveson, b. Hunton	17
A. J. Cornes, b. Hunton	10
P. E. Bousfield, c. Hulton, b. Hunton	2
N. Buckle, c. Henderson, b. Hulton	6
L. C. Sharman, c. Hunton, b. Hulton	4
B. C. Foster, l.b.w. Hulton	8
E. L. Squire, c. Rumbold, b. Hulton	16
P. C. Cox, b. Hunton	18
C. M. Duff, not out	1
H. C. Gregory, not out	0
W. Hayward	—
Extras	3
Total	91

SECOND DAY'S PLAY.

The match was resumed after tiffin on the 3rd, in splendid weather, Duff and Gregory, the two not outs, facing the bowling of Hulton and and Hardman. Duff carried his score to 10, but was then bowled by Hardman. Hayward now joined Gregory, but the partnership did not last long, the newcomer being bowled by Hulton without adding to the score. Yokohama's first innings thus came to an end with a total of 118—42 behind that of their opponents.

Hulton and Hardman opened the 2nd innings for the visitors, and gave a splendid display of batting, the former carrying his score to 101 before being caught by Bousfield, and Hardmann carrying out his bat for a well played 85. Wyatt joined the latter, but added only 7 to the score before being caught by Squire off Gregory. Henderson then entered into partnership with Hardman, but after the latter had made four runs the Captain of the Tokyo team decided to declare the innings closed with the score at 202, thus leaving Yokohama with 244 runs to win.

In the second innings, Bousfield (85), Squire (33), Cox (22), Gregory, not out (20), and Deveson (16) batted well for the Club, and despite the efforts of the bowlers, succeeded in playing out time, the game ending in a draw at 5.30, the hour allotted for drawing stumps.

YOKOHAMA.—FIRST INNINGS (cont.).

Duff, b. Hardman	10
Gregory, not out	17
Hayward, b. Hunton	0
Extras	4
Total	118

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Hunton	159	47	—	5
Hulton	85	67	—	5
Hardman	12	—	2	1

TOKYO.—SECOND INNINGS.

Hulton, c. Bousfield, b. Gregory	101
Hardman, not out	82
Wyatt, c. Squire, b. Gregory	7
Henderson, not out	4
Hunton, Rice, Libeaud, Kennedy, Boger, Rumbold, Meddey, McLean	did not bat
Extras	8
Total	202

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Squire	60	19	3	—
Foster	30	21	—	—
Bousfield	36	34	—	—
Buckle	18	24	—	—
Cox	48	48	1	—
Hayward	24	48	1	—
Gregory	12	10	—	2

YOKOHAMA.—2ND INNINGS.

Buckle, c. & b. Hardman	0
Cox, b. Hunton	22
Squire, c. Libeaud, b. Hulton	33
Bousfield, st. Henderson	85
Sharman, c. Kennedy, b. Hulton	5
Deveson, st. Hulton	15
Hearne, b. Wyatt	3
Gregory, not out	20
Cornes, not out	11
Extras	3
Total	197

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Hunton	60	45	—	1
Hardman	18	13	1	1
Wyatt	54	41	—	1
Henderson	18	21	—	—
Rumbold	12	11	—	—
Libeaud	12	15	—	—
Rice	12	11	—	—
Hulton	72	38	2	2

BASEBALL.

On the 2nd inst., at the Keio ground in Tokyo, the Wisconsin team were successful in their match against the Waseda nine, whom they defeated by 7 to 4. Climatic conditions being favourable, a large number of persons witnessed the match, among them being Princes Fushimi, Yamashina and Kacho. On the 3rd the Keio played their third match against the visitors, whom they beat by 5 to 4.

The local baseball team suffered a severe defeat on the morning of the 3rd inst. at the hands of the Yokohama All-Nine Club, consisting of Japanese, most of whom are ex-graduates of the local Commercial School, and keen and enthusiastic players. Play was commenced at 10.30, in the presence of a large assemblage of Japanese, among whom there was a fair sprinkling of foreigners. Nine innings were played in all, the Japanese scoring ten hits and their opponents one, the latter being obtained by O'Connor. Mr. C. Thompson and Mr. Sato officiated as umpires.

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CHESS.

[*Correspondence relating to this column should be addressed to the* CHESS EDITOR, *The Japan Mail. Problem solutions should be handed in at the Japan Mail Office, or to Mr. W. B. Mason, not later than the evening of Thursday.*]

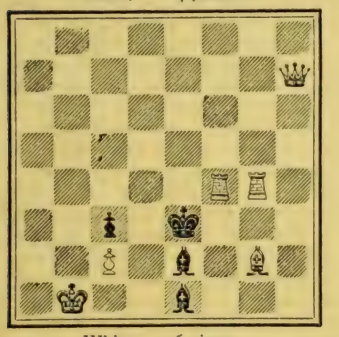
With the advent of the Chess season we resume our series of games and problems. Among the latter have to be welcomed some original work by local composers.

* * *

There has been considerable activity in the Chess world since the issue of our last notes, the chief events including the defeat of Lasker by Rubenstein in a match at St. Petersburg, and the meteoric appearance of the young Cuban player, Capablanca, who won a sensational victory over Marshall by 8 games to 1, with 14 draws. The Sixth Annual National Congress, promoted by the British Chess Federation, was held at Scarborough during August. There were no less than 132 entries for the various competitions.

* * *

PROBLEM NO. 27.
By E. N. FRANKENSTEIN.
Black, 4 pieces.



White, 6 pieces.
WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN TWO MOVES.

* * *

GAME NO. 25.
QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

	WHITE. Paul Kruger.	BLACK. F. J. Marshall.
1.	P — Q 4	P — Q 4
2.	Kt — K B 3	Kt — Q 2
3.	P — Q B 4	P — Q B 3
4.	P x P (a)	P x P
5.	Kt — B 3	K Kt — B 3
6.	B — B 4	P — K 3
7.	Q — Kt 3	Q — R 4 (b)
8.	P — K 3	Kt — K 5
9.	B — Q 3	B — Kt 5 (c)
10.	B x Kt	P x B
11.	K Kt — Q 2	Castles
12.	K Kt x P	P — K 4 (d)
13.	P x P	Kt — B 4
14.	Kt x Kt	Q x Kt
15.	Castles (e)	B — K 3
16.	Q — B 2 (f)	Q R — B
17.	K R — B	Q — R 4
18.	P — Q R 3	B x Kt
19.	P x B	R — B 5
20.	P — K 4	K R — B
21.	B — K 3	Q x K P
22.	B x R P	R x K P
23.	Q — Q 3	B — Q 4
24.	B — Q 4	Q — B 4
25.	Q — R 3	R — Kt 5
26.	P — B 3	B x P
27.	R — B	B x P
28.	R x Q	B x Q ch
29.	K — B 2	R x B
30.	R — B 3	R — Q 7 ch
	Resigns.	

Notes by F. J. Marshall.

(*a*) If 4. Kt — Q B 3, then Black might have replied by P x P followed by an indirect threat to maintain his extra P by P — Q Kt 4 P — K 3, etc. (*b*) Preventing for the moment the strong threat of Kt — Kt 5. (*c*) Kt x Kt was simpler, but left less room for a "mix up." (*d*) With the idea of limiting the power of the White B, and open up an avenue for his own. (*e*) If 15. P — Q R 3, then follows B — R 4; 16. Q — B 2, Q — B 5, etc. (*f*) Here White misses a good continuation: *e.g.*, 16. Kt — K 4, Q — K 2 (if Q — R 4 then 17. Q — Q and Black cannot win the exchange by B — B 5, because of Q — Kt 4, threatening B — R 6, etc); 17. Q — Q, a most interesting situation and well worth studying.

YOKOHAMA CHESS CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club was held at the Hotel de Paris on the 4th inst. at 5.30 p.m. The chair was occupied by the President, Mr. J. Griffin, and there were also present Messrs. W. B. Mason, E. Geiser and E. B. Mitford, members of the Committee; Mr. A. E. Pawsey, Hon. Secretary; Messrs. R. Klintin, E. Sürhke, L. Russell, E. Gilbert and others. Letters of regret for inability to be present were read from Rev. H. B. Walton and Mr. W. A. de Havilland.

The Report and Accounts for the 1908-9 Season, read by the Chairman, were passed unanimously. Some discussion then followed as to the financial prospects of the Club, the attendance of members etc., and a proposal was put forward as to the reduction of the number of Club meetings from twice to once a week. *A propos* of this new departure, it was proposed by Mr. L. Russell and seconded by Mr. W. B. Mason that a Sub Committee should be appointed to ascertain the wishes of members on the point. A counter-proposition was, however, advanced by Mr. Bruce Mitford, and seconded by Mr. R. Klintin, that the Club should enter upon a short season of three months, on the former basis of two evenings a week, in the course of which the opinions of members could be fully ascertained as to the continuance, or otherwise, of the session. This proposal commending itself to the meeting, Messrs. Russell and Mason withdrew their motion, and the counter-proposition of Mr. Bruce Mitford, being put to the meeting by the Chairman, was carried with only one dissentient, who, however, withdrew his objection (which was based on the ground of expense), on the Chairman generously offering to guarantee the Club against any deficit at the end of the year.

At this stage a telegram was handed in from Mr. A. L. Jordan, of Nagasaki, wishing the Club all success in the new session and challenging a combination of any two Club members to a correspondence match—a sporting offer which will doubtless be promptly taken up.

The election of officers was then proceeded with. Messrs. A. E. Pawsey and W. B. Mason being unable to serve, the Rev. H. B. Walton and Mr. L. Russell were proposed in their places, the latter with a view to the representation, on the Committee, of the younger members of the Club. The new Committee therefore consists of Mr. J. Griffin, President, Mr. L. Russell, Hon. Secretary, Messrs. E. B. Mitford, E. Geiser and Rev. H. B. Walton.

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to Mr. W. B. Mason for acting as Hon. Secretary in the absence of Mr. A. E. Pawsey, and to the Chairman for presiding over the proceedings.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The Committee, in submitting the Report for the last session, wish to call upon members for more general support in carrying out the work of the Club. The Club has never possessed more comfortable and spacious rooms than those provided by the Hotel de Paris, yet the attendance of members left much to be desired, and the session had to be closed one month before the fixed date, in consequence. The interest, moreover, in the Tournaments was so poorly sustained that both the Handicap and the Championship games were left undecided. On the other hand, the play in the finished games was much above the average, and attracted some attention in the press, the *Japan Mail* having again allotted a column once a week to Chess matters.

The Committee would again emphasize, in the interests of the Club, the necessity of regular attendance to time limits for the Handicap and Championship Tournaments.

W. B. MASON, Acting Hon. Sec.

TREASURER'S ACCOUNT.

	Yen.
To Balance in hand from 1908	39.62
To Subscriptions, 31 at *yen* 3	93.00
To Entrance Fees, 14 at *yen* 3	42.00
	174.62
By Circulars and Advertisements	18.75
By Furniture	2.50
By Postages and Petties	.48
By Rent, Hotel de Paris	140.00
By Gratuity to Boys	10.00
By Balance, Cash in hand	2.89
	174.62

Yokohama, 30th Sept., 1909.
W. B. MASON, *Acting Hon. Treas.*
Audited and found correct.
L. RUSSELL.

THE LAW COURTS.

CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.

The hearing of a case instituted by Mr. C. F. Oberlein, the representative of Messrs. M. Raspe & Co., No. 199, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, against Mr. Wada Katsugoro, the representative of Messrs. Tsuchika'su Unsoten, Benten-dori, Yokohama, petitioning for compensation to the extent of 725 *yen* for damage, came up on the 4th inst. in the Yokohama Local Court before Judge Hasegawa.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Ideura and defendant by Mr. Takahashi.

Plaintiff's Counsel stated that on the 25th April least, his client sold 103 reams of book-cover paper, contained in five cases at 7.40 *yen* per ream, to Messrs. Shimada Shotenof Fukui-cho, Asakusa-ku, Tokyo, and on the 29th of the same month, the said five cases were handed to the defendant to be forwarded to the above mentioned purchasers. But the defendant having failed to deliver the five cases of paper the plaintiff asked for compensation, with the defendant evaded under various pretences. Hence the reason of the present suit.

Defendant's Counsel asked the Judge to reject the claim of the plaintiff, on the ground that the defendant is not the person liable for the loss, a woman named Wada Taki being the one under whose name the business was transacted, and stated that the plaintiff is mistaken in the person from whom compensation should be claimed. Further, though the defendant was originally asked by the plaintiff to forward the said five cases to Messrs. Shimada Shoten, it was afterwards telephoned that the consignees had been changed to Messrs. Nabetani, a foreign paper store, and in accordance with this information, the said cases were delivered to the latter store. Thus the cases were properly delivered according to instructions, and the defendant is exempt from liability.

The hearing will be resumed on October 18th.

YOKOHAMA.

The Municipal Council is now holding its autumn session, which opened on the 1st instant. Among the proceedings are the allotment of 7,000,000 *yen*, to be spread over several years, for the enlargement of the waterworks and a subsidy to the Kanagawa Prefectural Exhibits Society in connection with the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition, to be held in London next year.

At 11.02 p.m. on October 3, a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. The oscillations lasted for 1 minute 27 seconds.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended September 30th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	9	5	4	—	—
Died	—	2	—	2	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	5	7	2	—	—
Died	—	5	3	1	—	—

Yesterday an athletic meeting of the Motoye Preliminary School of this city was held on the cricket ground in the Park. Japanese wearing *geta* were not allowed to enter the enclosure.

On the 6th instant the proprietor and the editor of the *Yokohama Boyeki Shimpo*, who had been accused of fraud in connection with a ballot for the 15 most popular persons in Yokohama, were both sentenced at the Yokohama District Court to six months' imprisonment. The execution of the sentence, however, has been suspended for three years.

A private despatch is reported to have reached Maidzuru, stating that the Japanese authorities will open a new route between Japan and Korea connecting not only Seishin, Gensan, Tsuruga and Maidzuru but also Joshin. The Department of Communications has already drawn up the estimate for the necessary expenses to be defrayed next financial year.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE JAPANESE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In former Summaries we have frequently drawn attention to the phenomenal growth of the Tenrikyō as a comparatively new sect. In the *Rikugō Zasshi* we find an article entitled "The Future of the Tenrikyō" written by Mr. T. Katō, which deals with the history of the Sect and endeavours to account for its unparalleled success in making converts. Into the history of the founding of the Tenrikyō it is not necessary to go. But the religious devotion, self-denial and real enthusiasm it has succeeded in producing deserve the attention of all religious people. Mr. Katō tells us that he has studied the canonical books of the Sect and has carried on extensive investigations as to its teaching in the province of Yamato where it originated. He says that those who speak in praise of the Tenrikyō point out that this body alone among all the Shintō sects has abandoned nature worship and preached strict monotheism. (*Tenrikyō wa hitori yuitsu no Kami shinzuru kara hijō no shūkyō de aru*). The first traducers of Nakayama Miki, commonly called Omiki (1798-1887), the founder of the Sect and her teaching were Buddhist priests who were jealous of the favourable reception given to the new doctrines Passing over Buddhist criticism as unworthy of credence, Mr. Katō furnishes a short biographical sketch of Omiki and then proceeds to discuss the special tenets of the Sect somewhat as follows:—The sacred writings of the Tenrikyō can be read and understood by anybody. The main points in its teaching may be thus summed up. It teaches that man was originally created perfect, but that his soul became a mirror whose brightness was lost. No less than eight different kinds of dust accumulated on it (*hoshii, oshii, kawaii, nikui, urameshii, haratachi, yoku, kōman*). All these soul-beclouding things can by God's help be removed and the original brightness of man's soul be restored. Where the teaching of the *Tenrikyō* differs essentially from that of all Shintō sects is in the importance it attaches to the married couple. All its teaching respecting family relationships and the duties they involve begins with the man and his wife. The relationship of parents to children is second in importance to that between man and wife. (*Fufu honi de aru.....danjo no kwankei wo shu ni toite oru*). Another point on which the Tenrikyō teachers lay stress is the duty of all rich people to help the poor. They encourage their converts to subscribe large amounts of money to the Sect. It is alleged that there are people who hand over to it all their property on the ground that in making money they committed sin and that the retention of ill-gotten gains would be a hindrance to their spritual advancement. Then the Tenrikyō converts believe that the time will come when communism will prevail everywhere. To the realization of a state of equality they feel glad to contribute. They speak of the levelling age as *onarashi*. (*Itsu ka onarashi to iu jidai ga aru*). This readiness to help the poor and the elevation of conjugal life to a higher level appeal to everybody and to a large extent explain why it is the converts of this Sect continue to grow in number year after year. But there are other circumstances that have greatly contributed to the success of the Tenrikyō. During all the early decades of the Meiji era Buddhism and Christianity were engaged in conflict with each other. In settling their disputes they both appealed to science and philosophy, to the undoing of both of them, for religion that has to be propped up by arguments drawn from external sources loses its title to respect. Directly they used science and philosophy as a court of appeal they gave themselves away, as in doing this they acknowledged the superiority of science and philosophy to religion. While the professors of these two faiths were engaged in learned discussions on theology and philosophy the poor and the ignorant were left to their darkness and their misery. This was an opportunity for the Tenrikyō to step in with a Gospel for the poor and the friendless. But while descending to the intellectual level of the lower orders, the Tenrikyō has gradually developed its theology and its ethics in a manner that commends itself to a good many scholars. Its teaching respecting the Deity and his or its relation to the universe and its moral system will bear comparison with Christian and Buddhist doctrines on the same subjects in respect of loftiness of tone. Under these circumstances it is hardly to be wondered at that the Home Office should have bestowed on the Sect an independent status. But it is my opinion that the only rôle that the Tenri-Kyō can successfully play is catering for the ignorant. It can never permanently figure as a successful rival to Christianity or Buddhism. Its independence as a Sect will prove to be the first step towards its self destruction (*Tenrikyō no dokuritsu wa Tenrikyō no jimetsu no dai ippo de aru*), because it means that it will attempt to fulfil functions which it is not qualified to fulfil. Mr. Katō concludes by remarking that the future prosperity of the Tenrikyō must depend on the ignorance of its converts. He regards it as an enemy of the progress of education and the spread of enlightenment. For its influence over the lower orders it depends on prayers, holy water and charms. I am not one of those who desires to see such a religion successful in this country, observes Mr. Katō.

The September *Rikugō Zasshi* opens with an article on the Rev. Clay MacCauley, whose arrival in Japan at the age of 72, after some 10 years' absence, has created quite a sensation among rationalistic Christians. The article is from the pen of the Rev. R. Minami, who is a regular contributor to the pages of the Unitarian organ and who sympathizes with the liberal views of the leading Japanese Unitarians. Here is the gist of what Mr. Minami tells us concerning the objects of Dr. MacCauley's visit to this country. (1) He has come to take part with others in the development of a new ethical system. In respect to morality Dr. MacCauley is of opinion that the old Bushi ō has gone and that no new Bushidō has been created to take its place. The Japanese are drifting towards materialism more and more every day. The country greatly needs preachers of idealism just at present. (2) Dr. MacCauley is greatly interested in a Unitarian movement which started in Boston the year before last and soon spread to England and Germany. The Unitarians are religious freethinkers and they consider that in order to make their views better known it is desirable that they shou'd select from their body some 10 lecturers to go around the world and deliver addresses on the present state of religious thought in the West. There is to be a meeting of Unitarians in Berlin next year for the consideration of this and other questions. Dr. MacCauley purposes making use of this opportunity to bring Japanese Unitarians into touch with their European and American fellow-thinkers Mr. Minami heartily welcomes this new departure on the part of Occidental religious freethinkers. He dwells on the great benefits that have accrued from the mutual visits paid to each other's countries by English and German Ministers of the Gospel. Such interchange of ideas as has taken place contributes materially to a better understanding between the two nations and greatly promotes the peace and good will which true Christianity ever seeks to further. The progress of religious thought largely depends on the establishment of close intercourse between the leading thinkers of various countries. Mind sharpens mind. One of the chief objects of Dr. MacCauley's presence among us, says Mr. Minami, is to act as a medium between Japanese students of religion and Western thinkers along the same lines. We can hardly find words in which to express our admiration and gratitude for the course he has taken.* Who is there that we could welcome more than him (*Gojin shi wo kwangei seizu shite mata tare wo ka kwangei seu ya?*) Although in Western countries such cases are by no means rare, here in Japan for an old man of 72, after tasting the sweets of retirement and cessation from toil, to voluntarily re-enter the sphere of activity and set himself tasks the performance of which requires a large supply of youthful energy is almost unknown. In spirit Dr. MacCauley is like a young man of 20. Rare indeed are the devotion and high aspiration he has shown! Long have we waited to see such a spirit as this in the ranks of Christendom! We have now encountered it for the first time. It is only men with the deepest religious convictions that can act thus. Dr. MacCauley's new move will certainly redound to the honour of that form of Christianity in which he so steadfastly believes.

Readers may be interested to know that the "orthodox" Dr. Takagi is now contributing articles to the pages of the pronouncedly unorthodox *Rikugō Zasshi*. Japanese Christians who are in a position to know assert confidently that Dr. Takagi was removed from the editorship of the *Gokyō* (Methodist organ) wholly on account of his unorthodox theological views. Of course it is regarded in certain quarters as extremely indiscreet of them to disclose mission secrets of this kind. Dr. Takagi's appeal to the rationalistic section of Protestant Christendom in the pages of the Unitarian organ is full of interest and significance, Mr. Berry's special pleading notwithstanding.

* * *

There could be no greater mistake than to suppose that those who persistently oppose the various forms of Christianity and Buddhism taught in this country have given no serious thought to religion or are intellectually, morally or spiritually deficient. What satisfies one man does not satisfy another. It is a question of ideals, knowledge and diverse mental proclivities. The acceptance of one creed by any one nation even is a thing unknown in our modern world. The colour of men's creeds differs as much as the colour of their clothes One of the things we set ourselves to do in these Summaries is to portraying the different colours. In the extra number of the *Taiyō* published last July entitled *Shinshin ni jūgo meika* (Twenty-five Famous Rising Men), there appeared a very thoughtful article on religion written by the talented and learned editor of the *Waseda Bungaku*, Mr. Shimamura Hōgetsu, which has naturally attracted considerable attention among religious teachers. The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* devotes two leading articles to the discussion of Mr. Shimamura's views. Mr. Shimamura is well known and highly respected among young men especially as a sincere, serious-minded and deep thinker He is a prolific writer on literature and art and a popular platform orator. The title of the article to which we refer was *Shūkyō no san bunkwa* (宗教の三文化) *to Bungei* The three distinct elements in religion referred to are (1) The feelings it produces; (2) the forms it takes and (3) its moral effects. Mr. Shimamura holds that literature and art are a menace to religion, because religion in the course of history has been driven to borrowing so largely from both in order to impress mankind. It is inconceivable that either Christianity or Buddhism would have commanded the homage they received in past centuries had they not made the fullest use of art and literature. Painting, sculpture, music, polished language, and all the various forms of the art of rhetoric and purely philosophic doctrines were so invariably associated with religious teaching that the majority of the attendants at Church or temple regarded them as an essential part of the creed to which they pinned their faith. Here are the opening sentences of Mr. Shimamura's article:—"While among those who express the greatest dissatisfaction with existing religions, regarding religion from an artistic standpoint, I am of opinion that art and literature seriously menace the position it holds to-day." Mr. Shimamura goes on to show in a very interesting manner that the fine feeling that it is claimed can only be produced by the acceptance of certain articles of belief insisted on by religious teachers, fill the breasts of all real admirers of the beautiful, of all persons endowed with artistic feelings Neither in Buddhism nor in Christianity, apart from the ancient art which they have preserved and the philosophy they have transmitted from one generation to another, can I perceive any meaning, says Mr Shimamura. And this is not for want of searching. Christians say, "To those that ask what they desire shall be given," but it is not so. I am a religionless man, for the

* *Gojin wa jitsu ni suman sen go wo motte suru mo nao kansha no i wo tsukusazaru wo obou.*

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simple reason that none of the creeds taught satisfies me. That does not mean that I know nothing about religion or that I am disqualified to pronounce an opinion thereon. I am perhaps in a better position to find out the truth on this subject because of the unshackled state of my mind. My main contention is that religion is a compound consisting of three distinct elements and that the tendency among highly cultured people to-day is to recognize this and to break up the combination. Art, superstition and morality are beginning to go their separate ways. It is perhaps quite impossible for Europeans and Americans to approach the study of religion as we Japanese do. We are practically a religionless people. Our minds are like a clean slate on which inscriptions of any kind may be made. We have no leanings, no proclivities one way or the other. Our old ideas and theories (Buddhist, Shintō or Confucian) have to a considerable extent been abandoned as untenable. As to civilisation, we hold on persistently to all its finest elements, but in religion we refrain from committing ourselves to any one set of opinions. In the Western world men's ideas on religion are full of glaring contradiction and inconsistencies. Outwardly Christianity is professed, but in heart the majority of Church-goers have ceased to believe in the doctrines taught by the Church. The prevailing spirit is distinctly anti-Christian, but the forms are observed and few are the men who tell the world what they really think. . . Among the three distinct elements that are constituent parts of religion, what is known as religious emotion is the most important. While believing in no religion, in the enjoyment of religious emotion I give place to nobody. There is something surpassingly delightful about the religious atmosphere. Many, varied and highly pleasing are the emotions awakened by all one sees and hears in stately churches and beautiful temples. How soothing to the mind are the prayers said, the hymns sung and the grand strains of organ music! The stillness, the subdued light, the fragrant incense, the intense solemnity, the air of mystery, all appeal strongly to certain fundamental instincts of our minds. Men can give way to this feeling till it absorbs their whole being and they become lost in the most delightful dreamy reverie. I can enjoy all this without believing in religion at all. (*Warera wa shūkyō wo shinzuru yori mo* enjoy *shite iru mono de aru*) And this enjoyment is shared by thousands upon thousands of cultured men who have no faith at all in the doctrines taught by priests or ministers of religion. Perhaps the greatest benefit religion has conferred on mankind has been the awakening of deep emotions, the creation of a contemplative spirit, but it is the adroit use it has made of art that has produced this effect. Apart from churches and temples, with their music, their prayers, their sacred associations and memories, religion, it seems to me, makes no headway in this modern world of ours. As to morality that is founded on religion, the world seems set on rejecting it. The tendency everywhere is to divorce morality from religion. Hegel's six objections to Christian morality hold good to-day. They were as follows:—(1) Christianity teaches that self-love is to be sacrified to love of others; (2) it unduly exalts man's soul and unduly despises his body; (3) it unduly magnifies man's importance in the universe at the expense of all other parts of nature; (4) it turns its back on this world as a vale of tears and teaches that men should live for the next world only; (5) it has no respect for family life; (6) it has a low opinion of sexual love.

Mr. Shimamura sums up his discussion of the three separate elements of religion by saying that those who follow religious ethical teaching suffer emotionally—they lose the finer feelings; those who believe in its superstitious teaching lose dignity; only those who cling to its art use it as a means of developing their higher and nobler instincts.

The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* says that Mr. Shimamura's article is important, because it undoubtedly represents the opinion of a large number of young men who turn their backs on religion and take to the study of literature and art. On many points this Congregational organ is at one with the editor of the *Waseda Bungaku*, but where the *Kirisutokyō Sekai* finds it impossible to follow Mr. Shimamura is in his assertion that literature can serve as an adequate substitute for religion. It says that Mr. Shimamura knows nothing about religion or that his acquaintance with it is of a most superficial character, and it exhorts him to approach the study of religion humbly and respectfully and, then, instead of talking about literature as a menace to religion, he will come to see that apart from religion, literature has no value at all.

The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* affirms that Mr. Shimamura fails to see the wide difference that exists between faith and superstition. He says that religious faith either savours of superstition or that it is dependent on philosophic or scientific props for its continuance. The purely religious element in the belief of so many people is so attenuated that it is hardly perceptible at all. But to this the Christian organ we are quoting replies that Mr. Shimamura lacks the qualifications for pronouncing an opinion on the real condition of religious minds. The objection to religion on the ground that it savours of superstition or that it is rendered superfluous by ethical teaching the *Kirisutokyō Sekai* thinks is not worth serious discussion, but the assertion that literature and art have it in them to produce the same state of feeling as that created by religion merits consideration at the hands of Christians, it says, though in its opinion it can only be entertained by those who have no actual experience of religious emotion and religious life to guide them.

The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* in one of its leading articles compares evangelization by means of preaching with evangelization by house to house visiting. The writer of the article, "Nanyō," says that, speaking generally, it is true to say that Protestants rely most on the former and Roman Catholics on the latter. And among Protestants it is perhaps true to say that the more conservative they are the more do they rely on visiting rather than on preaching. In theory a good many Christians hold that one method should not take the precedence of the other, but in practice this is seldom carried out. "Nanyō" reaches the conclusion that on the whole the preacher has more golden opportunities for making lasting impressions on his hearers than the visiting pastor. Both spheres of work are not without their dangers and snares, but close social intercourse with people of all classes, especially with women, is an ordeal whose test some men's character will not bear. It is only pastors whose personality is at once strong and attractive that can mix with the world without loss or contamination of any kind. Oratory in this country is far from powerful, and Christian oratory is no exception to the rule. Some may think under these circumstances that we had better fall back on visiting, but says the *Kirisutokyō Sekai* such is not our opinion. Preaching and lecturing must be raised to a higher level and occupy here the place they fill in other countries.

* * *

In the August *Kaitakusha* (Y.M.C.A. organ) we find a full report of an address delivered to young men by Mr. Shimada Saburō entitled "An Ideal Country." It is far too long for reproduction here. We can only quote a few observations just to show the general tenor of the whole. Mr. Shimada takes the view that Buddhism is essentially pessimistic and Christianity essentially optimistic. He thinks that Christianity makes much more of the present world and the possibilities connected with it than Buddhism does. So according to him there is in modern Japan a greater demand for Christianity than for Buddhism. In that the Kingdom of Heaven that Christianity is seeking to establish on earth is an ideal kingdom, even those who are not Christians must certainly look forward to its establishment with pleasure, says Mr. Shimada. He then proceeds to note the great progress that the world has made towards the realization of higher ideals than those reached in past ages. The desire for peace was never stronger than it is to-day and the respect of alien races for each other is growing apace, according to Mr. Shimada. Different ages call for different types of religion. The present age is marked by hopefulness of tone and hence no creed that savours of despondency as to the capabilities of the human race will find acceptance to-day.

* * *

In Europe and America in almost every church building there are to be seen far more women and children than men, from causes which we can not discuss here. In an editorial which appears in its September number the *Kaitakusha* draws special attention to the comparative paucity of men among Japanese Christians. It quotes the text, "How can one enter into a strong man's house and spoil his goods except one first bind the strong man?" and says that Christians in Japan have not hitherto been at all successful in winning over the heads of households. The writer expresses himself somewhat as follows:—The results which have followed Christian propagandism have been poor when we consider how much money and effort have been expended on the cause. Is not this to be attributed to the fact that we have worked too exclusively among the women and children? It is a very good thing of course to get women and children to come to church. But we have to remember that in this country the masters of households wield great power and that as long as they keep aloof from Christianity and excuse themselves from keeping away from church the position of Christianity in any family is in a very shaky state. If there is nothing special going on, a man usually allows his wife and children to go to church, but if he has friends coming to his house on Sunday morning, instead of going to church, his wife will be occupied in serving out *sake* to them. Whatever may be the case in Western countries, here in Japan in all households the man is so powerful that the whole family is under his finger and thunb, and as long as he rejects Christianity the women folk can do little to insure its observance in the family. The article concludes thus:—"In our country, look where we will there is progress. The Christian world alone lags behind, we lament to say. (*Waga kuni ni oite kakushu no hōmen shinshin ko to shite, shimpo shi, Kiristo-kyō-kai hitori chichi taru ga gotoki wa tsūtan subeki koto nari*). Is not this to be attributed to the fact that there are great defects in the evangelistic work we carry on among men? When a man becomes a Christian, his whole household is likely to follow his example.

* * *

The *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church) quotes from the *Shigaku Zasshi* a portion of an article on "Suicide and Especially Lovers' Suicide" written by Dr. Mikami Sanji. Here is the gist of what this eminent historian has to say on this subject:—Suicide was almost unknown in ancient Japan. As for lovers' suicides, though in the *Manyōshū* there are a few allusions to practices that much resembled them and though archaic speech has references to them, during the Heianchō age (A.D. 794—858) and down to the end of the Ashikaga era literary references to lovers' suicides were most rare. The practice only became general after the time of Tokugawa Ieyasu, and it has always prevailed more in Kamigata and neighbourhood than in the Kwantō provinces. The following seem to have been the principal causes of the increase in the number of cases of lovers' suicide. (1) Religious belief in a future life. (2) The prevalence of the Bushidō spirit which makes light of death. (3) The respect for female chastity which the Bushidō taught. This led women to prefer death with a lover and union in the next life to transgressing social laws in this life. (4) The growth of literature. In the early decades of the Tokugawa era the writers of plays and poems contributed much towards exalting lovers' suicides to a place of high honour in the minds of the public. So harmful did the literature of those days appear to be in this matter that Yoshimune, the 8th Tokugawa Shōgun, forbade all dramatic performances of which lovers' suicides formed a prominent part. History makes it quite clear that the wide prevalence of lover's suicides can be traced to a degenerate and voluptuous age and that the romantic halo with which they have been adorned originated with play-writers.

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TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

A JAPANESE AMBASSADOR HONOURED.

London, September 30.

The Emperor Francis Joseph has conferred the Grand Cross of the Leopold Order on Baron Uchida, the Japanese Ambassador at Vienna.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS AND THE IRISH LAND BILL.

The House of Lords has passed the second reading of the Irish Land Bill.

Lord Curzon, an Opposition peer, described the measure as another instalment of Socialism, and hoped the Lords would amend it unfalteringly, undeterred by threats.

LONDON'S NEW LORD MAYOR A ROMAN CATHOLIC.

SCENE AT THE GUILDHALL.

Alderman Sir John Knill, a Roman Catholic, has been elected Lord Mayor of London amid a scene at the Guildhall and shouts of "No Popery."

Replying to a question, Sir John Knill undertook on all occasions of ceremony not to put the Pope before the King.

THE SUCCESS OF THE AEROPLANE.

In connection with the Hudson tercentenary celebrations at New York, Mr. Wilbur Wright, the well-known aeronaut, made a spectacular flight over the harbour, encircling the Statue of Liberty.

LAUNCH OF THE "NEPTUNE."

London, October 1.

The Duchess of Albany launched yesterday at Portsmouth the improved Dreadnought *Neptune*, the largest battleship built or building.

[The *Neptune*, Britain's eighth Dreadnought, was laid down on January 19th, and was to have been launched on the 13th ult. She is 600 feet in length, 86 ft. wide and displaces 20,250 tons.—ED. *J.M.*]

PROSPEROUS N.D.L.

The North German Lloyd for the first half-year has a profit of £250,000 against a loss of £350,000 for the corresponding period of 1909.

GERMANY LAUNCHES ANOTHER DREADNOUGHT.

London, October 1.

The *Ost Friesland*, a sister ship to the *Heligoland*, was launched at Wilhelmshafen yesterday. The launch coincides with the completion, after ten years' work, of the new naval harbour at Wilhelmshafen, at a cost of £3,200,000 sterling. The harbour includes six docks, three of which will be able to accommodate the largest battleships.

RUSSIAN MANŒUVRES ABANDONED.

The Russian military manœuvres in the Crimea have been abandoned, owing to the illness of the Tsaritsa.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY IN BRITAIN.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. Buxton, the Postmaster-General, announced that the Post Office Authorities had arranged with the Marconi Wireless Telegraph Company to take over from the latter all the coast stations, the Company receiving £15,000. Mr. Buxton further announced that the Post Office had also arranged to take over the Lloyd wireless stations.

BRITISH REVENUE RETURNS.

The British revenue for the past quarter was £29,731,194, being an increase of £421,187.

THE CELEBRATIONS AT NEW YORK.

A GREAT BANQUET.

Later.

A New York dispatch says the Hudson-Fulton Celebrations Commission banqueted the delegates and 2,500 guests.

Among the speakers were Prince Kuni and Admiral Seymour, the latter being warmly applauded on declaring that Great Britain's naval increase meant only peace.

SPANIARDS SUFFER SEVERE REVERSE.

A Spanish force during a reconnaissance from Zeluan met with a severe reverse. General Vicaris, two captains and lieutenants and fourteen men were killed, and 180 officers and men wounded.

Later.

Reinforcements are leaving Spain for Morocco.

London, October 3.

The Spanish losses on Thursday were 41 killed and 290 wounded. Despatches from Zeluan yesterday morning state that 5,000 Moors have attacked the Spanish front. Fighting of the fiercest description is proceeding.

INTERNATIONAL AMENITIES.

The *New York Times* states that the American sailors who participated in the world's tour of the Battleship Fleet have subscribed to a loving cup to be sent to the Japanese Navy in appreciation of the courtesies they received in Japan.

THE GERMAN ROYAL FAMILY.

The German Crown Princess has been delivered of a son.

THE CABINET AND THE NAVY.

REPORTED DISAGREEMENT WITH THE ADMIRALTY.

London, October 2.

Reports are appearing in the papers that a serious difficulty has arisen owing to the Cabinet's declining to entertain the recommendations of Sea-Lord Admiral Bridgman to increase the *personnel* of the Navy by 15,000 men, in order to keep pace with the construction programme. The reports seem to have some foundation.

A RUSSO GERMAN INCIDENT.

Later.

The *Novoe Vremya* and *Russ* have indignant comments on the Russo-German incident at Harbin, where, it is stated, the German Consul von Müller refused to recognize Russia's authority within the Russian settlement.

THE AMERICA CUP.

Sir Thomas Lipton sails for New York on the 9th inst. to endeavour to arrange another race for the America Cup.

TERRORISM IN RUSSIA AFFECTS THE TSARITSA'S MIND.

According to the *Berliner Tageblatt*, a mental specialist has been summoned to Livonia owing to the Tsaritsa's state of melancholia. She is continually haunted by the fear that her son, the Tsarevitch, will fall a victim to the Terrorists.

ATTEMPT ON TAFT'S LIFE.

London, October 4.

Portland, Oregon.—As President Taft was entering his automobile here, a man made a desperate attempt to reach him. The man, when arrested, was found to be in possession of a revolver concealed in a camera.

ORVILLE WRIGHT'S RECORD HIGH FLIGHT.

GERMAN CROWN PRINCE AS PASSENGER.

Orville Wright has made a record high flight of 450 metres at Berlin. He subsequently made a flight of 8 minutes, reaching a height of 20 metres, accompanied by the Crown Prince. The latter constantly urged the aeronant to go higher.

His Royal Highness had been daily pressing Mr. Wright, for a week past, to take him on a flight.

RUSSIAN AIRSHIP.

Later.

The Russian military estimates include £250,000 for aviation. Two airships have already made successful trips, and five aeroplanes are in course of construction.

BADEN-POWELL DECORATED.

The King has received Major-General Baden-Powell at Balmoral, and has conferred on him the Cross of the Victorian Order.

A TURBINE IMPROVEMENT DISCOVERY.

London, October 4.

According to the New York *Times*, Rear-Admiral Melville and two others have invented a gearing which increases the efficiency of the marine turbine by 15 per cent., simultaneously effecting a great saving in space, fuel and initial cost. The invention is expected to revolutionize navigation and warship construction.

LOW STATE OF THE COTTON INDUSTRY.

New York.—A meeting of the southern cotton mill-owners has decided that the dearness of raw cotton and the low price of the finished product, will presently render the weaving industry unprofitable. In consequence, the almost total closing of the southern mills is anticipated within the next fortnight.

CHINA AND HER RAILWAYS.

London, October 5.

Under the heading of "Chinese Railways" the London *Daily Mail*, in a leading article, recognises the true awakening of China. The completion of a railway entirely by the Chinese affords convincing evidence that they are realising that honesty is the only practicable policy in public and private affairs. The success of the present experiment will encourage the Chinese to further efforts.

A TURKISH MISSION TO THE TSAR.

M. Isvolsky, Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, has started from Livadia for the Crimea, to attend the reception of the Turkish Special Mission to the Tsar.

CLAIMS AGAINST TURKEY.

Later.

Constantinople.—The German Embassy has presented a claim to the Porte for losses sustained by Germans during the recent disturbances at Adana, Asia Minor.

The French and Italian Embassies will shortly present their claims. The latter are said to exceed 100,000 francs.

ACTIVITY OF THE MOORS.

The Moors are round Melilla. They have been largely reinforced and are reassuming the offensive.

LORD ROSEBERY DECLINES INVITATION TO SPEAK.

Lord Rosebery, in declining an invitation to speak at Birmingham, said that any more speeches would involve his return to the political controversy from which he has withdrawn and to which he never intends to return.

ARREST OF ALLEGED GERMAN SPIES IN FRANCE.

Seven men and three women have been arrested at Rheims. They are believed to be part of a gang of German spies.

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ASQUITH SUMMONED TO BALMORAL.

London, October 6.

Mr. Asquith, the British Premier, has started for Balmoral, having been unexpectedly telegraphically summoned by the King. The greatest importance is attached to the visit in Liberal circles and in the Lobbies. It is believed that the highest influence is being exercised to avert a constitutional crisis.

THE U.S. MINISTER TO CHINA.

A San Francisco telegram reports that Mr. Crane, the newly-appointed U.S. Minister to China, who was to sail yesterday, has been telegraphically recalled to Washington. The reason is unknown, but it is presumed that the Government desires to discuss some phases of the Eastern question with which he is not fully acquainted. He now expects to sail on the 20th inst.

RENEWED SHIPPING STRIKES IN FRANCE.

Later.

The shipping strikes at Havre, Bordeaux and Marseilles have been renewed. The French papers are uneasy.

SPAIN AND MOROCCO.

A forward policy in Morocco has been objected (?) to in Spain, owing to the fear that it would set the country into a blaze.

It is declared that a Holy War is already being preached in the interior of Morocco.

ASQUITH'S VISIT TO THE KING.

London, October 6.

King Edward returns to London on Monday; hence the excitement at Mr. Asquith's departure for Balmoral. The Unionist members on the front bench do not, however, attach much importance to the visit, while the Cabinet Ministers deny that it foreshadows any sudden change in the situation.

THE AUSTRIAN ROYAL FAMILY.

Emperor Francis Joseph has conferred on Archduke Franz Ferdinand's wife the rank of Duchess, with the title of Highness. Simultaneously it was announced that the Archduke and his wife will visit Emperor William at Berlin in November and join the Imperial shooting party at Hanover.

[The Archduke, who is heir presumptive to the throne, married in July 1900 Countess Sophia Choteck (now Princess of Hohenburg), having duly renounced the right of his future children to succeed to the thrones of Austria and Hungary. Apparently a reconciliation has now taken place between the aged Emperor and the Archduke's wife.—Ed. *J.M.*]

MORE BUDGET RUMOURS.

October 7.

Lord Lansdowne has been summoned to Balmoral for to-morrow evening.

There is a growing feeling that the Finance Bill may so be amended as to be acceptable to the Lords.

Vague rumours are afloat in the Lobbies that the Government will abandon the Land Taxes and substitute for them an extra penny on the income-tax.

Later.

Mr. Lloyd George has announced that the House of Commons will adjourn on Friday for four weeks in order to allow Members to consider fully the amendments put down for the report stage of the Finance Bill, which starts on October 19th. The Lords continue sitting.

GORDON-BENNETT BALLOON RACE.

An American has won the Gordon-Bennett balloon race from Zurich, alighting north-east of Warsaw. The distance of over 1,100 kilometres was covered in 30 hours.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

THE SPANISH VICTORY.

London, September 30.

Madrid.—A force of infantry, cavalry and artillery has occupied Mount Gurugu unopposed, thus delivering Melilla from a menace of four centuries, the principal object of the campaign being attained. There are great rejoicings.

TURKISH REFORMS.

Paris.—Mahmud Shevket Pasha, commanding the Turkish Army, being interviewed, states that the new administration has suppressed anarchy and the waste of public funds. The Grand Vizier's salary has been reduced from £1700 monthly to £300. The pay and pensions of the lower officials have been improved, and all officials are now paid punctually.

RIFF TRIBES STILL UNSUBDUED.

A special telegram from Melilla believes it is true that the Riff tribes of the mountains are still unbeaten and that the peninsula will never be tranquil until they have been beaten.

ANOTHER BRITISH DREADNOUGHT LAUNCHED.

The new British Dreadnought *Neptune* was launched at Portsmouth on Friday.

BRITISH IMPERIAL DEFENCE SCHEME.

London, October 1.

Simla.—Measures have practically been completed for including the army of India in the scheme of the Imperial General Staff.

DISTRESS IN LONDON.

London.—The Committee appointed to enquire into the distress in London report that there will be increased distress through unemployment during the coming winter. Applications for work have already risen 4 (?) per cent.

TO FIGHT CONSUMPTION IN THE U. S.

London, October 1.

A New York telegram says that the campaign against tuberculosis, from which there are no less than 200,000 deaths annually, will be prosecuted with increasing vigour. The State Legislatures and the Federal Government have made appropriations of £1,600,000 for the purpose of suppressing the disease.

THE HUDSON-FULTON CELEBRATIONS.

In the Hudson-Fulton celebrations, 25,000 soldiers and sailors are participating.

TROUBLE IN PERSIA.

A telegram from Shiraz states that bands of robbers are terrorizing the villages and inhabitants, refusing to allow the latter to enter the towns. Trade is at a standstill.

Later.

A Teheran dispatch says that there is a large number of robbers on the roads between Ispahan and Yezd. In addition, they have a multiform equipment.

DISCOVERY OF A HUGE NAPHTHA SPRING.

A St. Petersburg dispatch reports that a colossal naphtha spring has been discovered at Kuban. It is estimated that there will be a daily yield of 1,500 tons.

[Kuban is a town in Ciscaucasia, near the Black Sea.—Ed. *J.M.*]

GERMANY'S SIXTH DREADNOUGHT LAUNCHED.

A Berlin dispatch states that Germany's sixth Dreadnought has been launched at Wilhelmshafen, at which place three large docks have also been completed.

THE NEW YORK CELEBRATIONS.

The soldiers and the sailors from the different warships have paraded in Fifth Avenue, New York. The British sailors headed the procession, followed by the German, French, Italian and American sailors.

The landing of the British sailors and marines from the warships was witnessed by large and admiring crowds.

THE STATUS OF FOREIGNERS IN MANCHURIA.

London, October 2.

St. Petersburg.—The Russo-German incident at Kharbin, arising out of the question of the status of German merchants settling within the Russian precincts of the town, leads the *Novoe Vremya* to talk of German aggression. The paper insists that the recalcitrant merchants be invited to establish their own settlement.

RUSSIAN FINANCE MINISTER TO VISIT FAR EAST.

M. Kokovtseff, the Russian Minister of Finance, will visit the Far East shortly.

AMERICAN TRADE IN THE PACIFIC.

London, October 2.

New York.—President Taft has determined to extend American trade abroad. He proposes to ask Congress to devote the six or seven millions annual profit of the foreign mail service to subsidizing steamship lines to South America. Mr. Taft declares that commercial rivalry will be greater in the Pacific than anywhere else in the next half century. China is awakening, and moving with giant steps like Japan—one of the most generous of countries in the matter of subsidies. Therefore the humiliating condition of the American Mercantile Marine must be improved.

RUSSIA IN MANCHURIA.

London, October 4.

St. Petersburg.—Kokavtsoff goes to Vladivostock on the 12th inst., to enquire into the existing commercial depression, the working of Russian railways in North Manchuria, and the condition of the Russo-Chinese settlement at Kharbin. The Government desires a thorough acquaintance with economic conditions in that region, with a view to keeping abreast of Japanese commercial activity. Among the proposals mooted are the amalgamation of the Russo-Chinese and Siberian Banks, and the foundation of a Russo-Japanese Society.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

The *Novoe Vremya* refers to Japanese military activity, but does not believe that Japan contemplates a policy of aggression. The St. Petersburg journal sees, in Russia's economic awakening in the Far East, the best guarantee of peace.

THE UNREST IN PERSIA.

London, October 5.

A dispatch from Teheran states that disorder and lawlessness continue in various districts. It appears that the authority of the Government is confined to Teheran.

THE EX-SHAH.

The ex-Shah has landed at Petrovsk and has gone to Odessa.

BRITAIN'S CONSULAR SERVICE.

It is stated that the British Government has appointed a member of the British Agency at Cairo to be Consul-General at Berlin. This marks an important innovation, as the post has hitherto been an unpaid one and held by a German.

THE FIGHTING AT ZELUAN.

At Zeluan, the English volunteers state that in the fighting on the 30th ult. the

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Spanish troops were most steady and well handled.

Colonel Figuera's regiment reports that the English volunteers took a prominent part in the fighting.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

London, October 5.

A St. Petersburg telegram states that the Ministers are gratified at the internal and external situation. The efforts of the reactionaries to reverse the Government's policy have failed. There is a good harvest and the agrarian reforms are successful. Though M. Isvolsky is still bitterly criticized, he has consistently followed the policy of straightforward dealing in his friendship with China. Russia notes the development of Japanese military and commercial activity in the Far East without fear, but sometimes sees indications that Japan entertains ambitious designs on China.

FRANCE AND THE CAMPAIGN IN MOROCCO.

London, October 6.

Paris.—The French newspapers are anxious regarding the Spanish military policy in Morocco. They declare that if the operations are extended, French rights in Morocco will be jeopardized.

The Spanish Ambassador at Paris states that a campaign against Morocco is not contemplated. Nevertheless Spain is urged to make a confidant of France.

THE TSAR REPRIEVES.

London, October 6.

St. Petersburg. — The Tsar has reprieved the members of the Shchizrofsky Revolutionary Association who were recently condemned to death. The era of executions is apparently closing.

A PATRIOTIC GIFT.

The King of Greece has accepted a gift of £20,000 from Corgialegno, a patriotic Greek, for furthering military and other reforms.

TREASON TRIAL IN VIENNA.

Vienna.—The Agram high treason trial has closed. Thirty-one of the accused have been sentenced to various terms of penal servitude and 22 have been accquitted.

SPANISH TROOPS PREPARING.

Madrid.—The Spaniards at Melilla and Zeluan are strengthening all their positions.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

PRATAS ISLAND.

The negotiations about the Pratas Island question have of late made great progress. The matter will reach a settlement in a day or two, when the Viceroy of Canton and the Japanese Consul are to meet. The terms will then be published.

REPORTED DEATH OF CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

Peking: from Mr. Ijuin.

Grand Councillor Chang Chih-tung is reported to have died at 9 p.m. on the 4th inst.

THE NEW GRAND COUNCILLOR.

From Mr. Ijuin, Peking, 4th instant, 6 p.m.

The President of the Board of Justice, Mr. Tsai Huntse, has been appointed a member of the Grand Council on probation, and Mr. Ting Chieh, Governor of Ichal, succeeds him. Pending Mr. Ting's arrival in Peking, the Vice-President of the Board of Justice will discharge the duties of President.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

UNITED STATES.

Berlin, September 30.

Admiral von Koester, the Chief of the German Squadron, participating in the Fulton celebration at New York, in his congratulatory address, praised the round-the-world voyage of the Atlantic Fleet, carried out during the past year. At the rowing races, in which boats of all nationalities participated, the boat-crew of the German protected cruiser *Victoria Luise* won the first prize.

TURKEY.

The Sublime Porte has lodged a protest against the occupation by France of the Wadai District, in Central Africa.

MOROCCO.

The Spanish troops in Morocco have gained possession of the Gurugu Mountain, by which great enthusiasm has been provoked at Madrid.

RUSSIA.

A Russian exploring expedition in Nova Zembla has discovered an easy passage between the so-called Cross Gulf at the Barendt Lake and the Sea of Kara. Big coal deposits have been also discovered at the above Gulf. The foundation of a fishing colony at the Gulf is projected.

The Tsar will receive on Oct. 8th at Livadia a special Embassy led by the Turkish Minister for Foreign Affairs.

GERMANY.

Berlin, October 1.

The German Crown Princess has given birth to a third son.

The Kaiser will stay at Hubertusstock, the Imperial hunting seat near Berlin, from October 9th to October 13th, and pay a visit to Prince Fuerstenberg at Donaueschingen in the middle of November.

Chancellor von Bethmann-Hollweg has returned to Berlin from his trip to Austria and Bavaria.

MONTENEGRO.

A plot has come to light at Cettinje, Montenegro, by which the Government was to be overturned, Prince Nikita dethroned, the Ministers killed and the Hereditary Prince made Governing Prince of Montenegro.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails with dates up to September 15th arrived at Berlin on October 1st.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Berlin, October 2.

Baron Rudolf von Schroeder has offered £20,000 to the University of Cambridge to establish a chair for the study of the German Language and Literature at the University.

TURKEY.

The Turkish Government, expecting a cancellation of the capitulations with the foreign Powers as to the right of extra-territoriality, has given orders to the local authorities to treat foreigners with special respect.

FRANCE.

President Fallières has received Shefket Pasha, the Turkish Generalissimo, now on a visit to Paris.

GERMANY.

The German Press demands full information as to the attitude of the Russian Government regarding the question of sovereignty and the right of administration in the railway zone at Kharbin. It expects a detailed report from the German Consul Dr. Heintges at Mukden.

The famous German artist and director of the Kunsthalle at Karlsruhe (Baden), Herr Hans Thoma, celebrated his 70th birthday on Oct. 2nd.

Berlin, October 3.

The Crown Prince has carried out a flight with Orville Wright in his aeroplane.

MOROCCO.

Berlin, October 2.

The Spanish troops have again suffered great losses at Melilla, General Vicaris being amongst those killed by the Cabyles.

Berlin, October 3.

The Spanish Goverment is sending 15,000 men as reinforcements to Melilla. It denies, however, that it has any any plans for further advance and expansion.

GERMANY.

Berlin, October 4.

Prince Ludwig, the successor to the throne in Bavaria, speaking on the occasion of the inauguration of a monument at Wuerzburg, admonishes the Germans in Austria and Hungary to keep together, and pleaded for a close friendship between Austria and Germany.

PERSIA.

The ex-Shah of Persia has arrived at Odessa.

MOROCCO.

Fears are being entertained as to the declaration of a Holy War against the Spaniards by Muley Hafid, the Sultan of Morocco, being imminent. Great Britain and France do not wish that any plans for further expansion be pursued by Spain.

POSTAL MONUMENT AT BERNE.

Berlin, October 5.

The inauguration of a monument, representing the progress of postal relations of the world, has taken place at Berne, at which Herr Kraetke, Secretary of State of the German Post, made a congratulatory speech.

THE HARBIN INCIDENT.

It is reported from Paris that Great Britain, America and France will take the same interest in the satisfactory solution of the question of the right of sovereignty and administration, claimed by Russia at Harbin. The *Koelnische Zeitung*, replying to the attacks of the Russian press against Germany, emphasises the right of extra-territoriality of Germany in China.

ENGLISH MONEY FOR RUSSIA.

The English banking firm of Baring Bros. will participate in the financing of new Russian railways.

TURKEY.

Hilmi Pasha, the Turkish Grand Vizier, has openly contradicted all relations with the anti-British party in Egypt and announced the presentation of the Crete Statute to the Protecting Powers.

THE POPE INDISPOSED.

The Pope is suffering from a slight attack of gout.

FRENCH TROOPS TO GUARD FRONTIER.

France plans the sending of troops to the frontier between Algeria and Morocco.

AUSTRIA.

Berlin, October 6.

An international Conference for the suppression of the traffic in women for immoral purposes has been opened at Vienna.

The successor to the throne of Austria and his Consort will pay a visit to Berlin in November and take part in the hunting parties of the Court at Hanover.

TURKEY.

General von der Goltz Pasha, the German Instructor-General of the Turkish Army, will shortly depart for a three months' stay at Constantinople, where he will take part in the conferences for the reorganisation of the Turkish Army.

RUSSIA.

M. von Miller, formerly Russian Am-

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bassador at Berlin, has been appointed Russian Minister for Commerce.

UNITED STATES.

The new American Minister for China, Mr. Crane, just before leaving for his post, has been recalled to Washington for new instructions, especially with regard to Manchurian questions.

Admiral von Koester, the Chief of the German Squadron at the Hudson-Fulton celebrations, in a speech at New York, emphasized the good co-working of the German-Americans with the Anglo-Americans.

SPAIN.

The Spanish Ambassador at Paris has declared that neither a war against Mulai Hafid nor an occupation of Tetuan is planned by Spain.

PARAGUAY.

A revolution has broken out in Paraguay.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

THE PORT ALBERT FESTIVITIES.

San Francisco, September 29.

The Committee of the Japanese Society held a meeting yesterday to arrange details in connection with the reception of the Japanese cruiser *Idzumo*, expected here shortly. It was decided that the members of the Society should welcome her at the Golden Gate.

JAPANESE STEAMER ASHORE.

Shanghai, September 30.

The damage sustained by the *Chishima Maru*, which ran aground last night, is believed to be small.

PRINCESS FUSHIMI.

Princess Fushimi, Jr., is expected to arrive at Woosung to-night.

KOREAN POLITICS.

Seoul, September 30.

It is reported that the Korean Premier has decided to dismiss the present Minister of Finance.

SUBJUGATION OF SOUTH KOREA.

Mokpho, October 1.

Brigade-Commander Watanabe, having subjugated the greater part of South Korea, arrived here last night. The Headquarters of the brigade will for the present be stationed in this place.

THE RUSSIAN EMIGRANTS.

Dairen, October 1.

The Russian emigrants, numbering 200, who have arrived here via Siberia, will leave for America to-morrow under the care of Mr. Atkinson, the representative of the U.S. Government.

GOVERNOR OF KILIN.

Mukden, October 1.

The Governor of Kilin is expected to leave for a tour of inspection through the districts of Chientao.

THE RUSSIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE.

Vladivostock, October 1.

On October 9, the Russian Minister of Finance will leave St. Petersburg for this place.

LORD KITCHENER.

Hankow, October 1.

Lord Kitchener is expected to arrive here on the 11th instant, and will proceed northward by the Peking-Hankow railway.

THE VICEROY OF MANCHURIA.

Peking, September 30.

It is a fact that Mr. Hsu, Viceroy of Manchuria, desires to resign his post, and it appears that the Government is at a loss as to who should be his successor.

CONVERSION OF SPECIE BANK NOTES.

Peking, October 1.

Heretofore no trace of the anti-Japanese boycott has been found in the capital. Nevertheless, it appears that the notes issued by the Yokohama Specie Bank have recently been discredited. It is reported that the bank-notes brought in for conversion yesterday amounted to 16,000 *yen*. However, this is not the first time that such a thing has occurred.

ACQUITTAL OF JAPANESE STRIKERS.

San Francisco, September 30.

The ten Japanese prosecuted on account of the recent Hawaiian strike have received a verdict of "not guilty."

THE U. S. PROTEST UNFOUNDED.

According to a Washington telegram, the U. S. Government denies the rumour of a protest against Japan in connection with the Sino-Japanese Treaty. It is doubtful whether Mr. Knox, Secretary of State, has even considered the matter. Some contend that the clause in the new treaty, by which China must first consult with Japan in case of extending railway lines in Manchuria, is contrary to the Portsmouth Treaty, in which Japan agreed not to oppose the improvement of Chinese railways, provided that they should be exclusively for commercial purposes. It is also considered unfair that China should in future inform Japan and obtain the latter's help in raising funds for the construction of railways in Manchuria, for other Powers would thus be excluded from taking part. That Japan has acquired the mining concessions along the Antung-Mukden and the South Manchurian lines on the understanding that she will co-operate with China does not meet with general approval.

THE GOVERNOR OF HONGKONG AND THE ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Hongkong, October 3.

On September 18, the Governor of Hongkong informed Viceroy Yuan, through the British Consul-General at Canton, that, of late, letters inciting the public to boycott the Japanese have been distributed in Hongkong, and that as these letters are believed to come from Canton, it is desirable, for the maintenance of friendship between the two countries, to keep a strict watch over the actions of the Autonomic Society.

CHINA'S PAPER CURRENCY.

Peking, October 3.

With the object of issuing a paper currency the Department of Finance has purchased the requisite machinery and also engaged an expert. Tenders for the construction of the factory have been called for.

LORD KITCHENER ARRIVES IN SHANGHAI.

Shanghai, October 3

Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener arrived here this afternoon, and was welcomed by the British Consul-General, the Japanese Acting Consul-General and a large number of officials and civilians. His Excellency looked remarkably well. It is expected that he will leave for Peking *via* Hankow, after staying here for two days.

AUDIENCE TO JAPANESE MILITARY OFFICERS.

Tientsin, October 3.

Major-General Abe, Commander of the Japanese garrison stationed in North China, left for Peking this afternoon, in company with Colonel Isobe, Chief of Staff, and several other important officers. They will be received in audience by the Chinese Emperor.

SNOWSTORMS IN NORTHERN MANCHURIA.

Harbin, October 2.

In the district of Buheda(?), a heavy fall of snow has been experienced for the past two days.

AUDIENCES TO MILITARY MEN.

Peking, October 4.

The Commanders of the Russian and German garrisons in North China have been received in audience by the Emperor.

ILLNESS OF MR. BRANDT.

Mr. Brandt, the representative of the Anglo-Chinese Corporation, who was on his way to Peking, has been attacked by diphtheria at Harbin and taken to a hospital there. On recovery, he will proceed to Peking to adjust matters awaiting settlement, after which he will return home.

CHANG CHIH-TUNG AND HIS DOCTORS.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung having often changed his medical attendants, the Japanese army surgeons have refused to attend him any longer and have left for Tientsin. The British doctors, it is said, have also declined to visit him. H.E. is now attended by Chinese medical men only. His condition is reported to be very unfavourable.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS KUNI.

New York, October 3.

Some 300 Japanese and a large number of influential Americans gave Prince and Princess Kuni a hearty send-off to-day, when the latter started at 6.30 p.m. on their way home, via Niagara.

Cleveland, October 3.

Prince and Princess Kuni being expected to arrive at Niagara to-morrow, Barons Shibusawa and Kanda and Consul-General Midzuno will, on behalf of the party of Japanese business men, welcome their Highnesses.

RAILWAYS IN KOREA.

Mokpho, October 4.

A mass meeting of Japanese and Koreans in Hunan was held last night to consider measures for carrying out the construction of the Hunan railway. With this end in view, a committee of 40 members was elected

DEATH OF CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

Peking, October 5.

H.E. Chang Chih-tung passed away at 9 p.m. yesterday. The Prince Regent has visited his residence to express his condolence.

PRINCESS FUSHIMI.

Hongkong, October 5.

Princess Fushimi, Jr., arrived here to-day by a German mail steamer, and is expected to leave for Europe to-morrow.

THE TOUR OF THE BUSINESS MEN.

Cleveland, October 4.

The party of Japanese business men were received to-day by Prince Kuni at the Christon House (?). His Highness shook hands with Mr. Roman, President of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce, and thanked him for the assistance he had rendered to the party. The Prince presented him with a pair of diamond sleeve-links, on which the Imperial crest was engraved. All present drank the Prince's health. Baron Shibusawa was absent on this occasion.

COLLIERY DISASTER AT VANCOUVER.

San Francisco, October 5.

An explosion has occurred in the Wellington Colliery at Nanaimo, Vancouver

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Island. One hundred and twenty workmen were buried under the debris, among whom, it is believed, are some Japanese.

TAFT AT SAN FRANCISCO.

President Taft arrived here to-day. The citizens gave him an enthusiastic reception.

AMERICAN ENTERPRISE IN MANCHURIA.

Mukden, October 6.

Mr. Straight, the representative of the U.S. Syndicate, who has been staying here, left for Peking on September 21. He has been making investigations into various enterprises in Manchuria and has had several interviews with the Viceroy and others.

A NEW GRAND COUNCILLOR.

Peking, October 6.

Mr. Tsai, Minister of Justice, has been appointed Grand Councillor, in place of the late H. E. Chang Chih-tung.

THE ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Nanking, October 6.

In the districts of Ankei and Fuhu inflammatory notices are in circulation concerning the anti-Japanese boycott.

The exhibits for the Nanking Exhibition have arrived. The works of art are unfavourably criticised.

CHINESE OFFICIALS PERTURBED.

Hankow, October 5.

The news of the death of Grand Councillor Chang Chih-tung has caused consternation in official circles.

THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT AND BRITISH MINING CONCESSIONS.

AN AGREEMENT REACHED IN SZECHUAN.

According to a Peking telegram of the 6th inst. to the *Osaka Mainichi*, (appearing in the *Kobe Herald*), the negotiations at Chungching between the Szechuan people and British capitalists for the quashing of the concession for the working of mines in the province has been brought to an end. The agreement arrived at is substantially as follows:—

1.—The Chinese shall pay 220,000 taels to the British capitalists.

2.—The small gauge railway at Chiangpei, which was built for the transport of coal, and all the mining machiney, shall be handed over to the Chinese.

3.—The British capitalists shall not interfere with the mines at Chiangpei in the future.

4.—The concession as to the working of mines in the province shall be quashed.

The agreement was sanctioned by the Emperor on the 2nd.

The *Times* of Sept. 10 published the following letter from Sir John Lister Kaye:—In the *Times* of to-day (Sept. 7) I read with great interest the reference you made, in your leading article, "The Future of China," to the humiliating position to which the Chinese Government have brought themselves in regard to the Anhui Mines. Humiliating, indeed, it is; and I venture, Sir, to submit to you the latest phases of the case which have been a subject of discussion for over four years with the Imperial Chinese Government, who have persistently obstructed us in the development of our mines, to the great detriment of Chinese as well as of British interests. I received a letter dated March 24th, from His Majesty's Foreign Office, in which I was informed that if the London and China Syndicate were willing to agree to a compromise agreement on certain lines:—"Lord Li is prepared to guarantee that the gentry of Anhui, whose hostility in the past has been to a large extent the cause of the failure of the negotiations hitherto undertaken, will offer no obstruction, and that the Chinese Government will also agree." In view of this definite undertaking on the part of the Chinese Government, through the Chinese Minister in London, to His Majesty's Government, I proceeded to Peking and, on my arrival, Liang Tun-yen, Vice-President of the Wai-wu-pu, sent Sir Walter Hillier (Adviser to the Chinese Government) to me, with instructions to draw up the proposed agreement in conjunction with myself. This agreement was based on the principle of Anglo Chinese co-operation, suggested by Lord Li himself, and on completion was placed in the hands of Liang-Tun-yen, who himself memorialized the Throne in regard to it. In the meantime an agitation had been set on foot by certain members of the Anhui gentry, who, however, to my knowledge, do not represent the people of the district where the mines are situated, and as a consequence, presumably, of that agitation, the Throne did not issue the Imperial Decree sanctioning the completion of the agreement. The promise made to His Majesty's Government, on the faith of which I was induced to go out to Peking, was thus violated, and the Chinese Government now suggest that the matter shall be settled by the purchase of the concession from the London and China Syndicate, the price offered to us being £50,000, for property which is valued, by competent surveyors, at £836,000, for a portion of which a Japanese group was prepared to pay us £170,000—namely, for 210,000 out of a total of 500 000 £1 shares. I have been informed by His Majesty's Foreign Office that the whole matter is under consideration, and in reply to one of the questions asked in the House of Commons on the subject, on August 21st last, Sir Edward Grey stated that, in his opinion, it was a case that ought to be settled by a compromise. We have already proposed one compromise to which we were assured the Chinese Government would agree. If their breach of faith is to be rewarded by demanding further concessions from us, I venture, Sir, to hope that His Majesty's Government, in considering any other compromise, will not allow the question of our rights to be made a matter for discussion, in view of the strong attitude taken up by His Majesty's Minister in Peking, Sir John Jordan, in his Note to Prince Ch'ing, President of the Wai-wu-pu, dated June 25th, 1908, on the subject of our rights. All I ask is, Sir, that this strong attitude shall be maintained by His Majesty's Government, and that as, in the face of the Chinese Government's promises the compromise agreement on the basis of co-operation has not been made effective, His Majesty's Government shall insist that, if we are to have a fresh compromise forced upon us, in the shape of a compulsory sale of our property to the Chinese Government, a fair price shall be paid to the London and China Syndicate for the Anhui mining concession. This much, at any rate, we are entitled to demand and this much the Chinese Government should grant, if only to save China from the humiliation, as a nation, of violating a definite undertaking.

TENNIS.

The Tennis Tournament at the Cricket Ground is rapidly nearing its final. The handicapping committee are to be congratulated upon the close contests which have resulted. Not a single match has been, as it is termed, "a walk over" for the winner. The games have now narrowed down to the following players: the brothers Drummond are in the semi final and will play against the winners of the Stewart and Brady *vs.* Nicholl and Van Smith.

On Wednesday afternoon, after a very long and hard fought contest, J. F. Drummond won against E. F. Johnson by the close score of 9 7, 8 6; and Mr. D. E. Drummond having won against Mr Stewart, these two winners will meet in the finals. In view of the records of these two players, it would seem to predict a close contest.

In the Club Championship Mr. Nicholl is in the semi final, and will play the winner of the match between Messrs. Cox and Stuart.

It is reported that the transportation of goods from Echigo province has considerably increased lately, and the railway being unable to cope with this increase, some 1,300 tons of goods have accumulated at different stations on the Shinano-Echigo line.

A REGRETTABLE INCIDENT IN KOREA.

JAPANESE SOLDIER KILLED BY A KOREAN WOMAN.

A few days ago, says the *Seoul Press* of 30th ult., we published a report concerning the killing of a Japanese soldier and the serious wounding of another at Lyongsan, South Kyongsang Province, on the 17th inst. In that report it was stated that these two soldiers, who were acting as guards to a party engaged in the construction of a telegraph line, were attacked by insurgents. From particulars now to hand, it becomes evident that the perpetrators of the crime were not insurgents. It appears that the two soldiers, Furukawa and Ide by name, were accompanying from Taiku the the party of Mr. Yamagishi, an expert, who engaged a Korean coolie named Pak Chongchil as carrier of their baggage. While on the way a quarrel occurred between Furukawa and Pak as the result of the latter's attempt to leave the party on the plea of fatigue instead of carrying the baggage to its destination. Pak tried to take Furukawa's gun, and was shot dead. The relatives of Pak assembled the villagers and they showed signs of rioting. Whereupon Furukawa and Ide took leave of the party and were going to the Police Office in order to report the matter. In the mean time the number of riotous villagers gradually increased and followed the soldiers in an uproarious manner. Finally the rioters, who now numbered more than 300, attacked and disarmed them, and carried them back to the spot where Pak was killed. They then beat them savagely with stones and clubs for some time. Ultimately the wife of Pak struck Furukawa in the neck with a sickle, causing his death. As for Ide, he was so severely handled by the rioters that he lost consciousness, The matter being reported to the police station at Masan, a number of constables hastened to the scene and arrested the wife, four brothers and three relatives of Pak. We (*Seoul Press*) regret very much the occurrence of the unfortunate incident If the report is true, Furukawa certainly acted too hastily, and courted a really useless death. It is to be hoped that the incident will be made an object lesson to those Japanese soldiers who are apt to treat poor Koreans with arrogance and severity.

THE DEATH OF AN AERONAUT.

The *Daily Mail's* Paris correspondent, telegraphing on September 7th, says:—M. Lefevre was engaged this evening at Juvisy, near here, in "tuning up" several Wright machines for customers of the Aeriel Company, by whom he was employed as engineer. The first machine which he flew belonged to Mr. Defries, and the second, on which he met with his death, had been brought by Mr. Schraeck. Both were Wright machines, fitted with Wright motors. After coming down from his first trip M. Lefevre seemed slightly irritated, the motor not having worked as perfectly as he had wished, and he resolved to try with M. Schraeck's machine, half an hour's interval elapsing between the two flights.

Before the second flight M. Lefevre first tried the motor, which seemed to be working perfectly, and then he went off, rising 30ft. into the air. He had not travelled more than 600 yards when the clicking sound of the motor suddenly ceased. The biplane was observed to dip sharply forward, and with its head to the ground at almost a perpendicular angle the aeroplane fell sharply to the earth.

There were very few persons present—not more than fifteen or sixteen. Among these were M. Michel Clemenceau (son of the ex-Premier) and two doctors, who, on witnessing the accident, immediately ran forward. The unfortunate engineer was under the aeroplane, which was moved away. It was then seen that M. Lefevre had fallen from his seat and lay motionless on the ground, face downwards. The doctors at once raised him, and one of them shrugged his shoulders expressively. "He is dead," he said briefly, "we can do nothing for him." There were no abrasions of the skin and no wound. It is presumed that death was caused by concussion of the brain.

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THE STRANDING OF A JAPANESE STEAMER IN THE WHAMPOA.

THE "CHISHIMA MARU" TOWED OFF.

With regard to a recent telegram stating that the *Chishima Maru* had stranded in the Whampoa, the Shanghai *Mercury* of the 30th ult. has the following:—With last night's tide the Japanese steamer *Chishima Maru*, which ran on to the conservancy works at the upper end of Gough Island on Tuesday, was towed off. Her position upon the st ne crib where she had stuck hard and fast was extremely precarious, for she was so completely upon the stone boulders that her propeller could not be worked. The tides also are at their best just now, and every day's delay in bringing her off would have meant a much more difficult undertaking with much less chance of success. With a partially lightened cargo it was therefore necessary to make an attempt at last night's tide, and the tug *Shun Fung*, Captain A. V. Brown, belonging to the Kochien Transportation and Tow Boat Company, was successful in bringing her off. It was found that the *Chishima Maru* had missed the open channel by about ten feet only, but this short distance had been sufficient to place her in a very awkward position. Through careful navigation the *Shun Fung*, which undertook the work alone, was able to bring the vessel off into deep water, and it has since been found that she has suffered comparatively little damage, though repairs will doubtless have to be effected to her bottom plates. She is still lying down river, and will procced to Shanghai in a day or two.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A SAPPORO telegram says that the first frost of the season visited there on October 4. It was one day earlier than last year.

IT is wired from Yamagata that owing to the fine weather experienced there the last few days, the price of rice has greatly declined.

ON October 4 the *Gochin-sai* and *O harai* ceremonies were solemnly held in the Ise Shrines. The celebration lasted the whole day

ON September 30, a child was killed by the breaking of a flag pole at a harvest celebration in the village of Toyoda, Kanagawa prefecture

THE village of Wada, Nemuro, was visited by a hailstorm on the 2nd inst. The hailstones were about half an inch in size, causing much damage to the crops.

IN a village in Gumma prefecture, 50 persons were poisoned recently by partaking of the fish known as the bonito. One of the men died the following day.

A HAILSTORM visited Hiraka district, Akita prefecture, on September 27, devastating the rice fields to the extent of about 400 acres. The damage amounted to some 50,000 *yen*.

A MATSUYAMA telegram reports that there is a serious outbreak of dysentery in different districts of Iyo province. Up to the 3rd inst. there have been 876 cases, 209 of which were fatal.

A KARATSU telegram reports that, on October 1, a long bridge over the Matsura River, leading to the Mishima turnpike road, suddenly gave way. One man was killed and another injured.

IN view of the new lines to be constructed after 1913, the Railway Board has decided to establish repairing works for engines and cars. The cost of the works is estimated at some two million *yen*.

ON September 29, a section of the railway line between Hitoyoshi and Shiraishi in Kyushu was blacked owing to a landslide occasioned by the heavy rains. The service was interrupted several hours.

THE number of recruits joining the army on the 1st of December is a little more than 77,900 in all; namely, infantry, 64,980; cavalry, 3,940; artillery, 4,500; engineers, 1,530, transport and communications 240. There is a slight increase in the number of the cavalry, artillery and engineers, as compared with last year.

THE Japanese sailing vessel *Ryuun Maru* (199 tons), laden with fish, was totally wrecked on September 28 off the eastern coast of Kamtchatka, while *en route* to Karafuto. The crew of 43 were all rescued.

THE Crown Prince, who has been on a tour through the northern provinces, arrived at Numadzu on the 4th instant on his way home to Tokyo. His Highness is expected to arrive at Shimbashi at 11.25 a.m. to-day.

A SENDAI telegram says that there have been 537 cases of typhus and 106 of dysentery in that prefecture from the outbreak up to date At present, 79 persons are suffering from the former disease and 36 from the latter.

MOMO MOTOTARO, the cashier of the Antung office of the Yokohama Specie Bank, is said to have embezzled 45,000 *yen*, the property of the Bank. He has been missing since the 21st ult and nothing has yet been heard of him.

ACCORDING to the "Monde Minier et Métallurgique" of August 31st, 1900, the Spanish General-Commander in Chief before Melilla (Morocco) highly praised the guns supplied by the Creusot firm (Messrs. Schneider & Co.)

A FUKAGAWA (Ishikari) telegram says that the Hokkaido collieries are in a depressed condition. A large quantity of lumber for use in the mines has been accumulated at the various railway stations on the Teshio and the Tokatsu lines.

OWING to the heavy rainfall on the 29th and 30th ultimo a large number of houses were flooded in various wards of Tokyo, with the exception of Nihonbashi, Kyobashi, Kanda and Kojimachi. In many parts of Honjo and Fukagawa all traffic was suspended for several hours.

ON October 2, the religious ceremony in connection with the Ise Shrines commenced at 8.40 p.m. and ended at 9.20 p.m. The Imperial messenger telegraphed a report of the proceedings to the Imperial Household for submission to His Majesty. More than 46,000 worshippers visited the shrines that day.

A FUKUSHIMA despatch reports that the directors of the Kawamata Habutae Union have decided that the habutae transactions in that market shall be closed to prevent excessive manufacture of crude articles. On the other hand, the dealers in the line and the people of that district strongly oppose this decision.

A TRAWLER called the *Hokusui Maru* (126 tons) owned by Mr. Kanazawa Tomojiro, sank at Rumoye, when on her way home from Karafuto on September 23. The disaster was caused by fire which had broken out in the engine room. The utmost efforts of her captain and crew to extinguish the flames were unavailing. No lives were lost.

ON the 3rd instant a train was running through a tunnel near Yumoto station on the Mito-Sendai line, when a prisoner in one of the carriages, who was being sent to Taira under guard, attempted to escape by jumping out of the carriage. The jailer immediately followed him and succeeded in capturing him, with the aid of some workmen who were in the tunnel.

ON the 4th instant an old man who was crossing the railway bridge over the Hanamidzu river running by Oiso, was killed by a down train coming from Shimbashi, after having narrowly escaped being run over by an uptrain from Oiso. The body was thrown into the river and carried down the stream a short distance, when it was recovered and taken ashore.

AT midnight on the 1st instant, the Japanese steamer *Junko Maru*, owned by the Kishimoto Kisen Kaisha of Osaka, got into difficulties some 10 miles off Inuboye Point, Shimosa province, owing to an accident to her engines. The Lifeboat Association of Choshi despatched two steam launches to the rescue, but the steamer *Utsuzan Maru*, *en route* to the Hokkaido, passed along and took the vessel in tow, both arriving at Tateyama the next day.

THE Japanese sailing vessel *Wakayoshi Maru* (111 tons), which left Miike on September 12 with a full cargo of coal, was wrecked on the 23rd, having met with a severe storm in the Genkai sea. The captain and three men are missing, but two sailors were saved by the British steamer *Nile* going to Shanghai, whence they safely returned to Nagasaki on the 4th instant.

THE solemn ceremony of the dedication of the famous Ise shrine, the *Toyouke Daijin-gu*, was celebrated on October 5, at 8 p.m. The service lasted a little more than an hour. Prince Kuni, specially appointed as Master of the Ceremony; the Imperial messenger Prince Iwakura; Baron Hirata, Minister of Home Affairs; Mr. Arita, Governor of Miye prefecture, and some 140 Shinto priests and others participated at the function and an immense crowd of worshippers assembled at the shrine to witness the services. At 8 p.m. on the same day, services were held by Their Majesties the Emperor and Empress in the Imperial Palace in Tokyo and by the Crown Prince and Princess in the Detached Palace at Numadzu.

HEAVY rains towards the end of August last caused the greatest floods that have been known in Victoria for forty years. The Laanecoorie Weir, which cost £133,878, burst and numerous bridges were swept away. Many country towns were submerged and enormous areas were under water. Several fatalities were reported and many thrilling escapes, while there have been heavy losses of stock. The carriages of a mixed train remained hanging over a gorge 50ft. deep, owing to the collapse of a bridge. Fortunately the couplings held, and no lives were lost, though some passengers sustained injuries. A tornado did great damage at Ballarat. Railway communication between Melbourne and Adelaide was suspended for three days. Many washaways are reported.

IT is reported, says the *Kobe Herald*, that a man named Nishida Harukichi (22), residing at Nishi-Tsutsuimura, Kobe, and two of his friends set out for a walk on Mayasan on the 1st inst. At about three o'clock in the afternoon they sat down to rest in a hollow under a large overhanging boulder. After a time they heard a loud noise above them, and immediately the boulder fell down. Nishida was struck on the head and at once killed, and another of the party was knocked senseless. The third man ran to a near-by stream and obtained some water, with which he succeeded in reviving his unconscious friend. The Kobe Police, on being informed of the affair, are said to have carefully examined the scene of the accident, as it was suspected that some one might have overturned the boulder, either accidentally or on purpose.

AN astronomical event of greater interest than even the return of Halley's comet is, says an exchange, being eagerly anticipated already, although still more than a score of years in the future, and the Astrographic Congress just held in Paris has resolved to begin observing preparations at once. The little planet Eros, discovered as a sixth magnitude star in 1898, has an orbit so eccentric that at times it may come nearer the earth than Mars—or any other heavenly body except the moon—can approach. In 1900 Eros was within about 31,000,000 miles of us, but in 1931 it will be only 15,500,000 miles away. The chief importance of this near coming is the unique opportunity it will give for a more accurate determination of the solar parallax and of the mass of the earth and the moon.

MR. JOHN P. CARR, of Karatsu, courteously informs us, says the *Kobe Herald*, that an extraordinary occurrence took place there at 3 p.m. on the 1st inst., a bridge over the Matsugawa between Katsura and Midzushima, 720 yards in length, collapsing from end to end. As there is great traffic over the bridge, including a tramway service, the collapse might well have caused heavy loss of life, but

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fortunately it so happened that there were very few people on the bridge at the time, and the bridge also collapsed slowly over to one side, affording an opportunity to escape. Three persons who were under the bridge when the accident happened were killed, and two others were so dangerously hurt that they are not expected to live. The number of slightly injured persons was comparatively small.

EARLY on the morning of October 3, the Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Kamogawa Maru* (421 tons), which had just left the harbour of Kobe steaming towards the west, collided with the steamer *Miura Maru* (386 tons), of the Hanyo Kisen Kaisha, coming towards the harbour. The former was much damaged on the port side and began to fill rapidly. The steam-launches belonging to the Kobe Pier Company and the Water Police Station immediately went to the rescue, and some 100 passengers on board the vessel were taken off and placed in the compound of the Wada Quarantine Station. In the meantime the sinking vessel was beached near the Quarantine Station. During the confusion nine passengers and one of the crew were slightly injured. On the part of the *Miura Maru*, a portion of her bow was damaged, but this was not serious and she was able to enter the harbour. There were about 50 passengers on board this vessel, but no casualties happened among them.

CUTICURA COMFORT

FOR WOMEN

In our 32 page pamphlet wrapped about Cuticura Ointment is to be found most valuable suggestions for women, especially mothers, for the preservation and purification of the skin, scalp, hair and hands; for clearing the skin and scalp of torturing, disfiguring humours, rashes and inflammations; for sanative, antiseptic cleansing of ulcerated, inflamed mucous surfaces and destruction of microscopic life, and for bringing about, by suggestion and medication, a normal condition of health, strength and beauty.

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

Post Free, Pamphlet referred to above.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton market continues active. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is firm, but generally speaking the high prices at home have mitigated against any extensive buying. In Woollen business buyers are beginning to show interest in forward business, though no orders have yet been secured.

RAW COTTON. PER PICUL.

American Middling... ... —	39.00 to 39.50
Egyptian	46.25 to 50.50
Indian Broach...	33.00 to 33.50
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 32.00

COTTON YARN PER BALE.

Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed...	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.... ...	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints— 24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch. ... ... PER PIECE.	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches ...	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere...	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels... ... ...Y.	0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium..	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin— No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Conditions have improved, and buyers are realizing that the advance in home prices is not merely temporary.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square ... ...Y.	3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated..	10.70 to 11.00
do. Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments ...	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester ... ...Y.	3.88 to 3.98
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

The market has ruled quiet and no transactions have been done in imported refined sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila ... ... Y.	10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first... ... ... Y.	240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second...	280.00
Madras, first...	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. No transactions have taken place.

		Yen.
Gold Drop.....	4 sacks	.....11.50
Flag	"	.....10.60
Royal	"	.....10.60
Trophy	"	.....10.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	.....10.60
Lion	"	.....12.00
Portland	"	.....11.20
Premier.....	"	.....11.00
Japanese :—		
Rising Sun.....	6 *kwamme*	.....2.85
Takasago	6 "	.....2.78
Fuji.....	6 "	.....2.85
Pine	6 "	.....2.90

WHEAT.

Prices are firm, with no immediate prospect of decline. No business has been done.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15 to 5.30
Red " "	5.10 to 5.20
Blue Stem.....	5.30 to 5.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. Deliveries against contracts have been on a rather large scale.

On October 7th stocks were: filatures 22,015 bales; Re-reels, 4,341 bales; Kakeda, 794 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse ... ...Y.	1,030
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	940
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	950
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	890
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	980
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	940
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	855
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	933
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	845
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	865
Re-reels—No. 1½	830
Re-reels—No. 2	810
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra... ...	920
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1...	840
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	820
Kakedas—No. 2	805

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

October	Present delivery.	October delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
1st	890	—	—	889
2nd	889	859	—	890
3rd	—	—	—	—
4th	901	873	883	895
5th	890	878	—	898
6th	905	—	894	905
7th	—	—	—	—

WASTE SILK.

Market active, prices very firm.

On October 7th stocks were: Noshi, 10,229 bales, Kibiso, 12,982 bales; and Suudry, 808 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	157½ to 160
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	132½ to 140
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	115 to 120
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium...	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good ...	100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium ...	80 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior ...	70 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	120 to 127½
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior...	90 to 100
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—There is no particular improvement in the demand, but prices are firmly maintained owing to the somewhat decreased production.

Kanazawa:—Prices have an upward tendency owing to an increased demand for Europe and enquiries from America.

Kawamata:—There is no change to report. There is a steady demand for 36″ in better grades and in 27″ in lower qualities.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.65	8.15	8.10	8.05	8.05
27″	8.55	8.25	8.20	8.30	8.20
36″	8.65	8.35	8.45	8.35	8.35

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"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.20	8.05	8.10	7.75
27″	8.20	8.05	8.15	7.75
36″	8.30	8.10	8.05	7.80

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.80	10.90	11.80	13.00
36	12.40	14.00	15.70	16.20

COPPER.

The market is not unfavourable, but no fresh transactions have been reported.

According to a London telegram of October 7th, the quotation was £58.15.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

The market is not favourable. Quotations still continue to fluctuate.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	998,986
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	190,216

Delivery.	Closing Price.
October	—
November	12.08
December	12.11

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku.*
Superior	Yen 13.20
Medium	12.20
Common	11.20
Average	12.20

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
October	11.87	October	11.80
November	12.10	November	11.99
December	12.06	December	11.98

TEA.

Quotations have shown a little advance. Orders from abroad continne to be placed on the market. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to October 7th, the sales amounted to 8,779,400 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 50,000 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest ... ... Y.	— —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	36 — 37
Good Medium	34 — 36
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
October	128.70
November	128.40
December	128.20

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Oct. 8

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower and Bank of England rate of discount raised to 3 per cent., with firmer rates also in the open market, have caused private paper to rule firmer for sterling and francs, but no alteration has been made in other rates which close as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T/T.	2/0$\frac{9}{16}$
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0¾
— Private 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{3}{16}$@1
— — 6 months' sight	2 1$\frac{1}{16}$@⅛
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262@½
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	86¼*
— Private 10 days, sight do	84¼*
Shanghai—Bank sight	86¾*
— Private 10 days' sight	88¼*
India—Bank sight	153
— Private 30 days' sight	155
America—Bank sight	49⅝
— Private 30 days' sight	50¼
— Private 4 months' sight	51
Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	213
Bar Silver (London)	23¾

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Fitzpatrik	F. Oct. 8
Hongkong	P. M.	Siberia	M Oct. 11
Tacoma	B. L	Kumeric	M. Oct. 11
America	P. M.	Asia 1	M Oct. 11
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Tango Maru 2	Tu. Oct. 12
Hongkong	B. L	Suveric	Th Oct. 14
Hongkong	O S S.	Tacoma Maru	F. Oct. 15
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru 3	F. Oct. 15
Hongkong	P. & A.	Rygja	—
Europe	N. D. L.	F. R. Luitpyld	Su. Oct. 17
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of China	W Oct. 20
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	Tu Oct. 26
Europe	M. M.	Tourane 4	F. Oct. 29
America	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Sa. Oct. 30
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	M Nov. 1

1 Left Honolulu on the 30th ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 28th ult.
3 Left Seattle on the 28th ult
4 Left Singapore on the 3rd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. L.	Luetzow	Sa Oct. 9
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Fitzpatrik	Sa. Oct. 9
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kasuga Maru	Su Oct. 10
Hongkong	P. M.	Asia	Tu. Oct. 12
Hongkong	B. L	Kumeric	Tu. Oct. 12
America	P. M.	Siberia	Tu Oct. 12
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Tango Maru	W Oct. 13
Europe	N. Y. K.	Hakata Maru	W. Oct. 13
Tacoma	B. L	Suveric	F Oct. 15
Europe	M. M.	Sydney	Sa Oct. 16
America	C. R.	A'ral Duperré	Sa. Oct. 16
Australia	N. Y. K.	Yawata Maru	Sa. Oct. 16
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Sa. Oct. 16
Tacoma	B. & S.	Oanfa	Su. Oct. 17
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru	M. Oct. 18
Portland	P. & A.	Rygja	—
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of China	W. Oct. 20
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	Tu Oct. 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	M Oct. 31
America	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	Tu. Nov. 2
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	Th Nov. 18

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Dakotah, British steamer, 2,593, W. A. Ross, 1st Oct.,—Manila via ports, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 1st Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, W. W. Greene, 1st Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Minnesota, American steamer, 13,323, T. W. Garlick, 2nd Oct.—Seattle, Wash, Mails and General —G.N. S.S. Co.

Tranquebar, Danish steamer, 2,227, C. van Deurs, 3rd Oct.,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Glaucus, British steamer, 3,591, J. Milhench, 4th Oct.,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, S. Robinson, 4th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, H. S, Smith, 4th Oct.,—South American ports via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 4th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 4th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer 2,920, E. Combes, 4th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, W. E. Filmer, 5th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,077, Lafont, 6th Oct.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 6th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Teenkai, British steamer, 3,016, A. R. Stewart, 7th Oct.,—Swansea and Liverpool via ports, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,366, T. Sekine, 7th Oct.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Arakawa, 7th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Liberia, German steamer, 2,259, Knaisel, 1st Oct.,—Antwerp and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Glamorganshire, British steamer, 3,623, H. C. Norris, 1st Oct.,—Marseilles, London and Hull via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Dakotah, British steamer, 2,593, W. A. Ross, 2nd Oct.,—San Francisco, General.—Standard Oil Co.

Nicomedia, German steamer, 2,808, Habel, 2nd Oct.,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General. —C. Illies & Co.

Austria, Austrian steamer, 4,819, B. Cobol, 2nd Oct.,—Trieste and Fiume via ports, General.—Heller Bros.

Bendoran, British steamer, 2,587, A. W. S. Thomson, 2nd Oct.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Oceanien, French steamer, 2,104, Sellier, 2nd Oct., —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 2nd Oct.,—Otaru via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1 804, I. Goto, 2nd Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Shinchiku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,938, K. Muto, 3rd Oct., —Moji.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irizawa, 3rd Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, W. W. Greene, 3rd Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, S. J. G. Parsons, 4th Oct.,—Muroran, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tranquebar, Danish steamer, 2,227, C. van Deurs, 4th Oct.,—Marseilles, Havre and Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Ceylon, British steamer, 2,737, H. N. Rivers, 5th Oct.,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Glaucus, British steamer, 3,591, J. Milhench, 5th Oct.,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Minnesota, American steamer, 13,323, T. W. Garlick, 5th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—G. N. S.S. Co.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, S. Robinson, 5th Oct.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. —C. P. R. Co.

Hiogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Sudzuki, 5th Oct.,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kitano Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,277, F. E. Cope, 5th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, M. Machida, 6th Oct.,—Newchwang via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Stentor, British steamer, 4,308, A. D. Baker, 6th Oct.,—Genoa, Marseilles and Liverpool via ports, General —Butterfield & Swire.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, W. E. Filmer, 6th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, E. Combes, 6th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenroy, British steamer, 3,141, T. Darke, 6th Oct., —Moji, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, H. S. Smith, 7th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 7th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miyazaki Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,270, T. Murai, 7th Oct.,—Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fukuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 1 997, R. Ikawa, 7th Oct.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Chiyo Maru*, from San Francisco via ports:—Mr. W. H. Burtt, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. R. Chambers, Miss M. A. Clagett, Mrs. Merlyn G. Cook, Mr. S. H. Gray, Rev. and Mrs. Daniel C. Greene, Miss F. B. Greene, Mrs. C. S. Griffin, Mr. F. Hara, Mr. Geo. Hood, Rev. and Mrs. W. T. Johnson, Prof. N. Kanai, Mr. W. Kateneff and servant, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Lilley, Mr. A. H. Mollman, Miss Louise H. Schanck, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Stevens, Mr. and Mrs L. Strassberger, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. White, Capt. K. Yabe, Mr. T. Yamaguchi. For Kobe:—Miss L. L. Bartlett, Miss M. W. Bartlett, Miss Lucile Dooley, Dr. Oskar Eckstein, Mrs. Oskar Eckstein, Mr. C. P. French, and Miss Lillian A. Well. For Nagasaki:—Mr. B. Clark, Mrs. Geo. Mooser and infant, Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Such and Miss France Such. For Manila:—Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Bacon and infant, Mrs. G.

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Bates, Mr. Wm. C. Carroll, Mrs. N. Compton, Mr. B. Davenport, Mr. L. L. Davis, Rev. and Mrs. Paul Doitz, Miss H. Doltz, Mr. Walter Elliott, Mrs. C. B. Elliott, Miss Ethel Elliott, Master Philip Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Ward B. Gregg, Mr. J. W. A. Haasen, Mr. A. S. Lanier, Mrs. Doris Marlowe, Mrs. E. McPherson, Dr. and Mrs. Albert M. Meade, Mr. John F. Minier, Mr. E. L. Poole, Mr. W. S. Poore, Mr. P. A. Prentiss, Mr. P. V. Refundo, Miss M. Lois Stewart, Mrs. J. Symington, Miss F. M. Tennent, Mr. Wm. Wallace, Mr. L. P. Willis, Mr. C. E. Workman, Miss Pearle B. Young and infant. For Hongkong :—Mrs. F. Allen, Mrs. J. Ailsworth, Mr. I. L. Berk, Mr. and Mrs. A. Bryan, Mr. and Mrs. I. Champman, Miss Dorothy Chapman, Miss Sadie Chapman, Mr. M. O. Clark, Miss M. Dean, Mr. and Mrs. S. Erlanger, Mr. C. A. Graham, Mrs. J. K. Hamilton, Mr. G. G. Hoppeler, Miss Agnes Kelly, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Loop, Mr. John H. Martin, Mr. Jose Mirandes, Dr. L. I. Newbre, Mrs. O. H. Oakley, Mr. C. F. Osborne, Mr. and Mrs. R. Riddell, Mr. M. Sarasin, Mr. John V. Terrefort. From Honolulu :—Mrs. C. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. Aldrick, Miss M. Burford, Mr. and Miss H. Gaylord, Mr. S. Grace, Mrs. W. R. Linn, Miss D. Linn, Miss M. Linn, Mr. E. Lyons, Mr. and Mrs. A. McKillop. Dr. Pockley and Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Wood in cabin.

Per American steamer *Minnesota* from Seattle, Wash. :—Miss D. Schlefielmilch, Mr. H. Stevens, Mrs. W. Stevens, Mr. G. W. Kent, Mrs. G. W. Kent, Miss R. Kent, Miss H. Kent, Miss S. Pratt, Mr. S. Miyao, Mr. E. Fohren, Mr. G. Behrens, Mr. G. Bowles, Mrs. G. Bowles and 3 children, Mr. E. V. Strong, Lady Constance Snagge, Mr. R. H. Ishman Mr. H. Fowlds, Mrs. H. Fowlds and Mr. H. Stockle. For Kobe :—Miss H. McClung, Rev. M. Dunning, Mrs Dunning and 6 children, Miss A. G. Ward. Miss M. Ransom, Mr. E. Mowry, Mrs. E. Mowry, Mr. I. M. Miller, Mr. J. B. Wolfe, Mrs. J. B. Wolfe, Mr. W. R. Smith, Mrs. Smith and chilp, Mr. R. C. Wangerin and Mrs. Wangerin. For Mr. H. W. Smith, Mrs. H. Smith and 2 children, Mr. C. C. dos Romedios, Miss M. D. Roe, Mr. F. W. Tower, Mrs. W. Bucknell, Miss L. Miller, Mr. H. Stearns, Miss J. Ricketts, Mr. T. G. Wheelock, Mrs. G. Wheelock, Rev. T. Montgomery, Mrs. Montgomery, Mr. S. E. Hutton, Mr. J. C. Thomas, Mrs. A. Netland, Miss O. Netland, Miss C. Thomson, Dr. J. B. Woods, Mrs. Wood and 4 children, Miss E. Olsen, Mr. G. Montrose, Mrs. G. Montrose, Mr. W. Williams, Mrs. Williams and child and Rev. F. Oblinger. For Manila :—Mr. H. W. Foster, Mr. S. J. Wright, Mr. J. Jenkins, Mr. R. Smith, Mrs. J. Jenkins, Mr. C. N. Mullen, Mr. W. A. Stogner, Mr., J. C. Scouller, Miss N. Eooks, Miss S. C. Fooks Mrs. C. E. Bennett, Mr. J. W. Philbrook, Miss O. M'Commer, Mr. J. K. Pickering, Mr. P. S. O'Reilly, Mr. C. Donohue, Miss L. M. McElhannon, Dr. F. W. Wood, Mrs. Wood and child, Dr. C. B. Estey, Mrs. A. A. Auger, Miss E. Auger. Miss A. Auger, Mr. S. W. Hulse, Mr. F. Garrett, Dr. Ganoway, Mrs. Ganoway, Mr. C. Plumacner, Mr. W. D. Woodroof, Miss J. Luffany and Mr.. D. C. McElhannon, For Hongkong :—Mrs. B. Littlefield and child, Dr. O. Taylor, Mr. M. M. Morrill, Mr. W. N. Mercier, Miss M. J. Schultz, Miss C. B. Holt, Miss C. Brown, Miss B. Scott, Mr. C. L. Creed, Miss V. Dellinger, Mr. A. W. Schneider, Mrs. H. Lorentzen and child, Mr. C. F. McWilliams, Mrs. C. F. McWilliams, Miss H. Dellinger, Mr. J. H. Scholes, Mr. L. H. Yit and Mr. L. T. Gee in cabin ; 3 in European steerage ; 72 in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of India* from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. F. B. Deacon, Mr. N. S. O. Watson, Mr. J. R. Michael, Mr. F. Shirley, Mr. D. Maitland and Mr. A. H Cobb. For Vancouver, B.C. :—Captain and Mrs. Fielder, Mr. E. B. Merchant, Mr. A. S. Ginger, Mr. M. Paine, Rev. Father Fraser, Capt. W. E. Kent, Mrs. Norris and Mr. J. Fujita in cabin ; 44 Chinese in Asiatic 2nd class ; 287 in steerage.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Oceanien* for Marseilles via ports :—Mr. S. Scott, Mr. K. E. A. Graff, Mrs. Mooser and baby, Mr. and Mrs. Borkowsky and 3 children, Mr. G. Mooser, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Such and daughter, Mr. Bodie Clarke, Lt. Col. and Mrs. Macleod, Mr. and Mrs. Burns Pye, Mr. E. Eggli, Mr. Borkowsky's native servant, Mr. Koh Tian Lai and boy, Mr. and Mrs Maillard, Mr. Herledan, Mr Chapsal and Mr. Lourmiere in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Chiyo Maru* for Hongkong via ports :—Miss L. L. Bartlett, Miss M. W. Bartlett, Miss Lucil Dooley, Mr. B. Clark, Mrs. Geo. Mooser and infant, Mr. H. J. Such, Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Bacon and infant, Mrs. C. Bates, Mr. Wm. C. Carroll, Mrs. N. Compton, Mr. W. B. Davenport, Mr. L. L. Davis, Rev. and Mrs. Paul Deltz, Miss H. Doltz, Mr. Walter Elliott, Mrs. C. B. Elliott, Miss Ethel Elliott, Master Philip Elliott, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Ward B. Gregg, Mr. J. W. A. Hansen, Mrs. F. Allen, Mrs. J. Ailsworth, Mr. and Mrs. F. S. Aldrich, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Bryan, Mr. and Mrs. I. Chapman, Miss Dorothy Chapman, Miss Sdie Chapman, Mr. M. O. Clark, Miss M. Dean, Mrs. Pine, Mrs. M. L. McComber, Mrs. E. E Rogers, Dr. and Mrs. Oskar Fikstein, Miss Lilian A. Wells, Mrs. H. J. Such, Miss Frances Such, Mr. A. S. Lanier, Mrs. Doris Marlowe, Mrs. E. McPherson, Dr. and Mrs. Albert M Meade, Mr. John F. Minier, Mr. A. MacKillop, Mr. E. L. Poole, Mr. P. A. Prentiss, Mr. P. V. Refundo, Miss M. L. Stewart, Mrs. J. Symington, Miss F. M. Tennett. Mr. Wm. Wallace, Mr. L. P. Willis, Mr. C. E. Workman, Mrs. Pearle B. Young and infant, Mr. and Mrs. S Erlanger, Mr. G. G. Hoppeler, Miss Agness Kelly, Mr. John H. Martin, Mr. Jose Mirandes, Mr. J. H. Mackenzie, Mr. C. S. Osborne, Mr. R. Riddell, Mrs. R. Riddle, Mr. John V. Terreforte, Miss M. Walton, Mrs. H. E. Southworth, Miss E. Curtis, Miss F. Curtis, Mrs. C. Curtis, Miss E. Rogers, Mr. S. Ringer, Mrs. Martin Egan, Mr. and Mrs. L. F. Marie and son, Mr. R. L. Harding, Mrs E Lloyd, Dr. O. Cloos, Mrs. M. C. Cloos, Lt. C. Wilber, Miss F. I. Flynn, Mr. and Mrs. A. Miller, Mrs. J. J. Cheatham and amah, Miss C. Cheatham, Miss E. Cheatham, Miss M. Lindsey, Mr. J. A. Campbell, Mr. A. Serno, Mrs. D. W. Todd, Master W. Todd, Master D. W. Todd, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Ferguson, Mr. G. Blundell, Mr. H. Albrecht, Mr. E. Lyons, Mr. L. J. Young, Dr. W. N. Palmer, Judge C. H. Smith, Mrs. C. H. Smith, Mrs. G. B. Cadwell, Lt. E. W. Stolt, Mrs. J. F. Ogden, Miss F. W. Siblev, Mrs. J. H. Dwight, Miss F. R. Dwight, Mrs. S. H. Wilber, Mrs. R. L. Harding and Mrs. C. H. McKinstry, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of India* for Vancouver, B.C. :—Capt. Fielder, Mrs. Fielder, Rev. Father Fraser, Mr. Y. Fujita, Mr. A. S. Ginger, Mr. A. Hattori, Hon. S. Joicey, Capt. W. E. Kent, Mr. E. B. Merchant, Mrs Norris, Mr. G. Foint, Mr. G Sasaki and Mr. W. J. Sparks, in cabin

Per British steamer *Ceylon* for London and Antwerp via ports :—Mr H. Dibben, Miss Dering, Miss Hooper, Mr. F. W. Felkin, Rev. W. Duxley Dixon Mr. Leonce Flavelle, child and amah in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru* for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. Chas. A. Aslet, Mr. R. B. Bylee, Mr. C. Child, Mr. F. S. Clark, Mrs. F. S. Clark, Mrs. S. L. Clark, Mr C. B. D. Collyer, Mr. H. L. Eppinger, Dr. C. Evtefejeff. Mr. L. Von Hemert, Mr K. Kojima, Mrs. K Kojima, Mr. C. S. Lowe, Mr. D. G. McRae, Mr. M. Milne, Mrs. M. Milne, Mr. E. F. O'Neill, Mrs. H. J. Openshaw, Mr. A. L. Peel, Mrs. A. L. Peel, Mr. N. Samwell, Rev. S. W. Ward and Mr. R. C. Whitenaok in cabin.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 16TH, 1909.

DEATHS.

WINFIELD.—At 142-c Bluff, on October 7th, 1909, FRANK WINFIELD, aged 74.

BENNETT.—Rev. ALBERT ARNOLD BENNETT, D.D., entered into rest Oct. 12th at 11.45 a.m., in the 60th year of his age.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE cable between Foochow and Formosa, which had been suspended since the 16th ultimo, was reopened on the 9th instant.

THE Tsukui district, Kanagawa prefecture, was visited on the 9th instant by the first frost of the season. No damage to the crops is reported.

EARLY on Sunday morning a Japanese residing at Nakamura-machi in this city murdered his wife (aged 57) by strangling her in her sleep. After committing the crime, he hanged himself.

ON October 13 General Prince Fushimi and Major-General Ozawa were appointed Commander and Chief of Staff respectively, on the occasion of the forthcoming military review on the Emperor's birthday.

MR. NAGATAKI, Consul-General for Chientao, left Shimbashi yesterday for his post, in company with his staff. The Consulate-General at Lungchingtsun is expected to be opened on the 26th inst.

THE Russian authorities have decided to release the Japanese vessel *Kumano Maru*, which was confiscated last year on the ground of illegal fishing, it having been proved that she had not infringed the coasting fishery regulations.

ON the 12th inst. the Cotton Spinning Mills Association of Osaka received a telegram stating that all the spinning mills throughout the United States of America have decided to curtail the working hours. No mention is made as to time

IT is stated that the local Municipality will give a public reception to the officers and crew of the Netherlands squadron, which is expected here on the 16th inst. The squadron is under the Command of Captain Tydeman and consists of three vessels, *de Ruyter*, *Tromp* and *Koningin Regentes*.

THE cremated remains of the late Professor Fennelosa, of the Imperial University of Tokyo, having arrived from England for re-interment in this country, the burial took place on the 10th instant at Miidera, Omi province. Among those present were Dr. Ariga Nagao and Mr. Hayashi Aisaku, representing the ex-pupils of the Professor.

THE Sino-Japanese Treaty having been successfully concluded, Mr. Ijuin, Japanese Minister at Peking, was on the 11th inst. decorated with the First Order of the Sacred Treasure. At the same time, Mr. Abe, the former First Secretary of the Peking Legation; Mr. Honda, the present Secretary; and Mr. Takao, First Interpreter, were also decorated.

FROM a home paper we learn that Vice-Admiral Lambton, in command on this station, returns home prior to the expiration of his term in order to take over the command of the Atlantic Squadron, which Vice-Admiral Curzon Howe has been obliged to vacate through illness. Prince Louis of Battenberg is mentioned as the next Commander-in-Chief in these waters.

ON the evening of the 8th instant Madame Henkler, of No. 72 Yamate cho, was proceeding home from Motomachi by way of Daikanzaka when a ruffian sprang at her and seized her reticule containing some 30 *yen*, which she was carrying in her left hand. Though she struggled to prevent the robbery, the thief finally obtained possession of the hand-bag and ran away. The matter was at once reported to the police, but no arrest has yet been made.

REGARDING the theft on the 27th ultimo of some 2,400 *yen* from the Osaka Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Hamada, Secretary of the Chamber, has written a long letter to the Police Authorities. The Chamber having decided to hold the Secretary responsible for the money, a meeting of the officials was held on the 8th inst., when it was decided to present 5,000 *yen* to Mr. Hamada in acknowledgment of his past services. From this sum, the money lost has been deducted.

THE funeral service in connection with the late Mr. F. Winfield (whose death was briefly reported in our last issue) was held in the house of the deceased on Saturday last, in the presence of a large number of mourners. The Rev. Mr. Wallace of Toyko officiated, being assisted by Rev. Mr. Field. The service at the house was of a simple but impressive character, and on its conclusion the casket containing the ashes—the body having been cremated—was carried to Christ Church, where the full burial service was read. Mr. Babbitt, Acting U S. Consul General, Mr. E. W. Frazar, Mr. G. W. Colton and Dr. A. G. Smith acted as pall-bearers. The ashes will be conveyed shortly to America, for interment in the family vault at Virginia.

EARLY on the morning of the 8th instant, a passenger train coming from Karuizawa, which was to pass through Miyoda Station on the Shinyetsu line, was shunted on to the wrong line and collided with a goods train in the station. One wagon and a third-class carriage were smashed, and eight persons were more or less severely injured. In consequence the traffic was interrupted for over 7 hours. Almost all the wagons of the goods train were damaged.

AT Nagasaki, Nomoto Tokuzo, aged 24, a native of Kagoshima-ken, has been sentenced to imprisonment for life for the murder in June last of Sergeant Nakamura, in charge of the Japanese Consular Police at Hankow. The accused was a Consular police constable at Hankow, and the performance of his duties not giving satisfaction to his superior, Sergeant Nakamura remonstrated with him, when Nomoto expressed his resentment by stabbing the sergeant, killing him instantly.

ON October 8th Osada-mura and neighbourhood, in Shidzuoka prefecture, were visited by a tidal wave, which submerged more than 1000 acres of ricefields. An obstruction was formed by sand in one part of the mouth of the Ozaka river, which prevented the water from receding. By about 10 a.m. the next day, however, several hundreds of workmen and villagers had succeeding in removing the obstacle. A workman on the line between Yaitsu and Shidzuoka and three fishermen were swept away by the wave.

WHILST cargo was being discharged from the *Iyo Maru* into a lighter at Muroran a day or two ago, a piece of machinery weighing 14 tons fell from the sling and crashed through the bottom of the lighter, killing one of the coolies engaged at work. The *Iyo Maru*, a European liner, left Yokohama for Muroran on the 4th instant with a considerable quantity of machinery for the new steel works to be erected at the latter place. The company is an Anglo-Japanese one, the British portion being represented by the well-known firm of Vickers, Maxim & Co.

THE opening ceremony of the Kagoshima line of the Kyushu railway will be held on November 20 and the service inaugurated the following day. A special express train leaving Tokyo at 7.30 p.m. connects with the 7.24 at Moji the second morning after and arrives at Kagoshima at 8.24 p.m. the same day. The train leaving Tokyo at 3.34 p.m. is to connect with an express leaving Moji at 11.20 p.m. the next day, and is due at Kagoshima at 1.49 p.m. the day after. The new line between Ongagawa and Akama (Northern Kyushu) will be in operation on the 11th prox.

A CHINESE named Chenke Jen, of Kobe, instituted a lawsuit on the 5th inst. in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho against the Kobe Electric Street Tramway Company, claiming a sum of *yen* 5,095.40 as compensation. It appears, says the *Herald*, that the Chinese holds a superficies on 42 tsubo of land in Motomachi 1-chome, of which he estimates the value at *yen* 318.50 per tsubo. A little over 28 tsubo of the land is to be taken by the Tramway Company, and the Prefectural Land Purchase Committee have estimated its value at *yen* 145 per tsubo, the compensation to be paid to the Chinese being put at *yen* 4,204.80. This he declined to accept, and he is now suing for the difference between the sum offered and the total value of the land at *yen* 318.50 per tsubo.

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MR. CRANE.

Saturday, October 9.

As might have been anticipated, a very sensational construction has been put upon the summoning of Mr. Crane to Washington from San Francisco, which place he had reached *en route* for Peking. The *Mainichi Dempo's* Chicago correspondent wires that certain injudicious utterances made by the new Minister with reference to China and Japan induced the Secretary of State to recall him to Washington, in order to caution him, according to some authorities, and in order to cancel his appointment, according to others. The gist of the statements attributed to him is that strenuous efforts must be made to find a field for American manufactures in the Middle Kingdom; and that the Powers of the West must organize an endeavour to counteract the impression produced upon the nerves of Asia by Japan's victory over Russia. The *Asahi Shimbun*, however, has a telegram which describes all this talk as a part of the anti-Japanese and pro-Chinese campaign which is being so diligently waged by certain interested parties in the United States. This journal's San Francisco correspondent wires that the summoning of Mr. Crane to Washington is believed to be merely for purposes of consultation, and as he has left his family in San Francisco, it is considered certain that he will rejoin them in time to start by the steamer leaving on the 20th inst.

Wednesday, October 13.

It will have been observed that although much talk was heard about an injudiciously worded statement attributed to Mr. Crane at Chicago, the statement itself was not accurately telegraphed. San Francisco now remedies this hiatus. We read that Mr. Crane distinctly affirmed that the Mukden-Antung Railway agreement was in contravention of the principle of the open door, and that the relations between the United States and England and Japan were strained. This statement can not be dismissed on the ground of error or exaggeration by a newspaper interviewer, inasmuch as the copy is said to have been furnished by Mr. Crane himself. Even though this proved to be incorrect, the fact will remain that the telegram accounting for Mr. Crane's recall contains a very disquieting paragraph which suggests, not that the policy enunicated by him was opposed to the ideas of the Washington Government, but that it imperilled the consummation of those ideas by premature disclosure. This, however, we do not for a moment believe. The most reasonable hypothesis is that, finding himself actually *en route* for Peking, Mr. Crane allowed himself to be betrayed into utterances which have suggested to the State Department his manifest unfitness to discharge diplomatic duties. Of course the whole story may prove a canard, with the exception of the bare fact of Mr. Crane's recall. But there is one rumour of an emphatically disquieting nature. It is that Mr. Crane is bringing with him in the capacity of private secretary Mr. Millard, author of "The New Far East." We have reviewed this work in these columns and have showed that it is not only permeated from first to last with dangerous prejudices, but also abounds in erroneous information. Mr. Crane can not be supposed to have chosen such a private secretary without full cognisance of the latter's political views, and by employing him as private secretary the Minister practically endorses those views. We are not sure that this rumour is true, but if it be, it may possibly suffice to account for the whole incident.

The latest telegram received up to this moment (Wednesday morning) is that Mr. Secretary Knox has invited Mr. Crane to resign. The Secretary of State is said to have declared that it is the earnest wish of his Government to maintain the best possible relations with Japan, and that no such course as that attributed to the State Department is contemplated by it. We trust that this disposes finally of the incident. Unfortunately, however, the affair must leave an aftermath of suspicion, and moreover it seems to confirm the impression that there exists in America a coterie of men whose disposition is to employ every possible means of disturbing the relations between their country and Japan.

Thursday, October 14.

The *Mainichi Dempo* has received a telegram from Chicago which gives a verbatim reproduction of the declaration made by the Secretary of State with regard to the Crane incident. Mr. Knox sets out by saying that the State Department was engaged, according to its usual practice, in examining the Agreement newly concluded between Japan and China with a view to determining whether any of its provisions affected the interests of the United States, or whether it contained anything opposed to the principle of the open door and equal opportunities, which principle had received the endorsement of all the Powers. This examination was still in progress and no definite results had yet been reached. In these circumstances Mr. Crane came to the State Department, and having ascertained from one of the officials that the above examination was in progress, he not only failed to communicate in any way with the Head of the Department, but he also lost sight of his own connexion with the Government, and proceeded to convey to a newspaper intelligence that one Article of the Agreement had been actually found to conflict with the principle of the open door, and to be opposed to the interests of the United States, and he further added that on his own arrival in Peking a formal protest would be made. This journalistic interview found its way widely into the press of the United States, and into that of Japan also, so that considerable commotion was produced. In consequence of these occurrences the Secretary of State had recalled Mr. Crane by telegram and had required him to give a responsible explanation of his action. Mr. Crane had replied acknowledging the use of indiscreet expressions in his communications with the press and recognising the publicity which the affair had attained. He declared that he was prepared to tender his resignation if this incident was considered to have seriously shaken confidence in him, or to have impaired his capacity for usefulness. The Secretary of State, recognising that nothing remained to be done except to endorse Mr. Crane's resignation, gave instructions accordingly.

In Japan, it appears to be thought that the investigation which the State Department is thus shown to have been conducting is based upon the Agreement concluded in 1907 between the Japanese Consul-General in Mukden and the Viceroy of Manchuria. As a matter of fact, this Agreement relates simply to conjoint enterprises, and neither contains anything to which the slightest international exception could be taken, nor has yet received final approval. Of course its contents have not been published, and the State Department in Washington, finding itself ignorant of the exact import of the document, may not unreasonably entertain some uneasiness about it. If this conjecture be right, the sooner the document is published the better. At all events, the Governments of Washington and Tokyo are pledged by explicit convention to communicate with each other should anything occur which threatens the *status quo*, and it is therefore inconceivable that the State Department contemplated the course ascribed to it by rumour, namely, the canvassing of the views of other Powers with the object of addressing a joint protest to Japan.

The *Mainichi Dempo* quotes an anonymous diplomat as saying that Mr. Crane's indiscretion may have proved a blessing in disguise to Japan. At the Shimonoseki negotiations in 1895, Li Hung Chang made large concessions of territory to Japan, but he had his tongue in his cheek all the while, for he knew that Japan would not be allowed by the other Powers to hold her acquisition. So again with regard to the recent negotiations between Peking and Tokyo. The concessions in connexion with the Mukden-Antung reconstruction and the Kilin-Hoiryong line were matters about which Japan had good reason to congratulate herself. But China, on her side, may have confidently expected to repeat the Shimonoseki device, and to employ foreign Powers, headed by the United States, to pull the chestnuts out of the fire for her. It is quite conceivable that this *dénouement* was in process of consummation when Mr. Crane's indiscretion proved fatal.

This is a very good illustration of the suspicions which, as we ventured to predict in our last issue, are not unlikely to remain in the minds of some Japanese. The nature of the incident has been such that certain publicists will be unable to divest themselves of the idea that Washington was actually preparing to take a step which must have proved very serious for Japan. But there is not the smallest evidence that such was really the case. It was in the ordinary routine of duty that the State Department in Washington set itself to examine closely into all the bearings of the new Agreement; and that Mr. Crane, on the occasion of his visit to the Department, should have been told that such an investigation was in progress would have been the commonest of common incidents, and would never have stirred so much as a ripple on the surface of the international sea had it not been for Mr. Crane's indiscretion. It can not be too emphatically denied that the State Department in Washington harboured the least *soupçon* of unfriendliness towards Japan. The whole story owes its origin to a strange combination of imagination and indiscretion; and what seems to us to be really fortunate is that the interests of the United States were saved by a tiny accident from coming into the charge of such a diplomat.

TREATY REVISION.

Barely two years separate us from the time when the present Treaties with Japan lapse and determine. Naturally as the days pass, attention is becoming more and more concentrated on this important question. If in 1902 the foreign residents had known that they were within two years of being transferred almost unconditionally to Japanese jurisdiction, they would, in their then mood, have shown much perturbation. There is no such grave issue at stake in 1911, yet unquestionably the new treaties which will be concluded in that year have

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absorbing interest for the foreign communities. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* takes up the question editorially, and says that three cardinal points have to be discussed. The first is the recovery of the coastwise trade. So long as Japan's mercantile marine was in its infancy, the interests of the country were certainly promoted by allowing foreign vessels to take part in the cabotage. But now that Japan has an effective service of maritime transports, she is inclined, if we may judge from the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun's* utterances, to exclude foreign competition. Such exclusion used to be vigorously practised in England, and is to-day practised in the United States. But its operation in the latter case betrays many abuses, and it will be the business of the Japanese legislators to devise a system which shall afford protection without creating disadvantages. The *Nichi Nichi* does not attempt to set forth the details of such a system, but the fact of the intention is sufficiently interesting.

The second problem to be solved is the second Article of the Treaty with the United States which empowers the Washington Government to legislate for the exclusion of Japanese subjects. This Article is described by our contemporary as humiliating to Japan, and we have often heard that description applied to it; but inasmuch as it is absolutely reciprocal in its provisions, we have never been able to appreciate the humiliation. At all events, it is tolerably certain that the Senate of the United States would never agree to a treaty from which this Article was omitted. The *Nichi Nichi* is fully cognisant of that difficulty, but it suggests that it might be overcome by removing the Article from the Treaty and relegating it to a memorandum.

A third question is that of the perpetual leases. It is patent that the present system of partial exemption from taxation can not be left unremedied for all time. Indeed, it is very much to the disadvantage of the foreign residents, in our opinion, that such a system should exist at all, for the petty pecuniary profit that it brings is not for a moment commensurate with the invidious distinction it sets up. To deal with it, however, is an extremely difficult problem. The *Nichi Nichi* thinks that the foreigners' privilege will be bought up by the Japanese Government under some pretext or other. We do not believe it. Our conviction is that no Japanese Diet could be induced to vote money for such a purpose.

THE MITSUI FAMILY.

Quite an imposing ceremony took place on the 10th instant at the Mitsui Club, when the "Cabinet" of the new Mitsui Partnership was duly announced, and the inauguration of the new régime was celebrated. We have already given the details of the reorganized concern, and described how its capital of 50 million *yen* is divided between the Bank, the Mines and the General Commodities Departments. Baron Mitsui Hachiroyemon, Head of the Family, delivered an address explaining the new system, and speaking in terms highly eulogistic of the services of Mr. K. Masuda, who has taken a leading part in the Firm's business during the past 30 years. Mr. Masuda is now appointed to be general adviser of the reorganized Firm. The Mitsui is the oldest commercial institution in Japan. It dates from a period nearly 200 years ago, when its founder stepped out of the ranks of the aristocracy to establish the earliest and greatest banking concern in Japan.

THE RAILWAY QUESTION IN CHINA.

One of the immediate consequences of the demise of Chang Chih-tung was anticipated to be serious delay of the negotiations with regard to the Yeh-Han and Chuan-Han Railways. But it appears that so far as formalities are concerned, no time has been lost in providing for the continuance of the negotiations. On the 7th inst., an Imperial decree was issued, directing that the conduct of these negotiations should be undertaken thenceforth by the Board of Posts and Telegraphs. Nevertheless, as the present Head of the Board is Mr. Hsu Chih-chang, formerly Viceroy of Manchuria, it is thought that the negotiations will be considerably protracted. Mr. Hsu is a strenuous leader of the rights-recovery party, and it is deemed most improbable that he will accept the lines of settlement mapped out in the sequel of conferences with Chang Chih-tung. The telegraph speaks as though the resulting state of affairs would be to England's advantage and to Germany's disadvantage, but precisely the opposite forecast suggests itself to us. If Mr. Hsu wants better terms than those which satisfied his Excellency Chang, there is much more probability of getting them from Germany than of getting them from England. In fact, it was because Germany cut in with a programme more favourable to the Chinese borrowers than that which the English Syndicate was willing to accept that the latter fell out of favour in the first instance.

The death of Chang Chih-tung would seem to have greatly complicated the question of the Yeh-Han and Chuan-Han Railways. It is said to be thought by well-informed persons in Peking that the problem may have to be permanently postponed. According to present appearances, the removal of Chang has resulted in a disintegration of the group of foreign Powers which had combined to finance the Railways. It will be remembered that a provisional agreement was signed on the 6th of last June, and that it was suddenly interrupted by the claim of the United States to be admitted to the deal, a claim which seems to rest on a valid basis. As for Germany, she possesses no such conventional right, her position in the negotiation being due to the fact that she cleverly stepped into the breach when the disagreement took place between Chang Chih-tung and Mr. Bland, representing the British Syndicate. It is therefore quite conceivable that the United States, England and France, who from the outset were entitled to share the privilege in question, might not be indisposed to welcome the indefinite postponement of the negotiation for the sake of excluding Germany, whose inclination to underbid her European fellows has proved so inconvenient to the latter. This is the construction put upon the situation by the *Jiji Shimpo*, quoting a person said to be well informed on the subject. To us, however, the analysis seems a little too fine, nor can we readily persuade ourselves to believe that practical men of business like those interested in this negotiation would be influenced by such subtle sentiment.

TURKEY AND JAPAN.

The alleged treaty between Japan and Turkey still remains a matter of conjecture. The *Nippon* recalls the fact that the proposals for such a compact were formulated by Turkey originally when the first Katsura Cabinet was in power, Count Komura being then Minister for Foreign Affairs, as he is now. The proposition fell through, owing to the question of the Capitulations, and it suffered the same fate for the same reason on being renewed in the days of the Saionji Ministery. There can not be much doubt, our contemporary thinks, that negotiations between the Ambassadors of the two Powers have been carried within sight of conclusion in London, but the question is what *quid pro quo* Japan will get from Turkey for agreeing to recognise the latter's judicial autonomy. The *Nippon* hints broadly at a railway concession, but does not attempt to conceal the fact that such a privilege would be of very little direct use to Japan. It might be of use to her ally, however.

There is a resurrection of the rumour circulated some time ago to the effect that Austria was largely responsible for the conclusion of a treaty between Japan and Turkey. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* now revives this story with much assurance. It says that in the agreement concluded between Austria and Turkey with regard to the affair of Herzegovina and Bosnia the Vienna Government pledged itself to endorse any treaty between Turkey and a foreign Power providing for the abolition of the Capitulations, and further promised that it would cooperate in the preliminaries of such a treaty. This accounts for the statement made at the outset, namely, that the project of a treaty with Japan had its origin in Vienna. We are further told that practically all the provisions of the Treaty have been discussed and agreed to, but that there are still some minor difficulties. One of these is that Mahommedanism being the State religion of Turkey, witnesses in law courts are required to swear on the *Koran*, and further that only direct evidence is regarded as valid by Turkish tribunals. To these two points the Japanese negotiators can not agree, nor if they did agree, would other Powers be at all likely to follow their example. It is not expected, however, that these obstacles will prove fatal.

ELECTRIC LIGHTING IN TOKYO.

The fact that the Tokyo Railway Company has applied for permission to supply electric light to the Fukugawa district of Tokyo, places the Company in direct competition with the Tokyo Electric Light Company. One of the officers of the latter has accordingly been interviewed by a representative of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, and is quoted as denouncing the unsoundness of the Government's policy in granting concessions for the same kind of work to two different companies in the same city. This has been done in the case of gas by chartering the Chiyoda Company, and it is now to be done, apparently, in the case of electric light. But this expert considers that such enterprises invariably end their competition by amalgamating, and thus the Government's aim is defeated. Moreover, although the Tokyo Railway's competition brought about a large reduction in the cost of electric light for the citizens, that favourable state of affairs is possible only so long as the Company has surplus power remaining after supplying its cars, and so long as it can work with overhead wires. The former condition will cease to exist when the suburban lines are completed, and the latter will be at once at variance with the state of affairs in Fukugawa, where the wires will have to be laid under the ground.

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AMERICA AND JAPAN.

Saturday, October 9.

The rumour is again renewed that the United States Secretary of State has decided to enter a protest against the recently concluded Agreement between Japan and China. The story is told in a telegram which reaches the *Asahi Shimbun* from London and which enters into some details. It says that the United States Government warmly approved China's proposal to submit the questions at issue to the Hague Tribunal, and that the conclusion of the new Agreement was entirely contrary to American expectation. The Secretary of State is represented as claiming that he had not an opportunity of examining the Agreement in full; that he finds its provisions to be in conflict with the principles of the open door in Manchuria, and that the United States Representative in Tokyo was absent from his post at the time of the conclusion of the Agreement. We can only repeat emphatically our want of faith in the above story. The statement attributed to the Secretary of State that he had no opportunity of examining the Agreement in detail before it was concluded, seems to us to confirm the untrustworthiness of the whole rumour, for the Secretary of State had the Agreement communicated to him previously to its signature, and then was the time to object, if any grounds for objection were found to exist. Besides it seems impossible to support a charge of anti-open door in the matter of this Agreement. The only new condition that it contains is that relating to the Kilin-Hoiryong Railway, and considering that the terms agreed upon with regard to this railway provide merely for a cöoperative enterprise on the part of the two Powers concerned, it is scarcely conceivable that the arrangement could be regarded as conferring on Japan any exclusive privilege detrimental to the interests of other Powers. In short it appears to us that we are here confronted by another deliberate attempt to disturb the good relations of Japan and America. It would be very much in the highest interests of humanity if the malevolent agitators who are engaged in this villainous work could be unearthed and held up to the opprobrium they deserve.

Sunday, October 10.

This morning further telegrams are to hand with reference to the alleged intention of the United States Secretary of State to enter a protest against the new Agreement between Japan and China. The telegraph is now a little more explicit. It says that what Washington mainly objects to is, in the first place, the mining rights acquired by Japan along the Mukden-Antung line; and, in the second, the stipulation with regard to the Fakumen Railway. It is added that Mr. Crane's recall from San Francisco to Washington was dictated by the Secretary of State's desire to instruct him fully on this important subject, and it is asserted that the Washington Government was taken by surprise, inasmuch as the Agreement was concluded in the absence of the American Representatives from both Peking and Tokyo.

These details do not help to confirm the truth of the rumour. For as to the mining privileges in the zone of the Mukden-Antung line, they were acquired by Japan at Portsmouth and at Peking in 1905, and the United States was then a tacitly assenting party; and as for the Fakumen Railway, the construction of such a line was vetoed by the Peking Treaty of 1905, and the fact that Japan was determined to enforce the veto has been before the world during exactly a year, without evoking any protest whatever from Washington.

The *Kokumin* and the *Asahi* give a *précis* of views said to be entertained by the Japanese Government on this subject. It is naturally remarked that the United States would be placing its own diplomacy in a very uncomplimentary light if it alleged that only now, after an interval of fully two months, the discovery had been made that the Agreement of last August called for a protest from Washington. Moreover, the Representatives of all the Powers in Peking at the time of the conclusion of the Agreement were not only satisfied but even pleased with the action taken by Japan and the resulting settlement. It would therefore be very singular if the United States was now to separate itself from all the other Powers and assume an unfriendly attitude towards Japan. The only point which presents any conceivable perplexity in the Agreement is the reference to an unpublished understanding arrived at by the Japanese Consul in Mukden in 1907 and the Viceroy of Manchuria. But that understanding was nothing more than a declaration that enterprises for the purpose of developing Manchuria should be undertaken jointly as far as possible. There is nothing in the remotest degree antagonistic to the principle of the open door. The most credible explanation of all this commotion is that it prefaces an active campaign on the part of the American capitalists for exploiting the Manchurian field and that they desire to hold up a warning hand to Japan. This theory would accord with the long interview said to have take place between Mr. Straight and the Viceroy of Mukden and with the recall of Mr. Crane from San Francisco, the latter step having probably been taken for the purpose of instructing him as to the new development. In short, American capitalists are obliged to take a hand in the Manchurian game, and they have planned the present situation for the purpose of getting the door opened to them as widely as possible.

We may mention that the *Mainichi Dempo's* Chicago correspondent wires some utterances attributed to Mr. Crane by journalists who interviewed him on his way to Washington, but they are such very disjointed remarks that nothing could be gained by re-translating them into English.

Monday, October 11.

The alleged protest by the United States against the new Agreement continues to be the subject of much talk in Tokyo. It is evidently impossible for the Japanese people to credit the idea that, at this singularly belated hour, the Washington Authorities would take such a step. No scrutiny, however close, reveals to Japanese eyes in the Agreement any clause which violates the principle of the open door, or which confers on Japan any privilege that she did not already possess by treaty or convention. Thus the conclusion is inevitable that, as the Japanese say, *teki ga Honno-ji ni aru*; or, in other words, the rumour has a purpose quite different from that which appears on the surface. That purpose is not far to seek. It is evidently connected with the inauguration of a financial campaign by American capitalists in China. In short, a warning trumpet is being sounded by the agents of the capitalists in editorial chairs and telegraph offices. China will be asked to grant some startling concessions, and Japan is ominously advised against any attempt to block the way. We are not by any means sure that this is not the true interpretation of the situation. It is at all events the interpretation which commends itself to the bewildered Japanese publicist.

THE CANADIAN TRADE COMMISSIONER.

There is another telegram from Ottawa about the Trade Commissioner of Canada. The gist of the message is that the Canadian Government has disavowed all responsibility for the letter written by Mr. Harris with regard to the trustworthiness of a certain Japanese firm and has reprimanded him for writing it. We think this information very apocryphal. Mr. Harris was perfectly justified in sending to an enquiring correspondent a frank statement of the credit enjoyed by any particular Japanese firm. Some people may contend that to convey such information does not fall within the legitimate sphere of his functious, but it is difficult to take that view. On the contrary, it appears to us that to protect his own countrymen against establishing relations with an untrustworthy Japanese firm falls well within the range of a Commissioner's duties, and certainly the better class of Japanese merchants would not think of resenting such action on his part. We are not surprised however, that the Japanese should have become sensitive on this point. For many years it was the habit of a section of the foreign local press to proclaim a serious lack of commercial morality among the Japanese and to extoll the superiority of the Chinese in that respect. No sane man can pretend to think that there is not a fair proportion of black sheep among the Japanese commercial flock, and more especially among that part of it which makes the foreign settlements its happy hunting ground. But among Japanese of the better class there is probably just as much commercial morality as there is among the men of any country, and the perpetual charges of deficiency in this respect which used to be preferred by certain local newspapers must have been intensely exasperating to all patriotic Japanese. One can not expect to be greeted with a perpetual smile on the face of a man whom one habitually calls a knave.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Telegrams from Peking state that the anxiety shown by a number of Chinese to procure hard cash in exchange for notes of the Specie Bank appears to have been completely allayed. This was the only practical manifestation of the boycotting spirit in Peking, and it does not appear to have attained large dimensions at any time. Altogether it would seem that no serious apprehensions need be entertained any longer. Even the *Chun-kwoh-pao*, which at one time distinguished itself by vehement anti-Japanese writing, seems now to have appreciated that the policy of the Central Government is to be on friendly terms with Japan, and it has accordingly tempered its tone so as to be in accord with that laudable purpose.

From Mukden also comes satisfactory news. It is to the effect that the Chinese tradesmen of that place never had any special predeliction for a boycott, and that their reluctance is now strengthened by official notices which the local authorities have caused to be posted at conspicuous places, warning the people against the folly of attempting to taboo Japanese goods, and informing them explicitly that such a course would be contrary to the views and wishes of the Central Government.

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PRINCE ITO.

Friday, October 8.

It appears that Prince Ito is about to make a tour through Manchuria, and not unnaturally his Highness' journey is popularly associated with some important developments in Japan's policy throughout that region. Some rumours go so far as to allege that he will be entrusted in Manchuria with a position similar to that held by him in Korea. It will be fortunate for his country if this rumour prove to be correct, but it seems to us that the verge of winter is hardly the time when such a programme would be likely to be inaugurated.

Saturday, October 9.

Prince Ito is much too great a personage for his movements to escape interested scrutiny, and we are not surprised that his approaching journey to Manchuria should be treated by the Tokyo press as an event of cardinal moment. His Highness will be accompanied by quite a considerable staff, and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* goes so far as to say that his trip has been taken partly at the instance of Marquis Katsura and Count Komura. He is to proceed as far as Changchun, so that every part of Manchuria in which Japan is specially interested will come under his observation.

Sunday, October 10.

Prince Ito was received in audience by the Emperor on the 9th inst., preparatory to his departure for Manchuria. The Sovereign is said to have addressed to him a most gracious message, and he had, two days previously, been honoured by the receipt of a verselet composed and written by the Empress, the gist of which was that the gods above are fully cognisant of his loyal services to his country. The Prince is to be accompanied by an officer of the Army and one of the Navy, to explain to him the features of the great battles whose scenes he will visit. He will be absent, it is said, for three weeks. Rumour in Japan now has it that his trip to Manchuria is taken at the desire of the Cabinet, his advice being wished for in connexion with either the reorganisation of the Viceroyalty and the Consulate-General, or the removal of the former. On the other hand, the yellow press in America is saying that the visit of Japan's greatest statesman to Manchuria is undertaken for the purpose of collecting materials for the construction of Japan's answer to the protest which Washington is preparing to lodge.

Monday, October 11.

Prince Ito's projected trip to Manchuria furnishes increasing material for newspaper comment and conjecture. Certain publicists seem determined to convince themselves, as well as to persuade others, that his Highness has an important purpose in making this journey. They believe that in view of the keen scrutiny concentrated by foreign Powers on Japan's relations with China, the Prince's mission has been planned with the object of reducing the dimensions of Japanese enterprise in Manchuria and of the machinery for fostering and protecting it. These forecasts generally have very vague outlines, but they evidently point to the withdrawal of the Governor-Generalship from Kwantung and the entrusting of its functions to consular hands. At all events, it is widely thought that the Prince's visit to Manchuria will tend to promote the principle of the open door.

It now appears that the limit of His Highness' journey is not to be Chang-chun, as was originally stated, but that he will go on to Harbin, and possibly return to Japan *viâ* Vladivostock. Telegrams from Europe state that the Russian Minister of Finance, accompanied by the Russian Representative in Peking, will set out from St. Petersburg on the 13th inst. *en route* for East Asia, and thus these Russian statesmen will be in Harbin at the time of Prince Ito's arrival there. Of course, their coming eastward suggests numerous theories, and is by some persons directly associated with Prince Ito's journey.

CANTON.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has an interesting article on the Pratas Island affair. Our contemporary seems to speak with authority. It alleges that the settlement is largely due to the good will of the new Viceroy, Yuan. This official, who was formerly the Taotai of Shanghai, is a thoroughly enlightened man, and during his tenure of office as Taotai he cemented relations of strong friendship with the Japanese Consul in that settlement. His predecessor at Canton, Mr. Chang, was distinctly inimical to Japan. It was mainly owing to his secret approval that the *Tatsu Maru* boycott lasted so long and attained such dimensions. Everybody knew well that a sincere and resolute word from the Viceroy would have put an end to the trouble. But he never spoke that word. On the contrary, while avowedly issuing proclamations against the boycott, he secretly let it be seen that the movement had his entire sympathy. Confronted by the Pratas Island affair, he at once took up the attitude assumed by the vernacular press of Canton, namely, that Nishikawa was a pirate, and that instead of being compensated for his works, he ought to be heavily fined for stealing the property of another nation. Such a line of argument precluded all amicable settlement. Finally the Viceroy agreed to the appointment of a committee of appraisement, but in view of his mood, and therefore of the mood of the officials appointed by him, very little hope could be entertained of agreement when the committee got to work. Then came the difficulty that Mr. Nishikawa was found to have greatly overstated his claim, and this discovery would certainly have led to fresh complications but for the happy incident of Viceroy Chang's replacement by Viceroy Yuan. With Yuan at the head of affairs a settlement proved easy. The *Asahi* concludes by remarking that the only question now outstanding between the two Empires is that of the posts and telegraphs, which will very soon be solved. There is of course the problem of guarding the Mukden-Antung line, but the two sides have decided to defer this to future discussion.

THE NEW MOVEMENT IN KOREA.

We alluded briefly in our last issue to some remarks made by the celebrated Mr. Uchida Ryohei on the subject of Korea, where he has served for some time as adviser to the Il Ching-hoi. Mr. Uchida is a nephew of the well known Mr. Hiraoka, who used to be regarded as the capitalist of the Progressist Party, and who furnished funds for Mr. Uchida to undertake his memorable explorations in Manchuria and Siberia—explorations which resulted in the publication of incomparably the best maps that we possess of those regions, and in the composition of a brochure which is thought to have contributed materially to the rupture between Japan and Russia. The gist of his observations in Korea is related in the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*. He is there quoted as saying that the motives underlying the new movement in Korea are that the people have really awakened to the fact that without the intervention of a third Power, which contingency has now passed beyond the range of practical possibilities, Korea can not hope to shake off the Japanese protectorate. Therefore her wisest plan is to make the best of the situation, and to accept Japan's guidance along the route which leads to the development of national strength. That is one reason for the laying down of their mutually hostile arms by the three Associations, which have now declared their intention of combining. Another reason is that the Korean people are beginning to feel very severely the pressure of a result inseparable from the growth of material civilization, namely, the appreciation of commodities. It now costs much more to live than it did a few years ago, and, on the other hand, the people's ability to pay their way has not increased in corresponding proportion. The only exit from this dilemma is seen to be earnest and single-hearted cöoperation with the improvements which Japan is desirous of introducing, and having come to recognise that their welfare as a nation is at stake, the Koreans are inclined to lay aside petty factional differences.

PRATAS ISLAND.

The news of the agreement about Pratas Island is now definitely confirmed. The figures do not differ from those recently published, namely, that Mr. Nishizawa's original demand was 160,000 *yen*, and that it was reduced by 30,000 on account of the damage done by his people to Chinese property on the Island. Pratas is to be formally handed over by the Japanese on the 25th of this month, and China is to pay the money within 15 days from that date. Thus happily terminates an affair which might well have developed embarrassing consequences. In our opinion, Mr. Nishizawa may count himself very fortunate. It is not every one who comes off so well in the sequel of exploiting disputed territory.

Since the above was in type Mr. Kurachi, Head of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office, is quoted as saying that in laying before the Chinese Authorities a definite statement of the Pratas Island affair, the Imperial Japanese Government announced that since China recognized the propriety of Nishizawa's enterprise on the Island and had taken actual steps to protect it, Japan did not hesitate to acknowledge China's sovereignty over the Island. Subsequently it was decided between Mr. Consul Segawa and the Chinese Authorities that Nishizawa's enterprise should be bought up, and on the 11th instant there was concluded between the Consul and the Viceroy of Canton an agreement in the following sense :—

(1) China will purchase Nishizawa's works at 160,000 dollars. (Mexican).

(2) As the equivalent of fishing boats, a shrine, buildings and taxes, etc., Nishizawa shall pay 30,000 dollars (Mexican) to China.

(3) The various articles enumerated in the list previously submitted by Mr Nishizawa, together with the phosphates dug out by him, shall be handed over to Chinese Commissioners, and within half a month from such transfer the amount of the purchase money shall be paid to the Japanese Consul in Canton.

It is added that the date of the transfer alluded to above has been fixed as the 25th instant.

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KOREA.

Friday, October 8.

In view of the strong action taken by the various Japanese chambers of commerce in Korea, it is stated that the Residency-General has given an assurance that precedence will not be extended to either of the two new railways contemplated, namely, the Seoul-Gensan and the Tajong-Mokpho. To speak with strict accuracy, Tajong is not the point where the southern road would join with the Seoul-Fusan line. That point is Chochhiwon, which is in the immediate neighbourhood of Tajong. Of course if the two lines have to be undertaken simultaneously, a correspondingly large expenditure will have to be incurred, but if the Tokyo Government is not prepared to find the money, it is thought that the assistance of the new Central Bank of Korea and of the Colonization Bureau can be successfully enlisted. The Resident-General is quoted as saying that he has applied for a grant of 5 million *yen* on account of the first year's expenditures. But it is alleged that the Tokyo Treasury will not give more than 3½ millions, and that that sum will have to suffice. Lieut.-General Baron Usagawa, President of the Colonization Company, is said to have pointed out that if the Government is not prepared to put up the money at once, it can at least guarantee the payments on account of principal and interest. In a very few years the new lines will be self-supporting, and in the meanwhile their effect in pacifying the country would relieve the Government of the expenditure now incurred in dealing with the rebels.

The trouble between the Japanese community in Seoul and the Water-Works Company, which is an American enterprise, appears to be growing more acute. Mr. Resident Miura has taken up the matter with singular vehemence, and has invited all Japanese to prefer complaints at once, if they have suffered in any way from the impurity of the water supplied by the Company. The unwisdom of abandoning to a private company a duty such as that of supplying water to a community is becoming more and more apparent, and we shall probably soon hear that steps have been taken to place the enterprise in official hands.

Mr. Uchida, Adviser to the Il Chinghoi, is said to have stated that the object of the three political associations in forming a combination is to rescue the Korean people from the miserable condition of poverty and hopelessness into which they have sunk. The movement has no political significance whatever. The leaders of the three bodies recognise fully that the closest possible association between Korea and Japan is essential to the restoration of some measure of prosperity in the former country.

Sunday, October 10.

It was supposed that Viscount Sone would visit Tokyo for the purpose of consulting about the two railway schemes in Korea, but as it has been decided that these schemes shall be undertaken and that precedence shall not be given to either of them, no occasion exists any longer for the Resident-General to come to Tokyo at present.

The project of road-building, apart from railways, has met with a serious set-back. Japan is pledged to lend Korea 4 million *yen* in 1910 and a corresponding sum in 1911. But inasmuch as the Japanese Treasury has to shoulder the cost of the new Judiciary, namely, 1,400,000 *yen* annually, it has been decided that the above loans shall be reduced by that amount. On the other hand, the Korean idea had been that this sum of 1,400,000 *yen* would be available for road construction, and since the asset is cut off the project has to be abandoned.

The *Mainichi Dempo's* Seoul correspondent emphatically denies the rumour lately circulated in Seoul, and confirmed by Mr. Uchida Ryohei (as recounted elsewhere in these columns), to the effect that the union of the three Parties in Korea has for motive the closest possible coöperation between that country and Japan. The correspondent alleges that the leaders of the Parties deny any such intention, and that as the circulation of the rumour would discredit them in the eyes of the people, they are preparing a manifesto to contradict it.

Monday, October 11.

Evidently it is not by any means certain that the two newly projected railways in Korea will be simultaneously commenced. In fact, an impression is now gaining ground very definitely that want of funds will preclude any such extensive programme. The Seoul-Gensan line measures 130 miles, and traverses such a difficult country that the cost of construction is estimated at 130,000 *yen* per mile. A grant of 3 millions per annum is all that the Japanese Treasury can see its way to promise at this juncture, and with such a sum work on the two lines simultaneously could not well be undertaken. As between the two, the Japanese Government's disposition is evidently in favour of the Seoul-Gensan road, owing to the uses it would serve as an important link in the chain of communications between the east and west coasts of Korea. If this decision be final, and it has every appearance of being so, the disappointment of the Mokpho folks will be very keen.

Tuesday, October 12.

The question of the two railways in Korea is decidedly perplexing. Yesterday it was confidently alleged that they were not both to be commenced simultaneously, and to-day the statement is contradicted with equal confidence. The latest news from Seoul is that the Residency-General has received a telegram in the sense that the Japanese Cabinet has sanctioned the simultaneous construction, but nothing is said as to the amount or the source of the money.

It is stated that whereas the Residency-General applied for 3¾ millions of *yen* on account of the new Judiciary, the Japanese Finance Department has reduced the grant to 1,350,000 *yen*.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* has a telegram from Seoul giving the numerical result of the recent campaign in Chhollado against the rebels. The message says that on the side of the insurgents the wounded numbered four and the killed one hundred—we suspect that these numbers should be reversed. The total of prisoners taken was 141, and the loss on the Japanese side is represented by one killed.

Thursday, October 14.

The Korean Cabinet is in the habit of meeting twice a week. One of these meetings takes place within the precincts of the Residency General, and is attended generally by the Resident-General himself, and always by the Japanese Vice-Ministers of Departments, who are present in their capacity as Councillors. The other meeting takes place quite independently of the Resident-General, and is not attended by any Japanese. It is alleged that at this purely Korean meeting the policy of the Residency-General is strongly condemned, and the Ministers of State secretly concert measures for defeating all action taken by the Japanese Vice-Ministers. This undercurrent of opposition paralyses the reforming energy of the Japanese, and goes far to defeat the policy of the Residency-General. It is consequently said to be in contemplation that two or three of the portfolios shall be placed in the hands of the Japanese, so that the Cabinet meetings may always be attended by at least some persons who are genuine supporters of the policy of progress.

PRESIDENT TAFT AT SAN FRANCISCO.

Judging from a speech made by him at San Francisco and reported telegraphically to the *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Jiji Shimpo*, President Taft, who is now in San Francisco, has made a very positive declaration as to the necessity of maintaining an adequate naval force on the Pacific Ocean, but, at the same time, he deprecated the idea that this step should be construed in any sense except a peaceful one. Mr. Governor Gillett seems to have asked for 16 line-of-battleships on the Pacific Coast, to which modest demand the President replied that if the Governor could guarantee the limitation of the sphere of danger to the Pacific Ocean, there would be no objection to posting such a force there. He reminded his hearers, however, that the building of the Panama Canal would practically double the strength of the United States Navy by facilitating speedy concentration at any point on the country's coast. The above is more or less trite, but very vivid interest attaches to the President's renewed declaration that he considers it essential to provide for the representation of the commercial flag of America on the seas of the world, and especially on the Pacific Ocean, to a much larger extent than is now the case, and that Congress would be asked to vote a sum of 8 million dollars for subsidizing steamship services. America certainly has a habit of doing things in a big way when she does them at all. Such a grant in aid of the development of the commercial marine will place her in the forefront of nations giving State aid for this purpose. The two Japanese Companies engaged in the Pacific carrying trade will be at once confronted by a very formidable competitor. It occurs to us as just probable that the Japanese Diet and the Japanese Government will recognise that they were slightly foolish when they enacted the recently amended laws for the encouragement of navigation.

DEATH OF DR. A. A. BENNETT.

We regret to record the death of the Rev. A. A. Bennett, D.D, who has been associated for so many years with missionary work in Japan. Dr. Bennett has been a resident of Yokohama for forty years, and throughout that long period has taken an active part in the religious life of the community, both in connection with the Union Church and with the Baptist Theological Seminary. Dr. Bennett is the author of several books of a devotional character, amongst which may be mentioned "The Preacher and his Message," published in the early part of this year.

The veteran missionary, who has been suffering from diabetes for some time past, succumbed somewhat suddenly to his complaint on the morning of the 12th inst. He leaves a widow and seven children to mourn his loss.

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THE TOKYO RICE EXCHANGE.

Friday, October 8.

At 1 a.m. on the 8th inst. the complication on the Rice Exchange was at last settled. Mr. Matsutatsu, the *fons et origo mali*, has saved his pocket at the expense of his reputation by disappearing. Of course this does not relieve him from the responsibility of putting up the last installment of his bargain money which was due on the 7th inst., but inasmuch as he is reported to have assigned away his property before the crisis came, he may be said to be in the position of the *vacuus viator*. The Buyers and Sellers have agreed to compromise at 14 *yen* per *koku*, and the upshot of this is that the Rice Exchange will have to shoulder a loss of 126,000 *yen* at least. The rice-dealers remain to be placated, but they will probably prove amenable.

Saturday, October 9.

It appears that one of the principal obstacles to a settlement of the rice trouble consisted in the charge officially preferred by the buyers against the sellers; namely, the charge that the latter had violated the law by engaging in unregistered transactions. Such transactions are commonly undertaken by all the brokers on all the exchanges. They had nothing to do with the question really in dispute, and it was merely a spiteful act of retaliation on the part of the buyers to prefer that accusation. Moreover, had the authorities taken up the charge and acted upon it, not only the brokers of the Rice Exchange but also those of all the other exchanges would have been equally liable to be penalized. It was this outlook that caused such a violent fall in the prices of the Tokyo Stock Exchange shares. The charge has now been withdrawn on the ground that it was based on insufficient information, and the atmosphere having thus been cleared, a settlement of the monetary question did not prove difficult. According to present appearances, the loss shouldered by the Stock Exchange will amount to 130,000 *yen*.

Sunday, October 10.

After all, the above troublesome affair has not yet been settled. Out of the 64 brokers concerned in the transaction 58 have agreed to compromise at 14 *yen*, but six are holding out. These six are among the ten men whose removal from the list of brokers was recommended by the Managing-Director of the Exchange. The Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, however, refused to act upon the recommendation, and six of the incriminated brokers have taken heart of grace from their escape and are now insisting on better terms. It is thought that a compromise will be effected at 13.80.

Monday, October 11.

The complication on the Tokyo Rice Exchange is not yet settled definitively. The six recalcitrant sellers decline to accept the proposed conference. It is expected that they will yield eventually, but no certain signs are yet visible.

Wednesday, October 13.

This complicated affair has at length been settled, the sellers agreeing to compromise at 14 *yen* a *koku*. The one broker who held out against the agreement of his 74 confrères was induced at 6 o'clock on Tuesday evening to withdraw his opposition and to entrust the settlement entirely to Mr. Amenomiya, who acted as mediator. This fact ought to have given a fillip to the share market on Wednesday, but the news of the probable failure of the Tokyo Railway's municipalization proved more than a counterbalancing factor.

Thursday, October 14.

As things stand at present, the Rice Exchange will have to lose 126,000 *yen*. But this does not take into account the certain losses that will be incurred in connexion with the virtually valueless shares which the Directors accepted from the Matsutatsu group in payment of the latter's bargain money; nor does it include money lent by the Exchange to the same group. There is now a loud demand for the resignation of the Managing Director.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* states positively that the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway may be regarded as practically settled and that the purchase price will be 90, paid with 5 per cent. bonds taken at their face value. If the market price of these bonds be put at 93 *yen*, the resulting figure for the Railway shares would be 83.70 *yen*. Other journals do not speak with equal confidence, and certainly in the absence of his Excellency, Baron Hirata, Minister of State for Home Affairs, nothing definite is likely to be settled.

It is quite amusing to observe the conflict of opinion with regard to the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway. For example, the *Jiji Shimpo* alleges in leaded type that the thing is practically settled, whereas the *Shogyo Shimpo* affirms that there are huge rivers to be crossed and sky-high mountains to be traversed before such a goal can be reached.

Rumours again begin to circulate about the fate of the Tokyo Railway. Mr. K. Inouye, one of the Directors, is quoted as saying that this wet weather must interfere seriously with the earnings of the Railway and that he doubts whether it will be possible to pay a dividend of 5 per cent. for the present term. He quotes figures to show that the present earnings of the line are much about the same as they were last year, and that there is not the remotest chance of paying an ordinarily good dividend unless the fares be raised. The *Asahi Shimbun* in double-leaded type quotes verbatim a strong denial by Baron Goto that he has ordered any survey of the Company's condition or expressed any opinion on the subject of municipalization.

Meanwhile speculators on 'Change evidently believe that municipalization is imminent and that only a question of price remains.

The *Asahi Shimbun*, the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Kokumin Shimbun* all concur in stating that there is no agreement as to the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway. In fact, they go so far as to allege that nothing of the kind is likely to take place. It is curious that these same papers should have hitherto been conspicuous in spreading the opposite news, but such is journalism. The *Nippon* has an article which wholly condemns the idea of municipalization on the ground that the City is not qualified to undertake such a work, and that the operation of the Railway by the Municipality would inevitably involve the City in loss and would afford new opportunities for corruption. Mr. Ozaki has been interviewed on the subject and so has Mr. Kawada, but their utterances are so guarded as to throw no light upon the subject. It would be a singular *denouement* if after all the talk of the past few months and after the steady appreciation of the Company's shares, it should now turn out that municipalization is a myth.

In view of the fact that the balance of opinion on the 13th inst. was against the probability of the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway, whereas all previous forecasts had been in favour of it, our readers will not be surprised to learn that on the 14th instant the pendulum swung back in its old direction, and people began to speak as though nothing remained to be settled except the question of price. The *Nippon* goes so far as to publish figures showing that the Municipality would be a large gainer by purchasing at 90 *yen* a share, even without any raising of fares. This conclusion seems difficult to explain until we take into account that the Company would hand over to the City all its paid-up capital which has not been expended, and all the capital still due on the new shares, which two items amount to more than 10 million *yen*. It looks to us as though the only substantial obstacle was the difficulty of agreeing as to price. Meanwhile the *Jiji Shimpo* raises its powerful voice against municipalization, on principle. It thinks that the city has quite enough to do already without shouldering this big enterprise, and it totally condemns the idea of municipal direction of public works which aim at obtaining a profit. The *Jiji* further refuses to place any confidence in the integrity of the aldermen, and thinks that to place the Electric Railway in their hands would be to offer fresh temptations for peculation. It is unfortunate that the *Jiji* should have such a bad opinion of its fellow-citizens, but we presume that it knows what it is talking about.

THE GUARDING OF THE MUKDEN-ANIUNG ROAD.

The discussion of the troublesome question as to the guarding of the Mukden-Antung line will have to be soon approached. This problem was found so difficult of adjustment at the time of the conclusion of the new Agreement that both Parties consented to set it apart for future deliberation. One is perplexed to see how it can be settled unless one side or the other gives in completely. If there is one thing certain, it is that China has proved her incapacity to protect foreign life and property within the railway zones in Manchuria. There is no fundamental reason why she should not be perfectly competent to discharge this duty, but the plain fact is that she has not hitherto discharged it adequately, and in the face of that experience Japan can not reasonably be expected to engage in the hazardous experiment of entrusting to Chinese hands the task of protecting the Mukden-Antung line against freebooting exploits by Hunghutsz and other law-breakers of their kind. Yet China has declared her determination not to consent to the posting of Japanese guards along this route, as they are posted along the South Manchuria Railway. Between Japan's demand and China's refusal there does not appear to be any practical *via media*, unless Japan agrees that one half of the police duty shall be entrusted to the Chinese. We doubt greatly whether she can be induced to agree to anything of the sort, for such a system of divided authority would be most unlikely to achieve success. This problem may cause a great deal of trouble before a solution is found.

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DOMESTIC POLITICS.

We gather from the Tokyo press that there is a good deal of reality in the threatened campaign for a reduction of the land tax by ½ per cent., instead of devoting the Treasury's surplus funds to increasing official salaries. The Progressists are grasping at this straw to save their sinking bark, and it is thought that the other sections of the Opposition will join their voices to an outcry which can not fail to be popular. There might be some difficulty in getting the House of Peers to pass such a bill, but even in the Upper Chamber the Government's stronghold is not impregnable. Meanwhile the *Seiyu-kai* make no movement, and of course so long as they choose to support the Cabinet, the latter's position is safe. The *Asahi*, writing editorially on this subject, observes that a great obstacle stands in the way of the Government's recourse to its last expedient, dissolution. That obstacle is, that unless the Diet in its next session adopts the new tariff there will not be time to make preparations for carrying out the provisions of the latter. This is such an important matter that, in our Tokyo contemporary's opinion, it effectually paralyses the Government, and the anti-land tax politicians are ready to take full advantage of the situation.

It is stated that the Reform Section and the Conservative Section of the Progressist Party have come within sight of settling their dispute. But to us it seems a very distant sight, for the Conservatives require nothing less than the complete surrender of the Reformers. The latter have always been understood to be animated by the desire of joining hands with a portion of the statesmen in power. The Conservatives are opposed to anything of the kind. A few months ago they issued a manifesto declaring that the backbone of their policy was to destroy bureaucratic government, and to cut down the expenditures on account of the Army and Navy. They now require that the Reformers shall subscribe to this policy explicitly, and that their committeemen shall resign *en bloc*. We should think it extremely improbable that the Reformers will agree to make such a *volte face*.

To the surprise of the public the Reform Section of the Progressist Party has made unreserved act of surrender to the Conservative Section. We explained in our last issue that the terms demanded by the Conservatives were so drastic as to be not only almost impossible of acceptance *en bloc* by the Reformers, but also unfavourable to any prospect of permanent reconciliation between the two Sections. The unexpected has happened, however, in a most striking manner. The Reformers have endorsed the Conservatives' programme in its entirety; have announced the resignation of the officers elected by them at the celebrated meeting from which the Conservatives absented themselves; and have fixed a day for handing over to Mr. Inukai Ki and his followers the offices of the Party. In short, the Reformers step out of the stronghold, throw open the gates and kiss the hem of the Conservatives' garments. It may well be supposed that Mr. Inukai and his followers express profound satisfaction at this result. Mr. Inukai endeavours to prove that he has not been unduly obstinate, and it must be agreed that, since nothing succeeds like success, wise firmness is the term which history will apply to his mood. He warmly congratulates the Progressists on the fact that all are now reunited once more in the camp which they occupied for so many years without wavering. Mr. Oishi Masami's explanation is a matter of much greater interest, for the public is naturally more desirous of learning what induced him and his followers to lay down their arms completely than of hearing Mr Inukai's congratulatory words. What Mr. Oishi is quoted as saying amounts simply to this, namely, that if a political party hopes to achieve anything, it must learn *in primis* the duty of discipline, and as the first recognition of this discipline is to bow to the will of the majority, he and his followers do so bow. Our readers will agree in thinking that in appealing to this hoary-headed precept in justification of his act, Mr. Oishi takes a somewhat belated course. Discipline was just as essential when he and his followers set it at naught a year ago, as it is to-day. We gather, however, that Mr. Oishi's motive is practical rather than sentimental. He sees that the only hope of organising a strong Opposition is to offer the united Progressist Party as a nucleus to which the other vagrant coteries of politicians many unite themselves. We many recall to our readers' recollection that the platform of the newly cemented Progressist Union is the abolition of bureaucratic government and the reduction of armaments.

BANQUET TO THE PRESS ASSOCIATION.

On the evening of the 11th instant the Minister President of State gave a banquet at his official residence to the members of the International Press Association. Covers were laid for 50, and the principal guests were Prince Ito, Count Okuma and Count Komura. In the course of the banquet Marquis Katsura rose and proposed the health of the Association. He recalled the fact that he himself had been the guest of the Association when it held its inaugural banquet a few months previously, and he explained that he would have invited the members to his own house sooner had not the summer weather intervened. As, however, Prince Ito was on the eve of starting for Manchuria, he—the speaker—had seized the occasion to meet his friends of the press. He repeated with emphasis the wishes uttered by him some months previously for the perpetual success and development of the Press Association. Prince Ito, whose health was proposed by Marquis Katsura, alluded to the fact that although the members of the Association were in many cases men who had devoted long years to the pursuit of journalism, their life as a corporate body had hitherto been very short, and he trusted that in the course of its growth to manhood the Association would fulfil the rich promise of its youth. His Highness alluded to the great difficulties of newspaper work, and said that if even two men found it hard to agree on any topic, how much harder must it be for such a number as he saw around him that evening. He ventured to hope, however, that without doing violence to any of their opinions, the journalists of Japan would set an example of concord. Alluding to his own journey to Manchuria, he said that it had no political import whatever, and that he was merely going in order to acquire information such as would enable him to form an intelligent opinion about the discussions and news published by the press. In conclusion he spoke of the great pleasure it gave him to meet his old friend Count Okuma, whose well-known eloquence he hoped to hear again that evening and whose health he invited them to join in drinking. Count Okuma said that he had given up the practice of attending dinner-parties, and, moreover, was suffering somewhat from illness, but on such an occasion he could not absent himself. He had even ordered a new coat for the ceremony, and he might therefore say that the material out of which his garment was made was respect for the press. He was fully sensible of the difficulty of reconciling opinions, and he appreciated the point that although the Press Association did not seek to reduce the opinions of its members to uniformity, it did seek to show a united front towards cardinal social questions, so as to promote the greatest good of the greatest number. There was, however, one subject upon which all journalists should agree, the necessity of representing facts truly. Errors might creep in, false judgments might be formed, but there should be no degrees of positive and comparative in the search for truth and in the desire to represent facts truly. Any departure from that principle might lead to terrible consequences. The Count then passed on to speak of his old friend Prince Ito, whom, he described as one of Japan's wonders. The Prince put many young men to the blush by his activity. Just before leaving Korea he had braved the rigours of a Korean winter to accompany the Court on its progresses, and now his Highness had just returned from a long summer journey with the young Crown Prince of Korea. As for the Prince's trip to Manchuria, he had disavowed all political motive, but the Japanese nation wished him to have a political motive, and would be glad to see his journey extended to Peking and even to St. Petersburg, because whatever he did never failed to inure to his country's benefit. Messrs. Minoura, Captain Brinkley and Mr. Kennedy returned thanks for the Association.

OPIUM IN HAWAII.

The *Chuo Shimbun* has a strange telegram from New York to the effect that strenuous measures are being adopted by the United States Government to put an end to the smuggling of opium into Hawaii by Japanese subjects. Orders have been issued for posting preventive vessels in the seas adjacent to the Islands, and from the tone of the telegram one is led to suppose that the abuse has assumed large dimensions. This, however, is the first we have heard of the matter, and if it had become so very serious, one can not but think that it would have provoked more observation. Nothing is said as to whether the drug is intended for use by the Japanese labourers or for sale to the Chinese.

It may be mentioned here that a telegram from Mr. Consul-General Ueno in Honolulu contains very reassuring news as to the conditions subsequent to the strike. He says that the Japanese have now all returned to their work and are labouring quietly and industriously; while the planters on their side are showing a disposition to treat the men generously and to improve their dwelling-houses. The sugar crop for the year has been dealt with and there is now no special demand for labour, but this state of affairs will be altered in November and December, when preparations for next year's crop will have to be commenced. As for the Chinese subjects and Hawaiian natives who were employed to replace the Japanese that went on strike, their services are gradually being dispensed with.

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CHINA'S CONSTITUTION.

The provincial assemblies in China were to hold their first meeting on the 14th inst. and on the preceding day an Imperial message was published calling upon them to discharge their duties conscientiously, with due deliberation and in a harmonious manner. The message further instructed Viceroys and Governors to comply as far as possible with the recommendations of the assemblies.

China has thus entered definitely on the first stage of constitutional Government, and the civilized world is invited to witness the absorbingly interesting spectacle of this immense nation emerging from the conservative rut in which it has moved from time immemorial. If we go back far enough in Chinese history, that is to say if we go back to the days of Yao, Shun and their semi-mythical confreres, we find China a virtual democracy. But more than 40 centuries have elapsed since that era, and during the whole of that time she may be said to have obeyed a despotic form of government. Now, with a stroke of the pen, she is about to essay the immense experiment of placing political powers in the hands of a nation which is governed by a foreign dynasty. Is it a reasonable conclusion to expect that the Chinese people, when they find themselves endowed with practical capacity for collective action, will continue to support the Manchu conquerors who now occupy the seats of supreme power? We profoundly admire the courage of the Manchu dynasty in subjecting its fate to such a test. Of course, several years have still to pass before the summoning of a national assembly, and it may be that in the minor arenas of the political assemblies such severe conflicts will be created between the members and the local officials as to justify the Central Government in closing the assemblies and suspending the whole experiment on the threshold. On the other hand, it is scarcely less possible, especially in view of the class of men who have been elected, that everything may work smoothly in the localities and that events may march quietly up to the verge of the great final experiment. At all events, China well deserves to be now the cynosure of all intelligent eyes.

THE BOYCOTT.

We have been hearing nothing of the boycott for the past few days, and the natural inference that no news is good news appears to have been justifiable in this case. At Mukden and at Hankow there is some endeavour on the part of students returned from abroad to foment trouble, and a small measure of success appears to have attended their efforts. But the local authorities are vigorously endeavouring to restrain them, and as officialdom is evidently sincere in this instance, there can be little doubt about the result. At Canton the new Viceroy, moved by the despatches received from the Governor of Hongkong, by the representations of the Japanese Consul-General and by the instructions of the Peking Government, is said to be taking strong steps to restrain the action of the Autonomic Society and to repress anti-Japanese agitation in general. At Antung, also, the Chi-hsien has issued a notification saying that the relations of China and Japan are on the best possible footing, and that it is in the highest interests of both countries to keep them so. It may perhaps be taken for granted that the danger of a boycott is over, and although the hand of the Katsura Cabinet has not been conspicuously visible in bringing about this result, it must certainly be placed to their credit.

Mukden does not appear to be really earnest in its efforts to check the boycott. A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that although notifications have been issued by the authorities condemning the idea of a boycott and warning the people against taking part in any such movement, no practical steps are adopted to check the agitators or to punish the issuers of inflammatory placards. In these circumstances the promoters of a boycott naturally infer that the authorities are not in earnest in their suppressive attitude, and accordingly the agitation has again broken out. The telegram goes so far as to assert that not only the students but also the official class, are refusing to purchase Japanese goods.

THE HARBIN INCIDENT.

The Russian Government is said to have handed to the Treaty Powers an eminently satisfactory explanation of its attitude in Manchuria. The document says that China's sovereignty is fully recognised in the Russian railway zones, but that Russia naturally expects that taxes will be paid and police regulations observed within special settlements established by her. She considers that such a claim is evidently justified by the rights she has acquired. Inasmuch, however, as she recognises China's sovereignty, she constructively admits that the subjects or citizens of Powers which enjoy extraterritorial rights in consideration of treaties with China, shall continue to enjoy such rights within the railway zones. This practically deprives the jurisdiction question of all objectionable features and places the situation on a new footing. We are indebted to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* for the information, and our contemporary adds the views which are alleged to be held by the Japanese Government on the subject. Inasmuch as the Portsmouth Treaty does not secure to Japan in this context any privileges in excess of those originally enjoyed by Russia, it follows that the latter's interpretation of this juridical question must be accepted by Japan and applied within her own railway zones. The practical effect, however, is comparatively small in Japan's case, because in her zones there exist old established Chinese towns where foreigners can reside if they find anything objectionable in her special settlements, whereas in the Russian zones there are no towns except those established by Russia herself. We (*Japan Mail*) do not fully appreciate the bearings of this distinction.

AN OLD QUESTION.

When the Diet first assembled, the great question between the political parties and the Government was that of land tax adjustment. One heard nothing in those days except *chiso kaisei* and *chika shusei*. In fact, it was not until the war with China necessitated the raising of large funds that this agricultural outcry ceased. Apparently the Progressist Party is about to uplift the banner once more, in view of the fact that the Government finds itself in a position to ask the Diet for an increase of official salaries. But the *Keizai Zasshi* deals with this problem in a manner not at all favourable to the agitators. It adduces figures in support of its contention that the burden of the land tax at present is in reality lighter than it ever was. The Central Government collects 86 millions from the tax, and the local Governments collect 40 millions, so that the total amount paid by the farmers is 126 millions. Assessing this at 10 *yen* per *koku*, the actual numbers of *koku* collected from the people by way of land tax in former times and at present stand as follow:—

	Koku.
1836	12,174,629
1871	12,549 354
1872	12,135,195
1873	11,239,712
1874	10,745,982
At present	11,819,102

From the above it will be seen that the actual payment in *koku* is less now than it was at the beginning of the Meiji era; and this, too, without taking into account the enormously increased production of the present time. Twelve millions of *koku* is a very much smaller fraction of the actual yield to-day than the same figure was 50 or 60 years ago.

JAPANESE COLONIZATION.

Mr. Takenokoshi Yosaburo, the well-known author of the history of Japan during 2,500 years, recently made an extended tour in the regions to the south of Japan. He has published the results of his observations, and he accompanies them with strong advice to his countrymen to abandon their colonization enterprises on the continent of Asia and to turn their attention to the South Sea. He instances various historical episodes in support of this contention, especially the case of Great Britain, whose material expansion did not really commence until she withdrew finally from Normandy, and thus abandoned her attempt to obtain a footing on the continent of Europe. The *Kokumin Shimbun* devotes its columns to traversing this argument. It pertinently asks where in the South Sea any territory can be regarded as a legitimate sphere of Japanese colonization. The Philippines belong to America, Cochin China to France, Java to Holland and the Straits Settlements to England. There is no foothold for a fifth Power. Had Mr. Takenokoshi directed attention to the Ryukyu Islands and Formosa, his advice would at least have been unobjectionable, but the course he recommends is calculated merely to rouse the suspicions of foreign Powers and to resuscitate the rumours formerly circulated, ascribing aggressive designs to Japan in a southerly direction.

THE WEATHER.

There are no less than four centres of depression in the neighbourhood of Japan, but one only, namely, that which has been for some time menacing Formosa, constitutes a danger to the main island. Two others, which had their respective origins near the Ryukyu Islands and the Ogasawara, have probably crossed part of Kyushu and Shikoku and will not come to this region of the country, though they are responsible for the recent gloomy and chilly weather. The fourth is travelling from Hokkaido in the direction of the Sea of Ohkotsk.

According to the meteorological authorities, normal conditions have been restored, and there is nothing any longer which threatens these Islands. It must be confessed that the meteorological reports have been for some days decidedly perplexing, but this last statement is explicit enough.

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CHINA.

It is stated that the Prince Regent in Peking is particularly anxious to enlist the active services of Mr. Tsen Chun-hsuan in order that he may fill in a measure the place vacated by the late Chang Chihtung. Tsen has been called the "Hoshi Toru" of Peking politics. During two years he occupied a very prominent place in public observation, and it was generally understood that he led the party hostile to Yuan Shikkai. At all events his relations with the Central Government were very strained, and the tension seemed to be entirely on his own side. He was nominated Viceroy of the Yun-Kuei Provinces in September, 1906, but he declined to take up the duties of the post. Then in March, 1907, he was appointed Viceroy of Szchuan, but again he did not proceed. Then in May of the same year he consented to serve as President of the Board of Communications, and his recalcitrant mood having thus been apparently broken down, the Viceroyalty of Liang-Kuang was conferred on him in the same month; but once more he refused to fill the post, and finally he resigned in August, 1907. It is said that he has now rejected the Prince Regent's proposals for his return to office, but that the Viceroy persists in inviting him. Tsen is a comparatively young man. He is a native of Kwangsi and a son of the late Viceroy Yü-Ying. His official services commenced in 1892, so that his record extends over 15 years only.

Prince Tsai Hsun and Admiral Sah Chenping have at last set out for their trip to Europe to inspect the docks and navies of the West. They left Peking on the 11th inst., accompanied by a suite of 18 persons, and the intention was to travel to Shanghai *viâ* Hankow, embarking at the former place for Europe. Before his departure Prince Tsai, in his capacity of Minister of the Navy, memoralized the Throne as to the advisability of sending a greatly increased number of students to Krupp's gun factory at Essen for the purpose of studying the manufacture of cannon.

It used to be told of Prince Bismarck that he once committed himself to the opinion that if an angel from heaven came and preached to him the merits of a particular piece of ordnance, he would attach no credence to the eulogy unless it was confirmed by a verdict from Woolwich. *Tempora mutantur.*

The new Grand Councillor, Mr. Tsai, who takes the place of Chang Chih-tung, is quoted as having made a very explicit *exposé* of his politics. He declares that the Macao boundary question must be settled in accordance with popular will, and that a committee should be appointed to carry on the discussion. He is further strongly opposed to the continuance of gambling houses and lotteries in Canton, and he would have immediate steps taken to eradicate this abuse. With regard to the financing of the Yeh-Han and Szchuan Railways, he approves of leaving the matter entirely in the hands of the Board of Railways and Telegraphs, but he would urge the Board to proceed with the negotiations as quickly as possible. Finally he insists that properly equipped courts of law should be organised without any delay. These views are to be welcomed sincerely, but as to the second and fourth, Mr. Tsai will probably find that it is much easier to indicate reforms than to put them into practice.

The Tokyo press publishes a telegram to the effect that Mr. Yuan Shih-kai has left his native province for Peking with the avowed purpose of attending the obsequies of Chang Chih-tung. It is in the highest degree improbable that Yuan would have taken such a step without the approval, if not the mandate, of the Prince Regent. It looks as though the great statesman's return to power is only a question of details. Yet we have recently been told by a Japanese official who is eminently qualified to speak, that there is no chance of Yuan resuming office at present, and that were he invited to do so by those in power, it would be merely a device to consummate his ruin.

With reference to the Yeh-Han and the Chuan-Han railway loans, says the *Asahi*, it is reported that the substance of the agreement is as follows:

The total amount of the loans shall be 60,000,000 *yen*, at an interest of 5 per cent. per annum.

The term of the loans shall be 25 years, a certain fixed amount to be redeemed annually.

The two railways shall be mortgaged, and in case of a deficit, the *likin* duties and the revenue from the salt tax in Hupeh and Hunan shall be appropriated.

The head-engineer for the Yeh-Han railway shall be an Englishman, and that for the Chuan-Han railway, a German—both to be appointed by the Chinese Government.

The materials for the construction of the railways are to be purchased from Great Britain, France, Germany and America.

Should any materials be bought from any other country, the above named four countries shall be entitled to 5 per cent. commission.

The work shall in every detail be carried on under the supervision of the Chinese Authorities.

THE COTTON SPINNERS.

The question between the Kwansei and Kwanto cotton spinners had not yet been settled up to yesterday morning, but it was hoped that a meeting appointed to be held in the Imperial Hotel that afternoon would result in an understanding. We gather from the writings in Tokyo papers that the Kwansei spinners have no intention of departing from the agreement now in existence as to restriction of output. They themselves voted for the original resolution, and they can not consistently depart from it now. Some question of sentiment seems to be really at stake, and a settlement ought therefore to be possible.

This dispute has not yet been settled. It seems, however, that the public has been misled hitherto in one respect. The Kwansei folks have been represented as wishing to break away from the agreement about restricted production, whereas it is really the Kwanto spinners who have taken that line, the Kwansei men insisting upon the expediency of continuing to apply the restriction. To us it appears that the Kwanto spinners are influenced mainly by a desire to take advantage of the depression existing in the realm of the maritime carrying trade. In short, they consider that they can get their raw cotton transported at a cheaper rate than the ten *rupees* which they now pay to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and they wish therefore to dissolve the Cotton Spinners' Union, for which the Yusen Kaisha acts as sole-carrying agent. This project entirely ignores the fact that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha has for years accorded to the spinning companies terms much more favourable than they could have obtained in the open market, and if such a thing as gratitude were recognised in commercial transactions, the spinners should now stand by the Shipping Company. Tokyo newspapers recognise that right is on the side of the Kwansei people, but they do not go so far as to assert that right will prevail in this instance.

It appears that a middle way has been found along which the two sections of the Cotton Spinner's Union can march in concert. This has been effected by the intervention of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. Nothing very precise is yet known, and indeed nothing very precise seems to have been done. What has been agreed to is that the term of six months which the Union proposed to fix for the renewed operation of the restricted provision, is to be altered so as to read "for a suitable period," and that there is to be larger freedom of action in determining the methods of curtailing production.

The dispute between the two sections of the Cotton-Spinners' Union has been settled through the intervention of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. We mentioned in our last issue that a compromise was imminent, but we noted that the bases of agreement were very indefinite. This defect has now been remedied. A distinct compact is said to have been made in the sense that from April next the arrangement with regard to limited production will cease to be operative, but that the method of shipping hitherto observed shall continue to be strictly followed.

THE KINUGAWA HYDRO-ELECTRIC PROJECT.

We read in Tokyo journals that the prospects of the Kinugawa hydro-electric scheme are very dark just at present. Baron Den and Mr. Toshimitsu have worked strenuously, but they have found it impossible to break down the opposition of Messrs. Ono and Nezu. Our contemporaries allege that these two Directors of the Tokyo Railway Company have been approached by several of their fellow-directors, and even by Baron Senge himself, but they maintain their attitude of reluctance to sign a contract with a company which is not yet in existence. We are bound to say that this attitude seems to us perfectly reasonable. If the Tokyo Railway Company signed a contract with the Kinugawa Syndicate, the former would have no guarantee that the latter might not fail altogether to become a working concern, and the situation thus created might prove very embarrassing. The wisest course for the Railway Company is to refrain from pledging itself to purchase hydro-electric power from anyone who is not in a sure position to supply it at once, or within a reasonable time. It may seem strange that the loss of the Tokyo Railway's patronage should so effectually cloud the prospects of the hydro-electric syndicate, but the explanation is simple. The syndicate has experienced difficulty in getting foreign money, and in order to attract Japanese capital, the promoters must be in a position to point to some certain source of income. As to foreign money, it is said that Mr. Jackson applied to Messrs. Panmure Gordon, but found that that well-known firm had already pledged itself to the Anglo-Japanese Hydro-Electric Syndicate. Hence it became necessary to have recourse to domestic capital.

THE death is reported of the fourteen-year old son of Mr. Ijuin, Japanese Minister to Peking. The funeral took place on September 26 and was very largely attended. The members of the Diplomatic Corps, and many others, called at the Japanese Legation to express their condolences.

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JAPAN AND EUROPE.

The telegraph is a very convenient instrument. But it has its disadvantages. Thus every piece of intelligence flashed briefly across the wires, is repeated in detail three weeks later at the other end of the world, and the result is that every sensational item of intelligence is duplicated. We are forcibly reminded of this fact in the present instance. Some time ago the telegraph told us that a section of the German and Russian press were reading sinister significance into the new Agreement between China and Japan, and a certain amount of excitement was caused by the news throughout the East. The articles which then appeared in Berlin and St. Petersburg are now given more or less fully by the *Nichi Nichi's* London correspondent. It appears that the German journal's writing was quite a vehement diatribe against the yellow race. It declared that Japan, recognising the constantly growing solidarity of Europe's front towards the Yellow peril, and seeing that no great reliance was to be placed upon her ally, England, had hastened to join hands with China so as to unite the East against the West. The article continued in that strain, its writer having worked himself into a somewhat distraught mood. The only comment suggested by such intemperance is that of the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondent, namely, that while the wild uneasiness of such agitators is worthy only of a smile, the presence of men of their kind among European publicists is to be regretted.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA; AN EXPLANATION.

An interview given by Dr. K. Haraguchi, a Japanese Railway Adviser in China, upon his return to Tokyo, and published by the *Kokumin Shimbun* early in September, has been mistranslated by some foreign papers in Japan and reproduced by their contemporaries in China. He has been misrepresented as having adversely criticized the railways in China, and the interview thus distorted excited comments in journalistic circles in China.

The interview published by the *Kokumin Shimbun* in its Japanese department, extending over two columns, had three subheadings: A New Model Railway; Improvement of Chinese Railways, and Chang Chih-tung's Aspiration. In that interview Dr. Haraguchi most favourably referred to the railways in China, as is quite clear from a perusal of the Japanese text. But some phraseological and other mistakes were inadvertently allowed to creep into the newspapers, which reproduced the erroneous translation. For instance, the Kobu (Kai-Musashi or Tokyo-Kofu) Railway, which Dr. Haraguchi compared with the Peking-Tungchow Railway, is misspelled as the *Kobe* Railway. The old Nippon (Japan) Railway, which term connotes lines running through the North-Eastern provinces in Japan from Tokyo, and owned by the Nippon Railway Co. until the nationalization of the private railways some years ago, is mistaken as comprising all railways in Japan. Dr. Haraguchi said that the cost of construction of a certain railway in China had been *yen* 103,000 per mile and that of another railway *yen* 210,000, but he was mistranslated as saying that the cheapest rate hitherto achieved had been *yen* 130,000 per mile.

The Peking-Kalgan Railway has just been completed exclusively by Chinese. Having been supervised by Mr. Chan Tien-yu, an able Director-General, and built most economically and systematically, the cost of the Railway was only Tls. 56,000 per mile. At present it is a model railway in China. Dr. Haraguchi appreciates it very much. Some papers in China point out that in his interview given to the *Kokumin Shimbun* in September last, he did not refer to the Peking-Kalgan line in comparing the relative costs of construction, but at that time, the Peking-Kalgan Railway was not yet completed and its settled accounts report was unknown.

Altogether, Dr. Haraguchi's interview was not intended to criticize adversely the railways in China, as would appear from the summaries published by some English papers in Japan and reproduced by their contemporaries in China.—*Communicated.*

THE NATIONAL REVIEW.

This most popular of English reviews has always been remarkable—even in the land of all lands for freedom of speech—for the vigour of its polemics, and the September number is quite up to the average in this respect. We doubt, indeed, whether anything more violently controversial has ever appeared in its pages than the attack on Sir John Fisher which is found in the editorial record of the episodes of the month. Mr. J. L. Maxse, after declaring that he had in the beginning welcomed with the utmost enthusiasm the appointment of Admiral Fisher as First Lord, proceeds as follows:—

It was only gradually and very reluctantly that we realised that the great man was a "wrong-'un," a sort of naval Winston Churchill who was playing entirely for his own hand, to whom intrigue was the breath of life, who misled the politicians, disorganised the Navy, set squadron against squadron and ship against ship, poisoned the Press and deceived the country. Sir John Fisher is above all living Englishmen responsible for the disastrous position into which we have drifted *vis-à-vis* Germany. Should it come to hanging, he will be entitled to the nearest lamppost. His first crime was the reduction of British Naval Estimates by about £5,000,000 during the last two years of the late Unionist Government. His vaunted policy of "scrapping" was simply a device to keep down the *personnel* of the Fleet, and to ingratiate himself with cheeseparing politicians. With the same object he has deliberately curtailed our shipbuilding programmes during five critical years. His own Cawdor programme was abandoned with his consent. He has enabled Germany to get ahead of us in the production of modern battleships, while he has beguiled an ignorant public by bounce and bluster. He is primarily responsible for the criminal neglect of Rosyth. He has fought desperately against the creation of a General Staff. Besides being the Navy's worst enemy, he is likewise the worst enemy of the Army, against which he has ceaselessly intrigued, with the object to reducing our Regular Forces. He inspired Mr. Balfour's lamentable speech in 1905 upon invasion, which he has brought within the range of practical politics. There is, in fact, no end to the catalogue of his high crimes and misdemeanours.

Mr. Lloyd George also comes in for some severe handling in the same issue. "An invaluable service would be rendered to the country by the Duke of Westminster," says Mr. Maxse, "in prosecuting that foul-mouthed tub-thumper the Chancellor of the Exchequer, who has charged the Duke with 'black-mail.'" The same number contains a strong article by Sir Home Gordon on "Lessons of the recent Test Matches," complaining of the "wretched exhibition of nerves and irresolution shown at Lords', at Leeds and at Manchester by men whose names are household words," and suggesting that "if this is not a passing phase, then the sooner we abandon cricket for marbles, the better." There is, of course, as usual, an article with reference to Germany—without which, indeed, no number of the *National Review* could be complete; and altogether, this spirited publication, it must be confessed, is living up to its reputation.

LORD KITCHENER.

It will be remembered that there was some uncertainty as to the status of Lord Kitchener during his visit to Japan. It now appears that the Field-Marshal is to come as representing the King of England. He will therefore be lodged at the Shiba Detached Palace and will always have a guard of honour attached to him.

In a recent issue we stated that during his visit to Japan Lord Kitchener is to represent the King of England. That should of course read that, by the special orders of the King, Lord Kitchener will represent his Majesty and the British Army at and during the Manœuvres only. There is naturally only one King's Representative in Japan, namely, Sir Claude MacDonald.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, October 8.

The Market recovered yesterday from the panic into which it had fallen owing to the trouble among the rice-brokers. That trouble is not yet definitely disposed of, but no doubt is entertained that it will be settled without any catastrophe. Thus the Rice Exchange shares rose nearly 3½ points and the Stock-Exchanges went up 7.20 points. There was comparatively little movement in the shares of the Tokyo Railway, buyers being doubtful whether municipalization at 90 paid with 5 per cent. bonds would leave any appreciable margin above present quotations.

Saturday, October 9.

On the 9th inst. the share market again took a downward turn. Two reasons are assigned. One is the difficulty of disposing of the trouble on the Rice Exchange; the other the Bank of England's increase of its rate of discount. Disquieting rumours are circulated in some quarters as to the issue of cheques without funds and securities without assets, but how much of this may be mere sensational talk we cannot tell.

Tuesday, October 12.

Three things contributed to cause depression on the Tokyo Stock Exchange yesterday: one was the continuous wet weather; another, the difficulty of effecting a settlement of the trouble on the Rice Exchange; and the third, that the amount of the bargain money to be paid on all transactions was raised. As to the Rice Exchange, it is alleged that two brokers—sellers—obstinately refuse all compromise, and that they are connected with Mr. Hosono Jiro, of Hibiya-Park notoriety, whose object is to drive out out the Managing Director of the Exchange.

Thursday, October 14.

General dulness and absence of business were characteristic of the market yesterday. A great debacle is expected if the municipalization programme proves to have been a canard from the outset, but holders of shares are refraining from any final step. We append the quotations for December delivery:

	Oct. 13th.	Oct. 14th.	
Tokyo Railway	75.95	75.20	— .75
Kei-hin Railway	65.20	64.45	.75
Yusen Kaisha	—	—	.—
Toyo Kisen	—	—	.—
Tanko Kisen	42.50	—	.—
Tokyo Gas	93.10	—	— .—
Tokyo Dento	93.05	93.05	— .—
Fuji Gass Spinning	94.70	94.25	— .45
Tokyo Spinning	45.05	45.80	+ .75
Kanegafuchi Spinning	106.90	106.25	— .65
Beer	81.95	81.80	— .15
Hoden Oil	88.00	87.80	— .80
Nippon Oil	95.50	—	.—
Rice Exchange	90.00	91.00	+1.00
Stock Exchange	164.20	165.55	+1.35

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JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The figures relating to Japan's foreign trade during the ten days ended on Sunday last were as follow :—

	Yen.
Exports	12,256 000
Imports	7,013,000
Excess of exports	5,243,000

The figures for the period extending from January 1st to October 10th are as follow :—

	Yen.	Compared with 1908. Yen.
Exports	298,342,000	+16,831,000
Imports	315,246,000	—43,819,900
Excess of imports...	16,904,000	

During the remaining eleven weeks of the year it ought to be possible to wipe off this so-called adverse balance completely.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

On the 7th inst. the Governor of Tokyo convened a meeting of the urban and prefectural districts and of the Chamber of Commerce to discuss the question of opening an exhibition in Tokyo within the course of the next two years. A vehement controversy resulted, and it was finally decided to entrust the matter entirely to the discretion of the Governor, with the proviso that he might appoint any time between this and 1916. Such a resolution evidently amounts to postponement *sine die*, inasmuch as 1917 is fixed as the date for the great Exhibition. The main opposition seems to have come from the business men.

Our readers may remember that a meeting was to have been held on the 5th inst. in Tokyo, when it was hoped that an agreement would be at last effected between the Fujimoto Bank and the Sugar Refining Company. But the meeting was postponed until the 12th at the request of the Bank, and inasmuch as the cause of postponement is that emissaries from Mr. Fujimoto are visiting the Bank's creditors in order to ascertain whether the latter will consent to the proposed compromise, it is thought probable that another postponement will be necessary.

Mr. Tsukada, Head of the National Debts Bureau in the Department of Finance, assigns three reasons for the action of the Bank of England in raising its rate of discount from 2½ to 3 per cent. One is the development of a mania for speculating on the Stock Exchange; another is that the financing of the export trade calls for large outlays at present; and the third is that industrial expansion in Germany is producing an exodus of gold from England. Mr. Tsukada does not think that this increase of rate ought to effect the value of Japanese securities, as it has already been discounted.

This person, whose grievances in connexion with his removal from the presidency of the Supreme Court in Formosa once occupied a large share of public attention, has been finally cast in his appeal from the judgment of the Court which condemned him to six months' imprisonment for fraud. His career thus ends in a jail.

Prof. Heydrich has addressed another letter to the *Kokumin Shimbun*, in which he emphatically denies the statement recently made by Mr. Yuhara, President of the Music Academy, to the effect that Prof. Koeber, Miss Koda and Mrs. Fuji had all withdrawn of their own accord. Mr. Heydrich insists that they had virtually no choice, and, in effect, charges Mr. Yuhara with abuse of authority due to want of knowledge of foreign music. As to Mr. Yuhara's assertion that there can be no serious difficulty in replacing these teachers, Prof. Heydrich rejects it *in toto*. We must say that in this particular we are quite at one with Prof. Heydrich. Such a virtuoso as Dr. Koeber and such an expert as Miss Koda are not to be picked up along the highways and byeways of music.

A catalogue of the German Asiatic Society's Library, compiled in 1905 but not issued until 1908, shows that the Society has amassed a vast number of books in all departments of Far Eastern knowledge. The Catalogue makes a volume of 132 pages, and the books designated in it are housed in a three-storeyed godown. They comprise also the serials of 150 learned societies, and it may be confidently asserted that scarcely any work which possesses value as an exponent of the Orient is wanting in the collection. The Society has done great things during the many years of its indefatigable existence, and the books it has amassed constitute a record of its labours.

The *Chuo Shimbun* is responsible for a statement that the opinion of the Cabinet inclines to the expediency of establishing a Central Bank in Manchuria, with a capital of 10 million *yen* and a Government guarantee. There is, however, a strong party which advocates nothing more drastic than a branch of the Specie Bank, which, according to these financiers, would amply suffice to meet the needs of the situation. Of course the Specie Bank is on the side of the latter proposition, as the establishment of a Central Bank on the proposed lines would condemn the Yokohama Institution to the fate which overtook the First Bank in Korea.

The telegraph says that the Bank of Germany, which last month raised its rate of discount 4 per cent., has now put up the figure to 5. This is attributed to a keen demand for money which has arisen in connexion with the development of industrial enterprise. In fact, things are beginning to boom in Germany, and in England also on a less marked scale. The Bank of France alone remains conservative, but this is attributed to abundance of capital seeking investment.

H.I.J.M.S. *Izumo* arrived at San Francisco on the forenoon of the 11th, to take part in the celebrations in that city. After exchanging salutes with the ships and forts, she proceeded to her anchorage and was there visited by the Mayor, Mr. Taylor, and by the Celebrations Committee. The telegraph says that her officers and crew are receiving a hearty welcome.

We have already on more than one occasion alluded to what is called the Yamate Electric Railway, in other words, the line which the Government proposes to start at the end of this year between Shinagawa and Ueno round the south-western suburb of the City. It is now stated that the Okubo Power Station, which is at present the only means in the Government's possession for obtaining a supply of electric power, is not competent to furnish more than 2000 h.p., whereas the double of that quantity is required for the circular road. For the present the deficiency can be made up by the assistance of the Tokyo Railway, but the vernacular press states that the Government appreciates the necessity of being independent in this matter, and that it has determined to take steps for obtaining a separate supply of hydro-electric power from the Rokuro River. A plan has been elaborated for getting 8000 h.p. from that source on a very economical basis.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The "Kokka."

No. 232 of the *Kokka*, just published, devotes one-half of its pictures to religious art. Most notable are two reproductions of the celebrated painting attributed to Eshin and preserved in the Junji-Hachimanko on Mount Koya, representing "Amida and his attendant Bodhisattvas descending from Heaven to welcome the Faithful." Mr. S. Take continues his interesting essay on "Buddhism and Japanese Art." His manner of treating this subject is largely historical. Commencing with the Heian epoch, he shows the influence exercised on pictorial art by the introduction of the Mystic sects, and traces the baleful results of the subordination of the faith to aristocratic purposes, whereby painting became an exponent of effeminate beauty and lifeless handiwork. Nevertheless this depraved era must be credited with one good feature, namely, that its art loses much of its previous exotic features and assumes a national character. Passing on from this degenerate time to the days of the Jodo Sect, the writer expresses the opinion that the simple doctrine of that creed, which prescribed only one qualification for admission to Paradise (*Gokuraku Jodo*), exercised on pictorial art an influence similar to that which Christianity exercised on the art of Greece. And indeed it must be confessed that the Holy City of the "Revelations" bears a not very distant resemblance to the trillion lands of Buddha, lying westward of the earth, with their seven-fold wall, seven-fold row of trees, seven gems, river of eight virtues, and houses of gold, silver and jewels. We commend this interesting essay to the attention of all students of Japanese art.

The Pools of Silence, by H. de Vere Stacpoole. London, T. Fisher Unwin.

"The Pools of Silence," by the clever author of "The Blue Lagoon" and "Patsy," is less a novel than a powerful indictment of past and present administration of the the Congo State. An American doctor accompanies a big-game hunter into the wilds of Central Africa and, passing through the vast territory where the Congo Government holds the power of life and death, sees things which he did not reckon to see. By the Silent Pools lay a village which was visited with punishment for "suspending their rubber payments." . . . . The dreary work of the rubber collector is forcibly told in the following passage :—

> In the great forest of M'Bonga the rubber vines are not equally distributed. Large areas occur in which they are not found; only in the most desolate places do they grow. You cannot tame and prune and bring the rubber vine into subjection; it will have nothing to do with the vineyard and the field; it chooses to grow alone.
>
> Everything else comes to its harvest with a joyous face, but the rubber vine, like a dark-green snake, fearful of death, has to be hunted for.
>
> Even in the areas of the forest which it frequents, it is only to be found in patches, so the harvesters cannot go in a body, as men do to the harvesting of the corn, or the cotton, or the grape; they have to break up into small parties, and these again subdivide, leaving a single individual here and there where the vines are thickest. He, entirely alone, at the mercy of the evil spirits that are in his imagination and the beasts that are in the forest, makes a rude shelter out of boughs and leaves, and sets to work making incisions in the vines and draining them drop by drop of their viscous sap. . . . .
>
> Sometimes he sings over this monotonous work,

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and in the long rains between the intervals of the shower-bath roarings you can hear the ululations of these folk through the drip of the leaves, and at night the spark-like glimmer of their fires dot the reeking gloom.

These are the conditions of the rubber collector's task, and it is not a task that ever can be finished; year in, year out, it never ceases.

And when to this is added the fate which overtakes the defaulter, the picture becomes lurid enough. But there is, of course, much besides this between the two covers of the volume. Mr. Stacpoole weaves into his tissue of tragedy some stirring tales of adventure—not omitting incidents which appeal to the tenderer sentiments—so that the book as a whole makes absorbing reading, apart from the trenchant manner in which it deals with the Congo horror.

Midsummer Madness, by MORLEY ROBERTS. London, George Bell and Sons.

THE volume bearing the above title consists of nine short stories, exceptionally clever, but for the most part weird, not to say gruesome, in character. This description does not apply to the first, the sixth, or the last of the series; though most readers, we think, would be disposed to give the palm for general interest and excellence to the last-mentioned—"Out of the great Silence." But we do not remember ever having read anything quite like "The Blood Fetish" or "The Fog": these are stories of so uncommon a character as to be well-nigh unique. However, we feel sure that no one will regret the perusal of the first of the series, if his aching sides will let him get to the end: the headlong pursuit of an unfortunate Editor by a "mad hatter" is among the most amusing, as well as extraordinary, things we have read. The first scene in the unrelenting persecution of the unhappy Mr. Pegram is thus recounted:—

"I wish I could write," murmured Pergram, as he lighted a cigarette; "I'm sure I can. But I've had no experience. Never had an adventure in my life. For two pins I'd sling the *Piccadilly* and go to Texas. But don't talk. I've got ten more ditches—of manuscripts—to wade through. . . . I'd give anything in reason, or out of reason, for a real good rattling adventure story with something, I don't care what, that was fresh in it."

"You would, would you?" said a loud voice behind him; "then why the devil did you reject 'How I escaped from Hanwell'?"

The door clicked as the stranger spoke, and Pegram, turning round in a marvellous hurry, saw a very tall thin man lock the door and put the key in his pocket.

"Who—why—what?" said the editor fiercely, but before he could say anything else, and before Mivart, his assistant, understood what had happened, the intruder jumped at Pegram and fell with him across the desk. Forty manuscripts and typescripts fell upon the floor, the inkpot followed them, and Pegram, with his new acquaintance, did the same. For the desk promptly went to pieces, and Pegram found himself almost in the fire-place, with the long man grabbing his throat.

"I'll teach you to reject a thing like that," said the stranger, in a horrid scream.

"Help, Mivart, help," roared Pegram, while he could still speak, and Mivart, coming to his senses, ran in armed with a ruler.

"I'll kill the pair of you," said the stranger. He gave Pegram's throat a very disagreeable squeeze, bounded to his feet, grabbed Mivart by the collar and hurled him across the editor. He seemed as strong as the most disagreeable novel of the year, and few things were stronger than that. His eyes bolted from his head, and were most unpleasant to see within six inches of one's own, as Pegram felt. For some thirty seconds after Mivart landed across his chief and the stranger fell upon the pair of them, there was a remarkable blind skirmish. No one could see anything on account of the ancient dust which filled the whole room. Not even a mathematician and bacteriologist in one could have estimated the pathogenic germs to the cubic centimetre of space, but the meanest intelligence among the unlearned would have come to the conclusion that there was trouble in the office of an unusual nature. For Mivart was not weak, and Pegram, having recovered from his surprise and filled his lungs, was really very strong. The two editors got to their feet, grabbed each other and the intruder and waltzed, without music, but to the accompaniment of highly unpoetic words, three times round the room. Another desk was smashed; a large table, loaded with papers, which was weak in its legs, gave way with a bang; some one put his elbow through a window; and some one else knocked away the supports of some pigeon holes. Mivart got a severe blow in the eye which made him very angry, and he hit out blindly—which was natural, as he could not see—and nearly knocked Pegram over. Pegram, who was very cross by now, though he had remarkable self-control when dealing with printers and even with poets, let go and banged Mivart's head against the head of the writer of "How I escaped from Hanwell." Then, as luck and the dust would have it, the new writer struck Mivart just as Mivart struck Pegram, which was exactly at the same moment that Pegram got in a real beauty on the new contributor. The result of this was that they all landed in different parts of the room, Mivart being close to the bell. Though he had not kept his legs he still kept his head and rang the bell, hoping to bring up O'Flanagan, who had a reputation as a fighter, of which Mrs. O'Flanagan was very proud, seeing that it helped her to speak the truth to her neighbours. But the interval for refreshment was short. It seemed as if nothing could destroy the new man's energy. Though his head had gone through a cupboard, he rose with a yell and unabated ardour as O'Flanagan came bounding up-stairs. It was not so much the bell as a piece of window glass which had fallen on him as he held up the outside wall, that brought him so quickly.

"Phwat is ut?" roared O'Flanagan, when he found the door locked, "Oh, phwat is ut?"

"Burst the door in," shrieked Mivart, as he hurled the ink-pot at the advancing foe. "There's a madman here!"

Mivart thought later this was no inducement for an ordinary man to interfere in the proceedings; but then O'Flanagan was Irish. He hurled himself against the door just as the ink-pot, having missed its mark, went through the window, while Mivart dodged a blow from a table leg with which the madman was armed. Pegram, now remembering that in his unadventurous life he had yet essayed the adventures of football, tackled the man low down, and they all went over with a crash that loosened the plaster of the room beneath, just as O'Flanagan, on his second attempt, came through the door like a mad bull through a gate. He was met by the unexhausted and inexhaustible stranger, who was once more on his feet, and having been caught by his extended wrist and the slack of his jacket, went with a crash on the top of Mivart and the editor. The interloper calmed down when he had done this, and, walking to the door, stood there. He spoke, and they listened to the following remarkable pronouncement—

"One I despise," said he, "two I can manage easily, but three might not unreasonably be too many. Nevertheless, do not think you have done with me. I shall pursue you to the death, for I am a mad hatter."

With which dark saying he turned, leapt for the staircase and clattered down-stairs. They heard him slam the street door with a crash that shook the whole building.

"Phwat wuz the reason of this riot, sorr?" asked O'Flanagan from his position on the floor.

"I don't quite know," replied Pegram, somewhat weakly, for he had not yet recovered from his last contact with the wall. He, too, still sat where he had been hurled.

"I say—what!" remarked Mivart. It was not an illuminating saying, yet the others found it adequate in a way. It emphasized by its very flabbiness the impossibility of clothing the situation in exact and wonderful words.

"I should think the man was mad," said Pegram solemnly.

"He seemed so to me, sorr," said O'Flanagan, rubbing his head.

"For the matter of that, he said he was," said Mivart, "so we have it on good authority."

"Did you, by any chanst, do anything to him, sorr?" asked O'Flanagan.

"I rejected something he wrote, or at least he said so," replied Pegram.

"Thank hiven, they're not all like that," cried O'Flanagan fervently. . . .

But the rest of the adventure for which the editor of the *Piccadilly* so unadvisedly expressed a longing we leave our readers to follow for themselves. They will not be disappointed.

New Novel by H. G. Wells.

PROBABLY the most important of the Autumn novels this year will be Mr. H. G. Wells's "Ann Veronica," which will be published in Unwin's Colonial Library. It is a modern—very modern—story. Mr. Wells's ambition would seem to have been to write one of the strongest love stories of recent years. The heroine, Ann Veronica, is the very modern girl,—modern in ethics, in point of view, in habits and in conduct generally. She is rather in advance of her time, but is not at all self conscious about her modernity. The story touches many aspects of present-day London; it is full of its life, and hits off brilliantly and with great humour all the new movements,—social, ethical, intellectual, and so forth. The work is, in fact, full of humour, and though it is a social study of London life to day in the first instance, it abounds in situations among the strongest and most dramatic Mr. Wells has conceived, and it ends with some very real and moving lovemaking.

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION TO AMERICA.

The Japanese commercial men staying in Buffalo went on the morning of the 5th instant to Dunkirk to visit the Locomotive Works and the Brewery there. On their return to Buffalo, they spent the remainder of the day in inspecting the various factories in the city. On the 6th, the Mayor of Buffalo held a reception in honour of the party; and after visiting various industrial concerns they were to leave for Niagara in the afternoon.

On the 8th inst. the Japanese commercial men inspected various schools, factories and other institutions in Rochester, and were banqueted at the Seneca Hotel in the evening. Mr. Markham, who visited Japan in 1880 in the suite of General Grant, was present at the meeting. Mr. Parkins, ex-member of the House of Representatives, in the course of a speech stated that though there would naturally be keen commercial competition between the two countries, the necessity of political complications does not exist. To prophesy the outbreak of a Japanese-American war is both foolish and criminal. His speech was received with applause. Baron Kanda and several others addressed the meeting. On the commemoration badge used on this occasion, there were some clauses in Japanese characters of the treaty concluded by Commodore Perry, and the picture of the landing of the Commodore was also reproduced. Mr. Barley(?), who first sent to Japan the seedlings of various American plants to the order of the late Count Kuroda, was also among the members present. During the night the party left for Ithaca.

On the 9th the members inspected the Cornell University at Ithaca, when Baron Kanda spoke on commercial education and referred to the Imperial rescript. Mr. White, who was formerly the President of the University for 20 years, also spoke, praising the Japanese and their character. Baron Shibusawa replied, stating that Japan was greatly indebted to America in the matter of education. After visiting various factories and institutions in the afternoon, the party were entertained at a dinner held at the Ithaca Hotel. On the conclusion of the dinner the members left for Syracuse.

The Japanese visitors on their arrival at Syracuse Station, on the 10th instant, were welcomed by the Mayor and the President of the Chamber of Commerce, each of whom gave an address of welcome to which Baron Shibusawa replied. During the morning the party inspected various places of interest in the city, and after being entertained at luncheon, they visited the Syracuse University. At a dinner given in the evening in honour of the visitors, speeches were delivered by the President of the Syracuse University and several other well-known Americans, to which Baron Kanda and Mr. Nakano replied.

ON Saturday afternoon, in Tokyo, two students named Uchisawa Ayawo and Nakayama Fumio had a quarrel with each other, in the course of which the latter suddenly stabbed the former with a knife. The wound proved fatal. The murderer has not yet been arrested.

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AN IMPORTANT RESOLUTION.

THE following Resolution was submitted at the Semi-Centennial of Protestant Christianity in Japan and received unanimous endorsement :—

While the Government and People of Japan have maintained a general attitude of cordial friendship for the United States, there has sprung up in some quarters of the latter country a spirit of distrust of Japan. There have issued from the sensational press such exaggerated and even false rumours concerning the "real" and "secret" purpose of Japan as to arouse a suspicion that even war was not unlikely;—a suspicion that was largely dispelled by the cordial welcome given by Japan in the fall of 1908 to the American Fleet and the delegation of business men from the Pacific Coast.

Both in connection with the embarrassing situation created by the proposed legislation in California regarding Japanese residents and the attendance of Japanese children in the public schools; and in connection with the problem of Japanese immigration into the United States, many articles appeared in the American sensational papers, revealing profound ignorance of Japan and creating anti-Japanese sentiment. In spite of this irritation, the press and the people of Japan, as a whole, maintained a high degree of self-control. Nevertheless, they were often reported as giving vent to belligerent utterances and making belligerent plans. Trival incidents were often seized on and exaggerated.

In this day of extensive and increasing commingling of race and civilizations, one of the prime problems is the maintenance of amicable international relations. Essential to this are not only just and honest dealings between governments, but also, so far as practicable, the prevention as well as the removal of race jealousy and misunderstanding between the peoples themselves. Indispensable for this purpose is trustworthy international news. False, or even exaggerated, reports of the customs, beliefs or actions of other nations are fruitful causes of contempt, ill-will, animosity and even war. If libel on an individual is a grave offence, how much more grave is libel on a nation!

Therefore, we American missionaries residing in Japan would respectfully call the attention of lovers of international peace and good will, to the above mentioned facts and considerations, and would urge the importance of receiving with great caution any alleged news from Japan of an inflammatory or belligerent nature; and of seeking to educate public opinion in the United States, so that, in regard to foreign news, it will cultivate the habit of careful discrimination.

This is by no means the first occasion on which the Christian Missionaries in Japan have publicly ranged themselves on the side of international peace and sincerity. But we doubt whether any of their cōoperative acts in the past has been more timely or more necessary. Incredible as the fact may seem, it is almost impossible to escape the conviction that there exists in the United States of America a group of publicists who deliberately set themselves to create mischief between their country and Japan. Very welcome would be the thought that the misrepresentations circulated by these people are the outcome of ignorance or carelessness; but such a theory refuses to be reconciled with the persistence of their essays and the flagrancy of their errors. It has been suggested that the selfish interests of a certain coterie of capitalists lie in the direction not of peace but of war, and that, finding their account in the field of international enmities, they deliberately manufacture instruments to excite prejudice and passion. The Yellow Press is confidently affirmed to be one of those instruments, and however unwelcome the hypothesis may be, it constitutes an explanation of what seems otherwise almost inexplicable. Perhaps the public will by and by awake to the savage criminality of these mischief-mongers, and by ostracising them from educated society, will reduce to a minimum their sphere of wicked potentiality. The most efficacious method of hastening that highly desirable consummation is the plan now adopted by the Protestant Missionaries. They possess an almost unique right to address themselves to the world on such a subject, for no other body of men have made so thorough and competent a study of Japanese affairs, and no other Europeans or Americans can claim even an approximately intimate knowledge of Japanese character. Any assertion endorsed by the Missionaries is absolutely worthy of credence, so far as this country or its people are concerned; and that reflection warrants us in hoping that the resolution adopted at the Semi-Centennial Conference will exercise wide influence. The only difficulty is to secure for it the publicity it deserves. We do not know what steps are contemplated to that end, but it may be assumed that they will be thorough.

AN ACCUSER OF THE JAPANESE NATION.

IN an editorial article of the *Japan Gazette's* we find the following :—

For our own part, we believe that the greatest barrier to the introduction of the Christian religion into Japan is the lack among the people of the faculty of friendship or fraternity, upon which that religion is based, and that the missionaries of the past and to-day have done and are doing much to remove that barrier.

We do not know what qualifications the editor of the *Japan Gazette* possesses for the rôle he here assumes, the rôle of passing judgment upon the ethical features of the Japanese race. His name has never been heard of as a student of the Japanese language, or as an expert in Japanese history. Yet he undertakes to declare the Japanese people wanting in a moral endowment which may be called the most essential element of civilized existence, "the faculty of friendship or fraternity." This is no casual accusation. It was publicly preferred some time ago by the same writer, and being challenged to adduce any proof of the injurious charge, he took refuge in silence, repeating the libel now again with fine effrontery. There are certain attributes of a people which can be diagnosed with tolerable accuracy. It seems safe to say, for example, that the Chinese nation is specially averse to settling a controversy by force; that the people of the United States have an abnormal genius for commercial organization; that the French are exceptionally endowed with the artistic faculty; that the Germans are conspicuous for analytical ability, and that the English are unusually addicted to athletics. But what conscientious observer, let him be ever so familiar with the life-story of any one of these nations, would venture to affirm that it was lacking in a moral quality with which even the brute beasts are endowed, the quality of friendship? It has been our own lot to associate much with the Japanese and to observe their disposition at short range. Nevertheless we hesitate to affirm anything positive as to their ethical equipment, and the commonest instinct of honesty would forbid us to pronounce an *ex-cathedrâ* dictum as to their lack of a radical element of every-day morality. But, if our experience counts for anything, we should say that the strength of the family tie in Japan and the large sacrifices that are habitually made to succour relatives or friends in adversity, bear direct testimony to the grossness of the slander formulated by the editor of the *Japan Gazette*. That is only our opinion, however. We frankly admit the great difficulty of pronouncing a final verdict upon a question demanding such close and intimate observation. Therefore in making this admission we are all the more astonished by the audacity of a publicist who, without any recognised qualification whatever, ventures to charge the Japanese nation with "lack of the faculty of friendship or fraternity," thus relegating them to almost the lowest rank of moral cripples. Were this slander publicly formulated against the English nation, we can imagine how justly indignant every unit of it would be. It is the old story, however. Certain editors of foreign journals in this country appear to think that they may villipend to their heart's content the nation whose hospitality they enjoy. And then they have the exquisite hypocrisy to pose as friends of Japan and to claim that their libels are inspired by solicitude for her welfare! Can we wonder that with such exponents of its views the foreign community's sentiments towards Japan are not regarded with much confidence by the Japanese?

THE UPHILL FIGHT OF PEACE.

IT is curious to observe how the hopes of those who pray for the establishment of "peace on earth"—who long for the time when right, not might, will rule the world—are now exalted, now depressed. At one time there comes into being an International Tribunal, before whose impartial strength (derived from the best elements among all nations) the Demon of War would, it was hoped, shrink for ever into impotence. But alas! this wise device for the peaceful settlement of international differences has proved itself incapable of preventing the outbreak of a bloody and disastrous war. Again, the votaries of Peace come forward with a proposal for the limitation of armaments—a potent plea that the immense sums now devoted to the creation of death-deadly instruments should be allotted, instead, to the moral and material betterment of mankind. But, no: at least one nation was too strongly steeped in militarism, and in the love of world-wide power which these armaments are designed to bring, to listen to the still, small voice of Peace. And so the unequal contest goes on, in one form or another, all the world over. In one quarter of the globe a tyrant is deposed and constitutional government is established in his stead: in another, racial antagonism springs up to endanger the comity of nations and, perchance, the

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peace of mankind. Recent history, moreover, has shown that the most solemn engagements, specifically entered into by two or more nations with a view to the prevention of strife, are counted for nought beside the dictates of ambition and self-interest. Thus, indeed, it would seem that, on the whole, the enemies, and not the friends, of peace are in the ascendant. As is remarked by a writer in *Fellowship*, a magazine devoted to the cause of international amity, "the national hymns at present sung have about them the suggestion of anti-national or at least revolutionary sentiments, and are not marked by any reverent recognition of the Supreme Factor in human affairs." For which reason the following lines have been put together with an endeavour "to avoid injustice to the national and the religious spirit.....They could be sung by the Kaiser of Germany, the Tsar of Russia, and the Sultan of Turkey, without strain to the conscience of any one of the August Trio":—

God make the World one State,
All nations, small and great,
One civic whole!
Self-ruled each people be,
All peoples linked and free,
Glorious in unity
From pole to pole!

This is excellent, as illustrative of the amiable disposition of one section of civilized mankind; but one wonders whether such pacific sentiments as these, or as those which have come to be associated with men like Mr. ANDREW CARNEGIE, enjoy a vogue, or carry a weight, at all comparable with those recently uttered by such a man as Baron VON STENGEL, who has definitely come forward as a uncompromising opponent of "Pacificism." This gentleman, who is a writer of some repute was chosen as the delegate of Germany to the first Peace Conference at the Hague, and though the selection of this fire-eating exponent of militarism for such a purpose may bring a smile to the lips of most people, it undoubtedly adds to his influence among his own countrymen. Baron STENGEL is about to publish a remarkable work entitled 'World State and Peace Problem,' in which he deals with the peace propaganda in Germany in a very sharp way," says the Berlin correspondent of a London journal. From this it would appear that there are peace societies in Germany, and it must be assumed from the vehemence of this militant Privy Councillor's attack that they are making some headway. For the Baron has set out to slay the "insidious foe of pacificism," which he considers is quite as dangerous to the well-being of the Fatherland as the terrible evil of Social Democracy. "Whether remote centuries will see an era of 'eternal peace' does not for the moment enter into the question. Clearer is the fact that the peace movement constitutes a revolution as regards present constitutional law, and means the destruction of the independence of individual States, which must enter into a world-federation; that therefore, it opposes decisively the national idea. From this point of view a further spread of the peace movement in Germany must be regretted. . . ." Naturally, we are prompted to enquire why the peace movement should spell political suicide for Germany in particular. Herr von STENGEL's reply does not place his own country in a very favourable light, as it virtually amounts to a declaration that the whole world is jealous of, and spiteful towards, the German Empire. The writer revives the legend enunciated some time ago by another Teutonic publicist—namely, that Germany is "ringed round" with foes. Germany, according to Baron STENGEL, is regarded "as a *parvenu* by all the peoples and States whom its rapid rise has disturbed." France "has not abandoned the idea of a *revanche*," while England "has not regarded with particular joy either the entry of the German Empire into the list of Colonial Powers, or the unexampled economic development of the German people, nor is she particularly pleased that the German Empire has become a factor in world-politics, and makes its influence felt in East Asia, in Africa, in the South Sea." Further, despite the "insincere professions of friendship of official Russian circles," the Slavs are to be reckoned "among the embittered foes of Germany." Even across the Atlantic, there would appear to be "factors of difference in politics and in economical relations between the advancing German Empire and the now Imperialistic great transatlantic Republic, which all the official and unofficial amenities exchanged between Germans and Americans do not efface." As the result of these relations, concludes Baron STENGEL, "the political condition of the German Empire is dangerous.....The German Empire must not pursue a peace-loving policy in the sense meant by the friends of peace and by the peace movement. It cannot diminish its strong armaments, reduce its standing army to the condition of a police possé, sell its battleships as old iron, and oblige itself to submit all disputes which may arise to the International Arbitration Court at The Hague. It were nothing less than political suicide for Germany to disarm in the faith that in case of an International dispute its rights would be assured by The Hague Court."

We have on previous occasions remarked that the two greatest obstacles in the way of friendly relations between two peoples, whose lots are cast along converging lines of national policy, are misunderstandings based on mutual ignorance, in the first place, and the misdirected influence of the Press, in the second. The attitude and arguments of special pleaders like Baron VON STENGEL may well drive the friends of peace to despair. No sooner does the movement in favour of international concord make the smallest headway, than the aggressive energies of a militant fire-eater are employed to defeat it. It is very disheartening, indeed. Nevertheless, so utterly without reason is the proposition that any one nation owes its position to the sword, and so absurdly does the Baron overstate his case, that there is some reason to hope, in the interests of international goodwill, that he will defeat his own ends, and that the cause of Peace will not suffer by this latest display of bellicosity.

ENGLAND IN JAPANESE EYES.

(Occasional Chapters from Mr. Sugimura's *Dai-Ei-Yūki*—A. Ll.).

I.—THE CART HORSE SHOW.

"There is to be a Cart Horse Show in Regent's Park to-day. Wouldn't you like to go and see it?"

The speaker was a pretty thirteen-year-old maiden, the daughter of a German who occupied the next room to mine at the Hotel, and she had come herself to give me the invitation. I had no more idea than the Man in the Moon of what a Cart-horse Show might be, and I had to ask for an explanation. My fair visitor told me that it was a sort of competitive meeting for all the cart-horses in London, and that at its close prizes and certificates of merit would be given to the best horses, the object of the meeting being to encourage the breeding and care of horses.

I confess that it did not sound specially interesting, but it was a pretty* little girl of thirteen that asked me, the daughter of my German friend next door, and what could I do but give a ready consent?

We started, a party of four,—the young lady and her father, an Englishman staying at our hotel, and myself,—and we took the underground Railway to Baker Street.

From this point we found the streets thronged with sight-seers, through whom we were obliged to push our way with some patience and difficulty, until we came near to the Park Gates, where, sure enough, we found carts in shoals coming in a long procession. The horses, one and all, were magnificently big fellows; in honour of the day each was decked out with ribbons, streamers of coloured paper, and bright-coloured metal rings. Some of the horses were gay with medals and decorations that they had won at previous shows.

On the waggons and carts were seated the draymen,—grocers' men, drapers, dealers in fruits and vegetables, milk men, and what not,—each on the cart to which he belonged, riding along, with wife and children, grinning happily, and munching as they rode along—a picture of happy contentment.

On either side of the street the spectators stood packed like herrings. As the carts passed by I could hear their criticisms passing from mouth to mouth, "That's a good horse." "What breed is that horse there?" "That horse is too fat".....or "His legs are too long." When a horse came by, wearing medals or badges, a spontaneous current of applause would run along the lines of spectators, which the drivers on the box would proudly acknowledge by raising the whip in salute I was much impressed by this. A Japanese *Edokko*, I must own to knowing nothing about horses. Here, in London, even the shop boys and the women seemed to know a great deal about them, and as to look upon them as forming a part of their daily life. They not only criticized horses, they knew how to handle them. It so happened that, for some reason or other, there was a block in the precession, and that some dozens of carts came to a standstill right in front of us. I could not help noticing a boy of about ten standing near by. Without any fear, he walked boldly up to one of the horses and stroked his nose in a most affectionate manner. The animal returned the compliment and looked down kindly and gently into the lads' face. It was just like what I had seen in pictures.

Presently two young girls came along, who wanted to cross the road but found their progress

* In an earlier chapter of this interesting book Mr. Sugimura's tells us that in crossing the frontier from Russia to Germany he left behind him snow-covered plains, uncultivated fields, and pretty girls! Our German readers will be glad to note that he afterwards found one pretty girl, at least, of German birth.

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impeded by the block in the procession. Had they been Japanese girls, they would have stood trembling at the horses and waiting for them to pass on. But the maidens of these parts have been cast in a different mould. They went up to the horses with a few kindly and good-tempered words, took hold of their bridles, pushed their heads out of the way, and squeezed their way through to the other side of the road. I was much impressed. With people like these, who have a genuine love for horses, one can begin to talk about horse-breeding. There is a great deal more in the art than wrangling over *pari-mutuel* tickets as though one's life depended on it, or establishing a couple of hundred or so of race courses.

This was not the only thing that struck me. I was further much impressed by the fact that though the crowds were so closely packed that they could scarcely stir hand or foot, there was nothing that could be called confusion. There was no pushing or being pushed. No one tried to squeeze past others in his haste to get ahead of them, there was no jostling and no collisions. A woman with her baby in her arms could walk quietly through the crowd, which also goodnaturedly made way for a bath-chair in which an invalid lady was being taken out for an airing. From time to time, when the crowd seemed to be getting a little too thick, a policeman would quietly step forward and regulate it. The crowds were always ready to step back at his bidding and the bobby (*sakō*) had only to hold up his hand as a signal, and, without a word on either side, a hundred carts would stop at once, and wait patiently till he gave them the signal to go on. Not a single man in the crowd dreamed of grumbling aloud.

We were told that the distribution of prizes would take place in the afternoon, but we did not wait for it. On our way home, my German friend, the Englishman, and the young lady of our party, fell to criticizing the horses. They asked me if I were a judge of horse flesh. "Of deer, yes;" I replied, "but I know nothing of horses." "What?" exclaimed the young lady, her eyes dilated with wonder, "have you so many deer as that in Japan?" I felt I had been bowled out, but I determined to stick by my wicket. "Yes, we have," I replied, boldly and firmly. When that young lady grows up and comes globe-trotting to Japan, I mean to take her first of all to Nara.

A. LL.

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, September 18.

The Emperor and Empress, with their children, still remain at Jalta in the Crimea, that favourite resort having been found by the Empress very beneficial to her health, which is in a far from satisfactory condition. I hear that on arriving at Sevastopol Her Majesty, who is much reduced in appearance, and looked far from well, was so weak that she had difficulty in taking the few steps between the arrival platform and the quay, on the arm of the Emperor, for embarkation aboard the Imperial yacht, the *Standart*.

M. Izvolsky has returned to St Petersburg, and did not, as was expected, accompany the Emperor to the Crimea.

Members of the Budget Committee of the Duma are assembling already in St. Petersburg, and next week will begin the preliminary meeting to settle questions of importance for the opening of the coming session in October. Very little interest is being taken by the general public in the three elections to take place before the opening of the Session to fill vacancies at St. Petersburg, Moscow and Odessa.

During the stay of the Emperor at the base of the Black Sea Fleet, which His Majesty has been inspecting, several more Admirals have been placed unexpectedly on the retired list. I hear that a rather interesting list of naval officers of less exalted rank will shortly be summoned to answer for irregularities which have become traditional in the Russian Navy, and will probably be dealt with by trial before a specially constituted court.

The Russo-English Chamber of Commerce is acting as intermediary between a number of Russian towns desirous of introducing the comforts of civilisation, such as tramways, water supply, sewers etc., and a group of capitalists in England who wish to undertake these works, supplying the capital therefor as loans guaranteed by municipal bonds.

The news from Persia is becoming more and more reassuring for those whose ambitions will be satisfied with the restoration of comparative order in that much vexed country. As to the prospects of constitutional government in Persia, as in any age old Asiatic country, opinions must differ greatly: the experiment has never yet been tried. But order is apparently being restored gradually. The caravan route from Astara to Ardebil and Kazvin is now reopened, thanks to the Russian troops. The Governor of Tabriz is beginning to get around him some soldiers who can be relied upon. The ex Shah is nearing the frontier of his late dominions, and the Russian Minister at Teheran, M. Poklevsky Kozell, will arrive at his post within three weeks from now.

Some miscreants have destroyed by fire the favourite little house of the late Emperor Alexander III., at which His Majesty was wont to take refreshments when shooting in the neighbourhood. The house latterly belonged to the Dowager Empress, and is situated in Finland. It was kept up in precisely the same state as that in which it had been left by Alexander III., and the Empress rarely omitted to pay it a visit when in the neighbourhood, taking tea there in the course of her drives. It lies deep in a forest, and there are no other dwellings near: except when an Imperial visit is expected the house is abandoned, and there is no possible question about the cause of its destruction having been wilful incendiarism. Suspicion has fallen upon a party of emigrants who were recently turned off ground upon which they had settled without leave.

The indebtedness of Russia, according to the memorandum accompanying the Budget estimates for 1910 introduced into the Duma, amounts at the present moment to over nine milliards of roubles (nearly 1000 million pounds sterling) and was increased in the current year by over twenty millions sterling.

The War Office, like other government departments, owns enormous tracts of ground in the very centre of St Petersburg. These are estimated to be worth over twenty million pounds sterling at the present day. The buildings upon them, in some instances, are falling to decay, and many are occupied with operations which are distinctly unsuitable to their position in the centre of a populous capital. The War Office is considering the general policy of selling its land in the centre and removing such departments as cartridge factories and the like to more suitable sites outside the city. When these plans become ripe an enormous area of land will rapidly become available for private use, which ever since the foundation of St. Petersburg has been in the occupation of various State departments.

Huge government works are to be erected on the coast opposite Peterhof and Kronstadt for the purpose of military munitions, a laboratory for experiments in modern explosives, and enormous magazines for all manner of artillery stores. The site will be in the neighbourhood of Lisy Nos (Fox nose), a spit of land which has an ill-omened sound to-day owing to the numerous executions that have taken place there during the last few years.

The following characteristic account of British enterprise is taken from the *Turkestan Gazette*, and refers to the copper industry at Akmolinsk, which has been in English hands for several years past: "The English are devoting much attention to this region. There are no Russians undertaking anything here, and if any are so inclined the want of capital soon causes their enterprise to fizzle out, or it passes into the hands of the foreigner, who contrives to get out of the same ground such results as were never dreamt of by our own people." It is true the English company has had to make its own railways and roads for here, as elsewhere all over Russia, the riches of the earth are useless to the Russian because there are no roads worthy the name anywhere outside certain main routes originally marked out for strategic rather than industrial or commercial uses.

To-day is being celebrated at Friedrichshafen the hundredth anniversary of the union of Finland with Russia. The celebration appears to be confined to the Russian troops stationed in Finland, and emphasis is being laid rather on the Russian rights of conquest than on other ties which bind the two countries together. To Russia Finland stands in much the same relations, though for very different reasons, as Ireland does to England. The relations between these two pairs of countries are only to be compared to that indefinite state known as "incompatibility of temper" in private life by those who chafe at wholesome bonds.

Several new cases of successful "expropriations" on the railways by armed desperadoes are reported, the booty varying from four to eight thousand pounds sterling. Nothing seems to daunt these armed robbers. The last case of a cashier, travelling with over two thousand pounds in cash in his possession, in a special compartment, in which he was under the special care of several fully armed soldiers—all which availed nothing against the tactics of the gang, who killed the cashier, wounded several passengers, cowed the armed guard, took the money and got clear away.

The well-known Asiatic traveller, Capt. Kozlov, has reached Moscow. He reports that he only just anticipated a very completely equipped French expedition on its way specially to investigate the ruins of Khara-Khoto.

St. Petersburg, September 21.

Bye-elections take place in three great Russian towns next month. At present the preliminary "election meetings" are beginning. Properly speaking the elector in Russia does not yet find it necessary for his political instruction to assemble anywhere for the purpose of hearing his leaders, or would-be leaders, make speeches. The majority of the electors still seem to consider it sufficient to vote as directed by order of the party-committee. The party of the Constitutional Democrats, the "Cadets," is the only exception. The "Cadets" insist upon holding meetings everywhere and on as many occasions as possible, obviously with the purpose of instructing the mass of the electorate with the proper methods of procedure as sanctified by the usage of the West. It is, however, usually quite sufficient for anything to have the stamp of Western sanction for the Russian "patriot" to condemn it as treasonable. Between these two opinions stand the authorities, who endeavour to accommodate the new ideas to the old practices, with the success to be expected from the ancient practice of pouring new wine into old bottles. Thus meetings are allowed—on conditions: and the conditions are many and curious, involving possibility of imprisonment for the luckless chairman and speakers. Moreover, meetings must be confined to voters: it is premature, as yet, to disturb the minds of the unenfranchised with political considerations. Every man present at a meeting is verified in precisely the same way as in England a voter is identified at the polling booth on the actual election day. Finally, an official from the police, nowadays generally a specially qualified person capable of dealing with political ideas, attends every meeting, and stops any speaker the moment anything is said which seems to the official contrary to the instructions he has received. If his summons to stop speaking, to cease all reference to this or that topic, etc, is not immediately obeyed, he "closes the meeting," which must disperse instanter without another word spoken.

It all seems a little childish to those accustomed to Western methods and ideals. But it must be remembered that the new wine is very new in Russia and its intoxicating qualities tenfold more dangerous there than elsewhere, owing to the low level of the masses, whose heads are liable to be turned with ease by dangerous demagogues. It is true that the authorities are forearmed against this possibility. Most parties content themselves with a meeting or two just before election day, at which the word is passed round who are the candidates, and the obedient voters take note of the name as the one which is acceptable to "those

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who know" and votes for that name, or stays away on election day as best pleases him. The "Cadets," however, being the pariahs of Russian politics, the unlegalised party whose existence and strength are solid facts which cannot be ignored, insist on playing the game, and holding t eir "election meetings" much in the manner of the West.

At the first meeting held in St. Petersburg M. Miljukov, the "Cadet" leader, had just remarked that "after London we have the right to say publicly on the platform that the autocracy no longer exists in Russia" when the police official called upon the chairman to stop the speaker: the chairman objected that the speaker was within his rights and refused to obey: the police official promptly "closed the meeting." The official organ, the *Rossia*, commenting on the incident to-day, quotes sect. 4 of the Fundamental Laws, which says: "To the Emperor of All the Russias belongs supreme autocratic power. Obedience to his power, not out of fear but for conscience sake, is ordained by God Himself," and regards this text as placing Prof. Miljukov, not for the first time, in the position of one wilfully disregarding the dictates of the law, the point taken, in fact, by the police official at the meeting. The "Cadets" (and many others) interpret the word "autocrat," however, in its true historical sense, namely, "independent ruler," and regard it as meaning no more now than it did when first assumed to indicate that the rulers of Russia for the future were "independent rulers" (*autokrator*) *i.e.*, would pay no more tribute or obedience to the Tartar Khans who had hitherto been their over-lords

It seems a pity there should be so much trouble still in Russia over a mere name. The value of good wine is hardly in the label. The word "constitution" is known to be "odiosum" in the highest quarters in Russia, while it is equally plain that the thing itself is not. There are already quite a number of constitutional practices and principles at work in Russia, and it is impossible not to approve the party tactics of those who abstain from calling spades by obnoxious names but use them to the best of their ability at every opportunity that offers. The "Cadets" insist upon the label: "if we have a Constitution in Russia, why not say so? If we have not, then tell us so plainly." The Government, which has to reconcile the old and the new, repeats its formula as contained in Sect. 4 of the Fundamental Laws (quoted in full above) and declines to say any more. There can be little question on which side is the political wisdom.

The question of the return visit of members of the London and other Chambers of Commerce to Russia is already being discussed in detail. It will probably take place the third week in October, and the visitors will spend several days at St. Petersburg and then go to Moscow, seeing at both centres various Russian industries at work.

The Russo-British Chamber of Commerce advertises that it has been instrumental in inducing the Lipton Tea Company to undertake tea-growing in the Caucasus. It is said the China tea is not very successful there, but the Ceylon varieties grow freely and well.

In the province of Poltava a new departure is being taken in education in a direction that is distinctly traceable to the influence of the British ideals of play and work during school life. All the schools of Russia are situated in towns. It is proposed in Poltava to establish a large boarding-school well away from any town, with all the advantages of healthy surroundings, playing-fields, etc. Presumably there will be also less police supervision than is found necessary in the existing schools. Thus it is hoped to make education not only more wholesome, both physically and morally, but also considerably to cheapen the present cost, artificially raised as it is by the necessity of residence in some town.

The Admiralty has established, in imitation of the War Office, the age of seventy as the maximum for the rank of admiral on the active list. By every means possible the extraordinary list of Russian admirals is being reduced to proportions more in keeping with the needs of the country.

General Stoessel, of Port Arthur notoriety, is reported to have now bought a house in Moscow which has cost over ten thousand pounds sterling.

Exhibitions of aeroplane flying have been given in Warsaw by a Frenchman, who is expected to repeat his performances in Moscow and possibly in St. Petersburg.

Count Tolstoy has left his home at Jasnaja Poljana for the first time for years to make a visit of a few weeks to friends in the country, beginning with M. Chertkov. Tolstoy travelled by rail third class, dressed in his usual striking Russian costume, and in passing through Moscow was given a hearty reception by crowds who assembled at every point where he could be seen. He rode on horseback to M. Chertkov's from the railway.

St. Petersburg, September 23.

The Imperial Family have reached Livadia. The expected Turkish extraordinary Mission to the Emperor at Livadia is reported to have been once more put off. Simultaneously the rumours, already so long familiar, of M. Izvolsky's impending romoval from his post as Minister of Foreign Affairs are again revived. Another Minister, M. Timirjazev, is also reported to be considering his resignation on account of domestic bereavement. The first two stories appear to rest upon newspaper reports made in Germany. the last has been met by the declaration of M. Timirjazev that he will continue to administer his department until such time as his successor may be appointed. It is especially characteristic of Russian political life that just before the reassembling of the Duma a rich crop of contradictory rumours is now regularly garnered. In fact these stories are fast comin to rank with the big gooseberry items of the silly season in the British press.

The Duma Budget Committee reassembled this afternoon for its first meeting. The President of the Duma, M. Khomiakov, has telegraphed to say that he is prevented returning to St. Petersburg at present by the illness of his wife. No details are yet known here.

Among the more interesting items that are coming before the Budget Committee may be mentioned the accounts of the Russo-Japanese war. The Department of Control, which overhauls the accounts of all public departments and sees that vouchers and entries correspond, but exercise no other form of "control," has so far examined vouchers for 594 millions of roubles out of the total of 1894 millions of roubles presented for "control." Various explanations are given for the slowness of the process, but, in point of fact, it is rapid in comparison with the control of previous wars. The expenditure on the Napoleonic wars was finally accounted for only in the 60's of last century, while that of the Crimea only about a decade ago. The Department of Control has found in almost every one of the military deparments the same features of "moneys collected twice over," "moneys received and no entry made," and especially "no record of moneys and material in hand at the close of the war," while in other instances these records exist in a form suspiciously incomplete. In some cases no books at all were kept. The discrepancies discovered by the Control Department amount to many millions of roubles on the amount, about 337 of the total, so far examined.

Another building disaster took place in St Petersburg yesterday. A six-storey building of brick, which had reached the last storey already while the floors of the other five were being put down, suddenly cracked. The floor-baulks slipped out of their sockets and crashed down into the first floor. Six workmen were seriously injured and many more slightly. "Jerry-building" is encouraged in this country by the facilities open to builders to mortgage property almost before the roof is on, but these repeated "accidents," in all of which it is proved that criminal economy of material in amount and quality has been the active cause, will probably bring about a change in the bullding laws, or some increased stringency in their enforcement.

A mysterious air-ship floated above Odessa yesterday for the space of twenty minutes or more, and then disappeared. It is conjectured to have been an Austrian military air-ship. Russia is unfortunate in seeing so many German and other air-ships floating over her territory while not a single flight of any duration, and only two little trial trips in all, have ever been made by airships in Russian hands.

The resumed trial in Finland of various Black Gang members charged with the murder of the Jew member of the First Duma, Prof. Herzenstein, was chiefly marked by the altogether outrageous conduct of the barrister Bulatsel, who has signalised himself at every sitting of the court hitherto by his insolent treatment of the Finnish judges. Yesterday, after the customary verbal abuse of the court, Bulatsel, losing all command of himself, actually dropped his hand into his revolver-pocket and was only prevented by the promptness of the police from an unheard-of outrage. He was disarmed and turned out of court, another Black Gang mamber present, who had a loaded revolver on him, sharing the same fate. The head of the Black Gang, the notorious Dr. Dubrovin, again refused to appear, and the Russian authorities put in a document declaring that his whereabouts are unknown to the Russian police. It is by this screening of persons who are believed to be guilty of murder, inciting to murder, and subornation of murder, that the Russian police has enabled the Black Gang to keep the case going for so many years: the proceedings in court are largely a waste of time, thanks to the tactics of Bulatsel and his supporters, who utilise every possible opportunity to cast ridicule on the Finnish procedure and gain time by an able manipulation of technical points which have nothing to do with the question of the guilt or innocence of any of the accused. Bulatsel is the Black Gang candidate for the vacancy in the representation of St. Petersburg in the Duma. He was supported yesterday by M. Zamišlovsky, the Secretary of the Duma, who made his first appearance in the Finnish Court and endeavoured to make a speech in favour of Dr. Dubrovin. The present session will probably last several days yet, but there is no certainty that any conclusion will be arrived at. The refusal of Dr. Dubrovin, the real defendant, to appear before the Finnish Court is the more extraordinary inasmuch as the Emperor has ordered that "justice shall take its course."

The second "election meeting" was closed in St Petersburg yesterday by the police-official present. His first "warning" was given at the words of the Cadet candidate, an ex-Minister, H. Kutler, who said: "The Administration places its personal views above the law, and this is the more dangerous nowadays inasmuch as the Government is no longer a number of separate departments but one united Ministry," on which the police-official called the chairman's attention to the rule that "the acts of the Government are outside the competence of the meeting." The second "warning" fell to the independent candidate, ex General Kuzmin-Karavaev remarking that there had been "eight persons hanged that day in Ekaterinoslav," on which the police-official ordered the speaker "not to touch on these questions." The third "warning" followed very shortly while a Socialist candidate was speaking, urging his claims as one of the party that "by the universal strike gave the country its constitution," on which the police-official "stopped the speaker and closed the meeting, this being the third warning." Under such conditions is the electoral activity of the capital of the Russian Empire proceeding to a mere bye-election.

The St. Petersburg Municipal Council will shortly hold a plenary meeting to settle the contracts for the second series of tramways for the city, the cost of which is estimated to be about two and a half millions sterling. The delay in settling these contracts is the more remarkable as it is acknowledged that the city is losing about five thousand pounds per annum on the horse-trams which this new series of electrics is to replace.

Twenty-nine secondary-education schools in St. Petersburg have joined the Russian Football-League, and a series of matches have been arranged to be played in the next two months. Football has taken good hold in Russia, and is now played all over the country, the League doing its best to provide competent umpires and referees, who act where needed as instructors. There is a growing literature on Football, mostly little pamphlets containing instructions and rules of the game. The sports columns of the newspapers now devote regular space to reports of football matches, hockey coming still a good second.

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BASEBALL.

On the 9th instant the final match between Waseda and Wisconsin was played on the ground of the Keio University. The game presented no special features. Waseda came out victorious with 3 runs to 0, thus winning one out of their three fights with Wisconsin. The 4th and last match with the Keio team was to have been played yesterday (Sunday), but heavy and continuous rain interfered. The Wisconsins have now played 6 matches in Japan, losing 4 and winning 2. They are to leave for home on the 13th instant.

On the Cricket Ground on Saturday afternoon, in fine weather, the local baseball team obtained an easy victory over the Yokohama All Nine, whom they defeated by 6 to nil, thus atoning for the defeat sustained at the hands of the latter the previous week. Messrs. Thompson and Abe were the umpires. The teams were as follows:—

Y.C. & A.C.		All Yokohama.
Dickie	P	Hirose
Walker	C	Masuda
McChesney	1B	Fujiki
Da Costa	2B	Kurimoto
Kellogg	3B	Hirooka
Tomeye	SS	Toyokawa
O'Connell	LF	Mukai
Wilson	RF	Yamamoto
Benedict	CF	Kato

The following is the score by inning:—

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total.
Yokohama	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	4	—	6
All Yokohama	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

The baseball match between the Waseda and the Wisconsin team, played on Saturday in the Keio ground at Tokyo, resulted in the defeat of the latter by three to nil. Count Okuma was among the spectators and seemed to take a great interest in the match. After playing one more game each with the Waseda and Keio teams, the visitors will leave for home by the *Tenyo Maru*, sailing hence on the 13th inst.

YOKOHAMA.

One of the sailors on board the U.S. supply-ship *Supply*, which arrived at this port on the 9th instant from Guam, was found to be suffering from dysentery. He has been taken to the General Hospital. Whilst on her way to Shanghai *viâ* Kobe, the vessel encountered a severe storm off Hachijo-shima, the tops of her two masts with wireless telegraphy apparatus being blown away and two of her boats washed overboard. After the storm, the captain decided to call at this port to have the necessary repairs executed.

The provisional agreement relating to the amalgamation of the Yokohama Rice Exchange and the Yokohama Five Staples Exchange was signed on the 11th instant by the representatives of the two parties.

On the site of the Seito Kaisha at Tenjinyama, Nishitobe-cho, over 2,000 different kinds of chrysanthemums have been planted, covering a space of 600 *tsubo*. Various chrysanthemum designs are to be shown in different parts of the enclosure. The largest flower is said to be over one foot in diameter. The garden will be opened on the 15th instant, a small charge being made for admission. It is understood that the proceeds will be given to the Yokohama Orphanage.

For the convenience of visitors to garden, the Yokohama Electric Railway Company will stop at Uchida-machi, Hichi-chome, to discharge and take in passengers.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended October 7th are as follows:—

Yokohama—	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
New cases	—	9	9	2	—	—
Died	—	1	1	1	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases	—	4	10	9	—	—
Died	—	1	4	5	—	—

Mr. F. E. Fernald, a partner in Messrs. Geo. H. Macy & Co., went home on the 12th instant by the steamer *Siberia*.

The Tea Department of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., of this city, has been removed to Shizuoka, where the business will be carried on from next year.

One of the sailors belonging to the British steamer *Theseus*, which arrived here on the 11th instant, was found to be suffering from dysentery. He has been taken to the General Hospital.

Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton arrived here at noon yesterday on board the British flagship *King Alfred* from Vladivostock. The flagship was accompanied by the cruiser *Monmouth*.

It is stated that Mr. Arnell, Assistant Japanese Secretary of the U. S. Embassy, has been made Secretary and Japanese Secretary in place of Mr. Miller, who was recently transferred to Washington as head of the newly-established Far Eastern Bureau.

The autumn regatta of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club will be held to-morrow, commencing at 1.30 p.m. In the evening a smoking concert will be given at 9 o'clock at The Gaiety, the performers including Messrs. G. G. Brady, A. E. Cooper, G. G. Franklin, W. H. Lewis, Alan Smith, G. O. Stanford, and W. M. Stewart.

YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

The Club brought a highly successful season to a conclusion on Saturday with races for the big boats and 22 raters. The weather was fine and there was a light easterly wind. The race for the big boats was over the Nagahama Course, a distance of 14 miles, the prize being the "Black and White" Cup. Having qualified for this race, *Maid Marion*, *Cygnet* and *Mary* started at 2 p.m., the last-named taking the lead, with *Marion* second and *Cygnet* third. The vessels, however, became becalmed; but in the end, the *Mary* arrived home first, with *Maid Marion* second. The *Cygnet* did not finish the course.

The race for the 22-raters brought out *Elsa*, *Pele* and *Winsome*, all of which had duly qualified for the event. The course was as follows:—Tachibana, Lightship, Southern Breakwater Buoy, Mandarin Bluff, return around Lightship and Tachibana. Distance about 9 miles. Prize: Mumm Cup.

The race resulted in a somewhat easy win for *Winsome*, with *Elsa* second and *Pele* last.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY.

The annual meeting of the members of the St. Andrew's Society, Yokohama, was held on the 12th inst. at the Club Hotel. In the absence of Mr. J. H. Maclaren, the President, who is away from Japan, Mr. H. V. Summers, the Vice-President, took the chair, there being present some 35 members. The report and accounts for the season, having been read, were unanimously adopted. The meeting then proceeded to the election of officers for the present season, the result being as follows:—President, Mr. F. O. Stuart; Vice-President, Mr. A. B. Lowson; Hon. Secretary, Mr. M. D. Currie; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. J. Reid; Committee, Messrs. A. Cumming, C. M. Duff, A. M. Marshall, J. McClure, and J. Thom.

The meeting decided to celebrate St. Andrew's Day in the usual way by holding a ball, provided the guarantee be sufficient to warrant it.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

NO LIGHT SHOWN FROM KAWAKAZU LIGHTBUOY.

The Department of Communications requests us to intimate that the light is not shown, for the present, from Kawarazu Lightbuoy, at Shiaku-seto, Inland Sea, owing to a breakdown of its illuminating apparatus.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

PRINCE YI SEONG EUNG, a distant relative of the Korean Emperor, died of cholera at Seoul on the 4th inst.

IT is reported that the Government has come to the decision to abolish the transit duty in the metropolis.

ON the 13th instant an Imperial messenger was sent to the residence of Prince Ito at Oiso, with an Imperial present of *sake* and fish.

THE Railway Authorities have decided to equip the express train running between Uyeno and Aomori, with sleeping carriages from to-day.

THE Korean Prince will visit Karuizawa on the 16th instant. His Highness is to stay there for two days at Viscount Suyematsu's residence.

THE opening ceremony of the Sendai High Technical School was held on the 9th inst. The Minister of Education attended the function.

THE Welcome Society of Japan has decided to establish a detached office in the compound of the Inspection Office of the Yokohama Custom House.

Two Japanese workmen were attacked and killed by a body of Korean insurgents at the village of Naimyon, in Northern Korea, towards the end of last month.

THE engagement is announced of Mr. Ito Bunkichi, son of Prince Ito, to Miss Masuko, daughter of Marquis Katsura, who is still in the Peeresses' School.

BARON HIRATA, Minister of Home Affairs, went to the Imperial Palace on the 11th inst. to submit to His Majesty the details of the recent ceremonies at the Ise Shrines.

Two hundred and fifty Russian emigrants, *en route* to Hawaii, arrived at Kobe on October 6 by the steamer *Kagi Maru* and left for Hawaii on the 12th by the *Siberia*.

AT the athletic meeting held on October 12 at the Peers' School, Prince Atsu, second son of His Highness the Crown Prince, secured the third place in the hundred yards race.

VICE-ADMIRAL LAMBTON, on board the *King Alfred*, left Vladivostock on the 11th instant. He arrived at Yokohama on the 14th. The cruiser *Monmouth* accompanies the flagship.

A FEW days ago a Japanese woman belonging to Minami-Kawachi-gori, Kawachi province, committed suicide by throwing herself down the famous Nachi Fall in Wakayama prefecture.

THE newly-established U.S. Consulate at Yokkaicho was opened on the 9th instant, with Mr. Kingsbury in charge. The office is for the present in the building of the Japan Seamens, Relief Association.

ON the 12th instant, a special meeting of the Privy Council was held in the presence of His Majesty to consider the judicial system to be adopted in Korea. All the members of the Privy Council and the Ministry were present.

ON the 7th instant, the Crown Prince paid a visit to the Imperial Court and submitted to Their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress an account of his recent journey. Various souvenirs of different districts were presented.

ACCORDING to Lisbon newspapers, the engagement of King Manuel of Portugal to Princess Alexandra, daughter of the Duke of Fife, will be officially announced at Windsor Castle on November 9, King Edward's birthday.

A NAGASAKI despatch states that three completely-equipped Russian volunteer vessels are on their way to the Far East. It is intended to place them on the lines between Vladivostock and Shanghai and Vladivostock and Tsuruga.

A SAPPORO despatch reports that on October 12 a meeting of influential residents was held at the Hokkaido Club to take measures to secure the

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speedy construction of railways in the Hokkaido. An investigation committee of seven was appointed.

THE engagement is announced of Mr. H. C. Brodie, Liberal M. P. for the Reigate Division of Surrey, and Miss Mabel Milbourne Hart, younger daughter of Sir Robert Hart, late Inspector-General of the Chinese Imperial Customs and Posts.

CAPTAIN LOUIS F. FERBER, an officer of the French army, was killed near Boulogne on the 22nd ult. while testing an aeroplane. While in the air the machine turned over and then dashed to the ground. Captain Ferber was crushed to death by the motor.

ONLY a few days ago 50 persons were poisoned in Gumma prefecture by partaking of the fish known as the bonito. On the 2nd and 3rd instant, 25 people residing in a village in Tochigi prefecture were similarly poisoned, one case proving fatal.

ON the night of October 7, a fire broke out in a villa at Kamakura, owned by Mr. Tominaga, of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha. At the time, his two daughters and three maid-servants were sleeping in the house. The elder daughter, aged only 7, was burnt to death.

THE final in the doubles of the Lawn Tennis tournament was played on the Cricket Ground on Saturday afternoon between K. Van Smith and J. S. Nicolls and J. F. and D. E. Drummond, and resulted in a win for the former, the score being 6-3, 7-5, 4 6, 2-6, 6-1.

DURING the night of the 7th instant one of the second-class passengers on board the N. Y. K. European liner *Miyasaki Maru* was found to be missing, whilst the vessel was proceeding to Kobe, having left Yokohama that day. He is believed to have thrown himself into the sea.

ACCORDING to a Mukden telegram received by the *Asahi*, Mr. Straight, of the American Syndicate, who arrived there several days ago, interviewed the Viceroy four times in the course of his five days' stay. He is said to have been partly successful in his mission. He has returned to Peking.

THE British despatch vessel *Alacrity* arrived here on Saturday afternoon from Vladivostock. Admiral Lambton, on board the *King Alfred*, is expected here in a day or two from Vladivostock, accompanied by the *Monmouth*. After a stay of a few days here, the three vessels will leave for the South.

THE C.P.R. S.S. *Empress of India*, which left here at noon on Tuesday, the 6th inst., bound for Vancouver, sent at 10. p.m. on Thursday a wireless message back to the Yokohama office of the Canadian Pacific Co. reporting fine clear weather, all well, at a distance of 850 miles off the northern land station.

A NAGASAKI telegram reports that the flagship and several other ships of the British Squadron are expected to visit Kagoshima on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Kagoshima railway on the 25th instant. Admiral Togo will go there, with a squadron of six ships, and entertain the British officers.

THE Uraga Dockyard Company is busily engaged in the construction of two dredgers and one steam-launch ordered by the Departments of Home Affairs and Finance respectively. Three hundred men have recently been engaged by the company and it is said that another 300 will be engaged about the middle of next month.

MR. YAMAJI CHIYOZO, a member of the Kobe City Assembly, hanged himself at his house in Kobe on the night of the 8th. No reason is assigned for the tragic act. He is reported to have left a property of some *yen* 40,000 or *yen* 50,000 in value. The deceased was a member of several public institutions, in addition to the City Assembly.

MR. NAKAHASHI TOKUGORO, one of the members of the Japanese mission visiting America, who is returning home by the *Kaga Maru*, in advance of the party, sent a wireless message at 11.30 p.m on the 12th instant to Baron Goto, Minister of Communications, inquiring after the latter's health. He was at that time 1,300 miles out at sea from Japan.

ABOUT a week ago 72 students of the Himeji Normal School, in Hyogo prefecture, went on an excursion to Tajima province, in the charge of two instructors. When the party arrived at Muraoka, Yomigata-gori, three days later, it was found that a teacher and two students were missing. The police have made a careful search for them, but without success.

AN Osaka despatch says that great reforms have been carried out in the constitution of the well-known Fujita firm in Osaka. Mr. Fujita Heitaro has now been elected Chief-Director, and Messrs. Ikehara Shikanosuke, Kimura Yoji, Tanaka Ryuzo and Katsura Yoichi (son of Marquis Katsura), Directors. Mr. Katsura will be in charge of the mining departments.

WE are informed by the Nara Association known as the Neirakku-kai, says the *Kobe Herald*, that the annual cutting of deers' antlers at the Kasuga Temple will be held on Saturday and Sunday next. It is said that the ceremony will be on a larger scale than in previous years. The Imperial Railway Office will allow reduced fares to passengers to Nara.

ACCORDING to a report from a Japanese torpedo-boat which left Chemulpo on the 21st ult, many hundreds of Chinese were found engaged in the Valu off the islands of Tasa and Munpaik. Five or six huts built by them were also discovered on land. The commander of the torpedo boat, says the *Seoul Press*, ordered the Chinese to demolish the buildings and withdraw at once.

LORD KITCHENER is expected to arrive at Shimonoseki on the 1st proximo from Fusan and to enter the capital the next day. The Railway Board will provide a special train for him and his suite, and a guard will escort him from Shimbashi Station to the Shiba Detached Palace. A reception committee will be appointed from among the officials of the Imperial Household and the War Departments.

A SAPPORO telegram reports on the 6th inst. two unfortunate incidents. The two village offices of Teshio-mura and Horomushiro mura, Teshio-gori, were destroyed by fire, and three persons were killed. On the same day, a severe storm visited Todohokke, a village on the coast near Cape Esan, and a landslide occurred. Eight houses were demolished, two persons killed and two others are missing.

A NAGAOKA telegram reports that according to the half-yearly statement of the Hoden Kaisha, the net profit amounts to 925,831 *yen*, to which 257,216 *yen* transferred from the preceding half-year is to be added. Out of the total sum, 915,000 *yen* is appropriated as dividend. The Company has decided to make another call of 12.50 *yen* per share, and a meeting was to have been held yesterday to decide this matter.

THE *N. C. Daily News* says that, according to Chinese telegrams, considerable unity has been exhibited by the Manchurians in their boycott against Japan, and Japanese goods dealers are giving up their trade, as they cannot profitably carry it on. The Japanese are bringing pressure to bear, and owing to the difficulty in handling the matter successfully the Viceroy has applied to the Government for instructions. The boycott against Japanese paper money in Peking and Tientain is also producing a serious effect, and the Japanese Minister has asked the Waiwupu to take immediate steps to remedy the matter.

ON October 13th, before Judge Suga in the Tokyo Local Court, a Russian pedlar named Almakoff, employed by a Japanese baker of Tokyo, was tried for the murder of his comrade, another pedlar of the same race. The judge examined the defendant, through Mr. Hodzumi, a translator of the Department of Foreign Affairs, who had been chosen as interpreter. Defendant said he was guilty of the crime, but was in a state of intoxication at the time. Moreover he stated that while in Russia, he had killed a man and had been exiled to Saghalien. The public procurator asked that sentence of death be passed. The counsel for the defendant asked the Court to take into consideration extenuating circumstances and to reduce the capital punishment by one degree. Sentence will be given on the 18th instant.

THE application for reclaiming 253,610 *tsubo* of land off Koyasu-mura, Tachibana-gori, Kanagawa prefecture, which Mr. Asano Soichiro and four others presented some years ago to the prefectural Government, in order to establish an iron-works and a dockyard, was rejected on the 13th instant, on the ground that some portions of the above place would in future be required for the extension of Yokohama harbour.

TWENTY-FIVE students of the Special English Course in the Osaka High Commercial School arrived at Yokohma on the 6th instant by the steamer *Yawata Maru* on their way to Tokyo, Nikko, Sendai and Matsushima, in charge of Mr. Okada Chinichiro, an instructor of the School. On their way home the party will visit Mito, Yokosuka, Kamakura, Enoshima, Hakone and Shidzuoka.

THE suite accompanying Prince Ito to Manchuria includes Mr. Murota Yoshibumi, a member of the House of Peers; Mr. Furuya Hisatsuna, Private Secretary to the President of the Privy Council; Mr. Mori Taijiro, Private Secretary to the Minister of the Imperial Household Department; Mr. Tei Nagakuni, a Secretary of the Department of Foreign Affairs; Major Matsumo; and three others. The above names have been officially communicated to the Russian and Chinese Governments.

ACCORDING to the *Novoe Vremya*, says a Nagasaki despatch, a Norwegian steamer called at Alaska some time ago, having on board 400 Russian emigrants. As, however, she had cleared from Vladivostock without obtaining a health certificate from the U. S. Consul there, the Alaskan authorities fined her *yen* 10,000. The answers of the emigrants to certain questions being unsatisfactory, the U. S. authorities deemed the men to be a party of revolutionists and permitted only 100 to land, sending the remainder back to Vladivostock.

THE *Kobe Herald* is informed that the Committee of the Kobe Golf Club have received a letter from Mr. A. Stanley Clarke advising them that whilst playing the 15th hole in his second round for the Amateur Golf Championship of Japan on Rokkosan on Saturday, September 25th, he unwittingly committed a breach of local rule No. 7, with regard to a "Ball out of Bounds" and that in these circumstances he does not feel justified in retaining the Cup. The Committee, after due consideration, have decided that he is disqualified and the Championship Cup and replica therefore pass to Mr. J. L. Crockatt, who had the next best score.

THE *Seoul Press* reports that Yi Choosong, a notorious insurgent leader of Kongju, South Choong-chong province, has been arrested by the police at Kongju. This man formerly served as a non-commissioned officer in the Korean army in that town. After the disbandment of the army he joined the insurgents and has since been troubling the inhabitants of the districts around with fifty followers under him. He frequently came into collision with the Japanese gendarmes and police, but each time he managed to make good his escape. A few days ago he secretly returned to his home at Kongju to see his wife. This was found out by the police, and his arrest followed.

THE *Seoul Press* regrets to state that Mrs. Mary F. Scranton, the mother of Dr. Scranton, passed from this life at five o'clock on the morning of Oct. 8 at her residence in Seoul in her seventy-eighth year. She had been seriously ill for many months, so that her demise was not altogether unexpected. Nearly three weeks ago she had a stroke of paralysis. By her demise, the Christian mission in Korea loses one of the most faithful and oldest workers. She went there twenty-four and a half years ago, and began Christian evan-

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gelistic work among women, and also founded the Ewa Hak Tang, Girls' School, in Chong Dong, both under the auspices of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She has continued in active service in her work until very recently, although for some months past she had been obliged little by little to lay down her life-tasks for younger hands and hearts.

DR. BRANDER, of Fort William, Scotland, has been honoured by the Emperor of Japan with the Decoration of the 6th Order of the Sacred Treasure, for services rendered during the Russo-Japanese War. Dr. Brander is a graduate of Edinburgh University, and joined the Mission of the Irish Presbyterian Church in Manchuria in 1890, and during the following fifteen years had extensive hospital work there. After the Chinese War, he, along with five of his medical colleagues, was decorated by the late Emperor of China with the 3rd Order of the Double Dragon. They had then about 1,000 wounded Chinese soldiers under hospital treatment in Newchwang. The decoration was received a few days ago from the Japanese Minister in London.

ACCORDING to an official report from the Japanese Consul at Hongkong, the Douglas Steamship Company, a formidable rival of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, which engages in the carrying trade of the southern coasts of China, held a general meeting of the shareholders on the 26th ultimo. At the meeting the Chairman reported that the result of the business during the past year had been so bad that no dividend could be paid. The causes of this failure were, first, the general depression in the carrying trade; secondly, the advance in the price of coal; and thirdly, the losses suffered by the different branches in consequence of the decline of silver. The directors proposed that $36,950 should be taken out of the reserve fund to make good the losses. The Company is endeavouring to sell its newly built steamer *Kaiyo*, but no offers are forthcoming.

THE mortal remains of the late Rev. Dr. Bennett were laid to rest yesterday afternoon, the Rev. Mr. Good, of the Union Church, conducting the service at the cemetery. Prior to this a very impressive service in both English and Japanese had been held in the Baptist Church, 75 Bluff, the Rev. T. Ueyama presiding. A large number of Japanese and many foreign residents of this city and of Tokyo were present, as were also Rev. T. Kawakatsu (one of the first Japanese evangelists), Revs. K. Shimose and S. Mitamura, Rev. C. K. Harrington, D.D. (Dr. Bennett's colleague), Rev. J. C. Brand, of Tokyo, and Rev. W. B. Parshley, President of the Baptist Theological Seminary, Revs. E. S. Booth, W. T. Austen, W. B. Chappell J. H. Ballagh, Dr. Draper. The pall-bearers were students of the Seminary and deacons of the Church.

A REPORT from Yosu in South Chonla province gives particulars of a sanguinary encounter which took place near that place last month between a band of insurgents and a detachment of troops. It was about 4 in the afternoon of September 28 that Sub-Lieut. Tsutogawa and some soldiers under his command came across thirty-eight insurgents led by Kim Kyong-kwang at a village called Whayang-myon. The troops immediately opened fire on the enemy, who concealed themselves behind the stone walls of a house and offered a stubborn resistance. The fighting continued for three hours, until at dusk the Japanese soldiers set fire to the house and at the same time charged the enemy with bayonets. This dislodged the insurgents from their position and they fled in all directions, leaving 16 dead bodies behind them. It is considered that at least 10 of the survivors were more or less injured. The Japanese troops, says the *Seoul Press*, sustained no injuries.

ACCORDING to a report from Kaisong to a Seoul contemporary, says the *Seoul Press*, the harvest of ginseng cultivated there was to start on the 1st inst. For several years past the yield has been rather poor. As the plant suffered from the damage of injurious insects this year, the amount of the yield is expected to be comparatively small, about 5,000 pounds, an increase of only 500 pounds compared with that of the previous year. Several years ago the amount of the product stood at 80,000 pounds yearly, but it has since been decreasing owing to damage from injurious insects and other causes. It is expected, however, that the same amount as formerly obtained may again be reaped after some years. With this hope, the authorities concerned are studying methods for the extermination of injurious insects. It may be added that the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha has secured by tender the privilege of purchasing the yield of ginseng for five years at the price of *yen* 82 per pound.

AMID scenes of splendour and brilliance, Prince Miguel of Braganza was married, on September 15, to Miss Anita Stewart, in the Roman Catholic Church at Dingwall, Scotland. The ceremony was attended by the Duke and Duchess of Braganza, father and stepmother of the bridegroom, and by several representatives of the Imperial House of Austria. Prince Miguel, who is thirty years of age, is the son of the Portuguese Pretender, Dom Miguel of Braganza, a descendant of King John VI. The bride is the only child of Mrs Smith, the widow of "Silent" Smith, the Chicago millionaire, who died in Japan while on his honeymoon three years ago. As the daughter of Mr. James Rhinelander Stewart, the bride is a great heiress, and she will also inherit the Smith millions. It was in Scotland that the bride and bridegroom first met and fell in love, and this is the first Royal wedding which has been celebrated there since the days of the Stuarts. The bride has consented to join the Roman Catholic Church. The young couple will reside in Austria, on the invitation of the Emperor, who will introduce the bride to Court as Duquesa Vizen.

A REPORT has lately been current that the railways in Korea will be transferred from the management of the Residency-General to that of the Railway Office in Japan, and that Viscount Sone is not very favourably disposed towards the scheme. We (*Seoul Press*) learn, however, that the Resident-General, far from being opposed to it, is rather in favour of it. His Excellency is only solicitous to see a speedy and satisfactory development of industry in Korea. In order that this may be attained, the means of communication must first be perfected. For this reason, Viscount Sone is very earnestly desirous that new railways should be as speedily and as abundantly built in this country as possible. To him it does not matter in the least whether the work be carried out by the Railway Office of the Residency-General or by the Railway Office in Japan. To His Excellency the one essential point is that it will be realized in the least space of time. Viscount Sone, therefore, will welcome the transference of the management of the Korean railways to the Railway Office in Japan, if by so doing it will prove economically advantageous and lead to a quicker attainment of his object of intersecting all parts of the peninsula with a network of iron roads.

CORRESPONDENCE.

REPORTED NEW INVENTION OF GEARING.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—You recently inserted a Reuter cablegram referring to reports from New York that Rear Admiral Melville and two others have invented gearing that increases the efficiency of the marine turbine by a very important amount, at the same time saving space and having other advantages. It may interest you to know (as correspondence with Admiral Melville's partner, Mr. J. H. Macalpine, informs me) that this invention has been under consideration for at least three years past. Mr. George Westinghouse's name is also associated with it; an experimental machine has been built, parts of which have been supplied by Messrs. Krupp, the teeth being cut by Messrs Schuchardt and Schütte. This experimental machine and the trials with it were expected to cost from 50,000 to 100,000 dollars gold; it was to be subjected to very exhaustive tests.

Your cable news would apparently indicate that the results of these tests have satisfied those most concerned; their expectations as to economy and other advantages have been realized. To the many who are interested in the development of the turbine, especially for naval purposes, the prospects opened up by the announcement are indeed of the highest importance; further particulars will be received with critical attention and interest. While on more sides than one an electric solution of some of the difficulties connected with the combination of an efficient turbine and efficient screen propeller is being sought, the alternative of a recourse to gearing will be approved only when its advocates have very clearly proved the justice of their claims.

F. P. PURVIS.
Prof. Nav. Arch.

Tokyo Imperial University, 9th October.

CHESS.

[*Correspondence relating to this column should be addressed to the* CHESS EDITOR, *The Japan Mail. Problem solutions should be handed in at the Japan Mail Office, or to Mr. W. B. Mason, not later than the evening of Thursday.*]

The Annual General Meeting of the Yokohama Chess Club held on Monday last at the Hotel de Paris again revealed the difficulty of getting members to attend these indispensable gatherings. It is not encouraging to the office-bearers, for the annual meetings afford the only occasions on which members have an opportunity of expressing their approbation, or otherwise, of the work done by the men whom they elect. However, it is hoped that the appeal made to Chess lovers, and the liberal and sportsman-like offer of the President, will be responded to in the proper spirit. It may be added that the Chess room has been refurnished in a very attractive manner.

* * *

Now that Interport matches have become so popular, might it not be possible to arrange for similar contests in other than purely athletic games? We believe Kobe can boast of more than one Chess player above average strength; certainly, a match between the two ports would do much towards infusing a little enthusiasm, locally, in the game. Mr. Jordan, of Nagasaki, offers single-handed to meet us all, but so far, no response is forthcoming to his doughty challenge. Veterans like Messrs. Griffin and Mason ought not to have to bear the brunt of the fighting, as they did last session.

* * *

The solution to Problem No. 27 will appear next week.

* * *

PROBLEM NO. 28.

By REV. H. B. WALTON, YOKOHAMA.

Black 12 pieces.

White 10 pieces.

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN THREE MOVES.

* * *

TRAPS AND STRATAGEMS.

It is often dangerous for a player who has castled to pin his opponent's Kt on that side:—1. P — K 4, P — K 4; 2. Kt — K B 3, Kt — Q B 3; 3. B — B 4, B—B4; 4. Castles, Kt — B3; 5. P — Q 3 P — Q 3; 6. B — K Kt 5?, P — K R 3; 7. B — R 4, P — K Kt 4. (This advance is all right because Black has not castled); 8. B — Kt 3, P — K R 4 (a trap of a high order); 9. Kt x Kt P?, P — R 5; 10. Kt x B P, P x B; 11. Kt x Q, B — K Kt 5; 12. Q —Q 2, Kt — Q 5. The continuation may now be: 13. Kt — B 3 (to prevent Kt — K 7 ch), Kt — B 6 ch; 14. P x Kt, B x P (B 6), and wins easily; or 13. P — K R 3, Kt — K 7 ch; 14. K — R, R x P ch; 15. P x R, B — B 6 mate.

It is also often dangerous to allow the Kt or R file to be opened for the a hostile R after castling:—1.

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P — K 4. P — K 4; 2. Kt — K B 3, Kt — Q B 3; 3. B — B4, B — B 4 (Giuoco Piano); 4. P — B 3 Kt—B3; 5. Kt—Kt 5, Castles; 6. P—Q3, P—K R3, 7. P — K R 4, P x Kt?; 8. P x P, Kt — K; 9. Q — R 5, wins. In the French Defence a similar stratagem is frequently employed, thus:—1. P — K 4, P — K 3; 2. P — Q 4, P — Q 4; 3. Kt — Q B 3, Kt — K B 3; 4. B — K Kt 5, B—K 2; 5. B x Kt, B x B; 6. Kt — K B3, Castles; 7. B — Q 3, P — Q Kt 3; 8. P — K R 4, B — Kt 2; 9. P — K 5, B — K 2; 10. B x P ch, K x B; 11. Kt — Kt 5 ch, B x Kt; 12. P x B dis. ch, K — Kt; 13. Q — R 5, P — K B 3; 14. P — Kt 6, and wins. Black might have tried 11..... K — Kt 3; but then 12. Kt — K 2 give White a winning attack.

* * *

GAME No. 26.—Played recently between the two undermentioned masters.

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED.

	WHITE. A. Rubinstein.	BLACK. J. Mieses.
1.	P—Q 4	P—Q 4
2.	P—Q B4	P—K 3
3.	Kt—Q B3	P—Q B4
4.	BP x P	KP x P
5.	Kt—B 3	Kt—Q B3
6.	P—K Kt3	B—K 3
7.	B—Kt 2	Kt—B 3
8.	Castles	B—K 2
9.	B—Kt 5	Kt—K 5
10.	B x B	Q x B
11.	R—B sq	Kt x Kt
12.	R x Kt	P—B 5
13.	Kt—K 5	Castles
14	P—Q Kt3	Q—Kt 5
15.	Q—Q 2	QR—B sq
16.	K—Q sq	P—Q Kt4
17.	P—B 4	Kt x Kt
18.	B P x Kt	P—Q R4
19.	P x P	R x P
20.	R—Kt 3	Q—R 5
21.	P—K 3	KR—B sq
22.	B—B sq	R—B 7
23.	Q—K sq	P—Kt 5
24.	B—Q 3 Resigns.	Q x P

TELEGRAMS.

(SPECIAL TO THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

(RECEIVED OCTOBER 13TH, 9.30 A.M.)

MR. CRANE TO RESIGN.

London, October 12.

Reuter's New York correspondent says that information has been received from Washington to the effect that Mr. Knox, Secretary of State, has asked Mr. Crane to resign.

Later.

Washington.—Mr. Crane is believed to have inspired a statement, published in a Chicago newspaper, forecasting American policy in China, and stating that America is about to make a formal protest against the concessions granted to Japan under the recent Chino-Japanese Agreement, as being contrary to the policy of the open door.

Secretary Knox has notified Mr. Crane that his resignation will be acceptable.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

BRITISH POLITICS.

London, October 7.

Lord Lansdowne denies that he is going to Balmoral.

The committee stage of the Finance Bill is concluded.

TURKISH MISSION TO RUSSIA.

An Ottoman mission headed by Rifaat Pasha, the Turkish Foreign Minister, has arrived at Livadia, in the Crimea, where it will meet M. Iswolsky.

The Constantinople correspondent of the *Koelnische Zeitung* telegraphs that Rifaat Pasha is empowered to effect a political and military understanding, including an agreement concerning the passage of warships through the Dardanelles, and also to arrange a meeting between the Tsar and the Sultan.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN INCIDENT.

London, October 8.

St. Petersburg.—The Russian Consul-General at Harbin and the German Consul at Mukden have settled the Russo-German incident of the 2nd inst. on a basis of mutual explanations.

CANADIAN TRADE COMMISSIONER CENSURED.

The Times correspondent at Ottawa reports that the Government has reprimanded Mr. Harris, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Yokohama, for insinuation against Japanese commercial morality. A communication will be forwarded to Tokyo disclaiming all official knowledge of the Commissioner's error of judgment.

TUBERCULOUS CHINESE PIGS.

It is stated, at to-day's meeting of the County Council, that 9 per cent. of the Chinese pigs recently imported were affected by tuberculosis. The whole question has been referred to the Sanitary Committee.

GERMANY'S BURDEN OF ARMAMENTS.

Later.

The German Supplementary Estimates for 1909 amount to 25 millions sterling instead of 14 millions as officially estimated in the month of August. The deficit is to be covered by a loan. The debt now amounts to 250 millions sterling.

BRITISH POLITICS.

The House of Lords has rejected the compulsory purchase clause of the Irish Land Bill.

AMERICA AND THE MANCHURIAN AGREEMENT.

London, October 9.

The New York correspondent of the *Times* says it appears that the State Department seriously contemplates objecting to the Chino-Japanese Manchurian agreement, which it regards as violating both the open door policy and the Portsmouth Treaty.

The Washington correspondent of the London *Morning Post* says that there is little doubt that the recall of Mr. Crane arises from the Chino-Japanese agreement, objections being raised to articles three and four regarding mines.

CHINESE PORK IN ENGLAND.

Mr. John Burns, the President of the Local Government Board, replying in the House of Commons to a question from Mr. Fell, declared that the Government felt quite satisfied that the Chinese pork was quite satisfactory and declined to prohibit further importations.

VIOLENT EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS.

London, October 9.

Violent earthquakes have taken place in Trieste and Agram and in places in Slavonia and Hungary, but no serious damage has been done.

CANADA'S NAVY.

The Ottawa Government intends to ask Parliament to appropriate twenty million dollars to build a navy and three million dollars for its annual maintenance.

THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR.

The new German Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, will shortly visit King Emmanuel and the Pope.

THE LORDS AND THE BUDGET.

Speaking at the National Liberal Club, Mr. Winston Churchill said he did not believe the Lords would reject the Budget, and declared that the Government would accept no amendment or compromise.

CANADA TO BUILD HER OWN WARSHIPS.

London, October 10.

There is a strong movement in Canada in favour of building the warships there.

It is stated that the well-known shipbuilders Messrs. Harland and Wolff, of Belfast, will establish shipyards in Canada.

LLOYD-GEORGE FACETIOUS.

London, October 11.

Mr. Lloyd-George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, speaking at Newcastle, said that the Budget was an attack neither on industry nor property and that new taxes were imperative, in order to supply money for Imperial defence and old-age pensions.

Referring to the improvement of trade, he said that the only stock that had become depressed had been "Dukes" since they started speech-making.

INDISCRETION OF FRENCH COMMANDER.

General Damade, the French Commander in Morocco, has been placed on the retired list, on account of an interview in which he strongly resented a Spanish advance in Morocco as suggesting ulterior designs of aggrandisement.

LLOYD-GEORGE'S SPEECH.

London, October 11.

Mr. Lloyd-George, in his speech at Newcastle, declared that the present social system was fraught with peril for the order of things as represented by the Peers.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

While the Unionist papers denounce the speech as infamous and calumnious, and as an incendiary appeal to crude and popular passions inciting to a class war, the Liberal papers are loud in their praises of the eloquence, courage and statesmanship of the speaker.

The *Daily Graphic* describes the speech as blatant *sans culottism*, and the *Daily Telegraph* dubs it a Communist speech to the mob, quoting as parallels incidents from the Reign of Terror in France.

TURKISH MISSION TO RUSSIA.

Later.

Rifaat's Pasha's mission left Livadia on the 7th inst. A semi-official communiqué, issued at St. Petersburg in connection with the mission, dwells on the mutual goodwill between the two countries, the community of interests, and the development of mutual confidence in both political and economic fields.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENES NEAR PARIS.

The attendance at an aeroplane (?) meeting held yesterday at Juvisy (? Issy) near Paris, numbered 200,000 persons.

The railways were blocked for miles by crawling trains, and thousands of persons did not arrive until the evening. The mobs, unable to return home, wrecked the stations at Juvisy (?) and Savigny, and also several trains.

THE RECALL OF MR. CRANE.

"AN INDISCREET DISCUSSION."

London, October 12.

Washington.—The recall of Mr. Crane is due to a development involving the question of his fitness. The State Department learns that Crane is responsible for the publication at Chicago of what the Department considers an indiscreet discussion of America's attitude towards the Chino-Japanese Treaty. Moreover, America's attitude is still under confidential consideration. It is declared that, unless Mr. Crane

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clears himself, his connection with the diplomatic service will be abruptly severed.

Mr. Crane was closeted with Secretary Knox far into the night. It is understood that the State Department regards the publication as particularly unfortunate at the present time, as it was intended that Crane should sound the other diplomats in Peking with a view to securing the support of at least a majority of the Great Powers, which have accepted the "open door" policy, before making representations to Japan. It is feared that the Chicago statement will enable any one Power to defeat the whole project.

IMPERIAL DEFENCE.

A NEW DEPARTURE.

Later.

The Admiralty has announced the formation of a new Mobilization Department. The officers directing it and the Intelligence Department will form a standing Navy and War Council, presided over by the First Lord of the Admiralty.

THE TSAR'S TOUR.

London, October 12.

Owing to an improvement in the Tsaritza's health, the Tsar will start for Italy on the 14th inst. He will then visit the King of Roumania, returning to Russia on the 25th inst. The Court will go into the Winter Palace at St. Petersburg in December next, the first time since the revolutionary period.

BANKER'S APPEAL DISMISSED.

New York.—The Federal Circuit Court of Appeal has confirmed the sentence of 15 years imprisonment passed on Morse, the banker, on November 7th last. Morse was recently operating again on the Stock Market, he being on bail and accompanied by a tipstaff of the Court.

SIR JOHN FISHER RETIRES.

Later.

The Newcastle *Chronicle* states that Sir John Fisher retires in a fortnight. He has received a peerage with the title of Baron Thetford.

THE POLAR CONTROVERSY.

Peary and his four companions have issued a detailed statement in the audience of Cook's Esquimaux. The latter insist that Cook made only two marches north from Heidergland(?), and give details of the southward journey, covering the period of Cook's alleged journey to the Pole.

[The above telegram has suffered in transmission.—Ed. *J.M.*]

HARRIMAN'S WILL.

London, October 13.

The provisions of Harriman's will have been made public. They show that the deceased "Railway King's" fortune amounted to sixty millions sterling.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION.

Lord Lansdowne and Mr. Balfour have had joint audience of the King, who afterwards received Mr. Asquith.

THE CRANE AFFAIR.

London, October 13.

Secretary Knox has issued a statement to the effect that while the State Department was considering the Chino-Japanese Agreement with a view to determining whether anything therein is adverse to American interests or conflicts with the "open door" principle, Mr. Crane informed the newspapers that the Government was preparing a protest. Mr. Crane admitted his indiscretion hence the request tendered him to resign.

HURRICANE IN THE WEST INDIES.

A hurricane has visited Havana and Florida. The damage amounts to two or three million dollars. Hundreds of dwellings and cigar-factories have been destroyed.

MR. CRANE EXPLAINS.

London, October 14.

Mr. Crane declares that his article was not an indiscretion, but was an effort to carry out his understanding of Mr. Taft's wishes, the President having told him that his utterances on political and commercial affairs in the Far East were right.

JAPANESE MISSION RECEIVED IN AUDIENCE.

Vienna.—Emperor Francis has received in special audience the Japanese military mission which is studying army organization in Europe.

THE UNIONISTS AND TARIFF REFORM.

Later.

Lord Hugh Cecil, speaking at Manchester, said he had not changed his opinion, but he had agreed that in the present situation it was the duty of the Unionist Freetraders to support Tariff reform, the danger resulting from which was less than the disturbance of the foundation of property.

THE CRANE INCIDENT.

The following is an official copy of the U.S. Secretary of State's Memorandum with reference to the Crane Affair:—

The State Department has been engaged for some time in making the usual study of the recent agreements between China and Japan relating to Manchuria, from such data as it was able to secure, with a view to determining whether there is anything in the agreements adversely affecting American interests, or conflicting with the principle of equal opportunity,—a study not yet concluded, and respecting which no decision has been reached. While this investigation was proceeding, Mr. Crane came to the Department, and was there informed by one of the clerks about it. Without consulting any responsible officer of the Department, Mr. Crane gave out to a newspaper a story that this Government was preparing to protest against some features of the agreements. The story appeared in a Western paper, and about the same time in the Japanese press, and was subsequently generally published. Such were the representations made to me on October 1st by responsible officers of the Department; whereupon I sent to Mr. Crane the following telegram:—

"You are charged with responsibility for canards recently appearing in the Japanese and American press that the United States is preparing to protest against the Chinese-Japanese agreement. If you are not responsible, as I hope, matters relating to Oriental affairs have developed since you left Washington, that make it advisable for me to communicate with you personally and in the utmost confidence."

After conference with Mr. Crane on Sunday, I reluctantly concluded that I should inform him that his resignation, which, he stated, he would willingly tender, would be accepted.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

JAPANESE BONDS IN LONDON.

London, October 7.

On the London Stock Exchange Japanese bonds are fairly active.

BRITISH CAPITAL FOR RUSSIA.

The British financier Lord Revelstoke is visiting Russia with the object of ascertaining the political and financial outlook in that country. He is eminently satisfied and convinced that with care and supervision British capital is bound to find a safe outlet.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

With reference to the possibility of action against the British Finance Bill by the House of Lords, it is understood that the Government consider that constitutional practice gives the House of Commons the power of the purse. The Government is therefore not inclined for any compromise.

THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT AND MR. HARRIS.

Later.

The Ottawa Government has promptly repudiated the charge against Japanese commercial morality involved in the publication of a private letter from Mr. Harris, the Canadian Trade Commissioner of Yokohama. Mr. Harris has been reprimanded. It is understood that he expressed an opinion o only one Japanese firm.

An official communication will be forwarded to Tokyo, through the British Foreign Office, absolving Canada of any official knowledge of the Commissioner's error of judgment.

CANADA'S NAVY.

London, October 8.

Ottawa.—A Naval Defence Bill will shortly be introduced into the Canadian House of Commons. It is proposed to build twelve vessels of the cruiser and destroyer types. The capital expenditure will be four million pounds sterling, the annual outlay being £600,000.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

Lord Blyth has acceded to the request of Prince Arthur of Connaught and the Duke of Norfold to act as Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition, to be held in London.

[Lord Blyth is a well-known public man. He is the possessor of several foreign decorations, bestowed on him in recognition of his services to agriculture, and is also connected with many learned societies and philanthropic institutions, either in the capacity of president, vice-president, or governor.—Ed *J.M.*]

THE MANCHURIAN AGREEMENT.

London, October 8.

A New York despatch says that the Secretary of State is believed to be seriously considering raising an objection to the Manchurian Agreement between China and Japan. Certain provisions of the Agreement had attracted the attention of the U.S. State Department for some time, but the absence of the full text of the Agreement prevented any decision on the part of the U.S. authorities. It appears that the abortive suggestion that the issues between Japan and China should be referred to the Hague Tribunal was energetically supported by the U.S. Government. The conclusion of the Agreement in July was totally unexpected at Washington, at which time the U.S. representatives at Tokyo and Peking were both absent from their posts. The Agreement, it is declared, is regarded as violating the Portsmouth Treaty and the policy of the open door. It is thought probable that a protest will be lodged.

THE CAMPAIGN IN MOROCCO.

Madrid.—The Commander of the Spanish forces in Morocco states that the war will be continued until the Moors have been forced to fight a decisive battle.

THE ANGLO JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

London, October 9.

The Japanese exhibits for the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition are arriving so re-

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gularly and rapidly that all the space engaged on behalf of Japan has been occupied and the lists of application have been closed. The authorities are considering the possibility of erecting a new building. The main outlines of the arrangement of the Japanese exhibits have been settled. General manufactures will fill five of the eight halls. In one of the entrance halls, the wall will contain fashion models and costumes. The naval exhibits will comprise models of ancient wooden warships. The other buildings will be filled with agricultural and marine products, minerals, and forestry and educational exhibits. Japanese gardens will be an attractive feature of the Exhibition.

AFFAIRS IN PERSIA.

London, October 10.

Teheran. — The Mohammedan priests manifest great discontent. Their grievances include the reduction of their number and arrears of pay.

FRENCH GENERAL IN DISGRACE.

London, October 11.

Paris. — The French Government has punished General Damade, the Commander in Morocco, for commenting on the policy of France and Spain in Morocco, and has temporarily relieved him of the command of his Division. He will be without employment for some months. The public hope that his breach of discipline will soon be pardoned, it having been inspired by patriotic motives.

GERMAN INSTRUCTORS FOR TURKISH ARMY.

Berlin.—A number of German officers are going as instructors to the Turkish army.

REFORMS IN GREECE.

Athens.—The King has sanctioned a government of reform, the measures including the reorganization of the Army.

THE CRANE INCIDENT.

London, October 12.

New York.—The recall of Mr. Crane on his departure for China is not connected with the Manchurian Treaty. The real question is the fitness of Crane for a diplomatic post. It is alleged that the State Department possesses evidence that Crane is responsible for statements published in Chicago reflecting on Japanese policy. The Government has declared that it has not determined how far the United States should go in dealing with the attitude of Japan towards China.

THE BUDGET AND THE LORDS.

London, October 12.

The Times states that the Government are considering, if the Lords refuse to pass the Finance Bill, whether they should appeal to the people by referendum to discover whether a majority of the electorate are for or against the Budget.

The country is entirely preoccupied by the political outlook. Much exception is taken to the communistic utterances of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

THE PROMISED NAVAL WAR STAFF.

The Admiralty announce the establishment of a Navy and War Council for the purpose of permanently organizing arrangements connected with strategy and the outworking of war plans. A new Naval Mobilization Department has been formed.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, October 13.

On the Stock Exchange Russians and Osakas are lower.

PERSIA.

Teheran.—An important reduction of the Russian troops at Tabriz is regarded as a welcome indication of good faith.

CRANE'S RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

New York.—Mr. Crane admits that he has been indiscreet. Secretary Knox has reluctantly accepted the proffered resignation.

ANARCHIST RECEIVES DEATH SENTENCE.

London, October 13.

Madrid.—The Spanish Cabinet approves the death sentence passed on the anarchist Ferrer, for abetting in the recent riots in the north. It is expected that the execution will take place immediately. There is much comment in France and Italy concerning the proceedings of the Court-martial.

KING EDWARD AND THE BUDGET.

The audiences given by King Edward to Mr. Asquith, the Premier, and the leaders of the Opposition are ascribed in best-informed quarters as a desire of the King to obtain views of a delicate nature.

The budget is still undergoing changes, The Government has made no less than 250 amendments since the Bill passed Committee. Its final shape baffles speculation.

THE FERRER INCIDENT.

London, October 14.

Madrid.—The Opposition charge the Government with the execution of Ferrer for the object of crushing the Catalonian movement for freedom, thought and education. In Rome there is a general explosion of indignation on account of the Ferrer incident and strikes have been declared in various towns, in sympathy with the Spanish proletariat.

SEDITION IN INDIA.

Simla.—The Native States are apparently determined to suppress treasonable practices. At Patiala the Police have made 100 arrests for sedition.

GERMAN VIEW OF LLOYD-GEORGE.

Berlin.—The whole German Press is surprised at the violent language of the British Chancellor of the Exchequer against the Lords. A socialist organ describes him as a stirrer-up of the people.

(Received at the Foreign Office)

BANK RATE RAISED.

London, October 8.

On the 7th instant the Bank of England raised its rate of discount from 2½ to 3 per cent.

(Special to the "Japan Mail.")

NEW TELEGRAPHIC PRESS SERVICE.

Shanghai, October 14.

To-morrow the Great Northern Telegraph Company will inaugurate a press service to Europe, *viâ* Russia, between the Far East and the following countries:—Austria, Denmark, France, Germany, Great Britain, Hungary, Italy, Norway and Spain.

The rate from Japan, Korea and Formosa will be the same as that in force *viâ* India.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

RUSSIA.

Berlin, October 7.

A telegraphic agency at St. Petersburg states that the German Consul at Kharbin has never claimed the right of jurisdiction over the now famous Russian Brewery at Kharbin, but he only claims that the Russian complaints against German residents at Kharbin be subjected to the German Consular jurisdiction.

GERMANY.

A new Bill concerning naturalisation and maintenance of nationality will be put before the German Reichstag in its coming session.

A CORRECTION.

Herr von Mueller, who, according to our telegrams of yesterday, has been nominated Russian Minister for Commerce, was not previously *Russian Ambassador* at Berlin, but Special Agent of the Russian Ministry of Finance at the Russian Embassy at Berlin.

AUSTRIA.

Emperor Francis Joseph, by a special act of grace, has bestowed upon the Princess of Hohenberg, born Countess Chotecк, the morganatic wife of Archduke Franz Ferdinand, heir presumptive to the Austrian throne, the title of "Highness," which reconciliation is said to have been effected by the intercession of the Kaiser on behalf of the Princess.

The German and Austrian Press celebrate the Alliance between both States as a firm and unshakeable rock of peace.

TURKEY.

A Turkish loan of 7 million Turkish pounds has been accepted by the Ottoman Bank.

MOROCCO.

The Spanish operations in Morocco have been concluded. Tetuan, which place had been occupied by the troops, will shortly be evacuated.

RUSSIA.

Berlin, October 8.

The German Consular report from Mukden as to the Russo-German incident at Kharbin states that the now famous Brewery officials at Kharbin requested the protection of the German Consulate. As a sequel Dr. Daumiller, the German Consular Agent, consented to the hoisting of the German flag over the Brewery, but forbade all resistance and protested against the selling by force of the Brewery, which, according to his opinion, was partly a German concern, some of the members of the joint partnership Company being Germans. Dr. Heintges, the German Consul at Mukden, afterwards recognised the Russian rights over the Brewery and apologised for the flag incident. The Russian officials, on their side, recognised the competence of the German Consular jurisdiction in the suit against the two Germans of the Brewery who resisted the Russian police. Criminal action has not occurred until now and the boycott against German merchandise at Kharbin is in no way important. An official report from St. Petersburg recognises the right of foreign Consular jurisdiction at Kharbin, but emphasises the Russian right of taxation and police administration. All foreigners should aid the Chinese Eastern Railway Co., which administrates Kharbin as Chinese territory, to maintain law and order in the city.

The visit of the Tsar to Italy, which will be carried out overland, is imminent; a meeting with King Victor Emmanuel will take place at the Chateau Raccionigi. The visit of the Tsar to Constantinople is still doubtful, religious considerations being entertained by the Mohammedan clergy of the "Hagia Sophia."

The Sublime Porte denies officially the report that the special embassy, sent to meet the Tsar at Livadia, has been ordered to negotiate as to the Dardanelles and Crete questions.

ITALY.

The Italian Press celebrates the 30 years' alliance between Austria and Germany as a rock of peace for Europe, as the Austrian and German Press have done.

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GERMANY.

The Norddeutsche Lloyd and the British Ellerman Steamship Co. have come to an agreement as to a common service between Europe and India with cheap through tickets for both lines. The Deutsch-Australische Dampfschiffahrts-Gesellschaft at Hamburg came to a similar agreement with the Dutch Companies Nederland and Rotterdamscher Lloyd with regard to the service to the Netherlands Indies.

BELGIUM.

Berlin, October 9.

The Conference of Maritime Law, now being held at Brussels, has defined as a matter of duty, aid to seamen in distress even in times of war.

RUSSIA.

M. Kokowtzow, the Russian Minister of Finance, has started for the Far East, where he will make the conditions at Vladivostock a special matter for inspection.

Berlin, October 10.

The Tsar, on his trip to Italy, will not pass over Austrian territory. He will start for his trip on October 20th from Odessa.

AUSTRIA.

Herr Lueger, the Chief Burgomaster of Vienna, speaking in the City Council, celebrated the alliance between Germany and Austria, which he stated would be everlasting.

TURKEY.

The report of *Le Temps* as to the attitude taken by the Turkish Grand Vizier Hilmi Pasha in the Egyptian question, is said to be incorrect.

GERMANY.

The German Chancellor has gone to Habertusstok to make a report to the Kaiser.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails with dates up to September 22nd arrived at Berlin on October 8th.

RUSSIA.

Berlin, October 11.

Rifat Pasha, the Turkish Minister of Foreign Affairs, now at Livadia as Chief of the Special Turkish Embassy to the Tsar, has had a conference with M. Iswolski, the Russian Minister of Foreign Affairs, in which it was stated that the common policy of both States was the maintenance of peace.

GERMANY.

Herr Rudolf Lindau, the well known German poet, born at Gardelegen on Oct. 10th, 1829, has celebrated his 80th birthday, on which occasion he received congratulations from Prince Buelow, the German ex-Chancellor, and Herr von Schoen, the German Minister for Foreign Affairs, to which Office he formerly belonged as Privy Councillor of Legation.

The Grand Duke of Sachsen Weimar, who was married in the first instance to a Princess of Reuss, who died in 1905 after a short period of only two years of marriage, has been betrothed to Karola, Princess of Sachsen-Meiningen, born on May 29th, 1890.

The discount rate of the German Reichsbank has again been raised to 5 per cent. as a consequence of briskness in Exchange circles.

Siberian mails, with dates up to Sept. 24th *ex* Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on Oct. 12th.

GERMANY.

Berlin, October 12.

Herr von Brandt, for many years German Minister at Peking, who has had close connections with Chang Chih-tung during his long career, has written a very sympathetic article in the *Vossische Zeitung* in honour of the late Chinese Statesman.

RUSSIA.

It is confidently expected that Vladivostock, after the return of the Russian Minister of Finance, M. Kokowtzow, from his trip to the Far East, will be reopened as a Free Port.

The Tsar will carry out his return voyage from Italy through Switzerland and Germany.

Russia has withdrawn her various contingents of troops, introduced into Persia during the last year.

SPAIN.

The strength of the Spanish Army in times of peace will be increased from 80,000 to 126,000 men.

ROUMANIA.

The new port of Constantza on the Black Sea has been inaugurated by the King of Roumania.

AUSTRIA.

The Committee for erecting monuments at Vienna has published a manifeso, in which it is specially emphasized, how loyal to the alliance Germany had proved during the latest danger of war in the Orient crisis.

GERMANY.

Berlin, October 13.

The German military balloon *Parseval* has carried out several successful distance trips from Berlin.

FINANCIAL.

The tone of the German Exchanges having been very brisk for some time, has become much weaker as a consequence of the raising of the British bank-rate and of the continued tightness of the New York market.

700 LIVES LOST IN HURRICANE.

A violent hurricane has damaged the coasts of Florida, 700 persons having lost their lives by it.

EXECUTION OF BARCELONA REVOLUTIONISTS.

The Spanish Cabinet Council has refused to plead for an amnesty on behalf of the anarchistic leaders of the last troubles at Barcelona, and they were executed this morning by shooting. Protest meetings have been held in Italy and France, by which these executions have been stamped as judicial murders.

TURKEY.

The Turkish Minister for Home Affairs has said that the Government intends to settle Indian immigrants in the Aleppo (Haleb) district at the Persian Gulf.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

AN ECHO OF THE LATE WAR.

Dairen, October 7.

Two members of the Russian Committee appointed to investigate the burial places of Russian soldiers killed during the late war arrived here to-day from Kinchow.

THE LATE CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

Hankow, October 7.

The death of H. E. Chang Chih-tung is much lamented in official circles in Hupeh. The Viceroy and other officials will hold a grand memorial service within a few days.

DEATH OF JAPANESE CONSUL.

The Japanese Acting Consul-General, Mr. Takahashi, died this morning.

THE BUSINESS MEN VISIT NIAGARA.

Buffalo, October 6.

This afternoon the party of Japanese Commercial men visited the Niagara Falls and crossed over to Canada, where they were welcomed by Mr. Preston, lately in Japan as Commercial Agent. The party returned to Buffalo in the evening, and attended the opening ceremony of the Exposition there.

PRATAS ISLAND.

Antung, October 7.

The agreement in connection with Pratas Island is expected to be signed in a few days.

JAPANESE PAPER MONEY IN MANCHURIA.

Peking, October 8.

The attempt to discredit the notes issued by the Yokohama Specie Bank has ceased.

A MILITARY APPOINTMENT.

Prince Tsai has been appointed Chief Commander of the Yellow Banner Corps in Mongolia as well as the Red Banner Corps in Manchuria.

CHINESE STUDENTS IN AMERICA.

Shanghai, October 8.

Fifty-two Chinese students going to America to study, have arrived here. They are expected to leave on the 12th instant by the steamer *China*.

AMERICAN VISITORS TO KOREA.

Fusan, October 8.

A party of American visitors, consisting of 15 persons, arrived here this morning by the steamer *Egesan Maru*. They immediately proceeded to Seoul.

THE "IDZUMO."

San Francisco, October 9.

A wireless telegram received here from the Japanese cruiser *Idzumo* states that she will arrive at this port on the morning of the 11th instant.

CYCLONE IN CENTRAL AMERICA.

A steamer which arrived at New Orleans to-day from Mexico, reports that the coast of the Yucatan State and the neighbouring inland sea have been visited by a cyclone. From two to three thousand fishermen were drowned.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS KUNI.

Prince and Princess Kuni arrived here to-day and put up at the Fairmont Hotel. Their Highnesses will leave for Japan on the 12th instant by the steamer *Tenyo Maru*.

CONFUCIUS' BIRTHDAY.

Hongkong, October 10.

The Chinese residents here are celebrating to-day the 2460th anniversary of the birth of Confucius.

CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

Peking, October 11.

Prince Tsai, Admiral Sah and suite set out to-day on a tour of naval inspection through Europe. They will first proceed to Hankow, whence they are to embark.

JAPANESE MINISTER VISITS TIENTSIN.

Mr. Ijuin, the Japanese Minister, went to Tientsin to-day to attend the opening ceremony of the Yamato Park in the Japanese Settlement there, as well as to visit the Viceroy.

CHINESE STUDENTS FOR GERMANY.

Shanghai, October 11.

Prince Tsai having urged the Prince Regent that more students should be despatched to the Krupp Factory in Germany, the Government has ordered the Chinese Minister in Berlin to negotiate with the German Government to this end.

LORD KITCHENER AT HANKOW.

Hankow, October 11.

Lord Kitchener arrived here to-day. He is expected to inspect the Hupeh troops to-morrow.

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THE ROBBERY FROM THE SPECIE BANK.

Antung, October 11.

A Japanese trader named Kodama Kokichi, who is suspected of being an accomplice of the cashier of the Specie Bank arrested at Jinsen, is being examined by the police.

THE TURKISH MISSION TO RUSSIA.

Vladivostock, October 11.

The warm reception accorded the Turkish Mission in St. Petersburg has made a favourable impression in Turkey.

THE EX-SULTAN OF TURKEY.

London, October 11.

It is reported that the deposed Sultan of Turkey has attempted to escape from his confinement in Salonika, disguised as a labourer.

THE PORTOLA CELEBRATION.

San Francisco, October 11.

The Japanese cruiser *Idzumo* arrived here at 10 a.m. to-day, the first of the warships to attend the Portola Celebration. The Mayor and the celebration committee welcomed the cruiser. The Japanese residents chartered a large steamer and met the cruiser outside the harbour.

JAPANESE STEAMER DESTROYED BY FIRE.

Chefoo, October 12.

The Japanese wooden steamer *Daini Seiun Maru* (176 tons) owned by Mr. Tanaka Suyeo, caught fire soon after she arrived here from Port Arthur early on the morning of the 12th instant. The vessel was totally destroyed as was also her cargo taken in at Port Arthur. Fortunately there was no loss of life, the fire occurring after all the passengers, some eighty in number, had landed. The vessel was insured with the Kobe Fire Insurance Company for 12,000 *yen*. It is stated that the fire was caused by the upsetting of a lamp.

LORD KITCHENER.

Dairen, October 12.

Lord Kitchener arrived here to-day from Korea in company with Major Yoshida, who had gone to meet him. His Excellency is expected to leave Peking on the 21st and to arrive at Seoul on the 30th instant. The next day he will leave Fusan for Japan.

YUAN SHIHKAI.

Shanghai, October 12.

H.E. Yuan Shihkai has set out for Peking, to present his condolences in connection with the late Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung.

PRINCE ITO AND RUSSIAN MINISTER TO MEET.

Vladivostock, October 12.

The Russian Minister of Finance is expected to stay at Harbin for five days, arriving there on the 29th instant, and Prince Ito is also expected to arrive there about the same date. It is therefore conjectured that some important questions are to be negotiated between the two statesmen. This would seem to be confirmed by the recall to Harbin of Mr. Kawakami, the Japanese Consul-General, who had gone on a trip in the interior.

THE JAPANESE MISSION.

New York, October 12.

The party of Japanese business men arrived at the Central Station at 6 a.m. to-day, where they were welcomed by a large number of Japanese. The members, who seemed to be in good health, put up at the Astor Hotel. They are expected to stay here until the 21st instant. The Mitsui Bussan Kaisha of this city will give a dinner in their honour to-night

THE PORTOLA CELEBRATIONS.

The Commander of the Japanese cruiser *Idzumo* paid an official visit this morning to the Mayor and the Celebrations Committee of San Francisco.

MR. CRANE RESIGNS.

Mr. Crane has had several interviews with Secretary Knox in Washington, and this afternoon the Secretary asked him to resign. Mr. Crane stated that if his appointment embarrassed the authorities he would willingly resign.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED.

To-day being the anniversary of the arrival at Yokohama of the American commercial mission, a luncheon was given here by the Japanese business men in commemoration of the event. Americans from the Pacific Coast States were the principal guests.

THE ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Mukden, October 13.

In spite of the notifications issued by the local Chinese authorities with regard to the anti-Japanese boycott, the latter is being vigorously renewed, and firms dealing in Japanese goods are being threatened.

A RUSSIAN NATIONAL LOAN.

Vladivostock, October 13.

It is reported that the Russian Government has decided to raise a national loan of 120,000,000 roubles, in order to make good the deficiency in the budget.

FISHERIES IN THE FAR EAST.

In January next a third meeting of members concerned in the aquatic products industry throughout Russia will be held in St. Petersburg. The main subject to be discussed appears to be connected with the fisheries in the Far East.

PREACHING AT NINETY-NINE.

Among the hundreds of strangers who attended this morning's service in the little church at the village of Blurton (writes a *Daily Mail* correspondent from Stoke on-Trent, on August 29) there was not one, I think, who did not come away with the impression of having been in the presence of a miracle.

We saw a clergyman who has just entered his one hundredth year, saw a man nearly erect, broad-shouldered, with hair silver-white, it is true, but luxuriant as that of a youth's, with bright clear eyes, and cheeks of healthy hue. We saw him come into the church before the Litany and then, when the Litany had ended, saw him mount the pulpit with assistance that apparently was not needed.

As Prebendary Hutchinson stood there before us, silent for a moment, similar thoughts must have come to many present. Here was a man who was old enough to understand when the news of Waterloo was brought to England, who was two years older than Dickens, a year older than Thackeray, and four years older than Charles Reade, who was twenty-seven years of age when Queen Victoria came to the throne, thirty five when the Corn Laws were repealed.

And then he began to speak, and wonder turned into amazement, almost stupefaction. It was the voice of a man of forty. It rang all through the church. It could easily be heard (I afterwards learned) by the waiting crowd outside. The thrill that went through the building—crowded to its last inch—was a visible thing.

It was last Wednesday that Prebendary Hutchinson completed his ninety-ninth year and received congratulations from all over the country. He then announced that he would preach as usual at the next Sunday morning service. He had not missed a Sunday this year, and from far and wide the people came to hear him, the service taking the form of a public celebration of his birthday.

Blurton is only about three miles from Stoke, and it is strange how soon after leaving this very smoky town one is in rural England, a country of green fields and neat hedgerows, of old farmhouses and many flowers. Among all the peaceful and lovely places of the countryside Blurton is perhaps the loveliest.

Opposite the 200 year old church, ivy-clothed, with its timbered roof and its little tower, is the vicarage, a pleasant, red house, holly-hedged, tree-embowered, a fitting place for the end of a long life. Prebendary Hutchinson has been vicar of Blurton forty years. His first curacy was at Dunchurch, near Rugby, and then he went to Rotherhithe, where his devotion and courage during a cholera epidemic gained public recognition. He was married fifty-eight years ago. Mrs. Hutchinson died last December.

The prebendary is helped at Blurton by his son, who conducted the service this morning, but, although he almost decided over a year ago to cease from taking an active part in the church work, the prebendary found that his delight in it would not permit him to retire. He is greatly beloved, and the villagers were overjoyed when they heard that they were to continue to listen to his sermons.

The prayer of thanksgiving was included in this morning's service, but there was no other departure from the ordinary form. Prebendary Hutchinson took for his text Isaiah xli., verse 10: "Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness." It was a touching little address that the venerable vicar gave in that wonderful, strong, rich voice of his. He wore spectacles, and read part of the sermon evidently with ease.

Once or twice it was plain to see he was almost overcome by his emotion—emotion that the parishioners shared. He spoke of the mystery of life and death, of the grave responsibility that rested on a pastor—the task of bringing home to his flock the realization that each man has an accounting to make on which his future happiness depends. He referred directly only two or three times to his own long life. "So many years," he said, in one passage, "I have stood here between the living and the dead." And again: "A hundred years seems long; it is not long." Towards the end he said: "Let this be for you and me the first Sunday in a new life."

The sermon ended, and a layman sang. The vicar stood in the middle of the chancel and gave the Benediction—a tall, sturdy, noble figure, crowned with a glory of white hair. It was a picture that no one who was there can forget. Afterwards, almost all the congregation stayed outside the church to see Prebendary Hutchinson come out. A wheeled chair was waiting for him, in which he was taken to the vicarage, but as he walked briskly to it through the rows of people, bowing and smiling, the chair seemed a luxurious superfluity. And again we wondered.

GIANT RELIC OF ANCIENT ROMAN CITY.

Trieste, September 18.

At Aquileia—an ancient Roman city destroyed by Attila in 452—has just been discovered an ancient mosaic, larger by far than any ever found before. It covers an area of more than four thousand square yards, and is much greater than the immense mosaics found in the imperial baths in Rome. Professor Maionica says that it dates from the time of Constantine the Great, and shows, in a most instructive manner, the influence Byzantine art exercised upon the Roman. The smaller part of this mosaic already laid bare is under the floor of the vestibule of the cathedral, and is about forty-five yards long and thirty-six wide. The larger portion runs along the south and west sides of the church, and has a length of over seventy yards, with a width of forty.

The portion now uncovered depicts hunting and fishing scenes. Professor Swoboda, rector of the Vienna University, has inspected the mosaic, and made a report upon it to the Ministry of Education. A commission has been appointed to consider how this valuable find can best be preserved.

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ITCHING HUMOUR ON HEAD AND FACE

Became Unbearable—Little Girl Suffered Terribly—Would Tear Her Flesh—Grew Thinner Day by Day—Now Healthier than Ever.

CUTICURA CURED HER ECZEMA PERMANENTLY

"Last August I found a little pimple exactly on the crown of my little daughter's head. It began to grow larger and larger, and later it broke and humour came from it. The head began to be covered with an eruption with humour exuding freely. Annie suffered terribly, and her head was so itchy that she scratched it until she tore the flesh, and at night we had to tie her hands, the itching was so fearful. The eruption spread over the whole of her head, down part of her back, and even over her face. A doctor's ointment did her no good. In fact, it seemed to make the trouble worse, and the itching increased until it was unbearable. If one spot healed another became worse. When the trouble started her health began to fail, she was peevish, and grew thinner day by day. I was in despair. At last I tried Cuticura Soap, Cuticura Ointment, and Cuticura Pills. At the very first application the itching stopped, as if by magic, and her head became better every day. In ten days the humour ceased altogether, and by the time I had used one set of Cuticura Remedies she was almost cured. I got another set, and in a month she was completely cured, so that you could not tell she had ever had eczema. That was three months ago and there has never been any sign of a recurrence since. Her health is better than ever, and I ascribe her condition entirely to Cuticura Remedies. Her hair is growing thicker and thicker, too. Mrs. John Bisset, Easter Lumbennie, Newburgh, Fife N. B., June 14, 1907."

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

Cuticura Remedies are sold throughout the world. A Single Set often Cures. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; South Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U. S. A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton market is firm. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is firm, but generally speaking the high prices at home have mitigated against any extensive buying. In Woollen business buyers are beginning to show interest in forward business, though no orders have yet been secured.

RAW COTTON. PER PICUL.

American Middling	39.00 to 39.50
Egyptian	46.25 to 50.50
Indian Broach	33.00 to 33.50
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 32.00

COTTON YARN PER BALE.

Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch. PER PIECE.	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Conditions have improved, and buyers are realizing that the advance in home prices is not merely temporary.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.65 to 3.70
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.15 to 4.30
do Sheet	5.00 to 5.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	10.70 to 11.00
do Flat	11.75 to 12.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	7.00 to 7.20
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.88 to 3.98
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

The market has ruled quiet and no transactions have been done in imported refined sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. No transactions have taken place.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	11.50
Flag	"	10.60
Royal	"	10.60
Trophy	"	10.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.60
Lion	"	12.00
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00

Japanese:—

Rising Sun	6	*kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6	"	2.78
Fuji	6	"	2.85
Pine	6	"	2.90

WHEAT.

Prices are firm, with no immediate prospect of decline. No business has been done.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15 to 5.30
Red " " "	5.10 to 5.20
Blue Stem	5.30 to 5.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. Deliveries against contracts have been on a rather large scale.

On October 14th stocks were: filatures 22,438 bales; Re-reels, 4,387 bales; Kakeda, 1,110 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	V.1,030
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	940
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	950
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	890
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	980
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den	940
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	855
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	933
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	845
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	865
Re-reels—No. 1½	830
Re-reels—No. 2	810
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra	920
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	810
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	820
Kakedas—No. 2	805

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

October	Present delivery.	October delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
8th	903	—	889	901
9th	897	878	—	898
10th	—	—	—	—
11th	890	870	879	889
12th	888	—	879	889
13th	880	—	880	880
14th	875	859	—	876

WASTE SILK.

The market is quiet, prices very firm.

On October 14th stocks were: Noshi, 10,284 bales, Kibiso, 14,774 bales; and Sundry, 949 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	157½ to 160
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	132½ to 140
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	115 to 120
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	100 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	70 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	120 to 127½
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	90 to 100
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—There is no particular improvement in the demand, but prices are firmly maintained owing to the somewhat decreased production.

Kanazawa:—Prices have an upward tendency owing to an increased demand for Europe and enquiries from America.

Kawamata:—There is no change to report. There is a steady demand for 36″ in better grades and in 27″ in lower qualities.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.65	8.15	8.10	8.05	8.05
27″	8.55	8.25	8.20	8.30	8.20
36″	8.65	8.35	8.45	8.35	8.35

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.20	8.05	8.10	7.75
27″	8.20	8.05	8.15	7.75
36″	8.30	8.10	8.05	7.80

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.80	10.90	11.80	13.00
36	12.40	14.00	15.70	16.20

COPPER.

The market is not unfavourable, but no fresh transactions have been reported.

According to a London telegram of October 14th, the quotation was £58.5.0.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

The market is not favourable. Quotations still continue to fluctuate.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	978,085
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	185,694

Delivery.	Closing Price.
October	—
November	11.64
December	11.84

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku.*
Superior	Yen 12.90
Medium	11.90
Common	10.90
Average	11.90

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(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
October	11.87	October	11.80
November ...	12.10	November...	11 99
December ...	12.06	December ..	11.98

TEA.

Quotations have shown a little advance. Orders from abroad continne to be placed on the market. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to October 14th, the sales amounted to 8,786,700 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 82,700 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest ... ... Y.	— —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	36 — 37
Good Medium	34 — 36
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
October	127.00
November	126.50
December	126.60

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Oct. 14.

London silver ⅛ lower and China sterling quotations $\frac{1}{16}$ @ ⅛ lower have caused local rates on China to rule firmer accordingly, other rates being unchanged,

London—Bank T.T.	2/ 5⅜
— — Bills on demand	2/05⅜
— — 4 months' sight	2/07⅛
— Private 4 months' sight	2/11⅛
— — 6 months' sight	2/11¼
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight	263½
Hongkong—Bank sight ..... per $100	85¾*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83¾*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87¼*
— Private 10 days' sight	89*
India—Bank sight	152¼
— Private 30 days' sight	154¼
America—Bank sight	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅛
Germany—Bank sight	209½
— Private 4 months' sight	214⅛
Bar Silver (London)	23 $\frac{7}{16}$

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Tacoma	B. L	Kumeric	F.	Oct. 15
Hongkong	O S. S.	Tacoma Maru	F.	Oct. 15
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru 1	F.	Oct. 15
Europe	N. D. L.	P. R. Luitpyld	Su.	Oct. 17
Hongkong	B. L	Suveric	M	Oct. 18
Hongkong	P. M.	China 2	Tu	Oct. 19
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of China	W	Oct. 20
America	P. M.	Mongoria	F	Oct. 22
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Aki Maru	M.	Oct. 25
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	Tu	Oct. 26
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	Th.	Oct. 28
Europe	M. M.	Tourane 3	F.	Oct. 29
Hongkong	P. & A.	Rygja	F.	Oct. 29
America	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Sa.	Oct. 30
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	M	Nov. 1

1 Left Seattle on the 28th ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 9th inst.
3 Left Shanghai on the 14th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.		Date.
Hongkong	B. L	Kumeric	F.	Oct. 15
Europe	M M.	Sydney	Sa.	Oct. 16
America	C. R.	A'ral Duperré	Sa.	Oct. 16
Australia	N.Y.K.	Yawata Maru	Sa	Oct. 16
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Sa.	Oct. 16
Tacoma	B. & S.	Oanfa	Sa.	Oct. 16
Shanghai	N Y. K.	Kosai Maru	Su	Oct. 17
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru	M.	Oct. 18
Tacoma	B. L	Suveric	Tu.	Oct. 19
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of China	W.	Oct. 20
America	P. M.	China	W.	Oct. 20
Europe	N. D. L.	P. R. Luitpold	Sa	Oct. 23
Hongkong	P. M.	Mongolia	Sa.	Oct. 23
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	Tu	Oct. 26
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Aki Maru	W	Oct. 27
Europe	N Y. K.	Iyo Maru	W.	Oct. 27
Portland	P. & A.	Rygja	Sa.	Oct. 30
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Su.	Oct. 31
America	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	Tu.	Nov. 2
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	Th	Nov. 18

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 8th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hanzaki Maru, Japanese steamer 973, T. Osawa, 7th Oct.,—Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 8th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Y. Nomura, 8th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salter, 9th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,959, A Tough, 9th Oct.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Alacrity, British despatch vessel, 700, Comd. Cyril T. M. Fuller, 9th Oct.,—Vladivostock.

Belgravia, German steamer, 4,254, Hildebrandt, 9th Oct.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Supply, U.S, supply ship, 4,460. Bisett, 10th Oct.,—Guam.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 3,296, G. E. Warner, London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Coulsdon, British steamer, 2,789, Turnbull, 10th Oct.,—Moji.—American Trading Co.

Fitzpatrick, British steamer, 2,838, R. A. Hutchinson, 10th Oct.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., (Agents American Line O.S.K.)

Tjibodas, Dutch steamer, 2,475, A. Pander, 10th Oct.,—Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Somali, British steamer, 4,225. R. A. Peters, 10th Oct.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Theseus, British steamer, 4,299, J. Barwise, 11th Oct.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 11th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, S. Ishikawa, 11th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, H. Abe, 11th Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. Wada, 11th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Konan Maru, Japanese steamer, 858, T. Aihara, 11th Oct.,—Wakamatsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, K. Asakawa, 11th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asia, British steamer, 2 936, Harry Gaukroger, 12th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Keelung Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,669, Yamamoto, 12th Oct.,—Ginsen, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 12th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, E. Combes, 13th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, T. Law Harrison, 13th Oct.,—Muroran, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,884, N. Nielsen, 13th Oct.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,500, Iwamatsu, 13th Oct.,—Takao, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

King Alfred, British cruiser, (Flagship), 14 100, Captain Lewis Clinton Baker, 14th Oct.—Vladivostock. (Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton.)

Monmouth, British cruiser, 9,800, Captain Geo. W. Smith, 14th Oct.,—Vladivostock.

DEPARTURES.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 8th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hanasaki Maru, Japanese steamer, 973, T. Osawa, 9th Oct.,—Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 9th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 9th Oct,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Luetzow, German steamer, 5,135, C. Dewars, 9th Oct.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,360, R. Swain, 10th Oct,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Belgravia, German steamer, 4,254, Hildebrandt, 10th Oct.,—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Coulsdon, British steamer, 2,789, Turnbull, 11th Oct.,—New York via ports, General.—American Trading Co.

Monmouthshire, British steamer, 3,296, G. E. Warner, 11th Oct.,—Marseilles via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Fitzpatrick, British steamer, 2,838, R. A. Hutchinson, 12th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., (Agents American Line of Osaka Shosen Kaisha).

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 12th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Fushiki Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,110, H. Abe, 12th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Alger, French cruiser, Capt. Delzano, 12th Oct.,—Kobe.

Hakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,820, J. Dring, 13th Oct.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Asia, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Gaukroger, 13th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Benalder, British steamer, 1,959, A. Tough, 13th Oct.,—Moji.—Cornes & Co.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, S. Ishikawa, 13th Oct.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, Asakawa, 12th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tjibodas, Dutch steamer, 2,960, P. Zwart, 13th Oct.,—Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 14th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konan Maru, Japanese steamer, 858, T. Aihatsu, 14th Oct.,—Wakamatsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salter, 14th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 14th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Siberia* from Hongkong via ports:—Capt. Geo. Connor, Mr. J. D. Butcher, Mrs. Butcher, Mrs. M. L. Howard, Mrs. J. H. Baer, Mrs. J. B. Lee, Mr. R. N. Varnum, Mrs. R. N. Varnum, Mr. L. F. Pye, Miss L. M. C. Hall, Mr. Y. Tomono, Mr. A. Anderson, Mrs. A. E. Hench, C. R. Bennett, Mr. A. M. Perelstrous, Mr. M. Harshman, Mrs. M. Harshman, Mrs. B. Koslinisky and 2 children, Dr. Wm. Harris, Mr. R. M. Stirling, Mr. Wilson and Mr. W. Y. Showler. For Honolulu:—Mr. Lee Ong and Mr. Lee San Chong. For San Francisco:—Mr. John A. Britton, Mr. G. H. Cole, Mrs. G. H. Cole and infant, Dr. F. P. Boulanger, Mrs. A. B. Foster, Capt. Wm. C. Herbert U.S.N., Mr F. G. York, Mrs. E. P. Houston, Master Houston, Mr. F. W. Prising, Mrs. T. W. Smith, Miss E. Smith, Lieut. Prince Hessan, Lieut. Yon Umuh, Mr. G. Cohn, Mrs. G. Cohn, Master Paul Cohn, Mr. Yi Chi Sing, Mr. Karl Ziegler, Lieut. S. Telge, Lieut S. Sellschopp, Mr. Yung Kwai and native servant, Master Lew Ting Yang, Mr. A. L. Bull, Mr. H. L. Jones, Mr. J. C. Sigfried, Mr. R. H. Baker and Miss K. A. Dodge in cabin.

Per British steamer *Asia* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. C. J. Cooper, Mr. H. O. Mackenzie, Mrs. M. Mackenzie, Mr John Cunningham, Miss E W. Day, Mr. R. C. Gaither, Capt. R. G. Gaither, Mr. E. T. Hanson, Master Ingram Reed and Mr. Michael Sebleich. For Kobe:—Mr. F. Knipping, Mrs. A. M. Striker and infant, Master Peter Striker, Miss J. J. Leggett, Miss J. Lide, Miss B. Vienot, Mrs. J. V. Turner, Mr. J. V. Turner, Miss Floy White, Mrs. M. J. Lidstone, Miss Ethel Lidstone, Miss Alma Zimdars, Miss J. Pettigrew and Mr. G. D. Richmond. For Nagasaki:—Mr. John Moncure and Mrs. L. A. Cooper. For Shanghai:—Miss M. E. Askin, Mrs. G. Cameron, Mr. W. Jessel, Rev. W. J. Drummond, Mrs. J. W. Drummond, Miss E. Drummond, Mr. Otto Lagerfeld, Mrs. M. D. Lewis and infant, Miss C. Drummond, Dr. R. W. Dunlap, Mr. C. Muller, Mr. F. A. Schiertz and Miss L. Spainhaur. For Hongkong:—Mr. William McComb, Mr. J. W. Creighton, Mrs. E. O. Peck, Mr. O. J. Morris, Mrs. O. J. Morris, Mrs. J. Gerdetz and infant, Miss V. Thomas, Mr. Chas. Rantz and Mr. D. Cornell. For Manila:—Mrs. C. H. Logan and infant, Miss Mar-

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garet Logan, Mrs. M. E. Avery, Mrs. C. D. Brooks, Mr. I. J. Davis, Mrs. E. E. Elser and infant, Mrs. B. A. Green, Mr. V. Quiogue, Mrs. Geo. E. Shaw, Mr. Jos. F. Hart, Mrs. F. Simcock, Mrs. A. B. Smith, Mr. D. A. Hopkins, Mr. S. P. Johnsou, Mrs. G. Spencer, Mr. Geo. C. Kincaid, Miss Effie Spicher and Miss R. M. Martin in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per German steamer *Luetzow* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—Mr. Crowther, Mr. P. Sandberg, Mrs. and Miss Richter, Mr. R. Gordon Smith, Mr. J. F. Hibbs, Mr. L. D. Abraham, Mr. C. F. Oberlein, Mr. C. E. Manton, Mr. R. Veit, Mr. A. Kauffmann, Mr. C. Hoppenberg, Mr. U. S. O. Watson, Mr. F. M. Finnimore, Mr. C. Ahrenkt, Mr. Jno. Forrester, Mr. and Mrs. H. F. Meserve, Mr. and Mrs. Courtneidge, Dr. O. Cloos, Mrs. M. Cloos, Mr. and Mrs. A. Miller, Mr. Wilhelm Detmers, Mrs. Marie Detmers, Miss Edith Detmers, Mrs. W. D. Barnard, Miss M. Derr, Mr. and Mrs. Sidney A. Butler, Mrs. W. H. Carson and Master Carson, Mr. and Mrs. B. C. Lattin, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lloyd, Dr. and Mrs. R. W. Miller and Master Miller, Mrs. Jennie J. Wild, Mr. and Mrs. R. V. Day and Miss G. Day, Mr. Honner Langhlen and Miss Langhlen, Dr. George Lyman, Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Mille, Jr., Mr. D. F. Robertson, Mr. K. Yamaguchi, Mr. Howard Talbot, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson. Mr. V. Hinuber, Mrs. Rebekka Comar, Mr. and Mrs. J. Fachus, Mr. and Mrs Hans Temme, 4 children and amah, Miss Fanny Fachtmann, Misses K. P. and A. M. Jourdan, Major and Mrs. Evans and family, Miss Rabetts, Mr. K. Terao, Mrs. F. L. Simoes, Mrs. S. Marques, baby and boy, Mr. and Mrs. G. Doane Wong, Mr. Song Gen Fon, Mrs. Yan Chai, boy and baby, Mrs. Yick San, Miss Lai Ha, Miss A. Hoy. Mr. C. Kong, Mr. Pim Sui Ling, Mr. D. H. Biske, Miss V. Fraser, Dr. Moore Graham, Mr. Th. de Berigny, Mr. J. T. Hamilton. Mr. W. A. de Havilland, Mr. Hempel, Mr. H. Mathesin, Mr. Pingi Kwang, Mr. Sing Kwang and Mr. Yu-Tee Kwang in cabin.

Per American steamer *Siberia* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. S. E. Armstrong, Mr. A. L. C. Atkinson, Mr. R. H. Baker, Dr. F. P. Boulanger, Mr. John A. Britton, Mr. W. E. Brown, Mrs. W. E. Brown, Mr. A. L. Bull, Mr. E. J. Byron, Mr. W. H. Byron, Mr. J. S. Carton, Mr. Chang Huug Nien, Mr. G. Cohn, Mrs. G. Cohn, Master Paul Cohn, Mr. G. H. Cole, Mrs. G. H. Cole & infant, Mr. H. W. Davidson, Miss K. A. Dodge, Mr. A. S. Duckworth, Mr. H. F. E. Fernald, Mrs. A. B. Foster, Mr. C. Hebeler, Capt. W. C. Herbert, Lt. Prince Hessan, Mrs. E. P. Houston and son, Mr. B. C. Howard, Miss Alice M. Hunt, Mr. H. L. Jones, Mr. Lee Ong, Mr. Lew Ting Yang Baron Liang Kuei, Miss W. K. Miller, Miss Helen Mortimore, Mr. Pang Hung, Mr. A. Perelstrous, Miss Perelstrous, Mr. T. W. Prising, Mr. T. Saito, Lt. S. Sellschopp, Mr. J. C. Siegfried, Mrs. T. W. Smith, Miss E. Smith, Mr. Sung San, Lt. S. Telge, Lt. Von Unruh, Mr. W. A. Wilson, Mr. Y. Yajima, Mrs. M. Yajima, Mr. Yang Kwai and native servant, Mr. Yee Chee Sing, Mr. F. G. York and Mr. Karl Ziegler in cabin.

Per British steamer *Asia* for Hongkong via ports:—Mr. E. Knipping, Miss J. Legett, Miss J. Lide, Mrs. M. J. Lidstone, Miss Ethel Lidstone, Miss J. Pittigrew, Mr. C. D. Richmond, Mrs L. A. Cooper, Miss M. E. Askin, Mrs. G. Cameron, Rev. W. J. Drummond, Mrs. W. J. Drummond, Miss E. Drummond, Miss C. Drummond, Dr. R. W. Duniap, Mr. Chas. Rastz, Mrs. Marian E. Avery, Mrs C. D. Brooks, Mr. J. W. Creigton, Mr. I. J. Daves, Mrs. E. E. Elser and infant, Mrs. J. Gerdetz and infant, Mrs B. A. Green, Mr. J. F. Hart, Hopkins, Mr. S. P. Johnson, Mr. Geo C. Kincaid, Mrs. C. H. Logan and infant, Miss L. A. Schank, Mrs. J. M. J. Sanno, Mrs Harris Pendleton, Jr., Miss Mary Pendleton, Mr. W. W. Adams, Mr. W. P. Rickett, Mrs. A. M. Stryker and infant, Master Peter Stryker, Mr. J. V. Turner, Mrs. J. V. Turner, Miss B. Vienot, Miss Floy White, Miss Alma Zimders, Mr. John Moncure, Mr. W. Jessel, Mr. Otto Lagerfold, Mrs. Mary D. Lewis and infant, Mr. C. Muller, Mr. F. A. Schiertz, Miss L. Spainhaur, Mr. D. Cornell, Miss M. Logan, Mr. W. McComb, Mr. O. J. Morris, Mrs. O. J. Morris, Mrs. E. O. Peck, Mr. V. Quegue, Mrs. Geo. E. Shaw, Mrs. F. Simcock, Mrs. A. B. Smith, Mrs G. Spencer, Miss E. Spicher, Miss V. Thomas, Miss R. M. Martin, Lt. J Symington, Miss E. Symington, Mr. E. D. M. Stryker and amah and Mr. M. Y. San in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Silk shippers by *Tango Maru*, for Seattle, Wash., on the 13th Oct.:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	190
China & Japan Trading Co.	57
Siber, Wolff & Co.	55
Varenne & Co.	50
F. Strahler & Co.	45
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	504
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	155
Hara Yushutsuten	90
Total	1,146

By Royal Warrant to H.M. THE KING.

LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE

gives a delightfully appetizing flavour to all Meat Dishes, Fish, Soup, Game, Cheese and Salad, and assists digestion.

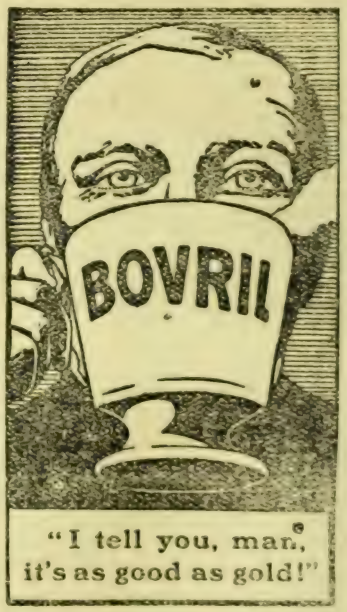
The Original & Genuine Worcestershire.

Silk shippers by *Siberia*, for San Francisco on the 12th Oct.:—

	Bales.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	282
Siber, Wolff & Co.	160
F. Strahler & Co.	120
Bavier & Co.	35
Nabholz & Co.	30
L. Mottet	25
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	449
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	86
Total	1,187

Per German steamer *Luetzow* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—

	RAW.				WASTE.			
	Genoa. Option.	Lyon.	Moscow.	Milan	Lyons.	Marseilles	Italy	Zurich.
Siber Wolff & Co.	196	95	—	—	—	67	—	1
Sulzer Rudelph & Co.	196	—	—	—	—	—	13	—
Nabholz & Co.	107	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	56	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	48	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Boyer, Mazet Guilliee & Co.	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co.	—	70	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	—	55	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Strahler & Co.	—	25	—	—	—	—	—	—
P. Dourille	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	214	—	—
Jewett and Bent	—	40	—	—	—	39	—	—
DellOro & Co.	—	—	—	—	—	—	125	—
Carlowitz & Co.	—	21	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	811	311	—	—	—	320	138	1



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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 23RD, 1909.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE British Ambassador Sir Claude Maxwell MacDonald, who has returned to Tokyo, was received on the 14th instant in audience by His Majesty the Emperor.

A TAIHOKU telegram states that the Niitaka Sugar Refining Company has finally decided to established its sugar refinery at Shokwa. The company will soon commence work on the construction.

ACCORDING to a telegram received on the 14th instant by the Osaka Branch Office of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, American raw cotton has suddenly advanced 80 *sen* in price, in consequence of the recent cyclone in Louisiana and Florida, and of frost in Tennessee.

ONE of the sailors belonging to the warship *Tango*, which lies at anchor in Yokosuka, deserted his ship on October 15 and committed suicide by throwing himself in front of a train. It is said that this desperate action was due to a severe reprimand he had received from an officer the preceding day.

THE deep-sea trawling vessel *Kiyu Maru*, which has been built in the Kubota Dockyard at Kanagawa, was launched on the 14th instant. The vessel belongs to Mr. Tokumitsu Daijiro, proprietor of one of the largest fishery concerns in Otaru, Hokkaido. Her gross tonnage is 5,000, length 63 feet, width, 15 feet, and draught, 8 feet.

THE Secretary of the Nippon Race Club informs us that H.I.H. the Crown Prince will honour the Club with his presence on the second day of the autumn meeting, Saturday, the 30th inst.

His Majesty the Emperor's Cup will be presented by Mr. Niwa Ryunosuke, Master of Ceremonies in the Imperial Household.

REAR-ADMIRAL TRIEDEMANN, Commander of the Netherlands Squadron, proceeded to Tokyo on the 17th instant and put up at the Imperial Hotel. Dinners in his honour will be given by the Netherlands Minister in Tokyo; the Governor of Kanagawa prefecture; Count Okuma; the Naval Minister; and the Mayor of Tokyo.

THE directors of the Oriental Glass Company, which has been in difficulties since May last, have decided to dissolve the Company. A general meeting of the shareholders will be held on the 5th proximo at the Imperial Hotel to consider this question. The liabilities are said to amount to 500,000 *yen* whilst the assets are estimated at about 360,000 *yen*.

BY wireless message received Friday night, the 15th inst., at the office of the Canadian Pacific Co., the *Empress of China* was reported to be 1530 miles distant and due at Yokohama from Vancouver on her schedule date, the 20th inst. This exceeds by 30 miles the last message from the *Empress of India* sent on the 9th inst. at a distance of 1500 miles bound for Vancouver.

AN official report to the Naval Department states that early on the morning of October 16, the cruiser *Tsushima*, belonging to the Maizuru Naval Station, collided with the torpedo-destroyer *Oikaze*, during the review off Maizuru harbour. Her engines being damaged, the destroyer was immediately taken into the harbour, towed by the destroyer *Yunagi*. The *Tsushima* was uninjured.

ON the evening of October 17, a passenger train coming from Hiroshima dashed into a waggon heavily laden with timber at a crossing one mile west of Une Station on the Sanyo line. The engine was derailed, much damage being inflicted upon it and two carriages. The engineer and the stoker were injured, but no casualties occurred among the passengers (some 560 in number). A relief train despatched from Himeji Station took all the passengers and goods to Himeji during the night. The obstruction was removed early the next morning.

WE take the liberty of reminding our readers that the Maple Season is now at hand, during which the woods of Nikko and its vicinity glow with every tint of gold, scarlet and crimson. Nowhere in Japan can the wonderful autumn colouring be seen to such perfection, or in such comfort from the point of view of hotel accommodation. Another district where this beautiful feature of autumnal scenery may be enjoyed to advantage is that of Hakone, and of Kowakidani in particular. The maples are expected to be at their best from the middle to the end of this month though they are still beautiful well on into November.

SINCE the 12th instant, some 50 or 60 persons in the district of Kadono-gori, Kyoto-fu, have been attacked by cholera, 37 of whom have died. New cases are occurring daily. It appears that at the funeral of a rich man at Kyoto the other day. *bento* was distributed to those who attended, and it is now believed that the fish contained in the *bento* boxes was rotten: hence the cause of the outbreak.

PRINCE ITO and his suite left Oiso for Manchuria on October 14 by the 5.23 p.m. express train. A large number of students—both boys and girls—lined the road leading from his residence to the station. Among the hundreds of persons who bade him farewell at the station were the Ministers of State and other notables, some of whom proceeded to Kodzu or Yamakita with the Prince and his family.

A FEW days ago, a man living at Hiranuma Yokohama, went to a neighbouring forest with one of his children and gathered some mushrooms. In the evening the family, consisting of the wife and five children, partook of soup made from these mushrooms. The whole family were taken ill the next day and the wife died during the night. Two of the children are also in a serious condition.

AMONG the pictures and sculptures exhibited at the Third Fine Arts Exhibition in Tokyo under the auspices of the Educational Department, a sculpture by Mr. Kitamura Shikai, entitled "Tekona," stands first in point of worth, being valued at 2,700 *yen*. It should be noted that the pictures belonging to the Japanese school are generally valued at 500 or 600 *yen*, while many of those of the foreign school are valued at over 1,000 *yen*.

IT appears that there is little chance of a compromise being effected between the Osaka Shosen Kaisha and the Russian Volunteer Fleet in respect of the Vladivostock line. Severe competition will only inflict heavy losses on both parties. Sooner or later an agreement must be reached, by each party making mutual concessions. It is said that the keenest rivalry between these shipping companies will take place during the first three months of next year, this being the season for exporting the mandarin and other oranges to Eastern Siberia.

MR. M. J. MARTIN, a Kobe merchant, writes as follows to the *Herald*:—I am a rice merchant, and, although the price of this commodity has comedown to *yen* 10.97, I learn on enquiring from my servants, shopkeepers, and elsewhere, that the retail price remains unchanged at *yen* 1 per koku—the same price as was ruling four months ago. Of course, the latters price include the cost of cleaning the rice, but the cost of this process is only about *yen* 1 per koku; that is to say, with all attendant expenses, the market price of cleaned price should be about *yen* 12. How the traders concerned are able to maintain their price at *yen* 17 is to me inexplicable. It seems that the poorer people derive no benefit from the abundant stock on the market, and I think it would be of great advantage if some steps were taken to have this matter investigated by the authorities. It is ridiculous that, while there has been a heavy decline in the price of brown rice, the retail price has not been affected.

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THE KINCHOW-TSITSIHAR RAILWAY.

Tuesday, October 19.

The rumour that a railway is projected between Kinchow and Tsitsihar, and that the contract has been given to an Anglo-American Syndicate seems to be received with considerable scepticism in Tokyo. It is apparently thought that Mr. Straight's activity may have suggested the story, for he is evidently very active. He has submitted various projects, it is said, as for example the development of regions along the Sungari River, the working of mines at Maoel-shan, and so forth. But success has not hitherto attended his efforts, and his latest project is believed by some to be this important railway. On the other hand, certain publicists suppose that the former Viceroy of Manchuria, Mr. Hsu, conceived the idea of the line. All agree that it is incorrect to attribute any share in the matter to an English syndicate. In this context we may mention that Mr. Bland's arrival in Peking is spoken of as likely to be followed by some new developments. But Mr. Bland is no longer connected with the Anglo-Chinese Syndicate. He is understood to have been so much dissatisfied with the course of events in connexion with the Yeh-Han and the Szchuan-Han Railways that he has severed his relations with the Syndicate, to the great satisfaction of the subjects of a certain European Power, who have always considered Mr. Bland's action to be inimical to their interests in China. We ourselves find great difficulty in crediting the story about the Kinchow-Tsitsihar line. The question of finance is already difficult enough, and there is, in the second place, the question of strategy. The building of such a road would be like deliberately offering a temptation to Russia to recover in Western Manchuria and Pehchili the position she has lost in East Manchuria and the Liaotung Peninsula. It may be mentioned here that, according to a St. Petersburg journal, the Russian Representative in Peking has applied to the Chinese Government for permission to build a line from Tsitsihar to Aigun. The latter town lies on the banks of the Amur River and is nearly due north of Tsitsihar. It is celebrated as the place where the Treaty of 1857 between Russia and China was signed—the treaty which may be said to have opened the most momentous chapter of Russia's progress towards the Far East. A line from Aigun to Tsitsihar would be useful in view only of the building of the Amur track.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* has an interesting note on the subject of the Kinchow-Tsitsihar road. It says that the enterprise was planned originally by Mr. Hsu, Viceroy of Manchuria, and that his idea was to lay the line only from Kinchow to Yaonan, a distance of 560 miles, at an estimated cost of 40 million taels. Were the road continued to Tsitsihar, the distance would become 1,000 miles and the cost 70 millions. Moreover, the laying of such a road by contract with a foreign syndicate would be tolerably certain to provoke some compensatory project on Russia's side.

Wednesday, October 20.

Much talk continues to be heard about the project for a railway from Kinchow to Tsitsihar. The prevailing opinion seems to be that the idea emanates from New York, and that one feature of the programme is to test Japan's attitude. If she formally objects to the construction of the line on the ground that it would be parallel to the South Manchuria Railway, although the two are separated by an interval of 100 miles, then the theory that she seeks to establish a monopoly of railways in Manchuria would be warranted. If, on the other hand, she raises no difficulty, then a basis will be obtained for forming an Anglo-American-French Syndicate. Experience shows that these very recondite schemes usually belong to the category of groundless suspicions, and in the present case it has to be observed that the building of a line from Kinchow to Tsitsihar, or at all events to Yaonan, was mooted long ago and is believed to have emanated from the Viceroyalty in Mukden months before the Morgan group began to interest themselves actively in Chinese enterprises. Of course, the road in question would be a serious blow to the South Manchuria line, and would also possess other potentialities which need not be here discussed. But in what respect would China profit? It is she who would have to put her hand into her pocket ultimately to finance the line, and it is she who would have to make up every year a heavy deficit on account of deficient earnings. Is it to be supposed that any compensating motive presents itself from China's point of view?

The *Kokumin Shimbun* publishes a map showing the route of the proposed line, and from this we observe that it would pass through Tengkiatun, which is only a few miles distant from Fenghwa on the South Manchuria Railway. Thence the line would trend in a northwesterly direction, and would run for at least two-thirds of its distance through desert wastes. Nobody looking at this map can credit for a moment that the motive of such a line is purely commercial.

HOLLAND AND JAPAN.

The arrival of three Dutch warships in Yokohama harbour has naturally recalled to the mind of Japan the great debt of gratitude which she owes to Holland, her sole foreign associate during more than two centuries, and always her staunch friend. A vast deal of credit is habitually given to the United States of America for having opened Japan's doors to Western intercourse, but Holland richly deserves to be remembered in this context, for although America came in first in the race, it was by the Dutch that the course had been laid. In the days immediately preceding the Meiji era, when the Shogun's Government or the feudal chiefs went abroad for the products of Occidental civilization or for teachers of foreign sciences, they never thought of applying to any country except Holland, The first Japanese warship, the *Kanrin Maru*, was obtained from Holland, and it was she that carried the late Katsu Awa no Kami accross the Pacific on the first voyage ever made by a Japanese warship over that ocean. Katsu is in his grave and the *Kanrin* is only a memory, but the debt that Japan owes to Holland can never be forgotten, and we are glad to see that it receives due recognition from that admirable journal, the *Jiji Shimpo*, which possesses the happy knack of always saying the right thing at the right moment. Entertainments in honour of the officers and men of the Squadron are contemplated by the Minister of the Navy, by Count Okuma, by the Governor of Kanagawa, by the Mayor of Tokyo and by the Dutch Representative.

KOREA.

Saturday, October 16.

Seoul announces the receipt of definite information that at the Cabinet Council held in Tokyo on the 13th instant it was decided to start the construction of the Gensan and Mokpho Railways simultaneously.

It is reported that the Engineering Bureau of the Home Department in Korea is asking for large appropriations; namely, 4,160,000 *yen* for rail-laying, and 1,350,000 for harbour surveying. There seems to be little hope that the Treasury in Tokyo will accede to these demands.

Sunday, October 17.

It is alleged that Lieut.-General Baron Nakamura, Director of the Government's Steel Works at Wakamatsu, having just returned from a tour of inspection in Korea, recommends that the Japanese Government should purchase the two iron mines at Chai-ryong and Eun-ryul in Hwangdo. The Baron's contention is that although the Chinese mines at Taiya now supply a sufficiency of ore for Japanese purposes, they might at any moment cease to be available in the event of an international complication, and that therefore it would be well for this country to have a second string to its bow. We ourselves would be inclined to go a good deal further than Baron Nakamura, and to recommend that Japan should lose no time in making herself entirely independent of China's assistance in such a matter.

It is now confidently affirmed that at the meeting of the Japanese Cabinet on the 15th inst. the Ministers decided that the two railways in Korea which have been contending for precedence of construction, shall be built simultaneously.

Tuesday, October 19.

It has been announced officially in Seoul that the Korean judicial system shall cease to be operative at 12 p.m. on the 31st of October, and that the Japanese system shall go into force from the same moment. Thus there will not be so much as one minute's interregnum. The next business will be the promulgation of the new laws. By the Korean judicial system is to be understood not only the Korean local courts and courts of appeal, but also the Residents' tribunals. The Japan *Official Gazette* of the 18th instant publishes 12 pages containing 30 bodies of regulations bearing on this change. So far as we can judge, the system thus inaugurated in Korea is identical with that now operative in Japan, with one important exception, namely, that appeals can be taken from a local court direct to the Court of Cassation—which is called *Kōtō-hōin* instead of *Taishin-in*—without going through a court of appeal. The judicial officials appointed to carry out the new system are 329 judges; 85 public procurators; 4 chief-secretaries; 4 chief-interpreters; 368 secretaries, and 187 student-interpreters. There is no indication as yet whether the materials for this large personnel are forthcoming.

It is stated that the sums allowed for the construction of the Gensan and Mokpho lines will be 1 million *yen* each, next fiscal year. This money will suffice for surveys only, but, nevertheless, the fact that work is actually imminent is expected to produce a great effect on the localities concerned. Japanese newspapers state that a considerable portion of the southern route has been already surveyed at the expense of the Mitsubishi Company.

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THE CRANE INCIDENT.

Friday, October 15.

This unfortunate affair appears likely to create further commotion in the United States. Mr. Crane is defending himself vigorously. He openly claims that his so-called indiscretions at Chicago were in reality nothing more or less than compliance with instructions received from the President. Mr. Taft had told him that whereas the Far East constituted a most important arena for the development of American commerce and American politics, the people of the United States seemed to ignore the fact, and it would therefore be the duty of Mr. Crane to use every endeavour for the purpose of awakening a spirit of hostility (*tekigai-shin*) among the people. Hence Mr. Crane was merely carrying out the President's orders when he utilized the Chicago newspapers in the manner so strongly objected to by the Secretary of State.

The telegraph adds that there is considerable feeling of uneasiness in America in view of the supposition that this incident has betrayed to Japan the trend of the United States' policy in the Far East.

Of course Mr. Crane is perfectly justified in defending himself, but discerning folks will be much readier to believe that he misunderstood Mr. Taft's instructions than to attach any credence to his version of those instructions. It is quite inconceivable that the President could have invited a United States diplomatist to work for the creation of a spirit of hostility towards Japan or any other country. We can quite understand that Mr. Taft may have dwelt upon the commercial importance of Far Eastern markets and upon the great political events which are not unlikely to take place in connexion with the adoption of a new form of government in China. That Mr. Crane should have been urged to use speech and pen in educating the American people to a fuller sense of these facts is likely enough, but Mr. Crane's version of the advice can not be accepted for a moment. Nevertheless, the affair will certainly leave an unpleasant feeling in many quarters.

The American residents of Peking are said to be lamenting that a man without any diplomatic experience whatever should have been appointed to such an important post as the Legation in Peking, while at the same time they are not displeased to find that the United States Government is disposed to attach much importance to its relations with China.

The *Jiji Shimpo* takes a good deal of pains to demonstrate a fact which, in our opinion, seems not to require any demonstration, namely, that there is nothing whatever which can be justly construed as a violation of the open-door principle in the recent Agreement between China and Japan. The only item that can be described as in any degree novel is the provision that all mines within the zone of the Mukden-Antung Railway shall be worked conjointly by the high contracting parties. But inasmuch as Japan already possessed the right to work these mines, this Agreement for joint exploitation is really a nearer approach to the open-door principle than the original compact was. We may here note that an anonymous diplomat is quoted by the same journal as pointing out that, if rumour be credible, the concessions for which Mr. Straight is labouring in Manchuria are much more exposed to the charge of the shut door than is anything in Japan's Agreement with China. The *Jiji* itself thinks that American statesmen harbour some suspicion about the existence of a secret convention between the two Powers, but though our contemporary takes much pains to explain in detail the features of the new Agreement, we can easily see that it is much perplexed to discover in any one of them the slightest cause for American complaint.

The *Mainichi Dempo*, which is the only other newspaper that writes editorially on the subject, confines itself practically to expressing the opinion that what Japan should learn from the incident is the great interest taken by the United States in Far Eastern affairs. The Secretary of State was careful to explain that the examination which the China-Japan Agreement is now undergoing at the State Department, is not in any sense an exceptional measure, but is in agreement with the ordinary routine observed by the American Government. The inference therefore is that no special intention exists of offering a protest, and that in all probability none will be formulated. But, on the other hand, Japan would be very foolish if she ignored the lesson now taught to her. She should recognise that henceforth the United States Government must be reckoned with as counting itself a very intimately interested third party in all transactions between the two Eastern Empires. Such transactions are likely to be very numerous, and it is therefore of the highest importance that Japan should adopt means for placing herself in the closest possible *rapport* with the Washington statesmen, so that a clear mutual understanding may exist on all points. In this context our contemporary remarks on the unfortunate absence of the Japanese Ambassador from Washington and of the United States Ambassador from Tokyo.

Saturday, October 16.

It is to be apprehended that this unfortunate affair will, after all, leave a more or less unpleasant taste in the mouths of the two nations principally concerned. The anti-Japanese element of the American population —which element, however small it may be in dimensions, certainly possesses the faculty of making its voice heard—has now fallen back on the expedient of representing Mr. Crane as a sacrifice on the altar of deference to Japan. These side-winds of misrepresentation and agitation will probably continue to blow for some time, and will be remembered even after calm has been entirely restored. The fact of the matter seems be that in an immense country like the United States all colours and tones of opinion are inevitably to be found, as also are all kinds and conditions of men. The Crane affair can not be said to have been contrived wholly by the anti-Japanese agitators, but it lent itself admirably to their purpose, and they are making very adroit use of it. But the Japanese are quite sensible enough to observe that what is worthy to be termed public opinion in the great Republic is always on the right side, and that whenever it declares itself, the clamour of the agitators is at once stifled. Japan has her own excitable element, and she is therefore qualified to make allowances for similar blemishes in the mental make-up of other countries.

THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN.

The members of this Association, which came into existence some five months ago, were invited on Monday last to a banquet at the residence of the Prime Minister, and among the guests were Prince Ito, Count Okuma and Count Komura. A very pleasant evening was passed and some very interesting speeches were delivered. The whole affair, however, is roundly condemned by our German contemporary, the *Japan Herald*, which evidently regards the Association as a mere make-believe, and which utilizes the opportunity to attack the press laws of Japan. We observe that to Prince Ito are addressed some of the German journal's bitterest strictures. The Prince, whose speech was full of wit, observed that one of the objects of his approaching visit to Manchuria was to inform himself sufficiently to be able to take an intelligent interest in the news and comments appearing in the newspapers. It was a subtle touch of humour, but its import was at once recognised by those present and a hearty laugh greeted it. The *Japan Herald*, however, takes it in solemn seriousness, and sententiously remarks :—

> In view of Japan's ever enlarging sphere of influence in Manchuria and the proposal, recently mooted by Japanese merchants, of establishing a gigantic banking concern to further enhance Japanese interests there, the impartial reader will regard Prince Ito's semi-apologetic remarks as superfluous.

The Owl from Minnesota which saw the joke on its way home could give points to our good contemporary in the matter of perception. Then the *Herald* goes on to ascribe the following wonderful remarks to Prince Ito :—

> "The journalistic profession is not an easy one and it is the more difficult for journalists to combine in an association because of their diverse views and interests. It is, however, possible for them to associate for their common interests in the manner that the various countries having conflicting principles and interests could find the way of mutual accommodation for the furtherance of peace."

Prince Ito did not speak in English, but had he done so, we venture to affirm that no such outrageously clumsy language would have fallen from his lips. Nevertheless our German contemporary twits him with "urging that journalists can not combine on account of diverse views and interests." Even its own graceful rendering of his speech does not warrant such an interpretation. The Prince never said "can not;" he limited himself to noting the difficulty. And here we venture to propound one question. Would press associations be possible if the members were cast in the mould of the editor of the *Japan Herald*? Has he himself joined the Tokyo Association? If not, why not? Has his contribution to its existence been limited to abuse of its merits and ridicule of its prospects? Is that the way to overcome the difficulty of combination?

One word more. Our German contemporary writes thus :—

> Japan is the only nation, Russia excepted, ranking as a first-class Power in which the Press is habitually regarded by the official classes as a dangerous element, to be muzzled and bound by all manner of restrictions lest it should become a power by the aid of which the voice of the people would make itself heard, and the will of the people something more than a wish half-expressed.

This is an astonishing diatribe. What are the "all manner of restrictions" by which the press of Japan is bound? The Press Law of Japan is not an instrument arbitrarily enacted by "the official classes." It was enacted by the people's representatives, and in session after session the Diet has tacitly approved it by refraining from any amendment. The *Japan Herald* itself is under the Press Law of this country, and we fail to perceive that the freedom of its utterances is at all impaired. Finally, is a German newspaper justified where it brackets Russia and Japan alone as the "Powers in which the Press is habitually regarded by the official classes as a dangerous element?" What about Germany herself?

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PRINCE ITO.

Tuesday, October 19.

Tokyo newspapers insist in investing with political significance the trip of Prince Ito to Manchuria, and it is evident that the man in the street is determined to believe that the venerable statesman's journey is directly connected with railway problems, namely, the now much-talked-of Kinchow-Tsitsihar road, and the future of the South-Manchuria and the East-China lines. One thing appears certain, namely, that there is to be a general meeting of Russian and Japanese high officials in Harbin, and that the meeting will synchronise with Prince Ito's presence there. Thus Japan has arranged for the presence of Mr. Koike, Consul-General at Mukden, and Mr. Kawakami, Consul-General at Harbin; and Russia, on her side, has instructed her Representative in Peking to visit Harbin, and has wired to the President of the East-Chinese Railway also to repair thither. Of course, St. Petersburg may be making these arrangements merely in connexion with the coming of the Minister of Finance, but the public naturally declines to believe in so many mere coincidences. For our own part, we think that there is ample reason for the Finance Minister's visit to Harbin and Vladivostock without ascribing to it such profound significance as some of our contemporaries are disposed to do. At any rate, we anticipate only a beneficial result. A meeting between Prince Ito and a Russian Minister of State in Harbin must have a good effect on the relations between the two Powers, and, at all events, there will be no margin into which mystery-mongers can read sinister forecasts. It may also help to disabuse Russian local officials of the idea that every Japanese subject travelling in Manchuria is a soldier in disguise.

Wednesday, October 20.

On the 18th inst. Prince Ito arrived at Dairen and put up at the Liaotung Hotel. He is reported to have expressed much admiration for the success achieved by the architect of the hotel in reconciling the fashions of the East and the West in one building. On the 19th inst. His Highness visited the Chinese city and is said to have been surprised by the signs of progress shown on all sides. He lunched at the Russian Consulate and in the afternoon visited the Japanese Club. On the 20th he was to proceed to Port Arthur, and after a brief stay there his programme was to turn his face towards Harbin, his visits to the battlefields and other places of note in Manchuria being deferred until after he has seen Harbin—which itinerary is said to be suggested by climatic considerations. Peking has sent Mr. Tso to welcome Prince Ito to Manchuria and to assist in making him comfortable. The Russian authorities are providing a special train for the use of his Highness and have ordered Mr. Danil, Chief of the Railway works, to meet him at Changchun.

The Russian Representative in Peking left that city for Harbin on the 18th inst. It is stated that the purpose of his visit is to discuss the details of the supplementary agreement recently concluded between Russia and China with reference to jurisdiction within the railway zones.

Thursday, October 21.

Prince Ito, speaking at Dairen on the evening of the 19th inst. to a meeting of Japanese subjects, officials and lay men, again took occasion to explain that his trip to Manchuria was not connected with any political mission whatever. He had heard a great deal about Manchuria from official reports and from newspapers and magazines, but he had hitherto had no opportunity of obtaining direct information which might constitute material for forming an opinion of his own. He felt this deficiency when questions relating to Manchuria came up for discussion in Tokyo, and when the Emperor occasionally spoke to him on the subject. It had always been his desire, therefore, to visit the place, but he had hitherto been prevented by want of leisure. His Highness then passed on to repeat emphatically that Japan's policy is peace, and that she must be guided by the principle of the open door and of equal opportunity in everything relating to trade and industry. It gave him great pleasure to observe the material progress made by his countrymen in Manchuria, progress of which he had seen abundant evidences since his arrival in the town of Dairen. But he felt it necessary again to repeat the caution that every step of such development must be in strict accord with the principle enunciated above. This fact must never be lost sight of, either by private individuals or by officials. Turning to China, he said that it was a matter for sincere congratulation that that ancient and illustrious Empire was now resolutely abandoning its conservative groove and entering the path of liberal progress. From her heart Japan wished her neighbour success, and as her own progressive programme had been commenced a little earlier than that of her neighbour, she wished to render every assistance in her power, not only because of the friendship she bore towards a nation to which she herself owed so much, but also because any failure on China's part might endanger the peace of the East.

The *Nichi Nichi* now declares that Prince Ito's journey has no political significance whatever, and that his presence in Manchuria at the moment of the arrival there of the Russian Finance Minister is a mere coincidence. Finding that the time would just suit, Prince Ito telegraphed an expression of his desire to meet the Minister, and the latter replied that he would be in Harbin on the 26th inst. Our contemporary goes on to explain that Russia has expended on her East Asian enterprises a sum of 340 or 350 million roubles, and that she has nothing to show for that immense outlay except the East China Railway, which constitutes a heavy annual drain upon her purse. Japan, on the contrary, is making the South Manchuria Railway pay well, and it is very conceivable that the Finance Minister may desire to inform himself as to the causes of this difference. Moreover, he has to face the question of whether Vladivostock should not be restored to its status as a free port. It is thought just possible that Prince Ito may accompany the Finance Minister when the latter proceeds to Vladivostock, and the two statesmen will certainly find plenty of subjects for discussion, seeing that the Prince is the father of the Japanese Constitution and the Minister is one of the most prominent conservatives in Russia.

GERMANY AND JAPAN.

The German journal of Shanghai gives epitomes of articles written by no less than seven leading German newspapers with respect to the recently concluded agreement between China and Japan. With astonishing unanimity these newspapers insist on thinking that the Yellow Peril has been resuscitated and that Russia is its objective. They write in a most alarmist strain, and all seem to believe that the terms of the agreement, or, at least, its really important provisions, have been kept strictly secret. It means in their eyes that Japan aims directly at the hegemony of the Far East with a population of 500 millions, and that the tocsin of deadly danger to the white race has been sounded. Some say that the Anglo-Japanese alliance is now a thing of the past; that America must take immediate steps to guard the Philippines; that war will break out between Japan and Russia within two years, and that China and Japan will be fighting within three years. How this latter conflict is to be reconciled with the hegemony theory we do not gather, but at all events the hypothesis is calculated to influence public opinion against Japan. We have not ourselves had access to the columns of the seven journals in question. Our knowledge of their contents is derived from a translation made by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* of the reproductions of the Shanghai German newspaper, the *East Asia Lloyd*. To comment seriously upon such writing would be superfluous, but we are entitled to enter a strong protest against one statement made by our Shanghai contemporary, namely, that London is the provenance of all these anti-Japanese rumours; that the German journals have been entrapped by English guile, and that *The Times* is laughing in its sleeve. That leading German newspapers are so lacking in discernment and so deficient of any fixed policy of their own as to be betrayed by a mischievous device into such a display of silliness and panic, is a charge which we should never have dreamed of making of our own accord. But we do most strongly object to our Shanghai contemporary's attempt to saddle the responsibility upon England. The English press, almost without exception, welcomed the Agreement and congratulated the contracting parties upon having arrived at a satisfactory and pacific settlement of all their difficulties. It appears to be, therefore, a flagrant falsehood to allege that the tone of the seven excited journals was inspired from London, unless German, or some other nation's, press agencies were the source of inspiration.

DEATH OF GENERAL VISCOUNT OGAWA.

We regret to announce that on the 20th inst. General Viscount Ogawa expired in the Red Cross Hospital, Tokyo, at the comparatively early age of 61. The deceased officer was celebrated as a cavalry leader. He fought during the campaign in Manchuria up to the battle of Shushanpao, where he was severely wounded, and thereafter was placed on the reserve list. He may be said to have made his *début* in 1877, when he fought as a Major in Kumamoto. One remarkable incident in General Ogawa's career was that he set himself in vehement opposition to the views of the late General Meckel, when the latter served as Adviser to the Headquarters Staff. Meckel is said to have maintained that mountain artillery would be quite sufficient for the purposes of the Japanese Army, but Ogawa insisted that field artillery must be added. Fortunately the latter view prevailed. Viscount Ogawa will also be remembered as the officer who reorganised the Osaka Division and enabled it to wipe out the reproach which attached to its name in connexion with Formosa and Eastern Manchuria.

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CHINA.

Friday, October 15.

On the 13th inst. the new Local Assembly at Nankin held its inaugural meeting. One hundred and eleven members were present, and among the spectators were all the foreign Consuls. The proceedings were of a purely formal character, as the Assembly does not begin to transact business until the 18th inst. The Shanghai Local Assembly also came together on the same day. Its first meeting evoked animated articles from all the vernacular newspapers of the city. They are telegraphically reported to have agreed in calling the attention of the members of the Assembly to the fact that upon their conduct may be said to practically depend the future of constitutional government in China.

We mentioned in a recent issue that one of the reforms advocated by the new Grand Councillor Tsai was the abolition of lotteries and gambling houses. Apparently China is not yet ready for this reform. In the immediate sequel of Mr. Tsai's protest a State lottery was issued in Peking. The details were as follow:—Number of tickets, 10 millions; price of a ticket, one *tael*; amount of prizes distributed, 3 million *taels*; expenses of transaction, one million *taels*; net profit to the Government, 6 millions; payment of interest and principal on 7 million taels to be effected by defraying a sum of 2 per cent. for 60 years.

It would seem that the negotiations for the railway loans in China will not be much delayed after all by the demise of Chang Chih-tung. Mr. Hsu, formerly Viceroy of Mukden and now Head of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs, and Mr. Na Tung have been exerting themselves to effect a settlement, and their labours have resulted in the presentation of a memorial to the Prince Regent, embodying conditions which have received the approval not only of the above two officials, but also of the syndicates of the four foreign Powers concerned, namely, France, Germany, the United States and England. It is expected that the Prince Regent will signify his sanction of this application within a few days.

Saturday, October 16.

Some important changes are announced in the ranks of high officialdom in China Thus Prince Chin retires from the Council of State and is replaced by Mr. Twan Fang, now Viceroy of the Metropolitan Province and previously Viceroy of Canton. The Viceroyalty of Pehchili falls to Mr. Chen Chun-hsuan, of whose career we gave an epitome in a recent issue and who has received the epithet of the Hoshi Toru of China. These changes are considered to portend Prince Ching's loss of political influence.

The first Local Assembly in the Metropolitan Province was convened on the 14th inst. and is to begin its deliberations on the 18th. Naturally, its proceedings are attracting much attention. The first measure which it will be called upon to consider is a stamp tax bill. This is expected to lead to vehement discussion, and has already provoked popular demonstrations described by the telegraph as "threatening." The Assemblies at Hankow and Kilin receive only the briefest possible notice in the telegraphic reports, but that at Mukden is noticed at greater length. Viceroy Shih is reported as having made an able speech. He congratulated the members on taking part in the inception of constitutional government in China, and he urged them not to fritter away their strength in factional disputes, but to devote all their energies to promoting the welfare of their country. If China, said his Excellency, is despised by other Powers, it is mainly because her people are wanting in self-respect. They had to remember, too, that on Mukden devolved the responsibility of setting an example to other local assemblies, and they must therefore strive with exceptional energy to attain the ideal of representative institutions. Governor Ting of Kilin also addressed the Assembly, but his remarks are not quoted at any length.

Monday, October 18.

It is now definitely announced that his Excellency Mr. Liang Tungyen has carried out his resolve by resigning his portfolio. Great efforts are said to have been made to induce him to remain in office, but they have been unsuccessful. No public statement is made of the reasons for this resignation, but it is understood that Mr. Liang's tenure of office became precarious from the moment when his treatment of foreign affairs culminated in the presentation of Japan's note about the Mukden-Antung line. It was then generally alleged that the Prince Regent had expressed great dissatisfaction with the conduct of the Empire's foreign affairs, and that his Highness' attitude indicated the probability of an important change of personnel at the Waiwupu. It may be assumed that Mr. Liang's resignation was practically decided upon then.

It may be mentioned here that, according to a telegram received by the *Chuo Shimbun* from Peking, the elevation of Mr. Tuan Fang to the Grand Council is practically certain. Mr. Tuan is now Viceroy of the Metropolitan Province, and in that capacity he addressed to the Throne a memorial on the subjects of foreign affairs, local government and constitutional institutions, which document impressed the Prince Regent so favourably that its author's enrollment among the Grand Councillors was then assured.

The telegraph announces that it has been decided to devote a part of the approaching Nankin Exhibition to foreign products and manufactures. The Japanese are said to be taking great interest in this matter. They have formed a committee for the purpose of organising a worthy display, and at its head is Mr. Fujise, of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.

Tuesday, October 19.

The Chinese authorities at Nankin appear to be very much in earnest about the exhibition which is to be held there next year. They have increased the sum of 500,000 taels, originally appropriated, to 700,000, and they have decided that there shall be a foreign hall. Steps are also being taken to give permanence to the commercial results of the enterprise.

In consideration of the great services rendered to the cause of education by the late Chang Chih-tung, it has been practically decided to create a shrine to his memory, and to place there a bronze statue of the illustrious statesman.

Wednesday, October 20.

It looks as though the Macao boundary negotiation had reached a deadlock. A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that the scene of the discussion is to be removed to Peking, from which we may infer the local negotiators' failure to arrive at an agreement.

Yesterday the Mukden Local Assembly was to open its deliberations. The Viceroy is said to have presented a bill of 25 clauses relating to local administration, finance and other important subjects. Doubtless the Assembly will be asked to sanction some means of making ends meet which are now very far apart.

The *Chuo Shimbun* has the monopoly of a telegram which says that on the 15th inst. a party of Chinese workmen numbering about 50, and acting under the command of three Chinese constables, made a raid upon the Japanese construction-station at Chenhsingtun on the Mukden-Antung line. Intelligence of the projected attack reached the Japanese in good time, and when the raiders arrived at the station they found it duly guarded, so that they had no choice but to desist. There were no casualties on either side, but the presence of Chinese police at the head of the raiders constitutes an unpleasant feature, unless indeed, which is very probable, the dimensions of the incident have been largely exaggerated.

A CHARACTERISTIC SUBTERFUGE.

In a recent issue the *Japan Gazette* accused the people of Japan of "lack of the faculty of friendship or fraternity." It would be difficult to prefer any more injurious charge against a nation. To be lacking in the faculty of friendship is to stand on almost the lowest ethical place that humanity can occupy. Being severely criticised for uttering this slander, the *Japan Gazette* takes refuge in the pretence that what it spoke of was "the still undeveloped state of the Japanese faculty of social feeling or fraternity." That is a characteristic subterfuge. Passing on, however, to the reasons assigned by our contemporary for its pronouncement, we find them summarized in the sentence:—

> Our proposition was that the spread of Christianity in Japan has been hindered by certain social conditions, inherited from her feudal isolation and communalistic system, resulting in individual isolation or lack of an individualist faculty of entering into social fraternity.

So, then, the feudal system which prevailed in Japan from the end of the 12th century to the middle of the 19th, and the communalistic system—which, we presume, is only another way of writing "feudalism" in Japan's case—are responsible for this alleged "lack of the faculty of friendship and fraternity." Now it may well be doubted whether one of the chief moral results of feudalism is not to create the very sentiment which the *Japan Gazette* charges it with stifling. Feudalism converts the members of a fief into practically one family, whose units are bound to each other by ties of friendship and loyalty such as could scarcely exist without the inspiration of clanship. Would it be admitted that the faculty of friendship and fraternity was lacking among the peoples of Europe in the feudal age? As for "communalism," it is "a French theory of government which holds that each commune should be a kind of independent State, and the national government a confederation of such States, having only limited power." The nearest approximations to this system in modern times are the republics of the United States of America and of Switzerland. Is any one prepared to affirm that the citizens of these two countries suffer from a "lack of the faculty of friendship or fraternity"? We were led to surmise that the *Japan Gazette* had no basis for its thoughtless libel when we read its first article on this subject, and our surmise is now amply confirmed by its line of reasoning.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

Friday, October 15.

Again the air is full of contradictory reports. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* gives a most circumstantial account from which it may be inferred that municipalization is imminent, but the *Chuo*, which ought to possess accurate information, denies that there is any imminent probability, and the *Yorodzu Choho* recommends its readers to adopt the old recipe for guarding against being bewitched by a fox, namely, *mayuge ni tsubaki wo tsukero.*

Saturday, October 16.

It is almost hopeless to attempt to follow the various rumours circulated in Tokyo with regard to the municipalization of the tramways. This morning (Saturday) the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and the *Jiji Shimpo*, as well as the *Niroku* and the *Chuo*, write in the most positive strain declaring that the scheme has been practically arranged, and will soon come up for public discussion by the officials concerned. On the other hand, the *Hochi Shimbun* alleges that the whole of this talk has been fabricated by speculators on 'Change, and that the bubble may burst at any moment; yet the same *Hochi Shimbun* in the same issue writes as though it believed that the machinations of these speculators had succeeded in forcing the Cabinet's hand. It is all very perplexing, but evidently the Stock Exchange on Friday afternoon believed in the fact that municipalization was imminent, for after the regular market had come to an end, spot transactions in Tokyo trams, which had closed in the vicinity of 74, rose rapidly to 77.

Sunday, October 17.

On the forenoon of the 16th instant the Mayor of Tokyo was invited to attend at the Department of Communications, and was informed by Baron Goto, in the presence of Baron Hirata, Minister of State for Home Affairs, that the Government had no objection to the municipalization of the Electric-Trams provided that three conditions were complied with, namely (1) that the transaction should not involve any increase of the citizens' burdens or any diminution of their transit facilities; (2) that the principal and interest of the debt resulting from municipalization as well as the cost of completing the system of lines should be paid out of the earnings of the enterprise; and (3) that a concrete plan should be submitted showing the gist of the method of operating the lines after municipalization.

This disposes of the idea that the Government would not sanction the municipalization of the Railway, and as the Municipality has long been in favour of the transaction, the only obstacle now offering is that of an agreement as to price between the Company and the City. But it may be taken for granted, we think, that this point has already been fully discussed, that purchasers and sellers have arrived within sight of agreement, and that all details such as those required by the Government's conditions have been arranged. Rumour has it that the City is offering 90, paid with 5 per cent. bonds, but the Company points out that this is very much less than the price which the City was prepared to give last year, namely, 87.50, paid with 6 per cent. bonds. Last year's figure, if reduced to a 5 per cent. basis, would mean something over 100 *yen*. The Company is therefore unwilling to sell for less than 95, and it is thought that a compromise will be effected at 92 or 93. The remaining steps of the transaction are expected to be completed with celerity. We entertain no manner of doubt that so far as efficiency and cheapness are concerned, it would have been better to leave the Railway in the hands of the Company. Unfortunately, however, the question of electric-tram service in Tokyo has fallen into a a rut similar to that in which it runs in London, and therefore the conduct of the enterprise by a private company becomes practically impossible. Meanwhile two things have to be remembered in connexion with the transaction. One is that the Municipality will receive all the unspent portion of the Company's paid-up capital, which residue amounts to several millions of *yen*; the other is, that the Municipality will not have to pay any transit tax. This latter fact means that by simply continuing to levy the present charge and by abolishing the system of return tickets, which is now dishonestly abused by many travellers, the City will gain a net increase of revenue amounting to fully 1,600,000 *yen* annually.

It is noticeable in this context that the *Jiji Shimpo*, the *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Nippon* all denounce municipalization on the ground that the municipality can not be trusted to carry on such an enterprise without bribery and corruption, and the Mayor of Tokyo contends that for the same reason the Company can not be trusted to carry it on. Thus a section at any rate of the citizens of the capital show a curious want of confidence in each other. We need scarcely say that sundry more or less conflicting views are expressed by the Tokyo newspapers, which are naturally very keenly interested in this question. One or two journals do not hesitate to accuse the Government of political jobbery, but inasmuch as that accusation would be preferred whatever course the Cabinet took, no great attention need be paid to it.

Monday, October 18.

The question of the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway provokes a great deal of journalistic comment. The *Hochi Shimbun, more suo*, writes a distinctly inflammatory article, calling upon the citizens of the metropolis to stand forth and array themselves against this jobbery. The curious feature of this writing is that our contemporary has always been a vehement opponent of raising the fares. It can not but recognise that either municipalization or a higher fare is the only exit from the dilemma, yet it opposes both with equal vehemence. The *Nippon* takes much the same line. The gist of its writing is that the Municipality can not be trusted; that the aldermen have proved themselves to be incompetent and too corrupt to accomplish a tithe of the business already entrusted to them, and that to hand over a great business like the Tokyo Railway to the management of such men would be like putting a sharp sword into the grasp of an imbecile.

Count Okuma does not disapprove of municipalization itself. In fact, he practically declares it to be essential. But he shares the *Hochi's* opinion as to the untrustworthiness of the present Municipality, and he declares that the first business of the citizens should be to replace corruption by integrity. Mr. Okura Kihachiro is equally vehement in approving of the measure. He regards it as the only way of providing the City with a really good service of electric trams. He notices that if the offer made by the City on a 6 per cent. basis last year be reduced to a 5 per cent. basis, the price now paid in City bonds should be *yen* 104.50 per share, but a perfectly just figure to both sides would seem to be 93 or 94 *yen*. Viscount Akimoto, who is now regarded as one of the *Seiyu-kai* representatives in the House of Peers, also approves of municipalization within the limits mapped out by the Government.

Meanwhile the men who ranged themselves last year in opposition to the Railway Company's application for a raise of fare, held a meeting on the 17th inst. in the Tora-no-mon Club, and decided to organise similar opposition to the municipalization scheme.

If Tokyo could see itself as others see it by the light shed on its affairs from journalistic quarters like the *Hochi* and the *Nippon*, its self-appreciation would not be much enhanced. Here is a common business-problem which has been for more than two years urgently awaiting solution, and yet a section of the citizens would have the world believe that a solution is beyond reach of Tokyo intelligence. Of course, everybody must sympathise with anything like a genuine desire to eliminate corruption and bribery from the management of civic affairs, but how can any reliance be placed upon the sincerity of the *Hochi Shimbun*, for example, which, while denouncing dishonesty in the strongest terms, lends its columns for the publication of a statement of the Tokyo Railway's accounts, which any child can see to be doctored for a special purpose?

Tuesday, October 19.

The Tokyo City Assembly met on the 18th instant, when the Mayor formally reported the communication made to him by the Ministers of Communications and Home Affairs, and stated that he was now about to open negotiations with the Company. No objection seems to have been raised by the Assembly, and it may therefore be assumed that the members approves the project. The great question now is that of price. Some publicists seem to think that the Government will not consent to any price which would be accepted by the Company, but we deem that very improbable. According to the general forecast, the Company and the Municipality will come together at 92 or 93 *yen*. It is expected that the City Assembly will be convened again on the 27th instant to give its final decision. Ninety-two *yen* per share, paid with 5 per-cent. bonds at 90, would mean about 82.80 *yen* in ready money.

Meanwhile the "Portsmouth Coterie" is agitating vehemently against municipalization, but no results of its agitation are yet visible.

Wednesday, October 20.

Mr. Muramatsu and the other members of what is known as the Portsmouth coterie have visited Baron Goto and Baron Hirata for the purpose of protesting against the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway, but it does not appear that they had any good reasons to advance in support of their protest, or that they accomplished anything by their visit.

For the rest, the Directors of the Tokyo Railways held a meeting on the 19th inst., and passed a resolution signifying the Company's assent to sell the property, which fact was thereafter formally announced to the Municipality. These various steps are of course mere formalities. We may confidently assume that the Government, the Municipality and the Company all arrived at a practical understanding some time ago. Nothing now remains in question except the

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price. There is a difference of five *yen* between the Company's demand and the City's offer, and it is thought possible that a compromise will be effected at some intermediate point.

Thursday, October 21.

All sorts of rumours are in circulation about the Tokyo Railway. The *Shogyo Shimpo* and some other journals allege that the Company has made a great concession and agreed to accept 90 *yen* per share paid with 5 per cent. bonds at par, which would mean, at most, 81 *yen* ready money. Less than this the shareholders seem determined not to take, but according to rumour, the Government regards even that figure as too high. Some journals allege that an agreement has been effected; others affirm that it has failed.

Meanwhile the leaders of the so called Portsmouth clique, namely, Messrs. Hosono, Sakurai and Muramatsu, have organised a lecture meeting, which was to be held in the Kinkikan on the afternoon of the 21st inst., to protest against municipalization. These are the men whose names have been associated with the brute-force element of the Tokyo population ever since the disgraceful 5th of September, 1905. It is scarcely possible to conceive that if the trams become the property of the City, these Portsmouth agitators will proceed to destroy them as they destroyed police boxes and newspaper offices on that infamous day. But so far as invective goes, they will certainly make their voices heard. Nobody, however, will fall into the error of imagining that such men represent the views of the metropolis of Japan.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

The iterated act of the Bank of England in raising its rate of discount first from 2½ to 3 per cent. and then suddenly to 4 per cent., created some alarm in Japan and drove down quotations on the Stock Exchange to an appreciable degree. But as a matter of fact this action on the part of the Bank of England ought to affect Japan in quite a different manner. Some folks seem to imagine that cheap money is a sign of prosperity, and the proposition has a measure of truth in so far as dear money is often a symptom of the loss of confidence which accompanies a panic. As a general rule, however, the price of money follows the universal rule of demand and supply. Thus when all enterprise is in a depressed condition, there is no demand for capital and it necessarily becomes cheap. This was the case in the panic of 1907, and especially in the depressed conditions that prevailed in 1908. But now that business is looking up all over the world, money is needed for new enterprises or for the expansion of old, and this demand necessarily produces appreciation of price. If the civilized countries of the world had not condemned themselves to a perpetual scramble for gold, a revival of prosperity in one part of the globe would not produce any financial inconvenience in other parts. Thus the business activity witnessed of late in the United States and the operation of moving an exceptionally abundant wheat harvest could have been facilitated by English money without any difficulties about bank rates. But when this state of affairs involves for the Bank of England an outflow of its precious store of gold, so that between August and October the yellow metal reserve falls from 54 per cent. to 45, then the Bank becomes alarmed and puts up its rate of discount. This is what has happened in the present instance, and the situation has been aggravated by Germany's procedure in raising its rate to 5 per cent., equally for the sake of attracting gold to its vaults, in order to meet the increased demand for money in connexion with the commercial and industrial revival. Other European countries are feeling the strain in a minor degree, with the exception, apparently, of France. But as the *Shogyo Shimpo* justly points out, all this need not affect Japan injuriously. On the contrary, she may hope to feel the revivifying effects of the wave of prosperity without any corresponding drain upon her own stock of gold, for her financial relations with Western countries are not such as to involve her in a gold scramble of this kind. The specie reserves lying in the vaults of the Bank of Japan aggregate 220 million *yen* and the Government further holds 200 millions abroad, so that Japan may feel perfectly secure. The best sign as to the character of the financial situation in Europe is that this action on the part of the Bank of England has been accompanied by an appreciation, not a depreciation, of Consols.

THE VISIT OF THE RUSSIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE TO THE FAR EAST.

The visit of the Russian Minister of Finance to the Far East is beginning to be invested with much interest, but to what extent the newsmongers are concerned in the affair it is at present impossible to determine. Telegrams received in Tokyo (*Mainichi Dempo*) indicate that his Excellency has three objects in coming eastward. The first of these is intelligible and credible enough. It is that the Minister wants to investigate *in loco* the effects that have been produced upon Russian commerce by depriving Vladivostock of its privileges as a free port. The second is that he wishes to devise some means of radically altering the East China Railway system, which is now imposing a heavy financial burden on the shoulders of the Russian Treasury. The third is to investigate and put an end to the disadvantages to which Russian subjects settling along the frontier are subjected by Chinese and Japanese pressure. Connected with the second of the above aims comes a strange story, to the effect that two or three important Powers have approached China and Japan with a proposal for placing the South Manchuria Railway and the East China Railway under the joint management of a syndicate of States. The circulators of this tale add that Prince Ito's trip to Manchuria has for one of its principal motives the discussion of this problem with the Russian Minister. We find it scarcely conceivable that such a programme can have been seriously proposed. The South Manchuria Railway is Japanese property, which can not be alienated until a certain number of years have elapsed, and then only on payment by China of the value which the road may be found to possess at the time. Attached to it also are valuable mining privileges, the whole constituting virtually the only asset that accrued to Japan after the War. Nothing seems less likely than the placing of this property in the hands of an international syndicate. Nevertheless, one can not conceal from oneself the fact that if all the railways forming part of the system which connects the West with the Far East were converted into a neutral estate, a great contribution will be made to the peace of the world.

THE SUGAR COMPANY.

Saturday, October 16.

The creditors of the Sugar Company were to have come together on the 5th instant, when it was hoped that an amicable arrangement would finally be concluded, but the meeting had to be postponed in order to give time for Mr. Fujimoto to canvass his bank's clients. Thus it was not until the 15th inst. that a meeting could be held, and unfortunately once more a decision could not be reached. All the creditors except Mr. Fujimoto signified their assent to the project of repayment by installments spread over 10 years and unsecured. But Mr. Fujimoto practically maintained his old position, namely, that unless he received 500,000 *yen* down, he could not consent to the installment system. He declared himself willing to make a fractional reduction, but the limits within which he could treat were 400,000 and 450,000 *yen*. The President, Mr. Toyama, declared that the Company had not command of so much ready money, and the meeting broke up *re infectâ*. The general expectation, however, was that a settlement had come in sight.

Sunday, October 17.

At last some definite daylight has shone upon the affairs of this Company. At the meeting of creditors on the 16th inst. it was announced that the Fujimoto Bank would endorse the compromise approved by the other creditors on condition of receiving a total sum of 368,000 *yen* in ready money. We do not enter into the details of this total, as the fact alone has immediate interest for our readers. One other creditor is showing some disposition to be recalcitrant, but his opposition is not regarded seriously.

Wednesday, October 20.

The Sugar Company has at last settled its complications on the lines indicated in one of our previous issues, namely, that the Fujimoto Bank consents to be included among the installment creditors on condition of receiving 380,000 *yen* of ready money.

Thursday, October 21.

The settlement of this Company's affairs, which after long negotiation seemed to be on the point of adjustment, has again fallen into confusion at the eleventh hour, when the final agreement was brought forward for signature. Our readers are doubtless weary of particulars. The difficulties now presenting themselves do not seem to be very formidable, but coming at such a moment they are particularly unfortunate.

JAPAN'S BEST FRIENDS.

When may it be hoped that the threadbare pretence of friendship for Japan made by some of her critics will be completely worn out? It is an unsightly rag of subterfuge, serving only to accentuate the nakedness it is intended to conceal. Criticism is an excellent thing. Nothing can be more wholesome or more beneficial, and only a fool girds at being criticised. But there is friendly criticism and there is unfriendly criticism. The two are as different as sunlight and darkness. No one possessing an ounce of intelligence can mistake the one for the other. When certain foreign journals published in this country claim to be Japan's only honest friends while they perpetually abuse her, are they so naïve as to suppose that their hypocrisy is not palpable to everybody?

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THE BUDGET.

At a Cabinet meeting held on the 13th inst. the general outlines of the Budget for next year are said to have been agreed upon. The revenue and the expenditure balance at 535 millions, which figure is a little in excess of the current year's budget. One of the most noteworthy features is that a surplus of 30 million *yen* accrues from the Budget of 1908-9, and that a considerable surplus is expected also from the Budget of 1910-11. With regard to public works, the applications made by the various Departments of State are said to have aggregated 30 million *yen*, but this total has been cut down to 10 millions by the Cabinet. A sum of 5 million *yen* is expected to be obtained from administrative economies, but the details of this part of the scheme are not yet published. In the matter of a redemption of the national debts, to which much interest attaches, 8 millions of the above surplus will be added to the 50 millions already set aside for this purpose, and thus the total amount of the redemption will be 58 millions. Reductions of taxes are to be effected to the extent of 10 million *yen*, and in this part of the project the principal taxes affected are the income tax and the transit tax. It is further proposed to increase the allowance for the Privy Purse by 1½ millions—an increase of 50 per cent.—; to apply 15 million *yen* to the raising of official salaries, and to add 500 *yen* to the salaries of the members of the Diet. This last measure is provoking a good deal of hostile comment. The Tokyo newspapers agree in applying to it the epithet "market policy."

The details of the Budget having been fixed at the Cabinet meeting on the 15th inst., it now devolves upon the several Departments to amend their sections in accordance with the changes introduced by the Ministry. This process is expected to be completed by the 25th inst., and thereafter the printing of the Budget will be commenced, and is expected to be finished by the 10th of December. In all probability, therefore, the Diet will be summoned to open on the 25th of December. In fact, according to some authorities, that date has been actually chosen by the Government. Thus the business done before the close of this year will be limited to the organisation of the Houses and the usual formalities of opening the session. The order for convening will probably be issued during the first ten days of November.

Meanwhile we hear nothing more about the question of the land tax, but we shall be greatly surprised if the Opposition fail to make use of this potent weapon during the approaching session.

THE JAPANESE IN MANCHURIA.

Our readers are aware that the Japanese business men in Manchuria have for some days been holding a united meeting at Port Arthur, and considerable interest attaches to their proceedings, in view of the monopolistic activity charged against the Japanese in Manchuria by certain critics. The Assembly has now come to a close, and telegrams received in Tokyo represent it as having agreed upon the following resolutions:—(1) That a system should be elaborated for protecting patents and trademarks in South Manchuria and for securing rights of property in general; (2) that a proper system with regard to a chamber of commerce should be adopted; (3) that the steamship service between Antung and Dairen should be made more frequent, and that steps should be taken to grant an adequate subsidy; (4) that a bank of a special nature is essential in Manchuria, by which somewhat vague resolution we interpret the business men as advocating the establishment of a central Japanese bank on the lines recently followed in Korea; and (5) that the rules should be amended relating to sales and leases of property belonging to the Japanese Government or to the South Manchuria Railway Company in Manchuria.

We take the above from the telegraphic column of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, but we note that the *Asahi's* correspondent telegraphs that eleven resolutions were adopted. The whole of the eleven are not reported in detail, but it is mentioned that the Assembly advocated the expediency of entrusting to Japanese subjects residing in the vicinity of railway stations the function of handling goods for transport by railway. Another resolution had reference to the appointment of a committee to investigate and report upon the advisability of organising a Sino-Japanese exhibition.

From the above resolutions we do not deduce any disposition on the part of Japanese merchants to seek for themselves privileges which are not equally accessible to persons of all nationalities.

THE CHINESE NAVY.

It would seem that the resuscitation of the Chinese Navy has really entered the field of practical politics. In the Peking *Official Gazette* of the 18th instant, there appeared an Imperial Decree ordering that the sum of 18 million taels should be devoted to the purpose. Of that total 1½ millions are to serve for constructing naval ports, equipping a naval school and forming a naval arsenal. The remaining 16½ millions will go to purchasing ships, and with that amount 3 cruisers, second or third class, 2 training ships, 2 torpedo-destroyers and 1 gunboat will be purchased. Of the former sum of 1½ millions, five hundred thousand taels will be paid out this year and the remainder next year. As for the manner of providing these funds, the Department of Posts and Telegraphs is to put up 5 million taels, and the provinces—with the exception of Yunnan, Kweichow, Sinkiang and Kansu—will find 18 millions. The cost of maintenance will be 2 million taels annually and will be furnished by the central Government. The whole scheme is to be completed in 4 years, the installments being in equal portions. Of course this is a very petty programme. Still it is a substantial beginning, and though it will not place China nearly where she was before the disasters of the Yalu and Weiheiwei overtook her 14 years ago, it will at least show the world that she does not intend to remain wholly impotent for purposes of coast defence. At present she possesses 12 fighting ships, whereof 6 belong to the Northern Squadron, 4 to the Southern, and one each to Kwantung and Fukien. She has also 8 torpedo-boats belonging to the Southern Squadron and an equal number belonging to Kwantung. Apparently she does not contemplate providing herself with either a line-of-battle ship or an armoured cruiser for some years to come, at all events, and without these ships of the first line her squadrons will be almost a negligable quantity. In addition to the above she has 3 vessels which are now out of repair but can be rendered serviceable, and she has 16 river gun-boats.

RARE BOOKS.

The Catalogue of *The Times* Book Club contains some volumes well fitted to make every bibliophil's mouth water. Among eleven books which occupy 4 pages of description, the cheapest is £28; the most expensive, £270; and four are above £100. The volume to which the palm of price belongs is "The Chronicle History of Henry the fift, with his battell fought at Agin Court in France. Together with an ancient Pistoll. By William Shakespeare. Printed for T. P., 1608. An extremely rare early quarto, in fine condition. Small 4to, unbound." Next on the list in point of price (£126) is:—"A large and fine collection of the humorous writings of William Combe ("Dr. Syntax"). With all the finely coloured and highly humorous etchings by, or in the style of, Thomas Rowlandson (one volume illustrated by George Cruckshank). All first editions forming 14 vols. "Child Songs" by Tennyson, a small octavo volume of 8 pages, stands at £118. It is described as "probably the very rarest of all the Tennyson privately printed pamphlets." Very quaint and deeply interesting is "a remarkable collection of 36 contemporary broadsides, addressed to the people of Great Britain and Ireland at the time of Napoleon's threatened invasion in 1803." The broadsides include, "Substance of the Corsican Bonaparte's hand-bills; or a charming prospect for John Bull and his family;" "John Bull to Brother Patrick in Ireland;" "Britons, the period is now arrived when it is to be discovered whether you are to be freemen or slaves;" "To the infamous wretch, if there be such an one in England, who dares to talk of, or even hopes to find, mercy in the breast of the Corsican Bonaparte;" "Horror upon horror, or, what are the hellish deeds that can surprise us, when committed by the blood-hounds of the Arch-Fiend of Wickedness, the Corsican Bonaparte."

THE QUEUE.

If credit may be placed in a telegram to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the Chinese are really bent upon making a change which, though in reality a petty matter, will be a great departure from national conservatism. The Department of State Affairs is said to have decided that when the period of mourning for the Empress Dowager is concluded an order shall be issued in the sense that all officials, military men, students and policemen must give up the queue and wear their hair short. The queue was introduced into China by the Manchu dynasty nearly three centuries ago. It is said to have been originally suggested to the Manchu by their sense of gratitude to horses, those animals having acted such a great part in the Tartar conquests. In short, the "pigtail" was a method of establishing a relationship between human beings and horses. The fashion was regarded by the Chinese as a badge of subservience, and they long resisted it. This was true specially of the natives of Swatow and Amoy, and when they were ultimately compelled to adopt the irksome coiffure, they hid the queue under cotton turbans which to this day they continue to wear. It will be seen therefore that the use of this appendage has much significance, and that its abandonment would go far to remove the distinction between Manchu and Chinese. The measure is a very bold one, and if it be really adopted, it will speak volumes for the courage of the Prince Regent.

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VOLUNTEERS.

We read in the *Kokumin Shimbun* that some uneasiness is felt with regard to the working of the system of military volunteers in Japan. Our readers are probably aware that in order to mitigate the obstructions to which the conscript system exposes education, youths possessing certain educational qualifications or actually engaged in a scholastic career are entitled to commute their conscription obligation by serving for one year with the colours as volunteers. It appears, however, that in time of war this privilege is somewhat abused. The number of volunteers shows a palpable diminution while the war is in progress and a correspondingly striking increase when the war is over. Our contemporary attributes these fluctuations to lack of a proper spirit of patriotism; declares that they inflict much discredit on the country, and hints that the authorities are thinking out some remedy. We confess that the *Kokumin's* comments appear to us to leave a good deal unsaid. In the first place, so long as human nature has natural affections, parents will inevitably shrink from putting their sons into the ranks while war is actually raging. In the second place, full account must be taken of the special hardships to which a one-year volunteer is exposed on campaign. He does not fare nearly so well as a common conscript. The insufficiency of the training which the volunteer has received is held to disqualify him for service in the fighting line except on occasions of emergency. Thus his functions are limited to those of transport, and he is compelled to discharge duties for which his previous career has rendered him conspicuously unfit, without any of the compensatory enthusiasm that fires the fighting man. In fact, the lot of the volunteer is proverbially painful, and this fact must be taken into full account when discussing such a subject as that introduced by our Tokyo contemporary. Besides, after all, volunteers are only a petty fraction of the Japanese Army. It is true that their number rose to over 7000 in 1906, but it has now fallen to about 3000, which may be regarded as the normal figure.

THE CONTROL OF COMPANY DIRECTORS.

The *Hochi Shimbun* alleges that the Government will ask the Diet in its next session to agree to an amendment of the Commercial Code in the sense of treating as criminal offences any laches committed by directors of companies. Hitherto these officials have been liable to fines only, but in view of the events of the past year, such a method of punishment is deemed obviously inadequate, and, in future, defaulting directors, if this amended law be passed, will have to expiate their offences by hard labour in prison. We sincerely trust that this wholesome amendment may be carried through both Houses of the Diet. It would not only produce a most salutary effect on Japan's commercial and industrial development, but would also probably assist to impose some restraint upon the utterances of newspapers. At present, certain journals in Tokyo seem to regard it as an altogether light matter to level the most sweeping accusations at the heads of company directors and auditors, and one consequence is that the public are kept in a constant state of suspicion and perplexity. Perhaps when Tokyo journals know that the charges they prefer may be criminally punished they will exercise more care in ascertaining facts.

THE TOKYO ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

Our readers are aware that a discussion has been going on for a long time between the Municipal Council and the Directors of the Tokyo Electric Light Company with reference to the amount of tax which the latter should pay to the city. It is stated that an agreement has now at length been reached. The outlines are that 3 per cent. of the nett profits of the Company, after deducting the legal reserves, shall be handed over to the Municipality. This holds good up to aggregate nett profits of 2 million *yen*. If the nett profits exceed that figure, the rate of tax on the excess is reduced to 2½ per cent. If the profits aggregate 3 million *yen* and upwards, the tax on the excess becomes 2 per cent. It would further appear, though the point is not very distinct, that nothing is regarded as net profit until after an appropriation for wear and tear has been deducted, but it is provided that such appropriation must not exceed 20 per cent. Finally, it is agreed that these rates shall not be imposed for the next three years, and in the meanwhile the Company shall pay 60,000 *yen* for the first year, 65,000 for the second and 70,000 for third. At present the sum levied is only 20,000 *yen*, and the original idea of the Municipality was to adopt the Osaka system, which would have increased the Company's payment to 80,000. Thus the new arrangement represents a compromise.

A TRAVELLING MILITARY KITCHEN.

There has been talk for some time about a travelling military kitchen (*suisan-sha*) which was said to confer great facilities for victualling an army in the field. On the 19th inst. an official trial of the invention took place at the Ryomatsu-sho in the War Department, and the results are said to have been eminently successful. The inventor is a first-class paymaster, Mr. Okazaki. The kitchen travels on two wheels and can be drawn over almost any ground by one horse. What it achieves is very remarkable. It not only boils rice and heats soup (*shiru*), but it notifies by whistle when the boiling and heating are concluded. What is almost equally useful, it can take up a supply of water from the muddiest of ditches or ponds, and can transform it into good drinking condition and carry it in that state to the front. The vehicle can be taken asunder and carried on the shoulders of two men. On the whole, the labour needed for provisioning an army corps by the aid of this itinerant kitchen, is estimated not to exceed that needed for supplying the troops with ammunition. Some further experiments are needed before a final opinion can be pronounced on the practical merits of the invention.

THE PROGRESSISTS.

The *Jiji Shimpo* has a clever cartoon with reference to the so-called reunion of the Progressist Party's Sections. It depicts a pair of large scissors wide open, with the Inukai Section carved on one limb and the Oishi Section on the other, and the attached legend is, "Can this be called a cutting instrument"? In fact, the alleged reconciliation of the warring members has taken place upon lines which are distinctly of a divergent nature. Unless Mr. Oishi Masami has completely changed his nature, it is not to be supposed for a moment that he will consent to play a wholly subordinate part in the union, or to throw overboard all the opinions for which he has so vigorously contended during the past three or four years. A reconciliation which demands such sacrifices on one side, is not a reconciliation at all but a humiliation. If each of the hostile sections had been required to agree to a fair compromise, the outlook would be different, but the total surrender of one side can not be expected to prelude effective cooperation in the future. This must be perfectly patent to Mr. Inukai and Mr. Oishi, and we are therefore inclined to suspect that some secret understanding exists between them.

THE SPINNING COMPANIES.

A hitch appears to have occurred in floating the domestic loans contemplated by the Kanegafuchi and the Tokyo Gass Spinning Companies. The former is said to maintain that its credit would be injured if it put up the security demanded by the lenders, and the Tokyo Company, while not unwilling to furnish security in the manner desired, asks for a corresponding reduction in the rate of interest. To this proposal, however, the lenders are unwilling to accede, their forecast being that however cheap money may be in the domestic market at present, a demand for it will soon arise, and, moreover, the action recently taken by the Bank of England and other similar institutions in Europe must have an appreciating effect. Thus the project has in both cases fallen through, for the moment at all events.

It would seem from this incident that abundant as is said to be the quantity of money lying idle in Japan at present, its utilization for industrial purposes is difficult to achieve.

THE NAVY.

The ancient *Fuso*, which was recently sold by public tender at Yokosuka, fetched a sum of a little over 80,000 *yen* and was finally struck off the naval list.

The new vessels which will soon be added to the Japanese Navy are given as follow:

Name.	Displacement.	Remarks.
Battleship *Kawachi*.....	20,800	To be launched next year.
„ *Settsu*	20,800	„
„ *Aki*	19,800	Machinery completed.
„ *Satsuma*.....	19,350	Armament to be soon completed.
Armoured Cruiser *Ibuki*	14,620	Soon to join the fleet.
„ „ *Kurama*...	14,620	„ „
Cruiser unnamed	5,000	To be completed in 1912.
„ „	5,000	„ „
„ „	5,000	„ „
Cruiser *Tone*.....	4,035	Completed.
Torpedo Destroyer *Kaifu* ...	1,150	To be completed in 1910.
„ „ unnamed ...	1,150	„ 1911.
„ „ „	1,150	„ „

SAN FRANCISCO.

The Japanese residents in California seem to be embarrassed by the want of a trustworthy banking organ. The failure of the Golden Gate Bank last year gave such a shock to their confidence in banking institutions that they greatly restricted their operations, and the result was that the Japanese Bank in Sacramento and the American-Japanese Bank in San Francisco were obliged to suspend their business. The Japanese residents, being much inconvenienced by this state of affairs are said to be concerting measures for the relief of the Banks.

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THE BOYCOTT.

It appears to have been premature to conclude that the boycott had ceased to be formidable. News from Mukden says that it has flamed out more fiercely than ever in that city. At the outset, only certain leading lines of Japanese goods were tabooed, but now everything bearing a Japanese stamp is included in the category, and Chinese tradesmen have taken down all signboards which advertise the sale of Japanese articles. The agitators have succeeded in making their influence felt in Hsinmintun also, and it is apprehended that the epidemic will spread to other towns in Manchuria. Mr. Wu, of Mukden, who has hitherto been regarded as the head and front of the boycott, and who was reprimanded by the Viceroy for fomenting the agitation, has been appointed President of the new Local Assembly in Mukden, which fact certainly seems to justify the suspicion that the Viceroy, whatever his outward attitude may be, secretly encourages the boycott.

There has been telegraphically received in Tokyo a verbatim copy of a circular issued by the anti-Japanese party in Mukden. It states that one of the leading merchants of the city, namely, Mr. Hong, has been proved to have purchased Japanese cotton stuffs, thereby constituting himself the slave of foreigners and the enemy of his country. Therefore all classes of the people are urged to desist from every kind of transaction with this firm, so as to read the traitor a stern lesson. Presumably it is to the circulation of this document that the revival of the boycott is to be attributed. Unless the Chinese detective police be less shrewd than we believe them to be, they should have no difficulty in tracing the circular to its origin.

Tokyo's information about the boycott is to the effect that its sphere is limited to Mukden and Hsinmintun. The agitators have been busy at Newchwang, but special conditions prevail there, inasmuch as most of the important enterprises are carried on by Chinese and Japanese in coöperation. The same is true on a smaller scale in Liaoyang and Tiehling, so that in these centres of trade the effort to inaugurate a boycott has been quite unsuccessful. In Mukden, however, and in the closely connected town of Hsinmintun there is a decided antipathy to all transactions with Japanese, and no method of putting an end to this discrimination has thus far been successfully applied. The principal losers hitherto are said to be the Mitsui Firm, whose cottons are a drug on the market, as is also the tobacco offered by the agents of the Monopoly.

LORD KITCHENER.

Lord Kitchener arrived in Peking by special train on the 13th inst. He was welcomed by the British Representative and many notables of other countries. His Lordship is said to have seemed to be in robust health. A guard of 60 Chinese police was drawn up at the station, as was also a special detachment of 24 Japanese soldiers, whose presence seems to have attracted much attention.

Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener is expected to arrive at Seoul on the 28th instant. Lieutenant-General Okubo, Commander of the Japanese forces in Korea, will entertain him at a luncheon on the 30th and in the afternoon his Lordship will inspect the different barracks. It has been officially telegraphed to the Department of the Imperial Household that he will arrive in Tokyo at 2.10 p.m. on the 1st proximo.

BARON KIKUCHI.

It appears that application has been made to the Japanese Government by the New York Authorities to send a distinguished Japanese scientist to attend the next meeting of the Civic Forum, and that Baron Kikuchi, President of the Kyoto University, has been chosen for the purpose. The Baron made a signal success of the mission which he consented to take last year to England for the purpose of delivering lectures on Japanese education. There can be no doubt that he will distinguish himself equally in this new rôle. He possesses the altogether exceptional faculty of delivering a speech in English with absolute fidelity to grammar, syntax and idiom. This wonderful knowledge of the English language, which is only a by-product of his general erudition, furnishes an index to the thoroughness of his scientific attainments.

Interviewed by a representative of the *Jiji Shimpo* in Kyoto, Baron Kikuchi has explained the origin of the Civic Forum of New York, and called attention to the fact that the President of the United States is one of the members. The Baron also mentions that Mr. Wu Ting-fang, China's Representative in Washington, delivered a speech in the Forum on the subject of his country's progress. The session of the Forum begins in December and lasts for three months. Baron Kikuchi wishes to arrange his plans, so that he may leave Japan about the middle of December. He has not yet decided upon the subject of his lecture, but it will probably be either the intellectual or the material progress of Japan during the past 50 years. On his way back from Europe last year, he passed through America, but made no stop anywhere. He now hopes that after the delivery of his lecture, which, according to the rules of the Forum, must be limited to one hour, he will be able to spend a few months in the States, visiting the principal educational institutions. He thinks that by so doing he can contribute to remove from American minds the groundless suspicion that Japan entertains any ambitions inimical to the interests of the great Republic.

THE BOYEKI KYOKAI.

At a meeting of the above Society held on the 19th inst. in Tokyo, Baron Takahira, Japanese Ambassador in Washington, is quoted as having made some interesting remarks on the subject of emigration from Japan to the United States. He noted that the tide of emigrants from Germany to America had been reduced almost to nothing, and the reason was not to be sought, as some people are disposed to seek it, in governmental assistance rendered to German subjects. It was to be sought rather in the fact that Germans had learned to practise the virtue of frugality to the highest extent, and also to show an exceptional degree of industry. The Italians, on the other hand, did not exercise these high qualities to the same extent, and were content that their people should seek a means of sustenance in exile. Japan was free to choose between the two courses, but Baron Takahira had no hesitation in recommending the German plan. At all events, if the Japanese did go abroad, they should strive more earnestly to adapt themselves to their environment, and when at Rome to do as they do at Rome. This was not characteristic of them in the United States. They remained always Japanese, and the difficulty of governing them was thereby much enhanced. This did not apply to the Japanese community in Washington. There things moved smoothly enough. But it did apply conspicuously to the Japanese in California, and one result was that they were perpetually carrying complaints to the Consulates, which complaints it was generally impossible to entertain. Moreover, the Italian immigrants had a much better system of organisation. They had agents who selected the immigrants for the different localities, and who had power to transfer from one locality to another any men who proved themselves troublesome. But, above all, the Italians possessed the faculty of assimilation, and soon took on the colour of their surroundings.

MR. T. MIYAOKA.

A very important addition is about to be made to the legal fraternity of Yokohama in the person of Mr. T. Miyaoka, who has opened an office at No. 74 Yamashita-cho. To a thoroughly sound knowledge of law Mr. Miyaoka adds an altogether exceptional acquaintance with the English language so that he is specially suited to represent foreigners in Japanese law-courts. We append a brief notice of his career:—

Mr. T. Miyaoka graduated with honours from the College of Law of the Imperial University at Tokyo, in July 1887. He immediately entered H.I.J.M's Diplomatic Service as Attaché of Legation and was assigned to duties in the Department for Foreign Affairs. In 1889, he was promoted to the rank of Secretary of Legation and was appointed one of the Junior Counsellors of the Department. He served in the Law Bureau of the Department until June 1892, when he was sent as Secretary of Legation to Washington, where, at the time of the opening of hostilities between Japan and China in 1894, he was Chargé d'Affaires. In September 1894 he was transferred to Berlin as first Secretary of Legation, and remained there for six years, part of which time he acted as Chargé d'Affaires. Upon his return to Japan in 1900, he was appointed Minister Resident and Senior Counsellor of the Department for Foreign Affairs and served as Chief of the Law Bureau until 1906. In February of that year, when the Japanese Legation in Washington was raised to an Embassy, he was appointed to be its Counsellor and remained in Washington until March 1908. During his tenure of office as Counsellor of Embassy, Mr. Miyaoka was promoted from the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary of second class to that of an Envoy of first class, and, in October 1909, he resigned from the Government service to take up the practice of law.

Mr. Miyaoka was the agent of Japan before the Arbitral Tribunal of the Hague in the House Tax proceedings from 1904 to 1905. He has been Japanese Delegate to various international meetings, the most recent in which he took part being the Opium Conference at Shanghai.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, October 15.

The Stock Exchange yesterday was very depressed. News of the Bank of England's action in raising its rate of discount produced a feeling of alarm, and every kind of stock fell heavily. Tokyo Trams were influenced by rumours of the failure of the municipalization scheme, and thus fell steadily, the price for immediate delivery going as low as 73.70. But within a few minutes after the close of the regular transactions, this quotation sprang up to 76.

Saturday, October 16.

The Tokyo Railway shares had the stage all to themselves on the 15th inst. Before the market opened, the news had been circulated that the Mayor of the City was to receive the Government's formal sanction for municipalization, and an immediate upward movement took place. It had indeed commenced on the previous evening, for

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after the closing of the normal market, spot transactions had taken place at greatly enhanced prices. Other stocks showed no intrinsic vitality, but were pulled up more or less by the Railway shares.

Monday, October 18.

Prices dropped heavily on Monday in sympathy with Osaka. Cottons suffered notably owing to the publication of news that the negotiations for domestic loans had failed. Buyers of Tokyo Railways are hesitating until some clear indication is forthcoming of the price likely to be paid by the Municipality.

Tuesday, October 19.

All shares continued on the downward grade yesterday, and the prediction that bottom had been reached on Monday proved erroneous. The Stock Exchange shares are now 20 points below the figure reached last month. No one seems to understand this depression. All the favourable conditions that produced the recent appreciation are still operative, yet they have no effect in stemming the tide.

Wednesday, October 20.

The feeling on the Market yesterday was slightly better, but the 20th of every month is a critical date owing to the necessity of arranging for settling day. Apart from this, however, it is evident that the bears are still dominant.

Thursday, October 21.

The debacle continued yesterday. We append the quotations for December delivery :—

	Oct. 20th.	Oct. 21st.	
Tokyo Railway	76.85	75 75	—1.10
Kei-hin Railway	62.35	62.05	— .30
Yusen Kaisha	78 95	78.30	— .65
Toyo Kisen	—	15.00	.—
Tanko Kisen	41.35	40.30	—1.05
Tokyo Gas	97.20	96.60	— .60
Tokyo Dento	91.05	90 05	—1.00
Fuji Gass Spinning	88.00	87.35	— .65
Tokyo Spinning	41.60	41.85	+ .25
Kanegafuchi Spinning	99.55	98 60	— .95
Beer	79.70	78.60	—1.10
Hoden Oil	86 00	85.05	— .95
Nippon Oil	94 40	93.30	—1.10
Rice Exchange	91.40	91.95	+ .55
Stock Exchange	161.70	161.65	— .05

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENT.

According to the *Shogyo Shimpo* the Minister of Communications, Baron Goto, contemplates entrusting most important functions to the Bureau which is to be newly established in his Department, namely, the Bureau of Hydro-Electric Power. His Excellency has asked the Diet for a sum of 1½ million *yen*, which money will be applied to conducting minute investigations into the various sources of hydro-electricity. According to our contemporary, the granting of charters to companies will depend entirely upon the result of these investigations, and it is thought that the result of such a procedure on the Government's part will lead to much dissatisfaction among private projectors.

Vladivostock telegraphs to the *Asahi Shimbun* that the proposed amalgamation of the Russo-Chinese Bank and the Siberian Railway is still meeting with some difficulty, but as the most serious obstacles have now been removed, a settlement is expected within the course of the year.

From Harbin comes a strange piece of news. It is to the effect that 100 Russian soldiers quartered at Hwangtaohotsz have deserted and have been joined by 80 Chinese from the camp at Sutaohotsz. The reasons assigned by the Russian deserters are non-receipt of pay and ill-treatment by their officers. Presumably they have succeeded in carrying off their arms with some ammunition, and the task of restoring order may prove troublesome.

We observe that in an article reproduced by one of our local contemporaries from an American journal, Mr. Moberly Bell is described as editor-in-chief of *The Times*. That is an error. Mr. Moberly Bell is Manager of *The Times*, the Editor-in-Chief being Mr. Buckle.

Tokyo journals publish what they describe as an official statement of the sums appearing in the Budgets of the various Powers on account of naval outlays for the current year. The figures given are as follow :—

	Yen,
England	351,427,000
America	287,787,770
Germany	195,381,880
France	133,538,250
Russia	100,288,310
Japan	80,948,840
Italy	67,552,910

It appears that the Rice Exchange will not be so hard hit as was originally supposed. Mr. Matsumura Tatsujiro—the "Matsutatsu" of the episode—did not assign away his property, as was generally alleged by the newspapers. On the contrary, he has handed over all his assets to the Exchange, and the amount of the assets considerably exceed that of his liabilities. Whether full credence may be attached to this version we can not positively affirm, but the attitude of the market towards the shares of the Exchange bear out the story more or less.

It appears that civil suits have been instituted by the auditors of the Otaru Lumber Company against Mr. Okura Kihachiro in connexion with the transfer of properties at Otaru and Teishiwo. Tokyo newspapers publish the particulars of the complaints, but say nothing about the answers filed, and it is therefore impossible to form even the most rudimentary idea about the rights or wrongs of the case. We therefore refrain from producing the alleged facts.

THE BOOKSHELF.

A History of Christianity in Japan, Vol. I. Roman Catholic and Greek Orthodox Missions in Japan; by Otis Cary, D.D. Fleming H. Revell Company, London and Edinburgh.

The author of this work has been in Japan for thirty years as a missionary of the A.B.C.F.M. It is true that long residence in this country is not an essential qualification for compiling a work whose contents are taken mainly from archives that have been in existence for many years. But in interpreting these archives and in considering their narratives from the standpoint of the Japanese as well as from that of the Christian propagandists, such an insight as Mr. Cary has acquired is invaluable. The ground traversed in the volume now before us has already been made familiar in great part by Murdoch and Yamagata's admirable work. But Mr. Murdoch writes of history in general, and his pages are therefore devoted in part to the annals of Oda Nobunaga, of Hideyoshi the *Taiko* and of Tokugawa Iyeyasu. Mr. Cary, on the contrary, tells us about these great men only so far as their direct contact with the Christian movement demands their appearance on the stage of its history. For the rest, he devotes his pages solely to the subject of Christianity. The signal vicissitudes of the 16th century; the brilliant promise of the early days when Xavier and his fellow-pioneers worked in the vineyard; the terrible times that ensued, and the final catastrophe, are related without the slightest blemish of passion or prejudice. It is wonderful that a man whose profession requires him to be a partisan, as is the case with every zealous missionary, has been able to school his mind to such a colourless and absolutely judicial mood as that shown by Mr. Cary in these pages. He quotes largely from ancient books and from documents not easily accessible, so that the reader finds ample evidence of every phase of the story. Francis Xavier loses something of his halo in these pages, for we recognise in him a man whose religious fervour fused all scruples and led him to advocate propagandism by frank political pressure. But on the whole, despite some taint of mediæval methods, the labours of these early preachers of the Gospel, their splendid courage and their perpetual self-sacrifice, command our profound admiration. It has been frequently alleged that they taught the Japanese what religious persecution meant, and that they themselves, by their violence and intolerance, lit the flames which ultimately consumed their cause and led to their own destruction. That is only very partially true. Mr. Cary justly says :—"Some writers have asserted that in the early days of intercourse with Europeans, the Japanese showed no trace of anti-foreign feeling, and that Buddhists were guiltless of persecution until taught by the example that was set by the Christian missionaries and their converts. It will, however, be remembered that when Xavier was on his journey to Kyoto he was hooted by the children and pelted with stones; while the events above narrated unite with what happened in Yamaguchi, Bungo and other places to show that, ere Christianity had gained sufficient strength to persecute, its followers were themselves the objects of attack." It is, on the other hand, very doubtful whether the sources upon which Mr. Cary has drawn furnish a complete record of the reasons for Hideyoshi's sudden outburst of anger against the Christian propagandists. We are not prepared to acept unreservedly the account given by the Jesuits. They do not appear to have been within easy access of full sources of information, and they would have been more than human had they succeeded in looking with absolutely impartial eyes upon an incident which preluded the wholesale disasters of later days.

The first 257 pages of this work are devoted to the Christianity of Xavier's epoch; the remaining 166 to the modern part of the story, beginning in 1844 and ending in 1909. It is possible that this second part will be found the more interesting by students already familiar with the contents of Murdoch and Yamagata's volume. For certainly no comparably complete and satisfactory record has previously been compiled of the residue and revival of the faith—the residue that survived all the persecutions of mediæval days, and the revival that has taken place during the past 35 years. Here we have the story of each sect told accurately and dispassionately, and even had the work been limited to this part, its value would have been very great. As it is, it easily steps at once into the first place among works dealing with the history of Christianity in Japan from Xavier to Nicolai. The second volume will doubtless contain the story of Protestant endeavour.

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THE KINCHOW-TSITSIHAR RAILWAY.

A NEW sensation has appeared upon the horizon in the form of a railway from Kinchow, near Shanhaikwan, to Tsitsihar. Our readers will remember that there has been much talk of such a project, and that it has been regarded as an alternative to the Hsinmingtun-Fakumen road, which would ultimately have been carried on to this same Tsitsihar. Several telegraphic messages concur in representing the Kinchow-Tsitsihar Railway as an imminent probability, and conjectures are busy as to whether the idea of such an enterprise had its origin in Peking or was conceived by a foreign syndicate. Some publicists are disposed to take the latter view, their analysis being that the projectors who were disappointed in connexion with the Fakumen line are seeking compensation in the Kinchow enterprise. But it will be remembered that, several months ago, the present President of the Board of Posts and Telegraphs in Peking, Mr. HSU, who was then Viceroy of Manchuria, was credited with having conceived this programme, and it seems a reasonable inference that he has taken advantage of the official position he now holds to give effect to his ideas. But will the railway be built? In the first place, Japan has to be consulted. She possesses that right distinctly by treaty, since a part of the line, at any rate, would be parallel to the South Manchuria road. It is extremely improbable, however, that Japan would raise any objection. Already she is looked at askance by some folks in Europe and America as endeavouring to secure a monopoly of railway construction in the Three Eastern Provinces, and since she has no such intention in reality, she is not at all likely to wantonly place a weapon in the hands of her critics. That obstacle therefore need scarcely be considered. The great difficulty is that the projected road, running, as it would, through almost unpopulated regions for a great part of its course, could not possibly be expected to pay its operating expenses for many years to come, much less to leave a surplus available for paying off the interest and principal of the debt incurred on account of construction. The telegrams allege that an Anglo-American Syndicate is prepared to advance the necessary funds, and we are told that the agents of the Syndicate at this end are Mr. STRAIGHT and Lord FRENCH. Indeed, one message goes so far as to say that the project was suggested by the latter gentleman to compensate his employers' disappointment in the matter of the Fakumen line. The question is, however, will China consent to saddle herself with a new liability of considerable magnitude without any genuine commercial incentive. We greatly doubt whether Peking statesmen have yet developed such a romantic mood. Russia's probable attitude also has to be considered. She will be most unwilling to be left out of these railway projects. It would doubtless content her could she take the place of the Anglo-American Syndicate in the Kinchow-Tsitsihar programme, but in default of that she is likely to look further west, and in that direction the only visible compensation is a road from Kiakta to Kalgan. This, however, would probably meet with strong opposition from China. At any rate, the activities of Western capitalists in Central Asia are beginning to constitute a very serious problem. We seem to be going back some 40 centuries to the days when big waves of Western enterprise began to sweep up the Tarim valley and across the desert of Gobi towards China and Manchuria. The railway is doubtless a great civilizer, but it also possesses strange political potentialities.

FRIENDSHIP.

WE observe that the *Japan Gazette* endeavours to find an exit from the unpleasant situation into which it recently betrayed itself when it alleged that the Japanese are "lacking in the faculty of friendship and fraternity." It resorts to the device of affirming that the faculty of friendship is not an ethical but an ethnological attribute, and that to be charged with lack of the faculty does not at all imply any moral deficiency. We are asked then to believe that the faculty of friendship is a mere habit or custom, and that lack of the faculty is the outcome, not of any void in a man's moral furniture, but simply of the accident that he has not accustomed himself to cultivate or bestow friendship. The extreme fallacy of such a doctrine will be apparent to every one who takes the trouble to review his own estimate of the very few men whom it has been his misfortune to find wanting in the capacity for attracting or bestowing friendship. Not to possess the faculty of friendship is to be unlovable and unloving, inconstant and unfaithful. There is no other analysis. The man who passes through life without winning any friends or making any sacrifices on the altar of friendship is little better than a social pariah, and deserves to be so regarded. Yet we are seriously asked to imagine that the only fault to be found with such a man is that he has not habituated himself to be amiable! If that is what the *Japan Gazette* has learned from the superior scientific knowledge to which it lays claim, the less one acquires of that knowledge, the better for humanity. The most amusing feature of our contemporary's contention is that to this "ethnological" lack it attributes the indisposition of the Japanese people to receive Christianity. In other words, the spread of Christianity in this country is precluded by the mere absence of a conventional habit among the nation. What a compliment to Christianity! The religion we have all been taught to regard as the greatest moral force that ever existed has not strength to fully overcome a fortuitous absence of custom on the part of those to whom it is preached. There is no escape for the *Japan Gazette*. Either it libels the Japanese race or it insults Christianity.

VANDALISM IN JAPAN.

WE desire to add our voice to that of our correspondent "W.B.M." in deprecation of the vandalism practised at Nikko especially and at the scenic celebrities of Japan in general. Nikko, until comparatively modern days, lay beyond the tide of tourist wanderings, and during its seclusion of centuries it became the nursery of many noble trees and much exquisite foliage. Were it deprived of these charms, *ichabod* might be at once written over its glory. The Mausolea would survive, but the Mausolea, taken out of their beautiful setting, would be indeed a picture without a frame, and very soon the stream of visitors to view them would cease. At present there is no lovelier spot on the face of this earth than Nikko in the late spring or the early autumn, when the hill-sides and river banks glow with a magnificent wealth of blossom or with a multitude of many tinted leaves. To take a vulgar view of the matter, this double triumph of nature and of art is a treasury into which stores of gold and silver are perpetually falling from the pockets of the tourist throng. Such an asset is well worth preserving as a mere means of money-making. But the sight-seer of to-day takes no account of either the financial or the artistic phase of the matter. He tears their boughs from the maple-trees and shreds their branches from the azaleas, and however diligently nature may repair her ravages, she can not keep pace with this wholesale spoliation. Is no preventive possible? It would seem at first sight as though the Nikko hills and valleys, being no man's private property, may be stripped of their overgrowth and undergrowth at the sweet will of any comer. And so it certainly is, with one important reservation, namely, that printed notices publicly displayed by the wayside exercise a proverbially potent influence. Everyone reading them acquires a vague notion that some method of enforcing their vetoes is in existence, and that if he ignores the warning thus openly proclaimed, a penalty of some kind will be specially exacted. If the Society calling itself the *Hokko kai*, the Society which does so much to preserve the noble Mausolea, would only extend its care to the groves and dells, and would simply cause to be posted, in conspicuous places, notices such as "All breaking of branches strictly forbidden, by order of the *Hokko-kai*," we venture to predict that the era of ruin would soon come to a close. The remedy seems so plain and easy that to write about it at any length is a work of supererogation. But it is precisely these simple precautions that are neglected habitually, and in Nikko's case the neglect is producing dire consequences. The matter is of sufficient importance to inspire fifty leading articles, and we earnestly invite the attention of the *Hokko kai* to this branch of their most praiseworthy conservatism.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

Students of modern Japanese literature must long have felt the need of a reliable and tolerably exhaustive dictionary of philosophy. More than a quarter of a century has elapsed since Doctors Ario and Inoue (Tetsujirō) published a very small and very imperfect work called *Tetsugaku Jii*. It gives the Japanese equivalents of certain philosophical terms only and contains hardly any definitions. The Dōbunkwan is now issuing a gigantic work which has been prepared by a committee of experts. It is to be completed in 5 volumes, the first of which has already appeared. It is printed in No. 6 type on pages measuring 9½ by 7 inches. Every article has been written by a specialist and the articles are all signed. The total number of pages exceeds 2,500. More than 80 writers have contributed articles. The plan of the work is in the main that of Dr. James Mark Baldwin's "Dictionary of Philosophy and Psychology" which was written by many hands and excellently edited by the Princeton Professor. Glancing over the names of the contributors, one sees at once that in most cases the choice made could hardly be improved on. On Buddhist Philosophy there are 12 writers, including Doctors Anezaki, Nanjō and Maeda (Eiu) and Messrs Shimaji, Hori, Yamada, Washio and Yoshida. The articles on Christianity and Judaism are written by the Rev. R. Minami, of the First High School, and Mr. G. Mukō, of the Keiōgijiku University. Doctor Inoue Tetsujirō is the writer of numerous articles on the History of Philosophy and on branches of Oriental Philosophy and Oriental Ethics, subjects to the study of which he has devoted the greater part of his life. The three great authorities on Indian Philosophy are Doctors Takakusu and Matsumoto (F.) and Mr. K. Hori. Two writers only deal with Shintō Philosophy, Messrs. G. Tanaka and Honaga Mosuke. Scientific subjects are treated by well known scientists. Messrs K. Iitsuka and S. Tanaka write on Biology, Dr. Tsuboi on authropology, Dr. Nagai on Physiology, and so on. Religion is discussed by Dr. Anezaki and Messrs. Y. Shimizu, G. Katō and B. Shiio; Sociology and Jurisprudence, by Doctors R. Endō and K. Ukita and by Mr. H. Higuchi. This new Japanese work will be considerably larger than Baldwin's Dictionary, which is printed in bigger type and only covers 1,472 pages. The titles of the subjects are in many instances given in Latin, German, French and English. In all cases the ideographs used for titles have the proper reading given in *Katakana*. It is regrettable, however, that the colloquial corruptions of the correct reading of Chinese characters have been inserted, and that we have シンカ for evolution instead of シンクワ and *kanzen* for perfect instead of *kwanzen*. One hardly expects to mee with slovenliness of this kind in such a scholarly work. It may be, however, when the whole dictionary is out, it will be demonstrated that only certain writers have followed the corrupt forms of *kana* spelling. The subscription price of the Dictionary was 15 *yen* last July, but at present it sells at 23 *yen*, we understand.

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Two of the three volumes which constitute the complete works of the late Mr. Toyabe Shuntei have reached us. They deserve a much fuller notice than we can give them here. It would be a great boon to the foreign public if such volumes as these were translated into a European tongue. It is rare to find books in this country that contain so much fine thought so finely expressed. Mr. Toyabe studied many subjects, but, as he tells us in one of his articles, his pet subject was politics, and we know of no book in the Japanese language that reveals such minute and accurate knowledge of the inner history of the great political changes and developments of the Meiji era as the brilliant collection of character sketches contained in the two volumes before us. They are of about uniform length, each covering about 650 large-sized pages. The type used is No. 5 (*Vide* Brinkley's Dictionary under *Kwatsuji*) and the printing is extremely clear. The title of both volumes is the same: *Shuntei Zenshū—Meiji Jimbutsu Gettan*. They sell at 1 *yen* 50 *sen* each, a marvel of cheapness when we consider what choice material they contain.

Vol. I contains analyses of the characters of all the leading politicians of the Meiji era. No less than 67 pages are devoted to Prince Itō. Next comes Count Okuma whose many-sided life is vividly described in 41 pages. The greater and the lesser lights of the political firmament are all described in turn. Even cranks like Mr. Tanaka Shozō are not overlooked. Since it seems to us quite impossible to convey any adequate idea of Mr. Toyabe's style of writing by summarizing his articles, we will literally translate a few pages from a short essay of this gifted writer entitled "Count Okuma Resigning the Presidency of his Party," which appeared in the *Taiyō* in Feb. 1907, and is reprinted on p. 92 *et seq.* of the volume before us. When we think of all that has happened to the Kensei Hontō since the formal resignation of its President, we see how accurate were the forecasts made by the late Mr. Toyabe nearly three years ago.

"The big meeting of the Kensei Hontō held on the third Sunday of January (1907), owing to the delivery of an unexpected farewell address by its President, closed in a touchingly pathetic manner. As the Count announced his resignation quite suddenly without any previous intimation of his resolve, it would seem that even those members of the Party who wished for his retirement were much embarrassed by the unlooked-for way in which he made known his intention publicly. On thinking the matter over, though at first it might appear as if the Count's resignation was simply prompted by a desire for personal liberty on his part and was caused by nothing else, a careful consideration of the words he used at the meeting reveals the fact that there were not wanting in the Count's mind certain incentives that prompted him to publicly announce his resignation without delay. . . . . Though when referring to the big meeting which was convened for the purpose of revising the Party's rules and extending its influence, he praised in unmeasured terms the great activity and keenness which the Party was showing, when we come to inquire what the so-called revision of its rules meant, we find that it meant nothing less than the abolition of government by a President as heretofore carried on and the adoption in its stead of government by a council. What was this but the passing of a vote of want of confidence in Count Okuma the President of the Party? The Count, in his humility, said that the cause of the Party's not making its influence more felt in the country was his own feebleness and inability to accomplish anything great, but the truth is that the Party would have broken up long ago had it not been for the presence of Count Okuma in its midst. Though the Count owes nothing to the Party, the very life of the Party depends on the Count's ideal. If this ideal be taken from it, at no distant date the soulless body of the Hontō will gradually begin to decompose and eventually will become extinct. Seeing that this is how the Party is situated, it is no time to be prating about the increase or decrease of the Party's influence. Those members of the Party who determined to act contrary to the Count's ideal obtained a majority of votes, and as a result of this at once proceeded to plan for the revision of the rules so as to enable them to get rid of the Presidential organization now in force. What is this but the Honto's preparing the way for its destruction with its own hands? How could the Count help being deeply pained when he compared the Party as it is now to what it was in its best days?

"Now Count Okuma's ideal has been just this: he has aimed at planting representative government of the English type in this country by creating a national representative organization with thoroughly developed activity. With this object in view he formed the original Kaishintō, which under his leadership developed into the Shimpotō, and under the same guidance reached its present position and assumed the name of the Kensei Hontō. The Count is not in his very nature a man who is content to be a mere critic. He would have no objection at all to coming into power if he could reckon on being able to carry out the ideal that he has in his mind to any extent. But before taking the reins of Government he naturally wishes to make sure that he can satisfy the desires of the public; and in order to find out whether he can expect the support of the nation, he strives by the enunciation of principles to make it quite clear what is the character of his Party. When the Saionji Cabinet was formed, the Count at first expressed considerable admiration for the Marquis' personal character and seemed as if he would become one of his supporters, but subsequently the confidence of the Count in Marquis Saionji was shaken by his method of acting, which did not agree with the Count's ideal. So his attitude as a critic of the new Government changed and he took up the position of an unreserved opponent of the new Ministry. This was because the Count regarded the Saionji Cabinet as entirely under the control of officialdom and as no longer able to keep up the appearance of representing a political party either to their own supporters (the Seiyūkai) or to outsiders. The Count believes that bureaucratic government seriously impedes the progress of sound constitutional government. Hence merely out of an earnest desire to get into power to form an alliance with bureaucrats, in total disregard of the sacrifice of principle that such a union must involve, was something that the Count was most unwilling to do; because he thought that such action would involve the loss of the qualities which hitherto have distinguished the Party. But it would seem that the faction of the Hontō which favoured reform held quite a different opinion from the Count on this point. They observed that despite its crookedness the Seiyūkai had been successful in getting into power. They would pursue the same methods in order to obtain power. When they heard the members of Seiyūkai sounding the praises of the Saionji Cabinet as if it belonged to them, when they saw how they bubbled over with high spirits and what a grand figure they cut before the nation, it seemed to this faction of the Hontō unbearable to find themselves left alone in the dreary desert exposed to the cold autumn blasts. When they perceived how great was the political power wielded by officials, they came to think that the Seiyūkai in joining hands with the bureaucrats had made a very clever move. There were not only members of the Hontō who thought that if Count Okuma would only resign, the way would be opened for the Party's establishing a connection of some sort with officialdom, but it is said that there were also some who had visions of the appearance of a new President for the Party out of the ranks of officialdom who would altogether change its destiny and open up a new world for it. The truth is that as long as the Hontō followed Count Okuma's ideal, whether happily or unhappily circumstanced, it could always maintain its ground as a political party possessing fine qualities, but the Hontō abandoned by Count Okuma has no more cohesion or solidarity than exists among a flock of crows, and in this respect there is no difference at all between it and the Daidō Club."

The members of political parties to-day neither in knowledge nor in character occupy high rank in the country. One of the reasons why first-class politicians keep outside political parties is the fact that political thought makes little progress in the nation generally (which political parties represent). National political thought can not be properly developed by relying only on the strength of general education. In a great many particulars it depends more on the stimulating effect of the personalities of great men. If the Count is prepared to leave the narrow sphere of a political party and to occupy a free and independent position, if he seeks for room outside all parties wherein to display the same activity as the people's veteran statesman as Marquis Itō is doing in connection with the Government, the Count's strong character will certainly qualify him to become one of the brightest planets that adorn our political sky and shed their light on the whole nation. In this way it is more than likely that the evening of the Count's life will be lit up with sunset glory.

Mr. Toyabe was of opinion that Count Okuma has displayed more real talent for party leader-

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ship than any statesman in Japan. His minute analysis of the Count's political character is of great interest and value. But we have no space to pursue the subject further.

Vol. II. of the Meiji Character sketches first discusses Japanese diplomacy in a very discerning way and then devotes separate chapters to a consideration of the careers of the leading diplomats of modern times. The next portion of the book deals with the feats achieved by Generals and Admirals and the personal qualities of each actor in the drama which the whole world witnessed with so much interest. Next come chapters on Japan's greatest journalists, authors, educationists and religious teachers, Fukuzawa, Tokutomi, Tsubouchi, Katō Hiroyuki, Amano, Kikuchi (Dairoku) Ōtani, and certain Christian writers and teachers. The last part of Vol. II. opens with a history of the Mitsui Family under the following six headings (1) The organization of the firm; (2) its special work; (3) the amount of power it wields; (4) the Keiōgijiku Party and the High Commercial School Party in the business world; (5) Government Finance in the Meiji Era and the Mitsui House; (6) the position occupied by the Mitsui House in Japan's Financial World. The Sumitomo House is next described, and the volume closes with accounts of the lives of Shibusawa, Amenomiya, Yamamoto (Tatsuo), Yano Jirō, and others.

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The October *Taiyō* contains the report of an interview with Mr. Ozaki Yukio, in which this experienced and progressive politician states his views on the defects of the administrative system of government now followed in this country. The title of the article is "A Fundamental Question connected with Administrative Reform." And here is the gist of Mr. Ozaki's observations on this important subject. When they talk of administrative reform a good many people are thinking only of a reduction in the number of officials, of increase of salaries, or of the amalgamation of bureaux or sections, and the like, but these are all minor reforms which, though no doubt desirable, do not go far enough. What is wanted is a radical change in the method of dealing with officials. The present administrative system is a remnant of feudal despotism, and hence is quite unsuited to the present age. The regulations drawn up ten years ago by the Yamagata Government then in power, known as Bunkwan-ninyōrei, were most arbitrary and unconstitutional in character. These are still in force. According to them no Cabinet that comes into power can appoint or dismiss officials at will. So there is no way of getting rid of officials of the old feudal stamp. That business officials should be permanently retained in offices is desirable, but when a Cabinet changes, some forty or fifty administrative officials should certainly vacate their posts. Otherwise administrative reform of the Occidental constitutional type becomes an impossibility. Not only Ministers of State, but all Vice-Ministers, heads of Bureaux, private secretaries, the heads of Police and many other administrative officials should all change. The distinction between business officials and administrative officials should be made quite clear. The former only should receive life appointments. The rank borne by officials, be it that of *Chokunin* or *Sōnin*, should not be allowed to stand in the way of their going out of office when Cabinets change. It should be clearly understood that the occupation of an administrative post under any Cabinet involves the resignation of that post when the said Cabinet goes out of power. In some countries Cabinet changes bring in their train such an exit of officials as to cause great derangement of the administrative machinery. Such was the case in America until quite recently, where a change of Government affected even postmen. Too large or too small a staff of administrative officials whose tenure of office depends on the life of the Cabinet they are serving is equally undesirable. But conditions differ according to country. In Japan fifty or sixty changeable administrative officials is about the right number. The first step to be taken in administrative reform is to abolish the official regulations issued in 1899 and to give full liberty to each Cabinet to appoint new administrators at will. In England all Ministers have to be Members of Parliament. That rule could not profitably be followed here. But the whole system of forming Cabinets in this country is unconstitutional. Men have to belong to a certain clique of statesmen in order to be entrusted with the formation of a Cabinet. This amounts to ignoring the Constitution or rather to killing it. (*Aru rui no hitobito de nakereba Naikaku wo soshiki suru koto ga dekinu yōna gyōsei soshiki ni natte oru no wa, Kempō wo mushi suru mono de aru; mushiro Kempō wo korosu mono de aru*).

One thing connected with the present administration calling for special notice is the tendency to entrust high-rank administrative posts to military men only. The Governors of Formosa and the Kwantō are military men, and there is a report current that the next Resident-General in Korea will be a military man. This being a revival of clannism, it is by no means a pleasing phenomenon (*Kore wa mukashi no mombatsu shugi no saiko de atte, jitsu ni omoshirokaranu genshō de aru*). As administrators military men are not necessarily more efficient than civilians. There is no reason why the Minister for War and the Minister for the Navy should not be civilians. It is most undesirable that militarism should permeate our administration as much as it does. Administrative reform that stops short of the changes discussed above can never satisfy the demands of enlightened public opinion to day, contends Mr. Ozaki Yukio.

In a well thought out article published in the October *Taiyō* entitled *Katsura Naikaku no Seisaku wa hatashite yorokobubeki ya?* (Ought we really to be pleased with the Policy of the Katsura Cabinet?), Count Ōki thus analyzes the present political situation. The position now held by Marquis Katsura in the Lower House gives the Government a good deal of cause for uneasiness. The Seiyūkai members which hitherto have been in the majority now only number 135. In the Upper House the relative power of the various factions constantly changes, and whether the Yamagata party on which Marquis Katsura now relies will continue to support him is open to doubt. It seems to me that the length of the present Premier's term of office must depend principally on the verdict passed by the nation on the new policy he has inaugurated. If anything can lengthen out the life of the present ministry, this policy will do so. No sooner did the present Ministry come into power than Marquis Katsura took steps to strengthen his position by contracting an alliance with the leading business men of the country. The formation of the Unagikai marked a new departure in the history of government in this country. It showed that Marquis Katsura realized the necessity of relying on the power of money for the strengthening of the position of the Government. The support given to the Government by the leading business men helped it out of many financial holes and exercised a most beneficial effect on public sentiment and on the money market generally. Instead of wielding political power only, the Government found itself able to use the power of money as well. The new policy was soon extended to foreign countries, to China and Korea. The old policy of making commerce follow the flag was abandoned and big commercial undertakings were launched like the Tōyō Takushoku Kwaisha, which was an attempt to establish economic government as a preparation for political government. "The flag is only an emblem of power. The real power is money." This is a saying that our present Government thoroughly endorses. By the establishment of a number of banks in China and Korea of a semi-official type, the Government has been striving to lay deep the economic foundations of the nation. By the means it has adopted it has greatly relieved the financial situation in the country and has now reached a stage when it can promise the repeal of certain burdensome taxes. But is this bowing of the knee to the money-god fraught with no danger to the country? Whither is this new policy leading us? If the present Cabinet remains in power a few years longer, the central pivots of the nation's finances will undoubtedly all be in the hands of the Katsura Party, and they will have rendered their position quite unassailable. (*Kaku no gotoku shite Katsura Naikaku no jumyō kongo ichi nyō nen sonzai seba, waga kuni kinken* [金權] *no chūsu* [中樞] *wa mattaku Katsura-kei no shōri ni ki shi, fubatsu no konki wo katamen koto utagaubekarazu*). Whether this is something to rejoice over or to regret it behoves all serious-minded politicians to consider. That the policy* now being pursued is condemned by public opinion apparently carries little weight with the men who are responsible for its inauguration and development.

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The last Extra Number of the *Taiyō*, published at the end of June is entitled *Shinshin Ni ūgo mei ka*, "Twenty-five noted rising men." It has long been a custom in this country for newspapers and magazines to collect votes from the general public with the object of determining the relative popularity of various prominent men. There are serious objections to this mode of guaging men's powers and usefulness in the world, as Mr. Natsume Sōseki points out in an article we shall deal with presently. Be that as it may, the Staff of the *Taiyō* 10 years ago canvassed for votes for the 12 most distinguished men of that time, and in the spring of this year they collected votes for the 25 most prominent men of the present day. The volume published as an extra number of the *Taiyō* in June is devoted to sketches of the lives of the men chosen. Here are some of the comments of Mr. Natsume Sōseki, the novelist, on the collection of votes as a means of measuring abilities.

When a child I remember being struck by the importance attached to public voting on the relative merits of prominent men, and at first I thought that there must be something remarkable about the men who obtained the largest number of votes, but as I grew older I perceived that there is much that is artifical about the voting, and that in a great many instances the number of votes depends on the amount of canvassing done. (*Oku no baai ni oite kono tōhyō naru mono ga isshu no undō kara deki agatte iru to iu koto ga wakatta*) Those persons whose professions are of a kind to make them well known, those men who have to court popularity in order to get on are likely to receive most votes. The reasons for voting are in no cases stated. What the votes stand for nobody knows. A paper 5 *yen* vote is the equivalent of so much coin and can be exchanged for valuable metal, but what these voting papers stand for nobody can say. This being the case, persons of real merit who receive no votes need feel no concern on this account; since nothing is more certain than the fact that the voting is in a great many cases not influenced to any extent by actual merit in the persons selected, but by other things, often by money, it would seem. (*Kinryoku no shōbu ni kichaku shi'te shimau*). Of course there are professions where a man would find this a very convenient way of advertising himself and in such cases bribery would doubtless be resorted to. And as regards the newspapers and magazines which observe the practice of collecting and publishing the results of their canvassing, though there may be exceptions, self-advertisement and consequent increase of circulation are the chief objects in view. The whole thing being a business undertaking, that money from beginning to end should figure in it is quite natural. If a man's livelihood depends largely on his making himself known to the world and if by the purchase of votes he can get himself advertised in magazines and newspapers, it is to his interest to purchase votes. Morally the whole thing is wrong, that is, both the sale and purchase of votes, and the whole process of deciding on men's merits is a fraud. Seeing that the voting test of men's merits is exposed to so many abuses, the question is, is it possible for the *Taiyō* to follow the system in general use in a way that shall avoid the abuses complained of? In the case of future Ministers of State or diplomats, the voting may have been impartial, but when we come to authors, artists, champions (*ōzeki*), and the like, where popularity affects livelihood, corruption is almost bound to creep in.

We have no space to pursue the subject

* This policy bears the title of *seiken, kinken ketsugō seisaku*.

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further. Mr. Natsume has the strongest objection to the whole system of deciding on the merits of experts by appealing to the sentiments of a large number of people who lack the qualifications to give an opinion of any value on the capacities and merits of the men on whose relative merits they are asked to pronounce a verdict. We ourselves have often been astonished at the number of distinguished men whose names are omitted from the published lists of celebrities. The system works out badly on the whole, notwithstanding its popularity among journalists and magazine editors in this country. In the volume before us there is much valuable matter Dr. Miyage Setsurei and Mr. Ebina Danjō both furnish minute accounts of their past lives and trace the steps by which they have reached the pronounced opinions they now hold and teach in their respective spheres.

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The *To-A no Hikari*, under the careful editorship of Dr. Inouye Tetsujirō, has been converted into a first-class literary organ, though it is not four years since it was started. The magazine is run in connection with the To-A Kyōkai, a well supported Association. Most of the matter that appears in *To-A-no-Hikari* originally took the form of speeches made at the Meeting of this Association. They are printed just as they were given. With the exception of politics there are few subjects connected with modern Japan that are not discussed by specialists in a scholarly manner in this magazine.

Professor Tomii, the well-known jurist, in the course of a long speech before the Association, reported in the August and September numbers of the *To A no Hikari*, in substance, makes the following remarks on the new Penal Code. One of the distinctive characteristics of the new Penal Code is the liberty granted to judges in determining penalties. For certain offences imprisonment for under 10 years is the penalty. Whether the term of penal servitude is to be 9½ years or 3 months is left to the discretion of judges. For similar offences very different sentences may be passed according to the various proclivities of the administrators of the law. The New Penal Code has received unstinted praise from European and American jurists, and on paper it is no doubt as good as it is possible for a code to be, but where so much depends on the discretion exercised by the judges one can not help being somewhat anxious as to the use that will be made of the liberty granted. The only guarantee against the abuse of power that we have are the character, ability and knowledge of the men who administer our laws to-day. It is my opinion that the miscarriage of justice in this country is now very rare. In former days the majority of our judges were not sufficiently well versed in jurisprudence to make it safe to leave the determination of the length of sentences to their discretion. Our old laws erred on the side of severity rather than leniency. The penalties were almost invariably too heavy for the offences committed, and judges had no power to modify them. But if in one direction modern law inclines towards greater leniency, in another direction it tends towards greater severity. Second offences, according to our new Code, involve double penalties, that is to say, the judge has the right to impose the double penalty if he thinks fit. The 10 years' penal servitude limit may be raised to 20 years. But while modern law is hard on offenders who make crime a profession, it in many cases mitigates the sentences passed on first offences. In some States in America power is given to the Governors of Prisons to reduce the term of imprisonment in the case of offenders who show signs of penitence for crimes committed. The whole subject of the adaptation of penalties to the character of criminals so as to make punishment a preventive of crime as much as possible is receiving much attention from jurists to-day, and many of the principles that characterize the new methods of meting out punishment followed in certain Western countries are embodied in our new Penal Code.

THE Korean Crown Prince, who had been staying at Karuizawa, returned to Tokyo on October 18.

BANQUET TO THE OFFICERS OF THE NETHERLANDS SQUADRON.

A banquet was given by Their Excellencies the Governor of Kanagawa-ken and Baroness Sufu in honour of Commodore F. F. Tydeman, Commander-in-Chief of the squadron of the Indian Fleet of H.M. the Queen of the Netherlands, and his officers, on Wednesday evening, the 20th inst. in the Governor's official residence.

During the evening H.E. the Governor proposed the health of H.M. the Queen of the Netherlands, which was duly honoured.

Commodore G. F. Tydeman, Commander-in-Chief of the Squadron then proposed the health of H.M. the Emperor of Japan.

In reply, H.E. the Governor stated that it was a source of great rejoicing for him to be able to welcome the officers of the Squadron that night. He further dwelt upon the very old ties of friendship existing between the two countries, dating back to the 17th century. During all that time the people of the two countries had had regular intercourse with each other, applying all their energy to the development of trade and of their intellectual culture, which to a great extent resulted in the present civilisation of Japan. Japan, he said, owed a great debt of gratitude to the Netherlands for all the facilities which had always been granted to his countrymen desirous to obtain the benefits of Occidental civilisation. Further, he remembered that when he was Governor of Hyogo Ken, he had had the pleasure of welcoming in Kobe the Dutch man-of-war *Wilhelmina* in 1897, and he now felt as if he were receiving an old friend coming from a far-away country. His Excellency concluded by expressing the hope that the old ties of friendship existing between the Netherlands and Japan would be still further strengthened by the present visit of the fleet.

H.E. Mr. van Royen, the Netherlands' Minister, thereupon rose, in order to thank H E Baron Sufu for the very gracious terms which he had used with regard to the country he had the honour to represent at the Court of H.M. the Emperor of Japan. He dwelt upon the very old ties of friendship existing between the two countries, the olden times at Deshima, when the Dutch subjects were the only ones allowed to trade with this country. He further remembered that the first modern man-of-war Japan ever had was presented to her by Holland, and spoke of the marvellous growth of the Japanese navy of to-day. The Dutch flag, he continued to say, had always been well received everywhere in Japan, for which his countrymen were very grateful. He concluded by drinking to the prosperity of the country, of Kanagawa-ken, and to the very good health of Their Excellencies Baron and Baroness Sufu, who had so lavishly entertained them that night.

The last speech of the evening was by Commodore Tydeman, who drank the health of the son of the house. He said he hoped that he would follow in his father's footsteps, and that he would exert all his energy to promote the good cause of his native country and the world at large.

WEDDING BELLS IN SENDAI.

The first foreign wedding in Sendai city took place last Friday afternoon, Oct. 15th, at 3 o'clock, in the Methodist Church. Rev. Jesse F. Steiner, of the Reformed Church in the U.S. and Miss Ruth P., older daughter of Rev. Dr. and Mrs. B. W. Schwartz, Methodist missionaries, were the contracting parties. Bishop M. C. Harris performed the ceremony, assisted by Rev. D. B. Schneder, D.D, President of North Japan College, according to the beautiful and impressive ritual of the M. E. Church. Rev. C. W. Iglehart, of Tokyo, attended the groom as best man, and Revs. A. D. Berry, of Tokyo, and E. H. Zaugg, of Sendai, led the wedding procession to the altar. Miss Lydia A. Lindsey and Miss Mary E. Gerhard, of the Reformed Church Mission, were bridesmaids, and Miss Mirian Schwartz, sister of the bride, was maid-of-honour. Miss Clare Schneder was flower-girl, and the little daughter of Rev. and Mrs. R. P. Alexander, of Tokyo, carried the wedding ring. The bride was given away by her father. Miss Kate I. Hansen, of Miyagi Girls' School, played Mendelssohn's Wedding March. Various Japanese friends also assisted in making the function a great success, among whom mention might be made of Mr. G. Suzuki, of the *Kahoku Shimpo*, and Prof. T. Demura, of North Japan College. Miss Carrie A. Heaton, assisted by several Japanese young men, decorated the chancel beautifully and elaborately with bamboo and chrysanthemums. Above the bridal couple hung a large floral bell. All agreed that the wedding was a fine affair, the tall and graceful bride in handsome attire carrying herself especially well.

Among the large audience were foreign friends from Sendai and Tokyo, the family of Count K. Date, the Lieutenant-Governor of Miyagi prefecture, the Mayor of Sendai, and other prominent Japanese.

After the ceremony the couple was escorted to the rear of the church, where hearty congratulations and best wishes were extended to them by the numerous guests, each of whom upon leaving the building received a piece of wedding cake neatly enclosed in a small box.

Over thirty persons joined the bridal couple in partaking of an elegant wedding supper at the home of the bride's parents, which adjoins the church. These then accompanied the bride and groom to the station to see them off for Nikko by the train scheduled to leave at 6.20 p.m.

JAPANESE AND AMERICAN COMMITTEE ELECTED.

On the 13th instant, the Japanese business men in New York held a general meeting to arrange various details connected with the trip. In the evening the party were invited to a dinner given by the members of the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, at which the reception committee of Americans was also present. Mr. Elliot, one of the committee, proposed the election of a Japanese and American committee, in order to facilitate various investigations which may in future be undertaken in Japan and America, thus keeping the business men of the two countries continually in touch with each other. The proposal was unanimously passed; and Baron Kanda and Mr. Zumoto on the side of the Japanese, and Messrs. Morney and Elliot on the side of the Americans, were appointed to the committee, on the nomination of Baron Shibusawa and Mr. Lowman.

The Japanese business men were invited on the 13th instant to a formal reception by the Mayor of New York, and afterwards were banqueted by the members of the Silk Merchant Association. In the evening, a dinner was given in their honour by leading financiers at the Astor Hotel, when speeches delivered by Barons Shibusawa and Kanda were received with cheers. The party were entertained the next day by the Merchants' Association, and inspected the various docks. Dr. Fulton, Dr. Knox, Mr. John Mott and others spoke at this meeting, to which Barons Shibusawa and Kanda replied. Messrs. Takata & Co. also gave a reception during the same evening. On the 16th, the party were taken on an excursion on the Hudson by the members of the Merchants' Guild, and were entertained by Mr. Cortelyou, ex-Secretary of Finance, and others. After enjoying the fine scenery along the river, they attended a dinner in the evening given by the Peace Society.

BASEBALL.

The local Baseball nine travelled to Tokyo on Saturday afternoon to meet the Waseda University team on the latter's ground. The visitors were badly handled, and suffered defeat by no less than 13 runs to 2. The following played for Yokohama :—

Dickie	P.
Walker	C.
McChesney	1st
DaCosta	2nd
Correa	S.S.
Kellogg, Capt.	3rd
Tomeya	C.F.
Wilson	R.F.
O'Connor	L.F.

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OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, September 25.

M. Poklevsky-Kozell has reached Teheran. He is reported to have said that he found the Russian troops at Kazvin, as he passed through, in a deplorable sanitary condition, notwithstanding the recent change of camp.

The Russian Telegraphic Agency, the Government organisation which supplies all the telegraphic news to the Russian press, has arranged for special reciprocity with Servia, and it is believed this will be made the basis of a Slav combination for the dissemination of news of special interest to Slavdom. It has been felt for some years past, and particularly in the last twelvemonth, that the world should not be left so dependent upon Germanic sources for its news of the doings of Slavdom. Whether a Government Agency will succeed in competing against the old combinations is questionable, but at least some check may be put upon the licence enjoyed hitherto by the accepted sources of information, all tainted with the animus of Germanism.

The St. Petersburg Municipality discussed at length yesterday the question of tramways, and accepted generally the projects of the Special Committee on tramways, merely altering certain proposed routes and expressing some other wishes that may or may not greatly affect the question of construction. The city intends to spend over three millions sterling on extending its tramway system. An objection was raised that the impending works for water-supply and sewerage would nullify the labour expended on new lines, which would only be torn up again very shortly. It was decided that the two undertakings shall, as far as possible, be carried on concurrently. A member proposed to start motor-omnibus services pending the completion of the sewerage operations. Grandiose schemes are under consideration to further the interests of communication in the capital: for example, the filling-in of the Ekaterininsky Canal, to provide a new ring-route for trams: the removal of the trotting-course to another district and the utilisation of this large tract of ground for municipal purposes. It came out during the debates that the city has no repairing shops, mechanics' shops etc. in connection with its tramways, and all that can be done is to use odd corners of the coach sheds for the necessary work of repairs and overhauling generally. The extent of the "repairing and overhauling" needed may be guessed by the statement that fifty per cent. of the cars have to stand outside in all weathers as their room in the sheds is wanted for purposes that should be provided for elsewhere. A motion to change tariffs was negatived, but it was decided to start workmen's trains at cheap rates during the early morning hours. It is in the sphere of electric traction that British enterprise first succeeded in breaking through the iron ring of German influence in the Russian industrial world. Unfortunately, the breach so admirably made has not been enlarged or even kept open: there seems now to be a preference on the part of some British firms rather to throw in their lot with the German ring that controls so much of Russia's contract work. This is not only unpatriotic (which does not much count in business!) but is short-sighted in the highest degree.

A post-bag containing large amounts of cash was found to be short by five thousand pounds sterling when it reached the Crimea from St. Petersburg. The bag was intact, and suspicion rests upon the post officials entrusted with the make-up of the money-mail. Several domiciliary perquisitions have been made in St. Petersburg, but no clue seems to have yet come to light.

The weather in North Russia continues warm and fine.

The *Novoe Vremja* continues its revelations about the fall of Russian prestige in Manchuria. It contrasts the conduct of the Japanese with that of the Russians in analogous circumstances. While the Japanese are entire masters of the strip of territory belonging to their railway, the Russians in their strip are subject to Chinese police, to foreign consular interference, etc. Japan makes a large gain out of her line: Russia has to pay "tens of millions" annually to make up losses on her line. And the Japanese by their policy are making friends of the Chinaman, while Russia is doing the reverse.

Whatever may be the truth about these matters, there is no doubt about the economic conquest of Russian territory which is going on by large numbers of Chinese who are settling on the Russian side of the Amur. Local papers give painful pictures of the ubiquity of the Chinaman, and the Russian can only compete with him in the towns where considerable capital is needed. In all the villages the Chinese shopkeeper speedily chokes his Russian competitor. Even the special stores of the "Emigration Committee," a Government department, are unable to make headway against the energy and commercial enterprise of the Chinaman, yet these special stores sell at cost price, being really semi-charitable institutions to assist the muzhik who has migrated to new lands.

A Kharbin paper announces that Great Britain is about to appoint a Consul in that town, adding that as there is no British trade there the object can be only political. With the arrival of the British Consul the following countries will be represented in the heart of Manchuria: France, England, Germany, United States of America, Japan, Belgium and Holland.

The Central Asian traveller, Captain Kozlov, who with his assistants is now engaged in drawing up the official account of his two years' journey in Thibet and Central Asia, is expected to appear before the Russian Geographical Society about the first week in December.

The official figures of the Prison Department presented to the Duma in connection with the vote for the 1910 Budget contain the following statistics of prisoners. The average number of persons in prison daily during the year 1897 was 88,354. From that date the figures increase regularly up to 1903 when they were 96,005. In 1906—111,403: 1907—138,500: 1908—166,064, and on July 1 this year 169,385. For the year 1910 the Prisons Department estimates that an average daily prison population of 180,000 persons must be provided for.

The Commission appointed in Moscow to consider the question of removing tramway standards from the Grand Square on the ground that they defaced that historic shrine of Russia have wisely decided that each epoch has a right to its own records, and electric traction is one of the features of the present epoch. A few changes will be made with a view to giving a better prospect of the monument to Minin and Pozharsky, but otherwise the electric standards will remain. It is a healthy sign, this desire to maintain intact the monuments of antiquity, which have not always been held in much respect in Russia. Perhaps the Grand Square in Moscow is the last place where reproaches could safely be made of barbarism by any in authority, inasmuch as the whole Square has been remodelled time and again, even a dozen churches having been removed in past days to clear the ground.

The ships of the Black Sea Fleet have left port to begin the combined manœuvres with the land forces.

I hear that the Duma, which stands prorogued to the 10/23 October, may possibly be summoned for a date a week or ten days earlier than this.

The Finnish Court trying the charge against the Black Gang of murdering Prof. Herzenstein, member of the First Duma, has again postponed the trial. Dr. Dubrovin, head of the Black Gang, is to be compelled to appear at the adjourned sitting.

St. Petersburg, September 28.

The official organ of the Ministry of Finance publishes the usual annual account of the year's harvest, based on the returns furnished officially after harvest. Such a bumper year in all cereals has not been known for the past thirty years. The diagrams showing in varying depths of red the "Good" and "Satisfactory," and in black and grey the "Unsatisfactory" and "Bad" harvests over all Russia are this year extraordinary: wheat, universally grown, marks the whole map from the Baltic to the Siberian steppes and from the latitude of St Petersburg to the frontiers of Persia with red, and the richest grain-growing districts, the "Black Earth" zone and the Volga provinces, are all deep red, signifying "Good" Oats give even better results: barley nearly as good as oats. The only dark areas to be found on the map occur in the diagram for the rye crop, the staple food of the muzhik, and then only in a few of the central provinces, which do not at the best of times grow enough for their own needs, and depend upon the railways for their supplies of bread stuff.

If only adequate management of the railway traffic can be assured this year, Russia will go far to recover from all the dire blows under which she has been groaning for a decade past. At the worst, that is, if the railways prove no more able to cope with the demands made upon them than they have usually proved to be, such a magnificent harvest of all cereals alike cannot fail to effect three most important ends: the Government will be relieved of some of the pressure of indebtedness to the foreigner: the country will more quickly settle down to a normal state of tranquillity under the warm sunshine of long awaited prosperity: and finally, while a great part of the population will doubtless return to the Government most of its gains on the harvest work by patronising more lavishly than ever the Drink Monopoly Shops, the sober and reflective, the industrial and commercial, classes will be better buyers for the products of the foreigner than has been the case for certainly a dozen years past. Those who are interested in commercial relations with Russia should take advantage this coming twelvemonth of opportunities such as may not offer again. The sympathies of the people of Russia are now with England and the English: this enormous harvest of all cereals gives a chance of translating into practical figures the Russians' warm expressions of affection for all things English.

The telegraphs throughout the Russian Empire, from the Baltic to the Pacific, with the one exception of connections with Finland, were stopped entirely on Sunday for over twelve hours by a magnetic storm. It was accompanied, as usual, by more or less vivid displays of the phenomena known as the Northern Lights (aurora borealis). Magnetic storms of such magnitude are rare, but are said to occur at regular intervals of about eleven years, and coincide in time with the appearance of an unusual number of spots on the sun. While the telegraph and, in a lesser degree, the telephone were affected, the electric currents used for lighting and power were unaffected, presumably on account of their much greater strength. Scientific observations are reaching the Imperial Observatory from all parts of Russia, and will be forwarded, when fully collated, to America, where the subject of magnetic storms is believed to be peculiarly interesting and specially studied.

Russia is following with eager interest the development of the great struggle pending in England over the Budget. Most of the comments on speeches made at Birmingham are too obviously coloured by home politics to be of any value, but the *Novoe Vremja* recognises the significance of the crisis believed to be fast approaching and appears to consider that its severity may discount England's authority in international councils.

The correspondent of the *Rêch* sends from Sevastopol some horrible details of what was found to have taken place aboard the submarine "Kambala" which was rammed by a battleship a few weeks ago and has only now been recovered. The water-tight traps were opened at midnight and the first thing found was three corpses in the conning tower, a midshipman and two sailors, one of whom had apparently died in the attempt to crush the life out of his superior round whom his legs and arms were tightly twined. Another officer was found minus a hand, on which he used to wear a valuable diamond ring. All the bodies were horribly disfigured by water and acids. There were plain proofs that in no case has death been immediate, and the position of the bodies indicated that some terrible struggle had taken place, the crew apparently having attempted to revenge their misfortune on their officers.

Near Smolensk a most interesting archæological discovery has been made during excavations: 700 coins were turned up, which experts declares to belong to the eighth century B.C. The in-

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scriptions were Assyrian and Arabic. The vessel which had originally contained them was broken, but the lid remained intact, covered with hieroglyphs. Besides the coins there were thirteen beads of some precious stones, brown, white and green in hue. On being tried on glass the stones cut the glass, but themselves split into fragments. Two rings, several emeralds and some pearls, with some unrecognisable stones of white colour completed the find. A good many of the coins were disposed of by the workmen who found them for a penny a piece!

Professor Messarosch of the Budapesth University has arrived in Russia with the intention of investigating ethnographically certain regions mostly about the Urals, where the people are believed to be of Hungarian descent, whole villages in the district of Ufa, for instance, still retaining traces of their former nationality.

The Imperial Aero Club of Russia possesses, says the *Novoe Vremja*, two balloons presented by the War Office, and a third the gift of the President of the Club. The last has never made any ascent, the other two have ascended several times, always with accidents and on two occasions with fatal results. During the summer months, when Petersburg is half empty, the Aero Club apparently dissolved with the rest of society. In the winter months there is no likelihood of anything being done in the air. The French dirigibles bought by the War Office have made three ascents, but are declared unsatisfactory. This is practically the whole story of Russian successes in the air. The rest is contained in a mass of interesting newspaper accounts of marvellous inventions which have either not reached or have not passed beyond the trial model form. The only flying yet done in Russia has been done at Warsaw by a French aviator on a French machine. The real Russian experiments do not go beyond flights of balloons of the old pear-shaped type, either at the end of a string or else "free flights." The latter are still looked upon in Russia with almost as much wondering admiration as the flight of an aeroplane excites further West.

A curious legend has been resuscitated concerning the Finnish Senate. It is said that the clock set up in 1817 on the foundation of the Senate was believed to "stop on the death of its owner." After the last meeting of the Senate this clock, which has hung in its place for nearly a century, fell down and, naturally, stopped.

Election meetings continue in St. Petersburg, and are regularly closed by the police-official present as soon as any attempt is made to explain to electors that the Emperor of Russia is no longer a despot but a ruler whose power is limited. Prof. Miljukov, who attaches much importance to the admission of this fact, insisted upon a police protocol being drawn up the last time his meeting was stopped, and declared that he was well within the law as laid down in the Fundamental Law (quoted in the R.N. a week ago). The old law read: "The Emperor's power is Autocratic and Unlimited." But the police think it better to act despotically for the present.

St. Petersburg, September 30.

The continued indisposition of the Empress makes it almost certain that the visits to Constantinople and to Italy will be entirely abandoned for the present. As Her Majesty is deriving benefit from the stay in the Crimea, it is likely to be prolonged, probably through the winter, in which case the projected visits would take place at some convenient early date next year.

The French aviator, Legrange, has exhibited a Voisin machine in flight at Moscow before several thousand spectators. The first attempts barely raised the plane above the ground, and there were loud murmurs among the motley crowd, with cries of "swindle," that might have led to exceedingly unpleasant results. Finally, however, the aviator got up in the air and made a short flight: it was impossible to show any evolutions as the ground, the Moscow trotting-course, was too narrow to allow of much turning, and Legrange would not risk his plane outside the enclosure. The crowd were reassured, but it is doubtful if the French aviator felt much encouraged by his experiences in Russia!

Russian aviation is much in the same state as it was a twelvemonth ago. The latest disappointment is that of a military inventor who has just put off his promised flights because "the essential parts of his motor are being detained by the Customs authorities"—a novel but hardly more comforting explanation than others to which one has got by this time accustomed.

In the domain of theory, however, the Russian universities and technical schools probably show the way to those of other countries. Near Moscow, indeed, a wealthy merchant has endowed a special school to study the conditions of the air with a view to aviation. At the universities "aviation societies" are now almost as common as "debating societies" with us, and perform much the same functions.

The return visit of British M.P.'s and others to Russia will, I hear, be postponed until next year. Among the more serious men in Russia who favour and work for a better understanding with England there is a general feeling that such a visit ought to be thoroughly organised so as to get the utmost practical good out of it for the future; and the conditions do not favour despatch in the proper preparation of such an undertaking. It is considered likely, also, that the great questions now ripe for settlement in the public life of England may well interfere with the success of the visit at the time originally intended. February is mentioned as a possible date now, but, in point of fact nothing whatever has yet been settled.

An official of the Russian Ministry of Finance (which controls the Government Drink Monopoly in Russia) has just returned from a mission to the United States of America for the purpose of studying the methods there employed to cope with the evils of drunkenness. His report is not encouraging. After an extended tour in the United States he finds that drunkenness is not appreciably affected by the measures taken anywhere; even in prohibition States the statistics of crime show no decrease in respect of such crimes as particularly have their origin in the abuse of alcohol. The report will doubtless be good reading for the Department which administers the Russian Drink Monopoly, a flourishing trade that provides about twenty-five per cent of the income of the State in Russia.

After a month of almost summer weather a cold snap has suddenly set in over Northern and Central Russia, due, say the experts, to cyclonic disturbance of the atmosphere. Snow fell in several parts of Russia.

"Election Meetings" continue with increasing frequency in St. Petersburg, but, in the absence of further cases of stoppage of meetings by police tyranny, do not afford anything of interest to the outside world. The "Cadets" are threatened with opposition from all other parties united: this policy is rather of a piece with a good deal of what passes for politics in Russia, namely, opposition at all costs to a party that would probably be less strong than it is if it had not been so curiously signalled out for persecution. The "Cadets," in the words of M. Stolipin (the publicist and brother of the Premier Minister) are "seeking the right by roads that are not right"—the reference being to the ancient sins of the Cadets in providing the brains for associations euphemiously described as being "more left than the Cadets," otherwise Socialists and Revolutionaries. During the years of upheaval there is little doubt some part of the Cadet's party did give the benefit of their wisdom, on the theoretical side only, to parties that do not exist in better ordered States, but since the present Duma brought promise to the country of better things the Cadets seem to have dropped their flirtation with the extremists. But they are not yet forgiven, and this powerful party is still "unlegalised," though, in practice, the police do not nowadays molest its members unduly. Perhaps another year of the Duma may see those desirable coalitions between men of the same mind regarding the advantages of constitutional government, whether they be Moderate Rights, Octobrists, Peaceful Renovators, or Cadets. Russia will then be within reach of regular two-party government: Conservatives and Liberals, both sides recognised by the Government as loyal citizens seeking the good of the country by dissimilar methods. By this time the Black Gang will have disappeared, and it is to be hoped the Socialists will have learned wisdom. The writer Stolipin says of the Black Gang that they seek to "seize upon material advantages by the use of force"—the very crime alleged against the revolutionaries, with the notable distinction that the latter used force to seek advantages for their country; the Black Gang use force to fill their own pockets only. And the latest method used by them is to persuade the military departments to entrust them with the huge orders of the Intendant Department—where profits are limited only by the fear of being found out.

M. Khomiakov informs me that the Duma will meet on October 10/23 as originally summoned, and the rumour of an earlier date is unfounded.

The *Rech* reports another "collision with the German Consul at Kharbin." The German Consul authorised certain German firms, whose premises were sealed up by the Russian police of Kharbin, to fly the German flag. When the police arrived at the appointed date to sell off goods in order to cover arrears of taxes which these firms had refused to pay, the German Consul pointed to the German flag, refused to allow the Russian police to enter the premises, and even inflicted an "insult by act" (legal Russian for a blow) upon the police officials. A similar story published in the *Novoe Vremya* was apparently included in the official démenti published a week ago. The date of the present occurrence is given as Sept. 14/27th.

The inventiveness of the Russian is highly displayed in the means taken to get free rides by railway, especially on the Government lines. There appears to be a vein in the Russian which opposes the idea of paying anything to the Government if ingenuity can find a way to avoid it, much the same mental and moral attitude as that of the middle-class income-tax payer in England. The Government railways lease the freight cars, labelled "8 horses or 40 men" as passenger carriages to the poor who club together for a long railway ride, and travel thousands of miles in this way at an individual cost of a few pence. This was taken advantage of a week ago on one of the Caucasus lines. A zealous controller of the traffic noticed that a freight car labelled "explosives and inflammable matter" was not "sealed" as the regulations require with a leaden seal, and stopped to make inquiry, especially as one of the ventilator holes was open contrary to regulation. The car was full of "deadheads" who dashed out, overturned the official and beat a safe retreat!

L'ALLIANCE FRANCAISE.

L'Alliance Française will commence its winter season this month, and an attractive programme for the early reunions has already been outlined. Three lectures will be given before the end of the year as follows:—

On Tuesday, Oct. 26th, "Les Mathématiques Japonais" by Monsieur Bourgois, Lieutenant in the French Navy and a former pupil of the Polytechnic School of Paris, the lecture comprising anecdotes of Japanese mathematicians.

On Tuesday, November 23rd, a lecture on "Sarah Bernhardt en Hollande; Some Journalistic Recollections," by Mme. W. Holst.

On Tuesday, December 21st, the subject will be "Impressions d'un Anglais à Paris," by Mr. E. C. Davis.

The French Dramatic Society, under the auspices of L'Alliance Francaise, will give, at the Gaiety, on or about November 8th, a performance of a French comedy in three acts, "Disparu," one of the best successes of Bisson. New talent will take part with old favourites, and an English *rôle* will be played by a well-known English resident.

About the middle of December will be produced the comic opera "Les Noces de Jeannette" by Victor Massé, the two leading parts being taken by Mme. Schmidt and Monsieur Bastin.

The annual general meeting of the Society will take place at the beginning of the re-union of the 26th inst. at Van Schaick Hall.

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THE AUTUMN REGATTA.

The autumn regatta of this club was held on Saturday afternoon (16th inst.), in fine weather, the heat of the bright October sun being tempered with a pleasant easterly breeze. The attendance at the opening event was somewhat sparse, and the fear was expressed that the counter-attraction at the Cricket Ground, with the excellent band of the British flagship discoursing sweet music there, might deprive the regatta of the presence of many members of the fair sex. This fear, however, proved groundless, for shortly after the first race, the latter began to arrive, and as the afternoon wore on, the club verandah was filled with a gathering of ladies, whose delightful costumes added a wealth of coloring to the scene, and who took a keen interest in the proceedings. The races on the whole were well contested, the most exciting event being the Junior Pairs, which produced a grand struggle throughout, barely a quarter of a length separating the second and third boats from the winner. Inside the breakwater the course was fairly smooth, but outside the water was choppy, greatly inconveniencing most of the competitors. On the conclusion of the last race, the prizes were presented by Mrs. H. E. Hayward. This function ended, Mr. V. R. Bowden, the President, presented, on behalf of the members, Mrs. Hayward with a magnificent bouquet, thanking her for distributing the prizes, and the ladies for their presence at the regatta. He said that if the members had to row in the presence of their own sex alone, all interest would dwindle and regattas soon become a thing of the past. After thanking Mrs. Owston for the generous tea she had provided, the President called for three cheers for the ladies, which were heartily given.

The following were the officers of the day:—Judges: Messrs. V. R. Bowden and A. L. Robinson; Starter and Umpire: Mr. M. Schellenberg; Timekeeper: Mr. H. E. Hayward. Pontoon Officials: Messrs. G. C. Allcock and P. S. Bent. Verandah Officials: Messrs. H. A. Poole, J. E. Moss and H. Goddard.

The following are the results:—

(The figures before the name of the boats indicate their positions at the start of each race, No. 1 being the inside position)

SENIOR PAIRS.—(Three-quarters mile).

	1.—"Mallard."	lbs.	
Bow.	R. C. Bowden	162	
Str.	G. Kenderdine	159	1
Cox.	B. Deveson	123	
	2.—"Widgeon."	lbs.	
Bow.	G. Neville	150	
Str.	G. G. Franklin	176	2
Cox.	W. Russell	90	

This was an easy win for the *Mallard*, the rough water outside the breakwater proving too much for Franklin. On entering the smooth water, Kenderdine had a considerable lead, which he managed to keep, winning finally by at least seven lengths. Time 7m. 45s.

JUNIOR PAIRS.—(Three-quarters mile).

	3.—"Scaup."	lbs.	
Bow.	R. H. Box	141	
Str.	W. Hayward	146	1
Cox.	D. Abbey	123	
	1.—"Shelldrake."	lbs.	
Bow.	C. M. Correa	138	
Str.	Ed. Lord	139	2
Cox.	W. Rusell	90	
	1.—"Scoter."	lbs.	
Bow.	W. H. Worden	186	
Str.	G. H. A. Snow	140	3
Cox.	L. Stornebrink	135	

This was undoubtedly the best race of the day. The three boats got away well together, and, despite the unshipping of an oar in the *Scoter* and the *Scaup*, rowed a ding-dong race, Hayward forging ahead a short distance from home and winning by a quarter of a length from *Shelldrake*, the same distance separating the latter from the *Scoter*. Time 8m. 58⅕s.

JUNIOR DOUBLES.—(One mile).

	2.—"Pearl."	lbs.	
Bow.	B. Deveson	123	
Str.	S. A. Vincent	148	1
	1.—"Tern."	lbs.	
Bow.	W. Mason	135	
Str.	D. M. Drummond	163	2

This was virtually a procession, the *Pearl* leading from the start, and winning easily by some 20 lengths. Time 7m. 21s.

SENIOR DOUBLES.—(One mile.)

Heat 1. (Rowed on 14th instant.)

	2.—No. 2 "Boat."	lbs.	
Bow.	G. H. A. Snow	140	
Str.	J. H. Walter	160	1
	1.—No. 1 "Boat."	lbs.	
Bow.	W. Graham	127	
Str.	A. W. S. Busten	160	2

Won after a good race by Walter. Time 8 m., 12 secs.

FINAL.—(One mile.)

	2.—No. 2 "Boat."	lbs.	
Bow.	G. H. A. Snow	140	
Str.	J. H. Walter	160	1
	1.—No. 1 "Boat."	lbs.	
Bow.	A. Gorman	138	
Str.	G. G. Franklin	176	2

A capital start was effected, but Franklin was soon in difficulties in the rough water. Inside the breakwater the two boats got on even terms again, but Walter came away in the last 100 yards, winning by about a couple of lengths. Time, 6m. 58s.

JUNIOR FOURS.—(Three-quarters mile).

	3.—"Swan."	lbs.	
Bow.	W. G. Crokam	142	
2.	K. M. Tresize	146	
3.	J. Kenderdine	159	1
Str.	W. H. Scott	132	
Cox.	B. Deveson	123	
	2.—"Flamingo."	lbs.	
Bow.	W. E. Shields	122	
2.	Wm. Gray	140	
3.	S. G. Stanford	152	2
Str.	W. Hayward	146	
Cox.	D. L. Abbey	118	
	4.—"Pelican."	lbs.	
Bow.	S. F. Farnsworth	134	
2.	I. D. Collier	143	
3.	R. H. Box	141	3
Str.	G. H. A. Snow	140	
Cox.	G. N. Brockhurst	130	
	1.—"Darter."	lbs.	
Bow.	A. J. Rolfe	129	
2.	C. M. Correa	138	
3.	W. H. Worden	186	4
Str.	E. Lord	136	
Cox.	A. L. Mottu	146	

The *Flamingo* was greatly fancied for this event. The boats got well away together, the *Swan* obtaining the lead on entering the rough water. The unshipping of an oar in both the *Flamingo* and *Pelican* destroyed their chance of winning. The *Swan* comfortably increased her lead, winning finally by some five lengths from *Flamingo*.

SENIOR FOURS.—(One mile).

	3.—"Pelican."	lbs.	
Bow.	A. Gorman	138	
2.	J. H. Walter	160	
3.	R. C. Bowden	162	1
Str.	G. Kenderdine	159	
Cox.	W. Graham	127	
	1.—"Darter."	lbs.	
Bow.	S. A. Vincent	148	
2.	F. J. H. Stone	148	
3.	D. M. Drummond	163	2
Str.	James Helm	153	
Cox.	D. L. Abbey	118	
	4.—"Seamew."	lbs.	
Bow.	H. J. Hearne	152	
2.	A. W. S. Austen	160	
3.	G. Neville	150	3
Str.	G. G. Franklin	176	
Cox.	W. Russell	90	
	2.—"Flamingo."	ibs.	
Bow.	B. Deveson	123	
2.	G. W. Gregory	157	
3.	H. Pearce	158	4
Str.	V. G. Bowden	135	
Cox.	G. N. Brockhurst	130	

This was generally conceded to be a good thing for the *Darter*, stroked by Helm. An even start was effected, but on entering the breakwater, the *Pelican* led by two lengths, *Seamew* being second. The former increased her lead and won by about four lengths. A keen struggle for second place ensued between the *Seamew* and *Darter*, which the latter finally secured. Time, 8m. 22s.

SCRATCH FOURS.

P. M. Wharf to Boat House.

SWAN	SEAMEW	DARTER
Helm (str.)	Moss (str.)	Gregory (str.)
Kaufner	Vincent	Austen
Graham	Collier	Lord
Figuredo	Wallace	Brockhurst

PELICAN.	FLAMINGO.
G ddard (str.)	Drummond (str.)
Mason	James
Snow	Hearne
Correa	Luther

This capital scratch fours event resulted in the *Pelican* winning by two lengths.

The "smoker" on Saturday evening in the vestibule of The Gaiety was a pronounced success. There was present a large and enthusiastic audience who persistently encored each performer and would brook no denial. The gentlemen who contributed to the success of the evening were Messrs. Brady, Cooper, Franklin, Lewis, Alan Smith, Stanford, Stewart, and Windett.

CRICKET.

INTERPORT TEAM VERSUS H.B.M. FLEET.

On Saturday afternoon the Club Interport team met a team from the British warships in port and defeated their opponents somewhat easily. The band of the flagship played selections of music during the afternoon, and there were present a large number of spectators who evinced much interest in the match. For the Club, Bousfield gave a grand display of batting, making 104 before being dismissed. Gregory, 42, and Foster, 28, also played well.

The following is the score:—

THE FLEET.

Commander Lewis, b. Foster	17
Rev. W. H. Maundrell, b. Squire	14
Lieut. Tovey, c. Duff, b. Foster	10
Lieut. Bedwell, b. Foster	3
Lieut. O'Neill, c. Foster b. Squire	0
Col. Lambton, b. Bousfield	18
Lieut. Tweedie, c. Daff, b. Squire	0
Lieut. Haddon, c. and b. Bousfield	28
Sabin, S.B.A., b. Bousfield	7
Lieut. Moore, b. Hwardman	12
Gardiner, A.B., not out	1
Extras	4
Total	114

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Squire	42	17	1	3
Foster	48	37	2	3
Bousfield	48	27	0	3
Gregory	24	13	1	0
Hardman	18	16	0	1

Y.C. & A.C.

K. Hardman, c. Sabin, b. Haddon	11
A. G. Hearne, b. Haddon	1
W. D. S. Edwards, c. Sabin, b. Monndrell	0
P. E. Bousfield, c. Tweedie, b. Haddon	104
A. J. Cornes, l.b.w., b. Haddon	9
E. L. Squire, b. Sabin	3
B. C. Foster, st. Gardiner, b. Lambton	28
H. C. Gregory, b. Haddon	42
L. C. Sharman, not out	17
C. Murray Duff, not out	13
Extras	14
Total	253

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	M.	R.	M.	W.
Haddon	96	69	3	6
Maundrell	66	35	1	1
Sabin	18	20	0	1
Bedwell	36	34	1	0
Lambton	36	32	0	1
Lewis	18	29	0	0
Tweedie	30	20	0	0

SPECIAL RATES FOR MAIL MATTER.

The Department of Communications has issued new regulations for the special treatment of ordinary mail matter which is posted and delivered in one city or town, provided that one hundred copies, or more, of the same contents be posted at one time.

RATES OF POSTAGE.

Letters (sealed)—Up to 4 *momme* 1½ *sen*, each additional 4 *momme*, 1 *sen*.

Letters (unsealed)—Up to 10 *momme* 1½ *sen*, each additional 10 *momme*, 1 *sen*.

Newspapers and journals—Up to 20 *momme* 4 *rin*, each additional 20 *momme*, 3 *rin*.

Books, commercial papers etc.—Up to 30 *momme* 6 *rin*, each adiitional 30 *momme*, 5 *rin*.

The above rates will come into effect on November 1.

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THE PRESTON-CHRONICLE LIBEL CASE.

TEXT OF JUDGMENT.

The text of judgment given on Sept. 29 last in the Kobe Chiho Saibansho in the action instituted by Mr. W. T. R Preston, the late Canadian Trade Commissioner, against Mr. Robert Young, Editor and Publisher of the *Japan Chronicle*, Kobe, to obtain payment of *yen* 10,000 as a solatium for alleged defamation of character, and also asking that Defendant should be ordered to publish an apology in various English and Japanese papers is now to hand. We (*Kobe Herald*) append a translation of the reasons given by the Court for its judgment :—

REASONS.

In this case, it was not disputed that the article in English complained of by plaintiff were inserted in the newspaper, the *Japan Chronicle*, which is published by Defendant, and that the paper was distributed. The point in dispute is whether or not the said article actually damaged the reputation of plaintiff. Firstly, the article in the paper of November 10 is considered. On reading and examining the contents of the article, it is found that after making a slight comment on communication from Plaintiff, the Canadian Trade Commissioner [a letter to the *Japan Advertiser* in reference to a statement by Mr. Woolley, the Chairman of the Kobe Foreign Board of Trade] the Defendant remarked that plaintiff "seems to be a stormy petrel wherever he goes," thus clearly implying that wherever plaintiff goes there is always trouble. Furthermore, defendant reproduced in the same article an article concerning plaintiff from the *Victoria Daily Colonist* after stating that he recently noticed in that paper an article entitled "Mr. Preston's Break." In the article reproduced it was stated that "proclaiming himself the 'Commissioner for Labour for the Dominion of Canada,' he has set out to undo whatever good was accomplished by Mr. Lemieux and further by Mr. Drury," and that "we are in receipt of information, from a reliable source, that not only has Mr. Preston been endeavouring to defeat the object of Mr. Lemieux's mission by writing in favour of Japanese immigration, but that in Japan he has taken a course calculated to bring Mr. Lemieux into discredit, has freely stated that the Postmaster-General is a person of little consequence in Canada, and that he, Mr. Preston, is to be taken as representing the real views of the Canadian Government." These passages caused the readers of the article to consider plaintiff to be a person of crafty character, acting against his home Government's policy and sometimes proclaiming himself the Commissioner for Labour, although he was Trade Commissioner, or gave readers the impression that plaintiff was displeased with his home government for having specially despatched Mr. Lemieux, the Postmaster-General, to negotiate the immigration question with Japan, despite the fact that plaintiff was in Japan as Trade Commissioner under the instructions of the Canadian Government; that he was base enough to damage the credit of Mr. Lemieux, who was in a higher official position, by stating that Mr. Lemieux did not represent the real views of the Canadian Government, and that plaintiff himself was the Government's real representative; and that he had acted meanly and despicably, thus seriously disgracing his official position. Consequently, there is not the least doubt that the article influenced the readers' estimation of plaintiff. If these passages did not truly state the action of plaintiff while he held a position of confidence as Trade Commissioner, it must be recognised that plaintiff must have sustained very great mental pain on account of the damage to his credit and reputation by the article. Now, as to whether or not the article was true, defendant, on the strength of Exhibit B 1, [the heading of an article in the *National Review*] contended that Plaintiff publicly represented himself to be Commissioner for Labour, and that the statement in the article as to plaintiff's proclaiming himself the Commissioner for Labour was correct, but, according to Exhibit A., Nos. 1 and 2 of 6, as to which there is no dispute, the describing of plaintiff as the Commissioner for Labour in Exhibit B 1 was an accidental misprint, and therefore the evidence submitted by defendant can in no way be recognised as showing that the statement in the article quoted above as to plaintiff's action was correct. Moreover, that plaintiff held a position of repute and credit as Trade Commissioner is sufficiently shown by Exhibits A Nos. 3, 4 and 7. Defendant submitted Exhibits B. Nos. 2 6 and 7 in order to prove that plaintiff was lacking in reputation and that his conduct was irregular. On considering and comparing these exhibits with the exhibit A above-referred to, however, the former can not be regarded as sufficient evidence of the allegation, and the statement in the said article must therefore be regarded as unfounded, as contended by plaintiff. As it is quite obvious that the act of publishing a newspaper containing such an article must damage plaintiff's reputation, considering his position of confidence, defendant's argument that the said article did not damage plaintiff's reputation cannot be accepted. Again, defendant contended that, as the said article had already been published in another paper, its reproduction had not in the least damaged plaintiff's reputation, and furthermore that, as the said article did not state defendant's opinion but was simply reproduced to show readers that such an article had appeared in another paper, he did not damage plaintiff's reputation. But, if the contents of an article damage one's reputation, to reproduce it in another newspaper is to publish it further, with the result of inflicting more damage on one's reputation. Therefore, defendant's contention that the reproduction of an article from another paper does not result in fresh damage to reputation is unreasonable. In addition to this, in the article published in the *Japan Chronicle* of Nov. 10 above referred to, the defendant, after commenting himself on an act of plaintiff, reproduced the article from the *Victoria Daily Colonist*, and this was evidently done to influence the readers' estimate of plaintiff, so that defendant's endeavour to free himself of his responsibility for the reproduction of the article cannot be accepted. Defendant further contended that it was not at all defamatory to say of plaintiff that he had acted in opposition to the policy of his Government, as it was against humanity to refuse to allow labourers to immigrate to Canada. But the article reproduced by defendant was, as already explained, of a nature to make those who read it consider that plaintiff's act was mean and unworthy on the part of a Government official, and was to be despised. Therefore, it may reasonably be held that the article damaged Plaintiff's reputation, whether or not the policy of the Canadian Government was really against humanity.

On considering whether or not the article of November 14 damaged the reputation of plaintiff, it is found that defendant contended that the English term "should not be very scrupulous" in the article was equivalent to "Kinshin fukakara zaru" (not very prudent), and should not be regarded as damaging plaintiff's reputation. Now, as was shown by Exhibit A 10 [Webster's dictionary] the world "scrupulous" means "ryoshin ni motozuku chucho" (Hesitation of conscience). One word may properly be used in many ways, and the said word may sometimes be used in the meaning of prudent, but, considering the spirit of the article in question and that it contained such passages as "the emissary of such a Government" and "In view of such facts, of which these are merely one or two out of the scores of examples that could be adduced to show the political corruption that prevails in Canada," it must be held that the words complained of were intended to express the sense of acting against conscience, without considering whether the steps taken were right or wrong. The plaintiff's translation of the words is therefore recognised as substantially correct. That is to say, it is held to be reasonable to regard the passage as meaning that, as there were scores of examples proving the political corruption prevailing in Canada, besides the one or two in the article, it was perhaps not surprising that the emissary of such a Government had employed the means to increase the exports of Canada to Japan without discriminating between right and wrong methods, and had disregarded the interests of foreign residents who have built up the foreign trade in Japan. As it was not disputed that the words "the emissary of such a Government" meant Plaintiff himself, it might be said that the said article declared Plaintiff as an immoral fellow, who adopted any means to fulfil his object without discriminating between right and wrong, and there is no doubt that the article damaged plaintiff's reputation. Defendant contended that the addition of the adverb "very" to the word "scrupulous" did not convey an insulting meaning, and was simply made to render the sentence smooth, no difference in the way of damage to plaintiff's reputation being made by the addition or otherwise of the adverb. Again, defendant contended most strongly that the statement in the said article was true, but it appears from the latter part of document No. 1, appended to the writ, and and from the evidence of witnesses Yamashita Yoshitaro and Mason, and Exhibit B 8, all of which were used by defendant to prove his contention, that it can in no way be acknowledged that plaintiff did not discriminate between right and wrong in the means he took to increase the Canadian exports. Therefore, this contention by defendant must also be rejected.

Defendant contended that the articles referred to above were merely comments on plaintiff's official acts and were not of the nature of libel. However, if an article raises suspicion of the character of a person commented upon in it and injures his credit and reputation in the community, it is no other than libel. The contention is therefore not reasonable.

Therefore, the acts of defendant in inserting the articles referred to above in the *Japan Chronicle*, which is published by him, and in distributing the papers, were damaging to the reputation of plaintiff. Defendant is accordingly liable to compensate plaintiff for all the damage the latter has sustained, and it is clear that he is under an obligation to pay reasonable compensation in compliance with the Articles Nos. 723 and 710 of the Civil Code under the claim made by plaintiff for a solatium, and also to advertise an apology, as also claimed by plaintiff. As to the amount of plaintiff's claim, however, the Court has reduced it after taking into consideration the nature of the act of defendant, the position and credit of plaintiff, and the fact, not disputed by the parties, that the article of November 10 was reproduced in the *Herald*, published at Yokohama, prior to the reproduction of it by Defendant. The Court considers it reasonable that defendant shall pay a solatium of *yen* 1,500 with regard to the article inserted in the issue of November 10, and a solatium of *yen* 500 for the article published in the paper issued on November 14, and the claim for the remainder of the amount asked for is considered unreasonable, and is dismissed. As to the claim for the advertisement of an apology, it is acknowledged to be reasonable for the plaintiff's reputation to be vindicated by the advertising, in the newspapers published in the Empire of Japan and mentioned by plaintiff, the apology set forth in the formal judgment. The Plaintiff's claim that defendant should advertise the apology in newspapers published outside the Japanese Empire is rejected. The plaintiff's claim as to the advertising of the apology, in the event of defendant's refusing to advertise it, is admitted, in compliance with Clause 2 Article 414 of the Civil Code. As to the costs of the proceedings, Clause 2 of Article 73 of the Code of Civil Procedure is applied, judgment being given as in the formal adjudication.

Judge, Presiding, KIMURA HEISABURO,
" AMANO SOTARO,
" YABE KOKKI,
First Civil Department,
Kobe Chiho Saibansho.

A YOUNG woman who with her child was among the passengers of a train which left Hamamatsu Station on the night of the 18th instant, suddenly jumped out of the carriage, leaving her child behind fast asleep. The unfortunate woman was run over and killed.

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FIRE IN THE SETTLEMENT.

Of late the business quarter of the foreign community has been free from any very serious visit of the fire fiend, but this immunity came to an end early Thursday morning (21st), when a fire, which subsequently assumed alarming proportions, broke out in the saw-mills belonging to Messrs. Varnum, Arnould & Co., No. 69, Yamashita-cho. Though the local fire-brigade reached the spot speedily and there was a plentiful supply of water from the creek, the firemen were hampered in their work, owing to the close proximity of other premises to the mills. From the inflammable nature of the contents of the latter the saving of the premises was deemed well-nigh impossible, and therefore all the efforts of the brigade were concentrated on the neighbouring buildings, which included Mr. Gillon's residence, and godowns belonging to Arthur and Bond, Kuhn & Komor and Messrs Papasian & Co.

The fire having devoured the mills, the flames spread to the adjacent buildings, destroying a godown filled with Japanese curios and two others all belonging to Messrs. Kuhn and Komor, and another godown with objects of fine art owned by Messrs Arthur and Bond. So far as is known, the goods belonging to Messrs. Arthur and Bond were insured for 20,000 *yen* with the Palatine Fire Insurance and the Yorkshire Life and Fire Insurance Companies, and those owned by Messrs. Kuhn and Komor for 35,000 *yen* with a foreign fire insurance company; while the owners of the mills were insured with a Tokyo company for *yen* 40,000 The flames were put out about 7 a.m. but the engines were pumping water nearly all day yesterday on the smouldering contents of the saw-mills. Fortunately, no casualties are reported. The total monetary loss is estimated at *yen* 150,000.

It should be added that the marines of the British flagship *King Alfred* rendered valuable assistance, and helped to remove to a place of safety the household effects from Mr. Gillon's residence, which luckily escaped destruction, but was somewhat damaged by water, as was also Messrs. Papasian's godown.

On the night of the 20th, a fire also broke out at Sumiyoshi-cho San-chome, which destroyed three houses in about an hour. The mistress of the house in which the fire originated narrowly escaped being burnt to death.

YOKOHAMA.

On the evening of the 14th instant, a young Japanese woman, apparently of the servant class, attempted to commit suicide by throwing herself into the sea off the Bund at Yamashita-cho. When in the water, however, she repented of her act, and her screams attracted the attention of a foreigner who pluckily plunged into the sea, and with the aid of two Japanese in boats succeeded in rescuing the would-be suicide.

At about 8.30 p.m. on October 16, a fire broke out in an unoccupied house at No. 3,389, Negishi-cho. The house was burnt down. The fire appears to have been due to incendiarism.

On the 16th instant a man named Ito Setsu, a representative of the Yamani Gomei Kaisha of Tokiwa-cho Itchome, dealing in habutae, was arrested for swindling. It is said that the man borrowed 14,000 *yen* from the Yokohama Specie Bank on the security of a certain lot of habutae. Though the term of payment expired, Ito did not redeem the goods, and the bank on closely examining them discovered that some 70 sheets of lead had been packed inside the habutae.

Early on Sunday morning the dead body of a young woman bearing marks of strangulation was discovered in a turning near the Hachiman Shrine at Nakamura-cho. She was identified as a waitress in the Chidori, a Japanese restaurant in Furo-cho. The murderer has not yet been arrested.

On Sunday night two sailors belonging to the German steamer *P. R. Luitpold* in this harbour, came to blows in Hagoromo-cho. They were taken to the Isezakicho Police-station and detained in custody for the night.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended October 14th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	2	2	1	—	—
Died	—	—	1	1	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	6	8	4	—	—
Died	—	4	3	1	—	—

A suspicious-looking man was arrested on the 16th instant at Kiribatake, Kanagawa. According to his confession, he had broken into various houses in that district since the beginning of this month, and had stolen clothing and other things, totalling several hundred *yen* in value. He is a soldier, but deserted from his regiment at Narashino last month.

Early on the morning of October 18, a young man of the working class jumped into the sea from the top of a rock on the beach of Juniten at Honmoku. A girl who was playing in the compound of the shrine, saw the act and immediately reported the matter to the police. A search was made by the latter, but the body was not found until noon. The suicide is believed to be the man who on the 16th instant murdered the waitress at Nakamura.

A worthless fellow named Ishiyama Ginjiro was arrested by the Kotobuki-cho police on the 18th instant, on suspicion of having murdered at Nakamura-machi a few days ago the waitress of a Japanese restaurant.

The proprietor of the Denki-Kwan (cinematograph exhibition), in Fukutomi-cho, entertained on the 21st and 22nd inst. the officers and marines of the Netherlands Squadron with cinematograph performances.

It has been decided to hold an ordinary session of the prefectural assembly, commencing on the 8th prox.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.—FORMOSA.

AGINCOURT ISLANDS.—TEMPORARY LIGHT TO BE REPLACED BY A PERMANENT ONE.

The Governor-General of Formosa hereby gives notice that the existing temporary Light on Hokasho (Agincourt Island), notified with the notification No. 109, dated 19th September, 1908, will be discontinued from the night of the 20th inst.

On and after the 20th inst. the 1st Order Flashing white Light will be exhibited from the Lighthouse erected on Hokasho (Agincourt Island).

The position of the Lighthouse, according to the Japanese Admiralty Chart No. 232, is in Latitude 25 deg. 37 min. 45 sec. North, and in Longitude 122 deg. 4 min. 15 sec. East of Greenwich.

The Lighthouse is built of brick, circular in shape, painted white, and 70 feet high from the base to the centre of the Light.

The Light will illuminate the whole horizon, showing one flash every 15 seconds, but for an arc of 52° of the horizon from N. 42 deg. W. to S. 86 deg. W., it may be obscured by the land if the vessel comes within 2 nautical miles from the Lighthouse. The bearings are magnetic and from seaward.

The Light will have a power of 864,000 candles. It will be 480 feet above high water and visible in clear weather at a distance of 30 nautical miles.

The lightkeepers at this station on hearing a fog-signal, during thick and foggy weather, will fire two guns with an interval of two minutes between them and, if the vessel's fog-signal is still heard, will repeat the firing after a space of 5 minutes.

LIGHT SHOWN AGAIN FROM KAWARAZU LIGHTBUOY.

The Minister of Communications notifies that the light on Kawarazu Lightbuoy at Shiaku-seto, Inland Sea, which was temporarily discontinued, is now shown again, as formerly.

INTERPORT TENNIS.

YOKOHAMA VICTORIOUS.

In the Tennis Tournament, which was played on Thursday morning, the programme was somewhat changed, the Singles being played instead of the doubles. The result proved a signal success for Yokohama.

The Yokohama men won by two sets to love, K. van R. Smith against T. D. Wright; F. E. Colchester against S. Stephens; and D. M. Drummond against C. J Lucas

The only match won by Kobe was that in which J. S. Nicoll lost to A. G. Crane; the last set being one of the best exhibitions of tennis ever seen on this ground.—This contest was only won after the close score of two sets all: and then Crane won the final set, six to love.

Crane's ability to recover ground is little short of marvellous, his net play being specially noteworthy; while the back-hand play and lobbying of Nicoll won him many points.

The results of the Doubles were as follow:—Mr. K. van R. Smith and Mr. Nicoll (Yokohama) beat Mr. R. G. Crane and Mr. S. Stephens (Kobe) by 7—5, 4—6, 6—3, three sets to one, Mr. A. W. Read acting as scorer.

Messrs. J. E. Drummond and D. E. M. Drummond (Yokohama) beat Messrs. C. J. Lucas and T. D. Wright (Kobe) 4—6, 6—3, 7—9, 7—5, Mr. H. R. Nicoll acting as scorer.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

A meeting of this Society was held at Van Schaick Hall on the 14th inst. The first part of the programme consisted of a lecture on "George Meredith" by Mr. W. H. Lewis, which was followed with keen interest by his audience.

In the second part, the following musical items were given:—

Song....."Song of Hybrias the Cretan".....Elliott
Mr. S. H. Somerton.

Song..."Thou art so like unto a flower"...Rubenstein
Miss Allchin.

Banjo Solo....."Bonnie Scotland".....Kennedy
Mr. J. Chillingham Dunn.

Song..."Good-night, little girl, good-night".....J. C. Macey
Mrs. Spielman.

Song....."The Corporal's Ditty".....Squire
Mr. S. H. Somerton.

Piano Selection..."Storm Scene" from "The Flying Dutchman"...(Friedenthal)
Mr. Jordan (of Nagasaki).

Long...(*a*) "The Gypsy Song".....Dvorak
(*b*) "The Year's at the Spring".....Beech
Miss Allchin.

Banjo Solo....."Schottische".....Tilley
Mr. J. Chillingham Dunn.

The next meeting will be held on the 29th inst. when Mr. Karl Lewis will deliver an illustrated lecture on "A Visit to Korea."

CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the twenty-eighth ordinary meeting, to be held at the Offices of the Company, at Hongkong, on Friday, 22nd inst.

The General Agents and Consulting Committee beg to submit to the shareholders the final accounts for the year 1908.

1908 ACCOUNT.—The amount standing to the credit of this account is $294,300.59 out of which it is proposed to carry $194,300.59 to the credit of Underwriting Suspense Account, which will then stand at $302,799.71, and to pay a dividend of $10.00 per share, absorbing $100,000.

CONSULTING COMMITTEE.—Since the last meeting Mr. G. C. Moxon resigned his seat and Mr. D. W. Craddock was invited to fill the vacancy. In accordance with the terms of the Articles of Association all the members retire, but being eligible, offer themselves for re election.

AUDITORS.—The Accounts have been audited by Messrs. W. Hutton Potts and H. Percy Smith, who, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO., LD.
General Agents.

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WHERE GAME IS PLENTIFUL.

In the neighbourhood of Tokyo and Yokohama, the following places are said to be the best for shooting :—

Omori, Kawasaki, Tsurumi, the vicinity of Kodzu and the river Sakawa, on the Tokaido line.

Akabane, Itabashi, Shimura, Urawa, Omiya, Warabi, Tano, Kurihashi, Kaga and the Arakawa on the Nippon line.

In the neighbourhood of the Tone river, snipe, quail, moor-hens and wild-ducks are plentiful.

On the coast line, Kameari, Kanamachi and neighbourhood, Matsudo, Maebashi and other districts along the banks of the Edogawa. The neighbourhood of Tomobe abounds in pheasants, wild pigeons and hares.

On the Sobu line, Hirai, Koiwa, the river Naka, and the vicinity of Choshi. The localities along the lower Tone, on the Na ita line, are also favourite resorts of sportsmen.

MOSQUITO YACHT CLUB.

The Mosquito Yacht Club season was brought to a conclusion Saturday afternoon with a *sendoes* race, each boat being sailed by the owner's head *sendo*. Of the five boats competing, four crossed the starting line together, the *Pele* being a trifle behind. The course was round the Tachibana lightship buoy and return. A capital race ensued, the *Pele* eventually arriving home first. The times were as follows:—

	h.m.s.
Pele	3.25.00
Edna	3.28.00
Winsome	3.28.15
Sunbeam	3.30 10
Elsa	3.30.20

THE PORTOLA CELEBRATION.

Mr. Mitsuhashi, the Mayor of Yokohama, sent on the 20th the following telegram of congratulation to the Mayor of San Francisco for the Portola Celebration:—

"The City of Yokohama sends warmest greetings to the City of San Francisco, coupled with hearty congratulation for the wonderful progress of reconstruction and best wishes for the success of the Portola Celebration."—Mayor MITSUHASHI.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE PROTESTANT CONVENTION.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL")

SIR,—The reports which have been appearing lately in your columns of the jubilee of the founding of Protestant Christianity in Japan have been most interesting, and one could only wish that he had been able to attend them. But has not the time come when they, who always speak so much about a desire for unity, should drop the name "Protestant"? Is it not a rather negative name? To a stranger what would it signify? It would signify a religion that was always protesting against everything else. The name "Catholic," it seems to me, would be, if they felt they had the right to use it, infinitely preferable. Personally I do not like the name "Protestant" when I think of its meaning. And to continue protesting for so many years seems to be like an employer who would never forgive an employee who had committed a fault. Undoubtedly in England the Reformation was a necessity owing to abuses which no one can deny; and the reaction against these abuses had the effect of making the Church of England do away with certain practices which were reasonable. But when these abuses no longer exist (I do not speak of individuals), what is there to protest against?

This letter is not intended to start a controversy, as the writer is no theologian, but only one of the common people, who, with some others, wants to make known his opinion on the matter. The great celebration, with fireworks costing some thousands of pounds, which I saw many years ago at the Crystal Palace, in commemoration of the defeat of the Spanish Armada, was a fine sight, but did it stimulate a feeling of friendship with the Spaniards, who are now on friendly terms with us? I do not consider myself a Protestant. Does the word "Protestant," so continually sounded in my ears, help toward "unity, peace, and concord"?

With all respect for those who work earnestly and honestly for the betterment of the human race, I remain, dear Sir, yours very faithfully,

CONCORDIA.

ENGLAND IN EGYPT.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—Herewith Messrs. Hurst and Blackett will send you for review a copy of my new novel, *The Tragedy of the Pyramids*, a romance of British Army life in Egypt.

You will note from the preface that it was written as a counterblast to Mr. Hall Caine's *White Prophet*, after I had seen the December and January numbers of the "Strand Magazine" with his insulting and pernicious misrepresentations of the British Army and British Administration in Egypt.

My book, which is the outcome of six months' study of the question on the spot, tries to exhibit their devotion and long-suffering, and how necessary they are to Egypt, in a series of romantic episodes.

In Egypt and the Sudan much depends on the capacity and energy of Captains in our Army. I have therefore chosen for my hero, to contrast with Mr. Hall Caine's socialistic Second-in-Command (Colonel the Hon Gordon Lord), Captain Kennedy, a Lowlander in a Highland regiment. I have endeavoured to make him a type of the plain, silent, unflinching Scot, who is one of the most glorious figures in the annals of warfare.

I hope that this study of the strength of the Scottish character will interest you.

I am, Sir, very faithfully yours,

DOUGLAS SLADEN.

32, Addison Mansions, Kensington, W.,
September 6th, 1909.

DESTRUCTION OF MAPLE-TREES.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—In a note some days ago you drew attention to the fact that the maple-trees are now about their best for viewing the autumn tints at Nikko and other show-places. I wish it were possible to bring before the authorities and all interested in the preservation of Japan's scenic beauties the ruthless destruction by sightseers of these beautiful trees that annually takes place at the various autumn resorts. At Nikko, for instance, there are comparatively few trees left. Whole schools, male and female, disgorged by special excursion trains, descend to ravage that little, each individual tearing down, not a few leaves, but entire branches, and the urchins of the neighbourhood go further afield on the same quest for the sake of gain. If representations could be made at headquarters, this vandalism might easily be suppressed, for Nikko is an Imperial domain where such spoliation could be made to appear particularly outrageous. The way the Japanese pick autumn leaves is the way soldiers used, in ancient days, to sack a city. Nothing remains behind but ruin; and the ruin is not repaired. Irreparable damage has, indeed, already been done.

Another consideration is that its natural beauties are almost all that Japan now has to show, the temples, etc., being few in number. A country that has built in wood has condemned itself to the rapid destruction of its past. Only the mountains and the rivers remain; but even they have no longer the same charm when deforestation has passed over them.

I am, Sir, yours truly, W.B.M.

Yokohama, 19th Oct., 1909.

JAPAN AND AMERICA.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—In your last issue of the *Weekly Mail* is an article on Treaty Revision. In it you refer to the second article of the treaty regarding Japanese exclusion, calling it "absolutely reciprocal," and therefore not humiliating to Japan. No reference is made to the more recent agreement which makes it absolutely impossible for any Japanese who works with his or her hands to go to America, no matter how honest, efficient, industrious or respectable he may be. No foreigner having a servant, a nurse perhaps devoted to the family and children; a household servant perhaps of 16 fruitful years standing, clinging to and needed by a mistress returning in ill health; no efficient valet whose service is further desired by his masters; no working man coming back to Japan to visit his relatives can return to his American work and associations. None of these by any possibility can so much as enter the U.S.A. though it is doubtful if they would be excluded from any other country in the world.

Japanese labourers, farmers perhaps, *wish* to go to the U.S.A. and in general they there become industrious, peaceful, law-abiding, harmless residents helping to develop the wealth of the country, becoming a part of society and are, we believe, desired by a majority of people in America, but it is now absolutely impossible for any of these to set foot in U.S.A. or Hawaii,—though it seems from the newspapers that Japanese business men of the recent party still visiting America managed to take some personal servants with them, though a number of Americans who have tried to do the same thing recently have been forbidden.

You seem to consider this all "absolutely reciprocal" and not humiliating to Japan and just. I ask *is* it? It seems to me wholly unjust and humiliating to Japan and moreover disingenuous on the part of the U.S.A. The two sides are *not* reciprocal, because they are not equal, the conditions on the two sides are far from the same.

What American labourer desires to come to Japan? What possible object could there be to him to come? and coming could he make a living by the labour of his hands only for his own one mouth."

A rather recent authoritative dictum states that "it it is not for mutual advantage of either country that emigrants shall settle in mass in the other country." Does not not that sound disingenuous when we think of masses of Russians, of anarchistic Italians, of the Jewish quarters, the German quarters, etc. in our great cities and of Scandinavian towns in our Northwest? And no one objects. Does it not appear disingenuous when we think of masses of Americans coming to Japan? We never heard of masses of Americans going to Russia, Italy, Germany or Scandinavia or any where. Are the two things equal? What American, much less what masses of Americans, farmers, labourers or small traders or any class of people wish to come to Japan to reside any more than they want to go to Russia. Americans rarely emigrate! What possible object for them to come to Japan? Look at the dreary isolated lives of all classes of foreigners at present in Japan.

There are diplomats and merchants in the open ports, there are teachers and missionaries in many places in the interior; that comprises about all. As far as their assimilation into the life of Japan or Japanese Society, or their reception by it goes, except in most formal ways, are not their lives lonely and dreary?

In the open ports the numbers are sufficient to make their own society. Everywhere they have their own sort of work to do which interests them. To some of them work is altruistic with high ideals, and their motives and inspiration cheer and relieve what would be otherwise intolerable seclusion and isolation. Certainly it is most exceptional that any foreigner is socially adopted in Japan, and if he is, he generally makes the first advances. From the earliest days, it was the custom with some classes of foreigners to take temporary Japanese wives, and families were reared, sometimes to be deserted later, and some times by the nobler sort legalized and acknowledged; but this does not show that foreigners were adopted into Japanese Society, for on the contrary these temporary wives and their children were ostracized by Japanese Society. In the occasional cases where Japanese here have taken foreign wives there appears nothing to alter the conclusion.

There is beautiful scenery, many interesting subjects for study and investigation. With sufficient means at one's disposal, a comfortable easy going deteriorated sort of life might be lived here, but almost absolutely alone as far as reception into the life and thought of the people is concerned. They are kept conscious of the fact that they are foreigners everywhere.

Of course the missionary makes a circle about himself into whose life he enters more or less, but the advances and initiative are on his side. It is not so with Japanese in America; they soon feel at home and should they revisit Japan, they almost invariably wish to return to the States because they like to live there.

I knew of one case where a leading society lady got hold of a most simple Japanese farmer's daughter from the country, introduced her to fashionable Society, where on one occasion she was made the guest of honour at a dinner where she sat next to a President of the United States.

I would not be misunderstood in the matter of the reception of foreigners by Japanese Society, for often they are conspicuously invited and ostentatiously entertained in many public functions, like the welcome or farewell to some official or public man or the opening of some new enterprises, but it is formal and they are yet separate and apart, especially so out from the open ports, as far as close association or real intimacy is concerned.

Perhaps after all the trouble really is more that outside of "geisha" and wine parties of hotels, restaurants and sometimes private residences, for all classes that have the means except the Christian, patronize, there is really no society in Japan; absolutely nothing in the country that could induce masses of Americans or individuals to settle in Japan just for the sake of living there.

Can two things be equal and reciprocal when the premises and positions are so unequal? I can only look at it as not frank and open. I am angry with my country when I think of the injustice. It looks much as if the U.S.A. who have always boasted of no class distinctions or race prejudice and have invited all men freely to its borders with a broad smile, had

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suddenly set up class distinctions and expressed real race prejudice and become like the German Emperor, afraid of—what?—the action of the low or the survival of the fittest?

Who knows and *who* has decided that it is for the advantage of both countries to be kept unnaturally and forcibly apart? Shall we go to Turkey to learn of the brotherhood of the nations, of "liberty, justice, equality and fraternity"? Let America make the same agreement with other countries that she does with China and Japan, or else since she is a composite already, let her if she cannot muster virility enough to assimilate and impart her character to all under her flag, let her consider herself as in her feeble old age.

It may be that the U.S.A. government and some of the upper crust in Tokyo flatter themselves that the masses of the Japanese people agree, and pleasantly acquiesce to this arrangement, and perhaps it is preposterous for a foreigner, even though over 30 years in the country, to try to go wide of this. Yet it may be possible for such in the interior to accurately feel the pulse of the people of Japan. I remember how after the Portsmouth treaty, I felt burdened with an oppression of silence as of an atmosphere laden with ominous portent and wrote home of it before the Tokyo riots. In this case I think I have seen many straws which show the real direction of the current. One Japanese referring to it, said "fukohei." Local country papers, patiently but with a hurt sensitive tone refer to relations with U.S.A. A party of Americans visiting an island from which many emigrants had gone to California, were in real danger from a jeering, stone-throwing crowd, though the stone throwing was done by drunken men of the crowd.

Only this spring, so that the party were obliged to hasten to their boats to escape, but not before one of the children had a large lump on his head from a stone and a lady had been rudely pushed against a rock on a steep mountain path.

Many other straws have I seen and feel sure the change is coming in feeling towards the U.S.A. The Japanese people keep silent and are patient long, but sooner or later their feeling on this subject will be heard from, and all this from one they thought their truest friend will make a deep heart wound, and the day of the acknowledgment of Universal brotherhood will be postponed. Japan and England are the only countries on the face of the earth, that really need to keep up their naval armaments.

There seems but little in this treaty or the later agreement to strengthen friendly relations between the two countries, but rather the opposite. I cannot see how it is "absolutely reciprocal" and fear that America by it is laying foundations for unpleasantness for the generations to come, and that if not the present, then surely the future people of Japan and China will justly resent this policy of a most *dis*favored nation clause.

Japan submits to this slap in her face from her friend now. She will not wage war with her friend but—wait! America will be the moral loser by this, and justly so.

While speaking of treaty revision, there is a question on another subject I would like to ask. About the taxation of the salaries of foreigners in Japan. Salaries that come from the home land, not made from Japan at all, but being mostly spent in Japan are a clear gain to the country in any case, bringing just that much more money into it. What right has Japan to tax such salaries; they are purely foreign money. If the individuals receiving them had the same amount of their own independent means, coming from the home land, and lived on it in Japan, she could not tax it, could she? Though they are salaries they are foreign money and how can Japan properly tax this foreign money, even if the foreigner happens to reside in Japan?

There are cases where a part of the said salaries is spent in the homeland, but the individual in stating the amount of his salary to the assessor has given the full amount, including that part of the salary which never came to this country. Was not that injustice to himself?

There have been cases where a part of the salary was used to make purchases of supplies, or perhaps household furnishing, books or clothing, which being brought to this country were heavily taxed at the Customs house, making a double tax on the said salary.

It appears to me very unjust, I cannot see what right Japan has to tax salaries that come wholly from foreign countries, which Japan has nothing to do with producing, and which are to her only and wholly total gain. I would like light.

Of course I recognize that even such foreigners may properly pay a tax for police protection, and such favors or security as a civilized government provides. Doubtless during the war they gladly paid an increased tax because of their sympathy with the country. But when the war is over, do not such high continued taxes make one begin to think?

A LOVER OF JUSTICE AND PATRIOTIC AMERICAN.

CHESS.

[*Correspondence relating to this column should be addressed to the* CHESS EDITOR, *The Japan Mail. Problem solutions should be handed in at the Japan Mail Office, or to Mr. W. B. Mason, not later than the evening of Thursday.*]

To Correspondents:—Solvers are reminded that it is useless to attempt to solve problems published in this column by either capture or checking key-moves. It is well to remember that the key move is, ninety-nine times out of a hundred, a move that would not be the most obvious in ordinary play over the board

* * *

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 27.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. R—K B2	1. K x R
2. Q—Q R7 mate	
	if 1. K—Q sq
2. Q—Q3 mate	
	if 1. KB x R
2. Q—K R6 mate	
	if 1. QB x R
2. Q—Q R7 mate.	

* * *

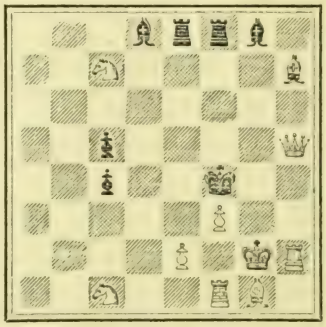
Correct solutions received from J. S., W. H. S., Omega.

* * *

PROBLEM NO 29.

By T. TAVERNER.

Black, 7 pieces.



White, 10 pieces.

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN TWO MOVES.

* * *

GAME NO. 27.—(Played at the City of London Chess Club. Notes by L. Hoffer.)

RUY LOPEZ.

WHITE. H. E. Atkins and J. Gunsberg.	BLACK. J. H. Blackburne and T. F. Lawrence.
1. P—K4	P—K4
2. Kt—K B3	Kt—Q B3
3. B—Kt 5	P—Q R3
4. B—R4	Kt—B3
5. Castles	B—K2
6. R—K sq	P—Q Kt4
7. B—Kt 3	P—Q3
8. P—B3	Castles
9. P—K R3	B—K3 (a)
10. P—Q4	B x B
11. Q x B	P x P (b)
12. P x P	P—Q4
13. P—K5	Kt—K5
14. Kt—B3	B—Kt5 (c)
15. Kt x Kt (d)	B x R
16. B—Kt5	P—B3 (e)
17. P x P	P x P (f)
18. Kt x P ch	K x Kt
19. B x R	Q x B
20. Q x P ch	K—R sq
21. R x B	R—Q sq
22. Q—R5	Kt x P
23. Kt—Kt5	Resigns

(*a*) The right continuation now generally adopted is Tchigorin's, 9.....Kt to Q R4, followed by P to Q B4. (*b*) 11.....Kt to Q R4 would have been the preferable alternative. If 12 Q to R3, then 12..... P to B3, and if 13 P taken P then 13.....P takes P; 14 P to Q K4 Kt to B5. And if 12 Q to B2, then 12.....Kt to B3 with nothing lost but time. (*c*) The worst move on the board. The allies should have played as originally intended, 14.....Kt takes Kt; 15. P takes Kt, Q to Q2, followed by Kt to Q q and K3. (*d*) The capture of the Knigh wins. (*e*) If 16 .....Kt to R4, then 17 Q to K3, and if 17..... Q moves, then 18. Kt to B6ch, P takes Kt; 19 B takes P, followed by Q to R6. (*f*) 17.....R to B2 was considered, but discarded as inadequate. As a matter of fact, the game cannot be saved.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

FERRER'S EXECUTION CAUSES RIOTS.

London, October 14.

The anarchist Ferrer, who was implicated in the Catalonia disturbances and also in the attempt on King Alfonso at his wedding, and who was sentenced to death, has been shot at Barcelona.

Socialist demonstrations as a protest against Ferrer's execution are general throughout Italy. Work is suspended in many towns.

A huge crowd headed by Jaures, the French Socialist leader, made a demonstration yesterday in the vicinity of the Spanish Embassy in Paris, shouting, "Death to Alfonso and Maura, Ferrer's murderers!"

The police intervened, firing their revolvers on the crowd. Two policemen were killed in the fighting which ensued. The police cleared the streets with their swords.

Work is suspended in Buenos Ayres and Montevideo as a sign of mourning for Ferrer.

October 15.

Paris—Midnight scenes of an unprecedented character have taken place. Barricades were erected in the Boulevard Courcelles, lamp-posts torn up and gas-mains lighted. Ineffective attacks were made on the banks. The cavalry and police charged, eventually dispersing the mob. One policemen was killed, and 80 injured.

Later.

The Labour Confederation has decreed a general strike of 24 hours throughout Italy as a protest against the execution of Ferrer.

There was serious rioting yesterday at Florence, Naples, Milan, Trieste, Lyons, and elsewhere. Many persons were wounded.

RUSSIAN MINISTER TO VISIT FAR EAST.

London, October 14.

M. Kokovtzeff, the Russian Minister of Finance, has obtained the Tsar's consent to visit the Far East.

RUSSIA'S FINANCES.

London, October 15.

Kokovtzeff, speaking at the Moscow Bourse, dwelt upon the improvement in Russia's finances. The Budget difficulties in other countries were, he said, much greater. His visit to the Far East was connected principally with the East China Railway. The policy of the Government with regard thereto was quite clear. Formerly their railway policy was strategical, but there now remained only commercial problems—for instance, the introduction of Russian wares in Northern Manchuria, the conveyance of Chinese raw products to Russia, and of Chinese wares to Vladivostock.

M. Kokovtzeff subsequently started for Siberia.

WHO IS THE LIAR?

Later.

A sensation has been caused in America by the guide Barillo, Cook's sole companion in the alleged ascent of the virgin Mount McKinley, who has sworn in an affidavit that Cook did not go higher than 10,000 feet, and that Cook directed him to rewrite his diary.

Cook declares that if an expedition goes up Mr. McKinley it will find on the summit the records he left there.

THE "CONTINGENT" DREADNOUGHTS.

Later.

The Admiralty has invited tenders for the

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four "contingent" Dreadnoughts, which are to be laid down in January.

THE NORTH BORNEO COMPANY.

Mr. Cowie has been elected president of the North Borneo Company.

MR. CRANE—A SACRIFICE.

Taft has accepted Crane's resignation. The weight of opinion sympathizes with Crane, and describes his dismissal as a humiliating sacrifice to Japan.

OPENING OF NAVAL HARBOUR AT DOVER.

London, October 16.

The Prince of Wales has opened the Naval Harbour at Dover with great ceremony. It is capable of accommodating Dreadnoughts at all states of the tide.

BRITISH AND AMERICAN CAPITALISTS AND RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

A Washington despatch states that a group of British and American capitalists are completing arrangements with China for the construction of a railway between Kinchow-fu and Tsitsihar.

It is understood that Japan has notified China that, while she does not intend to oppose China's action, she will maintain her rights under the recent Chino-Japanese agreement.

AERONAUTICS IN ENGLAND.

Aviation week has been opened at Doncaster, several leading Frenchmen participating. Mr. Cody alone succeeded in a short flight. Captain Windham's aeroplane, after having been photographed in flight, was turned over by the wind and subsequently wrecked.

DR. COOK HONOURED.

Later.

The Corporation of New York has conferred the freedom of the City on Dr. Cook as the first explorer to reach the Pole.

THE SPANISH CORTEZ.

EXTRAORDINARY SCENES.

The Spanish Cortes has been re-opened. The Republican Deputies made disorderly demonstrations of sympathy with the death of Ferrer, and the Ministerialists rushed at them with sticks amid a great uproar. Order was finally restored.

THE SITUATION IN GREECE.

In the Athenian Chamber the Premier announced that the royal princes desired the adoption of the army reform bills concerning them.

The Chamber then passed the second reading of the bills without discussion.

It is reported that the princes have resigned their commissions.

ALLEGED PLOT TO ASSASSINATE TAFT.

An alleged plot to assassinate Presidents Taft and Diaz at El Paso, Texas, has been discovered at Chicago. Extraordinary precautions are being taken.

THE TSAR'S VISIT TO ITALY.

London, October 17.

The place and the date of the Tsar's forthcoming meeting with King Victor Emanuel are being kept a profound secret.

THE EXECUTION OF FERRER.

The demonstrations against the execution of Ferrer have reawakened hostility in Italy against the Tsar, and it is believed that they are even being prolonged for that purpose.

TAFT AND DIAZ MEET.

President Taft and President Diaz have met at El Paso, the meeting being held behind closed doors.

The remarkable display of American and Mexican troops is due to the fear of an anarchist demonstration.

FERRER DEMONSTRATION IN TRAFALGAR SQUARE.

London, October 18.

There has been a "Ferrer" demonstration of 10,000 people in Trafalgar Square. Violent speeches were delivered by Socialist members of the House of Commons, and by other leaders, denouncing King Alfonso as a murderer.

The mob subsequently bore in the direction in the Spanish Embassy and the Roman Catholic Cathedral, where the police were reinforced and succeeded in dispersing the crowd.

Further demonstrations are reported from Paris and the chief French cities. The Spanish Consulates everywhere are guarded.

THE TSAR'S VISIT TO ITALY.

London, October 18.

Despite the advice of the Premier, the Bavarian Diet has unanimously passed a resolution, demanding the denunciation of the extradition treaty with Russia.

The *Novoe Vremya* describes this as an insolent demonstration intended to inflame the hostility of a section of Italians, and shows that the Germans regard nothing as too shameless to prevent a meeting between the Tsar and King Emmanuel, which will possibly now be postponed.

THE AMERICA CUP.

Sir Thomas Lipton has sailed for America to try to arrange a race for the America Cup under modified rules.

THE AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Melbourne.—The Federal House of Representatives has passed the second reading of the Bill for the transfer of the Northern Territory to the Commonwealth.

REFORMS IN GREECE.

Owing to the celerity of the Greek Chamber in voting the Government Bills, particularly the Military Bill, it is expected that the programme of the Government will be completely assured.

COOK AND MOUNT McKINLEY.

Dr. Cook talks of reascending Mount McKinley in order to fetch the records left at the summit.

AERONAUTS IN ENGLAND.

Later.

The aviation meeting at Blackpool was opened by French aeronauts, who made a fine display. There were enormous crowds and great excitement prevailed.

CYCLONE AT CALCUTTA.

FEARED LOSS OF MANY EUROPEANS.

There has been a cyclone at Calcutta. Several stations on the Eastern Bengal Railway were wrecked.

Several river steamers and an enormous number of native craft were sunk.

It is feared there has been a considerable loss of European lives.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Later.

Aden.—The P. & O. steamer *Mancua* has communicated by wireless telegraph to the British warships *Hyacinth* and *Philomel*, long before her arrival at Aden. The passengers on board anticipate being able to telegraph to their friends in India, when out two days from Bombay.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

London, October 19.

In the House of Commons yesterday. Mr. Ginnell (Nationalist Member for Westmeath) asked what would be the cost of the construction of the harbour and docks at Hongkong, without which the Canton-Kowloon Railway would be useless.

In reply, Colonel Seely, Under Secretary for the Colonies, said it was not proposed to construct a harbour and docks in connection with the railway.

PLOTTING IN GREECE.

The *Times* correspondent at Athens states that arrangements had been actually made for a military occupation of the Chamber, the arrest of prominent politicians, and the proclamation of a dictatorship on Friday evening, but only the withdrawal of the Royal princes from the Army and the subsequent obedience of the Chamber to the officers of the League averted the crisis.

OBITUARY.

London, October 20.

The death is announced of Professor Cesare Lombroso, of the University of Turin.

AN INSOLENT SPEECH.

Mr. Keir Hardie, speaking at Sunderland, said he hoped it was not true that the King is intervening in the budget. The King, he said, can be tolerated while he remains outside politics, but the moment he begins to interfere in politics, his crown must go into the melting pot along with the Peers' coronets.

THE TSAR'S TOUR.

The Tsar has gone to Odessa, accompanied by M. Isvolsky, the Foreign Minister. The Tsaritsa remains at Livadia.

A SECESSION FROM THE LIBERAL RANKS.

Later.

Mr. Caryllon Bellairs, Liberal Member for King's Lynn and the well-known naval expert, has joined the Unionist Party on the ground of the Socialistic tendencies of the Budget, and has declared in favour of tariff reform.

THE FERRER INCIDENT.

The Labourites in the House of Commons having asked whether the Government had taken any action with regard to the execution of Ferrer, Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Minister, replied that the Government could not depart from its rule not to interfere in the administration of other European Governments.

Mr. Victor Grayson, Socialist Member, made an angry protest and moved the adjournment of the House. Only 18 members supported him.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND.

London, October 20.

St. Petersburg.—A strong military force is being sent to Finland, primarily to occupy the province of Viborg. The Finnish Senate was recently dismissed and replaced by Russian nominees, while at the same time the claim for a separate Finnish army was finally refused. The Diet has been ordered to contribute two million sterling towards Russian army.

THE CRISIS IN AUSTRIA.

Later.

The Emperor Francis Joseph, as a result of the crisis of the 29th ult., has conferred with the Hungarian Ministers at Vienna. He appealed for the continuance of the coalition, but this the ministers declared to be impossible. It is expected that Baron Andrassy will be summoned.

THE "MANTUA."

October 21.

The P. and O. liner *Mantua* is due to arrive to-morrow, according to a "wireless" received at Bombay early this morning.

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THE DREADNOUGHT COMPETITION.

The Civil Lord of the Admiralty, Mr. G. Lambert, speaking at Penicuik, said that Britain would have 20 Dreadnoughts by March 1912, as compared with Germany's estimated total of 13.

THE TSAR'S ROUTE TO BE SECRET.

The Tsar's route to Italy is being kept secret, 11,000 Italian troops being concentrated between Basfonetclia and Racconigi, where his Majesty is to meet King Emmanuel.

Numerous arrests of foreign Anarchists have taken place in Italy.

PEARY'S RECORDS.

Washington.—Peary has submitted to the National Geographical Society the records of his expedition to the Pole.

(Received at the Foreign Office)

THE BANK OF ENGLAND RATE.

The Bank of England has again raised its rate of discount from 3 to 4 per cent. The reason assigned is to prevent the outflow of gold to the United States of America and to Germany, as well as to other countries.

OPENING OF PORTS.

The Chinese Government has informed the Japanese Representative in Peking that, from the 2nd of November, Lungcheng and 3 other towns in Chientao will be opened to foreign trade.

THE SEATTLE EXHIBITION.

The Seattle Exhibition was closed on the 16th instant. The visitors had totalled 3,700,000, a result in excess of expectation. The Japanese section was specially well spoken of.

STORM AT HONGKONG.

Hongkong, October 20.

From 9 a.m. on the 19th instant a violent storm set in. It reached its height last night, and at 10 a.m. to-day calm was gradually restored. The amount of damage done has not yet been clearly ascertained, but it was much lighter than that caused by the gale of July last year. The Japanese steamer *Hongkong Maru* come into collision with vessels adrift and suffered slightly.

THE BOYCOTT.

Shanghai.

The boycott of English goods at Kiukiang is gradually ceasing.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

RIOTS IN PARIS.

London, October 14.

Paris.—The execution of Ferrer has caused a furious demonstration against the Spanish Embassy. Barricades were raised and an attempt made to shoot the Prefect of Police. Several deaths occurred. The cavalry were called out and dispersed the rioters.

Later.

The socialists and anarchists have passed a resolution declaring Ferrer to be a martyr.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

On the Exchange there has been some enquiry for Japanese stocks.

THE SITUATION IN GREECE.

London, October 15.

Athens.—The King is greatly distressed at the action of the military party in insisting on depriving princes of their rank in the army. He regards British indifference to Greek interests as largely responsible for the present agitation, and hints that he may be obliged to abdicate, though ready to lead a genuine reform movement safeguarding the Constitution.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, October 16.

On the Stock Exchange Osakas and Nagoyas are higher.

THE MONGOLIAN RAILWAY AND AMERICA.

New York.—The State Department is declared to consider that Japan's insistence that China shall consult her with reference to the building of a railway between Kinchow and Tsitsihar by the Anglo-American syndicate, is logical, if the Japanese policy is to exclude all other Powers in North China. Japan's notice to China is, however, considered somewhat extravagant, because the greater part of the proposed railway runs through Mongolia, which is beyond the Japanese sphere.

FRANCE AND MORROCCO.

London, October 18.

Paris.—Relations with Morocco are somewhat strained. The Sultan shows no inclination to comply with the French requests for the redress of numerous grievances and aggressions. The Government require an immediate settlement. The press says France must act.

THE TSAR'S VISIT TO ITALY.

London, October 18.

The Socialist leaders in Rome have issued a summons to the proletariat to mark their disapproval of the Tsar's visit. Should the Government attempt to forbid the meetings, a general strike will be proclaimed.

FERRER'S EXECUTION.

Paris. — A monster demonstration of 50,000 persons, organized by the Socialists as a protest against the execution of Ferrer, has passed off peacefully.

The labour exchanges throughout the country have met and protested against the attempt to wreck churches.

It is reported that in various cities in Italy, in Argentina and in Uruguay the boycott of Spanish products is threatened.

AFFAIRS IN GREECE.

London, October 19.

Athens.—The opposition to the new taxes is increasing.

It is stated that King George and his family will spend the winter in their country seat, in complete retirement.

JAPANESE SECURITIES.

London, October 20.

On the Stock Exchange Japanese securities have improved, owing to the favourable Budget statement.

SPANISH POLITICS.

Madrid.—The leader of the Opposition has again denounced the Government's policy in Morocco and in Catalonia as endangering the national institutions. He declared his readiness to assume office. It is generally admitted that the days of the Government are numbered.

THE CAMPAIGN IN MOROCCO.

London, October 19.

A special telegram from Melilla states that the Spanish troops are cheerful and anxious to wipe out the memory of the misfortunes at the commencement of the campain. The relations between the officers and the troops are different from those in other European armies, and approximate more closely to those in the Japanese army.

PRAISE FOR JAPAN.

The *Times* correspondent who was lately in Japan, closes his series of articles by an eloquent tribute to the wholesome national awakening from various social, financial, commercial and political evils accompanying the growth of the nation's material prosperity After lauding the Imperial Rescript of 1908, the correspondent points out the great achievements which modern Japan has accomplished under the inspiration of old Japan. He believes that her future is secure if she succeeds in preserving what is best in the old spirit.

AUSTRIAN NAVAL EXPANSION.

London, October 20.

Vienna.—A meeting of Commercial men and manufacturers under the auspices of the Navy League has resolved that the 16 million pounds sterling required by the Marine Department are an absolute necessity.

THE FERRER DEMONSTRATIONS.

Rome.—Except the extreme socialists, the whole press condemns the proposed demonstrations of dissatisfaction during the visit of the Tsar.

Brussels.—A disorderly scene has taken place in the Chamber. The Socialists described the execution of Ferrer as a judicial crime, and the Spanish Government as composed of murderers.

London, October 21.

Rome.—The Labour associations have abandoned the idea of a general strike on the occasion of the Tsar's visit.

THE SITUATION IN GREECE.

Athens.—The Chamber is voting all projects practically without discussion. The leaders seem unwilling to accept responsibility, the military party are themselves disunited, while the Bourse and the merchants are upset.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

A CANARD CONTRADICTED.

Berlin, October 14.

A communication of the *Novoye Vremya* at St. Petersburg, stated to be official, according to which an anti-Russian policy on the side of Germany in Manchuria has been decided upon at Berlin, is officially declared by the German Government to be a pure invention.

M. KOKOTWTZOW.

M. Kokowtzow, the Russian Minister of Finance, on his way to the Far East, has arrived at Moscow, where he was welcomed by Mr. Krestownikow, the President of Moscow. The latter, addressing him, said that the restoration of Russian Finance and its credit abroad added to the Minister's merit. M. Kokowtzow, in his reply, said that his tour to the Far East was intended for inspection of the Eastern Railway, which in former times had political importance, but was now only of pure commercial value.

RAILWAY CONCESSION REFUSED

The Government of Egypt has refused to grant a new concession for a railway to be constructed from Syria to Port Said, for the reason that the Suez Canal must be affected by it.

AFGHANISTAN.

Rumours, according to which the troubles in Afghanistan, already reported, are continuing, are stated to be based on facts.

THE EXECUTION OF AN ANARCHIST.

The radical European Press is violently commenting on the execution of the anarchistic leader, Ferrer, at Barcelona, which act is said to have been forced by the clergy. At Paris violent demonstrations with casualties have taken place in front of the Spanish Embassy. New demonstrations

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and declarations of protest are reported from Italy, Belgium, Amsterdam, and Trieste.

ITALY.

Berlin, October 15th.

The Japanese military mission now on a tour of inspection in Europe, has presented to Queen Helena of Italy at Château Racciorigi a high Japanese Order.

RUSSIA.

The Russian newspaper *Rgaetzsch* reports that 600 million roubles will be demanded in the new Budget for naval armaments, dockyards and Dreadnoughts.

GERMANY.

Prince and Princess Buelow will accept an invitation of the Kaiser to Berlin on October 17th and stay there for a week.

THE ZEPPELIN POLAR TRIP.

A trial trip of the Zeppelin Polar expedition will be carried out in 1910 to Spitzbergen, in which Prince Heinrich, Count Zeppelin and Professor Hergesell will take part.

ABYSSINIA.

The Abyssinian troops have been victorious in several fights against the insurgents.

NICARAGUA.

Revolutionary unrest is prevailing in Nicaragua.

THE EXECUTION OF FERRER.

The Spanish Minister for Foreign Affairs has declared that the excitement in foreign countries as to the execution of the anarchist Ferrer is caused by wrong reports, Ferrer's participation in the riots at Barcelona being undoubtedly proved.

CHILE.

A branch-office of the Banque Francaise Pacifique will be opened at Santiago de Chile with a capital of 10 million francs.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails with dates up to Sept. 29th have arrived at Berlin on Oct. 15th.

GERMANY.

Berlin, October 16.

The Kaiser has been present at the flights of Orville Wright, carried out by him at Potsdam.

DEATH OF FAMOUS PHYSICIAN.

Berlin, October 17.

Professor Dr. Hofmeier, the famous gynecologist and scholar of the University of Wuerzburg, born at Ruegen in the year 1854, died in London, where he was staying on furlough.

The negotiations of the conference for examining the various paragraphs of the Treaty of Commerce between Germany and Austria will begin on October 18th.

THE ROYAL MEETING AND THE ANARCHISTS.

The anarchists at Raccionigi, the place where the meeting between the Tsar and the King of Italy will be held, are placed under special control of the Italian police, which is supported in its efforts by the leaders of the Socialist parties in France and Russia.

REFORM FORCED BY ARMY.

The Greek Chamber, pressed by threat of instituting a dictatorship on the side of the Army, have passed the Reform Bills, as demanded by the officers.

Berlin, October 16.

The Greek Princes have finally resigned all connection with the Greek Army.

THE ZEPPELIN EXPEDITION.

Fridjof Nansen has promised his assistance to the Zeppelin Polar Expedition.

ANARCHIST ATTEMPTS.

New bomb attempts have taken place at Barcelona, directed apparently against the life of the Archbishop. The Spanish Government is preparing the publication of the documents of the Ferrer trial. Demonstrations of sympathy with Ferrer are continued everywhere in France, Italy and Austria.

UNITED STATES.

Dr. Cook has been honoured with the freedom of New York City.

Berlin, October 17.

President Taft and President Diaz, of Mexico, have had a meeting at El Paso on the Mexican frontier.

GERMANY.

Berlin, October 18.

Princess Victoria Louise, the only daughter of the Kaiser, has been confirmed to-day in the presence of many German Princes, Prince Buelow, the ex-Chancellor, also being present.

GREAT FIRE AT QUEBEC.

A gigantic fire is raging at Quebec, by which the big granaries have been destroyed.

SPAIN.

Ferrer demonstrations are still continuing in the European capitals.

GERMANY.

Berlin, October 19.

Freiherr Schenck zu Schweinsberg, formerly a member of the German Legation at Peking, President of the Historical Association for the Grand Duchy of Hessen, Director of the Archives of the Grand-Ducal House and State, born at Kassel in 1842, is dead.

PERSIA.

The Persian Parliament will be summoned on October 30th.

FRANCE.

Count Lamberg has carried out a flight of 40 kilometers in one hour at Paris with his aeroplane and flown round the Eiffel Tower.

THE SUEZ CANAL.

The concession of the Suez Canal Company has been prolonged and the transfer of the Canal to the Government of Egypt postponed. The Company pays 3 millions sterling as compensation to Egypt and grants a share of a quarter of the profit to the Government.

DEATH OF PROF. LOMBROSO.

Professor Lombroso of the University of Turin, the well-known psychiatric scholar and author of many scientific books, born at Verona in 1836, is dead.

UNITED STATES.

The Municipality of San Francisco has sent a letter of thanks to the German Government for the participation of a German warship in the Portola celebrations in remembrance of the rebuilding of the city after the last great earthquake.

THE KAISER.

Berlin, October 20.

The Kaiser has attended a lunch party at the Chinese Legation at Berlin, on which occasion a personal letter of the late Emperor of China was presented to him by the Chinese Minister Yin chang.

The marriage of the Grand Duke of Sachsen-Weimar, who was betrothed a short time ago to Princess Carola of Sachsen-Meiningen, will be held on January 4th.

THE FERRER AGITATION IN EUROPE.

Questions as to the execution of Ferrer have been asked in the Parliaments of Great Britain, France and Belgium, to which the various Ministers of Foreign Affairs refused to reply, for the reason that their Governments do not meddle with the internal affairs of other States.

NICARAGUA.

The ports of Nicaragua are closed owing to the prevailing revolution.

ABYSSINIA.

The insurrection in Abyssinia has been suppressed.

RUSSIA.

The incorporation of the Wiborg Government with the Russian State is imminent. The garrison has been increased for the maintenance of peace and order.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION.

New York, October 13.

The Mayor of this city has conferred the freedom of the city on the party of Japanese business men during their stay here. The Police authorities have been requested to look after the visitors.

NEW WARSHIPS FOR CHINA.

Hankow, October 13.

In accordance with the instructions of the Minister of the Navy, six warships and four torpedo-boats which are being built in the Kawasaki Dockyard, to the order of the late Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung, have been assigned to the South Sea Squadron instead of to the Hupeh squadron.

JURISDICTION OVER KOREANS.

Pyongyang, October 14.

Mr. Nagashima, Chief-Judge, and Mr. Mukai, Chief Public Procurator of the Court of Appeal, left for Seoul to-day, in order to make arrangements for the enforcement of jurisdiction over the Koreans throughout the peninsula.

THE CRANE INCIDENT.

Peking, October 14.

The American residents here attribute the blunder of Mr. Crane to his lack of experience in diplomacy, and urge that it is wrong to make a Minister of one who is not acquainted with Far Eastern Affairs.

LORD KITCHENER.

Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener arrived here yesterday evening by special train from Hankow. After exchanging greetings with the British Minister and many other officials of different Powers who received him at the station, His Excellency proceeded to the British Legation. Sixty Chinese policemen and twenty-four Japanese garrison soldiers were despatched to the station as a guard. It is expected that the Field-Marshal will be received in audience by the Emperor on the 18th, and will leave for Japan on the 20th *via* Manchuria.

CHINA'S AWAKENING.

Nanking, October 14.

The formal ceremony of establishment of the Provincial Assembly of this city was held here yesterday. More than one hundred members of the Assembly and the Consuls of the various Powers attended the function. The conference will commence on the 18th instant. The General public are to be admmitted, including foreigners.

FAILURE OF BOYCOTT.

The anti-Japanese boycott at Wuhu and Ankei has proved unsuccessful.

THE RUSSIAN FINANCE MINISTER.

Vladivostock, October 14.

The Russian Minister of Finance left St. Petersburg on the 12th instant. He has been invested with full powers to adjust matters connected with the Chinese Eastern Railway.

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RAILWAY RATES IN MANCHURIA.

Yingkow, October 14.

As the result of the raising of the South Manchuria Railway charges, a greater portion of goods which were formerly brought here, have been forwarded to Hupeh station.

PRINCE TSAI.

Shanghai, October 14.

Prince Tsai and Admiral Sah arrived here to-day and are expected to leave the day after to-morrow on their tour of naval inspection through Europe and America.

FIELD-MARSHAL LORD KITCHENER.

Peking, October 16.

Lord Kitchener while staying in the capital is so frequently and enthusiastically entertained by the Ministers of different Powers, besides others, that His Lordship declines the calls of journalists.

VISIT OF THE TSAR TO ITALY.

Vladivostock, October 15.

The Tsar is expected to visit Italy towards the end of November (of the Julian calendar). He will have an interview with the King of Roumania on the way to his destination.

THE BANKS OF RUSSIA AND CHINA IN SIBERIA.

The conditions of the amalgamation of the banks of Russia and China in Siberia, which appears to have almost been decided in St. Petersburg, will not be published this year, as further negotiations are needed before a settlement can be reached.

CHAIRMAN OF THE PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY.

Mukden, October 15

Mr. Go, Vice-Chairman of the Educational Society, has been elected Chairman of the Provincial Assembly here. He visited Japan last year.

THE ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Mukden, October 16.

The anti-Japanese boycott here has become virulent. The boycotters are going round different stores persuading the owners not to sell any Japanese goods. Consequently there are no enquiries for Japanese goods.

CHIVALROUS MARINES.

San Francisco, October 15.

A fire broke out in this city last night, and the Japanese and Italian warships anchored in the harbour despatched a company of marines to give aid to the fire-brigade. Fortunately the flames were soon extinguished, and the marines were not needed. The brigade officer, however, thanked the men most cordially and the general public praised their chivalrous action.

JAPANESE OFFICERS ENTERTAINED.

The officers of the Japanese cruiser *Idzumo*, 40 in number, were entertained here to-day at a splendid banquet by the Japanese residents.

EPIDEMIC PREVENTION OFFICE.

Seoul, October 15.

The epidemic prevention head office was closed to-day.

MINES IN CHAI RYONG AND ENN-RYUL.

Seoul, October 16.

As the result of an inspection by Baron Nakamura, Director of the Government Steel Works at Wakamatsu, the mines in Chai-ryong and Enn-ryul are about to be bought by the Japanese Government.

PRINCE ITO'S TOUR.

Dairen, October 17.

Prince Ito is expected to arrive here to-morrow. During the following two days, he will visit the Onoda Cement Factory and various parts of the city. He is to leave for Port Arthur on the 21st instant.

OPENING OF ELECTRIC TRAMWAY.

The new electric tramway, constructed by the South Manchuria Railway Company, was opened yesterday.

FINANCE MINISTER RESIGNS.

Seoul, October 17.

The Resident-General accepted yesterday the resignation of the Minister of Finance. Mr. Ko-yeiki will be his successor.

A DISTINGUISHED VISITOR.

Harbin, October 16.

Count de Witte and his family will shortly visit Japan *viâ* Vladivostock. There is no political import in the visit.

RESIGNATION OF CHINESE MINISTER.

Shanghai, October 17.

It is rumoured that the Foreign Minister of the Wai-wu-pu has determined to resign his post, despite the advice of the War Minister and others to remain in office.

PROGRESSIVE CHINA.

Peking, October 17.

The Metropolitan Provincial Assembly was formally opened yesterday, in presence of the Viceroy. The Chairman and the Vice-Chairman were elected. It appears that the election of the members has passed off peacefully in all the provinces.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

In connection with the loan question concerning the Yeh-Han and Chuan-Han railways, the representatives of the four Powers concerned have had several conferences with the Minister of Communications. It is believed that the matter will take some time to settle.

TO PROTECT RUSSIAN CUSTOMS.

Vladivostock, October 17.

Lieut.-General Pehacheef, of the Russian Army, is on his way to the Far East in order to organize a special garrison for the protection of the Customs on the Russo-Chinese frontier.

RUSSIAN MINISTER'S MISSION.

The principal business connected with the visit of the Russian Minister of Finance to the Far East is said to be as follows:—

1. To make investigations into the financial condition of the Far East after the closing of the free ports.

2. To settle affairs in connection with the Chinese Eastern Railway, the working of which is inflicting serious losses upon the Russian treasury.

3. To prevent the Russians living on the Siberian and Manchurian frontiers from being encroached upon by Chinese and Japanese.

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION.

New York, October 17.

Baron Shibusawa and Messrs. Nakano, Iwaya and Ishibashi addressed a meeting of the Japanese Association in the Carnegie Hotel this afternoon. About eight hundred persons were present.

PONGEE SILK FOR AEROPLANES.

Dairen, October 17.

As pongee silk is reported to be the best for making the envelopes of aeroplanes, large purchases have been made by foreign merchants in Chefoo, with the result that the silk is now quoted at 700 *yen* per picul.

LORD KITCHENER.

Lord Kitchener is expected to arrive at Yingkow on the 21st and at Port Arthur on the 23rd instant.

MEDICAL INSPECTION ABOLISHED.

Dairen, October 18.

The medical inspection of trains at every station on the South Manchuria railway was abolished yesterday.

THE JUDICIARY IN KOREA.

Seoul, October 18.

The Imperial Ordinance relating to the enactment of the Japanese judiciary was published this evening.

RAILWAYS IN KOREA.

It has been decided that the construction of the Gensan and Mokpho railways is to be commenced from the next financial year. The appropriation for each railway is one million *yen*.

THE LATE EMPRESS DOWAGER.

Peking, October 18.

The remains of the late Empress Dowager will be removed on the 9th proximo from Peking for interment in the Imperial mausoleum.

Hankow, October 18.

Viceroy Chen has petitioned the Emperor for permission to raise a home loan of 2,400,000 taels, in order to relieve the financial embarrassment in Hupeh.

THE CHINESE NAVAL COMMISSION.

Hongkong, October 19.

Prince Tsai and his suite arrived here to-day *en route* to Europe.

THE RESIDENT-GENERAL.

Seoul, October 19.

Resident-General Baron Sone will go on the 21st instant to the Imperial Palace to return thanks for the inquiries made after his health during his recent illness. Major-General Ishii, Commander Sakakibara, of the Japanese Gendarmerie, Mr. Ogura, Chief of the Accountants' Department, and Baroness Sone are to accompany the Baron.

CONSUL-GENERAL FOR CHIENTAO.

Tsingtau, October 19.

Colonel Saito and Consul-General Nagataki arrived here this morning in company with their staff, consisting of 50 persons. They are expected to leave for Chientao to-morrow.

PRINCE ITO'S TOUR.

Dairen, October 19.

Prince Ito was entertained at luncheon to-day in the Russian Consulate. In the evening he attended a welcome meeting held at the Public Hall.

THE NEW PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY.

Mukden, October 19.

The Provincial Assembly will meet to-morrow to discuss certain matters put forward by the Viceroy. These consist of 25 items, connected with civil administration, finance, and educational and business affairs.

OPEN PORTS.

Peking, October 19.

The authorities have decided to open Lungchingtsun and three other places in Chientao on the 2nd proximo.

CHINA AND PRINCE ITO.

It is reported that the Wai-wu-pu will despatch Mr. Tsao Ju-lin to Mukden to receive Prince Ito.

PRINCE ITO.

Port Arthur, October 20.

Prince Ito and his suite arrived here to-day. They were welcomed by the Japanese officials and by the leading citizens. After taking luncheon at the Yamato Hotel, Prince Ito inspected the various government offices and other institutions. In the evening a welcome meeting was held at the

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Kaikosha. The Prince with his suite will leave for Mukden on the 22nd instant.

SAN FRANCISCO CELEBRATION.

San Francisco, October 20.

The Portola Celebrations commenced yesterday. There was a naval parade of the marines belonging to the warships of the different Powers, held in honour of Gaspard Portola, the discoverer of the Golden Gate. The marching and physique of the Japanese sailors were much admired. During the night, the warships were illuminated, as were also the different places on shore, the whole presenting a beautiful sight. At 9 p.m. Japanese fireworks were discharged. The Mayor gave a splendid banquet to the naval officers of the foreign warships at St. Francis Hotel.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It is reported that Prince Ito will have an interview with the Russian Minister of Finance on the 26th instant at Harbin.

A STATION-porter was seriously injured at Shimbashi Station on Wednesday morning, being knocked down by the engine of a train.

ACCORDING to a Harbin despatch, 300 Russian emigrants will shortly set out for Hawaii, under contract to work for 45 roubles a month.

PRINCE and Princess Kuni, who are returning home by the steamer *Tenyo Maru*, are expected to arrive at Yokohama on the 29th instant.

ON the 20th instant, the first snow of the season fell at Karuizawa. Hail was experienced in Nagaoka, Kashiwazaki, Niigata and Yonezawa.

THE railway track on the Kamigori to Mitsuishi section of the Sanyo line has at last been doubled. Running will be commenced on or about the 24th instant.

THE opening of a new sea-route between Japan and Korea, proposed by the Residency-General, was abandoned at the Cabinet Council held on the 13th instant.

A TOKYO tailor named Sawada Sakuhei was robbed, on the 18th instant, of some 24,000 *yen* in notes whilst on his way from Tokyo to Yokosuka by train.

THE 300th anniversary of the death of Kato Kiyomasa, the famous warrior, was celebrated yesterday at Joji, Kawasaki. Admiral Ito attended the function.

SINCE the outbreak of cholera in Kyoto on the 13th instant, there have been 146 cases, 71 of which proved fatal. Seventy-five persons are still suffering from the disease.

THE railway line between Fujisawa and Ofuna, which has been under repair since the recent flood in these districts, has been completely restored to its original state.

ON the night of October 17 a student committed suicide by throwing himself in front of an electric car at Yotsuya, Tokyo. He was seriously injured, and died several hours later.

THE 15th inst. was the first day of the shooting season. It is stated that several parties of sportsmen set out the preceding night from Tokyo and Yokohama for Koganei and other parts.

A NAGASAKI despatch says that 56 Philippinos have called at that port on their way to Hawaii. They are said to have been engaged by the planters there in place of Japanese.

IT is reported that some 60,000 tons of goods are awaiting transport at the different stations throughout the country. It will take about a month to clear all these goods away.

ADMIRAL SAITO, Minister of the Navy, and Baroness Saito; Admiral Ito and Miss Ito; Admiral Togo and Countess Togo, and several others were entertained at luncheon yesterday on board the British flagship *King Alfred*.

A MAN while riding in an electric car on the 18th instant from Kabuto-cho to Ryogoku, in Tokyo, had his satchel stolen, containing 1010 *yen* in cash and a cheque for 500 *yen*.

WORK on the elevated railway in Tokyo is rapidly progressing. The rails having been laid between Shiba and Yuraku-cho, a trial run of locomotives and goods train has already been made.

IN the Tokyo Local Court on the 18th inst., the Russian baker Almakoff, working for a Tokyo shop, who had murdered his fellow-countryman and co-worker, was sentenced to penal servitude for life.

ON October 14 judgment in the Oriental Compressol Company case was given in favour of the plaintiffs at the Tokyo Local Court. The text of the judgment will be published in the course of a few days.

FIFTY-FOUR Chinese students, who are going to study in America, in virtue of the indemnity returned by America, have arrived at Nagasaki by the steamer *China, en route* to San Francisco. They are all cabin-passengers.

ON October 16 a passenger train from Nagoya arrived at Hamamatsu Station, when the under portion of two second-class carriages was seen to be on fire. The flames were put out before any serious damage was caused.

THE Russian War Department is reported to have made arrangements for connecting European Russia with the Far East by means of wireless telegraphy, constructing stations at the foot of the Ural mountains and several other places.

IN view of attracting more visitors to Hakone a new scheme is under way to extend the Odawara electric tramway through Hakone, connecting with the Government line at either Mishima or Gotemba. The work is expected to be completed by 1913.

ADMIRAL LAMBTON and his staff went on the 21st inst., in company with the British Ambassador, to the Imperial Palace, to have a farewell audience of Their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress. They were afterwards entertained at a banquet in the Palace.

"THE MALE SEX, as a whole, shows far less independence about clothing itself than the female," says *The Lady*. "Even in the matter of colour men bow slavishly to the fashion." Black men, for instance, observes *Mr. Punch*, are rather out of fashion just now.

TELEGRAPHIC information was received here last evening of the death at Banff, B.C., of Mr E. H. Gill, the senior partner in the firm of Messrs. Browne & Co. of Kobe and one of the oldest foreign residents in this country, to which he came in the early seventies.

HORIGUCHI KOZABURO, formerly a railway employee at Ozaki Station, and four accomplices have been arrested, charged with having stolen goods during the past four months from the luggage cars at the station. The stolen goods are valued at 3,000 *yen*.

IT is officially reported that Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener will not arrive in Tokyo until the afternoon of the 2nd proximo, in consequence of which the grand manœuvres have been postponed, by order of the Emperor, till the 6th, one day later than the appointed date.

THE Kobe agents of the Hamburg-America S.S. Company inform the local Press that the steamer *Silesia* bound from Hamburg to the Far East arrived at Manila on the 12th inst. with a broken crank shaft. The repairs were expected to take about a fortnight.

THE Government has decided to defray during the next financial year the sum of one hundred thousand *yen*, asked for by the Department of Foreign Affairs, in order to establish commercial bureaus in foreign countries. They will be established in London, New York, San Francisco, Peking (or Tientsin) and Canton.

A PICKPOCKET who has infested various railway stations in Tokyo since the beginning of last month, was arrested on the 17th instant by the Kanda police. The articles stolen on the 27th ultimo and on the 1st, 6th, and 17th instant are in the custody of the police.

DURING the night of October 15 a man and his wife and daughter were discovered seriously wounded in their house at Hachimata-mura, Inba-gori, Chiba prefecture. The woman died the next day. The man's son is suspected of having committed the deed and has been arrested.

THE Netherlands Minister in Tokyo gave a dinner on the 19th instant to Rear-Admiral Triedmann and the staff of the Netherlands Squadron, at the Imperial Hotel. The Minister and the Vice-Minister of the Navy and several other high naval officers were present at the dinner.

WITH regard to the loan of 2 million *yen* raised by the Toyo Kisen Kaisha from American capitalists last year, the date of the repayment of which will soon expire, the Company will pay one million *yen* by cash deposited in the First Bank and the balance by a loan from the same bank.

ON October 20, the Korean Crown Prince's birthday was celebrated in the Detached Palace at Toriizaka, Tokyo. Prince Iwakura went to the Palace, taking with him presents from His Majesty, while many of the Imperial princes and other dignitaries tendered their congratulations.

IT is reported that on the occasion of the forthcoming grand manœuvres, His Majesty the Emperor, as Generalissimo, will proceed to the headquarters at Utsunomiya, leaving Tokyo on the 5th proximo. The Emperor will review the troops on the 10th, and return to the capital the next day.

A SAPPORO telegram reports that a fire occurred on the 15th instant at Shirido, Kushiro, and destroyed the greater portion of the village, 42 houses being burnt down. Another fire broke out the next day at Wanishi, Muroran. Twenty-four houses were destroyed. No casualties are reported.

THE following is taken from an Edinburgh paper's report of a shooting match:—

"At luncheon time the Royal Scots led by 19 pints."

We can only faintly imagine, remarks *Punch*, what they led by at the end of luncheon.

ON October 20, when a passenger train, which left Yokohama at 4.30, had arrived at Dzushi Station, an accident occurred to the engine, and the train could not proceed farther. Consequently all the passengers were asked to alight, and an urgent telegram was dispatched to Shimbashi Station for another engine.

AN urgent telegram was despatched from Maizuru to the Naval Department on the 18th instant, stating that Admiral Kataoka, the Commander-in-Chief, and five other high officers of the Naval station there had been attacked with dysentery. A later telegram states that the patients are progressing favourably.

ON the 18th instant the principal members of the Mitsui family, including the newly appointed directors of the different departments of the Company, assembled at the Mitsui Club, where Marquis Inouye, the chief adviser to the family, addressed the gathering. The Marquis subsequently entertained the party at luncheon.

PRINCESS FUSHIMI, junior—who is travelling *incognito*—arrived in Hongkong recently by the *Prinz Eitel Friedrich*. Mr. Funatsu, the Japanese Consul-General, and the leading members of the Japanese community went over to the Kowloon wharf to meet her. Her Imperial Highness is joining her husband in Paris, after which they will make a series of calls at the principal Courts of Europe and proceed homeward via America.

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The Princess, accompanied by the Consul General, spent the morning sight-seeing in the city and at the Peak, later returning to the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Funatsu, where tiffin was partaken of. In the afternoon, says the *Daily Press*, the distinguished visitor returned to the mail boat.

THE Netherlands Squadron, from the East Indies, arrived here on Saturday morning and exchanged salutes with the port and the British flagship. The squadron is under the command of Rear-Admiral Triedemann and consists of the flagship *de Ruyter*, *Tromp* and *Koningin Regentes*. During the day the usual official calls were paid and received.

A MIDDLE AGED couple who were among the third-class passengers on board the steamer *Yawata Maru*, which left here on the 16th inst., threw themselves overboard whilst in the Enshu Sea, on the way to Kobe. They left letters addressed to the purser of the steamer and to the Kobe Water Police, asking that their money and goods should be given to the Kobe Orphanage.

AT 8.40 p.m. on the 18th instant a goods train coming from the west dashed into another stopping at Kisogawa Station on the Tokaido line. The engine of the former and four wagons of the latter were derailed. In consequence, the train coming from Hamamatsu, which ought to have arrived at Yokohama at 3.38 p.m., was delayed until 5.10 p.m. No casualties are reported.

COUNT OKUMA went on the 18th instant to the Imperial Palace and presented the Emperor and the Crown Prince with the following three books:—The "Kaikoku Gojunenshi" in Chinese (the history of the half century since the opening of the country); the "Zaisei Benran" (financial guide-book) by Mr. Taketomi Tokitoshi; and the "Kuchu-no-Keiyei" the future in the air) by Lieut. Colonel Takatsuka Kyo.

THE *Minotaur*, which is to relieve the *King Alfred* as flagship on the Asiatic station, is a twin-screw armoured cruiser of 14,600 tons displacement, built by Harland and Wolff, and completed last year. Her engines are of 27,000 h.p., normal draught, developing a speed of 23.01 knots. As compared with the *King Alfred*, completed in 1903, the *Minotaur* is only 500 tons heavier, but her armament is considerably stronger.

IT now seems almost safe to anticipate that within the next few days Seoul will be totally free from the epidemic which has wrought so much havoc since last month. For the forty eight hours ending at 8 a.m. on the 11th inst. no fresh cases were reported in the Japanese colony, while in the Korean quarters only three cases were discovered. The total number of cases in the city since the first outbreak, says the *Press*, stood on the 11th inst. morning at 144 Japanese and 992 Koreans.

DR. DRURY, Bishop of Sodor and Man, tells a story of a visit he once paid to a friend of his. At the station he found a carriage waiting for him, so he jumped in and closed the door. But the carriage did not move, and Dr. Drury sat still for some time, wondering what was amiss. At last he put his head out of the window and asked the coachman what he was waiting for. "Well, sir," replied the coachman, touching his hat, "I was told to wait for the Bishop of Sodor and Man. You've arrived, sir, but where is your man?"

THROUGHOUT the world there are 80 millions of French subjects, embracing 96 different peoples. This is exclusive of the population of France. In Tunis there are 1,800,000 French subjects, including Jews, Europeans, and Mussulmen. In North and West Africa there is a chaotic population, the races including the Maures, the Mandigues, the Onolops, the Bambaras, the Toucouleurs, and the Peuth. In Guinea are the Sousous; on the Ivory Coast 50,000 Lahalas. At Gobbon the races are Gabonaise and Pahouins, the last being cannibals. In the Congo are the Loangos, who, among other strange customs, expose their marriageable daughters in little bowers, their skins stained with powder, outside their parents' dwelling. There are also in this region Langouassis, Soubanquis, and Batekes. Of a total of 18 millions those who eat one another are few. In Madagascar are Hovas and Sakalares of the number of 2,500,000. There are some Indians in India, Creoles in the Antilles, and Galibis in Gulaua. The Papuans, we are told, are wrongly called Canaques in the New Hebrides.

THOSE who so strongly object to the use of the adjective "Scotch" instead of "Scottish" have just received a blow to their pride by an official recognition of the former in the capital of Scotland itself. On the official windows of the Education Department in Edinburgh appears the announcement in bold lettering—'Scotch Education Department." To make assurance doubly sure, the Edinburgh School Board, in advertising for a senior English master for the Royal High School, uses the word "Scotch" in alluding to the Department regulations.

WHILE on their way from Marienbad to Paris on the 19th Sept. Baron and Baroness Radewitz were killed in a sensational auto accident. When the automobile in which they were making the trip was approaching Amberg, a carriage came out of a side road. In trying to avoid a collision, the chauffer turned sharply to the right and the machine struck a tree. The Baron was killed on the spot, and the Baroness died a few hours later. Before her marriage the Baroness, as Rita Loon, was the principal actress of the Residenz Theatre in Berlin.

THE Canadian Pacific Railway Company has made large preparations for drilling for petroleum in Alberta. A well known mining engineer of Toronto, who is regarded as an authority on petroleum formations, has been engaged, and he has reported so far that he believes that in a few years Alberta will be one of the greatest oil-producing parts of the world. Two locations have already been selected where the drills will be utilised, after a thorough examination of the geological formation of the whole district. The part which the Rocky Mountains played in an upheaval in a prehistoric age will, it is thought, be very favourable to drilling operations.

FROM German sources it is stated that both the *Nassau* and the *Westfalen*, the first German Dreadnoughts, will undergo their trials this fall, the *Rheinland* and the *Posen* next spring, and the armoured cruiser *Von der Tann* next summer. Against these five new ships England will have twelve ships of late construction. When in the summer of 1911 Germany completes the three battleships *Oldenburg*, *Siegfried* and *Beowulf*, and the cruiser "G." she will have nine to Britain's sixteen. In the spring of 1912 the battleship *Ersatz Frithjof* and the big cruiser "H" will be ready, and in the winter of the same year the battleships *Ersatz Heimdall* and *Ersatz Hildebrand*, making in all twelve new ships against Great Britain's twenty. All the German warships are expected to go into commission within six months after date of trial.

DR. FRANCIS E. FREMANTLE, the County Medical Officer of Health for Hertfordshire, in his annual report deals with the effect upon the public health of the largely increased motor traffic. "If, as is well known," he observes, "stonecutters and those working in other dusty trades are peculiarly liable to 'stonecutters' phthisis' and silicosis unless the dust be prevented by oil or water, so must dust on the roads, in lesser degree, have a definite injurious effect on the lungs. Motor traffic, moreover, even when it conforms to the law, necessitates a constant caution on all who use the highway, and this caution involves a definite tension of the faculties a 'nerve tension' harmful in proportion to its degree, its continuance, and its suddenness. Its degree varies with the nervousness of the subject, and is far higher in women than in men, in those of moderate intelligence than in those of much or none." Dr. Fremantle goes on to urge that on behalf of the public health, supervision must be directed to the four factors of nuisance—noise, smell, dust, and danger.

VICTORY FOR AEROPLANES.

WRIGHT CIRCLES STATUE OF LIBERTY.

New York, September 29.—Wilbur Wright circled the great statue of Liberty at the entrance of New York harbour in his aeroplane today. While in the upper part of the harbour two huge dirigible balloons fell ingloriously to earth. This, the first day of flight of the Hudson Fulton celebration, was a victory for the heavier than-air machine.

Both Mr. Wright and Glen H. Curtiss soared skyward from the aerodrome on Governor's Island in their motor-propelled bi-planes. The dirigibles, manned by Captain Thomas Baldwin and George L. Tomlinson respectively, and entered in the New York *World's* $10,000 New York to Albany race, were forced to descend because of mechanical difficulties before they were well under way.

Wilbur Wright made three sensational flights, and Curtiss made one brief, though successful, test flight of thirty seconds' duration.

Captain Baldwin with his dirigible landed in the Hudson River less than one hour after the start, while Mr. Tomlinson, after remaining in the air from 11.36 a.m. until 1.30 p.m., came to earth near White Plains, 22 miles from starting point. Neither of the dirigible pilots was injured, nor was either craft seriously damaged.

With a lull in the general Hudson-Fulton ceremonies, the eyes of all New York and her million visitors were turned to-day toward Governor's Island, where the aeroplane flights were held, and towards 119th street and Riverside drive, the starting of the New York to Albany race. Curtiss was the first to leave the earth, at a time when dawn had hardly broken. It was at seven o'clock that he rose for a brief flight. Two hours later Wright made his first ascent, completely encircling Governor's Island and remaining in the air seven minutes. After an hour's rest Wright again went aloft, this time remaining in the air for six minutes and thirty seconds, attaining a speed estimated at fifty miles an hour, and with a glorious sweep out over the bay, passed entirely around the great emblem of Liberty on Bedloe's Island, to the north-west.

Not content with the spectacular feat of winding around Liberty, the Dayton aviator made a third flight at 5.20 o'clock this afternoon. He did not fly over the water or go any great height, but executed two complete circles in the air, and then made an excellent landing, while the crowd, including his rival, Curtiss, commented very favourably on the ease with which he manipulated his craft. In all three of its flights to-day, the Wright machine showed greater speed than that of Curtiss, but Curtiss' machine seemed to keep equilibrium better and remained on an even keel. Wright, in fact, met with a slight mishap in his first flight, when a wing tip struck the ground on landing and considerably jarred his machine.

Wright's action in circling the statue of Liberty to-day is taken as a challenge to Curtiss, for Curtiss was the first to mention such a flight. From now on it is expected that the two aviators will strive to outdo each other, although neither will do anything reckless. Both aviators hope to fly up North River as far as Grant's Tomb, using a warship as a stakeboat.

The start of the dirigible balloon race to Albany was to a considerable extent a fiasco, but it is announced that the balloons will be ready for another attempt at the first opportunity.

Tomlinson was the first to start on the trip, which he hoped would end at Albany. He got away at 11.36, and headed north on the easterly side of the Hudson. Baldwin rose at 11.56, and began travelling towards the state capitol almost over the middle of the river. In a few moments he was lost to view in the slight mist that hung over the river, but in his elevated position he was being bothered by cross currents.

A puff of wind broke one of the rudder ropes, and he was forced to begin his descent on the water off the Jersey shore. The balloon came down easily, and sailors from the battleships Rhode Island, New Jersey and North Carolina swarmed to his rescue in launches. They managed to hold up the ballon so that only the motor was wet. Baldwin swung himself into a boat. A gang of sailors then pushed the big bag ashore, where it

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was loaded in a wagon and returned to the starting point. Baldwin's maximum height was 200 feet. Tomlinson, in the meantime, at the height of about 300 feet, had been going northward overland, when both his gasoline and oil tanks began leaking. Fearing an explosion, he was forced to come to earth on a country estate near White Plains. This feat he accomplished without mishap. Tomlinson was found sitting calmly in his seat trying to stop the flow of oil and gasoline from their tanks. He was uninjured.

THE FIGHTING IN MOROCCO.

Melilla, Morocco, October 1.—A Spanish force from Zeluan, reconnoitring yesterday in the direction of the Sokel Jemis, encountered the Moors and met with a serious reverse. General Vicarce, three other officers and 14 men were killed, and 182 men were wounded.

The Spanish force was under the command of General Orozco. The officers who lost their lives were a lieutenant and two captains. The Spaniards were ambushed by the Moors.

The division under General Tovar, supported on the left by General Vicarce's brigade, and on the right by two squadrons of cavalry and a battery of artillery, had made a reconnaisance into the Beni-Buifrur territory, and it was on their return in the direction of Zeluan that the attack occurred. The Spaniards held their own until the arrival of reinforcements, consisting of two companies of infantry and a battery of machine guns, with the aid of which they succeeded in beating off the fanatical Moors, but at a heavy toll in dead and wounded.

Madrid, October 2.—Further details of the engagement fought two days ago between the Spaniards and the Moors have been received here. The Spaniards lost a total of 235 men killed and wounded, including General Diez Vicarce, who lost his life. A single battalion of Chasseurs had 19 officers and 30 men wounded. The Spanish expedition was reconnoitring in the direction of Sokel Jemis. The Moors at first retired before the Spanish advance, but gradually reformed behind the heights of Argan and Mount Millon, and when the Spaniards entered the rocky defiles below their position, where the horses could hardly keep their footing, they were attacked furiously. The column under General Vicarce, which was in advance, received orders to retire, and the movement was accomplished in good order under cover of the field machine-guns, when General Vicarce was shot dead and fell from his horse. General Tovar then took command, and after fierce fighting the Moors were beaten off. The entire expedition retired to Zeluan.

The Infante Don Carlos is going to Melilla at the head of the Cavalry Brigade, of which he is the commander.

Paris, October 2.—The ambitious projects attributed to Spain with regard to Northern Africa are causing considerable press comment. Official circles, however, do not manifest any disquiet, as Spain's assurances regarding territorial aggrandisement have thus far been categorical. It is understood that France and Great Britain have agreed that Spain shall have full right to exact indemnity from Morocco, and temporarily to occupy territory, pending its payment, but both are prepared to resist the permanent occupation of Tetuan.

MR. BALFOUR AND TARIFF REFORM.

New York, September 23.

A London despatch to the *Sun* says that Mr. Balfour, the Conservative Leader, definitely threw down the Tariff Reform gauntlet in a great speech at Birmingham yesterday. The Budget, he said, with its dangerous tendency toward slipshod communism, had raised the most important issue for many years, and the nation had now to decide whether it would enter an upward, hopeful, forward movement of Tariff Reform, or take the first, though in no wise the last, step of Socialistic legislation. The country's condition, he said, was not now and never again could be what it was in the halcyon days of British industrial supremacy. There was nothing, unhappily, more certain than that in many of the greatest industries Great Britain was no longer first among her rivals; was not even second among her rivals; while in some directions she had to rejoice in holding her place. While America was building up the greatest commercial empire the world had ever known, and while Germany, with exampled, almost staggering success, had promoted the growth of her own industries, and through the partial, unequal working of the "most favoured nation" clause, had become the centre of the mid European body, commercially armed against British competition, it was amazing, even contemptible, that the people of this country should sit by with folded arms, hiding themselves behind the antiquated Free Trade formula, and watch other empires forging the weapons with which they were going to capture Great Britain's colonies from her sphere of commercial influence. He did not believe that the verdict could be long delayed. The opposing forces of the Tariff Reformers and Socialists were marshalling for the conflict, but it would not be the House of Lords or the House of Commons which would decide the issue. It rested with the voice of the people.

The meeting was highly enthusiastic. Everything was done to emphasise in his constituency Mr. Chamberlain's position as the pioneer of Tariff Reform. His son, Mr. Austen Chamberlain, who occupied the chair, read a letter from his father, appealing to the democracy of Birmingham to aid in getting the present controversy referred to the people. In the course of a latter Mr. Chamberlain said; "I hope that the House of Lords will see its way to force a general election, and I have no doubt of what the country's answer will be." The letter was tremendously cheered. Mr. Chamberlain, in his home at Highbury, near Birmingham, listened to Mr. Balfour through an electrophone.

The meeting, with a few dissentient voices, adopted a resolution which pledged the Unionist Party's loyalty to Mr. Balfour's leadership, and announced, among other things, that "recognising that the financial proposals of the Government are intended to postpone indefinitely the policy of Tariff Reform, this meeting declares its determined adherence to that policy as a necessary means of increasing employment at home and strengthening the Empire at large."

London, September 23.—The Unionist Press expresses great delight with what is generally described as the great fighting speech of Mr. Balfour. The *Daily Mail* says it marks a turning-point in Tariff Reform. "Upon Balfour has descended the mantle of Chamberlain," it concludes.

ORVILLE WRIGHT'S SUCCESS.

Potsdam, Germany, October 2.—Orville Wright, the American aviator, to-day broke his own, and all other, records for high flying. He reached the unprecedented height of more than 1,600 feet, although an official measurement was not taken. He had a red-letter day in a double sense in his experience as an aviator, taking up the Crown Prince Frederick William as a passenger, and more than doubling the altitude record which he made recently over the same field. The Crown Prince had been constantly urging Mr. Wright, since he first saw him fly, to take him up as a passenger.

Wright evaded this responsibility while making flights at the Templehof Field, owing to the unfavourable winds, but since the beginning of the flights at Bornstedt Field, near Potsdam, the prince had been telephoning the aviator every morning, asking him if he was ready to gratify his request. Wright finally consented to-day. The prince reached the field at 4.30 in the afternoon, without his adjutant. After drawing on his overcoat at Wright's suggestion, to save his uniform from being bespattered with oil, the prince took his seat alongside the aviator, and the machine rose in the air. Wright kept it at a height of about 20 feet for a brief period, but the Crown Prince exclaimed: "Higher, higher!" Finally the aviator went up above 60 feet, and the crowds heartily cheered the prince, who waved back his acknowledgment. The aeroplane glided back to the starting-point ten minutes later.

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LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The Cotton market is very quiet with prices steadily advancing. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is firm, but generally speaking the high prices at home have mitigated against any extensive buying. In Woollen and Woollen Mixtures, a certain amount of new forward business is being secured.

RAW COTTON.	PER PICUL.
American Middling... ... — ...	40.00 to 41.00
Egyptian	46.50 to 51.00
Indian Broach...	33.50 to 34.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)...	31.00 to 32.00
COTTON YARN	**PER BALE.**
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed...	420.00 to 460.00
COTTON PIECE GOODS.	
White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.... ...	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints— 24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	10.50 to 15.00

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Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin— No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Conditions have improved, and buyers are realizing that the advance in home prices is not merely temporary.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.80 to 3.85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4.30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.80
Sheet Mild Steel	6.15 to 6.30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9.60 to 9.80
d., Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 108lbs. I.C.W.	6.80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.88 to 3.98
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

The market has ruled quiet and no transactions have been done in imported refined sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. Business in known brands is beginning to revive.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	11.50
Flag	"	10.60
Royal	"	10.60
Trophy	"	10.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.90
Lion	"	12.00
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00

Japanese:—

Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 "	2.78
Fuji	6 "	2.85
Pine	6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

Stocks are getting short and mills will soon have to begin importing. Importations of Manchurian and Korean wheat are reported.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15 to 5.30
Red " " "	5.10 to 5.20
Blue Stem	5.30 to 5.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. A fairly large business has been done, with the result that prices have somewhat strengthened.

On October 21st stocks were: filatures 24,541 bales; Re-reels, 5,618 bales; Kakeda, 1,216 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	Y.1,030
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	950
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	970
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	900
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	980
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	950
Filature—No. 1½½, 13-15den	865
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	940
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	860
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	880
Re-reels—No. 1½	850
Re-reels—No. 2	820
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra	930
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	860
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	840
Kakedas—No. 2	820

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

October	Present delivery.	October delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
15th	875	859	—	877
16th	874	—	—	874
17th	—	—	—	—
18th	873	—	865	872
19th	873	859	—	872
20th	873	862	—	873
21st	875	862	—	875

WASTE SILK.

Market continues active. Prices now demanded mark an advance which has not yet been paid by exporters.

On October 21st stocks were: Noshi, 11,072 bales, Kibiso, 15,348 bales; and Sundry, 923 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	137½ to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	95 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	70 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	120 to 127½
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	90 to 100
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—There is no particular change to report, although the tendency is upward. Production is still small.

Kanazawa:—There has been a slight advance in prices owing to an increased demand from all markets, especially for better qualities.

Kawamata:—The production in this district has materially increased, owing to the festival market days. The demand remains good, but there has been no change in prices.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.45	8.25	8.00	8.00	7.95
27"	8.70	8.40	8.45	8.10	8.15
36"	8.55	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.25

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.20	8.05	8.10	7.75
27"	8.20	8.05	8.15	7.75
36"	8.30	8.10	8.05	7.80

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.80	10.90	11.80	13.00
36	12.40	14.00	15.70	16.20

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of October 21st, the quotation was £58.15.6.

Owing to weak markets at home, fresh business is absent, but shipments against old contracts continue.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report, considerable stocks being still held, with poor demand.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	977,621
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	186,004

Delivery.	Closing Price.
October	—
November	11.66
December	11.35

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
October	11.10	October	10.92
November	11.39	November	11.30
December	11.49	December	11.40

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku.*
Superior	Yen 12.00
Medium	11.00
Common	10.00
Average	11.00

TEA.

Quotations have shown a little advance. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to October 20th, the sales amounted to 8,832,300 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 56,800 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	36 — 37
Good Medium	34 — 36
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
October	124 95
November	125.65
December	125.60

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Oct. 21

London silver ⅛/16 lower but again no alteration in China sterling quotations nor in local rates.

London—Bank T.T.	2/1 5/8
— — Bills on demand	2/0 5/8
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1 1/2
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/4
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight	263
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	85¼*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83¾*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87½*
— Private 10 days' sight	89*
India—Bank sight	152½
— Private 30 days' sight	154½
America—Bank sight	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50¾
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅜
Germany—Bank sight	209½
— Private 4 months' sight	214@½
Bar Silver (London)	23⅛

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
America	P. M.	Mongoria	F.	Oct. 22
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Aki Maru	M.	Oct. 25
Hongkong	P. M.	Manchuria 1	M.	Oct. 25
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	Tu	Oct. 26
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	Th.	Oct. 28
Portland	P. & A.	Selja	F.	Oct. 29
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Tosa Maru	F.	Oct. 29
America	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru 2	Sa.	Oct. 30
Europe	N. D. L.	Prinzess Alice	Su.	Oct. 31
Hongkong	P. & A.	Rygja 3	Su.	Oct. 31
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	M	Nov. 1
Hongkong	B. L.	Oceano	Tu	Nov. 2
Europe	M. M.	Armand Behic 4	W.	Nov. 3
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Monteagle	F.	Nov. 5
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	F.	Nov. 12
Tacoma	B. L.	Aymeric	F.	Nov. 12

1 Left Hongkong on the 16th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 12th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
4 Left Saigon on the 21st inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.		Date.
Europe	N. D. L.	P. R. Luitpold	Sa	Oct. 23
Hongkong	P. M.	Mongolia	Sa.	Oct. 23
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Chikugo Maru	Th	Oct. 24
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	Tu	Oct. 26
America	P. M.	Manchuria	W.	Oct. 27
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Aki Maru	W.	Oct. 27
Europe	N. Y. K.	Iyo Maru	W.	Oct. 27
Hongkong	P. & A.	Selja	Sa.	Oct. 30
Europe	M. M.	Tourane	Sa.	Oct. 30
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Su.	Oct. 31
Portland	P. & A.	Rygja	M.	Nov. 1
America	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	Tu.	Nov. 2
Tacoma	B. L.	Oceano	W.	Nov. 3
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Monteagle	F.	Nov. 5
Hongkong	B. L.	Aymeric	Sa.	Nov. 13
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	Sa.	Nov. 13
Tacoma	B. & S.	Bellerophon	Sa.	Nov. 13
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Shinano Maru	M.	Nov. 15
Australia	N.Y.K.	Nikko Maru	M.	Nov. 15
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	Th.	Nov. 18

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LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Amiral Duperre, French steamer, 3,013. Martin, 15th Oct.,—Antwerp via ports, General.—Chargeurs Reunis.

Ghazee, British steamer, 3,242, D. H. Cave, 15th Oct.,—London via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Gregory Apcar, British steamer, 2,960, G. H. Belson, 15th Oct.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,907, M Hagino, 15th Oct.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumeric, British steamer, 4,006, James Mathie, 15th Oct.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 15th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Koning Regentes, Dutch cruiser, 5,084, Capt. T. Pinke, 16th Oct.,—Shanghai.

Tarten Tromp, Dutch cruiser, 5,298, Capt. W. Termiftelm, 16th Oct.,—Shanghai.

De Ruyter, Dutch cruiser, 5,084, Capt. Tydemann, 16th Oct.,—Shanghai.

Peshawur, British steamer, 4,885, C. F. Lockstone, 16th Oct ,—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Oanfa, British steamer, 5,876, W. C. Lycett, 16th Oct.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Prinz Legent Ruitpold, German steamer, 3,920, K. Kirchner, 16th Oct..—Hamburg and Bremen via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co, Nachf.

Tacoma Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,830, H. Yamamoto, 16th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., (Agents American Line Osaka Shosen Kaisha.)

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, Tsuda, 16th Oct., —Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 16th Oct ,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer. 3,186, D. E. Friele, 17th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Kasenga, British steamer. 2,923, Dobbs, 18th Oct ,—New York via ports, General.—Sale and Frazar.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 18th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bessie Dollar, British steamer, 2,798, Gow, 18th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tourane, French steamer, 2,338, Bourge, 19th Oct., —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Suveric, British steamer, 4,011, Shotton, 19th Oct., —Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 19th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, R. J. Woodget, 20th Oct.,—Swansea and Liverpool, via ports. General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, W. Davison, 20th Oct.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 20th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Shimidzu, 21st Oct.,—Takao via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Kumeric, British steamer, 4,006, James Mathie, 15th Oct.,—Manila and Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer 2,920, E. Combes, 16th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,830, H. Yamamoto, 16th Oct.,—Tacoma, General. — Samuel Samuel & Co., (Agents Osaka Shosen Kaisha.)

Yawata Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,366, T. Sekine, 16th Oct.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Gregory Apcar, British steamer, 2,690, G. H. Belson, 16th Oct.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Sydney, French steamer, 2,077, Lafont, 16th Oct., —Marseilles via ports. Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Oanfa, British steamer, 5,876,, W. C. Lycett, 16th Oct.,—Puget Sound ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Amiral Duperre, French steamer, 3,013. Martin, 16th Oct.,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Teenkai, British steamer, 3,016, A. R. Stewart, 17th Oct.,—Brisbane via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 17th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, Tsuda, 17th Oct, —Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,907, M. Hagino, 18th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Peshawur, British steamer, 4,885, C. F. Lockstone, 18th Oct.,—Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Bessie Dollar, British steamer, 2,798, Gow, 18th Oct.,—San Francisco via Kushiro and Hakodate, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Theseus, British steamer, 4,299, J. Barwise, 11th Oct.,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Somali, British steamer, 4,225, A. G. Cubitt, 19th Oct.,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Suveric, British steamer, 4,011, Shotton, 20th Oct., —Tacoma, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

China, American steamer, 3,186, D. E. Friele, 20th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, W. Davison, 20th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irizawa, 21st Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 21st Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 21st Oct ,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 21st Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *China* from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. G. W. Guttridge, Miss Miriam Meyers, Mr. H. G. M. Pratt, Mr. N. Tait and Mr. J. H. Wallace. For Honolulu :—Mr. and Mrs. Parmingham, Mrs. L. Koon Chock and daughter and Mr. T. Masuda. For San Francisco :—Mr. J. B. Berelson. Mr. W. H. Campkin, Mr. Chin King Yaon, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Comfere and son, Mr. Chin Chan Yuen, Mr. Chan Tsun, Mr. Chang Ting Chin, Mr. Chin Fan Chun, Mr. Chue Pei Hau, Mr. Chang Fu Liang, Mr. Chen Yen Tsan, Mr. Chen Ye Fa, Mr. Chan Huang, Mr. Chen Shao Ging, Mr. Chu Vee Gih, Mr. Chu Fuh, Mr. Chen Po, Mr. Patrick Dunnigan, Mr. J. Feifer, Mr. Adam Fuinez, Mr. Emil Frantzke, Mr. Fong Chin Yu, Miss E. Gordan, Lt. C. S. George, Mr. R. Hinton, Mr. C. A. Haldemann, Mr. Hsu Pei Hwang, Mr. Hu Kan Tuh, Mr. Hsin Chi Sui, Mr. Hou Chan Cheng, Mr. Hou Moo Ching, Mr. He Chiah, Mr. I. Chi Mei, Miss J. L. Kipp, Mr. Kwong Shu Kuan, Mr. Kao Luen King, Mr. King Tao, Mr. Jose Fon Loy, Mrs. K. Lee Mr. Lin Dan Yang, Mr. L. Yang Yin Ching, Mr. Lee Tsing Lung, Mr. Loo Wei Chiao, Mr. Lo King Tsar, Mr. Loh Pao Kan, Mr. Lee Wing Ho, Mr. T. McLaughlin, Miss B. A. H. Murray, Mr. Ping Chi, Mr. Sidney, Polack, Mr. A. Rosenberg, Mrs. A. L. Smith, Miss E. Scott, Mr. Shen Fung Yang, Mr. Tong Kwoh Own, Mr. Tai Chi, Mr. Tong Yueh Liang, Mr. Tai Shui Tao, Mr. Tsing Chou Chuang, Mr. Tang Yi Mung Leing, Miss Tseo Pang Yuen, Mr. Van Yung Tsin, Mrs. Woo and infant, Master Earl G. Woo, Master Gordan A. Woo. Mr. Wei Wen Pin, Mr. Wang Chien, Mr. Wo Shan Pu, Mr. Wang Chin, Mr. Woo Tsing Too, Mr. Wang Sge Ji, Mr. Wee Yu Lin, Mr. Wang Ring, Mr. Wang Chen Fee, Mr. Yung Yin, Mr. Yuan Tsong Kyien, Mr. Yen Chia Chow and Mr. Zia Zau Chee in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* from Vancouver, B.C. :—Miss M. A. Asson, Rev. H. J. Atkinson, Miss Atkinson, Mrs. Herbert Barclay, Mr. John Barclay, Lord Brooke, Lady Brooke, Mr, and Mrs. James Buchanan, Miss Buchanan, Mr. and Mrs. Coleman, Col. R. J. Cooper, Mrs. Cooper, Mr. H. E. Dount, Miss E. J. Elderkin, Miss S. M. Folkins, Mr. O. St. M. Forrester, Mr. and Mrs. H. Gummer, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hancock, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Hartwell, Mr. A. J. Holt, Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Huet, Miss G. Hulet, Mrs. Imlach, Mrs. H. D. C. Jones, Mr. Mackintosh, Miss Mackintosh, Miss E. Marshall, Mr. and Mrs. E. Mast, Mr. H. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. Patterson, Mrs. Raynor, Miss O. M. Rea, Mr and Mrs. E. W. Reid, Mrs. F. R. Rogers, Miss Rogers, Mrs. T. Buckett Russell, Miss Mary Selman, Miss Z. L. Srigley, Miss M. Swann, Dr. and Mrs. Hugh Weir, Mr. H. J. Weiss, Mr. Alfred Wragge and Mr. Wing Auan, in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Sydney* for Marseilles via ports :—Mr. Kateneff and valet de chambre, Mr. Easte. Mr. J. M. H. Leckie, Mr. Yun Tai Ye, Mr. Highi and six sailors in cabin.

Per British steamer *Somali* for London and Antwerp via ports :—Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Linford and infant, Miss S. St. Maur Shiel, Mrs. M. A. Day, Mr. E. Heine, Mrs. Stephen Flower, Miss Myburgh, Mrs. D. J. Scott, Miss Gladys Scott, Mrs. W. E. Laxon Sweet, Mr. J. McBeth, Mrs. Hadley and child, Mr. and Mrs. M. B. Anderson, Mr. J. Evans and Mr. and Mrs. Momber in cabin.

Per American steamer *China*, for San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. M. Akimoto, Mr. T. Anraku, Mr. T. H. Barmingham, Mrs. T. H. Barmingham, Miss E. E. Barne, Mr. J. B. Berelson, Mr. W. H. Campkin, Mr. Chan Ting Chin, Mr. Chan Tsun, Mr. Chan Huang, Mr. Chang Fu Liang, Mr. Chan Shao Ging, Mr. Chen Po, Mr. Chen Yen Tsan, Mr. Chen Ye Fa, Mr. Chew Fuh, Mr. Chin Pan Chun, Mr. Chin King Yaon, Mr. Chin Chang Yueng, Mr. Chu Vee Gih, Mr. Chu Pei Hau, Rev. Cockrane, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Compfere and son, Mr. P. Dunnigan, Mr. J. Feifer, Mr. Fong Chin Yu, Mr. Emile Frantze, Mr. Adam Fuinez, Miss Dr. Garton, Lt. C. S. George, Mr. J. T. Gibson, Miss E. Gordon, Mr. C. A. Haldemann, Mr. R. Hinton, Mr. Ho Chien, Mr. Hou Chan Cheng, Mr. Hou Moo Ching, Mr. Hsu Pei Hwang, Mr. Hsin Chi Sui, Mr. Hu Kang Tuh, Mr. I Chi Mei, Mrs. K. Ichinose, Mr. A. L. Jacoby, Mr. Jose Fon Loy, Mr. U. Kakinoki, Mr. H. Kamoi, Mr. Kao Luen King, Mr. K. Kimura, Mr. King Tao, Miss J. L. Kipp, Mr. M. B. Komatsu, Mr. F. G. Kraus, Mr. Mr. Kwong Shu Kuan, Mrs. L. Koon Chock and daughter, Mr. L. Yang Yin Ching, Mr. Lee Tsing Lung, Mr. Lee Wing Ho, Mrs. K. Lee Mr. Leu Ping Ku, Mr. Lin Dan Yang, Mr. Lo King Taar, Mr. Loo Wei Chiao, Mr. Loh Pao Kan, Mr. Lung Nam, Mr. T. Masuda, Mr. T. McLaughlin, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Moore, Miss J. Moore, Miss B. A. H. Hurray, Mrs. T. Naito, Mr. A. C. Oelsner, Mr. S. Ogawa, Bishop and Mrs. Partridge, child and nurse, Mr. Ping Chi, Mr. Sydney Polack, Mr. A. Rosenberg, Miss E. Scott, Mr. Shen Fung Yang, Mr. Shew Clark King, Mr. M. Shimidzu, Mrs. A. L. Smith, Mr. Tai Chi, Mrs. Tai Shui Tao, Mr. Tang Yi Mung Ling, Mr. Tong Kwoh Own, Mr. Tong Yueh Liang, Miss Tseo Pang Yuen, Mr. Tsing Chou Chuang, Mr. Van Yung Tsin, Mr. Wang Chen Fu, Mr. Wang Chin, Mr. Wang Chien, Mr. Wang Sge Ji, Mr. Wang Chang Ping, Mr. Wee Yu Lin, Mr. Wei Wen Pin, Mr. Wo Shan Pu Mr. Woo Tsing Too, Mrs. Woo and infant, Master Earl G. Woo, Master Gordon Woo, Mr. Wong Chew, Mr. Yang Yung Yin, Mr. Yen Chia Chow, Mr. Yuan Tsong Kyien, and Mr. Zia Zan Chee, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* for Hongkong via ports :—Capt. McMillan, Mrs. Hansen, Mrs. Symons, Mrs. R. Mackenzie, Mr. and Mrs. Abell, Mr. La Gro, The Earl and Countess of Macclesfield and maid, Mr. W. Harvey, Mayor E. Walker, Mr. E. E. Porter, Mr. and Mrs. Michael, 2 children and amah, Mr. A. B. Rouse, Mr. C. E. H. Beavis, Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Bear ; Mr. Chu Chu Sam in second class.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Sydney* :—

	Raw.				Waste.			
	Marseilles Option.	Lyon.	Moscow.	Milan.	France.	Switzerland	Trieste.	Peignes
Hara Yushutsuten .	213	—	100	—	—	—	—	—
Siber Wolff & Co...	134	60	93	—	11	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	97	—	—	—	17	—	17	—
Nabholz & Co.....	50	—	—	—	1	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	40	Tamaito		—	10	—	—	—
L. Mottet	37	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	28	—	—	—	15	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.....	20	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pila & Co.....	—	105	—	—	7	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co. ...	—	98	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.....	—	30	10	St. Chamond		—	—	—
P. Dourille	—	18	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Strahler & Co....	—	15	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett and Bent ...	—	10	—	—	19	—	—	—
Nozawaya.....	—	10	Tamaito		—	—	—	—
Vivanti Bros.....	—	—	15	Genes—	—	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.	—	—	—	—	247	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.....	—	—	—	—	—	56	—	—
Total	627	346	—	218	326	56	17	—

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Per British steamer *Somali* for London and Antwerp via ports :—

	Raw Silk.		Waste Silk.	
	Douppioni Silk.			Peignes.
	France.	France	France.	France.
Jardine, Matheson & Co.—	—	—	35	—
Bavier & Co.....	—	—	100	—
Total	—	—	135	—

Silk shippers by *Tacoma Maru*, for Tacoma on the 18th Oct. :—

	Bales.
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.....	60
Vivanti Bros.....	57
L. Mottet	15
Kiito Gomei Kaisha.....	311
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	279
Total	722

Silk shippers by *Oanfa*, for Vancouver on the 18th Oct. : —

	Bales.
Bavier & Co.....	85
F. Strahler & Co.....	70
Jewett and Bent	51
Kiito Gomei Kaisha.....	193
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.....	101
Total.....	500

Silk shippers by *Suveric*, for Tacoma, on the 20th Oct. :—

	Bales.
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	110

Silk shippers by *China*, for San Francisco on the 20th Oct. :—

	Bales.
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	112
Siber, Wolff & Co.	60
Varenne & Co.....	50
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	49
F. Strahler & Co.	25
Jewett and Bent	11
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	408
Kiito Gomei Kaisha.....	173
Hara Yushutsuten.....	80
Total	968

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Suveric* for Tacoma :—

TEA.

From	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total.
Shanghai.....	2,070	—	713	—	—	2,783
Shimidzu.....	826	348	795	—	—	1,969
Yokohama ...	366	—	—	—	—	366
Total	3,262	348	1,508	—	—	5,118

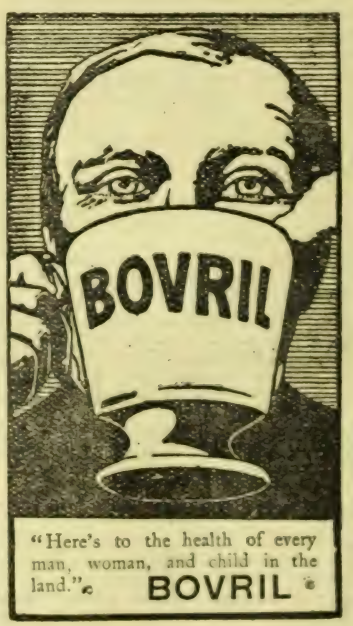
SILK.

From.	New York.	Easton.	South M'chester.	Montreal.	Holyoke.	Total. Bales
Yokohama	110	—	—	—	—	110
Total	110	—	—	—	—	110

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

STEAMERS.

NAME.	FROM.	REPORTED.	
Aki Maru	Hongkong	Left Moji	Oct. 19
Antenor	Liverpool	Left S'hai	Oct. 12
Armand Behic	Marseilles	Passed Canal	Sept. 30
Astyanox	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Sept. 16
Awa Maru	London	Leaves	Oct. 30
Benarty	London	Passed Canal	Sept. 27
Benavon	Leith	Passed Canal	Sept. 13
Benlomond	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 11
Bingo Maru	London	At Colombo	Oct. 14
Bloemfontein	New York	At S'hai	Oct. 11
Bombay Maru	Bombay	Left H'kong	Oct. 14
Braemar	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 11
Breconshire	Hamburg	At H'kong	Oct. 13
Brisgavia	Hamburg	Left	Sept. 5
Calchas	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Sept. 30
Chingwo	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 7
Coblenz	Hongkong	Left	Oct. 16
Dardanus	Singapore	Left H'kong	Oct. 12
Delhi	Singapore	Left	Oct. 9
Denbighshire	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
E. F. Ferdinand	Trieste	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
E. of Japan	Hongkong	Left	Oct. 16
Ernest Simons	Marseilles	Left	Oct. 10
Glenlochy	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Glenlogan	M'sbro	Left H'kong	Oct. 12
Hirano Maru	London	Left S'pore	Oct. 15
Indra	Natal	Left	Sept. 25
Indramayo	New York	Passed Canal	Sept. 20
Kamo Maru	London	Left Marseilles	Oct. 16
Kasama	New York	Left	Oct. 20
Katuna	New York	Left	Oct. 20
Kawachi Maru	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 15
Kintuck	Liverpool	Left S'hai	Sept. 15
Lowther Castle	Algiers	Left	Sept. 13
Manchuria	Hongkong	Left	Oct. 16
Meinam	Marseilles	Left S'hai	Sept. 6
Menelaus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 7
Mishima Maru	London	Leaves	Nov. 6
Mongolia	San F'cisco	Left	Oct. 5
Moyori Maru	Bombay	Left Colombo	Oct. 13
Moyune	Liverpool	Left S'pore	Oct. 13
Namur	London	Passed Canal	Sept. 23
Nikko Maru	Melbourne	At Th'day Is.	Oct. 14
Nore	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 7
Palermo	London	Left H'kong	Oct. 9
Poona	London	Passed Canal	Sept. 30
Prinzess Alice	Naples	Left S'pore	Oct. 15
Rygja	London	Left H'kong	Oct. 18
Sado Maru	London	At Kobe	Oct. 21
Sanuki Maru	London	Left	Oct. 16
Seattle Maru	Tacoma	Left	Oct. 9
Selja	Astoria	Left	Oct. 10
Senegambia	Hamburg	Left	Oct. 5
Shimosa	New York	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Shinano Maru	Seattle	Leaves	Oct. 26
Silesia	Hamburg	At Manila	Oct. 12
Silvia	Hamburg	Left	Sept. 13
Suevia	Hamburg	Left	Sept. 25
Tamba Maru	London	Leaves	Nov. 13
Tenyo Maru	San F'cisco	Left	Oct. 12
Tonkin	Marseilles	Leaves	Oct. 24
Vandalia	New York	Left	Sept. 30
Wray Castle	Boston	Left	Aug. 22
Yeboshi Maru	Bombay	Left	Oct. 20
SAILING VESSELS.			
Daylight	New York	Left	July 24



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October 2nd, 1909. 13w.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE FOURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, OCT. 30TH, 1909.

DEATH.

THORN.—At San Ramon, Contra Costa County, California, on October 27th, in her eighty-eighth year, Mrs. MARY JEANETTE THORN, wife of the late Captain Charles Thorn and beloved mother of Mrs. Numa Boone, Edgar V., Charles, John P. and Frank B. Thorn. (By cable.)

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

MR. H. SCIDMORE, the U.S. Consul at Kobe, has been appointed U.S. Consul-General at Seoul.

SINCE the morning of the 10th instant, the summits of the mountains in the Nikko district have been covered with snow.

IT is officially reported that Mr. Rebolledo, the first Secretary of the Mexican Legation in Tokyo has been appointed Chargé d'Affaires.

VISCOUNTESS SONE with her son and daughter returned to Tokyo from Korea on the evening of the 27th instant. She appeared to be unwell, evidently suffering from the shock inflicted on her by the receipt at Nagoya of the news of Prince Ito's terrible death.

PRINCE AND PRINCESS KUNI are reported to have arrived at Honolulu on the 18th instant and to have left there the following morning.

MAJOR Lord Brooke, who was accompanied by Lady Brooke, left Liverpool on the 24th ultimo to attend the Japanese grand manœuvres.

PERMISSION has been granted to Prince Hiroyasu Fushimi of Japan to visit the dockyard and naval establishmeuts at Portsmouth and Devonport.

THE late Mr. Robert Goddard, formerly of Yokohama and latterly of Oban, Branksome Woodroad, Bournemouth, left estate worth £10,730.

IT has been announced that the Emperor will attend the military review to be held on his Birthday (November 3) on the Aoyama Paradé Ground.

ON October 21 the first frost of the season was recorded at Fujisawa, Sasahita and Kawawa in Kanagawa prefecture. Compared with normal years, it is from 12 to 16 days earlier. The crop of buckwheat will suffer more or less injury

THE Ambassador of Austria-Hungary, gave a dinner in his official residence on the 20th instant to Count Komura, Baron and Baroness Saito, the British Ambassador, the Spanish Minister, the Argentina Chargé d'Affaires *en titre*, and several others.

A NUMBER of officials belonging to the Engineering Section of the Tokyo Municipal Office were arrested on the 25th instant. It is rumoured that the arrest is connected with the selling of cement owned by the office, which is to be in the street improvement scheme.

THE deep-sea trawler *Wakasa Maru* which has been built in the Kubota Dockyard, Kanagawa, to the order of the Wakasa Fishery Company, was launched on the 25th instant. The vessel is 50 tons gross, 63 feet long, 8 feet wide and her engines are of 70 horse-power.

A FEW days ago, a dog was found running about near Hiratsuka Station, with something wrapped in a cloth in its mouth. On examination the cloth was found to contain one hundred *yen* in notes. It is stated that the money had been stolen several days before from a curio-dealer's shop at Hiratsuka.

A SENDAI telegram reports that despite the favourable character of the season, the yield of rice in that prefecture will be less by 1,200,000 *koku* than that of normal years. This is stated to be due to the proverty of the farmers in that district, who have been unable to give proper attention to the fertilization of the soil.

IT is officially telegraphed that some 300 workmen of the Nippon Steel Works in Muroran, Hokkaido, proceeded in a body on the 21st instant to the Town Office in connection with the threatened recovery of taxes in arrear. After being admonished by the police they withdrew, leaving ten representatives behind.

IN view of the fact that the railways in Korea will in the near future be placed under the control of the Railway Board of Japan, a Tokyo paper gives, as we learn from a translation in the *Seoul Press*, some particulars of the financial condition of these railways. There are in Korea the Seoul-Fusan, Seoul-Chemulpo, Masan and Seoul-Wiju railways. Both the Seoul Fusan and Seoul-Chemulpo railways were purchased by the Japanese authorities for *yen* 20,000,000. The Masan and Seoul-Wiju railways were hastily constructed by Japan in connection with the late war at a cost of *yen* 23,240,222, and later the sum of *yen* 8,142,995 was spent for repairs, making a total 31,383,217. The entire sum thus spent on railways in Korea amounts to over *yen* 50,000,000. The profits for the present fiscal year are estimated at *yen* 316,745, whereas at the end of the previous fiscal year there was a loss of *yen* 433,947.

AT about 10 30 on the night of the 20th instant, an unoccupied house at the back of the Ikubun Middle School at Horai-cho, Kamagome, Hongo-ku, Tokyo, caught fire and owing to a strong northerly wind blowing at the time, all the buildings belonging to the school, six in number, were burnt down. Nearly all the books and other important documents and papers were destroyed. It is suspected that the fire was due to incendiarism.

THE second student hostel, belonging to the Tokyo Young Women's Christian Association, was formally opened on Saturday last, the 23rd. Dr. Inazo Nitobe presided at the meeting, and Mr. Daikichiro Tagawa was one of the speakers. The Tokyo Y.W.C.A. was organized in 1905. Miss Ume Tsuda has been its president from the beginning, and Mrs. Nitobe, chairman of the hostel committee. There are now, in the two Association hostels, fifty girl-students, representing some fifteen different Tokyo schools.

OWING to the continued favourable weather and also to constant manuring since seed-time, the growth of the cotton plant this year in the re-organised farm in Korea belonging to a cotton association is, says the *Seoul Press*, all that can be desired. The total area planted with cotton last year was some 500 acres and the yield amounted to 170,000 pounds, all of which was exported to Japan. The yearly import of ginned cotton to this country amounts to some 500,000 pounds. The area given over to cotton this year was increased by 600 acres, and it is expected that the yield will exceed 450 000 pounds.

COMMODORE F. F. TYDEMAN, Commander-in-Chief of the squadron of the Indian Fleet of H.M. the Queen of the Netherlands, and his officers were banqueted on the evening of October 21 by Baron Saito, Minister of the Navy, at his official residence. Baron Saito drank the health of H.M. the Queen of the Netherlands, and H. E. Mr. van Royen, the Netherlands Minister, drank the health of T.M. the Emperor and the Empress of Japan. Baron Saito addressed the meeting, Commodore Tydeman speaking in reply. The function ended at 10 p.m, after conversation in an adjoining room.

ON Friday evening, a pianoforte recital was given by Professor Reuter in the Gaiety Theatre, this being his first appearance in this city. Unfortunately the audience was very small, but those who attended had the pleasure of listening to one of the best concerts ever given here. The Professor is a thorough master of the piano, his skill being shown in his masterly rendering of the 1st number—Bach's organ Toccata and Fugue arranged for piano by Busoni. He was equally successful in his treatment of the other numbers, which were all given with the same finished ease. The gifted ladies who assisted him, Mesdames Shibata and Ando, are well known in musical circles both here and in Tokyo, and the singing of the former and the playing of the latter left nothing to be desired and were deservedly applauded. Professor Reuter is undoubtedly a valuable acquisition to the local musical world and we shall look forward with great pleasure to his next concert.

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THE ASSASSINATION.

Wednesday, October 27.

It would appear, according to some reports, that Prince Ito's assassination did not take place on his arrival in Harbin, but that the murder was effected as his Highness was returning in company with the Russian Minister of Finance and other high officials from witnessing a review of the troops in garrison. It is difficult, however, to reconcile the dates with this series of events, for the programme previously announced, and not departed from so far as we know, was that the Prince should leave Changchun during the night of the 25th, and reach Harbin the following morning at 9 o'clock. A more probable account is that the Russian Minister of Finance boarded the train in which Prince Ito was riding, and after a brief conversation his Highness alighted, and walked along the front of the guard of honour and of the people assembled to meet him. After greeting the Russian and Chinese high officials, he was retracing his steps, when, just as he arrived in the vicinity of the guard of honour, the sound of three pistol shots was heard, and the Prince fell to the ground, shot through the lungs. The assassin continued his fusillade, and three of his bullets wounded Mr. Consul-General Kawakami and Mr. Mori in the arm and breast and Mr. Tanaka in the leg. None of these hurts were serious, however. Prince Ito was carried back to the railway carriage, where medical aid was immediately rendered, but he died, if not at once, then certainly within an hour. There is some doubt as to the number of Koreans engaged in the deed. Some accounts say they were a band of five or six, but the *Asahi's* correspondent wires that only one Korean was concerned; a youth of 20, who carried a six chambered revolver and emptied the whole of its contents into the group formed by Prince Ito and his immediate companions. Some allege that the pistol fired smokeless powder and made no noise, but that is probably a fanciful embellishment of the story.

There are naturally many conjectures about the motives of the assassin and his personality, but the general opinion appears to be that he was an emissary of the Koreans residing in Vladivostock, who are proverbially hostile to Japan and the Japanese. One of these Koreans is said to have organised a large land transport company, which has a branch at Harbin. The promoter of this enterprise is a certain Mr. Yi, who is reputed to have spent considerable sums for promoting an anti-Japanese crusade and supporting an anti-Japanese newspaper. For the past four years, much has been heard of the machinations of these Vladivostock Koreans, and we shall not be at all surprised if it turns out that the assassination on the 26th instant was due to their contrivance. On the other hand, if such were the case it is improbable that only one person would have been employed, and he a youth of 20. Another plausible hypothesis is that the murderer belongs to the group of men by whom Mr. Stevens was done to death in San Francisco.

It is stated and will readily be believed, that when Count Komura carried the news to the Palace immediately on receipt of the telegram at the Foreign Office, his Majesty the Emperor was profoundly moved. A meeting of all the prominent statesmen was immediately held, including Prince Yamagata and Marquis Inouye, and Tokyo journals state that some important decision was arrived at, but of course that assertion is a mere reflexion of the excitement of the moment, for it is precisely against incidents of this kind that no precaution can be adopted nor any effective remedy applied.

The Emperor ordered that a deputation headed by Viscount Tamura, Dr. Katsura and two others should immediately start for the scene of the catastrophe. This mission left Tokyo at 8 a.m. on the 27th, and with them went Mr. Kim, who was specially despatched by the Korean Prince Imperial, who is said to have wept bitterly on receipt of the news.

Nobody in Japan is more affected by the event than Marquis Inouye. He loses the man who has been more than a brother to him for the last half century. But it is not in the Marquis' character to be prostrated by grief. He is said to be occupying himself busily with the affairs of his deceased friend and comrade. Princess Ito is lying ill at Oiso. She is said to have fainted on receipt of the news, and it is feared that it may have a serious effect upon her health.

The first-class armoured cruiser *Iwate* has received orders to proceed at once to Dairen, there to take on board the remains of the deceased statesman, which will be conveyed direct to Yokosuka.

It need hardly be said that the columns of the Tokyo newspapers are filled with this sad subject. Numerous distinguished men have been interviewed and their opinions are quoted at length. Count Okuma is said to have been so dejected that he had practically nothing to say. Count Hayashi, who has always been a special friend of Prince Ito, commented on the unswervingly progressive views of the deceased statesman, and expressed the opinion that no one could be found to fill his place. Mr. Kim, the Korean Prince Imperial's Chamberlain, is quoted as expressing the belief that the assassin belonged to the band of miscreants by whom Mr. Stevens had been killed. Such persons were wholly unacquainted with the truth of the situation. They did not understand that Prince Ito was Korea's best friend and that his policy had only one aim, namely, the promotion of her prosperity and the securing of the blessing of peace for her. Mr. Sung, ex-leader of the Il Chinghoi, explains that there are a number of disaffected Koreans residing in Harbin. They possess considerable means, which they do not hesitate to devote to the purposes of an anti-Japanese campaign. The Government in Seoul obtained information of these doings a short time ago and took steps to subject the proceedings of the band to consular surveillance, but the time has been too short to effect anything substantial. Mr. Uchida Ryohei recalls the fact that several attempts were made in Korea to wreck the train by which Prince Ito was travelling and otherwise to injure him. The Prince knew well that throughout his sojourn in Korea he carried his life in his hands. It must have been especially easy for an assassin to accomplish his aim in circumstances such as those that existed at Harbin, where a crowd of sightseers was a legitimate feature of the pageant, and among those sightseers Japanese, Chinese and Koreans would have been quite undistinguishable.

Anyone acquainted with the incidents of Prince Ito's career will know that in the early days of this era he was heartily hated by the Conservatives, and many abortive attempts were made to kill or wound him. He became, in fact, quite callous about these events, and he treated the receipt of a threatening letter as a mere every-day incident. The final result was that he took no precautions whatever, and was thus a most accessible victim.

Just as we write, the *Mainichi Dempo* reaches us. It gives the most detailed and circumstantial account yet published. From this we learn that the event occurred while Prince Ito was greeting the crowd assembled at the station to welcome him. The assassin, who wore foreign costume, stood on the right of the Russian guards and was only some 5 feet distant from his victim when he opened fire. At such a close range it was impossible to miss. The first three bullets all took effect. Prince Ito was perfectly calm and collected. He simply observed. "I am shot, three bullets seem to have hit me." After being carried to the railway carriage he asked whether Mr. Mori had also been injured, and these were his last words. Unconsciousness supervened and he never spoke again.

The assassin on being questioned stated frankly that he had come from Gensan *viâ* Vladivostock and had arrived in Harbin at 7 o'clock on the previous evening. His object had been to avenge the fate of so many of his countrymen who owed their deaths to Prince Ito. More than that he refused to say, but the quality of his determination may be inferred from the fact that after the Prince fell, the assassin emptied three chambers of his revolver among the entourage of Prince Ito, and every bullet took effect.

Of course the greatest excitement has been caused in Korea, not only among the people of the country but also among the Japanese. The latter are represented as clamouring for the voyage of the Emperor to Japan to convey his regrets to the Court in Tokyo. The ex-Emperor is said to have been wholly prostrated by the news. In fact his Majesty was compelled to take to bed. Of course the ex-Emperor, judging by his own lights, may well feel profound anxiety. His son is in the hands of the Japanese Government and his Throne is at their mercy. What kind of vengeance he would himself take if the situations were reversed, may be gathered from his previous career.

The Imperial Court at Seoul, immediately on receipt of the news, ordered the despatch of a deputation to Tokyo, headed by the Minister of the Household.

It need scarcely be said that the Tokyo newspapers are unanimous in their applause of the career of the great stateman. They agree also in congratulating the Prince on having made the end he would have himself desired, namely, shed his life's blood in the cause of peace. The *Nichi Nichi* wisely remarks that the worst enemies of Korea are the Koreans themselves.

The *Chuo Shimbun* says that a telegram has been received at the Russian Embassy in Tokyo intimating that the St. Petersburg Government has determined to adopt strong measures for the purpose of rooting out the colony of Koreans in Vladivostock who plot anti-Japanese designs.

M. Iswolsky has sent a most sympathetic telegram to Count Komura.

Prince Ito has been raised to the Second Grade of the First Rank. A Japanese subject can not rise any higher. Only one figure, that of the Sovereign, stands in the First Grade of the First Rank.

It has been decided that there will be a State funeral, but the day is not yet fixed.

In answer to inquiries we may say that the Birthday Ball is not likely to be given up. Public mourning will cease before the 3rd proximo.

The corpse reached Dairen at 10.40 a.m.

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on the 27th. The Russian and Chinese Governments sent magnificent wreaths of flowers.

Thursday, October 28.

The Tokyo newspapers devote almost their entire columns to the subject of Prince Ito's assassination and give some interesting details. The *Hochi*, which has been conspicuous for the fullness of its news in this instance, says that just as the train conveying the Prince's remains was about to set out from Harbin, the Russian Minister of Finance expressed a desire to look once more at the face of the deceased statesman, and when the face was uncovered for that purpose, the Minister broke down and cried bitterly. His Excellency then asked that the train might be delayed for a few minutes pending the arrival of flowers which he was anxious to offer. He stated further that it might be imagined that the terrible incident was partly due to some want of care on the part of the Russian guards, but it was only just to explain that the officer in command of the guard would have given orders to exclude from the platform all persons except officials or those carrying permits, had he not been requested by the Japanese Authorities to give free access to their countrymen. Owing to this liberty the assassin, by dressing in European costume, became indistinguishable from the Japanese who assembled to welcome the Prince and was thus enabled to perpetrate the foul deed.

There appears to be some doubt as to the condition of the members of Prince Ito's suite, upon whom the assassin turned his pistol after he had achieved his prime object. Some accounts say that Mr. Mori is in a dangerous condition, and other telegrams convey the same intelligence about Mr. Kawakami. There is also an incredible story that 20 Russian soldiers were wounded, but it is evident that, however prolific the pistol of the assassin, it can not have inflicted such wholesale injuries.

When the train conveying the remains reached Mukden, Lord Kitchener and his suite, all in full uniform, the Viceroy and the Governor with several high officials of the local Government, attended at the station to pay the last tribute of respect to the deceased. The Russian officials who accompanied the train from Harbin to Chanchung all wore mourning, and the carriage was almost filled with beautiful flowers sent by the Russians and the Chinese.

Viscount Suyematsu and the other members of the party sent to inquire as to the Prince's condition have been recalled *en route*, it having been decided that the death shall be announced as having taken place at Harbin. Our readers are aware that it is usual in Japan to postpone the announcement of a death in order to afford time for the granting of titles and honours, but in Prince Ito's case he had already received everything that was in his Sovereign's power to grant. One more step of Court rank was possible, namely, that from the First Grade of the Second Rank to the Second Grade of the First Rank. The Prince actually held the former, but the only living holder of the latter is Prince Keiki, the former Shogun. It is not unusual to confer a step of Court rank as a posthumous honour, and therefore the actual date of the Prince's death can be made to coincide with the official date. Accordingly an extra of the *Official Gazette* published on the evening of the 27th inst. announced that the death had taken place at 10 a.m. on the 26th inst. in Harbin, and that his Majesty had been pleased to grant to the Prince the Second Grade of the First Rank. The same *Gazette* announced that the deceased should have a State funeral, and designated the officials in whose charge the obsequies should be placed. They number twelve, and are headed by Viscount Sugi, a Privy Councillor. The date of the funeral is not yet fixed, but it will probably take place on the 4th inst., so as not to interfere with the Birthday ceremonies on the 3rd. An appropriation of 40,000 *yen* has been made by the Treasury for the purpose. According to present intentions, the burial will take place in a special cemetery created for the purpose at Omori, so that the Prince will be deified and will have a Government shrine (*Kampeisha*). In ordinary circumstances the body would have been taken to his private residence at Oiso, but as there is to be a State funeral, this programme must be altered and the remains will be carried direct to the official residence at Reinanzaka in Tokyo, and the ceremony will probably be performed on the parade ground in Aoyama. The body reached Dairen at 10.40 a.m. on the 27th inst. and was immediately transferred to the warship *Akitsushima* which steamed away at full speed fifty minutes later. The *Akitsushima* is expected to arrive at Yokosuka by the night of the 31st inst., or the morning of the 1st proximo.

News from Korea is of a somewhat disquieting nature. Evidence has been found, it is alleged, that the assassin had close relations with the Association of Literati known as the Sopukhak-hoi. The Association held a secret session on the night of the 26th and the morning of the 27th, and it appears that three of its leading men, namely, Messrs. Yu, Im and Sok, set out quite recently for Manchuria *viâ* Vladivostock, and have not since been heard of. Their whereabouts is concealed by their fellow-members, who profess to think that they have fallen into the hands of bandits, an explanation which only constitutes fresh cause for suspicion. Viscount Sone is confined to his room by sickness, but he is quoted by the *Kokumin Shimbun* as saying that the ex-Emperor was thrown into such a state of perturbation and anxiety by the receipt of the intelligence that sleep became impossible to him throughout the whole night. The Il Chinghoi are in a state of much alarm, but the Dai Han Kyokai have given no sign whatever. The Viscount expresses a regretful conviction that many Koreans are rejoicing at the assassination. Others, however, are conscious of the grave effects that may be produced, and are devising means to placate Japan, one of which is to send the ex-Emperor on a mission of condolence to the Court in Tokyo. The Resident-General has sent the Chief Procurator, Mr. Nakagawa, to Harbin for purposes of investigation, and it is thought that some important facts may be elicited. There is a growing conviction that the assassin, Um Chhinan, was only a tool, and that his employers are Yu, Im and Sok, especially the first named, who is the leader of the Sopukhak-hoi. This man Yu was until recently residing in West Chientao. He is recognised as a most prominent anti-Japanese agitator, and it is alleged that he received some time ago instructions from the ex-Emperor to promote disturbance as far as possible.

The *Hochi Shimbun* points to the facts that the assassin is a native of Pyongyang province; that he is a Roman Catholic convert; that he wore the sign of the Cross on his bosom; that the murderer of Mr. Stevens belonged to the same province, and that the Sopukhak-hoi has its headquarters also in Pyongyang. Our contemporary adds that Pyongyang Province is the great arena of Christian propagandism in Korea; that missionaries who are dissatisfied with the Japanese Government's procedure do not hesitate to preach sedition, and that as the Koreans look up to their religious teachers with extreme veneration, the influence of the latter is very great. We quote these statements as illustrating one phase of opinion, but we need hardly say that we attach no credit whatever to any general charge of the kind preferred against Christian propagandists. As to the universally alleged connexion between Prince Ito's assassin and the murderers of Mr. Stevens, that is much more credible.

The most extraordinary piece of news that has yet been received relates to the *Dai Han Mai-Il Shimpo*. The proprietor, the editors and the staff of this notorious journal are stated to have held a convivial gathering on receipt of the news of the assassination, and to have expressed their joy in a vociferous manner. This extraordinary item of intelligence is published by the *Hochi Shimbun* and the *Asahi*. We hesitate to believe it without fuller information. Messrs. Bethell and Hulbert have a great deal to answer for. They are more or less responsible for the lives of many unfortunate Koreans, but we doubt whether the journal started by the former and inspired by his spirit would be quite so reckless as the above report suggests.

According to the correspondents of the *Asahi Shimbun* and *Mainichi Dempo*, many, if not the majority, of the Korean people are rejoicing at the event, their idea being that Prince Ito having now been put out of the way, Japan's policy towards Korea must necessarily undergo a change.

The Japanese journalists in Seoul held a meeting on receipt of the news and passed three resolutions. The first was that this incident must be regarded as proving the prevalence of anti-Japanese feeling in Korea; the second, that the time had come for a final solution of the Korean problem; and the third, that the Emperor of Korea must be invited to proceed to Japan to convey condolences to the Court in Tokyo. These resolutions were entrusted to a committee of three who at once carried them to the Residency-General. Viscount Sone received the committee, and having read the resolutions, replied that the functions of the Residency-General being confined to the normal circumstances of administration, he was not prepared to say what action would be taken on the present occasion. It would be necessary to wait and observe the measures adopted by the Koreans themselves, as an index would thus be furnished of their sincerity. Thereafter there would be plenty of time to act.

The Chinese in Peking seem to be sincerely moved by the catastrophe. The *Peking Daily News* laments that Japan and the world have lost one of their greatest statesmen, and observes that the misguided Koreans have murdered the man who was their best friend. Callers at the Japanese Legation, both official and private, continue without intermission, and there is evidently a genuine feeling of sorrow. In Shanghai also the news has been received with the keenest regret. The newspapers publish long obituary notices, and all the leading residents, official and private, have repaired to the Japanese Consulate-General to express their condolences. In Hongkong the *China Mail*, the *Telegraph* and the *Daily Press* all write in the strongest terms

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of commiseration, especially the first-named paper.

From all parts of the world comes intelligence showing that Prince Ito's great qualities of statesmanship were fully recognised, and that his loss is keenly lamented. St. Petersburg, Paris, Berlin, London, Rome and New York all unite their voices in a chorus of appreciation and sorrow.

The assassin is to be tried at Port Arthur, and has already been handed over to the judicial authorities there.

We note with great pleasure that in the presence of this shocking incident the Japanese press, on the whole, maintains a moderate and level-headed tone. There are only two exceptions, namely, the *Shogyo Shimpo* and the *Mainichi Dempo*. These journals do not write in an incendiary tone, but reading between the lines one can see that they advocate the adoption of severe measures. The *Mainichi Dempo* goes so far as to say that Korea has proved itself to be a second Poland, and must be treated accordingly. We are disposed to think, however, that the press of very few countries would have displayed such patience and such temperance as the Japanese press displays in the presence of an event so shocking.

LORD KITCHENER.

Friday, October 22.

On the 21st inst. Lord Kitchener left Peking, and from the 22nd he became the guest of the Japanese nation. The occasion is seized by the *Kokumin Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Dempo* to publish photographs of his Lordship and to insert long articles dwelling upon his illustrious career. Both journals concur in declaring that Japan fully recognises the great honour done to her when such a distinguished General visits the battlefields of Manchuria, and travels thousands of miles to attend the army manœuvres in this country.

Saturday, October 23.

Lord Kitchener arrived at Port Arthur on the 22nd inst. and put up at the Yamato Hotel as the guest of the Japanese nation. The Japanese who were appointed to welcome him, proceeded as far as Newchwang for the purpose. The Field Marshal appears to have had a great reception at the historical fortress.

Sunday, October 24.

It is stated that the War Office in Tokyo has issued instructions in the sense that all the officers in command of Divisions along the route to be traversed by Field-Marshal Kitchener shall repair with their staffs to the railway stations to welcome the illustrious guest.

It has also been ordered that a squadron of the Imperial Guards shall act as the guard of honour for the Field Marshal on his arrival and departure from Tokyo, and that a regiment of the Guards and one of the First Division shall be drawn up at the station at the time of his arrival as well as of his departure. Further, an artillery battery of four guns will fire a salute of 19 guns in Hibiya Park. No ceremony, however, will be observed at the time of the Field-Marshal's departure for the scene of the manœuvres.

On the 23rd inst. Lord Kitchener visited the places of note at Port Arthur. He is expected to enter Korea *viâ* Antung on the 29th.

Monday, October 25.

At 9 p.m. on the 23rd inst. Lord Kitchener visited the Army Club at Port Arthur and had a brilliant reception. Lieut.-General Baron Tomioka welcomed him in a speech which compared the defence of Port Arthur to that of Ladysmith, and dwelt upon the great benefit of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, which, the speaker trusted, would last for all time. Lord Kitchener, in reply, alleged that it had long been his wish to visit this historic spot and that he was profoundly gratified to have been at last able to do so. General Tomioka had alluded to the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. There Lord Kitchener fully reciprocated the wishes expressed by the Commandant, and declared his belief that the Alliance was destined to play a large part for many years in cementing the friendship of the two countries, promoting their best interests, and assisting to secure the peace of the world.

On the following morning the Field-Marshal visited 203 Metre Hill and the other places that became famous in connexion with the War. He also paid a visit to the Museum of Mementoes, and, at 2 p.m. on the same day, he left by special train for the north, with the intention of viewing the battlefields of Nanshan and Liaoyang *en route* for Mukden.

Tuesday, October 26.

Lord Kitchener arrived at Kinchow on the afternoon of the 24th inst. at 4 o'clock and immediately repaired to Nanshan on horseback. He is reported to have spent 40 minutes examining the battle ground, and to have stated that in his opinion the Russians had not well chosen their defensive position. Doubtless if the Field-Marshal made this assertion, he referred to the fact that the Russian left wing was exposed to fire from the sea, but it has hitherto been considered that, in spite of that defect, the Kinchow Isthmus offered the best facilities for the defence of the Liaotung Peninsula. Lord Kitchener is also reported to have expressed admiration of the victory won by the Japanese at Nanshan. After inspecting the ground he immediately entrained and proceeded north, taking dinner in the carriage. He arrived at Liaoyang on the 25th inst. and left the train at Maitung, whence he proceeded on horseback to inspect the main points of interest in connexion with the great battle. Nothing is reported as to his comments on this occasion. He lunched with Lieut.-General Baron Ijichi, who commands the Japanese force at Liaoyang, and in the afternoon set out for Mukden.

According to the *Mainichi Dempo's* correspondent, the Field Marshal declares that he has two objects of interest in life, the first being military matters and the second Chinese porcelain. He particularly affects wares of the Kanghsi, Yungching and Chienlung eras, and he is said to have spent 25,000 dollars on this class of ware in Peking. He was looking forward to finding something good in Mukden, but according to all the accounts we have hitherto received, the resources of that city are not likely to come up to his expectations. The same correspondent adds that his Lordship takes a great interest in the Japanese school children. He has asked several of the lads what they intend to be when they grow up, and he has expressed his appreciation of the trouble taken by the teachers.

THE Austrian-Lloyd proposes from January 1st next year that the vessels of the Japan line shall call at the port of Yokkaichi *en route* from Kobe to Yokohama. Should the change prove advantageous to Austrian commerce it would be definitely included in the service.

ARITHMETICAL ERRORS.

By more than one correspondent we have been asked to give some particulars as to the negotiations between the Tokyo Railway Company and the Municipality, with reference to the sale of the former's property to the latter. These suggestions are dictated by three reasons; first, that very contradictory statements are made by Japanese newspapers and even by foreign local journals; secondly, that there is much curiosity to see how the authorities will finally deal with a problem the manner of whose solution must affect Japan's credit abroad; and, thirdly, that foreign investors are directly interested. Unhappily we are not in a position to give any explicit information further than to say that the Company seems to be asking 95 *yen* per share and that the Municipality is unwilling to give more than 90. These figures do not mean ready money; they mean 90 or 95 paid with 5-per-cent. bonds at the latter's face value, and since that value does not exceed 90 per cent., the price obtained by the shareholders, if they sold at 90, would be 81 *yen*. On the other hand, the company would hand over to the City some 6 million *yen* of unexpended capital, and, what is still more important, the Municipality would not be required to pay any transit tax. Hence by leaving the fare as it is and ceasing to issue return-tickets—which are merely an improper device for evading the tax—the City would obtain a net increase of revenue to the amount of 1,600,000 annually. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes figures showing that the net receipts of the Company are now 3,371,528 *yen* annually. Assuming this to be correct, it would follow that in the hands of the City the net income would be 5 millions, approximately, and the money remaining after paying interest on the purchase price—at 90—and after deducting the 6 millions of unexpended capital, would be 1½ million *yen*. We can not vouch for the absolute accuracy of these figures, but we believe them to be close approximations.

THE ALLEGED AMERICAN PROTEST.

The *Niroku Shimbun* has a clever habit of stepping into sensational situations with statements so circumstantial as almost to defy incredulity. There have been several instances of this device, and on one occasion our contemporary scored a signal success in connexion with the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. It now comes out with a most striking article, which professes to give a verbatim account of a despatch said to be lying on the table of the Foreign Office in Kasumigaseki. The document is a protest by the United States Government against the Agreement recently concluded between Japan and China. It refers explicitly to the compact with regard to the Kilin-Hoiryong Railway, and to that with regard to the Tashichaio-Yingkow section of the South Manchuria line. These articles of the Agreement are considered to be a disturbance of the *status quo* and a violation of the principle of the open door and equal opportunities. Therefore the Washington Government, in compliance with the terms of its Memorandum with Japan, invites the latter to discuss the question. Without attaching any credence to this story, and equally without denying its possible accuracy, we note that what it implies is not so much a protest as a proposal for participation.

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THE KINCHOW-TSITSIHAR RAILWAY.

Friday, October 22.

According to news telegraphed from the Chinese Minister in Washington to Peking and quoted by the *Mainichi Dempo*, a group of American and English capitalists are considering the advisability of financing the proposed railway from Kinchow to Tsitsihar, their object being to establish a set-off to the privileges enjoyed by Russia and Japan in Manchuria. The telegram says that the representatives of these capitalists were alleged to have contemplated a meeting on the 20th inst. for the purpose of discussing whether or no the scheme should be taken up.

The persistence of this rumour forbids its dismissal as a mere canard, especially as the project was attributed to Chinese officialdom on several occasions last year. The Chinese Representative's analysis, that one of the main objects of the line would be to check Russian and Japanese influence in Manchuria, seems to have a good deal of truth. As for the plea that a railway along this route is necessary for the development of Mongolia, we can not see that much importance attaches to it. So far as Mongolia is concerned, the chief function of the railway would be to bring two large deserts within reach of commercial centres. If it be granted that the development of deserts is a legitimate programme for expensive works of railway construction, the Kinchow-Tsitsihar scheme may be admitted to have a *raison d'être*. But however effective may be China's rights-recovery mania, we find difficulty in supposing that she will add to the present weight of her financial obligations by engaging in these enterprises.

In connexion with this subject of projected railways, it is to be noted that the talk of a Russian line from Kiakta to Kulon is again revived. This project is said to be viewed by the Chinese with considerable alarm, their estimate being that it spells Russian supremacy in Mongolia. The Governor of Kulon is reported to have telegraphed to Peking for the purpose of ascertaining the truth of the report.

Saturday, October 23.

It is not surprising that the question of building a railway between Kinchow and Tsitsihar continues to attract a large share of Japanese attention. Thus the *Asahi Shimbun* quotes and fully endorses Mr. Chirol's dictum that such a line would be much more injurious to the interests of the South Manchuria Railway than the much-discussed Fakumen road could possibly have been, and that if Japan had any right to protest against the latter, her title to object to the former is still more valid. In fact, the *Asahi* follows Mr. Chirol in the line of argument long ago taken in these columns, namely, that if Kinchow, which is one of the best ports in South-eastern China, were linked up with Tsitsihar by rail, the South Manchuria Railway would become a superfluity so far as Trans-Asian traffic is concerned. As to the question of parallelism, the two roads would not fulfil this condition mathematically, but when it is observed that the Kinchow-Tsitsihar line would pass within a very few miles of the South Manchuria Railway at Chengkiatun, and that it would virtually tap the whole region to the west of the Liao River, one can easily see how fully it would satisfy the spirit of parallelism, although not strictly complying with the geometrical conditions.

Monday, October 25.

The latest development of this now-much-discussed question is contained in a telegram from Peking to the *Mainichi Dempo*. It says that on the 23rd inst. the Russian Chargé d'Affaires in the Chinese capital repaired to the Waiwupu and informed Mr. Liang, Minister of Foreign Affairs, that if a railway is to be built from Kinchow to Tsitsihar, Russia is prepared to find some of the necessary capital, and desires to be included in the financing of the operation. Mr. Liang is said to have replied that he was not in a position to express any independent views on such a topic, and that it would be necessary for him to consult his colleagues.

We need scarcely point out the improbability that if such a communication had been made to the Waiwupu on the 23rd inst., it could have been telegraphed to a Tokyo newspaper on the following day, unless, indeed, the enterprising *Mainichi* has succeeded in establishing a correspondence bureau within the precincts of the Waiwupu.

Tuesday, October 26.

We entirely endorse the shrewd comments made by the *Kokumin Shimbun* on the now much-talked-of Kinchow-Tsitsihar Railway project. It seems to be true that American and British capitalists have offered to finance the line, Mr. Willard Straight seeing in the scheme an excellent opportunity for utilizing his mission, and Messrs. Pauling and Company finding in it a compensation for their disappointment in connexion with the Fakumen line. But China appears to be hesitating, as well she may. After all, not many years have to elapse before the time comes when China will be able to give practical effect to her conventional right of purchasing the South Manchuria and the East China lines. It may be all very well to injure the prosperity of these lines by building a competing railway from Kinchow to Tsitsihar, but the gratification of such a scheme would be exceedingly costly, and in the end China would find herself with no less than three railways all virtually serving the same districts. In fact, she would be competing against herself and would find it a very costly pastime. No one pretends to think that the Tsitsihar road would repay its expenses even approximately for many a year to come. Besides, such a road would so greatly alter the railway system in Manchuria that Japan might very well be induced to prefer some compensatory demand. Altogether China has plenty of food for reflexion in connexion with this project.

MR. TUAN FANG.

The first discordant note in the diapason of constitutional government in China has been sounded by the Viceroy of the Metropolitan Province. Mr. Tuan, as our readers will remember, is now on a visit to Peking, where he has been urging the importance of at once equipping his country with a navy strong enough to defend the Empire, and the necessity of choosing and fortifying naval ports without loss of time. He is now said to have supplemented this advice by a representation with regard to the new local assemblies. He takes the view that, under the present system, power tends to be concentrated in the hands of the assemblies, with corresponding diminution of the authority wielded by Viceroys and Governors. Such a state of affairs does not appeal to Mr. Tuan's views of what is expedient in the best interests of the nation, and he has addressed the Prince Regent strongly on the subject.

This is precisely where the somewhat ill-fitting shoe of constitutional government might have been expected to exercise its first uncomfortable pressure. Japan had to encounter a similar state of affairs when her Local Assemblies first began to discharge legislative duties. Constant collisions occurred between the Assemblies and the local Governors, the former attempting to use undue powers, and the latter essaying to exert excessive authority. So frequent and so acute was the friction thus generated, that for a moment it seemed as though the system itself must either break down or be radically amended. By degrees, however, both sides developed a working estimate of their legitimate functions, and rarely, if ever, does one now hear of anything like an inconvenient collision of views. But though the prefects in Japan were appointed by the Central Government, and though in many cases they had an exaggerated idea of the necessity of controlling the Assemblies with a tight hand, they never for a moment constituted such an obstacle to genuine local autonomy as do the Viceroys and Governors in China. From time immemorial these Chinese high officials have exercised practically autocratic powers within the limits of their jurisdiction, and the whole administrative system in China is modelled on the hypothesis that such powers are actually vested in these local satraps. With such a system, possessing, as it does, all the respectability of long usage, anything like local autonomy is obviously inconsistent, and it seems more than probable that we are about to witness in the Chinese provinces conflicts which will subject to a severe test the practicability of the new system.

PROTESTANTS AND ROMAN CATHOLICS.

A correspondent to whose views we attach the greatest importance and who represents the highest type of Christian Missionary, writes to us as follows :—

The candour which you commend in reviewing Dr. Cary's book is not unexpected by those who know him.

When you refer to the zealous missionary as necessarily a partisan, I think you do less than justice to the typical modern missionary, that is, a missionary representing the modern trend of thought.

Since you were dealing with Roman Catholic matters it is perhaps not unnatural to infer that you regard the so-called Protestant missionaries as more or less antagonistic to the work of the Catholics; but they are not necessarily so—many of them are outspoken in their friendliness.

In a speech I made at a missionary gathering in New England last winter, in mentioning the Roman Catholics, I took occasion to express my high estimate of their work. At the close of the meeting, the Secretary of the Massachusetts Home Missionary Society, one of the best loved and most respected clergymen of New England, if not of the United States, came up and thanked me for what I had said. He then went on to say that over sixty per cent. of the population of Massachusetts were Roman Catholic, and that it was nonsense to think we could convert them to Protestantism. We must, he said, rather seek to make them better Catholics. And this we must do, I suppose he would say, chiefly, if not altogether, by working sympathetically with their best men to create a healthier public sentiment in the community at large. Proselytism he would, I am sure, heartily deprecate. This friend of mine, for he is my friend, speaks for a large and growing element in the non-Catholic churches of America, in which I see great ground for hope.

Of course, we do not feel bound to ignore our points of difference and at times may feel called upon to antagonise particular points in the R. C. policy, but we recognise the fact that adherence to a wrong, or even as we think detestable, policy is not necessarily proof of disloyalty to the Christian spirit which in spite of the mistakes of us all, Protestants and Catholics, we on both sides unquestionably seek to propagate.

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KOREA.

Friday, October 22.

The anticipated changes in the Korean Cabinet have taken place. They were necessitated, it will be remembered, by the determination of the Ministers of Finance and Education to withdraw from a Ministry which sanctioned the transfer of the judicial authority to a foreign country. The portfolio of Finance goes to Mr. Ko Yonghwi, who, however, continues to serve as Acting Minister of the Department of Justice over which he has hitherto presided. It is doubtless considered that in view of the greatly reduced functions of this Department, owing to the transfer of judicial authority to Japan, Mr. Ko will easily be able to fill the post in conjunction with his new duties at the Department of Finance. As for the portfolio of Education, it goes to Mr. Yi Yongsik, who has hitherto served as a Privy Councillor. It will be remembered that Mr. Yi Yongsik led the party of Korean tourists who visited Japan in the summer of this year. He thus acquired considerable knowledge of Japanese affairs, and he enjoys the reputation of being a very progressive statesman.

There appears to have been a rather serious fracas at Chemulpo on the 21st inst. between Chinese and Japanese coolies engaged in the landing and shipping of goods. Two thousand men are reported to have engaged in the conflict, and quiet had not yet been restored at the time of despatching the telegram. The cause of the trouble is not stated, but it appears to have been the culmination of a long continued dispute between Japanese and Korean shipping agencies.

Saturday, October 23.

We gather that the recent Cabinet changes in Korea are viewed as very important. Mr. Yi Yongsik, who becomes Minister of Finance, was formerly a leader of the extreme anti-Japanese party and was regarded by the Government as a dangerous politician of the very first rank. According to the *Asahi Shimbun's* Seoul correspondent, the Premier, Mr. Yi Wanyong, has long observed this statesman's career with misgivings, and has been seeking some means of inocculating him with more liberal views. One step towards that end was to attach him to the party of Korean tourists who visited Japan a few months ago, and whether it was owing to the knowledge which he thus acquired or to more intelligent observation of the trend of events, he is said to have completely abandoned his anti-Japanese attitude and to have entered the Cabinet as a liberal reformer. Nevertheless, we gather from the correspondence that the eventualities of his career are watched with some uneasiness in certain quarters.

We are glad to record that on the 21st inst. Viscount Sone gave a party at his official residence to celebrate his complete recovery of health. The rumour is explicitly contradicted that he intends to return to Japan at an early date.

Sunday, October 24.

A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* from Seoul alleges that the recent measures carried out by the military and the police in Chhollado have been quite successful, and that the insurgents are now virtually non-existent in that province.

Captain Takeda, Director of the Naval Coal Briquette Station, in Choshu, who has been for some time conducting investigations quality of the Pyongyang smokeless coal and its suitability for making briquettes, is said to have arrived at a thoroughly satisfactory conclusion, and to have decided that the supplies of mineral obtainable there will be eminently suited for the uses of the Navy. He is now considering the question of extending the mines and establishing a coal briquette factory at Chinnampo, near the mouth of the Tadong River.

The *Kokumin* states that Viscount Sone will soon return to Tokyo for the purpose of consulting with the Government about the various undertakings contemplated in Korea next year.

With regard to the above undertakings we find the following in the *Seoul Press* :—

It is stated that the estimates for public works to be undertaken by the Civil Engineering Bureau of the Korean Home Office during next fiscal year are as follow :—

		Yen.
	(1) Highways	545,396
*	(2) Highways	832,960
*	(3) Repairs of roads and bridges	37,128
*	(4) Dredging river at Seoul	36 420
*	(5) Improvement of streets in Seoul	250,000
	(6) Public works in Seoul	30,600
*	(7) Investigation of five great rivers	253,990
	(8) Investigation of public works	32,185
	(9) Investigation for construction of waterworks	5.790
	(10) Construction of waterworks at Chemulpo	326,815

In the above list those marked with an asterisk are new proposals, the rest being works already decided upon.

We learn that the first in the above list is a four-year consecutive undertaking, having been first taken up in 1907. The total amount of the estimate for the undertaking was 2,496,000 *yen*, and the estimate for the fourth and final fiscal year, namely, next year, was 294,000 *yen*. A certain amount of the money allotted to the work, however, having been disbursed for some other expenditures, the estimate for next fiscal year shows an increase of as much as 294,000 *yen*. No. 2 is a new undertaking involving an outlay of 4,164,800 *yen*, to be defrayed in five consecutive years. The object of the work is to facilitate communication between some important cities, railway stations and p rts. The estimate for No. 3 is for expenses for repairs of roads and bridges already completed. The estimate for No. 7 is for the investigation of the five great rivers in Korea, *i.e.* Naktong, Yunsan, Keum, Han, and Taitong Rivers. The work is to be completed in seven years at a cost of 1,358,530 *yen*. The estimate for No. 8 is for expenses required for undertaking investigation of various public works by the Bureau of Civil Engineering in various provinces. The estimate for No. 9 is for expenses necessary for the investigation for constructing waterworks at Taiku, Kunsan and Wonsan.

With reference to the recent trouble between Japanese and Korean workmen at Chemulpo, we find the following in the *Seoul Press* :—

Chemulpo reports that on Tuesday afternoon two labourers of the Japanese and Korean Labour Union, which was organised there on the 15th inst., were assaulted by over ten men belonging to the Eungsin-Chong, which is another labour union existing for upwards of twenty years. In consequence they sustained some injuries. All the men involved in the trouble were at once taken to the police station. It would seem that the trouble originated with the advent of the new union, the Eungsin-Chong considering that it would prove a great obstacle to its business. The latter, therefore, intended to prevent the growth of its rival by all means. It is stated that the formation of the Japanese and Korean Labour Union has been received with much satisfaction by wholesale commercial houses there, as with regard to wages they have been for years practically at the mercy of the Eungsin-Chong, which has monopolised the supply of labour for landing of freight, having over two thousand labourers under its control. Under the circumstances, the old labour union views the new union with anything but favour. The trouble on Tuesday afternoon was only a result of the feud between them. Further disturbances of similar nature are expected to occur.

Monday, October 25.

If figures published by the *Mainichi Dempo* be trustworthy, Japan has to put her hand into her pocket pretty deeply in connexion with her protectorate of Korea. These figures show that the Tokyo Treasury will have to find a sum of over 5 million *yen* for the uses of Korea in the next fiscal year. The items of this large amount are 3½ millions on account of the Judiciary ; a similar sum on account of railways, and 40,000 *yen* on account of Middle Schools. The judicial outlay is particularly large next year, as it includes the cost of building one supreme court, three appeal courts, eight local courts, 103 district courts and one jail. As for the railway item, it comprises funds for the commencement of the southern and eastern lines and for the improvement of the Seoul-Wiju road. On the other hand, the Japanese Treasury saves 1½ millions, which it was pledged to lend to Korea, and 210,000 *yen*, which has hitherto been expended upon the courts of the residencies. Thus, on the whole, the additional burden is something over 5 million *yen*.

Tuesday, October 26.

The actual results of the Chhollado campaign, as now officially announced, do not bear much resemblance to the impression hitherto conveyed by rumour. We have been led to think that the expedition had proved practically abortive, and that Major-General Watanabe's forces had not found any insurgents to deal with. One report indeed went so far as to give an elaborate explanation of the failure of the campaign by pointing out that the insurgents had everywhere notice of the approach of the Japanese, and were thus able to conceal or disguise themselves. Now, however, Tokyo newspapers publish a telegram from Seoul embodying the official figures as to the result of the campaign. These show that the number of prisoners taken was 1,055, the number of killed 334, and the arms captured 95 rifles and 33 swords. Nothing is mentioned as to the casualties on the Japanese side.

Wednesday, October 27.

We take the following from the *Seoul Press* :—

There is an island called Chito off the province of South Chonla-do. The island has a very fertile land covering an area of more than 150 *cho*, which is worth some 30,000 *yen*. It belongs to a Korean nobleman named Hong Ooseng, who is a distant relative of the celebrated Tai Wan Wang, father of the retired Emperor. Thanks to the good offices of the prince, Mr. Hong obtained the possession of the whole island some years ago. Subsequently Mr. Hong attempted to levy a heavy rent on the islanders, with the result that a riot broke out among them and Mr. Hong barely escaped from the island with life. Last year Shimono was engaged by Mr. Hong and sent to the island to pacify the islanders. He stayed there for about a month and succeeded in restoring order. It was during that time that he came to learn of the great value of the island. Ever since that time he thought only of getting possession of it by some means or other. A good opportunity presented itself for him to attain his design, when in January last a Korean named Kang Chun, a friend of Hong's, came to him for the loan of one hundred *yen*. It appears that Kang had first applied to Hong for the money, but the latter, not having ready money, lent him the title deed of Chito Island, so that he could get the sum advanced by somebody on the strength of it. Shimono thought the sum asked for by Kang was too small to attain his wicked object, as Kang would be able to pay it back without much difficulty. He, therefore, persuaded Kang to accept 500 *yen*, but on the day Kang came to obtain the sum, he handed him only 100 *yen*, saying that he would draw the balance from the bank and give it to him the following day. Of course he took care to get possession of the coveted title deed of the island. Kang went on the appointed day to claim the balance of the sum promised, but Shimono would not give it, under some pretext or other. These tactics he continued for some time until Kang gave it up in despair and was so exasperated with him that when at the expiration of the term of the loan a few months ago Shimono required him to pay back 500 *yen*, he stoutly refused to do so. This was what Shimono had wished for. Laughing in his sleeve, he then set

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himself to take possession of the island, borrowing several hundred *yen* on the security of the title deed to defray expenses for that purpose. He was all but successful, when at the last moment the Magistrate of Chito to whom he applied for the re-registration of the deed smelled a rat and reported it to the higher authorities. This led to the discovery of his crime and his arrest. It is stated that a well-known Japanese lawyer is Seoul is complicated in the affair.

CHINA.

Friday, October 22.

The half-yearly accounts of the Central Bank of China—the Tatsin Bank, as it is called—which was established the year before last, have just been published, and the figures have been telegraphed to the *Mainichi Dempo*. The Bank has a paid-up capital of 8½ million *taels*, 5 million *taels* of which are subscribed by the Government, and 3½ millions by the people. Its deposits amount to 19 million *taels*, but in the absence of any information as to how much of this is government money and how much private, it is impossible to deduce any inference bearing upon the often repeated assertion that the Chinese people will not trust their money to any bank managed solely by men of their own nationality. The net profits of the Bank for the half year are stated to be 1,512,550 *taels*. Out of this total 290,250 *taels* are placed to the reserves; 3,135 *taels* are carried forward; 359,850 *taels* are appropriated for rewards to officers, and 835,080 *taels* are devoted to dividend.

Saturday, October 23.

It is stated that the Department of Posts and Telegraphs in Peking contemplates the establishment of a new steamship company, and as it is hopeless to look for funds from the Central Treasury, the idea is to launch the Company as a joints-stock concern, placing the shares in the hands of the general public.

Mr. Tuan Fang, Viceroy of Pehchili, arrived in Peking on the 21st inst. and had audience with the Prince Regent on the following day. It is believed that one of the chief objects of his visit to the capital was to confer with the Prince Regent about the matter of the stamp-tax law, of which a project is now awaiting debate in the Tientsin local Assembly. The attitude of the Assembly towards this Bill is watched with keen interest, as it is the first historical example of the Chinese people being asked to sanction any part of their fiscal burdens.

Peking seems to have quite made up its mind that Prince Ito's visit to Manchuria is inspired by some important political purpose. We can not be surprised that such an opinion should prevail, in view of the synchronism of the arrivals of important officials at Harbin.

Prince Ito arrived in Mukden on the evening of the 22nd inst. He was to spend the 23rd in that city and the 24th in visiting the Fushun coal mine, the 25th being fixed as the day for proceeding to Harbin.

Sunday, October 24.

Intelligence from Peking indicates that the Chinese Government has desired the provinces of Hunan, Hupeh and Kwantung to send representatives to the capital for the purpose of conferring with the Department of Posts and Telegraphs about the question of the Yeh-Han and Szchuan Railways.

Apparently the Chinese Local authorities are contemplating the establishment of likin stations in connexion with the German railways in Shantung. In some quarters it is stated that such stations have already been determined on.

Tuesday, Ootober 26.

The Municipal Council of Shanghai (*Asahi's* telegrams) has approved the programme drawn out by the Works Department for extending the foreign settlement in a northerly direction as far as the railway station. Accordingly this project will now be taken up by the foreign Representatives in Peking, and may possibly prove a troublesome question. We can not be at all surprised that the Chinese Government should show much reluctance to extend the boundaries of an *imperium in imperio* such as Shanghai is. On the other hand, having once sanctioned the establishment of a foreign settlement, it is morally impossible for China to veto its natural extension. This is one of the inevitable outcomes of that abnormal system, extraterritoriality. The conditions created by consular jurisdiction are tolerable enough for a short time and within narrow limits, but they become very irksome when continued for scores of years with a growing index of expansion. However, it must be confessed that China herself is ultimately to blame. Year after year she remained without making any really resolute effort to correct the conditions which rendered extraterritoriality a necessity, and although she seems now really bent upon carrying out the needed reforms, her past negligence in this respect disqualifies her from being trusted.

There is evidently considerable difficulty in getting the Provincial Assembly of Pehchili to pass the Government's project of a stamp-tax law. Viceroy Tuan is reported to be earnestly endeavouring to win the members' approval, but it appears that a popular demonstration against the bill has taken place in Tientsin, and that its provisions will have to be modified before the Assembly can be induced to accept it. We have not been able to learn whether this law would be operative in the Metropolitan Province alone, or whether it is intended to apply ultimately to the whole 18 provinces. If the latter be the intention, similar drafts must of course be presented to all the local assemblies, but we apprehend that Pehchili alone is concerned, and if so, the deputies may reasonably object to an impost which would virtually constitute a handicap on the trade of the province. At all events, so far as is now known, this is the first taxation bill which the new provincial assemblies have been invited to debate, and its fate does not encourage the hope that the novel legislative machinery is going to operate very smoothly.

WILL ADAMS.

The ceremony of removing the tomb of Will Adams and placing it in a new park of about six acres' area took place on the 24th inst. at Hemi, near Yokosuka, in the presence of the British Ambassador, Admiral Lambton, the Port Admiral at Yokosuka, the Governor of Kanagawa and other high officials. The British Admiral proposed three *banzais*; the Governor of Kanagawa delivered a short speech and the British Ambassador replied in brief but happy terms. It was quite an imposing ceremony, and additional *éclat* was imparted by the arrival of the *Alacrity* and an exchange of salutes between her and the Japanese ships in port. If, as the Japanese believe, the spirits of the dead are cognisant of everything that happens in this world, the old Kentish pilot must have experienced sentiments of considerable surprise and exultation on the 24th inst.

JAPANESE IMMIGRANTS IN PERU.

The *Asahi Shimbun* publishes a letter from a Mr. Goto, who describes himself as representative of the immigrants from nine prefectures now residing in Peru. He describes the condition of his comrades and himself as most lamentable. They went to Peru under a promise of employment in the rubber business at a daily wage of 2.50 *yen*, and they are now receiving only 80 *sen* in the sugar plantations. This sum being totally inadequate, they have been endeavouring to return to Japan and have repeatedly petitioned the Consul for means to do so, but hitherto their applications have elicited no response, and they now appeal to the public through the columns of the *Asahi*. On receipt of this communication the *Asahi* sent a representative to seek information from Mr. Saito, head of the Emigration Bureau in the Foreign Office. He is quoted as having condemned in very unequivocal terms the methods of the Meiji Shokumin Kaisha (Colonization Company), the main fault to be found with the Company being that it concerned itself solely with collecting fees from emigrants and did not take any trouble to investigate their fitness for the work on which they were to be employed. The Foreign Office had addressed a very strong protest to the Company, and had required that steps should be taken to punish the offending officials. Mr. Iwamoto, President of the Company, is now on his way to Peru for the purpose of conducting investigations. He is due at Lima on the 25th inst., and after his inquiries, due measures of adjustment will be adopted. Meanwhile it was not to be supposed that the fault was entirely on the side of the Company. The emigrants themselves were also to blame. Neither was it to be supposed that because some of the Japanese labourers were faring badly, all fell into that category. By way of illustration Mr. Saito mentioned that the emigrants from Morioka *ken* had sent home from 20 to 200 *yen* each, making a total sum of 63,500 *yen*, during the past ten months.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY BETWEEN HAWAII AND JAPAN.

There is talk of the probability of wireless telegraphic communication being established between Hawaii and Japan. The matter is said to have come about in this wise:—On the 19th of last month, Mr. Torigata, an engineering expert of the Department of Communications, left Japan for the United States. Calling *en route* at Hawaii, he visited the wireless telegraphic station, and in the course of conversation with the officials in charge he learned incidentally that the instruments mounted there often gave indications of messages which seemed to have come from Japan. On this fact being made known to Tokyo, it was ascertained that the officials at the Choshi wireless telegraphic station had often observed similar disturbance of the instruments by messages apparently emanating from Hawaii. These things suggested the possibility of establishing regular communication by this means between Honolulu and Japan, and it has been decided to make a definite trial on the 1st of December. Hitherto the limit of distance for wireless messages has been from 1400 to 1500 miles, and Choshi is 3000 miles from Hawaii. If therefore the experiment succeeds, a new chapter will be opened in the history of wireless telegraphy.

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PRINCE ITO.

Friday, October 22.

Prince Ito has visited all the places of note at Port Arthur and has delivered one of his pregnant speeches to about 180 of his countrymen at the Army Club in that place. He is telegraphically reported to have dwelt upon the tremendous effort required for the capture of the fortress which was deemed by the whole world to be impregnable. Immense bodies of troops were employed for the defence and the attack, and all the modern appliances of war were brought into use. Thus the siege had not only evoked the highest fighting qualities of both sides, but had also served as a lesson in the scientific attack and defence of fortresses. "When I look back upon what my country has gone through since the commencement of the Meiji era, I am filled with sympathy and astonishment." Another lesson taught by this terrible experience was the necessity of avoiding war; a necessity not less imperative in the interests of national happiness than in the cause of humanity. The Powers of the world all talked earnestly of peace, but at the same time they expended vast sums upon the development of armaments. Japan unfortunately was obliged to adopt the same policy. If she hoped to preserve her place among the nations, she must be prepared to defend it in all emergencies, and whatever her desire for peace might be, the duty was imposed upon her of bearing a heavy burden on account of warlike preparations.

Sunday, October 24.

Prince Ito's movements are closely recorded by the Tokyo press. We learn that his Highness reached Mukden on the evening of the 22nd inst. and that he was met at the station by the Viceroy, who welcomed him with champagne. It seems that the Viceroy was very desirous of acting as host to the Japanese statesman during the latter's stay at Mukden, but Prince Ito, pleading that he travelled entirely in a private capacity, declined this courtesy. On the 23rd inst. Prince Ito visited the Viceroy's yamen and had a conference lasting for two hours and a half, at which no other Japanese was present, except Mr. Tei, Secretary of the Foreign Office in Tokyo, who acted as interpreter. On the 24th the Prince was to visit the Fushun coal mine and on the 25th he is to leave Mukden for Harbin.

Tokyo newspapers state that the English Consul-General at Mukden and Mr. Nakamura, President of the South Manchurian Railway, are to proceed to Harbin at the same time as Prince Ito.

Monday, October 25.

It is now stated that at the lengthy interview which took place between Prince Ito and the Viceroy of Manchuria on the 23rd instant there was nothing which can be described as an interchange of views. The Viceroy, however, seized the occasion to make known to his illustrious visitor the wishes entertained by the Chinese Government with regard to Manchurian affairs. It may be taken for granted that Prince Ito, having no official mission, was careful not to commit himself to any expression of opinion that could bind the Home Government.

Baron Uchida, Japanese Representative in Vienna, who is expected to succeed Baron Takahira as Ambassador in Washington, passed through Vladivostock on the 24th inst., *en route* for Tokyo. He was interviewed at Vladivostock, but he had nothing to say, except that he had travelled in the same train with the Russian Minister of Finance as far as Harbin. The Minister had expressed a great desire to visit Japan, but had explained that he was obliged to defer the gratification of this wish, as the imminent meeting of the Duma necessitated his return to Russia before the 20th proximo. His Excellency said that he hoped to meet Prince Ito in Harbin.

The Chinese Consul in Vladivostock proceeded to Harbin on the 24th inst., and his action is construed as a further indication that important developments are likely to result from the meeting of officials which is about to take place in the latter city. We anticipate that the public will be considerably disappointed when it comes to compare results with expectations.

Tuesday, October 26.

Prince Ito left Mukden early on the morning of the 25th, reached Chang-chun at 7 p.m. on the same day, and resumed his journey to Harbin at 11 o'clock that night. He had a brilliant reception at Tiehling and at Changchun, and at the latter place he was welcomed by Russian officials sent from Harbin to meet him.

The *Peking Daily News* interprets the long conference of three hours which took place between the Viceroy of Manchuria and Prince Ito at Mukden as an indication that Japan recognises the objectionable features of the recently concluded Agreement, and is anxious to remove the bad impression created by it.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* London correspondent wires that great importance is attached in Russia to the meeting between Prince Ito and the Minister of Finance. It is understood to have been agreed that political issues shall not be discussed by the two statesmen, and that they shall confine their conversation to financial and engineering topics. The telegram adds that Russia is anxious to get rid of her white elephant, the East China Railway, but that she naturally hesitates to offer it to Japan, as such a course would create political complications. She is therefore desirous of placing it in the hands of an international syndicate. We (*Japan Mail*) regard this rumour as altogether apocryphal. If the Railway does not earn enough in Russian hands to pay its operating expenses, most assuredly it would not earn enough in the hands of a syndicate of States, and that any Powers could be found to undertake the Utopian duty of making an annual subscription to supply the deficit is altogether incredible. If the Railway is to be sold, the only two conceivable purchasers are China and Japan. It is alleged that the Trans-Asian Railway cost Russia 400 million roubles, upon which she is now paying interest, and whereas the gross earnings of the Railway do not exceed 20 millions, its operating expenses call for 35 millions. There is thus an enormous claim upon the Treasury every year, and rich as Russia is, it becomes imperatively necessary for her to effect some economies in the working of the Railway. That, we have very little doubt, is the real purpose of the Finance Minister's journey to Harbin and Vladivostock. His Excellency wants to determine by actual inspection what reforms are possible. He does not want to appear before the nations *in formâ pauperis*, with a petition that they should relieve his country of a costly enterprise which originally constituted an important feature of her scheme of Empire.

THE BANK OF ENGLAND.

Of course the Japanese manifest great interest in the raising of the Bank of England's rate of discount to a figure such as had not been recorded since the panic at the close of 1907. The officials of the Bank of Japan are quoted as saying that so far from being alarmed by this incident, the Japanese should regard it as a hopeful sign. It is to be attributed to two causes, namely, an ample crop of wheat in the United States, and a strong revival of business enterprise in Europe, which two factors have caused a sharp demand for money. Such factors have effects which are merely temporary, and by the end of November a reversion to the normal rate of discount may be anticipated. As for Japan, stagnation still continues to prevail in commercial and industrial quarters. There is no demand for money, and so far from there being a prospect of a rise in interest, the converse may be anticipated. As a matter of fact, there is scarcely any activity in the Japanese money market. The exceptionally plentiful harvest has caused such a fall in the market price of rice that little or no movement of the cereal is taking place. The banks are all embarrassed by the dimensions that their deposits have obtained, and the Bank of Japan has a margin of note-issuing power amounting to 69 millions. None of our Tokyo contemporaries attempts to seriously analyse the continued depression which prevails in Japanese business circles. The *Tokyo Puck* is perhaps nearest to the mark when it represents the agricultural classes as weeping over the cheapness of their great staple, rice.

MR. O'BRIEN.

His Excellency the United States Ambassador, on reaching Yokohama after an absence of four months, was approached on the deck of the S.S. *Mongolia* by a representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, to whom he is reported to have made some interesting remarks. He said that the sentiment of the United States towards Japan could not possibly be better than it is at present, and that even the men who had succeeded for a moment in troubling the atmosphere had now lost their influence. It appears that Mr. Crane travelled in the same train with Mr. O'Brien to San Francisco and was to have come East by the Mongolia when he was suddenly summoned to Washington. Mr. O'Brien knew nothing of the reasons for this summons and had learned nothing of Mr. Crane's resignation until the *Mongolia* arrived in Yokohama. He of course declined to express any opinion as to the probable causes of the resignation, but he remarked that if Mr. Wilson, formerly Secretary of Embassy in Tokyo and now at the State Department in Washington, obtained the position in Peking the appointment would be very welcome. Mr. O'Brien alluded with much approval to Mr. Miller's nomination as Head of the Far Eastern Section in the State Department. He said that the United States Government by including in its equipment men possessing a first-hand knowledge of Japanese and Chinese affairs, would acquire competence to adopt sound and wise decisions in all matters relating to the Far East. At the same time Mr. Miller's removal from Tokyo was much to be regretted in the interests of the United States Embassy there.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

Friday, October 22.

A curious incident occurred at the meeting of the City Assembly on the 21st inst. Mr. Nonoyama, who is notorious as the obstructionist par excellence in the chamber, made a vehement speech, accusing the Mayor and the Municipal Council of holding private meetings in tea-houses with the Directors of the Tokyo Railway for the purpose of elaborating an agreement which would give a fictitious value to the Company's shares and saddle the Municipality with a heavy obligation. He demanded in effect that the whole of the proceedings in this matter should be at once submitted to the Assembly.

The Mayor, Mr. Ozaki, replied in vehement terms. He strongly denounced Mr. Nonoyama's readiness to credit all the idle rumours published by the newspapers, and he declared that for his own part he had never held any secret meeting with anybody in a tea-house, nor had he any intention of doing so. Mr. Nonoyama doubtless imagined that because the canards published by the press were left uncontradicted, credit might be placed in them. But the truth was that if a man should attempt to correct all these canards, it would take his whole time; and, for his own part, Mr. Ozaki declared that even if the newspapers accused him of being a national pirate, they might have their say uncontradicted. As for the question of municipalization, negotiations were in progress within the lines mapped out in the official memorandum. What the result would be he could not tell, but he could promise that the interests of the Municipality would be guarded.

We do not think it worth while to reproduce the various rumours circulated by our Tokyo contemporaries on this subject. It is sufficient to say that the negotiations are in progress, and that no hitch has hitherto occurred. But naturally some days will be needed to bring both parties into line on the question of price. What is certain is that if the Company were allowed to charge a reasonable fare, its shares would now be quoted in the market at a figure very different from 75, but by an arbitrary exercise of official authority the returns of the Company are unduly reduced, and the value of its property is correspondingly depreciated.

Saturday, October 23.

Some Tokyo newspapers attribute very singular ideas to the Minister of State for Communications. They quote his Excellency as saying that great improvements must be effected in the electric tram system of Tokyo and that all the projected extensions must be built, but that there must be no rise of fares. Is it at all probable that any intelligent Minister of State would have made such an assertion?

The *Asahi Shimbun* alleges, on the authority, however, of hearsay, that in addition to the conditions embodied in the memorandum recently handed by the Cabinet to the Mayor of Tokyo, it must be understood that the city is not to have recourse to a foreign loan, and that it is not to issue bonds in payment of the purchase price until three years have elapsed. In fact, if certain of the Tokyo newspapers are to be credited, the Cabinet is reducing the whole matter to a mere farce. But of course all these wild rumours may safely be assumed to emanate from persons interested in speculation on 'Change.

Mr. Amenomiya is busying himself with a scheme to separate the electric lighting enterprise of the Tokyo Railway Company from the working of the trams themselves. He proposes to form a company for this purpose with a capital of 10 million. But the Mayor of Tokyo insists that the electric lighting and the tram service can not be separated, as they have the same source of power supply and use the same posts.

Sunday, October 24.

Again there is nothing to report except conflicting statements. Some Tokyo newspapers, which we are inclined to believe right, represent the negotiations as progressing favourably and predict that the City Assembly will be invited to vote for the arrangement on the 26th inst. Other journals are equally positive that the negotiations have fallen through or are likely to do so.

Monday, October 25.

We have nothing definite to report this morning as to the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway. As usual, most contradictory statements are made by the press. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, for example, alleges that the negotiations are proceeding favourably, and that the City Assembly will probably be invited to vote the purchase on the 27th inst., whereas the *Shogyo* and the *Mainichi Dempo* affirm that there is a deadlock on the subject of price, the Government insisting that the shares must be purchased at about 72, and the Company refusing to listen to such a figure. The *Asahi* quotes the Mayor of Tokyo as ridiculing the paltry idea that the Municipality should be deterred by a question of a few million *yen* in concluding such a transaction. He takes the line that the property is too valuable to be dealt with in a pettifogging manner.

Tuesday, October 26.

The negotiations for municipalization seem to be progressing favourably, but it is evident that those concerned are determined to avoid the danger of too many cooks, and are therefore maintaining the strictest possible silence as to the details of the conference. The *Asahi Shimbun* says that the Mayor called at the Department of Communications on the 23rd inst. and practically obtained Baron Goto's assent to the price which it is proposed to offer to the Company. The Mayor then repaired to the Prime Minister's residence, but failed to meet his Excellency. Of course it is not to be supposed that any figures submitted for the approval of the Government have failed to obtain the consent of the Company. We do not, however, vouch for the truth of the above statement. The *Kokumin Shimbun* alleges that the price will be fixed at such a figure as to insure the receipt of 85 *yen* per share, including the reserves of the Company, and making due allowance for the market price of the 5 per cent. bonds with which the purchase would be effected. The *Chuo Shimbun* speaks of early next month as the probable time of convening the City Assembly to seek its consent to the arrangement.

Wednesday, October 27.

The negotiations for municipalization are proceeding and appear to have advanced appreciably nearer a settlement. That is about all that can be said with any certainty. The opposition still continues, but its leaders are such well-known agitators that they seem to command no attention and to receive no deference.

Thursday, October 28.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that there is a division in the camp of the advocates of municipalization, and that some of those who took the part of the Mayor have now gone over to the Company's side, thus causing no little uneasiness to Mr. Ozaki. Mr. Nakajima Koko, the well known and much respected Municipal Councillor, is said by the same authority to have tendered his assistance to the Mayor, but the latter declined it on the ground that he did not wish for any outside interference. Owing to this dissension, and to the assassination of Prince Ito, the Government, says the *Shogyo*, is disposed to put the whole question on the shelf, and a considerable time may yet be needed to reach a settlement. On the other hand, the *Kokumin Shimbun* states that the negotiations are proceeding favourably, and that the Mayor expects to reach a settlement in the course of a week. Meanwhile all the newspapers agree in saying that a strong party among the shareholders has been formed to oppose the idea of selling unless the scrip-price is above 90 *yen*.

THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

Tokyo newspapers publish a paragraph evidently emanating from a news agency, which, as usual, they refrain from indicating. The gist is an epitome of views said to have been expressed by a certain official of the Foreign Office in Tokyo. He is quoted as saying that, inasmuch as the conventional position occupied by Japan with regard to the Mukden-Antung Railway is somewhat different from her position with regard to the South Manchuria Railway, the Chinese Government is most unwilling to consent to the posting of Japanese railway guards along the route, and is desirous of discharging that duty itself. Apparently the only exit from this situation is to devise a system of protection in which both Powers will take an equal share. The arrangement of such a method may present difficulties, but they should not be insurmountable. Moreover the Chinese authorities are desirous of reducing to the smallest possible dimensions the extent of the zones attaching to this Railway. They are not unwilling to concede to Japan within the zones the same measure of administrative power as is exercised by her within the South Manchuria Railway zones, but by minimizing the area of the zones they hope to deprive that power of all real practical value. On the other hand, Japan has neither need nor desire to acquire a large tract of land in the regions traversed by the line, and therefore it is probable that a settlement of the question will be reached without much difficulty. Other details as to the method of purchasing and leasing land and collateral questions are now under consideration by the *Kōchi-kyoku* (Land Purchase Bureau), and will probably be soon settled.

If the above be a correct statement of the views entertained by the Foreign Office in Tokyo, it would seem that Japan is in a very conciliatory mood towards her neighbour. We trust that such may prove to be the case, and, indeed, gentle treatment would be only in accord with the spirit which dictated the Mukden-Antung Convention. After all, it would be distinctly to Japan's financial advantage if a system could be evolved whereby the expense and trouble of policing the line should fall largely on China's shoulders, and as for the temporary acquisition of wide zones of territory along the track, such a programme would seem to be more ambitious than practical.

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THE DUICH SQUADRON.

On the afternoon of the 21st inst. Count Okuma entertained at his Waseda Villa the Commander and officers of the Dutch Squadron now in Yokohama, the Dutch Representative and a number of Japanese naval officers. The grounds looked very beautiful in their autumnal tints illuminated by glorious sunshine. Much interest seems to have been taken in a pictorial scroll shown by Marquis Nabeshima, representing a visit paid by the feudatory of Hizen to a Dutch warship in Nagasaki. The portraits of the Dutch bluejackets and officers partook somewhat of the nature of caricatures, but this did not detract from the value of the pictures as showing the ideas entertained by Japanese at that time about the nature of foreign war-vessels and their equipment. Count Okuma made a graceful speech welcoming his Dutch guests and recalling in warm terms the great services Holland had rendered to Japan in the past. He said that not only had the Dutch been pioneers of medical education in this country, but also they had spared no pains to awaken Japan to the necessity of throwing open her doors, and although the valuable advice thus tendered had not borne fruit at the moment, it had certainly contributed largely to the ultimate result. The Dutch Admiral replied in appropriate terms, expressing the great satisfaction that it gave to his countrymen and himself to hear such words from their noble host, and assuring Count Okuma that the Dutch nation would appreciate his friendly utterances.

On the evening of the same day the Minister of State for the Navy entertained the Dutch Admiral and his officers at dinner in his official residence. In proposing the health of his guests his Excellency did not hesitate to say that Japan owed her earliest models of naval construction and earliest knowledge of the uses of warships to Holland, and she could never forget the debt she owed to the Dutch on that account. The Dutch Admiral, in replying, said that while he and his countrymen fully appreciated the kind words of their noble host, they could not honestly claim the honour attributed to them, for the rise of the Japanese navy had been separated by a considerable interval from Holland's connexion with this country's progress.

Commodore Tiedeman, in command of the Netherlands East Indies Squadron, has been invested with the Second Order of the Rising Sun. The commanders of the three cruisers forming the squadron and three other officers have also been decorated. Commodore Tiedeman and his staff are to be received in audience by Their Majesties and will be entertained at a luncheon in the Palace on the 29th instant.

The three cruisers of the Netherlands Squadron have entered the docks of the Yokohama Dockyard Company.

A banquet was given by Mr. Mitsuhashi, Mayor of Yokohama, in honour of Commodore Tiedeman, Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands Squadron, and his officers, on the evening of the 26th instant, at the official residence of the Mayor, at Nogeyama, Yokohama. The Mayor proposed the health of H.M. the Queen of the Netherlands and her Consort, and H.E. Mr. van Royen, the Netherlands' Minister, proposed the healths of T.M. the Emperor and the Empress and T.H. the Crown Prince and Princess of Japan.

The Mayor rose again and said he would ever remember the kindnesses he had received when residing in the capital of the Netherlands as the representative of the Japanese Government, and added that Japan's first contact with Western civilization was due to Holland. In fact, the first Japanese warship came from that country. He concluded by expressing the hope that the old friendly relations between the Netherlands and Japan would be maintained for ever.

In reply, Commodore Tiedeman said that the development of Japan was due to the intellectua powers of the people. He heartily thanked his host for the entertainment so lavishly given that night.

THE TOKYO RICE EXCHANGE.

The *Chuo Shimbun*, which has of late distinguished itself by the vehemence of its assaults upon the managers of the Rice Exchange in connexion with the recent Matsutatsu incident, now publishes a mysterious and sensational paragraph. It says that since the 22nd inst. the Authorities have been conducting minute inquiries into the books of the Exchange, and that they have discovered, or are on the verge of discovering, some irregularities which will astonish the public. Since, however, it is not desirable that a scandal should now be made, no drastic steps will be taken, but it will be arranged that the Board of Directors shall be completely recast at the next general meeting. Meanwhile the present Managers and Directors are going their way placidly and unconcernedly, and we are disposed to think that our estimable contemporary's account calls for some discounting.

The troubles of the Tokyo Rice Exchange have not by any means terminated. There appears to be great agitation now about the election of the Managing Director. The Sellers who recently got into such trouble are pushing one candidate vehemently, and the Buyers are equally strenuous in their exertions to secure Mr. Amenomiya or his nominee. There is a certain Mr. Matsutani, who has received the historical nickname of "Tenichibo," the arch impostor of Japanese annals. This Mr. Matsutani succeeded in producing something like a panic on the Osaka Rice Exchange a few years ago. He has been acting for some time as the lieutenant of the notorious "Mr. Matsutatsu," and he is now agitating for the appointment of the latter's nominee as Managing Director. Meanwhile there are persistent rumours that the investigations conducted by the officials of the Department of Agriculture and Commerce have revealed signal frauds perpetrated under the régime of the last Manager but one, and there are also whispers that the Matsutatsu party forged certificates covering goods which were alleged to be in the godowns of the Tokyo Storage Company, but which had no existence in fact. Probably these stories are more or less exaggerated, but their publication furnishes food for talk.

The commotion in the Rice Exchange still continues, but beyond the fact that two factions are competing to elect their own candidate to the post of Managing Director, and that some investigations are being carried on officially, nothing definite is known.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

According to telegrams received by the *Asahi* from Vladivostock, the Japanese Fishing Guild in the northern seas has sent its representative, Mr. Takaishi, to interview the chief Russian financial official, Mr. Miharoff, at Habarovsk. The object of the mission was to obtain an extension of fishing privileges, and the Russian official is said to have treated the application in a liberal spirit. The first request preferred was that permission should be given for curing fish other than herrings at the fishing ground for the latter. The second was for an extension of the fishing period in the southwestern districts. The third was for reckoning the embouchure of the Amur River from a point two versts distant from the shore. We are not sure whether this last application refers to the Amur only, or whether it concerns all rivers throughout Siberia and the Maritime Province. The above requests are said to have been all granted.

There is to be a general meeting of Russian subjects interested in the fishery question from the 10th to the 20th of the first month (Russian calendar) at Vladivostock. Various important matters relating to the conservation of the fisheries, to their development and to methods of capture, will be discussed.

It appears that Mr. Shibata, one of the two Japanese doctors at Habarovsk, has been ordered by the authorities to withdraw, as he has violated the regulations against giving medical aid to Russian subjects. There are 400 Japanese resident in Habarovsk, and one physician is not considered sufficient to meet their requirements, a statement which would suggest that they are not a very healthy community. The telegram (*Asahi*) attributes this action on the part of the Russian authorities entirely to a desire to protect the medical practitioners of their own nationality, but it seems evident that the main question relates to the recognition of foreign diplomas.

THE CHINESE COMPRADORE OF THE SPECIE BANK.

A telegram to the *Shogyo Shimpo* from Osaka says that Mr. Yamakawa, Manager of the Specie Bank in Osaka, has visited Kobe in connexion with a fraud amounting to 1,400,000 *yen* perpetrated by the Chinese compradore of the Kobe branch. This man, Yeh by name, is said to have speculated in shares and to have drawn bills on Hongkong to meet his losses, and the Bank will have to recognise these documents. As the matter concerns the Specie Bank alone, no special excitement has been caused. We do not of course vouch for the truth of any part of the statement.

It appears that one of the Directors of the Specie Bank, Mr. Yamakawa, has proceeded to Kobe to investigate the affair of the compradore Yap. The *Hochi Shimbun* has a telegram from Kobe which quotes him as saying that the compradore had been acting in collusion with Chinese merchants at Kobe, and through him these merchants had obtained from the Bank the discounting of bills amounting in all to 2½ million *yen*. Moreover there were some bills discounted by Yeh under a fictitious name. He professes to have made a clean breast of the affair, and he has handed over all his property, representing about 215,000 *yen*, but the Bank does not believe that his statements are exhaustive. It is not anticipated, however, that at the worst more than one half of the above bills will be dishonoured. Meanwhile the Chinese merchants in Kobe have held a meeting and have employed a Japanese barrister to act as intermediary. This Mr. Kusaka is represented as having visited the Bank of Japan to inquire into its views, and has been informed by the officers of the Bank that every legal measure ought to be employed for the recovery of the money. The Specie Bank, on the other hand, is alleged to be desirous of treating the complication

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leniently, so as to prevent it from hampering tradal transactions.

We are bound to say that if a list were compiled of defalcations by Chinese compradores and Chinese merchants during the past few years, there would not remain many valid reasons for the high reputation of probity hitherto enjoyed by these people among foreigners.

NEWCHWANG AND THE PROJECTED RAILWAY.

Newchwang must be feeling some anxiety about the fate of the new railway project, for as the *Asahi Shimbun* remarks, Kinchow, whence the line would start for Tsitsihar, used to be the chief emporium of oversea trade in South Manchuria before Newchwang came into existence. If therefore the much-talked-of railway were built, Kinchow's potentialities for competing with Newchwang and Dairen would be very considerable, especially as the Bay of Lienshan would be brought into the account. Lienshan, which is said to be an excellent anchorage, with 35 feet of water and good holding ground, and which, like Kinchow, has the immense advantage of being ice-free all the year round, lies 10 miles north of Kinchow and might be connected with the railway by a branch only 2 miles long. Thus from every point of view this new road would be likely to deal a serious blow to both Newchwang and Dairen. In fact, there seems to be little doubt that it was projected originally with that express purpose by the former Viceroy of Manchuria, whose schemes for the dredging of the Liao River showed his anxiety to create a strong competitor with Dairen. Of course Newchwang has always the advantage of the Liao River, which is Manchuria's great waterway, but none the less the new railway would be likely to tap much of the region lying westward of that river. It is now alleged that the idea is not to carry the line further than Yaonan at present, though its ultimate extension to Tsitsihar is of course contemplated.

THE BOYCOTT.

The Viceroy and the Governor at Mukden have issued a joint proclamation ordering the discontinuance of the boycott. It does not appear, however, that much credence is attached to the sincerity of this measure. The *Asahi Shimbun's* correspondent alleges that it is recognised that this Manchurian boycott has its roots in officialdom, and that a mere proclamation from the Viceroy's yamen will not suffice to put an end to it.

The anti Japanese movement assumed serious proportions at Penang on the evening of the 8th inst. The Cantonese shopkeepers covered the walls in Carnarvon St. and in the Ropewalk with articles of Japanese manufacture. All of them were securely nailed. Inflammatory placards were also placed in conspicuous positions. A surging mob of Chinese collected in front of several Japanese houses and threw stones at the buildings. The police arrived at the critical moment and denuded the walls of the articles and placards. The mob then dispersed. A Japanese cinematograph has stopped performing.

The boycott of Japanese is spreading to all the townships of Perak, and trouble is feared at Kampar. The Singapore *Free Press* says:—This seems to be an instance of the way Chinese everywhere can be induced to take up a movement having its origin in the Middle Kingdom. The Chinese of Perak can have no cause of complaint against the Japanese in Perak sufficient to justify these attacks, and the serious risks they run. The instigators of the outrages are the men to get at, as much as those actually concerned in them.

THE SUGAR COMPANY.

Saturday, October 23.

It really does seem probable that the affairs of this Company have at last been restored to a working basis. It is announced that a meeting will be held to-day (23rd inst.) for the purpose of signing the final agreement. In this case seeing is believing. There have been so many slips between the cup and the lip that until the signatures of all the creditors are absolutely appended, nothing can be credited.

Tuesday, October 26.

At last the affairs of this Company have been settled on a working basis. There have been so many cries of wolf that the public had become wholly sceptical, but it appears that the signatures were actually appended to the document on the 25th inst.

Wednesday, October 27.

Now that the affairs of the Sugar Company have been settled, those of the Fujimoto Bank, its principal creditor, are again under consideration. It appears to be expected that the Bank's troubles will soon be satisfactorily arranged.

MILITARY.

Tokyo journals state that a new manual of infantry exercises (*hohei sōten*) has been compiled by the military authorities and distributed to the various headquarters. Corresponding manuals for cavalry and artillery will soon be ready. Necessarily, newspaper accounts of such matters are somewhat meagre, but we gather that the principal feature of the new manual is that it bases all infantry manœuvres on the principle of attack, the theory being that men should be taught to carry the spirit of assault into every engagement. This is said to be the great lesson taught by the experiences of the recent war, and we can well understand that such was the case, for not only were the Japanese armies constantly on the offensive throughout the campaign, but also it is the opinion of military experts that had not the Russians clung so tenaciously to defensive tactics, they might have achieved a different result. Another feature said to mark the new manual is the greatly increased distance which it prescribes between the units of the skirmishing and of the fighting lines.

BUSINESS NOTES.

It is stated that a definite decision has been taken to transfer the whole of the Korean railway system to the control of the Railway Board in Tokyo.

Among the few shares which refused to be influenced by the general wave of appreciation that made itself felt some weeks ago were the Hoden Oils. No explanation of this phenomenon has hitherto been given. But a telegram from Osaka now says that borings recently commenced at Nishiyama have resulted in the tapping of a very rich spring, and it is expected that this will appreciably affect the market price of the shares.

Four Directors of the Japan Warehouse Company (*Nihon Soko Kaisha*) have been arrested on a charge of signing deposit certificates against imaginary goods. This is connected with the recent commotion on the Tokyo Rice Exchange, and the result of the arrest is anxiously awaited.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN COMMERCE.

The returns of Japan's foreign commerce for the 10 days ended the 20th inst. are as follow:—

	Yen.
Exports	14,099,000
Imports	9,458,000
Excess of Exports	4,641,000

The figures covering the period from January 1st to October 20th are as follow:—

	Yen.	Corresponding Period of 1908.
Exports	314,535,000	+21,890,000
Imports	325,620,000	—41,298,000
Excess of Imports	11,085,000	

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, October 22.

The downward movement continued yesterday, but was slightly arrested in the afternoon. There are no apparent reasons for this continued debacle. The explanation seems to be simply bear operations.

Saturday, October 23.

Some improvement took place on Saturday, but it was not very marked, and may, perhaps, be regarded as nothing more than a temporary reaction from the depression of the past few days. The balance of opinion having swayed in favour of the probability of the Tokyo Railway's Municipalization, purchasers of the latter's shares were tolerably strong, but many sellers also appeared.

Monday, October 25.

The improved tone witnessed in the market on the 23rd instant became more pronounced on the 25th (Monday), and was accentuated by a rumour that the Tokyo Banks had decided to lower their rate of interest to 4 per cent. Things seem to be restored to a tolerably firm basis now.

Tuesday, October 26.

The tone of the market on the 26th instant was dull in consequence of the proximity of monthly settling day.

Wednesday, October 27.

The Exchange was somewhat demoralized yesterday by the news of Prince Ito's death, but the feeling of alarm was calmed before the conclusion of the afternoon session.

Thursday, October 28.

The 28th instant witnessed a partial recovery from the natural but baseless alarm caused by the assassination of Prince Ito. All shares rose except those of the Keihin Railway, which fell 1.20 points, and those of the Tokyo Railway, which remained stationary, the public being much perplexed about the fate of municipalization. The market was closed after the morning session, the 29th being settling day. We append the quotations for December delivery:—

	Oct. 27th.	Oct. 28th.	
Tokyo Railway	74 90	74 90	.—
Kei-hin Railway	61.20	60.00	—1.20
Yusen Kaisha	78 85	79 00	+ .15
Toyo Kisen	16.00	16 00	.—
Tanko Kisen	39.20	39.40	+ .20
Tokyo Gas	97.20	98.50	+1.30
Tokyo Dento	90.10	91 30	+1.20
Fuji Gass Spinning	87.65	88 25	+ .60
Tokyo Spinning	40.70	40.90	+ .20
Kanegafuchi Spinning	99.00	98 90	— .10
Beer	77.90	78.33	+ .43
Hoden Oil	86.00	87.05	+1.05
Nippon Oil	90.30	91.45	+1.15
Rice Exchange	90.00	90 80	+ .80
Stock Exchange	161.30	163 50	+2.20

THE BIRTHDAY BALL

We are asked to state that the Ball which was to have been given by His Excellency Count Komura on the 3rd proximo will not take place.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

There is confirmation of the news that the Nichi-Bei (Japanese-American) Bank in San Francisco and the Japanese Bank in Sacramento have closed their doors, and the former's Yokohama representative has taken a similar step. These occurrences, which have naturally caused much embarrassment to Japanese merchants in California, are said to be primarily due to the United States Government's measures for the restriction of Japanese immigration to the States. The immediate result of these restrictions is that whereas the Japanese immigrants have hitherto been in the habit of transmitting as much as 10 million *yen* annually to the home country through the above banks, their remittances have now fallen to one-half of that amount, and the banks, foreseeing only a continued diminution of this important branch of their business, have decided to close their doors.

The first-class armoured cruiser *Ibuki* has finished all her trials and will be added to the strength of the Navy from the 1st of December. She is a sister ship of the *Kurama*, the only difference being that, whereas the *Kurama's* speed is 21 knots, that of the *Ibuki* is 23.

The celebrations at San Francisco appear to have included a grand procession which is said to have extended to a distance of several miles. The Japanese residents contributed a vehicle adorned with cherry blossoms and carrying some figures armed and accoutred after the fashion of old Japan, and another car on which were mounted figures representing a Japanese Empress of the olden time surrounded by Court ladies. This spectacle is said to have elicited the greatest applause among all the components of the procession, and even the habitually violent journalistic leaders of the anti-Japanese campaign were loud in their expressions of praise. The *Asahi's* correspondent who sends this news, laughingly observes that the procession may prove a means of healing the sentiment of the people on the Pacific slope towards the Far East.

Judgment has at last been delivered in the case of the Fishing Company scandal. Nine persons have been sentenced to minor penal servitude or major imprisonment for terms varying from six months to seven years. Lieut.-General Yenya and Mr. Hiroya are the two condemned to seven years. In the case of three men, their sentence of six months is deferred for three years. Six of the incriminated persons are required to put up sums aggregating 160,000 *yen* approximately. This part of their sentence has created some consternation, for the Company's losses aggregated half a million, and it would seem that the shareholders can hold the banks responsible for the difference.

The period of service of the present Governor of the Hypothec Bank having expired on the 23rd of this month, he relinquished his functions to the Vice-Governor. It is stated that Mr. Takahashi's successor will be Baron Yamamoto Tatsuo, formerly Governor of the Bank of Japan, but as the Baron does not yet hold the number of shares which constitute a necessary qualification, it is not expected that he will be in a position to take over the duties of the Bank until December.

The Department of Finance has led the way with the scheme of administrative reforms, which are expected to produce a total economy of some 5 million *yen*. By certain changes in its Bureaux the Department is able to dispense with the services of 1097 ordinary officials and 330 assistant experts, by which means a saving of 530,000 *yen* annually will be effected.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a telegram from San Francisco which says that the post of United States Representative in Peking has been offered to Mr. Thomas Buck, a well-known judge in the Seattle court. It is not yet known whether Mr. Buck will accept the position, but if he does, the appointment will be heartily welcomed by Japan, for he is reputed to be a great friend and admirer of this country. He possesses the Third Class Order of the Sacred Treasure.

With regard to the very interesting subject whether the knife treatment of appendicitis is not carried too far now-a-days, we take the following from *The Times*:—

The International Medical Congress at Budapest has had a general discussion on the treatment of appendicitis, in which a large number of well-known surgeons, physicians, and obstetricians took part. According to the views expressed, the speakers divided themselves into three groups—those favouring operation in all cases, those for operation in selected cases, and those for no operation at all. Dr. Lenhartz, of Hamburg, and Dr. Bourget, of Lausanne, were able to champion the last-named method. They asserted that, by means of careful internal treatment, good nursing, and starvation they had been able to show a lower mortality than the surgeons could show. The champions of the other extreme failed to obtain the warm support which has been extended to them during the past few years, and the consensus of opinion was against such radical measures. The majority of the speakers also condemned the practice of making a puncture to determine whether an abscess had formed or not. A number of surgeons regarded operation, if it could be performed within 24 or 48 hours, as the proper treatment, and would only operate later if sudden complications threatened the patient's life. Dr. Sonnenburg, of Berlin, led the way in this argument. The question of the removal of the appendix was also considered, and was regarded by many as unnecessary. Viewing the discussion in its entirety, it might be said that surgeons had operated too much in the past and have now received a check, and that they have failed to justify their part in the procedure

The columns of the *Official Gazette* to the extent of 12 pages were occupied on the 24th inst. with no less than 20 ordinances on the subject of patents, trademarks and designs. These ordinances embody detailed rules for the operation of the law passed by the Diet last session, and the whole are to go into force from the 1st proximo. They include the regulations to be followed in Korea. One notable feature is that a special class of barristers is created for the purposes of these regulations. They are called *tokkyo benrishi*, for which the English equivalent will presumably be "patent agents." Ordinance No. 303 minutely fixes the fees payable in all cases, and Ordinance 299 relates to the registration of patents connected with inventions which require to be kept secret for military reasons.

Tokyo newspapers state that a representative of an influential Belgian Syndicate, who is now in Tokyo, has placed himself in communication with the Directors of the Tokyo Gas Company with reference to a foreign loan which that Company thinks of contracting for the purpose of extending its business. This gentlemen is said to be awaiting the return of the Belgian Consul, after which he will commence active operations in the interests of the Syndicate.

We take the following note from the columns of the *Independent*:—

If Japanese immigrants are allowed to become American citizens they will do so, if we can judge from the experience of Kona, the Hawaiian island presided over by the volcano Mauna Loa. It is the one island in which small farms prevail, and some 500 Japanese have separate homes. They are sturdy, industrious little men, and they mean to stay, and they expect their children to be Americans, and they do not wish them to be sent to Japan for education. Already there are ten voting Japanese, and in ten years there will be more than ten times as many. The children go to the public schools and the teachers say they stand at the head of the poll for intelligence. They want their children not to forget the Japanese tongue while learning English, and they have a Japanese school, but they will not allow it to be Buddhist, but make it non-sectarian, like the public school.

A telegram from San Francisco says that a bomb has been thrown, wrecking the store of a Japanese curio-dealer in Eureka and smashing the windows of an American store on the other side of the street. No injury was done to life or limb. The Mayor of the City is said to have telegraphed to the Japanese Consul in San Francisco expressing regret for the occurrence, and promising that the offender shall be severely dealt with when discovered.

The well-known and perhaps most trusted broker on the Tokyo Stock Exchange, Mr. Fukushima, has announced his intention of entrusting his dealing in forwards to his agent, Mr. Tanaka, and confining his own personal business to spot transactions. Japanese papers say that Mr. Fukushima has made a large fortune in the course of his dealings on 'Change, and his resolve to confine himself to spot transactions in future is approved.

His Highness Prince Kuni is to return to Tokyo to-morrow afternoon. His Highness will take up his residence at the house hitherto occupied by the Minister of the Imperial Household in Nibancho.

L'ALLIANCE FRANCAISE.

The annual general meeting of the Alliance Francaise was held on Tuesday evening (26th inst.) at 5 o'clock in the Van Schaick Hall, Mr. de Cuers de Cogolin, the President, presiding over an attendance of some 90 members. The report and accounts for the past season, having been read, were unanimously adopted. The next business before the meeting was the election of a new Committee for the forthcoming season. The balloting resulted in the election of the same gentlemen as before, except that Mr. C. H. Thorn takes the place of M. Positano de Vicentiis, who is absent from Yokohama.

On the conclusion of the election, Lieut. Bourgeois, Naval Attaché at the French Embassy, gave a lecture entitled "Les anciennes mathematiques Japonaises," which was listened to with much interest. A concert, in which Miss Blundell (piano), Mr. Thorn (violin) and Madame Schmidt (vocalist) participated, brought the proceedings to a close.

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION AT WORCESTER.

The Japanese business men arrived at Worcester on the morning of October 27. They immediately attended a welcome meeting held in the Municipal Hall and afterwards visited the universities and other institutions in the city. During the day they left for Springfield, where they inspected the arsenal there. It has been decided that the party will return home by the steamer *Chiyo Maru*, leaving San Francisco on the 30th instant.

The *Boyeki Shimpo* reproduced in its yesterday's issue an illustration of an old godown belonging to Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., of this city, in which Prince Ito once took refuge when he and four others attempted to go abroad nearly 50 years ago. Marquis Inouye was one of his companions.

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PRINCE ITO.

ONLY meagre details about the assassination of Prince Ito have yet reached Tokyo. The story is all told in a very few words. Just as the Prince stepped from the train to the platform, five or six Koreans advanced hurriedly, and, drawing their pistols, shot him in the stomach. Surgeons were speedily in attendance, but their aid proved futile, and the great statesman died in a few hours. It is impossible to discuss such an incident calmly. The shock given to the whole of the Japanese nation, from the EMPEROR downwards, must be greating and lasting. Prince ITO often said that if the solution of the Korean problem would be helped by the sacrifice of his life, he would gladly surrender the few years that remained to him. His assassination will help to solve the problem, but not, we fear, in a manner such as the Prince himself would have desired. The Koreans have now made away with two men than whom Korea had no better or wiser friends; and if the conciliatory policy hitherto pursued by Japanese statesmen towards the Peninsular Empire be changed for sterner methods, who can wonder? Yet we hope and believe that even the Koreans themselves, or at any rate the better classes of Koreans, remembering that this mad act has been performed against a man who stood almost in the relation of a father to their own Prince Imperial, will be scarcely less indignant than the Japanese, and that the EMPEROR OF KOREA will take the only adequate way of expressing his sorrow by himself repairing to Japan to condole with the MIKADO. The world has lost one of its greatest men. All the best interests of humanity and civilization have suffered.

PRINCE ITO, whose most lamentable death took place at Harbin on the 26th instant, was born on September 2nd, 1841, and had therefore entered his 69th year when the bullet of an assassin deprived his country and the world of one of the greatest statesmen of his era. He had no advantage of birth to aid his career, his father having been a humble *samurai* of the Choshu fief. But as the pupil of the celebrated scholar YOSHIDA TORAJIRO, he soon distinguished himself, and his name came to be bracketted with that of INOUYE KAORU—now Marquis INOUYE—as the two most promising youths in Yamaguchi. Ever since those early years the two names, ITO and INOUYE, have been associated in the minds of their countrymen as well as of foreigners, and it is generally believed that when Marquis INOUYE lay at death's door last year, he was called back from the shadow of the grave by Prince ITO's voice. Everybody is familiar with the story of how the two youths served before the mast on their voyage to England in 1863, and of their unsuccessful attempt to avert the Shimonoseki expedition by persuading the Choshu conservatives of the folly of their course. Marquis INOUYE, in the sequel of that incident, was terribly wounded by a band of his political adversaries, and Prince ITO had to lie in concealment for some time. As far back as 1868, when he had barely attained his 27th year, ITO received the important post of Councillor of State, and thenceforth his name was prominently associated with every great step taken by his country along the path of reform. The building of railways, the organization of a banking system, the restoration of specie payments, the drafting of a Constitution, the elaboration of the scheme of local government, the institution of titles of nobility, the reorganization of the Ministry, the negotiation of the Tientsin Convention and of the Shimonoseki Treaty, the drafting of a programme for doubling the Empire's armaments and providing it with an efficient mercantile marine, the framing of many important laws, the singularly adroit leading of political parties from a position of destructive agitation to one of constructive coöperation, and finally the remarkably tactful and wise manipulation of the Korean problem—across all these great pages of history his name is written in large letters. Deservedly he possessed the absolute confidence of the EMPEROR, who for many years regarded him as a personal friend. There is something profoundly sad in the fact that a statesman who regarded Korea with eyes of liberal sympathy, who invariably advocated and practised towards her a policy of genuine friendship, whose influence might always be counted on to promote her welfare, and who acted the part almost of a father to her Prince Imperial, should have fallen under the weapon of a Korean assassin. As for the Prince himself, such an exit from the stage of his fine statesmanship and long labours in the cause of enlightened progress, will make for his glory and for the perpetuation of his memory. But it will raise in the bosoms of his countrymen a sentiment of deep anger, and can scarcely fail to alienate much of the good will entertained by them towards their weak neighbour. Every member of the band of murderers must have been perfectly cognisant of the fact that in striking at Prince ITO, he struck at the whole nation by whom the great statesman is loved and revered. Little mitigation of the crime is to be found in the reflection that the assassin's knife has always been a ready weapon among Korean politicians. They must be taught that such savagery will not be tolerated. We bid farewell to Prince ITO with a profound sense of sorrow and with a consciousness that the world has become poorer by his departure from the scene of his eminent usefulness.

ASSASSINATION OF PRINCE ITO.

DASTARDLY ATTACK BY KOREANS.

October 26.

A telegram has been received by the Foreign Office at Tokyo from the Japanese Consul-General at Harbin, saying that as Prince Ito was stepping from the railway carriage on to the platform he was shot by a Korean. No details are given, and it is not stated whether the shooting was fatal.

The worst, however, is feared.

[The above was issued as an "extra" at 5 p.m yesterday].

Later.

Just as Prince Ito was descending from the train at Harbin, five or six Koreans opened fire on him. Two bullets struck him in the stomach and wounded him severely. His condition is highly perilous.

The assassins were seized on the spot.

Later.

Consul-General Kawakami, Mr. Mori, the well-known poet, and Mr. Tanaka, the Managing Director of the South Manchurian Railway, were all wounded, but only slightly.

(FROM THE "HOCHI SHIMBUN.")

Later.

Prince Ito was carried to the Hospital in Harbin and died there at 10.30 this morning.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE)

On the 24th instant the East China Railway sent a special palace-car for the use of Prince Ito. By this car the Head of the Civil Administration, Major-General Afanasiv, the Head of the Railway Operating Bureau, M. Gintse, and the Head of the Eighth Military Bureau, Colonel Feodroff, with a staff of 5 or 6, proceeded to Changchun to meet the Prince. At 9 a.m. on the 26th instant the train reached Harbin. Thereupon the Russian Minister of Finance, who was staying in Harbin, descended from his carriage which was inside the station enclosure, and entering the train, greeted the Prince and had some conversation with him. Thereafter, under the guidance of the Minister, the Prince passed down the ranks of the Russian troops drawn up on the platform, and greeted the Representatives of the Foreign Powers as well as those of the Russian and Chinese authorities. His Highness then turned, and was moving along the front of the Russian troops when a Korean, wearing foreign costume, thrust his arms through the files and fired several shots from a pistol at the Prince, two or three of which wounded him severely. Mr. Kawakami, Consul-General at Harbin, was wounded badly in the right arm, Mr. Secretary Mori was pierced by a bullet from the arm to the shoulder, and Mr. Tanaka, Managing Director of the South Manchuria Railway, was slightly wounded. The Prince was raised by his staff and carried into the railway-carriage. After he had received first aid from a Japanese surgeon and the Russian Superintendent, he was transported by special train to Changchun, the train

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setting out at 11 a.m. and the Prince being accompanied by a Russian surgeon and several staff officers. There rode also in the same train the Russian Representative in Manchuria, the Russian Consul at Changchun, and the President of the East China Railway, together with a guard of Russian soldiers. The train reached Changchun at 4 p.m., and the Prince was transferred to a special train on the South Manchuria line, which started south at 6 p.m., guarded by Japanese and Chinese soldiers. The man who committed the crime and his accomplices have been arrested. On receipt of the news the Emperor of Korea despatched a Chief Chamberlain and the Ex-Emperor sent Mr. Cho Minhi to the place, while the Prime-Minister, Mr. Yi Wan-yon, went on behalf of the Korean Government, and Mr. Nabeshima on behalf of the Residency-General. These persons going from Korea will embark to-day in the *Kosai Maru* at Chemulpo, and will proceed to Dairen. Most friendly messages of sympathy have been received from the Governments of China and Russia.

(Received by the "Hochi Shimbun.")

Two bullets penetrated deeply into the Prince's breast from the right side and one lodged in his stomach. As he was about to fall, Mr. Nakamura, President of the South Manchuria Railway, and Mr. Private-Secretary Mori, supported him in front. The Prince was perfectly cool. The only words he said were:—"I am done for. Who have been wounded?" He never spoke again. The accomplices of the assassin, to the number of about 30, were posted in various places. The assassin was seized. He said:—"I have accomplished my purpose. I have avenged my country." Dr. Kozawa, of the Prince's staff, explaining that Prince Ito habitually stated his willingness to die at any moment for his country and that it mattered nothing to him where he was assassinated, showed a roll of bandages which he, the doctor, always carried to be ready for an emergency.

Russia observed towards the Prince the same ceremonial as that prescribed for a Grand Duke. The assassin is a Catholic convert and belongs to the band that murdered Stevens.

The first-class cruiser *Iwate* was to have gone to Dairen to carry the Prince's body, but as she could not have been in time, the office will be performed by *Akitsushima*, which is now at Dairen.

(Received by the "Mainichi Dempo.")

Chicago.

The people of the United States are profoundly shocked by the news of Prince Ito's assassination. Extras have been published by all the newspapers. They call the Prince one of the world's greatest statesmen, and they give all the details of the assassination. They consider that the event will enrage the Japanese nation and will make it resort to much harsher policy for preserving peace and order. The Secretary of State is preparing to send a telegram of condolence to Count Komura, and it is expected that President Taft will telegraph direct to the Emperor.

Russian officials apprehended several Koreans in addition to the assassin, Un Chan. After examination they were handed over to the Japanese Authorities, and they are now confined in the Japanese Consulate at Harbin.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

Prince Ito's remains were transferred safely to the warship *Akitsushima*, which left Dairen for Yokosuka at 11.30 a.m. on the 28th instant. The *Kosai Maru*, carrying the Emperor of Korea's Envoy and his suite, arrived at Dairen at 10.30 the same morning, and the Envoy boarded the *Akitsushima* and delivered his message of condolence.

English newspapers publish long notices of Prince Ito's career, and contain leading articles on the subject. They say that, after Japan, no country feels the Prince's loss more than England. Some observe that the illwill borne by the Koreans towards Japan can easily be seen to be the same as the illwill borne by some of the people of India towards England. The deceased statesman's policy was always gentle and he earnestly devoted his energies to the development of Korea. Yet now he has been sacrificed by a Korean. The people of Korea will one day recognise the error of such an act, and will then sympathise with Prince Ito. Throughout his whole life the Prince devoted himself to his public duties and rendered rare service to his Sovereign and his country. In that he lived to see the results of his labours he was more fortunate than Cavour, the father of Italian independence. This great statesman, abounding in the courage of the ancient Japanese *bushi* and in the faith of the patriotic reforms, doubtless smiles in his grave at the closing scene of this life. It is to be hoped that in her policy towards Korea, Japan will adhere to the placable methods which had the approval of the Prince.

Lord Curzon made a speech at Oxford on the subject of the Prince, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and others sent messages of condolence to the Japanese Embassy in London.

All the New York journals public articles sympathizing with Japan's loss of a great statesman.

The *New York Times* thinks that the Prince's death will not cause any change of policy in the Far East.

The *Telegraph* fears that the event will increase the influence of the military party.

The *Sun* recounts the history of the enmity cherished by a section of the Koreans towards the Prince.

The *World* considers that the Korean problem is already solved and that no assassins can alter the solution. The only result will be to prolong Japan's high-handed policy towards Korea.

The *Tribune* observes that the Korean nation is not responsible for the act of one of its units. Nevertheless it was Prince Ito who turned Korea towards the light of civilization.

The *Herald* observes that the administrative power throughout the railway zones is not in China's hands. The results that this event will entail for Manchuria remain to be seen.

THE "ALTRURIAN."

IT must have occurred to many thoughtful persons that the nations have drifted into an unwholesome groove in the matter of shipbuilding; a groove which is not only interminable but has also the property of perpetual expansion. If, during the next twenty years, shipbuilding is to develop at a rate equal to that of the past two decades, there will result such huge and costly monsters as, on the one hand, to be beyond the receiving capacity of all the docks and many of the harbours now in existence, and on the other, to impose a wholly unendurable fiscal burden on the shoulders of the nations that rely on such weapons. It is not merely that the tax-bearing capacities of even the wealthiest countries will be strained to their utmost limits of elasticity, but also that the forces of socialism will find a new weapon in this intolerable expenditure for purely unproductive purposes, and the situation will be resolved by a social cataclysm much more disastrous than any defeat in war could be. In short, the race of armaments, unless it be sharply checked, can have but one goal, namely, the complete reversal of the hands on the dial of civilization. Confronted by this outlook, some active minds have set themselves to consider whether, just as the developments of aerial navigation promise to deprive old-fashioned armies of all effective potentialities and to invest war with absolutely deterrent horrors, so some new type of marine monster may not be constructed such that even a fleet of *Dreadnoughts* could be incontinently shattered by it. One of these active minds has conceived a new battleship and has published in the *Independent* the broad features of his invention. To avoid technical offence he coins fanciful names for the nations, as "Altrurians" for the Americans; "Bullonians" for the British, "Crapaudians" for the French, "Dagoes" for the races of Southern Europe and so forth. This much premised, we proceed to quote his own words:—

As is well known, there has been such a scare in Bullonia, over the possibility of some other navy challenging her title to be mistress of her only food route, that not long ago practically the whole Bullonian fleet was packed into one roadstead in order to stiffen the backbones of the Bullonian populace. At least, that was assigned as the cause, but it is now known not to have been the real one, for, in a word, the true reason was the advent of the new Altrurian battleship.

While the Bullonian fleet was gathering off Bicklow Swirl, this remarkable craft appeared. It did nothing offensive. It merely moved among the Bullonian vessels in an aimless sort of way, sometimes shooting off at astonishing speed, sometimes showing up in the middle of the night, sometimes loafing along beside the Bullonian column, occasionally behind it, occasionally rising above and then disappearing below the horizon, but never doing anything in the least bit rude or discourteous, even when tested by the strict rules of naval etiquette.

Now that Altrurian vessel looked a good deal like a "whale back," such as one sees on the Great Lakes, only she was longer and narrower, say 500 feet in length and perhaps not over 30 or 40 feet in beam. Her deck, which curved over on each side, rose at the highest barely 3 feet above the water, and was armoured. Nothing showed on it except a low conning tower and a periscope tube, which, as is now common in torpedo boats and submarines, projected the picture of her surroundings upon the whitened table in front of the helmsman far below the water line. Her frames were of light but excessively strong steel, some one of the odd alloys which have lately been invented, and they were filled in with immensely strong but again light compressed paper pulp. Oil carried in her double bottom supplied the fuel for her tremendously powerful internal combustion engines, which drove a multiplicity of propellers, and gave her a speed of at least 35 knots per hour. Her sole armament was ten fish torpedoes on each said, each delivered from a separate water-tight compartment, each capable of going straight for 4,000 yards under water, and at a speed of perhaps 37 knots, and in the racks adjacent to each torpedo tube were six spare torpedoes. The absence of guns and of all armour except the protective deck, together with the light construction of the hull, rendered it possible to give to the gas engines the high power noted, not only for a sudden dash, but for comparatively long periods of time, and while the vessel was driving ahead, a peculiar formation of her bow sent the sea over her for a depth probably sufficient to cause any projectile striking her at the neces-

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sarily low angle to glance and ricochet from her deck without penetration.

The Altrurians found that they could build six vessels like that for the cost of one Dreadnought, and that she needed for her management less than one-fifth of a Dreadnought crew. So they constructed a single specimen and sent her to the Bullonian shores while the big fleet was gathering, as already described.

And something about her rather troubled the Bullonian admirals. They perceived that it would be of no use to fire at such a vessel, because she made practically no target when rushing into action "bows on." Indeed, it is hard to hit any target for which the middles of the guns must be depressed. Besides, she had a way of suddenly appearing out of the low-laying fog which always comes when the water and air are of certain different temperatures, and this before anybody suspected her whereabouts. And because of her speed she could lie far off from the fleet and arrive close at hand at any desired moment, say in thick or foggy weather, or when the fleet was threading narrow straits, or otherwise navigating troublesome waters. Ordinary scout or torpedo boats could not catch her, and in any event, her vicinity would be as dangerous to them as to anybody.

What demoralized the Bullonian admirals was the calm way in which she dogged their columns at sea. If the fleet was cruising in Indian file (column), the Altrurian, somewhere astern and ordinarily invisible, would unexpectedly run up alongside the last ship in the line—of course, merely to exchange compliments with her captain; but any one could see that if torpedoes had taken the place of the honeyed phrases, that would have been the last of the Bullonian rear guard. And it would obviously not be difficult for the Altrurian, if he so desired, to bite off, so to speak, in this way, ship by ship, and thus gradually destroy the whole fleet, for of what use would it be for the advance ships to double back? The Altrurian would merely change position and continue to attack the rearmost, however the line might vary. Nor would steaming in double column help matters, for then the unwelcome visitor could run in between the two rear ships, which could not fire at him without hitting one another, while he could simply radiate torpedoes into both of them at once.

"Why, he needn't stand off at torpedo range and fire at us, sir," said the junior Bullonian admiral to the commander-in-chief—the fleet being then at sea engaged in practising battle tactics and about 50 miles from home. "I don't know why he shouldn't run right alongside and drive in his torpedoes at his leisure."

"And get sunk himself by ours?" replied the superior.

"Not necessarily, divided as he is into such a multiplicity of compartments. Besides, what if he is sunk? Would it not be good policy to expend for a Dreadnought a craft costing one-sixth as much?"

"Well, how do you propose to keep him off?"

"Candidly, I don't know, sir. We thought of mines towed astern, in the hope that he might run on one of them."

"But he need not stay exactly astern!"

"Yes, and towing mines does not help one's speed."

"Supposing six of those craft attacked us at the same time?"

The two admirals gazed on one another thoughtfully.

"Where is the infernal thing now?" finally remarked the senior.

"I don't know, sir."

"Does anybody know?"

"No, sir."

"Do you see any use of keeping up these manœuvres out here any longer?"

"No, sir."

"As soon as you get back to your flagship I'm going to signal the fleet to make the best of its way to Bicklow Swirl and come to anchor."

"Very good, sir."

Any family desiring to purchase second-hand Dreadnoughts can be accommodated at liberal terms. The Bullonians and the Crapaudians and the Dagoes and the savage tribes which once annihilated the legions of Varus have no further use for theirs.

It will be perceived that the new vessel is a hybrid—a cross between a submarine and a torpedo-boat. To be a submarine is a necessity of her existence, for, despite her multitude of water-tight compartments, a twelve-inch shell would shatter her light structure. Yet, unlike a genuine submarine, she is not fitted with any sinking apparatus, but relies solely on the wash of her bows to spread over her low-lying hull a shell-proof blanket. Moreover, she must get within 4000 yards to be effective, and even then her offensive potentialities depend upon a development of torpedo capacity such as has not yet been attained. The latest war, the only war in which modern engines of destruction were fully tested, may be said to have demonstrated, not the deadliness of the torpedo, but rather its comparative impotence. However, the task of examining and pronouncing judgment on this "New Altrurian Battleship" may be left to naval experts. The interesting point in every-day eyes is the evident growth of the conviction that the civilized nations of the world have created for themselves an impossible situation, and that unless they find some speedy exit from it, very evil times are in store.

JOURNALISTIC OUTRAGES.

THE curious thing is that no educated Japanese can be found who condones or hesitates to condemn such writing as recently disfigured the columns of the *Hochi Shimbun*. There is absolute unanimity of disapproval. But it is wholly perfunctory disapproval. No one seems disposed to raise a finger in protest. Silence, they opine, is the best remedy, the silence of contempt. An extreme example of this doctrine was lately given by the Mayor of Tokyo, when he declared that even though the newspapers might dub him a national robber, he would not take the trouble of protesting. It would be difficult to find a less unequivocal paraphrase for the adjective "despicable." Journals that open their columns to such shameless libels as those which appeared in the *Hochi Shimbun* are to be regarded as so lowering the reputation of their craft that newspapers in general forfeit all title to consideration. That seems to be the prevalent view, and sanguine folk expect that this negative attitude will eventually cure the evil. We can not share their optimism. The system which begets the abuse is almost universal in Japan. Editors recognise no responsibility for the contents of their third page. Very likely, if any one of the editors of the *Hochi Shimbun*, to say nothing of the proprietor, was invited to express a frank opinion about the recent attack on a lady's reputation, he would smile and attempt no defence, further than that, so far as he himself was concerned, he had no part in the matter and, perhaps, no knowledge of it. So long as that irresponsible attitude is maintained, what solid expectation can there be of improvement? We are sorry to have to make the *Hochi Shimbun* the *corpus vile* of these remarks, for the *Hochi* is a journal conducted—if we may be allowed to express an opinion—with much enterprise and ability, and that it should have so flagrantly violated what are regarded in the Occident as the fundamental canons of newspaper morality is rather an accident than a custom of its career. But why should the thing be done? Why should an unoffending lady be pilloried and publicly pelted with the foulest mud day after day? Does it not come to this, that certain Japanese journals deliberately employ their third pages as instruments for obtaining notoriety, well knowing that scandal sells better than any other commodity and that the minds of the low and vulgar delight in malodorous libels? Pandering to the most degraded tastes of humanity for the sake of earning a few *yen*—that is the occupation of these journals. Scarcely more respectable is the newspaper which occupies its columns with the goings and comings, the dinings and winings, of every member of a community, however insignificant he or she may be; but, on the other hand, no one is seriously hurt by such trading in trifles, such appeals to vanity. The traducer of a man's or a woman's good name is a reptile of a much more noxious type. How long will the Japanese harbour such vermin? Apparently the law of libel is not regarded as an available recourse: the licence practised by barristers is as painful as the assaults of the press. Nevertheless we had lately an example which should dispel the generally entertained and frequently enunciated idea that a Japanese law court does not regard libel as a grave offence, and will not accord damages such as constitute either a penalty or a reparation. That is not the case. Yet it may truthfully be asserted that legal redress is never sought by victims of newspaper libels in Japan. Thus the slanderers are absolutely unrestrained, the public remains inert and the law is not appealed to. It is a strange situation, but what it seems to illustrate most forcibly is the contempt which the press is bringing upon itself.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE JAPANESE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the pages of the Extra Number of the *Taiyō* published last June the Rev. D. Ebina gives a long account of his life. He was baptized in Kumamoto by Captain James in June, 1876, but he says that he had been a Christian before that. That same year he entered the Dōshisha, contrary to the wishes of his parents. He speaks of the Dōshisha of that time as a very poor school from an educational point of view and as lacking in discipline and without good teachers with the exception of Dr. Niijima (*Dōshisha no kyōiku wa hanahada fukwanzen de; seito wa katte shidai na koto wo nashi, sensei mo yoi hito wa nai no de, shitsubō shita*). But the times seemed to call for the establishment of such a school and so Mr. Ebina decided to stay on there. His close application to study brought on an eye complaint (trachoma) from which he suffered much for many long years after. In 1879 he left the Dōshisha and became the pastor of a church in Annaka, Gumma-ken, where he remained 5 years. He subsequently moved to Maebashi, but in the year 1883 went up to Tōkyō. During the greater part of seven years he was unable to read books of any kind. His wife read the whole of the new and old Testaments to him. He only stayed in Tōkyō one year and then proceeded to Kumamoto, where he helped to start the Kumamoto Eigakkō and the Jogakkō (Female School). For 3 years he spent his time in preaching and school work in this place. After that he was appointed President of the Kumiai Kyōkai Dendō Kaisha, a post which he held for 3 years prior to his dismissal for heresy. Before finally settling in Tōkyō, in the year 1897, he occupied the post of

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pastor to the Kōbe Congregational Church for four years. Here is what Mr. Ebina has to tell us about his fight for tolerance and freedom of thought. From the beginning of my career as a Christian I had never been satisfied with orthodox teaching. I joined the orthodox party while in the Dōshisha blindly, but I soon discovered that their views were quite irrational. At that time I had not sufficient knowledge to place myself in open opposition to them. But gradually one by one the delusions to which I was subject revealed themselves to me. I became thoroughly dissatisfied with the old articles of belief and made for myself a new heaven and a new earth. This brought me into conflict with my old friends the missionaries Only two courses were open to me. In order to retain the friendship of the missionaries I must conceal my change of belief, or I must act honestly and proclaim what I believed to be true though it might involve the loss of their friendship. I chose the latter course and my action was the means of arousing in the minds of many Christians a desire for the independence of our native churches. As regards certain Congregationed Churches, they were independent from the very first. Such were the Annaka Kyōkai and the Hara-shi Kyōkai, but the action of rendering the whole Congregational Church in Japan entirely self-supporting and independent of foreign interference began to take shape now. It was perceived that freedom of thought would be quite impossible as long as native Christians were dependent on foreign money for their support. It was made quite plain that financial independence must be made the basis of independence of thought. But the stand I took on this occasion aroused great opposition among the missionaries and their followers, and as a consequence of this I was no longer able to hold the position of President of the Dendōkaisha. On becoming pastor of the Kōbe church I began to proclaim my views openly. This caused me to be attacked on all sides and especially by the missionaries (*tōkoro go kore mata shihō hara no kōgeki ni ai, gwaikoku senkyōshi wa sakan ni hantai shi*). The missionaries were afraid to allow the girls in the Mission School to listen to my preaching, and so forbade their attendance at Church (*subete no seito wo dasanai yō ni natta*). The storm of opposition raged more and more furiously and I was denounced as a heretic on all sides. But I remained firm and changed my belief in no one particular. But as the Kōbe Congregational Church occupied at that time a very important position, I felt that I ought not to cause it unnecessary embarrassment, and so I sent in my resignation. This brought things to a point. For seven days did the chief supporters of the Church hold meetings to discuss the question of the possibility of allowing my opinions to be held and taught. Among the members of the Church who attended these meetings the majority eventually came to the conclusion that what I taught represented my sincere belief and it would be quite wrong on their part to get rid of a man like me. So they summoned a big meeting in the church, invited the missionaries and their orthodox followers to be present and reinstalled me in office in a grand way. Thus did we capture for free thought the chief stronghold of orthodoxy. That church is now one of the leading pioneers of progressive thought. By the Christian world I was denounced as a Unitarian and even as a materialist. But I relied on my own religious consciousness as a guide and came to the conclusion that it is not the duty of any thinker to force himself into line with other seekers for truth. I felt so sure of my position that at one time I thought of shooting back a few arrows in return for all the darts with which I had been assailed, but I came to the conclusion that it is better to let people go their own way. Belief passes through many stages, and every man must shape his own course.

Mr. Ebina goes on to tell us how the fight that he had in Kōbe had to be repeated in Tōkyō, where the Evanglical Alliance took up the cudgels against him and expelled him from the Association. By this piece of intolerance they did Mr. Ebina more good than harm, he tells us. His numerous followers rallied around him and he came off with flying colours. *Watakushi no shōgai de kyōha no arasoi de funtō shite kono toki hajimete katta kimochi ga shita.* (During a whole lifetime spent in hard religious controversy, this was the first time I felt that I had won a victory). During recent years my life has been particularly peaceful, concludes Mr. Ebina. Christians have grown more tolerant. Even the missionaries are getting to understand things better. I am no longer suspected by the Congregational Church to which I belong. But whether the present calm will last nobody can tell. It may be only the lull before the storm *

That Japanese Christians should be tolerant astonishes nobody who knows Japanese history. Don Rodrigo de Vivero tells us at the beginning of the 17th century that toleration was one of the distinctive marks of the Japanese of that time. The Japanese soil is uncongenial to Western bigotry.

* * *

There is no Christian periodical in existence in this country which displays keener insight into the fundamental questions which divide churches from each other and render union quite impossible than the Roman Catholic organ from which we have quoted so frequently in past years. Loose thinkers may imagine that there is some common meeting ground for those whose religion is founded on authority and those who claim the right to think freely and settle on their own creed independently. But this is a delusion. The main contention of the Roman Catholics can never be accepted by Protestants. The importance they attach to authority is only equalled by the importance Protestants attach to liberty. The two sets of thinkers are frequently in the habit of reviling each other. "See where your worship of authority leads you!" says the Protestant to his Roman Catholic brother. "Look at the extremities to which your deification of the principle of liberty has conducted you!" replies the Roman Catholic. In discussing the two antagonistic principles, subjection to authority and the exercise of freedom, a writer in the *Koe* observes that the extent to which Roman Catholics bow to authority is greatly over-stated by certain of their critics. The opinion that little liberty is allowed by the Roman Catholic Church is contrary to the truth. As to the place that authority holds in the world in determining what we shall believe and what reject, it is hardly necessary to point out that on a hundred subjects we are under its control, observes the *Koe*. The authority wielded by the Church is not used arbitrarily nor does it hinder mental development. To refuse to bow to that authority is to sever oneself from the means of grace.

As stated by us in a former Summary, in an address delivered a few months ago before the To-A-Kyōkai entitled Rinri Kyōiku to Kirisutokyō (Ethical Education and Christianity), Dr. Katō Hiroyuki restated his objections to the Christianity commonly taught in this country. A writer in the *Koe* signing himself "A Mountain Stag" replies to Dr. Katō in two articles published in the August and September numbers of the *Koe*, quoting texts from the Bible to show that filial piety and patriotism are both taught by Christianity. At the close of the second article on this subject the *Koe's* correspondent points out that Roman Catholic Christianity at any rate attaches great weight to authority both civil and spiritual and the history of Christianity in Europe tends to show that there is nothing in this religion that is inimical to patriotism or filial piety. Our duties to society and to the State are constantly dwelt on by Christian teachers in every part of the world, says the *Koe*.

In the July *Shinjin* (the Rev. D. Ebina's organ) appeared an article on *Modernism* from the pen of Dr. Anezaki Masaharu. Dr. Anezaki expressed strong sympathy with the movement and condemned the attitude of the Vatican thereto. In an editorial published in the October number of the *Koe*, Dr. Anezaki's arguments in favour of Modernism are dealt with seriatim. First comes an acknowledgement of the extreme respect which Dr. Anezaki in all his writings has ever shown to the Roman Catholic Church. The *Koe* then goes on to observe that Dr. Anezaki writes as an outsider and is evidently ignorant of the real situation created by the authors and promoters of what is known as Modernism. This movement is nothing else but an attempt to overthrow the authority on which the very existence of the Roman Catholic Church depends. The objections to Modernism entertained by all orthodox Roman Catholics have been fully stated in these columns repeatedly. To impartial outside critics it can not but appear that for the Roman Catholic Church to grant the demands of Father Tyrrell and his party would have been to seal its own doom. The *Koe* thus sums up its argument against Modernism. (1) The punishment meted out to the leaders of the movement known as Modernism by the Head of the Church was a just punishment and what the situation called for, since the co existence of Roman Catholicism and Modernism is impossible, according to the admission of all the leading secular journals and magazines of the world. To have refrained from taking steps to suppress the movement would have been grossly culpable on the part of the Head of the Church. (2) To interpret the suppression of Modernism as an attempt to stop the progress of thought and the proper development of Christianity is quite wrong. Modernism has been condemned by the Church not because it is progressive, but because its progress has been in wrong directions, because it has propagated error under the name of truth. To progress along the lines determined by Church authorities the Church has no objection. (3) When asked to give up the Revelation which God has entrusted to it, the Church of Rome has no alternative but to refuse to do this. It could hardly be expected that the Church would give its sanction to mere speculations of all sorts, that it would look quietly on while all manner of new doctrines were being taught. To allow Christ's followers to drift about helplessly on the sea of thought at the mercy of winds and waves was not a course that the great pilot of souls at the head of the Roman Catholic Church could bring himself to follow. The Church owes her high rank in the world to-day to her great stability. Were she to allow herself to be diverted from her course by the currents of thought which each new age sets going, men would lose faith in her.

* * *

In the September number of *Shinjin* (New Man) an editorial evidently written by Mr. Ebina himself appears entitled *Japanese Religious Culture*, which we epitomize as follows:—Though from ancient times we have had three religions in Japan, it is astonishing how little knowledge of religious truth there is to be found among people generally. Of course until quite recently education was by no means general and hence the facilities for propagating religion now available were non-existent. But education does not seem to have given much assistance to the spread of enlightened religious ideas among the masses. That in this age of education, in this age of science, two such promoters of superstition as the Tenrikyō and the Remmonkyō should have been established shows conclusively in what a backward state our people are in respect of religious

* To Mr. Ebina belongs the honour of having demonstrated to the Japanese Christian world that a Congregational Minister can deny the Divinity of Christ, miracles, the orthodox teaching on sin, the atonement, and other so-called cardinal doctrines of Christianity, and still retain his office as a Christian pastor. The Rev. R. J. Campbell has done the same thing in London. He can say what he pleases without fear of excommunication by more orthodox Congregational Ministers. He says, "All our body of doctrine is so much useless lumber, and even worse, for it erects a false standard of Pharisaism." He gives the name of "superstition" to such doctrines as the second coming and the general resurrection. Referring to the doctrine of the Fall, with its bizarre statements about sin and death, he declares "Nobody believes these things. . . . . least of all the wealthy proprietors and editors of the orthodox religious press." He observes, "The God of the ordinary Church-goer, and of the man who is supposed to teach him from the study and the pulpit, is an antiquated theologian who made his universe so badly that it went wrong ever since. Why he should be the injured party in all the miseries that have ensued is still less clear. . . . . Faugh! It is all so unreal and stupid. This kind of God is no God at all." Yet Mr. Campbell gets his church filled and retains his pastorate. Public opinion is evidently on the move.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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culture. Superstitions can only flourish where the soil is congenial. Lack of education and crude notions on the subject of religion account for the popularity of such sects as the two just mentioned. The education received in our Primary schools is inadequate for rooting superstition out of the minds of boys and girls. Even the instruction given in most Middle Schools fails to do that. Since religious sentiments are born with us, to get rid of them altogether is next to impossible. Where no healthy religious knowledge is imparted, the mind drifts towards superstition very readily. Looking back over the history of our people, we find that in all times the masses have been the slaves of superstition. There have again and again been a few priests who have lived exemplary lives, whose minds have been enlightened to a very high degree. In the most prosperous days of Buddhism scholarly and well educated priests existed in large numbers. But the gulf that separated these men from the ordinary laity was too wide to be crossed by the latter. The religion of those days was essentially aristocratic. While the knowledge of the intellectual classes was constantly augmented, the ignorance, superstition and blindness of the uneducated grew worse and worse. Even sects like the Zenshū, while encouraging religious contemplation and the opening of the way for an advanced state of enlightenment among the intellectual, stuck up images of Tengu and Bishamon in their temples and encouraged the people to worship them and made use of other devices for deceiving and befooling ignorant people all over the country. The way of salvation taught to the educated classes known as *Temmei-kaigo* [轉迷開悟] *no m chi* was never made known to the mass of the people. The Hokkeshū, and the Tendai and the Shingon Sects adopted the same tactics as the Zenshū and took no steps to enlighten the lower orders. The consequence of centuries of neglect is this: the mass of our people are blind to the beauties of their own religion. Nature worship such as form a part of our Shintoism, when rightly explained and understood, has certain fine elements in it, but the worshippers of the Yaoyorozu no Kami to-day have no higher conceptions of their objects of worship than had their forefathers in barbarous ages. The conclusion to which a study of this whole subject leads one is that the educational value of Shintoism, Buddhism and Confucianism, tested by what they have accomplished in past ages, is very small indeed. The majority of our people are grovelling in darkness and are the slaves of vulgar superstitions. People who are entirely without religious culture are greatly to be pitied. There can be no depth and no permanency about what they plan or do. Christians and Buddhists should unite in bringing enlightenment to the masses and freeing them from the superstitions to which they are enslaved.

* * *

Some months ago Mr. Akashi Kentarō delivered a very outspoken address at the Unitarian Hall, which in the October *Kaitakusha* (Y.M.C.A. organ) is fully reported from notes taken at the time. It is entitled *Kirisutokyō no Kiki*, "A Critical time for Christianity." Mr. Akashi is known for the candid speeches which he habitually makes. His intimate acquaintance with the history of Protestant Christianity in this country, his great earnestness and his unquestioned sincerity give weight to his utterances on a subject which is far more perplexing than some people seem to imagine. But we will let him speak for himself without further introduction:—It is by no means new for Christianity to be passing through a critical time. It has in its long history experienced so many such crises. Age after age it has suffered much from the way in which it has been misunderstood and misinterpreted. In Japan to-day, it seems to me, there is much of this. Great astonishment has been expressed in some quarters at the number of christians who have been arrested in connection with the Sugar Company Scandal, the Ōsaka slaughter-house affair and one or two other disgraceful incidents. Of course the enemies of Christianity make the most of these things. Certain Buddhist magazines have quoted them as a proof that Christianity is of little value as a purifier of men's lives. But such criticism is manifestly unfair. It would be wrong for us to condemn Buddhism because certain Buddhists have been arrested in connection with alleged illegal practices. The case of Mr. Yokoi Tokio has natually attracted a great deal of attention owing to the high position in the Christian Church that he once occupied. In the pages of the *Michi* Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki, a few months ago, published a long defence of Mr. Yokoi (noticed by us in a former Summary). With much that Mr. Matsumura said on that occasion I have the strongest sympathy, says Mr. Akashi. His admiration for Mr. Yokoi I can fully understand. Nothing that he said in his praise would I wish to see withdrawn. But when Mr. Matsumura comes to explain how his dear friend fell, he tells us that his environment was too much for him. Had his surroundings been other than they were, he would have kept free from pollution. But what is this but an admission that Christianity as it was held by Mr. Yokoi is not of much value? The number of Japanese who after figuring as the pioneers of Christianity before others and after preaching the Gospel even have abandoned the faith altogether is certainly large. Did I wish to be personal, I could furnish a good long list of people who have acted thus (*nao sono na wo koko de ieba ōku aru ga, amari kojin kōgeki wa suru tsumori de nai kara ietaku wa nai ga*, &c.) But there are two very prominent figures whose names will occur to everybody as examples of men who have turned their backs on Christianity in the most open manner. They are Messrs Kanamori and Oshikawa (Ichihara). In former days they both occupied very high positions in the Church of Christ. Besides these the evangelists or quasi-evangelists who have entirely abandoned the Christian faith are by no means few (*kesshite toboshikunai*). The suddenness with which men give up their faith together with the offices or positions which they occupied in the Christian church is very astonishing.* When we think of these cases Christian faith seems to us to be a very poor thing. It comes to this: there are scores of men who can be christians if their surroundings are favourable to the public profession of the faith, but who directly they come into close contact with a world that is anything but Christian their Christianity goes to the winds. There are students who in their young and inexperienced days are impressed by Christianity and consent to be baptized. But when they go out into life their religion is abandoned. They learn by contact with the living world that it is impossible for them to retain the beliefs of youth. *Arutowa shuju no keiken ni yotte sono hito ga manabu no ni, dōshite mo jiko no seinen no uchi ni shinkō shitaru shūkyō wa ikiteru jissai no shakai ni oite sono shinkō wo iji shite yuku koto mo dekinai yō ni kangayeru*). The fact is that life in the Church and life in the world are two entirely different things. Conditions in the Church and conditions in the world are far removed from each other. This it is that troubles our young men when they go out into life. It is quite plain that the value of our Japanese Christianity must be determined by the power it has to withstand the temptations of the world. A christian like Mr. Yokoi on going into the political world finds everything there to be hostile to his belief and as a result of adverse influences he gradually succumbs. There will be people who will tell us that christians of the right sort will overcome all difficulties and, instead of being polluted by the world, will commence to purify it. How much purifying of the world is actually going on in this country at present? How many christians are there that have the faith and the courage to attempt to bring about reforms? Very few. The fact is that instead of spiritualizing the world, Christianity all over the globe has suffered from secularization. This secularization began in the days of Constantine the Great. Christianity's becoming the State religion in those days was a great calamity. Because it only meant that its power was to be utilized for adding strength to the civil Government. Christianity fared better when persecuted by the secular power, when Emperor after Emperor set himself in opposition to it. The centuries that followed the union of secular and spiritual power are known as the dark ages of the Church's history. The history of Christianity in this country shows that its most prosperous days have been when it has kept aloof from the secular power. It flourished in Xavier's days before Nobunaga began to use it as a means of crushing the powerful Buddhist priesthood of his time. This patronage of the great, this political alliance with the Church became the source of numerous subsequent evils. When the world smiles on the Church there is usually something wrong. It means that the high Christian ideal has been lowered to suit worldly minds. No earthly power, no Government has ever adopted the Christian ideal in its entirely. The kingdoms of this world and the Kingdom of Christ have always been at variance with each other. To trim and compromise and lower the Christian standard in order to induce worldly men to make friends with the Church has ever been the way with some christians. But happily there are others who spurn the world's flattery and who set their faces against the secularization of their religion. That the moral standard observed by the society in the midst of which our christians pass their lives is far removed from the Christian standard must be evident to everybody. If our Christianity is not sufficiently robust to hold its own against its many foes, it can be of little value. Cases like that of Mr. Yokoi can not be passed over lightly. The credit of our religion is more or less involved in them.

* * *

Some weeks ago an editorial entitled *Kaku Shūkyō no Sekkin* (The Various Religions Approach each other) appeared in the *Kokumin Shimbun*, which conveys a good idea of the way in which most people look at religion to-day and summarizes the results of years of close intercourse between Buddhists and Christians. Here is the gist of the article. Writing of the state of feeling respecting religion in the Roman empire, Gibbon said:—"Religion is believed in by the masses, laughed at by the learned and used by politicians." Whether this is applicable to the state of religion in this country to-day we are not in a position to say. But speaking generally our modern Japan in its attitude towards religion resembles ancient Rome in many respects. Diverse creeds flourish side by side Time was when Christians and Buddhists denounced each other in unmeasured terms, but to-day they adopt each other's methods, study each other's doctrines and devise measures for showing mutual good will. Christians remove their hats and display other marks of respect when they enter Buddhist temples, and Buddhists show the same deference to the rules observed in Christian Churches. Christian organization and Buddhist organization are much alike. Young Men's Societies, Young Women's Societies, evangelistic agencies exist in both Sects. And as regards doctrine even, the teaching of certain Buddhists is nearer the teaching of certain Christian Sects than it is to that of some other Buddhist Sects. So tolerant and liberal-minded have men become to-day that even periodicals which are specially prepared for perusal by christians contain numerous articles on Buddhist, Shintō and Confucian teaching. Twenty years ago this was a thing unknown. An aged Christian whom we visited a little time ago was asked why she kept the image of a household god in her room, she replied "The God whom I worship holds other Gods in high esteem." This is in direct opposition to a passage in the Old Testament which represents God as jealous of other Gods, but nevertheless it well represents the general feeling in this country in favour of promoting peace and harmony among the teachers of and believers in various creeds. The friendliness of the creeds to each other will certainly result in their drawing closer to one another. Perhaps it can hardly be affirmed that this is altogether a sound state of opinion, but liberal-mindedness need not necessary imply indifference. To recognize the merits of others by no means involves disloyalty

* The original runs thus:—*Sakujitsu made yakiimo wo utte otta ga, mohaya atsuku natta kara, konnichi wa sugu kōriya ni natta to iu guai ni*, &c. "Up to yesterday they were selling roast potatoes, but no sooner does it become hot than they take to selling ice—that's the way they go on.

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to one's own belief. Regarded from the broad point of view of a publicist, however, we have not the slightest hesitation in affirming that the tendency to which we have drawn attention deserves to be welcomed and encouraged.

ENGLAND IN JAPANESE EYES.

(Extracts from Mr. Sugimura's *Dai-e-yuki.*)

II.—COMING HOME FROM AN EVENING PARTY.

It was at a Reception at the Hyde Park Hotel, given by our Ambassador, Mr. Komura. I was just thinking of leaving when Mr. Lynch, formerly war correspondent of the *Chronicle*, dragged me forcibly off to the supper-room, and compelled me to drink with him to the Anglo-Japanese Alliance. There was no gainsaying him: I was under the necessity of drinking three glasses of champagne in quick succession, which so went to my head that I was quite dazed when at last I gained the entrance to the hotel, and hailed a passing cab.

As I got in, the driver asked where I wanted to go, to which I answered vaguely enough, and the next minute we had started on our journey and were turning south from Knightsbridge Road. Every jolt the cab gave brought my silk hat into collision with the window, in a most distressing manner. Only that morning I had sent it specially to be ironed, and now in one short evening it had come to look like a shaggy poodle-dog so that I was positively ashamed, to go home and face the questioning looks of my landlady and the fellow-lodgers. I shifted in my seat as best I could so as to avoid bringing my hat into collision with the offending window-pane, but all my efforts were in vain. Shift in my seat as I might, the next moment my hat was sure to be bumping against the glass again. And it was all the fault of that wretched Anglo-Japanese Alliance. "Ah!" I said to myself, "now I see why crush opera hats are the only proper wear for evening parties." And my discovery pleased me immensely.

While the fare inside was thus pursuing his diplomatic and anthropological studies over an area extending from the Anglo-Japanese alliance to the origin of crush hats, the cab was rattling on over the slippery asphalt pavements with much noise and clatter of horse-hoofs. The lonely roadside lamps shone with a melancholy light, and there was scarcely any one about. And yet, at this late hour, when traffic had all but ceased, I noticed that the driver kept steadily to the left. Even at a corner, where he might safely have made a short cut across, without any one being the wiser for it, he still preferred to keep to the left and go the long way round. His driving impressed me; it revealed to me how very like one another all Englishman are, and how, even down to a cab-driver, an Englishman may always be expected to act as an Englishman. There is more in the Anglo Japanese alliance than a mere question of diplomacy,—to say nothing of the champagne.

On reaching the house, I got out of the cab. I had made no bargain about the fare, and I gave the man a shilling, fully expecting him to ask for something in excess of what I offered, on the ground of the lateness of the hour or some such plea. But he did not; he merely touched his hat and drove off with a civil "Thank you, Sir." It was an Englishman all over.

As I was opening the door to enter the house, I found a policeman standing at the steps. When he saw me he made straight for me and gave a stiff salute. But all that he had to tell me was that one of the side windows had been left open; would I kindly see to it? There is nothing in the world so loveable (*kawairashi*) as a London policeman. They are all great, stalwart, fellows, whose helmets and moustaches give them somewhat of a fierce look, but for gentleness and civility our Tokyo policemen cannot hold a candle to them. A day or two ago, a Japanese artist was making a sketch on the Thames Embankment. A policeman touched him on the shoulders. "You can't see anything from there," he said, "come along with me." And he found him a good position on the roof of one of the Life-saving Stations of the Thames Conservancy. Only yesterday, at Earl's Court Station I saw a newspaper boy touch his hat to a policeman. The policeman did not stand on his dignity. "And how are you, Sir?" he returned, with a smile all over his good-tempered face.

I closed the window to which my attention had been called by the Policeman, and groped my way to my room. The electric light was off, and it was pitch dark. It was about half-past twelve.

During my absence the room had been put in order, and everything was in its place. The chamberlain here is a very comely personage and extraordinarily capable. When I first arrived I told her to call me every morning at eight o'clock, and on the stroke of eight she has called me ever since. She folds up my clothes, makes my bed, sweeps my room, lights my stove,—in fact, all her regular duties she performs methodically and punctually, and so quickly that I have scarcely ever heard her speak. I am told that English women-servants are all like that. When I first came I complained to a friend that there was no bell in my room. My friend laughed and said that in this country the servant girls thought for themselves and did things without being told, and that I should not find much need for a bell. That is England again.

NO EAST OR WEST IN RELIGION.

(COMMUNICATED.)

The third of a series of meetings to unite the East and West was held to-day (Oct. 25th) in Saint Andrew's House, No. 11, Sakae-cho, Shiba, Tokyo.

In fact it was the second meeting of the *Kyo Wa Kwai* (協和會), the Society of Reconciliation and Peace, which was born in the spring in the garden of the Reverend Arthur Lloyd, M.A. Some thirty persons were present, including:—

The Bishop of Tokyo, the Right Reverend John McKim, D.D., Presiding Bishop of the *Nippon Sei Ko Kwai*, the Japanese Holy Catholic Church; The Right Reverend Cecil Boutflower, D.D., English Bishop and of the Japanese Diocese of South Tokyo; the Reverend Henry Saint George Tucker, M.A., President of Saint Paul's College; the Reverend Armine F. King, M.A., Head of Saint Andrew's House; the Reverend Arthur Lloyd, M.A., of the Imperial University; the Reverend Charles F. Sweet, Professor of Systematic Theology in Holy Trinity Divinity School; the Reverend Geo. Wallace, Prof. of Church History, and the Reverend John K. Ochiai, B.D., both of the same institution; the Reverend Joseph S. Motoda, Ph. D. of Saint Paul's College; the Reverend J. H. Lloyd, of the same; the Reverend A. E. Webb and the Reverend W. T. Gray of Saint Andrew's House: the Reverend Father Yamagata, whose son is a professor in the Divinity School; the Reverend Father M. T. Tomita, whose son is now in Cambridge, Massachusetts, after graduating at Yale, and is soon to go to minister to his own people in China; the Reverend Mr. Walton, of Saint Andrew's Mission in Yokohama; the Reverend Mr. Yamada, Pastor of S. Andrew's Church, Shiba; the Reverend Mr. Katada, Pastor of Grace Church, Kojimachi-ku ("The West End" of Tokyo); the Reverend Mr. Ryerson in active service in publishing propaganda; the Reverend Father Roman Chiba of the Holy Orthodox Cathedral of the Resurrection, Surugadai; Professor Senuma, D.D., of the Holy Orthodox Theological Seminary; Mr Ishikawa Saburo, Editor of the *Seikyo Shimpo* (Holy Orthodox Magazine); the Catechist of Kanda-ku and two professors of the Holy Orthodox Seminary; the Reverend Mr. Matsushima, Pastor of Saint Paul's Church, Kyobashi-ku; the Reverend Mr. Yoshizawa, Pastor of the Church of the Resurrection, who as a member of the Council acted as Secretary. Some others were present whose names escaped your reporter's ears.

After a certain amount of discussion looking towards the future of the Society, by the Reverend Messrs. King, Yamada, Katada, Chiba, Prof. Senuma, and Mr. Ishikawa, the company listened to a masterly paper by the Reverend Professor C. F. Sweet upon the matters that have up to the present kept the Eastern and Western Churches apart. Printed copies were distributed and the original manuscript was given to the Eastern members. An invitation to meet in January under the auspices of the Orthodox Church was cordially accepted, and after the blessing pronounced by Bishop Cecil, an adjournment was taken to the refectory, where the members were able to spend a few minutes in social intercourse.

One of the clergy remarked that a dictionary of theological terms common to the East and West was a *desideratum*. No doubt something of the kind will appear in the near future. Sincere sorrow was expressed that the most Reverend the Archbishop, who is a patron of the parent society, was not able to be present. Bishop Sergius, who is also a member of the English Society, is on a round of visitations in the Hokkaido. The future of the Society is full of hope.

JIZEN-KAI HOSPITAL, NEGISHI.

(*Translation.*)

AN APPEAL TO THE PUBLIC.

The Ladies' Charity Society, which was founded in the 33rd year of Meiji, has a hospital at Aza-Nishitakemaru, Negishi, well known to foreigners as the Jizen-kai, and a branch hospital at Sanchome, Isecho, where free treatment is given to the sick among the poor class unable to pay for medical treatment.

The Society, by the support of the public at large and also by special subsidies from the Kanagawa prefecture and from the Yokohama municipality, has been happily enabled to push its work and getting increasingly useful, day after day. It is at present accommodating a large number of patients in its hospitals, besides giving free treatment to many at their own houses.

As these patients increase more in number, we find that the expenses swell proportionately, and consequently the important question, how to obtain an increased supply of funds, is now before us.

It was primarily intended to have a charity play given as a means of collecting money, as we used to do every year, but owing to the fact that it is impossible to apply the whole proceeds to the fund, because of quite heavy expenses required for such purpose, we have given up the idea and have decided to try and raise funds, by contributions.

We now earnestly appeal to the public for subscription, no matter what amount. Those who sympathize with our intention are asked to kindly enter their names in the following list.

Referring to the above appeal made to the public, by the Ladies' Charity Society, of which Baroness Sufu, as Lady President, is an interested and active supporter, yearly subscriptions or contributions from foreign residents are hereby earnestly invited, funds being urgently needed.

The extent of the good work done by the Society may be judged by the fact that they treat at least 100 patients every day absolutely free of all charge. It is hoped, therefore, that this appeal will meet with a generous response.

GOLFING AT KOBE.

THE ECLECTIC CUP.

A competition for the "Eclectic Cup," conditions 36 holes medal play, Eclectic Score under ¾ handicap, was played on the Rokkosan links on the 24th October in perfect golfing weather and resulted in a win for P. H. Wootton with an Eclectic Score of 85—14=71. The following returns were handed in, says the *Herald*:—

	Eclectic Score.	¾	Heap.		Net.
P. H. Wootton	85	—	14	=	71
J. D. Thomson	78	—	5	=	73
G. R. Jackson	99	—	23	=	76
E. H. Summers	88	—	11	=	77
H. C. Sandford	83	—	3	=	80
J. M. Mollison	83	—	3	=	80

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THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held in the Society's Rooms in the Methodist Publishing House, No. 1, Shichome, Ginza, Tokyo, at 4 p.m., Wednesday, October 20, 1909. In the absence of the President, H.E. Sir Claude MacDonald, the chair was occupied by Prof. E. H. Vickers, Vice-President for Tokyo. The minutes of the last meeting, having been printed, were taken as read. The Recording Secretary announced that Rev. A. W. Place, of Tokyo, Miss Mary Stowe, of Tottori, and Mr. C. H. Rastall, of Kobe, had been elected members of the Society. He also announced that Mr. R. S. Miller, of the American Embassy, Tokyo, had resigned as a member of the Council, on account of his departure from Japan; and that the vacancy had been filled by the election of Rev. D. C. Greene, D.D., just returned from America. The chair then called upon Mr. E. W. Clement to read selections from his work on "Japanese Chronology," of which the following is the

PREFACE.

In connection with this subject, there are tremendous difficulties, of which the chief one is the presence of a large artificial element. The exactness or accuracy which every historical investigator wants and needs can not be said to have been an essential element in Japanese Chronology. The fault does not lie, however, so much in the system, or systems, employed, as in the manner by which the application was made. Political exigencies not infrequently demanded that dates be doctored and chronology be arbitrarily changed or even manufactured; and even custom itself was master of chronology. If, for instance, a *daimyo* or high official died outside of the precincts of his castle or his fief, his property might be confiscated to the state. Therefore, if such a person was so unfortunate as to pass away under such circumstances, either the formal announcement of his death was postponed, or the fact of his death was concealed.

For example, when the Shogun's Prime Minister, Ii Naosuke, who was unpopular because he had dared to negotiate treaties with foreign nations without the approval of the Emperor, was assassinated in March, 1860, by Mito Ronins just outside the Sakurada Gate, the assailants succeeded in cutting off the victim's head and carrying it away as a trophy. But the decapitated Premier, by miraculous intervention, was able to return to his mansion, to report that he had been severely wounded by those assailants and then to die in the proper manner, the proper place and at the proper time! There is also the comparatively modern case of Prince Kitashirakawa, who, having fallen a victim to disease in Formosa in 1895, was brought back "alive" to Japan, and did not die officially till his corpse had been properly deposited in his Tokyo mansion! Such cases as these, which might be multiplied, render absolute chronological accuracy impossible, and comparative accuracy, if such an expression be allowable, difficult.

But there is another obstacle, even greater than that of individual instances. Although the *Nihongi* and the *Kojiki*, the chief "original sources" of Japanese history and chronology were not published until 720 A.D. and 712 A.D., respectively; although local recorders were not appointed until Richiu's reign (400-405 A.D.); although the art of writing was not introduced into Japan until probably early in the fifth century A.D.; although the first date of Japanese history which can be verified by comparison with the chronology of other countries is 461 A.D.*; there is a so called chronology that is projected back, for over a millenuium, to 660 B.C. And, even if we accept for the introduction of the art of writing the traditional date of 284 A.D., which Aston and other critics cannot accept; or even if we accept the presumption of Brinkley and others that Japan did possess a script of some kind before the Chinese ideographs were introduced, whenever that might have been, there still remains a long period which bears evidence of an artificial chronology. And these evidences are not merely external, as pointed out above, but are also internal, in that they attribute to certain human beings incredibly long lives and reigns. But, as this whole subject comes up again later, it is sufficient at this point to recapitulate by stating that there is an artificial chronology for several centuries.

Another difficulty should be mentioned, because it is likely to arise in the use of these tables in connection with some books or speeches on Japanese topics. There has been too frequently a pernicious custom of translating literally Japanese dates. For instance, if a Japanese writer or speaker, in referring to the old calendar, used the expression "7th month, 19th day," it would be translated into "July 19": but it might refer, according to the year, to a day from three to six weeks later, and could never refer to July 19.

This confusion has been increased by a similar practice among the Japanese themselves since the adoption of the Gregorian calendar. On this very day of our meeting we have a good illustration. The 20th day of the 10th month (O.S.) was sacred to Ebisu, the god of wealth, and was generally celebrated in the households of merchants. But in Tokyo it is celebrated to-day, the 20th day of the 10th month (N.S.); while in the country districts it may still be celebrated, according to the old calendar, and will fall this year on Dec. 2.

One more custom likely to cause confusion was the fact that, when an emperor died or abdicated, the current year was counted in his reign, and his successor's reign was not considered to begin till the following year. Moreover, an emperor might not be officially enthroned by formal ceremony until a long time, even years, after he actually obtained sovereignty.

But, in spite of these difficulties, tremendous as they are, it is very important that, for purposes of assistance to students of Japanese institutions, especially where comparison with contemporaneous matters is desirable, Japanese chronology, as it is, be set before England readers. It must not be inferred, however, that this is the first attempt to fill such a need. In 1874 (Sir) Ernest Satow issued a pamphlet on this topic for private use. And on Feb. 10th, 1880, William Bramsen read before this Society a paper on "Japanese Chronology and Calendars," and published it, together with chronological tables from 645 to 1873 A.D. That work, accompanied also by explanations and diagrams of the "mysteries" of the old calendar, showed the date, according to the Julian and the Gregorian Calendars, of the first day of each Japanese month, in the period mentioned above. Both Satow's pamphlet and Bramsen's book are invaluable, but are out of print.

In 1902, the present writer read before this Society a paper* on "Japanese Calendars," in which this topic was treated in a general, rather than scientific, manner. Since then, in connection with historical studies, the necessity has arisen for a comprehensive comparative calendar and has at last resulted in the publication of this volume. The first idea contemplated merely a reprint of Bramsen's work; but that plan was abandoned, because Bramsen covered only a portion, albeit almost all the historical portion, of Japanese history. The next plan included complete chronological tables from 660 B.C. to date, with the incorporation, or absorption, of most of Bramsen's material, with credit as far as possible; but this was also abandoned, because it seemed difficult to keep the different portions distinct. The present plan is a modification of the second, in order to keep Bramsen's material distinct by itself, and may involve some repetition, but that seemed unavoidable. There is also some repetition of material used in the present writer's previous paper on "Japanese Calendars": but that also was unavoidable.

This volume, then, contains two sections. The first is Bramsen's essay on the Japanese chronology and calendars, with explanatory diagrams and charts and his tables with directions for their use and indexes. The second section includes the present writer's comparative tables, extending from 660 B.C. to 1910 and giving the years of the Christian Era, the years of the Japanese Era, the names and years of the Japanese emperors, the names and years of the Japanese *Nengō*, or special eras, the names and years of the Chinese Emperors, the names and years of the Chinese *Nengō*, and the zodiacal year-numbers according to the Sexagenary Cycle, with a general index.

In the second section the writer has followed chiefly a Japanese work, entitled *Nippon Tokushi Nempo*; but he has also had the benefit of assistance from Mr. N. Takai, Bungakushi, of the Imperial University, Tokyo; Dr. Tsuboi, of the Professor of Archaeology, and especially of Prof. N. Sakuma, who is a specialist in this line and contributed valuable material to the previous paper on "Japanese Calendars."*

Let us now revert to the topic to which merely a brief allusion has been made, *i.e.*, the manifestly artificial character of the first centuries of Japanese chronology. Of this phenomenon, there are several explanations. First, Bramsen, as may be seen in later pages, thinks that, in the earliest days, the Japanese year was reckoned from equinox to equinox, and was thus only six months in length. In that case, the ages of the first seventeen emperors would be cut down about half, and would then reach a natural span.

A second explanation is very interesting and ingenious; it is given by Dr. K. Asakawa, in his thesis on "The Early Institutional Life of Japan" (p. 24); and it reads as follows:

"Here it suffices to say that the year from which, according to the *Nihongi*, the history of the Empire of Japan dates,—that is, the year 660 B.C.,—would appear to be not more authentic than any date assigned for the Trojan War. The reason is as follows. A man learned in calendar is said to have been sent, by request, from Korea in 554, and a really earnest study of the Chinese science of chronology seems to have been made since 602. That science had the famous system of cycles, sixty years forming a smaller cycle, and twenty-one such cycles, or 1260 years, forming a larger cycle. The fifty-eighth year of the smaller cycle was supposed by the Chinese to be the year in which some revolution was liable to take place. It is possible that the writers of the *Nihongi*, seeing that 600 A.D. was the first year of revolution before the adoption of the calendar, may have counted backward for the space of one large cycle, thus reaching the year 660 B.C., and called it the year of the inauguration of the Yamato government. At any rate, the coincidence is striking. Is it not possible, too, that, in their attempt to reconcile the long stretch of time they thus imposed upon the antiquity of Japan, with the purely traditional part of history that preceded the later part which had contemporaneously or not long after the occurrence of events been committed to writing, these writers rather arbitrarily fixed the ages of the early Emperors, and placed vaguely remembered facts in convenient parts of their reigns? This is a pure hypothesis, but some evidence may be brought to bear upon it. It is only necessary, however, to remember that great caution must be used in dealing with particular *events* and *dates* that are recorded to have occurred before about 500 A.D., while an *institutional* history may derive some information from the account of the earlier period, or at least apply to it some of its inferential recovering."

A third explanation is that of Mr. Tachibana,† who "would make out that ten cycles of sixty years each have been interpolated during this time" [from Jimmu Tenno to Nintoku Tenno.]

A fourth explanation is that the artificial portions of the chronology were arbitrarily fixed, in a haphazard fashion, without regard to any rules or system.

We are not, however, greatly concerned with the explanations of this artificiality, and feel under no obligation to attempt a satisfactory explanation, if one is possible. Our present purpose is not that of the historical critic; it is merely that of the mechanical scribe, like the typewriter, which records whatever

* See Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan, Vol. XVI. p. 73.

* See Vol. XXX. of the Transactions of the Asiatic Society of Japan.

* He also acknowledges the clerical help of Mr. H. Okamoto in preparing the tables.

† Transactions of Asiatic Society of Japan, Vol. xvi. p. 75.

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is given to it. As has been already stated, we take the chronology, as it is, with all its faults, because it has been in constant use, and make it useful to those who cannot use the Japanese originals. We cannot even hope that our own work is absolutely free from mistakes; but we have taken the utmost pains to eliminate error and reach approximate accuracy. The internal conditions of the subject rather forbid absolute accuracy. Our chief purpose will be fully realized, if these tables will enable students of Japanese institutions to gain better perspectives and clearer views of Japanese history.

NOTE.

A further interesting evidence of the now general recognition that the moon exercises a highly important influence upon our climate and seasons is found in the oft-repeated attempts to reform the calendar and bring our scheme of the measurement of time down to its only really rational basis, the lunar month. An interesting project for reforming the Gregorian calendar, which is observed by all the Western nations, was submitted to the recent Pan-American Scientific Congress held at Santiago, Chile. The originator of the scheme, Senor Hesse, one of the Peruvian delegates, informs us that the project met with the unanimous approval of the section of Mathematics at the congress. In brief, Senor Hesse's project calls for a year consisting, not of twelve months of varying number of days, as at present, but of thirteen months of exactly twenty-eight days each,—the lunar month of exactly four weeks,—each day of the week invariably falling on the same day of each month.

The thirteen lunar months calculated on this basis would aggregate 364 days. The 365th day would come, according to this scheme between the last day of the thirteenth month (which it is proposed to call Trecember,—thirteenth), and the first day of the first month of the new year. This intercalary day would be a world-recognized holiday, not counting for dating purposes, either with scientists or business men. Leap Year, moreover, would add a second holiday, immediately following the first. A page of this reformed calendar is shown here.*

Of course, the conservation of the worlds of commerce and science would make the adoption of such a calendar extremely difficult, if not impossible. When we remember that Russia, with its 150,000,000 population, still adheres to the old Julian calendar, which does not even recognize Leap Year, the difficulty would be increased. Eventually, however, some such scientific calendar will undoubtedly be adopted, just as eventually the world, it seems certain, will come around to a universal use of the metric system. *Literary Digest*

After Mr. Clement had finished, the subject was thrown open for discussion, when Rev. C. F. Sweet read some "Notes" taken from an article on Japanese chronology in a recent magazine. These notes supplied one more explanation, by a Japanese scholar, of what may be a more rational chronology of the early history of this Empire. That hypothesis would place the founding of this Empire by Jimmu Tenno at 63 B.C.

After the Chairman had expressed the thanks of the Society for the paper, he declared the meeting adjourned.

* Monday	1	8	15	22
Tuesday	2	9	16	23
Wednesday	3	10	17	24
Thursday	4	11	18	25
Friday	5	12	19	26
Saturday	6	13	20	27
Sunday	7	14	21	28

BOOKS AND TRANSACTIONS RECEIVED DURING THE SUMMER VACATION, 1909.

Everyday Japan, by A. Lloyd (presented).

Journal Royal Asiatic Society, July 1909, containing *inter alia* articles on Pythagoras and Transmigration, and the Manikyala Inscription, the latter of which is of special interest in view of the recent discovery of Sakyamune's relics.

Zeitschrift der deutschen morgenl. Gesellschaft. Vol. lxiii. Nos. 2 and 3, containing article on the Aioka inscriptions.

Geographical Journal, July, Aug. 1909. The July number contains an account by Dr. M. A. Stein of his Explorations in Central Asia 1906-8.

Bulletin de la Société Franco-Japonaise de Paris. Articles on Japanese Swords, the Ideas which inspired the Japanese Restoration Movement, the Japanese Budget for 1909-10. This valuable publication will, it is hoped, be henceforth on our regular list of Exchanges.

Journal of the Siam Society. Vol. v. pt. 1. vol. vi. pt 1 and 2.

Bulletin de l'Ecole Francaise de l'Extreme Orient: ix 2, containing, *inter alia*, a Study on the lyric Drama of Japan by Mons. N. Peri, and reviews of Prof. Groot's "Religious System of China," and Mons. Bourgeois' "Langue Japonaise." There is also a summarized chronicle of Japanese affairs.

Melanges Japonais. No. 23, July 1909. Articles on Tenrikyo, Hayashi Razan, Japanese Companies, Religious Press of Japan, Fortune-telling, and Miscellanies. A most interesting number.

Journal of North China Branch of Royal Asiatic Society. Vol xl 1909, Archæology of China's Ancient Capitals, Chinese Law and Equity, an Ascent of Mt. Morrison (*Nitaka yama* in Formosa)

Bulletin American Geog. Socy. Aug. 1909.
Cambridge Antiquarian Society. No. lii.
Batavian Society of Arts and Sciences.—
Journal, vol. li. pt. 3 and 4.
Transactions, vol. lvii.
Canadian Institute. April 1909.
University of Colorado Studies. vi, 4.
Proc. Royal Society. A 82, A 556, 557.
B 81, B 548.
Proc. Royal Society Edinburg. xxix. pt. 5.
Harvard Mus. Comp. Zool lii. 10, 11, 12.
Chinese Recorder. Aug. 1909, Sept. 1909.
Science of Man. July 1909
Acts of Orientalist Congress, Copenhagen (presented).
Magnetic Survey of South Africa (presented).
Proceedings of the United States Museum, vol. 34, containing an interesting paper with plates on Jewish Ceremonial.

This and a number of Smithsonian Institutions and other publications have been sent to the Keiogijuku Library.

September 27th, 1909.

Ethnographic Survey of India.
Anthropometric Data of N. W. Borderland.
Anthropometric Data of Baluchistan.
Craniological Data from Indian Museum.
Geol. Survey of India. xxxvii. pt. 3.
Geographical Journal, 1909, Sept.
(containing Dr. Aurel Stein's article on Explorations in Central Asia, 1906-8).
Journal of Royal Anthropological Institute. Vol. xxxix. 1909
Science of Man. Aug. 1909
Russian Geographical Soc. v l. xxxiv.
O. Nachod: Literature of Japan for the year 1907. A most painstaking summary, appearing in *Jahresberichte der Geschichtswissenschaft.* From the author.
Harvard Museum of Comp. Zool. lii. 13.
Chinese Record. Oct. 1909 (article on Chinese Students in Japan).
Geological Survey of India xxxvii, 1, 2, 3 (from the Government of India).
Journal of the Russian Orientalists' Society at Harbin.

A. LLOYD, Hon. Librarian.

20 Oct. 1909.

INTERPORT BASEBALL.

October 22.

The weather yesterday morning was not very promising for the opening of the Interport Baseball match, the sky being overcast and rain threatening, but shortly after noon the sun made his appearance, the clouds dispersed, and when play was called soon after 2 p.m., the weather conditions were simply ideal. All Yokohama seemed to be present:—heads of firms as well as their employees—all the stands being filled to their utmost capacity. A large number of ladies also attended, the majority of whom took a keen interest in the proceedings. During the afternoon, the band of the U.S.S. *Supply* played a capital selection of airs, which were greatly appreciated.

Regarding the match itself, the general consensus of opinion was that Yokohama's chances of winning were rather slim and that Kobe would atone for her defeats in the other two events. There is every likelihood of this forecast being fulfilled, for our local team succumbed very easily to their opponents in yesterday's game, the first of three which are to be played. Indeed, it is thought there will be no need to play the third one, Kobe's win in the second being deemed a foregone conclusion. But as the old saw has it, "There's many a slip" &c., and Yokohama may yet secure victory by turning the tables on their opponents in the second and third innings. Party enthusiasm ran high during the game, individual members of the rival teams being spurred to greater efforts by their respective admirers. The fielding of the Kobe players was almost faultless, but the same cannot be said of their opponents, who were rather slack and missed several opportunities whereby the game might have been saved. The pitching of Frey was exceedingly clever and the local men could do nothing with him. The usual nine innings were played, during which Kobe secured four runs and Yokohama one. Prior to the commencement of the match, the two teams were photographed together in front of the pavilion. Mr. D. H. Blake officiated as umpire and Mr. Jenks as offical scorer. Kobe won the toss and elected to bat first.

In the 1st inning Archer hit the ball but failed to reach base; Christensen was struck out; Stephenson succeeded in getting to base, but Frey was caught by McChesney. There was no score. Correa, for Yokohama, emulated Christensen and McChesney received base on balls. Walker hit a good ball, but the fielder was too quick for him; McChesney succumbed in attempting to steal 3rd base

In the 2nd and 3rd inning no score was made by either team, the pitching being excellent and mastering the wielders of the club.

In the 4th inning Christensen made a grand hit to centre and easily secured 1st base, afterwards getting to second through a hit by Stephens. Frey failed, but Ailion struck a short ball and brought Christensen and Stephens home. Crane bunted, but was put out at first base, Broad sharing the same fate. Kobe, 2 runs.

Yokohama failed to score.

In the fifth inning Gould, Kuhn and Archer were struck out, thus retiring their team.

For Yokohama, Kellogg made a splendid hit but was caught out by outfield: Benedict fanned and Wilson was caught by Broad, the catcher.

In the sixth inning Christensen was struck out, but Stephens reached base, due to a muff of Correa. Frey got to 1st, Stephens going to 2nd. Ailion struck to outfield, who, however, could not hold the ball, and the striker got to his base. Crane now followed, but at this juncture Walker received a nasty blow on his fingers from a ball, compelling him to retire, and stopping the game for a short time. On reappearing the plucky young player was heartily cheered. Crane bunted and secured first base, bringing one man home, despite a strong protest from Yokohama against umpire's decision. Broad was struck out. Kobe had carried its score to 4

For Yokohama da Costa made a good hit to outfield and got to 1st base, subsequently stealing 2nd and afterwards reaching 3rd. Dickie and Correa were struck out and McChesney failed to get to base.

In the seventh, Kobe added nothing to their score, despite good hits by Kuhn, Archer and Christensen. Yokohama likewise failed to score. O'Connor made a splendid hit to outfield, securing 1st base and, later, stealing 2nd and 3rd. Walker fanned and Benedict was caught out.

In the eighth Kobe failed to better their score. For Yokohama Wilson struck a ball which was caught by the pitcher—a very fine catch. Da Costa got to base on hit. Dickie made a nice hit, but the ball was splendidly caught by infield. Costa now got home, owing to ball being missed by 3rd base. Correa was struck out. Score, Kobe 4; Yokohama 1.

Neither side succeeded in scoring in the ninth inning, and the game resulted in a win for Kobe, by 4 to 1.

KOBE.		YOKOHAMA.
Frey	Pitcher	Dickie
Broad	C.	Walker
Archer (Cap.)	1 B.	Da Costa
Christensen	2 B.	Benedict
Ailion	S S.	Correa
Stephens	3 B.	Kellogg
Crane	L F.	McChesney
Kuhn	C F.	Wilson
Gould and Frey	R F.	O'Connor

The following is the score by inning:—

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total.
Yokohama	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	— 1
Kobe	0	0	0	2	0	2	0	0	0	— 4

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The Interport week was brought to a conclusion on Saturday, when Yokohama followed up their victory in the cricket and tennis matches by winning the second and third baseball games. Kobe having won the first game somewhat easily the preceding afternoon, it was generally believed that victory would rest with them. But this belief was rudely dissipated on Saturday morning, Kobe sustaining a crushing defeat at the hands of their opponents, who succeeded in making 15 runs to Kobe's 2, no less than 9 of which were obtained in the 6th inning. The local team, encouraged by their victory in the forenoon, left no stone unturned to secure a similar result in the afternoon, and though the punishment inflicted was not so drastic as in the second game, Yokohama won the rubber comfortably by 7 to 4. For Yokohama, Kellogg, McChesney, Da Costa, Walker and Wilson played remarkably well, the first three with the bat and the other two as catcher and infield respectively For the visitors, Stephens, Archer and Christensen distinguished themselves. At the opening of the second game the attendance was somewhat sparse, but during the progress of the match, the stands filled rapidly. The final event in the afternoon drew a large number of spectators, constituting, it is believed, a record gathering. Every seat was occupied and many were compelled to stand. The fences were also lined three or four deep by Japanese. The weather in the morning was overcast and cloudy, but later on, when the sun came out, the climatic conditions became perfect. The band of the U.S.S. *Supply* played during the afternoon. Mrs. D. H. Blake, assisted by other ladies, presided at the tea tables in the Pavilion.

Play in the 2nd game was called by Mr. Blake at 10.30. O'Connor pitched for his side and Gould for Kobe, the crack pitchers being reserved for the final game. The first two innings produced no runs, the batsmen on both sides succumbing to the good pitching and fielding.

In the 3rd, Kellogg made a fine hit to outfield and got to 1st base, subsequently stealing to second. Wilson was hit and got to his base. Da Costa was struck out and Kellog got home, but Wilson was out on home plate. O'Connor reached first and stole 2nd, but was dismissed on McChesney striking out. Yokohama 1. Kobe failed to score.

The fourth and fifth innings resulted in neither side adding to its score.

In the 6th, Correa secured his base on hit. Walker sacrificed, Correa stealing 2nd and 3rd. Dickie reached base on hit to outfield, bringing Correa home. Dickie stole 2nd and 3rd. Benedict made a brilliant hit and Dickie crossed the diamond.

Kellog made a fine hit to centre and reached his base. Wilson also secured his 1st on hit. Benedict succumbed while stealing 3rd base, but Kellogg reached home. Da Costa struck to centre, and Wilson came home. O'Connor got to base and Da Costa went to 3rd. A fine hit from Correa brought da Costa and O'Connor home, Walker's hit also doing the same for McChesney and Correa. Walker now at 2nd reached home on Dickie's hit to centre. The latter got to 2nd, stealing also 3rd; Benedict was struck out and the inning closed with the splendid score of 9 runs. Kobe's effort in this inning resulted in 1 run, contributed by Stephens. Score: Yokohama 9, Kobe 1.

In the 7th and 8th inning the local team carried their score to fifteen, Da Costa, in the 7th, and Walker, Kellogg, Benedict and Da Costa, in the 8th, arriving safely home. Kobe scored 1 in the 8th.

The ninth innings produced no runs and the game closed in favour of Yokohama by 15 to 2.

The two teams tiffined together at the Club. Play in the deciding game was called by the umpire at 2.10, Frey pitching for the visitors and Dickie for the local men. No score was recorded by either side in the first inning: but in the second Frey, for Kobe, managed to arrive home, due to an overthrow. Kobe, 1. Yokohama, however. improved on this in the 3rd, by making 3, Kobe adding only 1. In the 4th the local team made 2 more runs and scored one each in the 5th and 6th, but failed to add anything during the last three innings. Kobe obtained two more runs in the 5th, Christensen and Stephens getting home. Kobe could not, however, better this in the remaining innings, and Yokohama proved victorious by 7 to 4.

The following is the score by innings:—

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total.
Yokohama ...	0	0	1	0	0	9	1	4	0—	15
Kobe	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	c—	2

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total.
Yokohama ...	0	3	2	0	0	1	1	0	—	7
Kobe.....	0	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	4

The Interport Baseball dinner was held on Saturday evening in the Grand Hotel, in one of the private rooms. Mr. D. H. Blake, the Vice-President of the Club, was in the chair, being supported on right and left by the captains of the two teams. Mr. Babbitt, acting American Consul-General, occupied the Vice-Chair. The dining table was prettily decorated and as will be seen below, a dainty repast was served, to which full justice was done. In all, some fifty persons were present. Just prior to the serving of the dinner, a flashlight photograph was taken of the company. The band of the U.S.S. *Supply*, the members of which are all Filippinos and excellent musicians, played during the evening.

MENU

Cocktail d'Huitres.
Potage Tortue Clair.
Darne de Saumon, Sauce Beurre.
Suprême de Chapon à l'Estragon.
Chaufroids de Becassine à la Ceres.
Filet Mignon Chasseur.
Céleri à la Mœile.
Dindonneau farcie.
Salad.
Pudding Montglas.
Parfait à l'Ananas.
Fruits. Dessert. Cafe.

On the conclusion of the dinner, the Vice-President rose and proposed the first toast of the evening—that of "the Rulers of our respective countries." This having been duly honoured, he then proposed the health of the Kobe Club. He said that this pleasing task had fallen to him for several years. In days gone by he had resided in the sister port, as had also many of those present that evening, and had assisted in extending a hearty welcome to the Yokohama team when visiting Kobe. It was only right, therefore, that the members of the Y.A. & R.C. should return the compliment. Referring to the games, he said that any remarks of his concerning the play would be superfluous. He would leave this task to the respective captains. The game had passed off pleasantly and there had not been the slightest friction on this occasion. In one respect, the meeting just closed was unique; for in all probability it would be the last to be played on the present ground. In spite of the optimistic views expressed by Mr. Mollison at the Cricket Club dinner on Tuesday, he (the speaker) had since then come into possession of facts which controverted those views, and he feared that it was only too true that the last interport games had been played on that historic field. H.E. Sir Claude Macdonald had worked strenuously to obtain a renewal of the lease, but had not, he was sorry to say, succeeded. Other grounds, it might be said, had been proposed, the exclusive control of which, however, would not be granted to the foreign residents. Whatever site was eventually granted, it was to be hoped that it would be placed under joint control, as was the case in Kobe. Nothing further need be said; but he deeply regretted that the ground, which had been looked upon as the heritage of the residents, was likely to pass away. In conclusion, he hoped that the Kobe team would carry home with them most pleasant recollections of their visit, and called upon the members of the Yokohama Club to drink the visitors' health.

The toast having been drunk with musical honours,

Mr. Archer (the captain), on behalf of the team, thanked the Vice-President for his kind remarks. Referring to their defeat, he said they had been beaten absolutely in a fair match, and he could not ask for better treatment. He related the story of a Nebraskan who when bidden to run on the first strike, said he wanted two more. That was how Kobe felt—they wanted one more. He deeply regretted the forthcoming departure from Japan of Messrs. McChesney and Dickie, each of whom had played for both ports, and wished them success wherever they might go. Now that Yokohama was likely to lose their ground, Kobe, he said, would be glad, if they ran down, to give them battle at any time. He called on Kobe to drink the health of the Yokohama team. This having been done,

Mr Kellogg said that the name of Kobe had always been synonymous with sport and fair play. When visiting Kobe, the Yokohama team had always received the greatest hospitality. Kobe had been greatly handicapped this year by the loss of Messrs. Bardell and Dickie, the backbone of the team, so that it was not hard to understand why they had suffered defeat. In glancing over the programme lying on the table, he was sorry to find that the name of that very capable young player, Mr. Walker, had been inadvertently omitted from the list of the Yokohama team. The play of the local team this season had been adversely criticized by the local press, but he could safely say that it was better this year than it had been for some years past. Though they had succumbed to both Keio and Waseda, the team had profited by these defeats. He concluded by thanking the Chairman for officiating as umpire and for the great interest he had always taken in the Club.

The Chairman, referring to the prize presented by himself for the best batting average in the interport, said that Messrs. Kellogg and Da Costa had tied for the cup. Mr. Kellogg, however, in a sportsman-like spirit, had decided to retire in favour of Mr. Da Costa. The latter had done good work in the last season. He had progressed very favourably and would doubtless develop into a first-rate player.

The Chairman then referred to the approaching departure of Mr. McChesney and took the present opportunity of officially bidding him farewell. As was well known Mr. McChesney was an old interporter, and had played for both ports. As a mark of their esteem and friendship, his baseball friends in Yokohama had decided to present him with a souvenir, in the form of a silver box. The Chairman said he had much pleasure in handing him the gift.

Mr. McChesney tendered his best thanks to the donors for their handsome present, which he said he had not expected and did not deserve. In leaving Yokohama, he was bidding farewell to baseball, which he would have no time to play in the States, and he greatly regretted that he would not be able to participate in any more Interport games.

The toast of the ladies was proposed by Mr. Frey and responded to by Mr. Brady, and that of the Press by Mr. Foster and answered by Mr. Sherriff,

The singing of "Auld Lang Syne" brought a very pleasant evening to a close shortly after 11.30.

During the intervals songs were sung by Messrs. Brady, Cooper, Lewis and Parr.

INTERPORT CRICKET.

The following letter to the Editor appears in Thursday's *Kobe Herald*:—

SIR,—Kobe has again been beaten in Interport cricket. Why? Because the team sent to Yokohama was a weak one. And why was a weak team sent? Because the selectors could not get a stronger one to go. And why could not a more representative lot of men be induced to go? Because men who are not given a chance to play when the game is at Kobe, being then obliged to stand down in favour of worse players, naturally "get their backs up," and refuse when asked to go all the way to Yokohama. This may be unpatriotic but it is human nature. Kobe teams want most—not better players, nor better captains, even; but better selectors.

Yours faithfully, H.

Kobe, October 21, 1909.

As conflicting reports have appeared as to the

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number of runs by which Yokohama won the Inter-port match on Wednesday we give the figures :—

	Yokohama.	Kobe.
1st Innings	85	97
2nd Innings	93	75
Total	178	172

It is clear that though, before the fall of the last wicket, Kobe required *seven* runs to win, yet when that wicket fell they were defeated by *six*.

To Abolish the Left-handed Batsman.

A home paper remarks that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle has made a suggestion with which many cricketers will sympathise. The left-handed batsman is undoubtedly a nuisance to the field and also to the spectators of a match, who want to see a brisk game, and the author of "Sherlock Holmes," who is a keen cricketer, would abolish him altogether. Sir Arthur would, however, respect existing interests. He considers that any legislation upon the subject should not affect existing left-handed batsman, and also that a margin of three or four years should be given in order to prevent the disqualification of left-handed players who are coming on. But at the expiration of that period he would rigidly enact that no new player be admitted as a left-handed batsman into first-class cricket.

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, October 2.

At a time when the whole of Europe, and some other parts of the earth resemble a mine-field in naval warfare it is ill playing with delicate wires that may produce disastrous explosions, not perhaps in the direction desired by the careless meddler! The press, apparently acting as catspaw for some hidden influences, has been playing with delicate wires most inexpertly in two remarkable cases of the past week. The world was recently startled from its growing belief that Russia is becoming a well-governed orderly country once more by an astounding and circumstantial account of an entirely apocryphal "pogrom" at Kiev, wherein the usual scores of Jews suffered the usual horrible tortures before dying under the blows of a Black Gang mob. The object of such a story, which even found a hospitable reception in a London paper generally recognised for its fair treatment of Russia, was sufficiently obvious, and the place of origin of the publication, Berlin, makes it sure. There are many and various people on the continent of Europe who look with apprehension to any tightening of the bonds of friendship between Great Britain and Russia, an apprehension in nowise lessened by speculations of the effect of possible changes in Great Britain's fiscal economy in the not distant future. The story was purely an effort of the imagination. The Black Gang, without which a pogrom is inconceivable nowadays in any part of Russia, is no longer dangerous: its fangs have been drawn, its claws clipped, and, above all, its subsidy supplies entirely stopped. Moreover, the Emperor is now fully aware of the true nature of this delectable association, and unmistakably discountenances its supporters. I hear that the Black Gang recently had the insolence to send to His Majesty a telegram warning him not to pay any visits to the heathen Turk! As a result everything now reaching His Majesty from Black Gang circles is returned through official channels unread. Indeed the petition of the city of Odessa that the Emperor would receive a deputation from the citizens of a town notoriously given over to Black Gang propaganda has produced the very cautious reply that his Majesty "consents in principle"—a proviso hitherto not inserted in such cases. The meaning obviously is that if Odessa hopes to further Black Gang purposes by means of this deputation the latter will not be received at all. Russia has changed a good deal since the days of pogroms, and only ignorance, or malice, could swallow such a story as that which has run all over the continent, and even reached London, more's the pity.

The other instance of playing with danger-wires occurred in the case of the Russo-German misunderstanding at Kharbin, of which a great deal too much has been made, both in Russia and abroad. The Russians who have been busy, as the Russian has it, making a fly into an elephant, are obviously actuated by the desire to vilify M. Izvolsky. As a matter of fact, however, I believe the Minister of Finance is more immediately concerned with the maintenance of good order at Kharbin, which is under the jurisdiction of the Russian railway officials, who are responsible to the Ministry of Finance. Sufficient capital has been made out of an unhappy incident to give it a resemblance, for those who know nothing of the circumstances, to the German quarrel fastened upon France over the Casa Blanca affair. But that was a matter between trained officials of either nation. The Kharbin affair was merely the interference of the German Consul with the actions of inferior police-officials taking steps to collect a legal debt from a beer-brewery in which two Germans held shares The Russian Government has published a communiqué which shows that the ground for international trouble can only be found by intentional malice, while the newspaper stories of the German Consul striking Russian officials or violating Russian official seals is totally denied by responsible Russian officials on the spot. What really happened is quite simple. A Russian brewery, duly registered in Russia, was summoned to pay certain dues, and on refusing was distrained on Two German subjects, one of them bearing a Slavonic name, appear to own a large amount of the shares in the undertaking, if indeed they were not actually owners and managers. German enterprise has familiarised us with this method of evading Russian regulations about Company registration much nearer home than Kharbin. These Germans hoisted the German flag over the brewery, thereby invoking the protection of Germany to save them from a legal debt. When the police arrived to distrain, the doors were closed, and when the police climbed over a fence they were attacked by dogs set on them by the two Germans, one of whom finally struck one of the police men. The latter drew their sabres to deal with the dogs, and the distraint was duly executed. The amount in question is about 300 pounds sterling. If the incident, after being closed by the usual official apologies and reprimands, inquiries and the like, should lead Russia to examine carefully into the manner in which German subjects all over Russia contrive to masquerade as Russians until trouble comes by circumventing the Company Laws, probably Russia would be the gainer. There are even in St. Petersburg many huge industrial companies whose entire organisation and capital is German, yet they become duly registered as Russian Companies despite the stringency, on paper, of the Company Laws. Such companies enjoy all the advantages of that "dual nationality" whose uses were brilliantly revealed to a wondering world from the tribune of the Duma only a few months ago. The official representatives of other nations do not permit the national flag to cover any such dealings, but Germany has her own methods of trade enterprise, and Russians, unfortunately, know more about these methods than about those of other nationalties.

The ex-Shah of Persia has reached Baku and left there to-day for Odessa.

The bye-election in St. Petersburg takes place on Monday, October 4th.

A Russian "Jack-the-Ripper" was caught yesterday immediately after the execution of his second murder upon members of the "unfortunate" class. He had left in the room a label on the wall saying "No. 2. Vengeance on all beautiful women." The hotel-porter stopped him as he was going out after giving the usual explanation that "the lady was still sleeping and would leave later." The criminal is a young man, who has evidently had training as a medical man, but has not yet been identified.

A slight magnetic storm, apparently local, stopped the working of telegraphs in the Moscow district for six hours yesterday.

The Budget Committee have discovered that Government Departments between them have put away over fifty millions sterling in the form of "special capital" of which nearly four millions sterling is kept in cash. These amounts have been received from the Treasury from time to time for special purposes and no account is given of them to anyone. Another curious discovery is that the Military Medical Department provides a maximum of 60 doctors per annum to the Army and costs the State ten times as much as two of the smaller Russian Universities with hundreds of students and half a dozen faculties!

A special expedition sent to the Amur Territory has returned with the information that although little land suitable for peasant settlement was found in the four hundred miles investigated, the expedition discovered deposits of coal and some warm sulphur springs. The region examined was in the basin of the river Tirma, a confluent of the river Amur between Blagovescensk and Khabarovsk.

Extraordinarily heavy rain-storms have inundated Baku and Kerch, doing much damage to property and interfering with railway traffic.

Ten masked passengers robbed a clerk carrying 1500 pounds in cash on the Sizran-Choljabinsk railway yesterday.

St. Petersburg, October 5.

The bye election in St Petersburg took place yesterday and the count was completed this morning. Briefly, the result is that the "Cadet" (Constitutional Democrat) candidate, ex-Minister Kutler, is first, and the other four candidates of various parties—nowhere. Less than one-third of the electorate polled: M. Kutler received 12,457 votes: the nearest candidate to him received 4676 votes and the others 3952, 1809, and 1237 respectively. The last on the poll, as always since elections began in Russia, is the Black Gang candidate. The Octobrist candidate polled only 3952 votes, or little over one quarter the number given for the Cadet member.

As elections are the only occasions from the cradle to the grave in Russia in which the police do not attempt to penetrate the secret opinions of the individual citizen, many wags take advantage of this fact to relieve their feelings on paper which they put in the polling-box in place of the voting paper. On the present occasion there has been an unusual amount of this trifling with the poll, which, together with the general apathy of the public, seems to show that Russia is not quite ripe for constitutional methods in the bulk, and might with advantage have begun the experiment on a much more restricted franchise.

One of these election-day wags inserted a paper saying: "Until we get equal rights as citizens and political liberty, it is impossible to send representatives to the Duma." Others amused themselves with voting for various impossible people, Count Tolstoy being favoured by several. A good many voting papers contained nothing but the word "non-party" and these voters, of course, registered no vote at all. One critical person inscribed across his paper: "I find none worthy:" others appear to have voted "blank" on purpose and many spoiled their papers through ignorance. The one poetical effusion dropped in the polling-box in lieu of a vote contained eight lines that may be thus rendered:

Every year, each year that goes by,
Appears a new Duma—as now;
What good are they,? give you my word
They do nothing but kick up a row!
No deputy dare speak his mind
To tell of the people's woes,
Yet lots are now lying in gaol,
How many the Lord only knows!

For the serious student of Russian politics there is only one humourous side to this, as to other elections, namely, that the ex-Minister who has received an absolute majority of votes split among five candidates is an avowed member of a party which is not "legalised," and is therefore liable to police persecution throughout the country. In the great centres, of course, the police are discreet, but outside these not very numerous points of enlightenment the "Cadet" party is the favourite target for persecution. It is curious that M. Kutler polled an overwhelming majority, not merely on the whole poll, but in every separate district whether in the residential quarters of the aristocracy and civil service, or in the districts filled with workingmen.

M. Stolipin will leave in a few days for Livadia, there to remain in residence for probably some

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months. The Premier will continue to conduct the affairs of his office, and all matters of high importance will be referred to him personally, notwithstanding the distance of Livadia from St Petersburg. The routine business of the Ministry of the Interior, of which M. Stolipin is the head, will be carried on during his absence by his Adjunct-Ministers.

M. Kokhvtsag, Minister of Finance, leaves this week for the Far East.

A Russian paper hears that the Governments of England, France, Belgium, Italy and Switzerland have notified the Government of Russia that in future they will not permit within their dominions the organisation of a secret police service by any other power. As this piece of "news" emanates from Berlin, and Germany and Austria are not included in the interesting list given above of the Powers who are determined to take a step which Russia would doubtless regard as verging on the unfriendly, it would be well to await confirmation before accepting it for true.

The dispute about the percentage of Jews to be admitted to Russian educational establishments, which the arbitrary decree of the Minister of "Popular Enlightenment," M. Schwarz, recently brought to an acute crisis, has now been settled by order of the Committee of Ministers confirmed by the Emperor. The main injustice caused by the decree of M. Schwarz has been entirely removed by making the new rules come into force gradually, and not until those Jews already in the various universities and schools shall have completed the course of education there provided Thereafter the rules will be as follows: Those educational establishments hitherto altogether closed to Jews will remain closed: all Government-supported schools and all other schools which give a course of education accepted by the Government as equivalent to that received in Government-supported schools may admit Jews witin the following limits, in Petersburg and Moscow 5 per cent. of the total number of persons attending the school (college, university etc., elsewhere 10 per cent, and in the Provinces of the Jewish Pale 15 per cent. No restrictions are placed on the admittance of Jews to any schools whose curriculum is not accepted by the Government as qualifying its recipients for the civil and service rights conferred by education in a Government school. No restrictions likewise are placed on the admittance of Jews to the lower laass specialist schools of agriculture, technical commercial and other branches of knowledge, dentistry, etc., but alumni of these schools will not, if Jews, find their career open for them to higher schools.

The order sets straight for the moment the injustice of the sudden enforcemnt of rules that were instances almost in abeyance, and gives to Jews a fair opportunity of middle class education, but expresssly cuts off all hope, except for the very flower of Jewish youth, of reaching the higher grades of learning that entitle the recipient to hold high office under the Government.

The Japanese fishermen in the southern half of the island of Sakhalin have discovered enormously rich deposits of pearl-oysters. The beds have been worked for some time in secret, and the quantity of pearls is said to be so great as to threaten prices all over the world. The hitherto rare black pearls of good quality and a peculiar yellow pearl are reported to have been found in quantities, as well as the best quality of pearl usually seen. The Sakhalin pearls will shortly be placed on the markets of London, Paris and Hamburg.

Count Tolstoy, returning from a visit to his M. Chertkov, passed through Moscow, where he stayed a night. Although efforts were made to keep his arrival secret, large crowds filled the railway station and expressed their admiration of the "modern prophet"—for such has Tolstoy become to numbers of Russians. Familiar scenes of Tolstoy' home life will shortly be seen all over the world on the cinematograph, a photographer having accompanied him during a great part of his recent absence from home. As the train left the station Count Tolstoy attempted to say a few words of thanks to the crowds thronging about the carriage, but his words were barely heard. On arriving home at Jasnaja Poljana, the excitement of the Moscow scenes proved too much for the aged writer, and he fell into a fainting fit that lasted ten minutes or so. He is now reported to be perfectly recovered again.

The well-known Petersburg Restaurant, the favourite resort of the rank and fashion of the capital, known as the "Bear", has been voluntarily closed owing to the occurrence of some half dozen cases of cholera among the servants.

St. Petersburg, October 7.

A number of British financiers, representing in the aggregate scores of millions of money, are at present in St. Petersburg seeking to find suitable investments for their clients. As usual with British enterprise, each is doing the best he can for himself by his own individual efforts, an attitude which, from another point of view, means that each individual is fighting against rivals of his own nationality, while at the same time endeavouring to make a breach in the well protected ring fence of German interests that have hitherto bound Russia with a ring of iron against all comers. Thanks to the political situation principally, there is reason to believe that a certain amount of success will attend the efforts of these individual pioneers of British capital. But, at any rate for the present, it is all only a matter of hope and sanguine belief. Several members of the London Stock Exchange, one of whom was remarkably successful in securing early this year for British capital the construction of a railway and harbour works in Russia, the heads of great banking houses, and representatives of syndicates of capitalists in England all assembled in St. Petersburg at about the same time, points inevitably to some remarkable developments in the future. Russians are elated at the prospects opening before them. One said the other day: "A year ago we were going hat in hand round Europe: now everyone is coming to us." The English have come a little late, and they have come as individuals. They are going away again, all empty-handed Russia has now the certainty that her harvest is the record yield for a generation past, and she can afford to talk differently to-day. The British individuals have been told to come back in the spring and perhaps—but of course the talk will be on yet another basis when Russia has realised her magnificent harvest.

While England is thus busy with pourparlers Germany is securing hard facts. To day will be signed in Berlin the final agreements which combine the Russo-Chinese Bank with the Siberian Commercial Bank. The announcement sounds simple, but it is a matter wide in extent and cutting very deep across the path of British enterprise in Russia. The Siberian Commercial Bank is one of the oldest established banks in Russia, was the first to organise a network of branch banks in many parts of the Empire, and for long held the cream of high-class business. The Russo-Chinese Bank, since its stock held by the Government was sold, has not prospered as of old days. The two together cover an extent of territory equal to the bounds of the Empire. Franco-German finance having secured a controlling voice in the old-established bank has now compelled the combination with the Russo-Chinese Bank. The new bank will be called the Russo-Asiatic Bank, and will have a capital of five and a half million pounds sterling. The wires of this bank will be pulled from Berlin and Paris, mainly the former.

A similar scheme promoted by a powerful British syndicate, which proposed to buy up a group of banks in Moscow which had been united under Government auspices on the principle that union is strength, has fallen through, after reaching the semi-final stage twice over. Negotiations may possibly be renewed next spring, by which time the colossal, for Russia, new bank, the Russo-Asiatic Bank, will doubtless be in a position to buy up these banks over the heads of the British syndicate.

The success of the Germans is due to combined action: is not the failure of England due to the policy of individual rivalry? The German form of enterprise hoists the national flag and fights solid under it, ably led and backed by the German Government, until the fight is won: it is then a comparatively simple matter to divide up the spoil. It would no doubt be worth investigation by those competent for such an inquiry, how far the recent storm in a tea-cup raised by a truculent German Consul at Kharbin is connected with German commercial enterprise at St. Petersburg, for the veriest outsider can hardly help noticing how frequently these little shakings of the "mailed fist" in one part of the world coincide in time with enterprising activity on a commercial basis elsewhere.

An American aviator from the International contest at Zurich having landed on Russian territory near Ostrolenko was promptly arrested by the local police as he was unprovided with a passport! The number of less unpremeditated descents about the same neighbourhood of various German military balloons have evidently caused the local police to be quite exceptionally alert.

A students' aviation club which had obtained the use of a piece of ground in the outskirts of St. Petersburg for experiments of an elementary kind, has been forbidden by the police to continue, on the ground that they have not fulfilled the necessary formality of obtaining police permission to fly there.

A ton and a half of Government coined gold was stranded on its way to the railway station from the Imperial State Bank yesterday in one of the main streets of St. Petersburg. All transports of money here are strongly guarded by military. First come a couple of cyclist police detectives, the cart containing the money is surrounded by dragoons with drawn swords and carbines slung, behind comes a carriage with the officials and then the police cyclists again. The cart on this occasion caught a wheel in a tram-line and broke down. A number of police were quickly drafted to the spot, and finally the gold was transferred to a post office mail-cart returning from the station, and safely reached its destination.

The *Novoe Vremja* says the Constitutional Democrat Party ("Cadets") won such an overwhelming victory in the recent bye-election at St Petersburg by advertising the electorate that their candidate "was the one man likely to prove the biggest eye-sore to the Government." If true, this charge cuts pretty deeply in several directions.

The "Emigration Committee" is preparing to send large numbers of Russians next year to colonise the Caucasus and Russian Turkestan.

The ex-Shah of Persia has arrived at Odessa, where he will remain as the guest of the Russian Government. His position will prevent any possibility of his becoming a centre for intrigues directed against the new state of things in Persia.

The Kharbin incident has been arranged, it having been found that the zealous German Consul was not justified in authorising his nationals to fly the German flag over their brewery.

A crowd of clerks mobbed members of the commission appointed in Moscow to settle the question raised about the new tram-line electric standards disfiguring the Grand Square and its historical monuments. The artist Vasnetsov was accused of making trouble to please the foreigner, for "only visitors to Moscow ever looked at the monuments." The Commission recommended the removal of the tram-lines to the far side of the square, where they will be of least use to the public, but will certainly not obstruct the view. The matter is still unsettled.

The Jews in Odessa, says the *Novoe Vremja*, form 28 per cent. of the total population, but have a voting strength of 41 per cent. This fact seems to account for the extraordinary interference with the "freedom of elections" which the military governor of the town is alleged to be taking, including intimidation of the press, which is forbidden even to print the name of the "Cadet" candidate.

The Japanese are reported to have selected a site for barracks right on the Russo-Korean frontier. There is a good deal of uneasiness abroad among Russians concerning alleged Japanese action in Manchuria.

A JAPANESE was arrested in Tokyo on Wednesday morning. It is alleged that he has stolen during the last few months goods valued at some 170,000 *yen* from the Siamese Legation and various residences of peers in Tokyo.

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THE YOKOHAMA LIBRARY AND READING ROOMS.

The annual general meeting of the above Society was held in the Society's rooms in Retz' building, yesterday evening (28th) at 5.45. There were present Mrs. D. H. Blake, Mrs. Frazar, and Messrs. Ball, Ford, Haskell (hon. Treas.), Macbeth, Morriss, M. Russell, Sherriff and Watson (hon. Sec.) In the absence of Mr. McChesney, the President, Mr. Haskell (hon. Treas.) was voted to the Chair. In referring to the accounts for the past year, he said that donations amounting to *yen* 645.12 had been received from various sources, mainly through the efforts of Mrs. Frazar and other ladies in organizing entertainments and of Mr. McChesney, who had collected quite a respectable sum, so that from a debit balance when the accounts were taken over by him, the Society had now a sum of *yen* 302.48 to its credit. To make ends meet, the rooms had been changed and they were now paying *yen* 30 per month as against *yen* 50 in the old building. The list of periodicals and newspapers had also been cut down, but he hoped that it would soon be restored. There were seventy-five members at present and several others would shortly join.

On the proposal of Mr. Haskell, seconded by Mr. Watson, the accounts for the past year were unanimously passed.

In answer to a question from Mr. M. Russell, the Chairman said there had been no need to call on the guarantors for any funds. Their liability would cease this year.

The proposal to change the name of the Society to that of the Yokohama Public Library was, on the proposal of Mr. Macbeth, seconded by Mr. Ball, unanimously rejected.

Mr. M. Russell said that the meeting would doubtless like to know that the petition presented to Mr. Carnegie by Mr. Frazar during his trip to America lately, asking for financial help in establishing a public library here, had not been successful. Mr. Carnegie said he would confer libraries only on English-speaking countries.

Mr. Haskell was, on the proposition of Mr. Macbeth, seconded by Mr. Sheriff, elected to the post of President, made vacant by the approaching departure of Mr. McChesney, the present occupant.

The Chairman proposed, and Mr. Macbeth seconded, the re-election of the old committee, with the addition of Mrs. J. C. Hall, Mrs. Van Patten, Mr. Ball and Mr. M. Russell.

This having been carried, the meeting was brought to a close.

THE FAR EASTERN PUBLIC HALL COMPANY, LIMITED.

The annual general meeting of the above association was held in the vestibule of the Gaiety at 5 o'clock last evening (28th). Mr. D. Marshall, the Chairman, presided. There were also present Messrs. Brady, Eddison (hon. Secretary), E. C. Davis, Frazar, M. Russell, Thomas and Captain Swain.

The notice convening the meeting having been read, the Chairman then read the report and accounts for the past year, which on the motion of Mr. Russell, seconded by Captain Swain, were unanimously passed.

The next business before the meeting was the election of two Directors to fill the place of the retiring ones, Messrs. Brady and Davis, who, however, offered themselves for re-election. On the proposal of the Chairman, seconded by Captain Swain, Messrs. Brady and Davis were re-appointed to the Board.

A vote of thanks was bestowed on Messrs. Pearson, Mackie and Dempster, who had audited the accounts without charge. On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Eddison, the auditors were re-elected.

Mr. Eddison desired to thank the Chairman for the hard work the latter had performed in connection with the Company, on which he had spent much time. In reply, Mr. Marshall said that the affairs of the Company were a matter of considerable interest to him and he was glad to hear that the shareholders were gratified with what he had done.

The meeting then ended.

The following are the report and accounts :—

Your Directors now submit the first report and the audited accounts to 30th September, 1909.

On 1st July, 1908, the property was taken over from the old Public Hall Association and reconstruction work was at once commenced, though the time occupied and the work found necessary was greater than at first anticipated, the Hall was ready for the St. Andrew's Ball on 30th November, 1908, and from that date earnings commenced.

The period under review covers 15 months of expenses, but only 10 months receipts, nevertheless, the balance of the working account has more than covered the preliminary and legal expenses.

In spite of the increased accommodation the takings for the past year have been considerably less than the year previous, when the Hall was still in its unattractive state. Your Directors trust that the coming season will see the Hall used to the full extent it now deserves, and with several economies which have already been effected the accounts should show a satisfactory surplus at the end of next year.

The Directors recommend that the balance of *yen* 121.01 be carried forward to next year accounts.

The Directors retiring this meeting are Messrs. G. G. Brady and E. C. Davis, who offer themselves for re-election.

It is with sincere regret that the Directors have to record the death during the past year of their colleague Mr. James Walter.

Thanks are due to Messrs. Pearson, Mackie and Dempster, Chartered Accountants, who have kindly audited the accounts without charge and their re-appointment is recommended with a suitable remuneration.

By order of the Board of Directors.

D. MARSHALL, Chairman.

Yokohama, 30th September, 1909.

BALANCE-SHEET, AS AT 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1909.

LIABILITIES.

Capital Account :—		
I. Authorised 1,000 shares of yen 50 each fully paid up	Yen. 50,000.00	
II. Subscribed 879 new shares of yen 50 each fully paid up	43,950.00	
121 old shares of yen 50 each fully paid up	6,050.00	Yen. 50,000.00
The Public Hall Association :—		
Liability on 7 old Debentures of yen 50 each not yet redeemed. Redemption price yen 100.00 each		700.00
Mortgage		8,500.00
Bank overdraft, Hongkong and Shanghai Bank		430.29
Suspense Account, mortgage interest accrued		255.12
Profit and Loss Account, nett profit to date as per Profit and Loss Account		121.01
		60,026.42

ASSETS.

Property Account :—		
Value of land and buildings taken over from the Public Hall Association	Yen. 18,644.31	
Add :— Cost of alterations to date	33,285.05	Yen. 51,929.36
Furniture and Fixtures Account, Cost to date		7,299.23
Stock on hand		350.00
Telephone Deposit Account		10.00
Suspense Account, Fire Insurance premium unexpired		417.17
Cash in Bank, Mitsui Bank		.69
		60,006.42

STATEMENT OF PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.
FOR PERIOD TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1909.

	Yen.
To Preliminary expenses	1,476.55
To Interest on mortgage to date	850.12
To Balance, being nett profit	121.01
	2,447.68
By Balance transferred from Working Account	2,138.67
By Bank Interest	308.01
By Tranfer Fee	1.00
	2,447.68

WORKING ACCOUNT.
FOR PERIOD TO 30 SEPTEMBER, 1909.

	Yen.
To Ground rent and taxes	169.80
To Hall expenses	683.51
To Wages	1,315.02
To Fire insurance	340.22
To Lighting and heating	598.21
To Stationery and printing	120.86
To Balance transferred to Profit and Loss Account	2,138.67
	5,366.27
By Income from hire of hall, etc.	5,366.27
	5,366.27

In accordance with the Companies Act 1907 we hereby certify that we have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required.

We have examined the books of the Far Eastern Public Hall Company, Limited, Yokohama, for the period from the inception of the Company to 30th September 1909, and beg to report that the above balance-sheet and statement of accounts as prepared by us, are in our opinion properly drawn up, so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's affairs accordidg to the best of our information and explanations given us and shown by the books of the Company.

PEARSON, MACKIE & DEMPSTER,
Chartered Accountants.

Yokohama, 12th October, 1909.

THE LAW COURTS.

CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.

The hearing of a case instituted by Mr. Inouye Kakugoro, the representative of the Hokkaido Tanko Kisen Kabushiki Kaisha, Sapporo, against the late Mr. A Chaix, the representative of the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, No. 9, Yamashita cho, Yokohama, petitioning for compensation to the extent of *yen* 52,805 15 for damages, with interest at 5 per cent. per annum from the 17th of April, 1909, until date of judgment, came up on the 28th inst. in the Yokohama Local Court before Judge Iwasaki.

Plaintiff was represented by Messrs. Iwata Kondo, Okamura and Suzuki, and defendant by Mr. Sato.

Plaintiff's Counsel Mr. Kondo stated that on January 23, 1909, the steamer *Iburi Maru* owned by the plaintiffs was run into and sunk by the steamer *Sydney* belonging to the defendants. Mr. Kondo argued that the accident was entirely due to the fault of the captain of the *Sydney*. The steamer *Iburi Maru* was valued at 130,000 *yen*, and had been insured with the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company for 80,000 *yen*, which amount the plaintiffs obtained from the Insurance Company, the latter recovering only 980 *yen* on selling the sunken vessel by auction. Moreover, when the vessel was sunk, there was on board a lot of coal amounting to 840 *yen* and 1,965.15 *yen* in money. The total damage, then, came to 52,805.15 *yen*, which the plaintiffs requested the defendants on April 15, 1909, to make good.

Defendant's Counsel Mr. Sato requested the Judge to dismiss the case, stating that though the defendants recognize the amount of 80,000 *yen* insured with the Tokyo Marine Insurance Company, they know nothing about the appraised value 130,000 *yen* and the other two sums alluded to.

Mr. Kondo, the plaintiff's counsel, thereupon asked the judge to summon as witnesses Mr. Okano Shin, ex-chief engineer of the steamer *Iburi Maru*, and Mr. Homma Genbei, an engineer belonging to the Uraga Dockyard Company. The request was granted.

Mr. Sato, the defendant's counsel, insisted that the captain of the *Sydney* was not blamable in discharging his duties on the said occasion. To prove this, he asked the judge to summon Mr. W. K. Tresize, of the Yokohama Engine and Iron Works, who examined the *Sydney* after the collision, and the officials of the Marine Bureau in Tokyo, who were concerned in the matter. The Judge reserved his decision.

The hearing will be resumed on November 6.

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YOKOHAMA.

Bishop Otani Soncho of the Nishi-Hongwanji arrived here on the 22nd instant, from his tour through Europe. He left for Kobe the next day.

A Japanese *sendo* who since April last has stolen various articles belonging to steamers and other vessels in port, was arrested a few days ago by the Water Police.

A third-class passenger on board the steamer *Ryojun Maru*, which arrived here on Oct. 22 from Hakodate, was knocked down last Saturday by the sling of a crane. He fell into the bottom of No. 2 hold and was seriously injured.

On the 24th instant a fire broke out in a stationery shop at Tokiwa-cho Sanchome. The fire was put out before any serious damage was done, but, unfortunately, a lad was severely injured.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended October 21st are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	2	1	4	—	—
Died	—	1	3	1	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	5	10	6	—	—
Died	—	4	2	4	—	—

The Agricultural and Industrial Bank of this prefecture has obtained sanction to issue bonds for a third 7 per cent. loan of 100,000 *yen*. The subscription list will remain open from October 30 to November 10, and payment is to be made within 11 days, commencing on November 20.

On the afternoons of the 26th and 27th instant, the Samurai Shokai of this city invited the commanders and other officers of the Netherlands Squadron to inspect the objects of fine art in the exhibition rooms belonging to the firm. On the first day, Commodore Tiedeman, the Commanders of the three cruisers and some thirty officers in charge of Mr. Van Heemstede, Foreign Secretary to the prefectural office, attended, and were presented with various pictures painted on the spot by a number of Japanese artists After witnessing the manufacture of raised lacquer wares, embroideries, etc., the party were served with refreshments.

ALLEGED JAPANISATION OF KAMTCHATKA.

The *Russkoe Slovo*, a St. Petersburg journal, publishes a curious report from a correspondent at Petropavlosk, Kamtchatka. The correspondent alleges that the Japanese are seeking by peaceful means to win from Russia the peninsula of Kamtchatka and the Okhotsk coast. The Kamtchatkans are said to be transferring their allegiance from Russia to Japan. But who will be to blame, asks the correspondent, if this distant territory eventually becomes in its economical relations lost to Russia? The authorities, he continues, apparently think there is no disease in Kamtchatka, as they are very sparing of their medical resources. In all Kamtchatka, the area of which is as large as Great Britain, there is only one doctor, and he lives at Petropavlovsk. His professional field extends the whole length of the peninsula, a distance of nearly 800 miles. Unfortunately the Kamtchatkans are subject to terrible diseases, syphilis and leprosy being among the most prevalent complaints. One would think that the authorities would take the most energetic measures to relieve the suffering people, yet on the portal of the sole hospital in the peninsula—that of Petropavlovsk, appears the inscription "Lyekarstva bezplatno ne otpuskayutsya" (No free medicines supplied). In their distress the people are being succoured by Japanese. Every year numbers of Japanese doctors visit Kamtchatka, and assist the people with their knowledge and medicines, without making any charge, and where their medical services are unavailing they supplement them by words of hope and consolation. The people trust them and their art, and go to them in crowds. These doctors spare no expense, says the correspondent, and the Kamtchatkans in their gratitude make them presents of bear-skins, ermine and even sable, regarding themselves as greatly indebted to the Japanese.

Thus the Japanese are giving to Kamtchatka what its lawful proprietors—the Russians, are withholding. It is therefore not surprising to note that the people have their own opinions about the Russians, who will find it very difficult to modify the prejudices they are encountering in the peninsula. The people cannot quite free themselves from the notion that the Russians come there with the object of snatching the bread from their mouths. As for looking for help from the Russians, the Kamtchatkans have long ago given that up. But the Japanese recommend themselves. They bring bread in their vessels and hand it over to the people in exchange for fish. Anything that the Kamtchatkans may want is obligingly brought by the Japanese. The bulk of the trade in the peninsula is in Japanese goods, the Americans having a small share. All this activity on the part of the Japanese is for the well-being of Kamtchatka, and incidentally for themselves. "And, what do we do?" asks the writer. "Our solicitude for Kamtchtka—I speak without exaggeration, is limited to dispatching a couple of cruisers to the Okhotsk and Kamtchatkan waters, the task of which is to prevent the development of Kamtchatko-Japanese relations Yet when the wind is the least bit fresh, when the Japanese vessels unfurl their sails and enter the forbidden waters, our cruisers are comfortably ensconced in some sheltered corner. Not more than two or three vessels have been captured during the past couple of years. It is doubtful if we can maintain our moral prestige by flourishing these cruisers in a territory with which we cannot yet establish proper postal communication." Although the Kamtchatkans cannot yet speak Japanese, says the correspondent, they will do so in the near future, The Chukchis of the Chukotsk peninsula speak English besides their own language, but they do not know a word of Russian. The Japanisation of Kamtchatka, he concludes, is making giant strides, and it is very doubtful whether any measures now taken by the Government can prevent it.

"A SLAP AT JAPAN."

Ottawa, September 29.

There is much speculation here, remarks the Toronto *Mail*, under the above heading, as to what will be the outcome of the publication of the letter from Mr. A. G. Harris, Canadian Trade Commissioner at Yokohama, to a Canadian firm, in which the statement is very broadly made that Japanese are not to be trusted. * * * *

Mr Harris' advice to Canadian business men is in direct conflict with the propaganda carried on by his predecessor, Mr. W. T. R. Preston, to bring about direct trade with the Japanese, and to eliminate the foreign middleman Up to this time it was understood and announced that Mr. Preston's position was approved by the Canadian Government, notwithstanding the fact that vigorous protests against it had been received from the Colonial Office. It is difficult to explain, however, why Mr. Harris should have so strongly urged the opposite policy, unless he had instructions from Ottawa that the Preston propaganda was not to be continued.

Hamilton, September 27.

For several days past, remarks the *Citizen*, it has been the talk of the commercial community that official advices received by a local importer corroborate the impression that in dealing with Japan Canadian manufacturers must conduct their trade through established channels. When W. T. R. Preston was Canada's commercial representative in Japan he incurred the enmity of the intermediary element by advocating direct trade contracts. There were some who took stock in Mr. Preston's advice to Canadian dealers that trade should be done direct. Among them was a local firm which accepted a direct order from Tokyo; but, through some error in the order, it was found necessary to apply to the Canadian Trade Commissioner at Yokohama. It is his reply that has caused the revulsion of feeling against direct dealings with Britain's boasted ally. It, in effect, represents the Japanese as people with whom it is undesirable, if not impossible, to deal directly upon ordinary business principles.

The letter to the local firm is dated from Yokohama, Aug. 24, and is signed by the Canadian Government commissioner there, Mr. G.A. Harris, who represents Canada commercially at the headquarters of Japanese trade. It reads:

"To—, Hamilton, Ont. Dear Sir,—I have written you officially and want to sound a note of warning privately. Do not accept anything that is not up to sample, and *do not trust them* without a thorough inspection, and I will back you up, and you can rely on me to help you out every way I can."

This is taken to indicate that notwithstanding Preston's campaign for direct trade relations with the consumer in the flowery kingdom, the Japanese is not a man to be trusted, even in the matter of filling business orders, and if correct, as it should be, coming as it does from the trade commissioner, it strikes a blow at the recently organized campaign for direct trade relations between the two countries.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

IT is telegraphed that the ports in the Republic of Nicaragua have been closed, owing to the outbreak of a revolution.

ON October 24, a farmer's house was burnt down in a village of Saitawa prefecture, and two of the inmates were killed.

ACCORDING to a New York telegram received on October 21 by the *Asahi*, the rate of interest has been raised from 4½ to 5 per cent.

A SEOUL despatch says that the installation ceremony of the new Ministers of Education and Finance was conducted at the Imperial Palace on October 22.

ON the 20th instant 49 Kobe townspeople were arrested by the police on a charge of gambling in stocks of rice. Most of them are well-to-do traders in various lines.

H.E. MR. VAN ROYEN, the Netherlands Minister in Tokyo, has been granted leave of absence. Mr. van de Polder, a councillor of the Legation, will be in charge during his absence.

A SUM of 2,500 *yen* was granted on October 23 by T.M. the Emperor and Empress towards the obsequies of the late General Viscount Ogawa in appreciation of his meritorious services.

WEALTHY Chinese in Canton have subscribed $100,000 towards the endowment fund of the Hongkong University. The money has been forwarded to the Governor of the Colony.

THE British flagship *King Alfred* arrived at Nagasaki on the 25th instant and will leave for Shanghai on the 29th, with the *Monmouth*. The latter was expected at Nagasaki yesterday.

A THIEF who has since August last stolen goods valued at several thousand *yen*, from the residences of different peers in Tokyo, was arrested on October 25 on the Ryogoku Bridge, Tokyo.

THE battleship *Satsuma* having been completely equipped at the Yokosuka Naval Arsenal, a trial trip was made on October 21 in the Bay of Tokyo, the result of which proved satisfactory.

ON October 25, Admiral Lambton and his suite visited the noted shrines and temples in Shizuoka and suburbs. They called on Governor Rinoye at the prefectural office in the afternoon.

A SAPPORO telegram says that a fire occurred on October 25 at Iwanai, Hokkaido About a quarter of the town was burnt down, some 450 houses being destroyed. No casualties are reported.

AN official report from the Japanese Consul in Seattle states that in virtue of a contract agreed with the Great Northern Railway Company,

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the mail matter between St. Paul and Seattle will be conveyed in 47½ hours, 15 hours being thus saved. The contract came into effect on the 5th instant and is to last four years.

On October 22 the Korean Emperor sent a telegram to the Japanese Court, thanking the Emperor and the Crown Prince for the courtesy accorded to the Korean Crown Prince on the occasion of his birthday.

A special court-martial will be established in Korea in order to try the offences of military men as well as civilians attached to the army there. The laws concerning the same will come into effect on the 1st proximo.

Four school boys aged from 10 to 14, residing in a village of Ibaraki prefecture, are reported to have succeeded in levelling a rugged road lying on the way to their school. It is stated that they worked on the road after school hours every day.

A Peking dispatch of the 11th inst. says the Board of Communications is to raise a sum of one million taels for the purpose of taking over the control of the Imperial Chinese Post Office from the Commissioner of Customs at the beginning of the next Chinese year.

A Japanese fishing boat with nine men were engaged in fishing on the 24th instant off Omaye-zaki, Suruga province, when a foreign steamer ran into the boat, totally destroying it. The fishermen were all rescued by the crew of the steamer and taken to Shimizu.

A Nagasaki telegram received by the *Asahi*, quoting a Manila despatch, says it is rumoured that Mr. Fairbanks, who has been making investigations in the Philippines, holds different views from those of President Taft in respect to the Government's policy in the islands.

A number of Koreans consisting of men, women and children arrived at Shimonoseki on the 21st instant by the steamer *Satsuma Maru*. Their object being sight-seeing, the party will visit Kure, Hiroshima and Miyajima, returning to Soryo (Korea) on the 26th instant *via* Fusan.

A fire occurred at Kasamacho, Nishi-Ibaraki-gori, Ibaraki prefecture, on the 25th instant, and destroyed 16 houses. The damage in estimated at some 10,000 *yen*. A large number of infantry and engineers, who are to take part in the military monœuvres, assisted in subduing the flames.

On the afternoon of the 26th instant, a centre of depression arose to the west of Oki Island and proceeded in an easterly direction during the night. In consequence the temperature rose conspicuously, and a slight rainfall and a strong gale of wind were experienced in the northern and eastern districts of Japan.

On the morning of the 21st instant, Prince Fushimi, Field-Marshals Yamagata and Oyama, Generals Terauchi, Hasegawa, Nishi, Nogi and Oshima held a conference in presence of the Emperor in connection with the amendment bill of the infantry drill-book. The Crown Prince also attended the council.

On account of the assassination of Prince Ito, the Russian Ambassador in Tokyo has abandoned the banquet to Marquis Katsura and other Cabinet Ministers, which was to be given to commemorate the Prince's interview with the Russian Minister of Finance at Harbin. The same incident has caused a heavy fall in the prices of stocks on the Tokyo market.

The British flagship *King Alfred* left Yokohama on October 22, and the *Monmouth* the following day, for Nagasaki. Admiral Lambton with his two brothers, was expected to visit Yokosuka yesterday on board the *Alacrity*, probably in company with the British Ambassador. The Admiral, with his brothers, will proceed to Kyoto by train from Yokohama.

On October 25, the ceremony of conferring a flag on the Third Regiment of the Imperial Guards, which were successful in the rifle competition held on the 22nd instant, took place on the Aoyama Parade Ground. Captain Kato, of the Regiment, received the flag, and was also the recipient of valuable gifts from His Majesty the Emperor and the Crown Prince.

Mr. William Watson, Chairman of the Cunard Steamship Company, died on the 4th inst. at his home, Lancelyn, Bromborough, Cheshire. He was born in 1843. He was head of the firms of Watson & Co., Liverpool, Watson & Hill and Watson, Wood & Co., Charleston, South Carolina; Chairman of the Royal Insurance Company, and a Director of the North and South Wales Bank.

According to San Francisco papers, Mrs. Lewis, wife of Albert Lewis—formerly an employée of Messrs. Sale & Frazar, Ltd., and now undergoing life imprisonment in Negishi Jail in connection the sinking of the *Agenor*—has obtained a divorce at Los Angles on the ground that her husband is a convicted felon. Mrs. Lewis was awarded custody of the four-year old of the marriage.

According to a London dispatch of 2nd inst. writs have been issued against Mr. Gladstone, the Home Secretary, and the prison officials of Birmingham in connection with an action for assault for the forcible feeding with a stomach pump last week of a number of suffragettes who persisted in going on a "hunger strike" while in jail. The suffragettes' leaders contend that forcible feeding is illegal.

The death is announced in home papers of the Rev. John Scarth, honorary canon of Rochester. In early life the deceased was engaged in business in China—from 1847 to 1859—and held an appointment as Belgian Consul in China. He was the author of a book entitled "Twelve Years in China." Mr. Scarth took holy orders after his return to England from China. He died at the age of 83.

On the 24th inst. the steam launch *No. 26* belonging to the Dutch cruiser *Von der Tromp* ran on a sunken rock, whilst running at high speed, near the Customs' Pier in Yokohama harbour. The steam-launch *Hiryu* of the Water Police Station immediately went to the rescue, and towed her to the cruiser outside the breakwater. The launch suffered damage to her bottom and propeller.

Messrs Beardmore & Co. are manufacturing at their steel works in Glasgow a new type of modern naval gun to the order of the British Admiralty. The gun is nearing completion, and after the official tests will, it is understood, be placed aboard one of the new Dreadnought battleships. The weapon is the first modern naval gun manufactured in Scotland, and is the latest type of 12-inch wire wound.

The torpedo-boat destroyer *Swift*, which completed her trials in the Clyde on the 20th ult., is understood to be faster by three knots than any boat in the British Navy. She has been running under experiment in the Clyde waters for ten months, fitted with various propeller blades, and is said to have eclipsed her guaranteed speed of 36 knots an hour. The *Swift* left the Clyde the following day for the Mersey.

The Governor of Hongkong has received an intimation from London that as a mark of King Edward's personal interest in the Hongkong University the King has been pleased to direct that the holders of His Majesty's Government's scholarships should be styled King Edward the VII's scholars. The Earl of Crewe suggests that the scholars be confined to Chinese who are born in the Straits Settlements or in Hongkong.

From two recent experiments in Germany, at Jüterbog and Darmstadt, it would appear that the gun is the only effective weapon against balloons. On both occasions the target was supplied by small captive balloons of the German dragon type, floating at an elevation of 400 or 500 mètres. At Jüterbog 4,800 rounds were fired by infantry and 2,700 rounds by machine guns, without bringing the balloon to earth, though 76 hits were subsequently counted. In the Darmstadt experiments two dummies were placed in the car. The infantry company fired 5,000 rounds followed by 4,000 rounds from machine guns, without apparent result. Finally a light howitzer battery brought down the ballon in the second round, when 20 hits were found from rifle bullets, one of them through the leg of one of the dummies.

Commodore Tydeman and eleven officers of the Netherlands Squadron visited Yokosuka on the 23rd instant on board the Japanese torpedo-destroyers *Fumizuki* and *Yamabiko* specially placed at their disposal by the Yokosuka Naval Station. After an interview with Admiral Kamimura, Commander-in-Chief of the Station, the party inspected the naval arsenal and the warship *Sagami* and afterwards lunched with the Admiral.

A serious collision occurred on the 23rd instant between two goods trains, one coming from Nagoya and the other from Kobe, at a point on the line just west of the Kisogawa bridge on the Tokaido line. One engine fell down the embankment, whilst the other was derailed. Five wagons were destroyed and ten derailed. An engineer, a stoker and several conductors were more or less severely injured, Traffic was interrupted for some five hours.

The re-opening of the quicksilver mines near Konia, in Asia Minor, which were abandoned centuries ago, is the subject of an article in the current number of *Prometheus*. The report of Mr. Frederick Sharples shows that in the abandoned mines, together with the 50 skeletons which were found, there were lamps, clay, hammers and other tools made of stone, a quantity of charcoal, and several arrows with stone points. "This whole interesting find," the writer says, "gives one an idea of the methods employed in mining 3,000 years ago."

The *London Gazette* states that King Edward has granted the following gentlemen his Royal licence and authority to accept and wear the decorations conferred on them in recognition of valuable services:—Sir Robert Edward Bredon, the insignia of the First Class of the Order of Saint Stanislas, conferred by the Emperor of Russia; and Mr. Robert Lowe, chief engineer of the steamship *Hakata Maru*, Yokohama, the insignia of the Fifth Class of the Order of the Rising Sun, conferred by the Emperor of Japan in recognition of valuable services rendered..

On the 25th inst. whilst the 8.30 a.m. express train from Shimbashi and a goods train coming from the west were passing each other a little west of Kamata station, a loud report was heard and two window-panes of a second-class carriage were suddenly smashed into pieces. One of the passengers was slightly injured by the fragments of shattered glass. It is supposed that the shooting season being now on, the accident may have been caused by a stray bullet, but no bullet was found in the carriage. The incident was duly reported to the Yokohama station master.

Baron Shibusawa entertained on the 20th instant at the Astor Hotel some fifty leading members of the political and financial circles in New York. The Baron delivered a speech, in which he said that Japan desired rather to buy more than to sell more. He referred to the stability of Japan's finances, and said that in order to secure prosperous trade conditions, not only the utmost efforts of Japanese business men were required, but also the active cooperation of Americans. On the 21st the members of the mission left for Boston.

The *N C Daily News* of 20th inst. recorded the death of Mr. Alfred Danny Lowe, which occurred at his residence in Shanghai on the 19th. The deceased had been resident in Shanghai for years, and, though of a retiring disposition, had done good and much appreciated service as a member of the Municipal Council. Mr. Lowe first arrived in Shanghai about twenty five years ago as "*chazee*" for Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and after a lengthy term of service with that hong joined the firm of Messrs. Greaves & Co. (afterwards Geddes

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& Co.), with which he was associated as partner until the early portion of the current year. Since the beginning of the present tea season Mr. Lowe had occupied the position of tea-inspector for the Trading Company (Messrs. Molchanoff, Pechatnoff & Co.) at Hankow and in his new position had been very successful until illness prevented him from continuing business. He leaves a widow —a member of a very popular Shanghai family —and five children.

A NUMBER of very interesting objects discovered by Dr. M. Stein during his explorations in Chinese Turkestan have just been placed on exhibition in the Ethnographical Gallery at the British Museum. Among the most interesting are some poems in Tibetan on the vanity of the world and blessings of the doctrine of Buddha; these poems, which are translations from Sanskrit, were discovered at Endereh. There are also a number of Chinese documents on paper dating from A.D. 781-787, which were discovered in a ruined monastic dwelling in the Taklan-akan desert.

FOR truly Gilbertian anomalies, says the *L. & C. Express*, there is no place like China! A new case in point is provided in the fact that certain railways in China burn Japanese coal only in their locomotives, the reason being that by the terms of the agreement governing their construction and operation all materials and supplies imported from abroad for use on the railways are admitted duty free, while supplies coming from ports in China itself are subject to the intercoastal tariff. Thus Chinese coal is penalized while Japanese coal is put at a premium. But, after all, this is only an aggravated form of "Free Trade."

EXPERIMENTS are about to be made with a view to establishing a direct wireless telegraphic service between England and South Africa. It is proposed to elevate kites 1000 feet to collect the Hertzian waves from Bolt Head, in Devon, or Poldhu, Cornwall. If this is not successful, a station will ultimately be erected at Gibraltar at a cost of £50,000. The tariff for the general commercial service is to be a shilling a word. But each subvention of £1000 a year from the South African Government will cheapen the cost by a penny a word. A grant of £10,000 would make possible a uniform rate of a penny a word.

IT is reported from Antung, says the *Seoul Press*, that the work of constructing a railway bridge over the Yalu is progressing slowly, being interrupted by inundations and other obstacles. At present the work is said to be confined to the making of the foundations on the Korean side. The bridge is to be constructed in such a way as to allow of its being opened for the passage of boats. This renders the task of the builders very difficult. It is feared that the estimated cost—3,000,000 *yen*—will not be sufficient, and that is it hardly possible to complete the work by 1911, as proposed.

A REUTER'S telegram from Rome on the 23rd ult said: The Pope was extremely pleased today by the reception of a telegram from Quebec giving the text of the messages exchanged between Monsignor Sbaretti, Apostolic Delegate to Canada, and King Edward on the occasion of the Plenary Council of the Canadian Catholic Church. The Pope was especially satisfied at the reaffirmation by the King of the religious freedom granted to all British subjects throughout the Empire. It is reported that he said that such an attitude on the part of the Ruler of the greatest Power in the world contrasted strikingly with that of other countries from which better might have been expected.

TERRIBLE excitement prevailed for a short time at the Frankfort exhibition, Berlin, on the 2nd inst., when the airship Parseval III. ascended with five passengers for a short sail, the crowd, as usual, disregarding the request to stand aside. A schoolboy of 16 lost his cap, and in the act of picking it up he was caught by the leg by one of the airship's ropes. The Parseval rose rapidly to a height of 600 feet, the boy swinging, to the horror of the spectators, head downwards. The noise of the propellers prevented the occupants of the airship from hearing his cries, and some time elapsed before they were aware of what had occurred. Meantime the youth had the presence of mind to clutch another rope, thus raising himself to a horizontal position. The airship, which was followed by shouting crowds, returned to the landing place in fifteen minutes, during which time the youth suspended between heaven and earth was utterly exhausted and on the verge of fainting.

THE discovery of a cholera vaccine by the scientists of the Pasteur Institute was discussed on the 2nd inst. by Professors Metchnikoff and Salimbini with a representative of the *Matin*. "The method of vaccinating is quite simple," declared Professor Salimbini, who prepared the vaccine. "We taken bacilli from the body of a cholera patient, prepare them, and then inject the bacilli under the skin of a healthy person. There is a local affection and the person is in this way rendered immune from cholera." Prof. Metchnikoff added: "I have just spent some time at St. Petersburg, and find that all the doctors declare that practically the whole of the cholera victims are alcoholics."

AT Hongkong on the 14th inst., Mr. Hazeland the Magistrate, gave judgment in the case in which the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha were summoned for using unjust scales on board the *Fukui Maru* and the *Shibetori Maru*. In the first case defendants had been fined $800, but a re-hearing was granted and the decision reserved. The magistrate said that the defendants showed great carelessness in not having their scales tested and he did not propose to alter the fine which he had previously imposed. With regard to the second offence, which he treated as being in the nature of a concurrent offence, he inflicted a fine of $100, $50 for each scale which was shown to be to the prejudice of the purchaser.

A DISPATCH of the 1st inst. to the *Matin* from Fez says inquiries show that El Roghi, the pretender to the throne of Morocco, who was executed at Fez in the middle of September, was put to death by Sultan Mulai Hafid himself under circumstances of revolting cruelty. According to the correspondent, the monarch, assisted by his chamberlain, dragged the pretender into a cage of lions and then provoked the animals, which leaped upon the manacled captive, inflicting horrible wounds. Then as El Roghi fell to the ground motionless the lions left him alone, despite the goading of the sultan, who thereupon pulled his still living victim outside the cage with hooks, emptied a can of lamp oil over him and set him on fire, feeding the flames with oil-soaked rags until nothing but the charred bones of the pretender remained.

THE *Times* correspondent at St. Petersburg writes:—

"The great fair at Nijni Novgorod has just been officially closed. Exact figures are not yet available, but at a rough estimate the transactions amounted to 500,000,000 roubles (£50,000,000), or about double the total of previous years. Merchants eagerly bought everything available. The remarkable results have been caused by the splendid harvest and the previous stagnation of trade."

"If such results are secured under the rough conditions existing at this historic gathering," remarks a gentleman well known in official and commercial circles, "the Japan British Exhibition, properly utilised by British and Japanese manufacturers, with the unique facilities offered, ought to be productive of magnificent returns indeed."

AMONG tea-drinkers none have been more famous than Dr. Johnson, whose centenary is being observed this month. The teapot from which he and his friends were regaled has been preserved in Pembroke hall in Oxford. The relic is of modest blue and white Worcester, and Boswell relates that it held two quarts. The famous literary man delighted in tea drinking and warmly defended the "crumpled herb from China" against all defamers. With the teapot is preserved a posset mug used by Dr. Johnson when he visited Keble hall in Oxford. The following incident is told of a more valuable but less useful possession of the learned author: "When Johnson died in 1784 a silver teapot stood on his table in Bolt Court. His executor, Sir John Hawkins, sent in hot haste for Bray, the silversmith, to purchase it. Bray responded to the summons at once, coming to Fleet-street in Hawkins' own carriage. However, the teapot was saved in the nick of time from ignominious destruction. The rescued teapot bore a long and pompous inscription, comparing the unadorned vessel, long employed for the infusion of the favourite herb, whose enlivening virtues are said to have so often protracted the edifying and elegant lucubrations of Samuel Johnson, to the earthen lamp which had administered to the lucubrations of Epictetus.'"

CORRESPONDENCE.

CHARGE AGAINST PROMINENT JAPANESE PAPER.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—There recently appeared in your columns an article referring to the treatment of certain teachers of foreign music. I wish here to call attention to the treatment of a well-known Japanese lady vocalist who is one of the most gifted singers (foreign style) in Japan. There is now appearing in the *Hochi Shimbun* a series of articles solely devoted to the defamation of this lady's character. Day after day this cultured lady is thus pilloried and subjected to foul abuse and the vilest insinuations. The morbid degenerate who pens these shameful articles fairly exhausts the vocabulary of vituperation, and heaps upon this defenceless lady and also her mother, a widow, epithets and accusations of the vilest description.

In a case of this kind the injury to one should be the concern of all. No man's wife or daughter is safe so long as these outrages are permitted. On at least one occasion I have myself read charges of the grossest nature against the wife of a foreign resident in Tokyo.

In the name of humanity and decency I wish to protest against the cowardly and most infamous attack which is continued day after day in the *Hochi Shimbun*. It is high time for some resolute action to be taken. Whatever fault, real or imaginary, this lady is supposed to have committed, let him who is without fault cast the first stone. In the case in question it appears that the lady, being prominent before the public at charity concerts, etc., was the victim of envious and slanderous enemies. On the strength of these lying reports another newspaper attempted to blackmail this lady. No one is safe against such attacks; no one knows whose turn will come next.

Does Bushido permit this merciless treatment of a lady? If so, these exponents of Bushido had better for ever hold their peace. Here in our midst a delicate and highly educated lady is being subjected to fiendish cruelty, and prolonged day after day with sickening monotony. As a member of this community and as a nauseated witness of this humanity I cry Shame!—shame to the writer and shame to the publisher. Shame! Shame!—Yours respectfully,

DISGUSTED.

Oct. 22nd, 1909.

THE "PROTESTANT" CONVENTION.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—Your correspondent is quite right. The term is quite out of date and, to the best of my knowledge and belief, has never been officially accepted in the formularies of any body of Japanese Christians. They are very firm in the rejection of all sectarian names that have a foreign aroma. The great line of division is between *Shin* and *Kyu*, but these have much more in common than they are themselves aware of.

Your servant,

HENRY SCOTT JEFFERYS.

October 20th, 1909.

TAXATION OF INCOME DERIVED FROM FOREIGN SOURCES.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—In the last issue of the *Weekly Mail* I notice a reference to the alleged injustice of taxing the incomes of foreign residents in Japan, which are derived from foreign sources, the wording of which would seem to imply that such taxation is more or less peculiar to Japan. This, however, is hardly correct, for in Prussia where I spent some months in the spring and summer of 1888, I was made painfully aware of the alertness of the tax-gatherer. As the law then stood, any foreigner who remained in the locality for three months was expected to pay the full

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income tax, unless he could show that he was taxed on some part of his income in his own country,—at least there was implied in the form which I was obliged to fill out that provision was made for relief from double taxation, though as this did not affect me personally, I cannot speak of the practical working out of this provision.

If this term of three months was exceeded, the tax was reckoned from the beginning of the first month of the foreigner's sojourn, and as I spent a little less than five months, the collector was able to secure payment of four monthly bills of thirty-six marks each, that is, approximately, nine dollars United States currency every month.

Of course, these bills were unwelcome, and I consulted not only my German friends but also the American Consul, only to be assured that there was no escape, that the law was perfectly plain. An English lady whose acquaintance I made at the time had the same experience.

The tax laws of Saxony, and perhaps those of other countries of Germany, are more liberal in their bearing upon foreigners; but I am not able to speak of them in detail, though I feel quite sure the foreigner does not escape the income tax, provided he overstays the very liberal exemption period, which I was informed was two years in Saxony at that time.

In Austria, also, I have excellent reason to believe that foreigners resident for any considerable period also pay the full income tax.

However desirable it may be to be relieved of the heavy taxes we now pay to the Japanese Government, we can hardly expect the United States Government to demand from Japan an exemption from taxation on the part of Americans resident here which it is very well known would not be granted by such countries as Germany and Austria, and which there is, I fancy, no reason to believe the United States would grant to foreign residents under similar circumstances.

Yours, etc., D.C.G.

ORTHODOX AND ANGLICAN.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—We scarcely recognized ourselves as we read in your columns this morning the account of Monday's meeting at St. Andrew's House. We did look so imposing with our clerical titles in full, and all our humble offices spread out to view!

We are really a very modest little Society whose object is the study of one another's positions with prayerful sympathy. We hope that out of that sympathy something more may come in God's good time; but in the meanwhile we have not yet begun blowing trumpets,—not officially. KAMIWA.

THE LATE PRINCE ITO.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Some time ago, when Prince Ito retired from his post in Korea, Her Majesty wrote out and gave him the subjoined poem, which she had composed some time before. I think it may prove of interest to some of your readers.

Yours faithfully, ARTHUR LLOYD.
October 27th, 1909.

Amatsu Kami
Shiroshi mesuran
Mameyaka ni
Kimi ni tsukōru
Omi no kokoro wo.

"The God of Heaven
Will surely know and praise the faithful heart
Of him that serves his lord so faithfully."

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Japan is under the shadow of a great sorrow, for she has lost by the hand of an assassin the man who, par excellence, has acted as her steersman and balance-wheel through the crises and viscissitudes of several decades.

In the person of Prince Ito Hirobumi one of the greatest modern statesmen has passed away, and not only Japan but the whole civilized world is poorer by his loss.

Characterized by broad common sense and just dealing, he was a great guide-post and land-mark in this State, and a man whose very personality kept the name of Japan respectable in every other.

Brave, magnanimous, disinterested, loyal, and liberal to a fault, he earned the love and respect of his friends and associates.

Just and imperturbable, gentle in method and resolute in action, he was trusted and esteemed by all his contemporaries, both Japanese and foreign.

What he accomplished for his Sovereign and his country during forty years of strenuous endeavor, is a matter of history.

He requires no monumental pile to protect his memory or preserve his story.

His spirit remains embodied in the strong unified Empire of which he was the master-builder and the greatest citizen.

Monuments and inscriptions may perish, but the memory of the illustrious statesman who has passed from among us will be enshrined in the hearts of the Japanese nation, and the immortal substance of his greatness perpetuated eternally.

Arrived at an age when he might well have passed into honorable retirement and reposed upon his well-earned laurels, he, nevertheless, at the call of patriotism and duty, in the interests of peace, justice and humanity, undertook a delicate foreign mission which might have daunted a younger man.

Fully realizing the danger to which he was exposed, he proceeded on his journey determined, if necessary, to lay down his life for the State, and now he has fallen in a foreign land like a warrior on the field of battle.

The circumstances of his sad death honour the whole of his eventful career, and have shed a radiance over the closing moments of his life, just as the setting sun shines with extraordinary brilliancy before it finally sinks into the West at eventide.

Knowing how fully Prince Ito was trusted and genuinely admired by all foreigners resident in Japan (especially by those older residents who realize how consistently he strove to preach and to practise that supreme justice which gives to every man that to which he is entitled), may I be allowed to suggest that it would be a graceful tribute to his memory if upon the day of the arrival of the casket bearing the mortal remains of the Prince, the foreign residents should display their national flags either at half-mast or draped with crêpe.

I also suggest that a large and representative body of foreign residents should attend at the railway station to receive the coffin when the funeral train passes through Yokohama on its way to Tokyo.

I submit that the demonstration should be spontaneous, and not confined to the members of existing bodies or societies, and that on this special occasion all sections of the foreign community, irrespective of race, class or nationality, should co-operate in honoring the illustrious dead.

This suggestion is made with all due respect and diffidence, as I should have preferred it to have emanated from some other quarter; but, so far as I am aware, no proposition has yet been put forward publicly, and it would, I submit, be unfortunate not to seize this opportunity to pay, in some manner, our last respects to the memory of a great, large-hearted and self-made man who, while his particular sphere of action lay in Japan, was a true cosmopolitan in the very best sense of the word.

Thanking you in anticipation for the insertion of this letter, and hoping that the suggestion made herein may commend itself to the favorable consideration of the foreign community at large,

I am, Sir, yours respectfully,
J. E. DE BECKER.

Yokohama, October 28th, 1909.

CHESS.

[*Correspondence relating to this column should be addressed to the* Chess Editor, *The Japan Mail. Problem solutions should be handed in at the Japan Mail Office, or to Mr. W. B. Mason, not later than the evening of Thursday.*]

Solution to Problem No. 28.

White.		Black.
1.	Q to K7	1. B takes Q
2.	Kt to Q B7 ch	2. K to Q5
3.	Kt takes Q mate.	
	if	2. K to K4
3.	Kt to K Kt 4 mate.	
	if	1. B to B2
2.	Kt takes B ch and continue as above.	
	if	1. Kt takes Q
2.	R takes R ch	2. K to K4
3.	Kt to Kt 4 mate.	
	if	1. Kt to K5
2.	B takes Kt ch	2. Q takes B
3.	Q takes R mate.	
	if	2. K to K4
3.	R to K B5 mate.	
	if	1. P to Q B6
2.	Q takes R ch	2. K to Q B5
3.	B takes Q mate.	
	if	1. P to K4
2.	B to Kt 8 ch	2. R covers
3.	Q mates.	

Other variations obvious. Correct solutions received from Omega, W.H.S. "G.B." and W. A. de H.

* * *

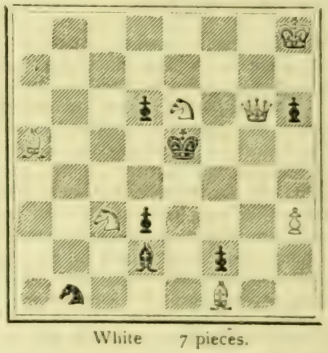
We append some of the criticisms received on this, the first effort, of Mr. Walton. "Omega" says: "The problem is rather cumbrous from the large number of men used. The key-move is too apparent; and the threatened short-mate is a distinct guide to the after-play, in which, however, several of the muting positions are good and pretty." "W.H.S." takes a different view of the key-move. He says: "The Black pawn at Kt 6, threatening White's Kt, strongly assists in concealing the real first move. It needs some considerable attention and study before finding that it is unnecessary to protect or save the Kt, —or the fact that if Black took the Kt., it would be mate on the second move." W. A. de H. remarks: "An excellent problem; Kt x Q discovering mate is well concealed."

* * *

Additional correct solution of Problem No 27 received from H. Luther.

* * *

Problem No. 30.
By W. H. Taylor, (Late of Yokohama).
Black 7 pieces.



White 7 pieces.
White to play and mate in three moves.

* * *

Game No. 28.—Played in the last round of the Scarborough Tournament.

The appended game is a good specimen of the Four Knights game which Atkins has cultivated and made fashionable in England. The play is not dull, as usual in the first stage of this opening, as Atkins was under the necessity of scoring a win in order to tie with Blake.

Atkins got to grips early. His forward movement looked formidable, but Sergeant managed to stop the advance temporarily by playing his Rook on to K Kt3. The first stage of the game was as follows:

	White. H. E. Atkins.	Black. E. G. Sergeant.
1.	P—K 4	P—K 4
2.	KKt—B 3	QKt—B 3
3.	Kt—B 3	Kt—B 3
4.	B—Kt 5	P—Q 3
5.	P—Q 4	B—Q 2
6.	Castles	P—K 2
7.	R—K 1	P x P
8.	Kt x P	Castles (a)
9.	KKt—K 2	P—Q R3
10.	B—Q 3	Kt—K 4
11.	P—B 4	Kt x B
12.	P x Kt	R—K 1
13.	Kt—Kt 3	P—B 4
14.	P—K R3	B—B 3
15.	P—Kt 3	P—Q 4
16.	P—K 5	Kt—Q 2
17.	Q—Kt 4	B—B 1
18.	P—Kt 2	R—K 3
19	R—K 2	R—Kt 3 (b)

(a) The Four Knights' Opening has been turned into an ordinary Ruy Lopez, where it is good policy for Black to simplify matters by playing Kt x Kt; 10 Q x Kt, B x B; 11 Kt x B (Castles), as in one of the Tarrasch-Lasker games.

(b) Though this move forced the Queen to retire, the Rook is not in a happy position, and the attack soon gathers fresh force i.e.:

20.	Q—B 3	P—Q 5
21.	QKt—K 4	B—K 2
22.	Kt—B 5	Kt—B 1
23.	Q—B 2	B x Kt
24.	R x B	Q—Q 2
25.	Kt x B (ch)	Q x Kt
26	P—B 5	R—Q B3
27.	R—K B1	Q—Q 2
28.	B—B 1	R - K 1
29.	Q—Kt 3	Q—Q 4
30.	R (B 1)—K1	P—Q Kt4
31.	B—Kt 5	K—R 1
32.	B—B 6 (c)	Kt—Kt 3
33.	P x Kt	P x B
34.	KP x P	R x R
35.	Q—Kt 8 (ch)	Resigns.

(c) Bringing the attack to a pretty conclusion. Of course, if P x B, 33 P x P wins.

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TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

SPANISH CABINET RESIGNS.

London, October 22.

The Spanish Cabinet has resigned.

DR. COOK AND THE NORTH POLE.

A letter from the well-known Arctic explorer Rasmussen has reached Copenhagen, in which he says that he has closely cross-examined Dr. Cook's Eskimos, whose story corroborates his (the Doctor's).

BOER AND BRITON IN SOUTH AFRICA.

Mr. Roosevelt, in an article to the *Daily Telegraph*, refers to the good terms in which the British and Boer settlers are living in Africa. He says that there are no better or manlier people, and he emphasizes the fact that both are treated with absolute equality.

SCENE IN THE CORTES.

There were stormy scenes and heated altercations in the Spanish Chamber before the resignation of the Cabinet, arising out of certain statements made by the Minister of the Interior to the newspapers. The President of the Chamber was obliged to adjourn the sitting, after breaking several bells.

NEW SPANISH CABINET FORMED.

Later.

The Spanish Liberal leader Senor Mauret has formed a new Cabinet.

A SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT.

King Edward, pressing a button at Chichester, telegraphically opened a door, turned up the lights and hoisted the British flag over the new tuberculosis institute at Montreal.

THE PEACE OF THE WORLD

Sir Edward Grey, the British Foreign Minister, speaking at Sheffield, said that the foreign outlook was distinctly favourable. The fact that the trouble in the Balkans and in Persia had passed off without any disturbance of the European peace, was a good augury for the future.

THE TSAR'S TOUR.

London, October 23.

The Tsar, following a huge detour and travelling via Posen, Frankfurt, Lyons, and Modena, and avoiding Austria, has arrived at Erfurt.

EARTHQUAKE ON THE QUETTA LINE.

An earthquake has completely destroyed Bellpath station on the Quetta line. Twenty-five persons were killed and 12 injured.

GUARDING THE TSAR.

Racconigi and the surrounding country is transformed into a camp of military police. Every farm and the huts of the peasants are watched and strangers are stopped.

THE ELECTIONS IN SAXONY.

The elections for the Diet in Saxony and Baden show a remarkable increase in the Socialist vote. While there was only one Socialist in the old Diet in Saxony, sixteen have already been elected and 53 are participating in second ballots.

ITALIAN AND GERMAN PRESS ON TSAR'S VISIT.

The Italian press generally has the friendliest articles concerning the Tsar, hoping that the visit will lead to a Russo-Italian entente. It is expected that the commercial treaty will be concluded.

The German press fears that the visit will impair the Triple Alliance.

LLOYD GEORGE AND THE BUDGET.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. Lloyd George, Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced that owing to modifications and concessions the estimates will be £250,000 short of expenditure.

The whiskey tax will yield only half the increase anticipated, the consumption having decreased 20 per cent.

The Chancellor mentioned that there would be a supplementary estimate of £200,000 for the unemployed, to meet which he would take another half million from the Sinking Fund. All the new taxes, apart from whiskey, were doing well. He anticipated that the death duties would exceed the estimate by £1,300,000.

THE TSAR'S TOUR.

London, October 24.

The Tsar has arrived at Racconigi, where he was met by King Emmanuel, who drove him to the Palace.

M. Isvolsky has informed M. Pichon, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, that the Tsar will receive him when returning through French territory. It is expected that M. Isvolsky and M. Pichon will also confer together.

HALLEY'S COMET.

Halley's comet was seen on Thursday at Cambridge.

THE TSAR AND THE TRIPLICE.

OPINIONS ON THE ROYAL MEETING.

London, October 25.

The meeting between the Tsar and King Emmanuel was of the most cordial description. The Tsar received an ovation.

The Italian press rejoices at the *rapprochement*, as strengthening Italy's Anglo-French bonds without weakening the Triplice.

The Vienna newspapers are in general confident that a closer Russo-Italian friendship will not detach Italy from the Triple Alliance; but some express the opinion that the Tsar's recent détour to avoid Austria bodes ill will towards that country.

THE TSAR'S VISIT TO ITALY.

London, October 25.

During the toasts given at the banquet yesterday evening, King Emmanuel said he was confident of his ability to coöperate with the Tsar, thus assuring their peoples the blessing of peace.

The Tsar said he was now confident that the two Governments would do their utmost by constant and trustful coöperation to contribute to a *rapprochement* corresponding to the mutual interests of the two nations.

The Tsar has conferred high orders on Signor Giolitte, Minister of the Interior, on Signor Tittoni, the Foreign Minister, and other Italian officials.

King Emmanuel has given splendid presents to M. Isvolsky, Russian Foreign Minister, and to Ambassador Dolgoruki, and has also conferred orders on the members of the Tsar's suite.

Later.

At the banquet yesterday evening, the Tsar and King Emmanuel in toasting each other emphasized the Russo-Italian community of interests, which brought the two countries closer together than ever before.

London, October 26.

The Tsar has quitted Racconigi.

An official *communique* issued from Rome emphasizes the cordiality of the meeting and the identity of Russia's views and interests with those of Italy; adding that Tittoni and Iswolsky conferred on the political situation, especially with regard to the Balkans. In that region both Powers desire the strengthening of the *status quo* in Turkey and the peaceful development of the Balkan States.

DEVOTION OF A CHINESE AYAH.

October 25.

The P. and O. steamer *Palawan* reports that while passing the Suez Canal a child named Bird fell overboard. The child's Chinese ayah immediately jumped to the rescue. Both were picked up, but died two hours after.

BERESFORD AND THE BRITISH ADMIRALTY.

Lord Charles Beresford publishes correspondence with Mr. Asquith, the Premier, complaining that, despite Mr. Asquith's assurance that the careers of certain witnesses at the naval enquiry would not be prejudiced, Captains Hulbert and Campbell had been removed from their posts, placed on half-pay, and otherwise invidiously treated. In answer to this charge, Mr. Asquith forwarded the Admiralty's explanation that Captains Hulbert and Campbell had been placed on half-pay in the ordinary course as a result of the recent reorganization.

THE COMMONS AND THE BUDGET.

October 26.

It is proposed that the House of Commons should adjourn from the 5th to the 15th of November, while the Lords are considering the Budget.

AVIATION SPOILED BY RAIN.

Rain spoiled the aviation week at Doncaster and at Blackpool. It is estimated that the loss at Doncaster was £10,000.

THE TSAR'S TOUR.

London, October 26.

M. Pichon, French Foreign Minister, entered the Tsar's train at Modane and travelled as far as Chambery. He dined and conferred with the Tsar, and with M. Isvolsky.

The German Press considers that a Russo-Italian *entente* has been concluded, aiming at the restriction of Austrian activity in the Balkans. While the Triplice has not been prejudiced, Italy's position under it has become strengthened.

M. ISWOLSKY INTERVIEWED.

Later.

Iswolsky has been interviewed. He described the Russo-Italian *rapprochement* as a new guarantee of peace. He hoped that Greece would not perpetrate the folly of overthrowing the dynasty.

BRITISH POLITICS.

It is believed that Mr. Birrell, Chief Secretary for Ireland, will propose the total rejection of the Lord's amendments to the Irish Land Bill, which was returned from the Lords last night.

THE AUSTRIAN BUDGET.

London, October 27.

The Austrian Budget has been presented to the Reichsrath. An estimated deficit of £1,681,709 is foreshadowed. Numerous taxes are announced. The Government require an additional £1,028,000 for military and naval purposes, to be raised by loans.

THE TSAR.

The Tsar is returning to Russia by the same route as that by which he went.

THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Later.

The Lords have read the Development Bill a third time, and have risen until the 8th of November.

EXPLOSION ON A BRITISH CRUISER.

London, October 27.

An explosion has occurred in the stokehold of H.M.S. *Hogue* while undergoing repairs at Devonport. Eight men were injured, two of them seriously.

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PRINCE ITO.

The papers devote columns to the murder of Prince Ito, and contain articles sympathising with Japan.

Ito's son has arrived at Genoa, where he received the news of his father's assassination.

ITO'S ASSASSINATION.

London, October 28.

All the British papers express consternation at the news of Prince Ito's assassination and hope it will not compromise the Russo-Japanese understanding.

The Continental Press also pay high tributes to the deceased statesman.

Lord Curzon, speaking at Oxford, and remarking that there were several Japanese among the audience, referred in the most sympathetic terms to Prince Ito, whose friendship he had long enjoyed. The speaker compared Korea with India. The task of ruling a subject Eastern people was, he said, hard enough for ourselves, but apparently it was not less difficult for the Japanese.

King Edward has sent the Master of Ceremonies specially to London with an autograph letter to Ambassador Kato, expressing his abhorrence of the crime and his deep sympathy with the relatives of the deceased statesmen.

Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Minister, has conveyed his sympathy to the Japanese Embassy and also to Tokyo.

THE LORDS AND THE COMMONS.

Later.

Mr. Asquith has announced the total rejection *en bloc* of the Lords' amendments to the Irish Land Bill. The motion will come up for discussion on the fifth of next month.

BRITISH NAVAL CAPTAIN REINSTATED.

Captain Hulbert, of the British Navy, who with Captain Campbell had been removed from his post (vide telegram of the 25th inst.) has been reinstated on full pay.

STORM IN GREAT BRITAIN.

There has been a severe gale in Great Britain and a record rainfall. Various railways are obstructed and there have been many landslides and shipping casualties.

PARLIAMENTARY RECRIMINATIONS.

Later.

Mr. Balfour, in a recent speech, denounced the scandalous statement of Mr. Ure (Liberal Member for Linlithgow) that old age pensions would be insecure under a Conservative Government. Mr. Balfour further declared that Mr. Lloyd-George dishonoured his profession and his office.

Mr. Ure, speaking at Rochdale last night, described Mr. Balfour's charges as outrageous and abominable and made in singular disregard of the truth. He said that Mr. Balfour dishonoured his high position and his country by stooping to the meanest calumny in order to escape political embarrassment.

(Special from New York.)

JAPANESE COMMISSIONERS ENTERTAINED BY THE "EQUITABLE."

October 22.

Baron Shibusawa and the other members of the Honorary Commercial Commission from Japan lunched with the executive officers of the Equitable Life yesterday.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

BANK RATE RAISED.

(From Mr. Consul Sakata, London.)

As the exodus of gold continues unabated, the Bank of England has raised its rate of discount from 4 to 5 per cent.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

PERSECUTION OF NATIONAL SCHOOLMASTERS.

London, October 21.

Paris.—With the view of protecting National schoolmasters from persecution by Roman Catholic parents, committees appointed by the Government are preparing a bill obliging prosecutors to indict Government authorities themselves.

THE RAILWAY QUESTION IN CHINA.

London, October 22.

Washington.—The German Government objects to surrender a percentage of mileage in the Hankow-Szechuan railway to compensate England for a proportionate concession of mileage to the United States, involved by America's participation in the loan.

PRECAUTION FOR SAFETY OF TSAR.

London. October 23.

Rome.—The Tsar arrives at Racconigi on the 23rd inst. Ten thousand troops are guarding the railway. Forty doubtful foreigners have been arrested.

SUCCESS OF SOCIALISTS IN SAXONY.

Berlin.—The elections for the Diet in Saxony have resulted in an enormous increase in the Socialist members.

REVOLT FEARED IN FINLAND.

St. Petersburg.—The Russian Government is anxious concerning the possibility of a violent outburst in Finland arising out of the payment of the military annuity. The First Army Corps is ready to leave St. Petersburg instantly and the reinforcement of the garrisons in Finland is proceeding rapidly.

SPANISH POLITICS.

Madrid.—The Spanish Ministry has resigned. The immediate cause of the stormy incident in the Chamber was due to the Minister of the Interior, who, in defending his administration, charged the Opposition with responsibility for the Anarchist attempt on the life of King Alfonso, owing to their nervous leniency.

RUSSIAN ELECTIONS.

London, October 23.

St. Petersburg.—The latest elections to the Upper House give the retrograde section a majority. The Government is confronted with a possible deadlock if it adheres to political reforms, and has decided to withdraw all reforms except agrarian ones. The session of the Duma beginning on the 13th December promises little effectual legislation.

THE DEFENCE OF SIBERIA.

The navy extension committee devotes the surplus funds for the purchase of balloons and airships for the defence of Russian territory in the Far East.

THE RACCONIGI MEETING.

London, October 25.

Rome.—The meeting of the Tsar and King at Racconigi was of the most cordial character. The country is greatly pleased, the socialists are silent. The St. Petersburg press think that the first fruits of Racconigi will be the promotion of the Danube—Adriatic railway.

DISTRACTED PERSIA.

Teheran.—The Government is doing well, considering its insufficient resources. It is impossible to suppress the disorders without more money.

SOCIASISM IN GERMANY.

Berlin.—The socialist election successes in Baden, Saxony and Coburg have produced vigorous press recriminations. The Liberal-Conservative Imperial League for combating socialism has issued a manifesto urging citizens to forget their differences and face the common danger.

GERMANY AND THE NEW *ENTENTE*.

London, October 26.

Berlin.—The newspapers show the best face they can towards the Russian-Italian friendliness revealed in the speeches of the Tsar and Victor Emmanuel. Some declare Italy to be an untrustworthy member of the Triple Alliance.

CRETE.

Athens.—An armed insurrection has broken out in Crete. The Government is summoning the General Assembly to express the popular desire.

THE MURDER OF PRINCE ITO.

London, October 27.

St. Petersburg.—The Russians are aghast at the murder of Prince Ito, and hope that it will not compromise the promotion of a friendly understanding. The press pays a tribute to Ito's high qualities.

Berlin—The *North German Gazette* says that Ito's remarkable personality and political services are greatly admired by the German nation.

Paris.—The Foreign Minister extols Ito's vigour and breath of view.

"THE TIMES'" EULOGY.

London, October 27.

The *Times*, in an eloquent panegyric, extols Prince Ito's astonishing labours, which are perhaps destined to be among the greatest in the progress of mankind. He possessed the supreme art of looking facts in the face. The nation he has created is unique and Japan brings into the commonwealth of civilized peoples, traditions, habits, thought, and ideals previously unknown. The *Times* believes that Japan will not allow the cruel murder to divert her Korean policy, marked out by the greatest of her great men.

LORD CURZON'S TRIBUTE.

Lord Curzon, speaking at Oxford, referred sympathetically to his personal friendship with Prince Ito, who had achieved the glorious regeneration of Japan.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

CRETE.

Berlin, October 21.

A strong armed movement for gaining autonomic government is preparing in Crete.

RUSSIA.

The Turkish special Embassy to the Tsar at Livadia will be reciprocated by a similar Russian Embassy to Constantinople.

The *New York Herald* repeats the old story from St. Petersburg, according to which the Governments of Germany, Austria and Japan are said to intend to conclude a secret Convention. The German Press refutes this story as a new attempt of describing Germany as the destroyer of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

NEW HEBRIDES.

Natives of the island of New Britain in the New Hebrides have murdered the crew of a merchant steamer.

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TURKEY.

The Turkish Government plans the construction of seven Dreadnoughts.

SPAIN.

The Maura Cabinet in Spain has resigned, King Alfonso having accepted the resignation.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Berlin, October 22.

Sir Edward Grey, the British Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking at Sheffield, stated that the situation on foreign politics of Great Britain is decidedly favourable.

ELECTIONS FOR THE LANDTAG.

Elections for the Landtag have been carried out for the first time according to direct suffrage and not longer according to the three-class election system, as formerly. The result has been that 14 Conservatives and 16 Socialists have been elected definitively and that 57 second ballots will take place, in which 53 Socialists and 29 National Liberals are participating.

"HANSA" S.S. LINE.

The "Hansa" Lines (Deutsche Dampfschiffahrts-Gesellschaft "Hansa") will open a new direct service to Java.

SPAIN.

A new Liberal Cabinet has been formed in Spain, its leader being the Liberal deputy, Senhor Moret.

MOROCO.

The Sultan of Morocco attempts to mediate between the Riff Kabyles and the Spaniards.

ALLEGED ANTI-GERMAN BOYCOTT.

Berlin, October 23.

It is again reported from St. Petersburg that an extensive plan for opening a boycott against German wares is being prepared at Kharbin.

THE TSAR'S TRAVELS.

The Tsar, on his return voyage from Italy through French territory, will have a meeting with M. Pichon, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Berlin, October 24.

The new session of the Duma has been opened.

TURKEY.

The Sublime Porte has declared that the admittance of Cretan Deputies to the Greek Parliament would be regarded by it as an act of war.

BRAZIL.

Berlin, October 23.

The Japanese-Brazilian Company for the carrying-out of a colonization plan in Brazil, has purchased a large edifice at Rio de Janeiro as head office.

MOROCCO.

Three French men-of-war have left for Tangier.

General Weyler has taken command of the Spanish troops in the Rif district.

CHILE.

The Cabinet of Chile has decided to spend four millions sterling for naval purposes.

Great petroleum wells have been discovered in Southern Chile.

PANAMA CANAL.

It is reported from Washington that the Panama Canal will be opened before the year 1913.

DENMARK.

The Danish Ministry has been forced to resign *en bloc*.

ITALY.

Severe earthquake tremors have again been felt in Italy.

Berlin, October 24.

The Tsar has arrived at Racconigi, where he met King Immanuel of Italy.

PERSIA.

Servian officers at Belgrade have been placed on triel for having taken over from the Schneider-Creuzot works artillery and ammunition not up to specification.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to October 1st *ex* Yokohama arrived at Berlin on October 22nd.

THE TSAR AND THE KING.

Berlin, October 25.

Very cordial toasts have been exchanged between the Tsar and King Emmanuel of Italy at Racconigi. Both monarchs stated that they fully agreed in the common aim of perfecting a *rapprochement* between Russia and Italy for the strengthening and maintenance of peace.

RUSSIA.

M. Kokowtsow, Russian Minister for Finance, has arrived to-day at Kharbin.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to October 8th, arrived at Berlin on October 24th.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Berlin, October 26.

An international shipping union has been constituted in London, to which the German shipping union has declared its adhesion.

M. ISWOLSKI.

M. Iswolski, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in an interview, granted to a representative of the German Press, stated that both Russia and Italy wished to effect the consolidation of Turkey on the *status quo*, at present existing, and the maintenance of peace in the Balkans in full agreement with the other Powers. Against all distortion by the foreign Press the German Press as a whole discusses the greetings of the two monarchs, which have been exchanged at Racconigi, with the greatest calmness.

THE KING OF BULGARIA.

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has carried out a trip to Servian territory, where he has been cordially welcomed by the Servian Crown Prince. All rumours as to a personal union of Servia and Bulgaria are, however, officially denied.

THE TSAR AND M. PICHON.

M. Pichon, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, will have a meeting with the Tsar in his special train and accompany him from Modane to Chambéry through French territory.

THE GERMAN ARMY INSTRUCTORS.

The Sultan of Turkey has received in audience all German officers who have entered Turkish service as military instructors. He expressed to them his high recognition of the efficiency of the German Army.

THE DEATH OF PRINCE ITO.

The report of the murder of Prince Ito, the greatest statesman of Japan, who was also much admired by the German nation, has evoked the deepest regret everywhere in Germany. The official *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* in an article, written in memory of the late Prince Ito, expresses the great admiration of the whole German nation for the great political work of this exceptional personality. At the same time, it expresses the cordial sympathy of Germany with the Japanese Government and nation on the loss of their greatest patriot and statesman.

THE MURDER OF PRINCE ITO.

Berlin, October 17.

The news of the murder of Prince Ito at Kharbin has made a deep impression at St. Petersburg. The German Press, without exception, dedicates to the late Prince articles in his memory full of recognition of him as the greatest statesman of Japan. The Kaiser has sent a telegram of sympathy to the Emperor of Japan as follows:—"I have just been informed of the murder of Prince Ito and beg your Imperial Majesty to accept the expression of my sincerest condolence on the loss of such a faithful and illustrious statesman."

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Queen of Spain is staying *incognito* in England with her two children.

ITALY.

M. Pichon and Signor Tittoni, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of France and Italy, have both declared that the meeting between the Tsar and the King of Italy at Raccionigi will only serve to strengthen and maintain European peace.

ARABIA.

The pilgrimage of the Khedive of Egypt to Mecca will last 37 days, the sojourn at several stations and cities included.

TURKEY.

Turkey has ordered new artillery from the Krupp firm at Essen, for which the ammunition will be supplied by the English firm of Armstrong-Vickers.

MOROCCO.

The Riff Kabyles have demanded negotiations for the conclusion of peace with the Spaniards.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Press continues to write in an inciting style against Germany with regard to the Kharbin incident.

A band of Hunghuses have made an assault on a Japanese hong at Nikolaiesk and killed two of the inhabitants.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

THE U.S. MINISTER TO PEKING.

San Francisco, October 20.

It is reported that the successor of Mr. Crane will not be appointed until President Taft returns to Washington.

FAILURE OF A BANK.

The Fresno Hypothec Bank suspended payment to-day. A great panic has been caused in Japanese financial circles here.

THE PORTOLA CELEBRATIONS.

On the second day of the Portola Celebration, the officers belonging to the warships of the different Powers were taken in motor-cars to various parts of the city. During the morning they were entertained at the Commercial Museum. In the evening a ball was held in their honour at the Fairmont Hotel.

LORD KITCHENER.

Seoul, October 21.

Lord Kitchener is expected to arrive here on the 29th instant and to leave on the 31st.

BARON SONE DECORATED.

Resident-General Baron Sone paid a visit to-day to the Imperial Palace, in company with Baroness Sone and others. The Emperor conferred very high orders upon both the Resident-General and his wife. The latter will leave here to-morrow for Japan.

CHIENTAO.

The office of the Residency-General at Chientao will be closed on the 27th instant, on which date the Consulate-General is to be opened.

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KOREAN AFFAIRS.

The Minister-President is to hold the portfolio of Minister of Education, and the Minister of Justice that of Finance, until the new judiciary system comes into force.

THE ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Mukden, October 28.

The anti-Japanese boycott has become virulent of late. A notification prohibiting the boycott was published to-day over the joint signatures of the Viceroy and the governor, this action being due to the vigorous protest of the Japanese Consul-General. As, however, it is apparent that the boycott has been incited by the government officials, it would seem that the mere publication of a notification will hardly mend matters.

THE LATE CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

Peking, October 21.

All the members of the Diplomatic Corps visited yesterday the residence of the late Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung, to tender their condolences. The funeral rites will be continued to-day. The body is to be sent to the Secretary's native province, leaving here on the 2nd proximo.

LORD KITCHENER.

Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener left here to-day for Yingkow *via* Tientsin, by a special train placed at his disposal by order of the Board of Communications. A guard of mounted gendarmerie, infantry and cavalry escorted him to the station, where a military band was also present. A number of high officials, both Chinese and foreign, and many British residents were at the station to bid him farewell. His Lordship was clad in a plain white suit.

U.S. MINISTER TO CHINA.

San Francisco, October 21.

It is reported that Mr. Thomas Burk, ex-Judge of Seattle, has been recommended as Minister to Peking, but it is as yet undecided whether he will accept the post or not. He is said to be favourable to the Japanese.

MR. HARRIMAN'S SUCCESSOR.

Mr. Robert Scot Loveyett, advisor to the Union Pacific Railway Company, has succeeded the late President Harriman of the Company.

THE PORTOLA CELEBRATIONS.

On the third day of the Portola Celebration, various processions proceeded through the streets, among which a Japanese car with an Empress attended by three Court ladies was vociferously applauded. Even the anti-Japanese evening papers praised the splendour of the car. The throngs assembled are reported to have numbered a million.

PRINCE SHIMAZU.

San Francisco, October 22.

Prince Shimazu, an officer of the Japanese cruiser *Izumo*, entertained this evening a number of American business men and journalists at a banquet.

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION.

New York, October 21.

The party of Japanese business men will arrive at New Haven to-morrow, leaving here to-night. After visiting Yale University, they will leave for Providence in the afternoon. On the 23rd instant they are expected to arrive at Boston, where they will stay for three days. The party will celebrate the Emperor's Birthday (November 3) in Washington.

PRINCE ITO'S TOUR.

Peking, October 22.

The foreign residents here believe that Prince Ito's tour through Manchuria is connected with political affairs. It is rumoured that Mr. Straight, the representative of the American Syndicate, has arrived at a secret understanding with the Viceroy of Manchuria in connection with the construction of railways, and other matters.

THE ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Yingkow, October 22.

In consequence of the recurrence of the anti-Japanese boycott, the cotton merchants here are suffering heavy losses.

PRINCE ITO IN MANCHURIA.

Mukden, October 23.

Prince Ito and his suite arrived here last evening. They were welcomed at the station not only by the Japanese officials and residents, but by the Chinese Viceroy and Governor and other civil and military officials. Infantry lined both sides of the road. Prince Ito with his suite called to-day on Viceroy Hsi, who in the evening gave a banquet to the Prince.

CHINESE RAILWAY LOANS.

Shanghai, October 23.

The Chinese Government has telegraphed to the Viceroy of Hupeh, Hunan and Antung, instructing him to notify the representatives of these provinces to come up to Peking within three weeks, in order to consult with the officials of the Board of Posts and Communications in connection with the Hankow-Ichang railway loan question.

GOVERNOR FOR KAMTCHATKA.

Vladivostock, October 23.

M. von Bonde Ungen (?) has been appointed Vice-Governor of Kamtchatka. It is said that he was nominated by the Prime Minister himself.

BOAT-RACE AT 'FRISCO.

San Francisco, October 23.

A boat-race was held this afternoon between crews from a U.S. cruiser and the Japanese cruiser *Izumo*. The latter won.

THE PORTOLA CELEBRATIONS.

The entertainment given to-day on board the Japanese cruiser *Izumo* was a great success. Some 600 Americans and Japanese attended the meeting. In the evening, there was a grand procession on shore, and a car decorated by the Japanese residents was loudly applauded. The *Izumo* will leave here at 6 a.m. to-morrow for Montreal.

LIKIN STATIONS.

Shanghai, October 23.

Tsingtao.—It is reported that the Chinese authorities in Shantung have decided to establish *likin* stations at Tsinan, Weihaiwei and other places.

RAILWAYS IN KOREA.

Seoul, October 24.

Yesterday evening the leading members of the Chambers of Commerce in the districts concerned in the Gensan and Mokpho railways, held a conference at the Chamber in this city. Subsequently it was decided that Mr. Hagiwara, Secretary of the Gensan Chamber of Commerce, should proceed at once to Tokyo to open negotiations with the leaders of the different political parties there.

LORD KITCHENER.

Mukden, October 25.

Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener visited to-day the scene of the battle at Liaoyang and was afterwards entertained by the Japanese Commander at luncheon. His Lordship arrived here in the evening and was welcomed by the Chinese Authorities.

PRINCE ITO.

Prince Ito left here this morning for Harbin *viâ* Changchun. He is expected to return here on the 29th instant and to leave for Yingkow the next day.

THE RUSSIAN FINANCE MINISTER'S TOUR.

Harbin, October 25.

M. Kokoutseff, the Russian Minister of Finance, arrived here this morning, and had an interview with the Japanese Consul in the afternoon.

NEW WAR MINISTER FOR CHINA.

Shanghai, October 25.

It is rumoured that the Prince Regent has approved the appointment of Mr. Tuan, Viceroy of the Metropolitan province, to the post of War Minister.

THE REBELS IN KOREA.

Seoul, October 25.

The Japanese forces under the command of Major-General Watanabe, engaged in the subjugation of the rebels in South Korea, have met with great success. They have captured 1,055 men, and a number of rifles and swords. Only one or two ringleaders are still at large.

A NEW BANK FOR KOREA.

This morning the appointment of the President and other officials of the Central Bank of Korea was decided on at a meeting of the Cabinet. Particulars will be published in day or two in the *Official Gazette*.

THE MANCHURIAN CONVENTION.

Peking, October 25.

The Peking *Nippon*, in publishing a telegram that Prince Ito and Viceroy Hsi has an interview which lasted three hours on the 24th instant, says that as China and certain other Powers are known to be dissatisfied with the Manchurian Convention, the object of the interview was to soften the bad feelings of these nations.

OUTRAGE ON JAPANESE STORE.

San Francisco, October 25.

A Japanese art store, opened a few days ago at Eureka, about 100 miles north of this city, was destroyed yesterday by a bomb thrown into the shop. Some window-panes of an American store on the opposite side of the street were also broken. Fortunately no casualties occurred; the damage is estimated at several thousand dollars. The perpetrator of the deed has not yet been arrested. In 1887 an anti-Chinese agitation occurred at that place. The Mayor of the city has reported the incident by wire to the Japanese Consul here, expressing his regret and hoping that the culprit will soon be arrested.

THE "IZUMO."

The Japanese cruiser *Izumo* arrived yesterday at Monterey, where she was welcomed by the Mayor, the President of the Chamber of Commerce and a large number of Japanese and Americans. During this morning, the Commander and officers visited the noted places there, and were entertained at a luncheon given by officials and private persons there. The cruiser will leave for Santa Barbara to-morrow.

UNIVERSITY AT TSINGTAO.

Shanghai, October 26.

The German University established at Tsingtao was opened yesterday.

THE SOUTH MANCHURIAN RAILWAY.

Dairen, October 26.

The laying of another track on the railway line between Dairen and Mukiatung, extending for 338 miles, will be completed to-morrow.

BARON SONE.

Chemulpo, October 26.

In spite of the wet weather, President-General Baron Sone inspected to-day the

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motor patrol-launch, newly built in this place. The Baron looked in robust health. The Korean Ministers of State and many officials of the Residency-General accompanied him.

CHIENTAO.

Chientao, October 27.

The office of the Residency-General at this place was officially closed to-day. Some 400 persons attended the function.

KOREAN EMPEROR MAKES ENQUIRIES.

Seoul, October 27.

No official report having been received of the death of Prince Ito, the Korean Emperor despatched last night a telegram of inquiry to His Majesty the Emperor of Japan and to Princess Ito at Oiso.

CONFERENCE OF NEWSPAPER MEN.

The corps of journalists here held a conference last night at the Seoul Hotel, and came to a decision as follows :—

1.—The fact that Prince Ito was assassinated by a Korean being deemed to be the disclosure of an anti-Japanese spirit, the Japanese Authorities are desired to give a adopted in Korea, final solution regarding the policy to be in order to avoid future misfortunes.

2.—It is desirable that the Korean Emperor should visit Japan to apologise to the Government and the people for the catastrophe that has overtaken the country.

THE LATE PRINCE

Mukden, October 27.

The remains of Prince Ito passed through the station here for Dairen at 1 a.m. to-day. Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener with his staff and Viceroy Hsi with the Governor and other officials of this city, were present on the platform.

THE PRINCE'S FINAL MESSAGE.

Dairen, October 27.

It is reported that Prince Ito having ordered his carriage to be cleared of company, gave a few injunctions to Messrs. Furuya and Murota before dying.

MR. MORI SERIOUSLY ILL.

Changchun, October 26.

In addition to Messrs. Kawakami, Mori and Tanaka who were wounded to-day at Harbin, twelve Russians were also injured. Mr. Mori is seriously ill.

A WARM TRIBUTE TO A BRITISH ADMIRAL.

No better tribute could have been paid to a naval officer of high rank than that offered by Lord Charles Beresford recently to Admiral of the Fleet Sir Frederick Richards, whose important letter was read to the London Chamber of Commerce meeting. He, without doubt, said Lord Charles, "commands the greatest respect and the greatest affection of everybody fore and aft the Fleet, from the admiral to the able seaman."

The gallant Admiral of the Fleet, who comes of a naval stock, is now in his 76th year ; and it is more than sixty years since he joined the great service of which he is so distinguished a representative. He was the Commodore commanding at the Cape in the *Boadicea* during the troublous days of the Zulu War and the first Boer War, and saw service in both. Sir Frederick, who was also through the Burmah War, has been Commander-in-Chief in the East Indies and on the China Station ; while he has twice served as a Lord of the Admiralty. He has, therefore, the highest claims to speak with the voice of authority.

AN AFFRAY BETWEEN JAPANESE AND KOREAN COOLIES AT CHEMULPO.

The *Seoul Press* of the 25th inst. says :—Chemulpo reports another disturbance, which occurred there on Thursday, between some one thousand labourers of the Eungsin-Chong and one hundred and fifty labourers of the Japanese and Korean Labour Union. As already reported, the state of things has not been very quiet since the recent organisation of the latter, the former regarding it as an enemy, likely to take away a considerable portion of the work which it has monopolised for many years. On Tuesday there took place a disturbance between some men of the rival unions and things looked ominous enough for the future. Owing to no demand for labour, Wednesday passed without trouble, but on the morning of Thursday a ship with a cargo of rice and coal on board entered the port and the landing of the freight was entrusted to the new union. Prior to setting to work the union requested police protection, in consideration of the restlessness shown by the rival union, and four policemen were dispatched to the pier, where they found a large and noisy crowd of labourers of the Eungsin-Chong assembled. Under the circumstances the work of landing the freight was not commenced, but the men of both unions stood apart glaring at each other for about two hours. About 1 a.m. the policemen asked the men of the Japanese and Korean Labour Union whether they intended to commence work or not. To this they replied in the affirmative and prepared to commence work. Some seven labourers of the union went to the pier for work, when with a wild yell several hundred labourers of the rival union rushed to the pier and a scene of great confusion ensued. The policemen on the spot were absolutely powerless to pacify the disturbance and some ten policemen hurriedly came to the rescue Still so fierce and menacing was the attitude of the men of the Eungsin Chong that they were obliged to unsheathe their swords and defend themselves against their attack. Ultimately the tumult was quelled with great difficulty. Some thirty ringleaders of the Eungsin-Chong, including its president, were arrested. Happily there were no serious casulties on either side.

OPIUM IN SHANTUNG.

The Tsingtao correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News*, writing on the 16th inst., says :—

During the past two or three weeks a very great increase has been shown in the Tsingtao Customs of opium imports, apparently from Shanghai. In consequence probably of this, the Governor of the province has issued a proclamation requiring the importers of opium to procure a licence from the provincial authorities. The details of this are not yet published, but on the strength of the proclamation some forty cases of opium have been confiscated by the authorities at Kiaochou, and the owners of it are in prison. This morning a large delegation was waiting on the Commissioner of Customs with reference to the matter, and the outcome is awaited with interest.

The cultivation of opium in Shantung province has been practically suppressed. One result is that the revenues are much depleted. The greatly increased importations show the use of opinm has not at all decreased in cultivation. This move on the part of the Governor is probably an attempt to derive some revenue for the provincial treasury. It seems questionable whether he has the right to impose a licence on an article which comes under Treaty regulations, and has paid duty according to stipulations. But the incident shows that some adjustment will probably have to be made to meet the needs of a section which loses revenue by enforcing the prohibition against cultivation, while at the same time the population is spending enormous sums of money, a large part of which is of course going to those places where the prohibition is not enforced.

SUFFERING WAS BEYOND WORDS

Eczema Spread All Over His Body—Not a Minute's Comfort in Sixteen Months—Constantly Experimented With Remedies, but Even the Doctor's Treatment Failed—Writer Pronounces the

CUTICURA REMEDIES OF MARVELOUS POWER

"A gentleman, who is a near relative of mine, has suffered terribly with eczema. The trouble started in the form of little white pimples on the hands. These pimples would burst and become sore. The irritation was very great at all times, and sometimes almost unbearable. He tried various remedies from the first, but nothing seemed to do him the least good. Still, he kept persevering with all the things heard or read of. As his condition gradually became worse under these trials, he decided to go to a doctor. The doctor put him under a treatment, and he persisted with it for some time without the least sign of a permanent cure. He was almost despairing. No sooner had one sore healed than others came. From being only on the hands, the disease spread until his whole body was affected. His wrists, elbows, and back were worst, and were really most distressing. The pain he suffered is beyond words. His work necessitates placing his hands in water a great deal, and the water seemed to aggravate the trouble. After the doctor's treatment failed, my relative again resorted to other remedies, with the same disheartening result, and in this way sixteen months dragged by. During this time I can truthfully say that he did not have a minute's comfort. His case having become so serious, you can imagine how thankful he was when he found that he had the right remedy in Cuticura. Had he started with Cuticura Remedies at first he would have saved untold trouble and expense. He followed the directions carefully and the improvement was most marked from day to day. He derived great comfort from the very first, and I should say that within six months the disease was perfectly eradicated, and his skin is as clear as it ever was. I pronounce Cuticura Remedies to be of simply marvelous power. Mrs. E. Spalding, 142a, Dennett Rd., W. Croydon, nr. London, England, Nov. 26, 1906."

A Single Set of Cuticura Remedies often Cures. Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston, Mass. Mailed Free, Cuticura Book on the Skin.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Prices of Cotton continue to advance. As to Cotton Yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece Goods is firm, but generally speaking the high prices at home have mitigated against any extensive buying. In Woollen and Woollen Mixtures, a certain amount of new forward business is being secured.

RAW COTTON.	PER PICUL.
American Middling... ... —	40 00 to 41.50
Egyptian	46.50 to 51 75
Indian Broach...	33 50 to 34.30
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31 00 to 32.00
COTTON YARN	**PER BALE**
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed...	420.00 to 460.00
COTTON PIECE GOODS.	
White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.... ...	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints— 24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE 1 90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2 50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches ...	1.30 to 2.40

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Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	V.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Conditions have improved, and buyers are realizing that the advance in home prices is not merely temporary.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel. Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3 80 to 8.85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4 30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.80
Sheet Mild Steel	6.15 to 6.30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9.60 to 9.80
d. Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	6 80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.88 to 3 98
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3 54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

The market has ruled quiet and no transactions have been done in imported refined sugars.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10 90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15 50 to 18 90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y 240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. Business in known brands is beginning to revive.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	11.50
Flag	"	10.60
Royal	"	10.60
Trophy	"	10 60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.90
Lion	"	12.00
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00

Japanese:—

Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 "	2.78
Fuji	6 "	2.85
Pine	6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

Stocks are getting short and millers will soon have to begin importing.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15 to 5.30
Red " " "	5.10 to 5 20
Blue Stem	5.30 to 5 60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet. A fairly large business has been done, with the result that prices have somewhat strengthened.

On October 28th stocks were: filatures 25,761 bales; Re-reels, 5,282 bales; Kakeda, 1,090 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	Y 1,030
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	950
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	970
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	900
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	980
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den	950
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	865
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	940
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	860
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	880
Re-reels—No. 1½	850
Re-reels—No. 2	820
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra	930
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	860
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	840
Kakedas—No. 2	820

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

October	Present delivery.	October delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
22nd	872	860	—	873
23rd	864	—	858	864
24th	—	—	—	—
25th	860	850	853	861
26th	856	845	852	858
27th	856	845	851	856
28th	858	846	852	858

WASTE SILK.

Market continues active. Prices now demanded mark an advance which has not yet been paid by exporters.

On October 28th stocks were: Noshi, 13,204 bales, Kibiso, 17,375 bales; and Sundry, 1,017 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	137½ to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	95 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	70 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	120 to 127½
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	90 to 100
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—There is no particular change to report, although the tendency is upward. Production is still small.

Kanazawa:—There has been a slight advance in prices owing to an increased demand from all markets, especially for better qualities.

Kawamata:—The production in this district has materially increased, owing to the festival market days. The demand remains good, but there has been no change in prices.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.45	8.25	8.00	8 00	7 95
27"	8.70	8.4	8.45	8.10	8.1
36"	8.55	8.40	8.40	8 40	8 25

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.20	8 05	8 10	7.75
27"	8.20	8 05	8.15	7 73
36"	8.30	8.10	8 05	7.80

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8 90	9 40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.80	10 90	11 80	13 00
36	12.40	14.00	15.70	16.20

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of October 28th, the quotation was £.7.17 6.

Owing to weak markets at home, fresh business is absent, but shipments against old contracts continue.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38 50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47 00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report, considerable stocks being still held, with poor demand.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	945,010
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	178 487

Delivery.	Closing Price
October	—
November	11 47
December	11.69

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
October	11.17	October	11 23
November	11.48	November	11 48
December	11.56	December	11.58

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku.*
Superior	Yen 12.30
Medium	11.30
Common	10.30
Average	11.30

TEA.

Quotations have shown a little advance. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to October 20th, the sales amounted to 8,832,300 kin. The stock on Thursday aggregated 56,800 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y.	— —
Choice		— —
Finest		— —
Fine		36 — 37
Good Medium		34 — 36
Medium		32 — 33
Good Common		30 — 31
Common		28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
October	—
November	125.50
December	125 30

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Oct. 29

London silver ⅛ higher and in anticipation of China sterling quotations being higher local rates on China are lower accordingly but other rates are unchanged and close as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T.T.	3/0 9/16
— Bills on demand	3/0 9/16@5/8
— 4 months' sight	3/0 7/8
— Private 4 months' sight	3 1 1/16@5/8
— 6 months' sight	3 1 1/16@5/8
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight	263
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	85 1/2*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83 1/2*
Shanghai—Bank sight	88*
— Private 10 days' sight	89 1/2*
India—Bank sight	152 1/2
Private 30 days' sight	154 1/2
America—Bank sight	40 3/4
— Private 30 days' sight	50 1/2@3/4
— Private 4 months' sight	51 1/2@3/4
Germany—Bank sight	209 1/2
— Private 4 months' sight	214@1/4
Bar Silver (London)	23 5/16

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Portland	P. & A.	Selja	F.	Oct. 29
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Tosa Maru	F.	Oct. 29
America	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru 1	Sa	Oct. 30
Europe	N. D. L.	Prinzess Alice	Su.	Oct. 31
Hongkong	P. & A.	Rygja 2	Su.	Oct. 31
Europe	M. M.	Armand Behic 3	W.	Nov. 3
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru 4	Th.	Nov. 4
Hongkong	B. L.	Oceano	F	Nov. 5
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Monteagle 5	F	Nov. 5
America	P. M.	Korea 6	Sa	Nov. 6
Hongkong	P. M.	Asia	Tu	Nov. 9
Tacoma	B. L.	Aymeric	F	Nov. 12
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Sa	Nov. 13
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru	M.	Nov. 22
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Su	Nov. 28

1 Left San Francisco on the 12th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 26th inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 25th inst.
5 Left Vancouver on the 22nd inst.
6 Left Honolulu on the 27th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.		Date.
Hongkong	P. & A.	Selja	Sa.	Oct. 30
Europe	M. M.	Tourane	Sa	Oct. 30
Shanghai	N.Y.K.	Kasuga Maru	Su	Oct. 31
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Su	Oct. 31
Portland	P. & A.	Rygja	M.	Nov. 1
America	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	F	Nov. 5
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Monteagle	F	Nov. 5
Europe	N. D. L.	Prinzess Alice	Sa	Nov. 6
Tacoma	B. L.	Oceano	Sa	Nov. 6
Europe	N. Y. K.	Kitano Maru	Sa.	Nov. 6
Hongkong	P. M.	Korea	Su	Nov. 7
America	P. M.	Asia	W	Nov. 10
Hongkong	B. L.	Aymeric	Sa.	Nov. 13
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	Sa.	Nov. 13
Tacoma	B. & S.	Bellerophon	Sa	Nov. 13
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Su	Nov. 14
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Shinano Maru	M	Nov. 15
Australia	N. Y. K.	Nikko Maru	M	Nov. 15
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	Th	Nov. 18
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru	W	Nov. 24
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	M.	Nov. 29
America	C. R.	Amiral Orly	M.	Dec. 20

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LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 22nd Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Sudzuki, 22nd Oct.,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, T. Noguchi, 22nd Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen 22nd Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8,700, Henry E. Morton, 22nd Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Yechigo Maru, Japanese steamer, 712, T. Terada, 22nd Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Cyclops, British steamer, 5,748, H. Harris, 23rd Oct.,—Tacoma and Victoria, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kutsang, British steamer, 3,110, R. D. Bradley, 23rd Oct.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 23rd Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 23rd Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Coblenz, German steamer, 2,001, H. Raegener, 24th Oct.,—Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, K. Asakawa, 24th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 25th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Manchuria, American steamer, 8,750, A. Dixon, 25th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, K. Sato, 2 th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,360, R. Swain, 25th Oct,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 27th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Seattle Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,832, T. Saito, 28th Oct.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., (Osaka Shosen Kaisha America Line).

DEPARTURES.

Koshun Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,657, I. Ichiki, 22nd Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

King Alfred, British cruiser, (Flagship), 14,100, Captain Lewis Clinton Baker, 22nd Oct.,—Nagasaki. (Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton.)

Prinz Regent Luitpold, German steamer, 3,920, K. Kirchner, 23rd Oct.,—Bremen and Hamburgh via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Ghazee, British steamer, 3,242, D. H. Cave, 23rd Oct.,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Monmouth, British cruiser, 9,800, Captain Geo. W. Smith, 23r Oct.,—Nagasaki.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 684, Martin Bitte, 23rd Oct.,—Petropavlovsk, General.—Smith Baker & Co.

Kasenga, British steamer, 2,923, Dobbs, 23rd Oct.,—Sydney, General.—Sale and Frazar.

Cyclops, British steamer, 5,748, H. Harris, 24th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Coblenz, German steamer, 2,001, H. Raegener, 24th Oct.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Alacrity, British despatch vessel, 700, Com. Cyril T M. Fuller, 24th Oct.,—Cruise.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 24th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Miike Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,060, F. H. Fegen, 24th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8,700, Henry E. Morton, 24th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 24th Oct.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 24th Oct,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hanzaki Maru, Japanese steamer 973, T. Osawa, 25th Oct.,—Hakodate, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fooksang, British steamer, 1,987, T. A. Michell, 26th Oct.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus 26th Oct.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C.P.R. Co.

Vine Branch, British steamer, 2.177, H. J. Ritson, 26th Oct.,—Sydney via Hakodate, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, Asakawa, 27th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, K. Sato, 27th Oct.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,918, T. Law Harrison, 27th Oct.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manchuria, American steamer, 8,750, A. Dixon, 27th Oct.,—San Francisco via Honolulu Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, T. Noguchi, 27th Oct.,—Newchwang via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Hands, 28th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, H. Sudzuki, 28th Oct.,—Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Mongolia* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mrs. Wm Ashmore, Mr. P. J. Bell, Mr. J. Berkey, Mr. R. Boeswillwald, Mrs. F. C. Bronson, Mr. W. M. Brown, Mr. Herman Canel, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Carter, Miss Evelyn Carter, Mr. Eliot A. Carter, Miss J. B. Cook, Mr. S. Hattori, Dr. and Mrs C. S. Hazeltine, Miss Delia H. Hazeltine, Mr. E. B. Howard, Miss Elien Howard, Mr. Ulrich Knapp, Col. and Mrs. E. M. Knox, Mr. Oliver McKee, Mr. E. F. Laeisz, Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Meyer, Mr. T. F. Millard, Mr. C. F. Mills, Dr. Alfred Muscate, Mrs: E. M. Nicholl, Mr. S. Niwa, Hon. and Mrs. Thomas J. O Brien and maid, Miss Josephine Peck and maid, Miss Haroldine Peck, Dr. Otto Reuter, Mr. Paul Rheinhold, Mrs. Isaac Saohs, Mr. and Mrs. C. Schuneman, Miss S. C. Smith, Master Harry Steinmetz, Mr. S. Takenouchi, Mr. J. S. Wells, Mrs. L. E. Wells and maid, Miss C. Wells, and Miss E. Wells. For Kobe:—Mrs. T. B. Abenheim, infant and amah, Miss Rosamond Bates, Mr. G. W. Bush, Miss Grace V. Correll, Rev. Chas S. Heininger, Miss Grace V. Correll, Rev. Chas. S. Heininger, Miss Olive S. Hoyt. Miss May Leadbetter, Mrs. H. B. Newell, Master W. Newell, and Mr. S. Otani. For Shanghai:—Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Beaman, Miss Eloise Beaman, Dr. and Mrs. N. W. Brown and infant, Miss Dorothy A. Brown, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Cherney, Mrs. F. D. Cloud and infant, Miss J. L. Crawford, Miss H. M. Ferguson, Dr. and Mrs. J. R. Goddard, Miss Lura Hefty, Rev. R. R. Moore, Mrs. R. R. Moore, Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Morse, Mr. Ado Nolte, Mrs. Frances O'Shea, Miss Grace O'Shea, Miss C. E. Righter, Mrs. F. A. Robinson and amah, Miss Katherine Robinson, Miss Elizabeth Robinson, Miss Lavinia M. Rollestone, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. Stafford, and Mr. Joseph Wharton. For Hongkong:—Dr. Lawrence B. Adams, Mr. Chas. G. Bolte, Mrs. Charles G. Bolte and amah, Dr. Herman Bryan, Mr. J. R. Burns, Richard Campbell, Mr. David L. Cobb, Rev. S. E. Conybeare, Mrs. S. E. Conybeare, Mr. and Mrs. F. de Crue, Dr. Wilbert A. Curtis, Mrs. Wilbert A. Curtis, Judge C. B. Dunning, Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Eckley, Mr. E. M. Elam, Dr. E. M. Erfurth, Mr. Everard C. Frost, Miss Floy F. Garner, Mr and Mrs. George Gerdes, Miss L. S. Gibbs, Mr. W. R. Gibberson, Mr. H. E. Gilmore, Mr. and Mrs. G. de Gerlache de Gomery, Mr and Mrs. C. R. Grandville, Miss S. L. Griggs, Mr. Paul Harth, Mr. A. H. Heid, Monsignor J. W. Hendrick, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Holt, Mr. and Mrs. Howard, Mr. John S. Janeway, Mr. Francis Janssens, Major Ralph W. Jones Mrs. Mrs. Ralph W. Jones, Mr. Wm. B. Jones, Mr. W. O. Kamier, Mrs. W. O. Kamier and infant, Miss B. M. Kelley, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Lane, Miss J. H. Lane, Mr. V. L. Legarda, Mr. and Mrs. M. M. Levering, Miss Amanda M. Little, Mrs. F. Little, Mr. and Mrs. Look Poong Shan, Master Look King, Mr. Clarence E. Mapes, Mrs. F. K. MacDonald, Dr. O. Menard, Mrs. O. Menard, Mrs. J. W. Diller, Miss K. Nicolet, Mr. H. C. Nicot, Miss Mildred Peel, Miss S. M. Ramsay, Mr. N. Richardson, Col. W. M. Ridpath, Miss Henrietta Roth, Mr. Wm. E. Rutledge, Mr. and Mrs. Benjamin F. Smith, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Stephens, Mrs. H. S. Townsend, Mr. Richard Tunnerscheidt, Miss Marion P. Wells, Miss S. W. Whelpton, Miss L. A. Withers and Miss Louisa B. Woolsey. From Honolulu:—Miss M. Burford, Mrs. M. G. Cook, Mrs. S. G. Evans, Mr. Waldo Evans, Mr. Jas. G. Field, Mr. Fiske and party, Mrs. W. A. Glassford, Miss A. Kelly, Mrs. R. H. Leigh, Mrs. W. L. Littlefield and infant, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. Macfarlane, Miss M. Martin, Mr. Lloyd A. Newbre, Mrs. L. T. Sargent, Mrs. T. H. Taylor, Mrs. Tanner, Miss Tanner, Mrs. C. Wells and Mrs. Ida W. Ziegemeier in cabin.

Per American steamer *Manchuria* from Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. W. H. Avery, Mrs. E. E. West and child, Mrs. Bloombergh, Mrs. H. H. Howard, Mr. B. Wolff, Mr. F. W. Glover, Mrs. F. W. Glover, two children and servant, Mr. A. J. Buckley, Mr. T. Yamamoto and Mr. W. A. De Havilland. For Honolulu:—Mr. Loo Chow. For San Francisco:—Mr. J. E. Miner, Mrs. J. E. Miner, Mr. W. A. Gifford, Mrs. G. B. Cadwell, Miss J. Watkins, Miss M. Rogers, Miss W. Clark, Mr. J. Berkin, Mrs. J. Berkin, Master John P. Berkin, Miss C. L. Berkin, Mrs. M. E. Venable, Mr. J. W. Moore, Mrs. J. W. Moore, Master Boude C. Moore, Master Lardner W. Moore, Master Wallace H. Moore, Miss Eleanor R. Moore, Master James E. Moore and Master Mason E. Moore in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—Mrs. Butcher, Mr. J. D. Butcher, Mrs. Waite and maid, Miss Gething, Mrs. A. K. Rhoden, 2 infants and amah, Mr. A. K. Rhoden, Mr. Valessrohemad Kerim, Captain H. L. Archer Houblon, Mr. A. J. Hassan, Mr. and Mrs. Bell, Mr. F. G. Sale, Mr. H. Doo Nam, Mr. Cheng Pak Lee, Mr. Chin York Sun, Mr. Chow Chue Fun, Mr. Ko Ying Quai and Mr. Chue Pak Quai in cabin.

Per American steamer *Mongolia*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss C. Larsen, Mrs. F. E. Cleyton, Mr. C. W. Brush, Rev. Chas. S. Heininger, Mr. S. Otani, Rev. and Mrs. W. F. Beaman, Miss M. Beaman, Dr. N. W. Brown, Mrs. N. W. Brown and infant, Miss D. A. Brown, Rev. and Mrs. J. A. Cherney, Mrs. F. D. Cloud and infant, Miss J. L. Crawford, Miss H. M. Ferguson, Dr. and Mrs. J. R. Goddard, Miss Jura Hefty, Rev. R. R. Moore, Dr. L. B. Adams, Dr. H. Bryan, Mr. J. R. Burns, Judge R. Campbell, Mr. B. L. Cobb, Rev. S. E. Coneybeare, Mrs. S. E. Coneybeare, Dr. and Mrs. W. A. Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Eckley, Mr. E. M. Elam, Dr. E. F. Erfurth, Mr. E. C. Frost, Miss F. E. Garner, Mr. W. R. Giberson, Mr. H. E. Gilmore, Miss S. L. Griggs, Mr. A. H. Heid, Monsignor J. W. Hendrick, Mr. John S. Jeneway, Mr. F. Janseens, Major R. W. Jones, Mrs. R. H. Leigh, Mr. A. L. Walcott, Mrs. Ed. Lloyd, Mr. C. Wilbone, Mr. C. E. Benedict, Mrs. E. W. Hendricks, Mr. S. Otani, Mr. Y. Uyehara, Miss H. Christensen, Mr. Christensen, Mr. P. Mr. M. Harshman, Mrs. M. Harshman, Miss F. Murphy, Miss A. Murphy, Mr. W. Graig, Mr. A. R. Nicoll, Mrs. B. C. Howard, Mr. R. J. Archer, Mr. W. Ross, Mrs. R. R. Moore, Dr. W. R. Morse, Mrs. W. R. Morse, Mr. A. Norte, Mrs. F. O'Shea, Miss G. O'Shea, Miss C. E. Righter, Mrs. F. A. Robinson and amah, Miss K. Robison, Miss F. Robinson, Miss L. M. Rollestone, Mr. R. D. Stafford, Mrs. R. D. Stafford, Mr. J. Wharton, Mrs. R. W. Jones, Mr. W. O. Kaminer, Mrs. W. O. Kaminer and infant, Mr. V. L. Lagada, Mr. M. M. Levering Miss A. M. Little, Mr. Look Poong Shan, Master Look King, Mr. C. E. Mapes, Mrs. F. K. MacDonald, Mrs J. W. Miller, Mr. H. C. Nicot, Mr. Wm. F. Rutledge, Mr. C. A. Stephens, Mrs. C. A. Stephens, Miss M. P. Wells, Miss L. A. Withers, Miss M. Martin, Mr. L. A. Newbre, Mrs. T. H. Taylor, Mrs. C. Wells, Mr. H. Rissland, Mrs. H. Rissland, Lt. Col. W. A. Shunk and wife, Mr. Sin Ying Show and native servant, Mr. Ip Shun Kan and son, Mr. Ip Yuen, Mr. F. M. James, and Mr. R. T. Sterling, in cabin.

Per American steamer *Manchuria* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Dr. F. Anderson. Mr. J. Berkin, Mrs. J. Berkin, Master John P. Berkin, Miss C. L. Berkin, Mrs. G. B. Cadwell, Miss N. Clarke, Mr. E. J. Cowan. Mr. H. Kaldrack, Mr. James Keeley, Mrs. James Keeley, Mr. Loo Chow, Miss M. Meyers, Mrs. Chas. Miller, Mr. J. E. Miner, Mrs. J. E. Miner, Mr. W. J. Moore, Mrs. W. J. Moore, Master Boude C. Moore, Master Lardner W. Moore, Master Wallace H. Moore, Master James E. Moore, Master Mason E. Moore, Miss Eleanor R. Moore, Mr. N. Otsuka, Mr. Otis A. Poole, Mr. A. D. Provand, Mr. L. F. Pye, Miss M. Rogers, Mrs. M. McAllister Smith, Mrs. S. Takaki, Mrs. T. Takaki, Mrs. M. E. Venable, Miss J. Watkins, Mr. M. Weber, Mr. C. E. Whittlesey and Mrs. C. E. Whittlesey in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Silk shippers by *Aki Maru*, for Seattle, on the 27th Oct.:—

	Bales.
Vivanti Bros.	115
Jewett & Bent	24
China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	21
Pila & Co.	15
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	206
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	82
Hara Yushutsuten	45
Total	514

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Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai :—

	Raw Silk. France.	Moscow.	Waste Silk. France.	Bombay.
Otto Streuli	109	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent	24	—	10	—
Hara Yushitsuten	80	25	—	—
F. Strahler & Co.	20	—	—	—
C. Eymard	20	—	—	—
Pila & Co.	60	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co.	72	—	—	—
P. Dourille	5	—	—	—
Jardine Matheson & Co.	—	—	3	—
Bavier & Co.	—	—	65	—
Cornes & Co.	—	—	—	20
	390	25	78	20

Silk shippers by *Manchuria*, for San Francisco on the 27th Oct. :— Bales.

F. Strahler & Co.	60
Siber, Wolff & Co.	53
Nabholz & Co.	45
Comptoirs Soies	10
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	10
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	381
Total	559

Silk shippers *Empress of Japan*, for Vancouver, B.C., on the 26th Oct. :— Bales.

China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	112
Bavier & Co.	65
F. Strahler & Co.	45
Siber, Wolff & Co.	40
Nabholz & Co.	40
Vivanti Bros.	35
Comptoirs Soies	5
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	225
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	121
Total	688

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan* for Vancouver, B.C. :—

TEA.

From	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hongkong	1,545	—	—	1,498	—	3,043
Keelung	858	—	—	—	—	858
Shanghai	942	1,706	1,809	—	—	4,457
Kobe	321	50	—	—	—	371
Shimidzu	1,131	1,133	—	—	—	2,264
Yokohama	1,080	363	—	—	—	1,443
Total	5,877	3,252	1,809	1,498	—	12,436

SILK.

From.	New York.	Easton.	South M'chester.	Montreal.	Holyoke.	Total. Bales
H'kong & Canton	210	—	—	—	—	210
Shanghai	316	15	—	—	—	331
Yokohama	600	10	—	15	63	688
Total	1,126	25	—	15	63	1,229

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

STEAMERS.

NAME.	FROM.	REPORTED.	
Antenor	Liverpool	Left S'hai	Oct. 12
Armand Behic	Marseilles	Left H'kong	Oct. 26
Astyanox	Liverpool	At Kobe	Oct. 26
Atsuta Maru	London	Left Port Said	Oct. 21
Awa Maru	London	Leaves	Oct 30
Benarty	London	Passed Canal	Sept. 27
Benavon	Leith	At Kobe	Oct. 25
Benlomond	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 11
Bingo Maru	London	At H'kong	Oct. 28
Bombay Maru	Bombay	Left S'hai	Oct. 20
Braemar	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 11
Breconshire	Hamburg	At Kobe	Oct. 25
Brisgavia	Hamburg	Left S'pore	Oct 14
Calchas	Liverpool	Left H'kong	Oct. 17
Chingwo	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 7
Chiyo Maru	Hongkong	Left	Oct 25
Dardanus	Singapore	At S'hai	Oct. 16
Delhi	Singapore	Left	Oct. 9
Denbighshire	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Deucalion	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct 14
E. F. Ferdinand	Trieste	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Ernest Simons	Marseilles	Passed Canal	Oct. 14
Glenlochy	London	Passed Canal	Oct 4
Glenlogan	M'bro	Left S'hai	Oct. 19
Hirano Maru	London	Left H'kong	Oct. 23
Indra	Natal	Left	Sept. 25
Indramayo	New York	Passed Canal	Sept. 20
Kamo Maru	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 23
Kasama	New York	Left	Oct. 20
Katuna	New York	Left	Oct. 20
Kawachi Maru	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 15
Kintuck	Liverpool	Left S'hai	Sept. 15
Kleist	Hamburg	Passed Canal	Oct. 14
Korea	San F'cisco	Left	Oct. 20
Lowther Castle	Algiers	Left	Sept. 13
Menelaus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 7
Mishima Maru	London	Leaves	Nov. 6
Monteagle	Vancouver	Left	Oct. 22
Moyori Maru	Bombay	Left S'pore	Oct. 21
Moyune	Liverpool	Left S'pore	Oct. 13
Namur	London	Left S pore	Oct. 15
Nikko Maru	Melbourne	At H'kong	Oct 25
Nore	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 7
Pakl ng	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 14
Palermo	London	At S'hai	Oct. 20
Poona	London	Passed Canal	Sept. 30
Prinzess Alice	Naples	At N'saki	Oct. 27
Rygja	London	Left H'kong	Oct. 18
Sado Maru	London	Left Kobe	Oct. 28
Sanuki Maru	London	At Port Said	Oct. 28
Seattle Maru	Tacoma	Left	Oct. 9
Selja	Astoria	Left	Oct. 10
Senegambia	Hamburg	Left	Oct. 5
Shimosa	New York	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Shinano Maru	Seattle	Left	Oct. 20
Silesia	Hamburg	At Manila	Oct. 12
Silvia	Hamburg	Left	Sept. 13
Suevia	Hamburg	Left	Sept. 25
Tamba Maru	London	Leaves	Nov. 13
Tenyo Maru	San F'cisco	Left	Oct. 13
Tonkin	Marseilles	Left	Oct. 24
Vandalia	New York	Left	Sept. 30
Wray Castle	Boston	Left	Aug. 22
Yeboshi Maru	Bombay	Left	Oct. 20

SAILING VESSELS.

Daylight	New York	Left	July 24

By Royal Warrant to H.M. THE KING.

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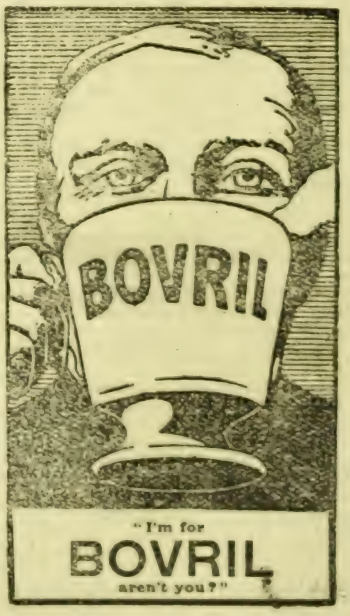

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 6TH, 1909.

BIRTH.

SCHAEFFER—On October 5th, 1909, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. E. SCHAEFFER, 74, Ashley Gardens, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Oiso town assembly has decided to erect a statue of the late Prince Ito at Oiso, where the Prince usually resided.

A KOBE despatch received by the *Asahi* says that Prince Louis of Battenberg will probably succeed Vice-Admiral Lambton on the expiration of the latter's term of service.

BARON UCHIDA, who returned home a few days ago from Vienna, will shortly be appointed Ambassador to Washington, and Mr. Makino, ex-Minister of Education, will succeed him.

ON October 30, the funeral service of the late Vice-Admiral Baron Anbo was conducted at the Aoyama Cemetery, the cortège with the guard of honour leaving the deceased's residence at Ushigome. The naval band played a funeral dirge. Admirals Togo and Ito, Counts Yamamoto and Kabayama and other naval officers numbering over 500 attended the function.

COMMODORE TIEDEMAN, Commander-in-Chief of the Netherlands Squadron, invited various Japanese officials and private members to an At Home on Tuesday afternoon on board the flagship *De Ruyter*.

AT the close of a sermon by Rev. Arthur Lloyd at St. Andrew's Church, Tokyo, the organist played the Dead March in "Saul," as a mark of respect to the late Prince Ito, the congregation standing during the recital.

TELEGRAMS of condolence despatched by the Sovereigns of Italy, Denmark and the Netherlands were received in Tokyo on October 31. The Japanese Emperor immediately sent a cordial telegraphic answer to each of the above monarchs.

THE Nippon Yusen Kaisha steamers *Yamashiro Maru* (2,580 tons), *Omi Maru* (2,510 tons) and *Yokohama Maru* (2,370) which have been offered for sale in Kobe, have been bought by Mr. Yamashima Reizo, Proprietor of the Yamashima Marine Works.

EARLY on the morning of October 28 a goods train from Aomori was approaching Utsunomiya Station, when, owing to the fault of a pointsman, it dashed into another goods train in the station. The engines of both trains were greatly damaged, but no casualties occurred.

OWING to the death of Prince Ito, Commodore Tiedeman of the Netherlands Squadron has cancelled all his engagements, including a dinner to Marquis Katsura, the Premier, and Baron Saito, the Minister of the Navy. The Commodore has conveyed his condolences to the latter.

RELATING to the recent attack on the Iwon Station in Korea, the military authorities say that the insurgents were only some 30 in number, and a mere band of robbers, and that though the buildings in the station were more or less damaged, the railway line and the telegraph were uninjured.

ON the 7th instant, Baron Terauchi, Minister for War, will give a dinner at the Kanaya Hotel, Nikko, in honour of Lord Kitchener. The Ambassadors the Ministers and the Military attaches' of the different Powers and many high military and naval officers are also to be invited.

TO afford further convenience to guests from distant lands, the Welcome Society begs to announce, through our columns, that they have constructed a branch office at Yokohama, within the compound of the Imperial Custom-House, and are ready to open for business from the present date.

A SENDAI telegram reports that a fire broke out on the 27th ult. in the compound of the Miyagi Agricultural School. A shed was burnt down and four head of cattle in it were destroyed. A policeman who was on his way to the fire was knocked down by a fire-engine and instantly killed.

TO celebrate the birthday of the Emperor, Baron Sufu, Governor of Kanagawa prefecture, gave a dinner party on the evening of the 3rd instant, to the Consul Generals and the Consuls of the different Powers, in this city, and the high officials of the local government at his official residence at Iseyama. Mr. J. C. Hall, the British Consul-General, doyen of the Consular Corps, proposed the health of H.M. the Emperor of Japan, and the Governor proposed that of the Sovereigns and the Presidents of the different treaty Powers. After dinner both the host and the guests adjourned to another room, where conversation was indulged in for some time.

A VLADIVOSTOCK telegram to the *Asahi* states that as the result of an eruption of Mount Hawacha, Kamschatka, a few days before, the city experinced several shocks of earthquake yesterday. Lava has fallen in torrents even at Petranosk, which is about fifty miles from the volcano.

THE damage suffered by the Japanese sealer *Kaisei Maru*, the crew of which returned home from America a few days ago, is estimated at some 100,000 *yen*. It is reported that the claim for compensation will shortly be sent in to the American Government through the Department of Foreign Affairs.

CAPTAIN SHIGARA and crew (30 in number) of the Japanese sealer *Kaisei Maru*, who had been imprisoned on an island off Alaska since May last, were released on the 25th Sept. They were returning home in the steamer *Seattle Maru*, when the captain was missed on the morning of October 27. He is believed to have thrown himself into the water. The crew arrived safely at Yokohama the next day.

FIELD-MARSHAL LORD KITCHENER arrived at Seoul on Friday night from Antung. His Lordship visited the Resident-General and the Headquarters of the Japanese Garrison the next morning, and inspected the army after attending a luncheon given by General Okubo. In the evening he was entertained by Viscount Sone at a dinner. Strict vigilance was exercised in guarding the route along His Lordship's passage.

IN honour of the Emperor's Birthday on November 3, the national and other flags were flown througout the city, all the banks, leading firms, Japanese and foreign, and different offices, public and private, observing the day as a holiday. In the prefectural government office and various schools of the city, the ceremony of congratulation was performed. All the warships in port, Japanese, Dutch and French, were fully dressed, and fired a salute at noon.

HITHERTO there has been only the Vladivostock line by which parcel posts and value-marked letters could be forwarded *viâ* Siberia to different ports of North Asia and Europe in general. On and after the 14th instant, a new route between Dairen and Changchun will be opened. Much time will be saved, and in addition the postage for parcels destined for places in North Manchuria where there are Russian post offices, is to be lowered from 1.60 *yen* to 1.10 *yen* for parcels not exceeding 11 lbs.

THE O. S. K.'s new American liner *Chicago Maru* was most successfully launched at the Kawasaki Dockyard at about 4 45 yesterday afternoon, says the *Kobe Herald* of the 29th inst. There was a large attendance, including a number of foreign ladies and gentlemen. Miss Nuiko, the daughter of Mr. Nakahashi, the President of the Osaka Shosen Kaisha, christened the vessel, which glided down the slip without the slightest hitch. After the launch, refreshments were served, and in the course of the proceedings Mr. Kawasaki called for three "banzai" for the O.S.K., Mr. Nakahashi responding with cheers for the Dockyard. The new vessel is of 6,000 tons, with a speed of 16 knots. She is a sister ship of the *Tacoma Maru* and *Seattle Maru* which were also built at the Kawasaki Dockyard and have proved very successful.

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KOREA.

Friday, October 29.

In Korea it has been decided by the Court to abandon the festivities which would have been held on the 30th inst. to celebrate the birthday of the Empress.

The sorrow inspired by the assassination seems to be genuinely felt in the ranks of the Il Ching-hoi, but the Dai Han Kyo-kai is said not to have shown any sign whatever, though it would perhaps be unjust to conclude that this silence signifies approval of the assassin's deed.

On the afternoon of the 28th inst., the Emperor of Korea repaired in person to the Residency-General to express his profound condolence. His Majesty stated that it was his earnest desire to do everything in his power for consolatory ends, and that he desired to receive the suggestions of the Residency-General. Viscount Sone, in reply, is reported to have expressed a deep sense of the Emperor's sincerity, and to have stated that the Residency-General would leave the matter entirely in the Emperor's hands.

On the 28th inst. an Imperial Decree was issued in Seoul containing a lengthy and most laudatory notice of the career of the late Prince, so far as it had been connected with Korea. His wise and liberal measures were eulogised, as was also his care for the Prince Imperial. The Decree concluded by conferring on the deceased Prince the posthumous title of Bunchu (learned and loyal), which is the title given to Li Hung-chang. Prince Wi is to attend the obsequies as the Emperor's Representative, and the ex-Emperor and the Government will send officials of high rank. The Court has further decided to offer a sum of 30,000 *yen* as consolatium (*choshi*). National mourning for three days has been ordered.

The Emperor of Korea has addressed to the Emperor of Japan an autograph letter expressing profoundest sorrow for the untoward event, and lamenting especially that the hand of a Korean subject should have perpetrated such a crime.

The news to day does not at all confirm the suspicions current yesterday as to the complicity of the Pyongyang literati. It is to be expected, of course, that all sorts of rumours and conjectures will be circulated with regard to this unhappy affair, but the best plan will be to withhold credence.

The Korean Prince Imperial, whose grief for the loss of his friend and almost father seems to be most sincere, suspended all his studies after the receipt of the news. But the Emperor of Japan has addressed to him a letter, which while, sympathising fully with his sorrow, reminds him that he is now at an important stage of his educational career, and advises him to continue his studies, as a suitable Grand Tutor will shortly be appointed in Prince Ito's place.

The action taken by the Japanese journalists of Seoul has been already described. These gentlemen seem to think that it is their legitimate function to add to the popular excitement at this juncture. We are sorry to learn that a similar attitude has been adopted by the journalists of Fusan. They have signed a memorial calling for what they entitle *saigo no danko*; that is to say, the final carrying out of a stalwart policy towards Korea. A mass meeting of the Japanese residents in Fusan is also spoken of.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* says that whatever share the Pyongyang literati may have had in the assassination, the investigations hitherto conducted seem to show that more direct responsibility rests with the anti-Japanese clique in Vladivostock, among whom a prominent member is Yong Yongun, whol was one of those engaged in the assassination of Mr. Stevens, and who managed to elude the police of San Francisco and to effect his escape scot-free. It is thought that the investigations now in progress will reveal the roots of this conspiracy. Meanwhile some concern is caused by the undisguised display of satisfaction which the murder of Prince Ito has evoked among the youthful generation of Seoul. Children do but reflect the opinions of their elders, and the mood shown by school boys may generally be taken as a true index of the mood of their parents.

The *Asahi Shimbun* says that the anti-Japanese party in Korea is widely ramified. It has associates in San Francisco, Hawaii, Vladivostock, Pyongyang and elsewhere; and in all of these places newspapers are published which devote themselves to slandering and abusing the Japanese, and to representing them in the most hateful light. Our Tokyo contemporary quotes in detail several of the declarations made by these incendiary journals, and shows that they have spared no pains to prevent an amicable understanding between the two nations. The perplexing question is the provenance of funds for carrying on this campaign. That money is supplied from some well-equipped quarter there can not be any doubt, but whoever the financiers are, they have hitherto managed to cover up their traces successfully, though of course suspicion universally points to the hand which has been connected with more than one international complication during the past two or three years.

The great question for the Japanese Government is to devise some means of bringing home to the Korean people a due sense of responsibility for such events as this murder. There need not be, of course, and there ought not to be, any change of the placating policy hitherto pursued; but, on the other hand, the success of that policy would be seriously imperilled if the Koreans received the notion that they can engage in secret plots and resort to savage murders without getting themselves into any trouble. It will be for Japanese statesmen to devise some method of meeting this difficult situation.

The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes an extraordinary story of a scheme devised by the ex-Emperor for the assassination of Prince Ito at a midnight gathering in the Palace on the 30th of last December. Our contemporary alleges that, on receipt of the invitation, the Prince immediately appreciated its ultimate purpose, but nevertheless decided to accept. At the eleventh hour, however, the ex-Emperor gave up the party. We must say that the *Hochi Shimbun's* stories have ceased to inspire much confidence.

The zeal shown by the Russian Authorities in tracing and apprehending the accomplices of the murderer seems to be much appreciated in Japan.

Saturday, October 30.

The Korean Government appears to be sincerely grieved over the incident. It has been decided that Prince Ito shall be treated as a Korean Imperial prince, and that a sum of 100,000 *yen* shall be sent by the Korean Court to his family. Prince Wi, who has left Seoul to represent the Court at the funeral, will take the second place, the first being allotted to the Prince Imperial, who is to be the chief mourner in Korea's behalf.

It is stated that the Emperor of Korea, after visiting the Residency-General to express his condolences, as related in our last issue, repaired to the Palace of the ex-Emperor, and was warned by the latter that as Japan might possibly prefer some very onerous demand in the sequel of this terrible incident, the greatest care should be exercised in approving any memorials addressed to the Throne, or in affixing the Imperial Seal to any document.

The Resident-General is evidently preserving an absolutely negative demeanour. He is simply observing the procedure followed by the Koreans, without offering from his own side the slightest hint of what ought to be done, or vouchsafing any direction in reply to the requests preferred to him. Consulted by Mr. Cho, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, as to the phraseology of the official message to be sent to Japan, Viscount Sone is said to have briefly intimated that this was not a subject upon which he was prepared to give any opinion. This is evidently the wisest demeanour for the Japanese authorities to adopt. If the Koreans are sincerely sorry for the foul crime committed at Harbin, their sorrow will constitute their best guide as to the proper course to be adopted. Nothing that they can do at the instance of an outsider would possess the grace of spontaniety.

Mr. Mano, Head of the Technical Education Bureau, has just returned from Moji to Seoul. He says that, on the one hand, the low-class Japanese in the Korean capital are showing a disposition to treat the Koreans roughly in the excitement caused by the catastrophe; and, on the other hand, there are evidences that the incident furnishes material for rejoicings among a certain section of the Korean nation. The vernacular newspapers maintain a moderate tone, but it appears to be true that the staff of the *Dai Han Mai Il Shimpo* organised a convivial gathering when the news of the assassination reached them. It is alleged that some Koreans talk of making away with Viscount Sone, as a fitting sequel to the murder of Prince Ito, and that the Residency-General is strictly guarded. Nothing more is heard of the rumour that the Emperor of Korea will himself repair to Japan to express his condolences.

A sensational telegram is published by the *Hochi Shimbun* from its Changchun correspondent. It says that, on the 24th of October, 50 Koreans assembled secretly at Hsihokou, which is the railway station immediately south of Harbin. They appointed 15 of their number to shoot Prince Ito through the window of the carriage as he passed, but the Russian protective police got wind of the affair, and arrested three of the men.

It is related by all the Tokyo newspapers that, as far as Changchun Prince Ito was guarded by gendarmes and police attached to his person in compliance with orders from the Governor of Kwantung. Prince Ito always had an aversion to the adoption of any special precaution for his safety, and when he reached Changchun he summoned the officer in command of this body-guard and desired him to withdraw his men, as the party was now about to enter territory policed by Russia. The officer expostulated strongly, pointing out that the guard was attached to the Prince as a mark of respect for his person, and without any reference to the nationality of the territory in which he might happen to be sojourning or travelling. Therefore the commander of the guard earnestly begged to be allowed to continue in the discharge of his function. But Prince Ito remained obdurate, and the guard was sent back. It does not follow, of course, that the persence or absence of the guard influenced the fatal issue. The mistake

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—if mistake it can properly be called—was made when free access to the neighbourhood of the station was extended to Japanese subjects without reflecting that a Korean, wearing Japanese costume or foreign garments, is scarcely distinguishable from a Japanese. The safest plan would have been to exclude everyone not holding a permit, but that is very like the wisdom that follows the event.

A telegram from Harbin announces that Mr. Consul-General Kawakami's wound is progressing favourably and that his condition no longer inspires anxiety.

Sunday, October 31.

Prince Wi Hwa, who was to leave Seoul at 4 a.m. on the 30th ultimo, was suddenly informed by order of the Emperor of Japan that as Prince Ito was only a subject, there did not exist any necessity for the despatch of an Imperial Prince to attend the funeral. This action on the part of Japan has given rise to some rumours. Certain persons are disposed to think that the Emperor's message indicates dissatisfaction with the measures proposed by Korea, and that his Majesty considers that the situation demands a visit from the Sovereign of Korea himself. Others, however, regard the change of programme as casting a reflection on the position held by Prince Ito, and are correspondingly indignant. The Resident General was questioned on the subject by a correspondent of the Tokyo *Asahi*, but he declined to speak. Another correspondent (*Mainichi Dempo*) called on the Korean Prime Minister, and gathered from him explicitly that the message from Japan had distinctly indicated the excessive nature of the step contemplated.

To us the explanation of this incident seems plain enough. No provision will be made at the State funeral of the late Prince for the attendance of Imperial Princes: they will be represented by proxies only. In these circumstances the attendance of a foreign Imperial Prince would create a troublesome complication. Japan of course will not attempt to limit any steps which Korea may desire to take with the object of expressing her profound regret for the terrible incident. Prince Wi Hwa, however, was not coming to express his country's regrets: his purpose was merely to attend the obsequies.

Another incident which is certain to be misconstrued is that the messenger sent by the Emperor of Korea to Dairen with a message of condolence, had his journey virtually for nothing, the officials in charge of the remains being of the opinion that, as no arrangements had been made for the reception of such messages from foreign countries, it would be better to postpone the proceeding. The Korean Envoy then sought permission to view the coffin, and this was of course granted.

It would appear from a report sent by the *Asahi's* correspondent that Mr. Cho, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce in Seoul, being interviewed, has been at considerable pains to point out that Korea can not be held responsible for the deed of this murderous fanatic. He speaks of the great number of Koreans settled in Russian territory and in the United States, as well as other countries, and he insists that the Korean Government can not possibly maintain police surveillance over these people beyond its own borders. England in her dealings with India does not allow herself to depart from the paths of justice and liberality because the hand of the political assassin is occasionally raised against her loyal subjects. There is no reason why Japan should take a harsher view.

We (*Japan Mail*) regard as quite superfluous any apprehension such as that entertained by Mr. Cho. There is not the slightest fear that the untoward event of the 27th of October will induce Japan to change her treatment of Korea. Any step of that nature, even though she were disposed to take it, would be a dishonour to the memory of Prince Ito who would gladly have met his end for the sake of insuring the continuance of his good work. Where there must be no leniency is in dealing with the assassin and his accomplices, and in searching out every possible ramification of the crime. It is perhaps unworthy of the occasion to suggest, and indeed the Japanese themselves need no suggestion, that this opportunity should be utilized rather for the purpose of proving more emphatically to the world the sincerity of Japan's desire to benefit and befriend her neighbour.

Mr. Yu Kilsun, who was educated at the Keiogijuku and who now occupies in Seoul a position corresponding to that of mayor, is coming to Japan with Mr. Cho to attend the funeral. He also has been interviewed by the *Asahi's* correspondent, and he echoes the views of Mr. Cho as to the non-responsibility of the Korean Government. He is quoted as saying, in effect, that there is nothing for Korea to do, and that as she is practically under Japanese direction, any route which she may be desired to take must be indicated to her. At the same time he expresses his own profound sorrow for the great loss his country has sustained, and his conviction that the mass of the Korean people share his sentiment.

With regard to the outrage reported to have taken place at Iwŏn railway station on the 29th ult., later news shows that the dimensions of the incident have been greatly exaggerated. The insurgents who made the attack numbered 100, not 300 as originally stated, and they did not burn any buildings, do any injury to the line or cause any loss of life. Iwŏn is a little place among the hills, and it has already been more than once the scene of similar disturbances.

It would seem, however, that the news of Prince Ito's assassination has inspired the insurgents with new energy, especially in the province of Chhollado. They are said to have re-assembled, to the number of about 1000. Probably these unfortunate people will be again betrayed into acts involving their own wholesale destruction. Everybody must profoundly compassionate the ignorance which impels them to such excesses, and must be correspondingly indignant with the agitators who, from secure places in newspaper offices or other cosy retreats, incite these unhappy folks to rush upon a fruitless fate.

It appears that the centre of the conspiracy which ended in the assassination is likely to be located in Seoul. Three members of the Sokpokhak-hoi have been apprehended, namely, Messrs. Kim, Yi and Choi. The last named person is a graduate of the Meiji Law College, and has of late attracted public attention by advocating the union of the three Korean popular parties. Another leader of the Sokpokhak-hoi is apparently wanted by the police. This is An, who is believed to have conceived and directed the murder of Mr. Stevens. The movements of the above three men attracted the attention of the police, and the arrests followed. But evidently it must be a matter of great difficulty for Japanese detective police to operate successfully in Korea.

Meanwhile the 8 Koreans apprehended by Russian military police are to be handed over to the Japanese authorities at Port Arthur. Seven others have been arrested in the sequel of inquiries prosecuted by the Japanese police with Russian assistance in Harbin. It is stated that most of the Korean inhabitants of Harbin, fearing to be implicated in the trouble, have absconded.

Monday, November 1.

The arrest has been effected of Yi, founder of the Sokpohhak-hoi, who is supposed to have been implicated in the assassination of Prince Ito. On the other hand, Choi, one of the leaders of this Association, who was apprehended on the same suspicion, has been released after examination.

The true name of the assassin is at last telegraphed. It is An Eungchhil. His examination is said to have shown that he regarded with jealous delight the murderers of Mr. Stevens, and that he had long hoped to emulate their example. Correspondents of Tokyo newspapers not unnaturally telegraph mysterious statements as to the ramifications of the plot and the headquarters of the plotters, which some locate in Vladivostock and others in Seoul. It is hinted also that there is a potent wire-puller behind the scenes, but for such a suspicion the public must have been prepared. So far as we can gather from the news hitherto received, An appears to be a sort of fanatical demagogue. During the past two years he has been ingratiating himself with the Korean workmen at Vladivostock and Harbin, and has been labouring for the formation of a Russo Korean association, his idea being apparently to free his country from Japanese bonds by delivering her over to Russian shackles. This is very characteristic of the Korean agitator. He apparently lacks the elementary faculty of discriminating between King Log and King Stork.

An attempt seems to have been made in Seoul, even by the Authorities themselves, to prove that the assassin is a naturalized Russian subject, and that therefore he ought to be handed over to Russian jurisdiction. Investigation has demonstrated the untruth of this assertion. The man is a native of Anju in Pyongando, and although he has passed a considerable time at Vladivostock and Harbin, he never took any steps to obtain naturalization. His Korean sympathisers probably think that he might fare better at the hands of Russian judges than at the hands of Japanese. It is an undiscerning thought. If any mercy is to be shown to the assassin, the Japanese are the only persons to show it. Russian judges could not and would not listen to any plea. On the other hand, Japanese judges, or rather the Emperor, with whom lies the prerogative of confirming or mitigating a sentence of death, will probably be inclined to think that in the interest of peace and good order it would be best not to execute this fanatic. To take his life would be to elevate him to the pedestal of a martyr, and the principle that the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church, holds good essentially in such cases. When the mad policeman, Tsuda Sanzo, made his attempt upon the life of the Czarevitch at Otsu, there was a good deal of dissatisfaction in certain quarters because the man did not receive capital punishment. But, in truth, penal servitude for life was a much wiser sentence. It removed him quietly out of the range of public vision and consigned him for the rest of his life to the obscurity of the prison cell and the chain gang. Had his life been taken, his tomb would now be an object of pilgrimage, as is that of

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Kurushima Tsuneki and that of Nishino Buntaro. We sincerely trust that if the Korean murderer has accomplices, as seems very probable, they will be apprehended, but we also hope that whatever is proved against them, they will not be sent to the gallows, since by that procedure their crime would be hallowed in the eyes of their fellow fanatics.

From Seoul comes news that the Emperor and ex-Emperor will both repair to the Residency-General to convey their condolences on the day of the State funeral.

Newspaper correspondents in the capital telegraph in disquieting tones. They say that the deed achieved by An has again ignited the spark of insurrection in Korea, and that signs of renewed trouble are making themselves apparent. But inasmuch as no indication is given with regard to the nature of these signs or the evidences of their existence, they may possibly be connected, in part at any rate, with the apprehensions of the correspondents themselves. The only indication of unrest that we can discern is the indefinite postponement of Lieut.-General Baron Okubo's projected visit to Tokyo, and even that is not very conclusive, for in the presence of such an event the Commander-in chief would be likely to remain at his post, whether danger threatens or does not threaten.

The *Mainichi Dempo* is convinced that there are a number of desperadoes in Korea who have formed themselves into secret leagues, and who, believing that their country's doom is sealed, are seeking to invest the tragedy with a lurid atmosphere. They know well that they can accomplish nothing useful, but they are instigated by the hope of wreaking some vengeance on the objects of their political hatred. Our Tokyo contemporary urges that most drastic steps should be taken to search out these plotters and to check their mischievous propensities with a stern hand.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, while ridiculing the notion that this event will lead to any change whatever in Japan's policy towards Korea, nevertheless advises that an example should be furnished of Japan's power to unravel and deal effectually with the machinations of all sanguinary conspirators. Our contemporary advises a reorganisation of the police force, and doubtless whatever may be necessary in that direction has already suggested itself to the authorities.

Tuesday, November 2.

On the night of the 31st ultimo a man named Chong was apprehended at Asan, and is reported to be a ringleader of the insurgents. Considerable importance seems to be attached to his apprehension. Asan, frequently written "Yashan," will be remembered as the place where the first encounter occurred between Japanese and Chinese troops in the War of 1894.

In two of the leading Tokyo journals we find a statement of the numbers of the insurgents during the year ended the 1st inst., and of their losses in the various expeditions undertaken against them. The total number of the insurgents is put in these accounts at 31,405, and during the past 12 months they came into collision with Japanese soldiers or gendarmes 976 times, with the result that the insurgents had 3,098 killed, 367 wounded, and 3,055 made prisoners. As to the insurgents captured during the recent Watanabe campaign in Cuhollado, the accounts differ, but on the whole it would seem that a number of them are likely to be released under pledge of future good conduct.

The Japanese have closed their station in Chientao, and the whole of the gendarmes attached to it will have left the region by the 3rd inst.

THE IMPERIAL BIRTHDAY.

The Birthday Review took place as usual at Aoyama in Tokyo. The troops that paraded were two Divisions, a force of about 16,000 of all arms. It 9 a.m. his Majesty reached the field and immediately inspected the lines, Lord Kitchener and his staff accompanying. Beautiful weather favoured the occasion. The march past was completed by 10.30 a.m., under the command-in-chief of H.I.H. Prince Fushimi. The Emperor then repaired to the Palace, where audience was given to the members of the Foreign Corps Diplomatique, the Ministers of State and other notables. Luncheon was served in the *Homei-den*. His Majesty used the stereotyped terms in proposing the health of the Crowned Heads and Chief Magistrates of the Treaty Powers. The Prime Minister replied on behalf of the Cabinet and his countrymen, and the British Ambassador replied for the Foreign Sovereigns, his speech being translated into Japanese by Chief Chamberlain Count Toda. The Emperor retired at a little after 1 o'clock. The number of persons who had the honour to be present at luncheon was 690. This was his Majesty's fifty-ninth birthday.

Among the appointments and promotions made on the occasion, the most noteworthy was the raising of the Prince Imperial to the rank of Lieutenant-General.

Lord Kitchener's first presentation to the Emperor took place on the parade-ground.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs gave the usual Birthday Banquet at the official residence in Kasumigaseki to the members of the Cabinet and the Foreign Representatives. In deference to the memory of Prince Ito, there was no music, and the Ball which on ordinary occasions follows the banquet, was dispensed with.

A SENSATION.

The *Yomiuri Shimbun* promises its readers a sensation. The prefatory story is this:—On the day when he announced the organization of the *Seiyu-kai*, Prince Ito submitted to the Emperor a statement reviewing the relations between political parties and constitutional government; the relations between himself and the *Seiyu-kai*, and the relations between the functions of the offices he held and his connexion with political parties. This document has of course remained in the hands of his Majesty without being communicated to the public, but the draft of it was unaccountably lost, and although every possible effort was made by Prince Ito to trace and recover it, its whereabouts was never made clear. The *Yomiuri* now claims to have come in possession of this original, and promises to publish it on the day of the Prince's funeral. Doubtless our contemporary imagines that the prime business of a newspaper is to entertain its readers, and that no consideration of prudence or propriety should be allowed to interfere with that fine ambition. But to folks who have not been inoculated with the journalistic virus, it will appear that Prince Ito's memorial belongs to those from whom it was originally pilfered, and that to publish it without their permission is to constitute oneself a receiver of stolen goods. But does a genuine document of the kind exist, or did it ever exist?

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

Friday, October 29.

According to Tokyo newspapers the negotiations for municipalization are proceeding steadily but very secretly. Evidently the idea is that public opinion, as expressed by a certain class of journals, is to be kept at arm's length as far as possible. The *Kokumin Shimbun* has a leading article advocating the expediency of municipalization. Experience, it says, has amply shown that such an enterprise can not satisfactorily be left in private hands. There are opponents of municipalization, and they make a great clamour, but at the same time they are careful to refrain from giving their reasons. They denounce the Company and they dispute the City's capacity, so that the upshot of their contention is zero.

Saturday, October 30.

All the Tokyo newspapers agree in saying that the negotiations for municipalization are progressing favourably and that an agreement is believed to have been reached, though 9 or 10 days will probably be needed before it can be openly announced. The *Nippon* and the *Jiji* both agree in saying that the price paid by the City will be somewhere between 82 and 84 *yen* per share, and this being handed over in 5 per cent. bonds would mean from 73.80 *yen* to 75.60 *yen* of ready money. The *Nippon*, however, adds, that this arrangement involves leaving to this Company all the funds already in its possession, which would mean a further payment of about 12 *yen* per share to the shareholders. We do not believe the latter part of the story.

Monday, November 1.

Again the Tokyo newspapers are full of conjectures about the fate of the Tokyo Railway, but so far as we can learn the true facts are that whereas the Company puts its lowest selling price at 81 *yen* net per share, which figure has the consent of the Municipality, the Government considers that the maximum price ought to be 76.50 per share. There is an interval here which it may not be possible to bridge. The Company certainly seems to be receiving somewhat unjust treatment. Were it allowed to charge a reasonable price for its services, its shares would now be quoted in the market at fully 90 *yen*. But by refusing to allow it to charge a reasonable price, the Government has produced a heavy depreciation of the shares, and now proposes that they should be sold to the City at that depreciated price. It is a curious mixture of sentiment and business.

Tuesday, November 2.

Again to-day the Tokyo newspapers devote a large portion of their space to conflicting rumours and opinions about the progress of the negotiations for the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway. We refrain from reproducing the details of these comments, as they would only bewilder our readers. We ourselves believe the facts to be very simple; namely, that while the Municipality and the Company would have no difficulty in making such mutual concessions as would lead to an immediate agreement, the Government is disposed to insist on still better terms for the City. This might have been, and doubtless was, anticipated from the outset. We have very little doubt that a *via media* will be found.

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THE LATE PRINCE ITO.

Dr. Koyama, who accompanied Prince Ito on the recent fatal tour to Manchuria, has given information as to the nature of the wounds sustained by the Prince. It appears that all three were fatal. The first pierced the right arm near the shoulder and continued its course close under the armpit through the lungs and almost to the opposite side of the body. The second entered the same arm in the vicinity of the elbow, and passed thence through the body below the heart, but did not emerge from the other side. The third grazed the fingers of the right hand and made its way through the intestines, emerging at the opposite side. One fact made plain by these bullets is that the assassin was singularly expert in the use of his pistol. It is true that he was firing at short range, but, nevertheless, his target was only the depth of his victim's body, and every bullet fired by him may be said to have reached the central line.

From the same authority we learn that the bleeding was almost entirely internal. When the corpse was examined, a blood-stain about as large as the circumference of a teacup was found on the white shirt worn by the deceased. There was no external visible bleeding whatever. The bullets were not extracted, as there was no occasion to mutilate the body, but their locality was clearly ascertained. The bullet extracted from the foot of Mr. Tanaka was found to be half an inch in length, and about the thickness of a man's little finger. The point had been grooved in the shape of a cross in order to give dum-dum efficiency.

With regard to the injuries sustained by Consul-General Kawakami, the telegraph reports that he is mending. Mr. Mori accompanied the Prince's remains to Tokyo, and is now in the Red Cross Hospital. His wound also is doing well.

Mr. Mori is quoted as saying that Prince Ito showed not the slightest symptom of suffering. He merely said "I am badly hit," and asked for some brandy. When informed that his assassin was a Korean, he nodded in a way that showed his previous appreciation of the fact.

The Emperor is showing how deeply he has been pained by the death of this beloved and revered Minister. Immediately after the arrival of the remains at Reinazaka, an Imperial Chamberlain repaired to that place, bearing a document in which his Majesty expressed the profoundest grief for the loss of such an able subject. It is stated that another Chamberlain was to be despatched on the 2nd inst., bearing the usual funeral offering. Of course, the formal rescript detailing the services of the deceased will not be published until the day of the funeral.

The Prince's title will descend to his eldest son by adoption, Mr. Ito Yukichi, whose second name was recently changed to Hirokuni; and the Emperor has been pleased to confer the title of Baron on the second son by adoption, namely, Mr. Ito Bunkichi, who is now an official in the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. Our readers are doubtless aware that in Japan a title of nobility descends to the eldest son only, the younger sons being regarded purely as commoners. This grant of a baronetcy to Prince Ito's second son is therefore a very exceptional measure. Such a course has hitherto been pursued in the case of three families only, namely, the Tokugawa, the Satsuma and the Choshu.

General Kawamura is to have command of the troops which will parade on the occasion of the funeral.

The British Ambassador in Tokyo is said to have received instructions from his Government to attend the funeral as the Representative of the King. This very exceptional step has apparently produced a great impression in Japan.

The Czar has instructed the Embassy in Tokyo to place a wreath on the Prince's coffin.

In an extra of the *Official Gazette*, issued on the 1st inst., his Majesty the Emperor announced that what is called the *haicho* shall be observed on the day of the obsequies. This means that, on that day, his Majesty will not take part in the Government of the State, and that all sounds of revelry or merriment will be hushed within the precincts of the Palace.

On the eve of his departure for Manchuria, Prince Ito is said to have had some conversation with his second son, Bunkichi, the gist of which is published by the *Chuo Shimbun*. His Highness is made to say that in visiting Manchuria he had in view all questions relating to the Residency-General, to China, to the Anglo-Japanese Alliance and to Russia. His purpose was to hear everything that could be advanced with reference to these topics, and thus to collect material for future guidance. With regard to the Russian Minister of Finance, the Prince did not intend to open any discussion with him, but was prepared to reply fully to any questions which his Excellency might propound.

In connexion with his son's projected trip to Europe, Prince Ito is said to have given some instructions characteristic of his sagacity. He pointed out that no amount of learning could be of much use unless it were accompanied by good health. A man's first duty therefore was to take care of his body. As for erudition, it should always be remembered that what one reads in books or hears in lecture halls is only a part of what one needs to know. Such learning must be supplemented by observation of men and things. Everybody that one meets in passing through life, every incident that one encounters, is an element of instruction and to profit by that instruction constitutes wisdom. In everything relating to society and its many problems there were two aspects to be considered, and nothing was more essential than to view the problems of life from every standpoint and never to fall into the error of imagining that to look at one side could suffice. It was in this quality of careful analysis that Occidentals were particularly rich and Orientals conspicuously poor. Extremes were to be avoided in everything, and a man should take for his chief guides sobriety and common sense. If a man thought to serve his country he must always be prepared to sacrifice his life on the altar of his cause. "I often wonder myself," said the Prince, "that my life has been spared for so long. If you intend to follow my example you must be inspired by a similar sentiment of resignation. Never harbour a spirit of reliance. Never depend on the strength of others. Always look to your own efforts only."

THE INTERNATIONAL PRESS ASSOCIATION AND PRINCE ITO.

In connection with the tragic death of Prince Ito, the International Press Association of Japan despatched, on October 27th, Mr. M. Tsuchiya to present condolences to the bereaved family in Oiso and deputed Mr. K. Mochizuki to meet the late great statesman's coffin in Yokosuka on its arrival at Yokosuka on Monday morning. Captain F. Brinkley and Mr. I. Takutomi also drew up a letter of condolence in English and Japanese. It was signed by the members of the Association. Messrs. K. Minoura and J. R. Kennedy repaired to the late Prince's residence in Reinanzaka, Tokyo, on Tuesday morning and presented it. The following is the text:—

The Members of the International Press Association of Japan respectfully desire to place on record their profound sense of sorrow for the death of the illustrious Prince Ito and to tender their heartfelt condolences to his Highness' bereaved family.

Representing, as they do, many schools of thought, the members of the International Press Association differ more or less in their interpretation of social and political problems. But there is no shadow of difference in the degrees of respect they bear to the memory of a statesman whose aspirations were of the noblest, whose endowments were of the highest, and whose achievements were of the most brilliant. Prince Ito not only laid his own country but the whole world under a lasting debt of gratitude. If at home he toiled unceasingly for the promotion of liberal progress and the attainment of Constitutional ideas, abroad he worked unswervingly in the interests of peace and universal brotherhood. We revere his memory, not merely or mainly because he contributed so largely to his country's national greatness, but because his constant devotion to the cause of international justice and good faith won for Japan the respect and confidence of the nations. His Highness fell a victim to the blind fanaticism of a man whose country possessed no truer friend or more substantial benefactor. Yet such was the nobility of Prince Ito's character that, though he had foreseen this fate, he would not have abated anything of his benevolence towards Korea, and we hereby record our conviction that the best tribute Japan can pay to the memory of her revered statesman is to adhere to the policy he himself pursued undeviatingly.

THE KATSURAGAWA HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY.

This Company is said to have been at last formed with a capital of 6½ millions of *yen*, 2 millions of which will be taken up by the Yasuda Bank. The power-station will be at a point on the Katsura-gawa about 2½ miles above the power station of the Tokyo Electric Light Company.

It is stated that the formation of this Company will become an accomplished fact in the early part of December. The possibility of floating the enterprise has evidently depended largely upon assistance rendered by the Yasuda Bank; for not only does the latter take 2 million *yen* worth of shares on its own account, but it also promises to finance the remaining shares to the extent of 10 *yen* per share. Thus, supposing the shares to have a face-value of 50 *yen*, and observing that one-fourth has to be paid up before the Company acquires legal assistance, it follows that each shareholder will have to pay in only 2½ *yen*. This is the method of financing which is said to have been followed some years ago in the case of the Shigai (City) Railway by the same Bank, at the instance of Mr. Amenomiya. The Company's project is to obtain 28,000 h.p. delivered in Tokyo.

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THE OBSEQUIES OF PRINCE ITO.

Friday, October 29.

There was evidently some hesitation about fixing the date for the obsequies of Prince Ito. The 4th was originally thought of, but that being the day immediately following the Imperial Birthday, there was much difficulty in carrying out the necessary arrangements. The 5th was then considered, but the 5th had been already fixed for the Emperor's departure from Tokyo to attend the manœuvres. Thus, in fine, the 4th is said to have been decided upon. The cortege will leave the official residence at Reinanzaka on the morning of that day at 9 o'clock, and will proceed at once to Hibiya Park where the ceremony will take place. Ground for a special cemetery measuring 1,200 *tsubo* has been chosen under Marquis Inouye's direction within seven or eight hundred yards of the late Prince's Omori villa (Onshikwan). The ground is said to have a rivulet at its foot, and to command a beautiful view. In ordinary circumstances the military display on such an occasion would be limited to half a Division (5,000 men), but by special order of the Emperor the whole of the First Division and a part of the Guards will attend on this occasion.

There will also be a family funeral on the same day at the temple Zojoji, in Shiba Park, but it will be attended by only the relatives of the deceased.

Sunday, October 31.

It has now been definitely fixed that the the funeral cortege will set out from the Reinanzako official residence at 9 a.m., on the 4th inst. and will take a route passing in front of the German Embassy and descending the hill, Kasumigaseki, thus entering the Park from the west gate. There will be three days cessation of administrative work, and all the public schools throughout the Empire will be closed on the 4th inst.

Monday, November 1.

It is announced, as indeed might have been expected, that no carriages or vehicles of any kind will be permitted to join the funeral cortège between the official residence at Reinanzaka and Hibiya Park. This precaution is obviously essential, for otherwise the crowd of vehicles would have been so enormous as to have extended to a length much greater than the distance between Reinanzaka and Hibiya. On the other hand, as the vast majority of the mourners will necessarily proceed to Reinanzaka in carriages, jinrikshas or motor cars, and as they will desire to re-enter their conveyances after the ceremony at Hibiya, it will be a difficult question to dispose of the vehicles conveniently.

Meanwhile 1,200 workmen are engaged day and night erecting buildings in Hibiya Park for the accommodation of those who assemble to pay a last tribute to the memory of the deceased. We are not yet in a position to state what arrangements will be made for assigning to the mourners their appropriate places, but doubtless all this will be known in due time. We may, however, take the opportunity of stating, since there seems to be some misunderstanding on the subject, that in the case of a State funeral notices and invitations are generally not sent out.

It is alleged that the number of letters of condolence received by the family of the Prince numbered 97,000 up to the evening of the 30th ultimo.

Wednesday, November 3.

On the afternoon of the 2nd inst. his Majesty the Emperor caused to be conveyed by the hand of the Chamberlain Viscount Hojo to the official residence of the late Prince Ito a document technically known as *ruiji*, which Chinese expression signifies a statement of the career of the deceased, a eulogy of his services and an expression of sorrow for his fate. These Imperial Rescripts are generally couched in such extremely classical terms that to translate them accurately is almost impossible. The Rescript in question sets out by lauding the exertions of the late Prince and his steadfastness of purpose in restoring the administration to the Throne; it speaks of his courage in braving all dangers and in assisting the great plans of the State with unfailing ardour; it alludes in warm terms of approval to his compiling of the Constitution, which it describes as an unchanging law; it speaks of his having acted as a guide to Korea and having established a perennial relation between Japan and that country; it calls him the right hand of the Emperor and a pillar of State; it belauds his loyalty and his impartiality; it refers to the high place won by the deceased in the eyes of his countrymen, and it concludes by an expression of profound regret for the untoward fate which overtook him.

The Empress also sent a Master of Ceremonies, and the Crown Prince himself repaired to the official residence to tender his condolences, as did also the Korean Prince Imperial.

The German Emperor has ordered Count Montgelas to represent his Majesty at the funeral.

It appears that the tomb of the Prince at Tanidare, in Oimura district, will partake somewhat of the character of a *misasagi*. A mound measuring 30 yds by 9 and having a height of 2½ feet will be thrown up, and in the middle there will be a species of shrine, under which at a depth of 15 feet, there will be a vault made of stone and concrete.

An extra of the *Official Gazette* published on the 1st instant directs that all persons attending the funeral shall wear the following costume:—Men—full uniform with all orders shown in the case of civil or military officials; and evening dress with white tie and white gloves, bands of crepe round the hat and the left arm and no overcoat, in the case of private individuals. Ladies—Japanese ceremonial costume with scarlet trousers, or foreign costume, namely, black dress, black gloves, black hat, black parasol, etc.

Of course these orders as to costume being perfectly impossible of observance in the case of all men who do not enjoy robust health and in the case of all women who are without a black dress, the number of those attending the funeral will be necessarily reduced to a very petty fraction of those who desire to attend. We can not express too strongly our regret that by this action on the part of the Imperial Household Department the universal expression of the people's mourning will be confined within comparatively narrow limits.

It is further announced that mourners will not be allowed access to the compound of the official residence on Reinanzaka. Those who attend at the departure of the cortège are to assemble in the precincts of the Okura Commercial School, and will subsequently be accommodated at the Houses of the Diet. This appears to apply to all persons having titles or Orders of the 3rd Class or upwards.

Thursday, November 4.

No funeral on such a scale had ever previously taken place in Tokyo as was that of Prince Ito on the 4th inst. The nation's heart had gone out similarly to Marquis Okubo, when he fell under the swords of assassins 31 years ago, and the State had done what it could to honour his memory. But Tokyo was not then what it is now, nor were the same materials for display available. At Prince Ito's obsequies nearly the whole garrison of the capital turned out, some 15,000 of all arms, cavalry, artillery and infantry; and the same may be said of the huge population, who thronged the streets so closely that at the height of the ceremony movement in any direction was almost impossible. This immense concourse of spectators, an ocean of heads in every direction; this extraordinary parade of troops, and the appearance in public of an assemblage comprising the nation's greatest men, in full uniform, were the most striking features of the celebration. A Shinto funeral can not be invested with any elements of imposing splendour or converted into any semblance of a glittering pageant. Everything is pure, simple and austere. From the *sakaki* trees which, with their long white tresses move in front of the bier, to the snow-white catafalque of spotless timber, relieved only by gilt mountings, there is an entire absence of barbaric gorgeousness. If we suppose two long columns of troops moving in marching order and leaving between them a space, in the centre of which a catafalque, shaped like a *Shinto* shrine, is borne on the shoulders of officials robed in slate-blue cotton, while before the catafalque move two lines of similarly robed officials carrying *sakaki* trees, while behind follow bearers of the deceased's numerous orders and decorations, on cushions of blank satin; then the chief mourners, including Representatives of the Emperor, Empress and Crown Prince; then all the great Generals and Admirals of the Empire; then all the high officials, everybody wearing full uniform; then the ordinary mourners, and finally a number of splendid wreaths sent by the Sovereigns and Governments of the Occident—if we suppose all this, we have the whole pageant before our eyes. Leaving the official residence on Reinanzaka at 9 a.m. punctually, the head of the cortège, taking the road to the German Embassy and afterwards moving down Kasumigaseki, reached the south-eastern corner of Hibiya Park at 9.40 a.m. The whole procession measured about 3 miles in length, and this length, it must be noted, did not include a vehicle of any sort or any contingent of outside mourners. Forty-five minutes were needed for the procession to pass that point. Thence turning northward, the head of the cortège moved along the east side of the park, and finally entered by the main gate. Within the park two long parallel lines of buildings had been erected, leaving a broad avenue between. Up this avenue the cortège moved, the troops filing off to right and left, and leaving the catafalque to advance alone. At the southern end of the avenue the catafalque was laid in a shrine specially built for the purpose, and thereafter litanies and messages of threnody and eulogy were read, one being from the Emperor himself. Then commenced the burning of incense before the shrine, a lengthy process in which all the mourners present take part, one by one. At the head of the procession of incense-burners were to be seen the Ambassadors of England, Russia and Germany, who had been specially commissioned to represent their respective sovereigns on the occasion. All this ceremonial was not finished until 1 p.m. Thereafter the catafalque was again raised and borne out of the

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park, this time passing through the southern gate, the troops which had previously marched in the rear now forming the van of the procession. Thus the cortège took its road to Omori, where a special tomb had been prepared on an eminence commanding a beautiful prospect in all directions, and looking over to the deceased's favourite villa, the Onshikan. It need scarcely be said that every detail of the ceremony had been carefully thought out beforehand, and that all the arrangements were perfect. The huge crowd was remarkable for its silence: each of its units seemed to be conscious of the solemnity of the occasion.

THE LAST MOMENTS OF PRINCE ITO.

Mr. Murota, a member of the House of Peers, who was one of Prince Ito's suite, and who has just returned to Shimonoseki, furnishes some details of Prince Ito's last moments. It appears that the assassin was still engaged discharging his weapon when a Russian officer sprang upon him and threw him to the ground. Prince Ito was perfectly composed. He remarked, "I have certainly been struck by three bullets," but he did not utter any exclamation of pain, nor did he fall. On the contrary he was able to walk about 30 yards, as far as the station, though of course he had to be assisted by members of his suite. Arrived at the station and being informed that his assailant was a Korean, he remarked, "what a fool the man must be!" He then asked for brandy and partook of it twice, but immediately afterwards his body broke into cold perspiration and he fainted. He never recovered consciousness and died within 30 minutes. The Russian Minister of Finance showed the greatest possible sympathy. He kneeled down beside the wounded man and made no attempt to conceal his profound solicitude.

Mr. Murota's account shows that it was incorrect to state that after being carried to the railway carriage the Prince gave directions about his affairs. He died in the station and was carried to the railway carriage a corpse. A number of physicians appeared to be in immediete attendance, but of course their aid was ineffectual. Death was primarily due to internal hemorrhage resulting from the bullet which pierced the lungs. Mr. Murota thinks that more than one assassin took part in the firing. There were about 30 or 40 Japanese present, and as most of them wore foreign costume, it was perfectly easy for the murderer to take his place amongst them unnoticed.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE ASSASSINATION.

Translation of a telegram addressed to the Russian Ambassador in Tokyo by Mr. Kokovtzov, the Russian Minister of Finance.

Harbin, October 26.

To-day at 9.15 a.m. on the arrival of Prince Ito at Harbin, His Excellency, having alighted from his car, passed, together with me and the local Russian authorities, before the front of the guard of honour. When he came to the group of civil authorities and foreign Consuls, a man with a Browning pistol fired, from behind the backs of the latter group, several shots by which the Prince was mortally wounded. At the same time Mr. Tanaka was wounded slightly in the leg, Consul-General Kawakami severely but not dangerously, and Mr. Mori slightly.

The murderer, who appears to be a Korean, was arrested, and, being questioned, stated that he came to Harbin specially to kill Prince Ito, to avenge the wrongs done to his country, and also because Prince Ito, he said, had sentenced to death several of his relatives. He declared, further, that he was happy to have succeeded in accomplishing his criminal intention. The plot was evidently prearranged; yesterday at the station Dziadziagow (?) our police arrested three suspicious Koreans armed with Browning pistols. Consul-General Kawakami asked the Russian railway police to let all the Japanese subjects freely the enclosure of the Harbin station, and it was absolutely impossible to distinguish the murderer as a Korean and not a Japanese.

All the Russian authorities were quite as dangerously placed, and I myself, during the murderous attack, was at the side of the Prince and much nearer to him than the Japanese gentlemen who were wounded.

Along the whole course of the Russian railway every honour is given to the body of the Prince; the Russian Minister in Peking accompanies it to Changchun, and the Russian Diplomatic Representatives at Mukden will meet the train.

I would be thankful to you to transmit to the Japanese Government my profound condolence, which is the more sincere as my conversation with His Excellency before we left the car was of the most friendly and sympathetic character.

MR. KURACHI.

It is stated that Mr. Kurachi, Head of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office, has been ordered to proceed to Port Arthur. There are various rumours about the purport of his mission, but we take it that he is going merely to observe the political aspects of the trial which will soon take place at Port Arthur.

A section of the Japanese public persists in believing that the visit of Mr. Kurachi to Manchuria is for the purpose of taking up the threads which Prince Ito's hands would have unravelled. Confirmation of this idea is found in the fact that Mr. Shirane, Civil Governor of the Leased Territory, has just paid a hurried visit to Tokyo, and that Mr. Kurachi's movements were arranged so as to enable him to return to Dairen in company with Mr. Shirane. It does not seem to matter in the slightest degree to the holders of this view that the Russian Minister of Finance has already left Harbin, and that any conference between him and Mr. Kurachi is therefore out of the question. Nor does it matter to them that the Japanese authorities emphatically deny any such object and declare that Mr. Kurachi's journey is connected solely with the investigation of the assassination. A very plausible theory had been formed about Prince Ito's movements. That theory was that in view of the suspicions entertained in Europe and America as to Japan's intentions in Manchuria, nothing seemed more desirable than a clearer understanding between Russia and Japan as to the attitude of each Power in the Three Eastern Provinces. Prince Ito's journey to Harbin was undertaken to promote such an understanding. That is the hypothesis, and certain Tokyo journals cling to it obstinately in spite of all official contradictions. For our own part we do not believe that Prince Ito had any definite diplomatic mission whatever. A meeting between a statesman of his calibre and a Russian Cabinet Minister could not have failed to produce some useful results, but that is about all that can be said.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

The action of Russian officials and Russian subjects in connexion with the death of Prince Ito seems to have produced an excellent impression in Japan. The expressions of sorrow from Vladivostock, from Harbin, from St. Petersburg, and in fact from all important centres in Russia, have been so emphatic as to leave no doubt of their authors' sincerity. It appears to have been generally anticipated among the Russian people that Prince Ito's meeting with M. Kokovtzeff could not have failed to favourably influence the relations between the two Powers, and the horror caused by the assassination is supplemented by regret that such a desirable end was not attained. It is stated that the Russian authorities in Vladivostock are adopting drastic measures with regard to the Korean suspects who reside in that city. In this context it may be mentioned that the Russian newspapers of Harbin have an idea that Count Okuma will be despatched to St. Petersburg to carry out the policy which would have been followed by Prince Ito in Manchuria. The *Jiji Shimpo's* information from Harbin is that the Russian papers in that town had looked for great results from Prince Ito's meeting with the Finance Minister, and had found warrant for their belief in the fact that foreign officials and correspondents from all quarters were flocking to the city. The same journals allege that English public opinion was most favourably disposed towards the conference.

RUMOURS.

It seems to be pretty generally believed both in America and Europe that Prince Ito had some important mission to perform in in connexion with his journey to Manchuria. A German telegram speaks of the Russian Minister of Finance remaining in Harbin until Japan despatches a substitute for the Prince, and French journals speak of the imminence of some important Russo-Japanese arrangement. It must be confessed that all appearances combined to furnish food for such a theory; but for our own part we believe that the whole matter may be summed up by saying that Prince Ito was too big a man to escape attention, whatever he did. That his meeting with the Russian Minister of Finance and with the railway authorities in Harbin would have promoted the good understanding between Japan and Russia, may be granted, but that it was intended to prelude any special international arrangement is, we think, a pure conjecture.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The returns of Japan's foreign trade for the last 11 days of October are as follow:—

	Yen.
Exports	12,251,000
Imports	7,600,000
Excess of exports	4,651,000

The figures for the first ten months of the year are these:—

		Compared with the corresponding period of 1908. Yen.
Exports	326,787,000	+19,634,000
Imports	333,220,000	−43,806,000
Excess of imports	6,433,000	

If this rate continue, it is evident that by the end of December the balance of the trade will be fully redressed.

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THE ASSASSINATION.

Friday, October 29.

There is no satisfactory news this morning as to the condition of the three officials who were wounded at the time of the assassination.

The assassin is still in Harbin, awaiting the conclusion of the preliminary examination which has to be deferred until Consul-General Kawakami is able to give evidence. Meanwhile two Japanese judicial officials have proceeded from Port Arthur to Harbin to assist in the enquiry.

It is now stated that ten persons suspected of complicity in the crime have been apprehended. These arrests have been made by the Russian police who are showing themselves very active in the matter. The assassin is said to remain perfectly calm. He claims that his act will inure to the benefit of his country and to the peace of the Far East. It is scarcely credible that such misguided persons should exist, and we fail to see that the fact can be attributed to any more potent cause than the criminal incitement of newspapers which make a martyr of every political assassin. The case of the Spanish criminal Ferrer is very much in point. No honest man can pretend to imagine that in condemning Ferrer to death the Spanish law court had not convincing evidence of his rebellious acts and of his incendiary doings. Yet a section of the press, well illustrated out here by the *Japan Chronicle*, writes as though the man was innocent of everything except the promotion of liberal education, and as though a judicial murder of the most heinous nature had been perpetrated. So long as such false guides are suffered to inflame the elementary passions of human beings, just so long will political crimes of violence continue to be perpetrated.

The remains of the deceased Prince were placed in a coffin on reaching Dairen. Every precaution was adopted to arrest decay. The coffin is said to have been triple and the dimensions of the outer shell were quite exceptional, the length being 7 feet, the width 3 ½ feet and the depth 4 feet. It would evidently be impossible to place such a casket in an ordinary hearse.

We regret to learn that Consul-General Kawakami's condition is not reassuring. An operation of a somewhat grave character has been found necessary, and it is feared that recovery will take some time.

The obsequies are to take place on the 4th inst. The ceremonial will be held in the Hibiya Park, after which the remains will be carried to Omori, and there interred in a special sepulchre. It is thought probable that the Education Department will order the closing of all schools throughout the Empire on the day of the obsequies.

Saturday, October 30.

It has been clearly established that not the smallest ground whatever exists for attributing the assassination of Prince Ito to any carelessness on the part of the Russian police, and the zeal shown by these officials in searching for accomplices supplies a further proof of their diligence. A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* from Harbin says that all Koreans whose demeanour suggests any reason whatever for suspicion are arrested by the Russian police, and subjected to examination.

One of the latest theories is that the assassin is a follower of Yi Pongun, whose name has often been heard as that of the chief of an anti-Japanese band which has been concerned in various unquiet acts on the northern frontier of Chientao, and which has its headquarters at Vladivostock.

Another telegram to the same journal alleges that the Koreans residing in Harbin shows some disposition to resort to extreme measures for the purpose of obtaining the rendition of the assassin, but this story is scarcely credible.

The name of the assassin remains still a matter of uncertainty to outsiders, as it has hitherto been sent out in transliterated form without any ideographs, and its true pronunciation is therefore undeterminable. It is now stated, however, that he is 34 years of age—not 24—and that he was educated at the Catholic School in Chientao, which was closely connected with the Hague incident and therefore with Mr. Hulbert. As this School has very intimate relations with the Sokpokhak-hoi, it may turn out that Seoul was the place where the nefarious plot came into existence. We give this story for what it may be worth, merely adding the comment that any attempt to connect the Roman Catholics with this murder seems to be wholly unjustified. It is not impossible that the assassin was educated at the Chientao School, but that does not mean that he imbibed any of his mad ideas from the teaching he received there.

Tuesday, November 2.

Arrests continue of Koreans suspected to have been implicated in the murder of Prince Ito. One account states that the central figure is a man named Yi, who is believed to have taken a leading part in the Hague-Tribunal conspiracy, and who is prominently anti-Japanese. It is also stated that the true name of the assassin has not yet been ascertained, as he has hitherto been living under aliases, assuming different names in different places. How this is to be reconciled with a long story told about his father's career, we are unable to perceive. In fact, it is quite evident that sensation, rather than well-sifted information, is responsible for many of the rumours at present emanating from Seoul. There is undoubtedly a strong probability that the assassin belonged to the band of miscreants by whom Mr. Stevens was done to death, and there is tolerably valid reason for believing that these men have their headquarters in Vladivostock. But beyond that, no hypothesis seems to be reasonably tenable, as yet. It is confidently alleged that a majority of the Korean nation approves of and rejoices at the assassination, but although Korea can not yet be said to have emerged fully from the shadow of the dark ages, we can not consent to rate the intelligence and morality of her people so low.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* alleges that, in reply to questions addressed to the Russian Authorities, it has been discovered that the murderer and his father, the latter of whom was connected with the Catholic School in Pyongyang, were arrested and imprisoned in 1904 for having instigated a riot on the part of the converts. After their release they repaired to Chientao, but their subsequent movements are obscure. From the same source we learn that the murderer had pledged himself to the committal of the crime by cutting off the little finger of his left hand; and that in the house of a man named Chong, residing in Seoul, there has been found a letter from the assassin saying that the latter was about to undertake a great enterprise.

The *Mainichi Dempo's* Seoul correspondent speaks of great activity on the part of the police and the gendarmes, and predicts that in a very few days important discoveries will be made, and the crime will be traced to its final source.

An anonymous high official is quoted by the *Mainichi Dempo* as saying that the anti-Japanese party in Korea is divided into two sections, namely, the Conservatives and the Progressists. The former consist, for the most part, of old fashioned literati, who fondly recall the days of unlimited sovereignty before the Yi Kings fell under the influence of Western civilization. These men have no special organization, nor any means of asserting themselves dangerously. They can easily be dealt with and, indeed, no great account need be taken of them. The Progressist section is much more formidable. It consists for the most part of comparatively young men, who have received more or less of foreign education, who understand a good deal about international relations and who appreciate the importance of secrecy and organization. They have centres in Vladivostock, Shanghai and San Francisco, all of which places are in constant communication with each other, and being entirely beyond the reach of Japanese jurisdiction, they can carry on their machinations uninterruptedly. These men constitute the real danger, and it is much to be desired that every possible effort should be made to utilize the present opportunity for fathoming their plots.

Wednesday, November 3.

Arrests continue in connexion with the assassination of Prince Ito. The latest is a man named An—his second name is obscure owing to transliteration,—and some importance seems to attach to his apprehension as he has been for a considerable time under police observation. He is a Christian convert and head of a school called the Taisei Gakko in Seoul.

It will have been observed that Christian converts are much *en evidence* in the context of this terrible incident, but of course no sensible person will imagine that either Christian teaching or Christian propagandists are in any way responsible for the fact. It is very obvious that not a few disaffected Koreans imagine the Christian organization to be a shelter behind which they can plot their designs with impunity. They will ultimately find out their mistake, but in the meanwhile just as Korea's two best friends have been done to death by Koreans themselves, so the great regenerator of their country will be more or less hampered by their own delusions.

The authorities in Seoul are quoted as saying that from time to time inquiries are addressed to them from Port Arthur as to the identity and whereabouts of such and such a Korean, but thus far these inquiries have ended fruitlessly. The correspondent who sends the news connects it with the examination of the assassin at Port Arthur, but we do not see how that can be, inasmuch as the assassin was not to leave Harbin until the night of the 1st inst., and it is therefore manifestly impossible that he can have been brought before the judicial authorities at Port Arther in time to justify the above statement.

According to the *Nichi Nichi's* correspondence from Seoul the true name of the assassin has been at length obtained. It is An Chungkeun. Fifteen years ago he embraced the Christian faith and changed his second name to Tamok. Subsequently he repaired to Chientao, and while there changed his second name again to Yung Chhul. His anti-Japanese plots date from four years back, when, in association with fourteen others, he commenced a strong anti-

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Japanese agitation, and ultimately the members of this association pledged themselves, by cutting off a part of one of the fingers of their left hands, to carry out their project by wholesale assassination. Closely connected with them and a zealous assistant of all their designs, is a Korean named Chhai, who has his headquarters at a place called Novokiesk, about 8 miles from Possiet Bay, within Russian territory. He became a naturalized Russian subject 40 years ago, and is now the owner of considerable property in Chientao. For a long time he has exerted all his influence to stir up opposition to Japan, and one of the immediate designs of himself and his followers has been to assassinate Prince Ito, together with the leaders of the military party and all the Korean Ministers who signed the obnoxious Convention in 1907. It is expected that if the arrest of this man can be effected, some important clues will be obtained.

Our readers will doubtless agree that all these reports are to be taken with much reserve. We publish them for the sake of their interest, but it must be remembered that the examination of the assassin and of any other persons arrested is carried on with closed doors, and that the Japanese police, who have often shown themselves thoroughly capable of keeping their own counsel, are profoundly interested in keeping all their discoveries absolutely secret. If there were any truth in details such as the above, it is not through newspaper reports from Korea or even Manchuria that the public would receive information, for if any useful measures are to be taken for putting an end to these nefarious conspiracies, nothing could be more fatal to success than want of secrecy on the part of the police.

The *Jiji Shimpo's* correspondent is more careful, for he refrains from entering into any details and confines himself merely to saying that the Japanese authorities are exercising the utmost diligence and that striking results are likely to be achieved.

We read in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that in the course of the search conducted by the police at the residence of Yi Kap, leader of the Sokpokhak-hoi, an Imperial Rescript of an important character is said to have been discovered.

Viscount Sone is reported as saying that in connexion with this crime no distinction can be recognised between men who are actually Korean subjects and men who profess to have been naturalized in other countries. The investigation will be carried on irrespective of such distinctions, and some not unimportant results will probably be soon attained.

It will have been observed that several items of news reaching Tokyo within the last few days have indicated the recrudescence of insurrectionary movements in Korea as a result of the assassination of Prince Ito. Telegrams from Seoul indicate that, in consequence of this renewal of pernicious activity, it has been decided to order an extensive military movement for the purpose of dealing with the insurgents. The members of the Korean Cabinet are said to be in entire accord with this necessity.

Thursday, November 4.

On the 2nd instant a party of gendarmes and police proceeded to Changchun and took over the assassin from the hands of the Russian Authorities. They escorted him to Port Arthur on the 3rd, great precautions being taken to guard against any attempt at rescue. The zealous assistance rendered by the Russian Authorities in everything relating to this affair is highly lauded by the Japanese press. The murderer is described as a little man, 5ft. 4in. in height, singularly self-possessed. He declares himself to have sacrificed his life for the sake of his country, and he claims to be treated like a patriot, not a malefactor. Eight other persons have been arrested on suspicion. All carried pistols of the same type as that used by the assassin, and in every case the point of the bullets was furrowed cross-wise. All these suspects have been sent to Port Arthur.

The *Hochi Shimbun's* Harbin correspondent relates that the assassin cheered loudly when he had discharged his pistol, and that to all the questions put to him by the police he returned ready answers. He declared himself to be a baptized Christian, and he claimed to have rendered a signal service to his country.

Another arrest has been made in Korea.

Consul-General Kawakami is recovering. It will not be necesssary to amputate his arm.

CHINA.

Friday, October 29.

On the whole, the Chinese vernacular journals appear to have treated the assassination in a becoming spirit, and to have refrained from everything like extenuation of the crime or applause of the criminal. But there are two exceptions, both among the newspapers of Shanghai. These two are quoted as saying that in his manner of solving the Korean problem Prince Ito consulted the interests of his country, not the cause of Oriental peace, and that the fame of a great statesman must therefore be denied to him. This verdict is followed by a somewhat vague pronouncement, which, so far as we can understand from the telegraphic summary, is intended to incite Chinese subjects to make a similarly violent protest against their Manchu rulers.

Sunday, October 31.

The *East Asia Lloyd's* telegram to the effect that Japan is about to send another delegate to Harbin in Prince Ito's place appears to have created some consternation in Peking. The Waiwupu sent Mr. Na Tung to the Japanese Legation to made inquiries, but being unable to obtain any conclusive information, they are reported to have instructed the Chinese Representative in Tokyo to approach the Japanese Government on the subject. All this very apocryphal.

The law of elections for the new Chinese National Assembly has been published in Peking. The main features are that there are to be an Upper and a Lower House, as is the case in Japan. So far as we can see, the Upper Chamber will consist entirely of highest tax payers, 20 from each province, which would mean a total of 360 members, excluding the Three Eastern, Provinces, and 420 members if the latter be included. On the other hand, the Lower House is to consist of only 100 members, and these will be elected by the provincial assemblies in varying numbers for the different provinces, the maximum representation (Pehchili) being 9, and the minimum (Kilin etc.) 2. It is very evident that in a diet so constituted the voice of property-owners will be paramount.

Tuesday, November 2.

It is telegraphed from Peking to the *Hochi Shimbun* that, at the recent examination of military students in the Chinese Cabinet by a committee of 17 examiners, 229 succeeded in passing, and of this total no less than 218 had studied in Japan. The whole of the first 50 on the list were Japanese students, and the first 40 received commissions as lieutenants, the remainder being nominated ensigns. With regard to other countries, 9 students from Germany were successful, 2 from France and 1 from Austria. These are very remarkable figures. Of course, it has always to be remembered that Japan being much nearer to China than is either Europe or America, and education being much cheaper in the former than in either of the latter, a majority of the Chinese students repair to Japan to study military science. Still, nothing can detract from the fact that the first 50 places fell to students from Japan.

MARQUIS KATSURA ON THE EVENT.

An interview with Marquis Katsura is given in the columns of the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and may therefore be regarded as absolutely trustworthy. The Marquis sets out by saying that he himself sat at the Prince's feet for 42 years as a student of statecraft; that he thus imbibed whatever political knowledge he possesses, and that the loss inflicted on Japan by the Prince's death is irreparable. His Excellency then goes on to declare that the best tribute Japanese statesmen can pay to the Prince's memory is to follow in his footsteps and adhere strictly to his policy. That policy was, first, the development of constitutional institutions at home; secondly, the preservation of peace abroad, and thirdly, to carry out the Imperial programme of liberal progress. As for the Marquis himself, he fully recognises that the responsibility of giving effect to that policy to the utmost limit of his capacity devolves absolutely upon him, however, small his capacities may be. There may be, and probably are, persons who think that because Prince Ito has left this world, a change will take place in the country's policy, and that the State will depart more or less from the grooves indicated by him. But Marquis Katsura most emphatically denies that any grounds exist for such an apprehension. He himself will follow the light held aloft by Prince Ito during his illustrious lifetime, so far as his inferior capacities enable him to follow it. He feels that this is his imperative duty to his Sovereign, who loved and trusted the deceased statesman, and that it is also his imperative duty to the memory of the patriot from whom he received all the knowledge that he possesses of statecraft, and whose demise the whole country is mourning.

PRINCE ITO AND THE TREATY POWERS.

King Edward not only conveyed to the Embassy in London an expression of profound regret for the death of Prince Ito, but also addressed a similar message of condolence direct to the Emperor of Japan. Further, the British Government took a corresponding step, the Ambassador in Tokyo acting as proxy. Messages were also received from Lord Kitchener, the Governor-General of Canada and the Governor of Hongkong. The Sovereigns and Chief-Magistrates of all the Treaty Powers paid a similar tribute to the memory of the great statesman.

The Tokyo Press filled its columns on the 4th instant with reminiscences and appreciations of Prince Ito and with poetry inspired by his memory. In the *Yamato Shimbun* we find a statement that Prince Ito's life had been six times in imminent peril before the assassin's bullet laid him low.

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DOMESTIC POLITICS.

Friday, October 29.

On the 20th inst. the long expected general meeting of the Progressist Party took place in Tokyo. Previous to the meeting a conference between the principal members took place, in order to insure that no dissentient voice should be raised at the general meeting against the Manifesto prepared by the Conservative Section. This Manifesto amounted to complete and unequivocal surrender on the part of the Reform Section under Mr. Oishi Masami's leadership, but the document was nevertheless endorsed by the conference without the slightest alteration. Thereafter the general meeting was opened, and everything passed off smoothly, the Reform Section practically laying down their arms altogether. The Manifesto enunciated three principles as the main planks of the Party's platform. They were, first, that the system of party cabinets and the abolition of bureaucracy must be achieved, such being the only legitimate outcome of constitutional government; secondly, that the national armaments must be carried to a suitable point of development, while due equilibrium is maintained between the military and civil outlays of the State; and thirdly, that the tax system must be reformed in the sense of abolishing evil imposts and reducing the land tax, so as to promote industry and prosperity. By the terms of this Manifesto the Party pledged itself to abide in the approaching session of the Diet.

The next business was the election of councillors. This was left to the discretion of the Chairman, Mr. Seki Naohiko, and out of the 90 councillors he named 70 from the ranks of the Conservative Section, and only 20 from the ranks of the Reformers. Mr. Oishi Masami then rose and made a most outspoken and manly admission of past errors. He did not hesitate to say that anyone endowed with a larger share of ability than he himself possessed would not have taken steps leading to such disastrous commotions. A speech was also delivered by Mr. Inukai Ki, who recalled the fact that although the broad lines of the Party's policy were fixed and immovable, thanks to the exertions of men like Count Okuma and their deceased founders, yet from time to time there had been departures from those lines, though none had previously assumed the dimensions of the late complication. Happily peace and union have now been restored, and the Party might be expected to march with a solid front towards the important reforms mapped out by the Manifesto.

Saturday, October 30.

The *Hochi Shimbun*, doubtless in its role of the principal organ of the Progressists, writes a clever article seeking to convert Marquis Katsura's declaration into a cause of dissension between the Cabinet and the *Seiyu-kai* on the one hand, and between the Prime Minister, and Prince Yamagata on the other. Marquis Katsura in that declaration alleged positively that he intends to follow the policy mapped out by Prince Ito and that there will be no departure from the just and liberal lines always adhered to by that great statesman. While making every allowance for the fact that this declaration is addressed largely to foreign States, the *Hochi* opines that Marquis Saionji is the legitimate successor to Prince Ito's policy; that the *Seiyu kai* will be anything but pleased by this attempt to steal their thunder, and that the Yamagata Party will be equally offended to find their Representative calling himself the mantle-holder of the Ito group. It is of course the *métier* of a party organ to sow dissensions in the camp of its opponents, and we are not surprised that the *Hochi* has seized this opportunity.

The same journal represents Count Okuma as predicting that the death of Prince Ito will break up the *Seiyu-kai*. He thinks that the Prince acted as the great lubricant which, in the first place, enabled the various sections of the *Seiyu kai* to move together without friction, and, in the second, smoothed the great Party's relations with the Cabinet. This lubricant removed, the hereditary tendencies of the *Seiyu-kai's* sections will declare themselves and there will be a dissolution of the present union.

Everyone must of course agree that the death of Prince Ito is a cruel blow to the *Seiyu-kai*, for his Highness constituted a link between the latter and the Elder Statesmen.

Monday, November 1.

The House of Representatives, acting through its standing committee, has compiled a document in connexion with Prince Ito's death. It speaks of his splendid services in carrying out the policy of national progress and in organising the system of constitutional government. It calls him a veritable pillar of the State, and it expresses the profoundest sorrow for the fate that overtook him.

The *Seiyu-kai* also have expressed their regret and condolences in a strongly worded document. They declare that the two great features of the late Prince's career were his promotion of liberal progress and constitutional government at home, and his unflagging exertions in the cause of peace abroad. They, too, call him a great pillar of the State and declare that his memory will live for ever in the hearts of his grateful countrymen.

On the 30th ultimo a general meeting of the *Seiyu-kai* was held in Tokyo. Mr. Hara Kei made an interesting speech. He characterized Prince Ito as at once the originator, the framer and the guardian of the Constitution, and having expressed in eloquent words the everlasting obligation under which the Prince had laid the Japanese nation, he went on to declare that in order to achieve the full advantages of constitutional government nothing was necessary except to tread faithfully in the path which the Prince's feet had marked out. It was true that in Japan there existed a clique of politicians who utilized the form of constitutional government in their own interests and made it the foundation of an edifice of bureaucratic irresponsibility. But there was no reason to be disheartened by such a state of affairs. The growth of constitutional systems in all countries had been temporarily impeded by a similar cause, but the voice of the people must prove paramount in the end, and although much time might still be needed to reach achievement, reached it certainly would be if patience and perseverance were duly exercised. Alluding to the opinion expressed in some quarters that the death of Prince Ito would result in the disruption of the *Seiyu-kai*, Mr. Hara took occasion to deny anything of the sort most emphatically. He declared that the effect would have exactly the opposite tendency, namely, to cement the bonds of union among the followers of the late Prince, and to set their faces more firmly than ever towards the enlightened policy of which he was such a brilliant exponent.

PRINCESS FUSHIMI, JR. is reported to have arrived at Genoa on the 2nd instant. Her Highness will proceed thence to London by railway.

THE RUSSIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE.

With regard to the rumour that the Russian Minister of Finance, who is now at Vladivostock, contemplates paying a visit to Japan, the *Asahi Shimbun's* Vladivostock correspondent telegraphs that such a project is spoken of as not at all improbable, and that the cruiser *Askold* is in readiness to start with the Minister any moment. The telegram adds that this question will be decided within the next three days.

In this context it may be mentioned that Mr. Kurachi, interviewed at Kobe, where he called *en route* for Bakan, is said to have stated very emphatically that he has no special mission whatever to carry out in Manchuria. He justly points out that if any negotiations of an important character were to be conducted, an official of much higher rank than himself would be sent. He even denies that his journey has anything to do with the assassination question, or with the trial of the murderer. He is merely going to Manchuria to place himself *au courant* of the conditions existing there, and he does not propose to extend his journey either to Korea or to Chientao.

It is officially denied that the Russian Minister of Finance has any intention of coming to Japan. His alleged visit seems to be one of the many canards that have been put into circulation in the excitement of the time.

BANQUET AT THE BRITISH EMBASSY.

On the evening of the 2nd inst. a banquet was given at the British Embassy in honour of Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener and his staff. Among those present were T.I.H. Princes Fushimi and Kanin; their Highnesses Field-Marshals Princes Yamagata and Oyama; General Count Oku and General Count Nogi; Count Komura, Lieut.-General Viscount Terauchi; Vice-Admiral Baron Saito; his Highness Prince Iwakura; Lieut.-General Baron Ishimoto; Prince Tokugawa; Lieut.-General Baron Fukushima; Lieut.-General Baron Murata; Count Toda; Mr. Chamberlain Asano; Lieut.-Colonel Yoshida; Mr. Rumbold; Mr. Lampson; Mr. Henderson; Mr. Consul-General Hall; Captain Dundas, R.N.; Mr. Crowe; Captain Brinkley and others, numbering some 40 in all. Sir Claude MacDonald proposed the health of the Emperor of Japan, and Prince Fushimi proposed that of the King of England.

ARRIVAL OF PRINCE ITO'S REMAINS IN TOKYO.

At 8.12 a.m. on the 2nd the remains of the late Prince Ito reached Yokosuka in the *Akitsushima*, the Naval Band playing a funeral dirge. Baron Saito, Minister of State for the Navy, and the Obsequies Committee were waiting on the pier. At 11.20 a.m. the train carrying the remains set out from Yokosuka for Tokyo in the presence of an immense crowd. At 1.07 p.m. the train reached Tokyo. It was met by Prince Yamagata, all the Ministers of State, Marquis Matsukata, General Count Nogi and many civil and military naval officials. A military band played a funeral march, and to this music the body was transported to Reinanzaka, accompanied by a guard of honour. All the schools of the capital and many corporate bodies were represented, and the concourse was enormous. Every one showed a demeanour of the utmost respect and grief.

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WEDDING IN TOKYO.

On the 30th ultimo, took place at the Tsukiji Cathedral the marriage of the Hon. Miss Ito, daughter of Vice-Admiral Baron and Baroness Ito, to Mr. Henri Ruvier, Second Lieutenant in the French Navy and son of Rear-Admiral Ruvier, Commander of the Legion of Honour. Admiral Count Togo and H.E. Mr. Gerard were present in the capacity of Nakodo. The ceremony was to have been performed by his Eminence, Monseigneur the Archbishop of Tokyo, but owing to his lamentable illness his place was taken by Father the Abbé Ligneul. The bride wore white satin trimmed with lace and without any note of colour except orange blossoms. The bridesmaids were the Hon. Miss Ito, daughter of Count Ito, the Hon Miss Togo, Miss Takeda and the three Hon. Misses Ito, sisters of the bride. The musical part of the ceremony was beautifully rendered, the violin playing of M. Vigneti being a prominent feature. A reception was subsequently held at the residence of Baron and Baroness Ito and was attended by a great number of the notables of the capital, Miss Kagawa being present on behalf of the Empress.

LORD KITCHENER.

Lord Kitchener and his staff arrived at Shimbashi on the 2nd inst. at a little after 2 p.m. and proceeded at once to the Shiba Detached Palace. His Lordship will attend the Birthday review on the 3rd inst, and will start for the scene of the autumn manœuvres on the 4th. All the Tokyo journals publish photographs of the Field-Marshal, and accompany them with long details of his illustrious career. It may be said that all strike the same note, namely, that Japan deems it a lasting honour to her army, and a testimony of British faith in her potentialities as an ally, that a British soldier of such eminence should make a long journey to attend her autumn manœuvres. The *Asahi* hopes that the Field Marshal will not confine his observations to military affairs, but will extend them to a wider field, so as to learn how sincere is Japan's feeling towards her Ally, England, and how absolutely groundless are the rumours circulated here and there about a growing coldness between the Allies.

UNWOMANLY WOMEN.

Detailed accounts which have come to hand of the disturbances caused by female suffragists on the occasion of Mr. Asquith's recent visit to Birmingham cannot fail to create a feeling of revulsion in all who have at heart the good name of the gentle sex. Or has the term become an anachronism? Certainly the scenes of violence in which these women played so prominent a part would lead one to think so. That women, arming themselves with axes, should go about assaulting the police, smashing windows, throwing stones, and so forth, is pitiful to read. We quote the words of one of these unsexed creatures when on her trial in a Birmingham court:—"I had the opportunity, had I chosen to take it, of seriously injuring Mr. Asquith. I am not sorry I did not do it. As he will not listen to words, I think it is time that blows should be struck." It is satisfactory to reflect that the Birmingham magistrates took these ladies at their own valuation and inflicted sentences of imprisonment with hard labour. The woman who istrkes another, whether of her own or the opposite sex, puts herself outside the pale of the laws of chivalry, and forfeits the privileges which those laws have accorded her.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Saturday, October 30.

There was a slight improvement on the Stock Exchange on the 30th ultimo, with the exception of the Tokyo Railway, about which there are evidently some doubts, the possible failure of municipalization being predicted in certain quarters, while in others the opposite view is taken but a low price is named.

Monday, November 1.

The market fairly collapsed yesterday for no ostensible reason except that holders were over stocked and that the bears got in with various reports. Tokyo Railways fell 2.96 points, owing to pessimistic views about municipalization, and Stock Exchanges dropped 3.60. It was, in fact, a disastrous day, the Tokyo gas shares alone remaining steady.

Tuesday, November 2.

The tone of the market was better yesterday, but transactions were very few. We append the quotations for January delivery:

	Nov. 1st.		Nov. 2nd.		
Tokyo Railway	71.25	...	72.80	...	+1.55
Kei-hin Railway	—	...	—	...	.—
Yusen Kaisha	79.50	...	—	...	.—
Toyo Kisen	—	...	—	...	.—
Tanko Kisen	36.50	...	36.55	...	+ .20
Tokyo Gas	—	...	—	...	.—
Tokyo Dento	92.85	...	93.50	...	+ .65
Fuji Gass Spinning	88.95	...	89.50	...	+ .55
Tokyo Spinning	41.20	...	—	...	.—
Kanegafuchi Spinning	97.50	...	97.20	...	— .30
Beer	—	...	—	...	.—
Hoden Oil	86.30	...	86.30	...	.—
Nippon Oil	86.30	...	85.00	...	—1.30
Rice Exchange	89.70	...	90.85	...	+1.15
Stock Exchange	160.60	...	163.00	...	+2.40

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

It is confidently stated that the much-talked-of service of electric cars over the circular railway in Tokyo will be commenced from the 15th of December. The line is called the Yamate Densha-sen, and it will start from Karasumori-cho in the neighbourhood of Shimbashi, and will have two termini at the other end, namely, Ueno and Akabane, the point where these two branches meet being Ikebukuro. A car capable of holding 80 passengers will start every 15 minutes from 5 a.m. to 12 p.m., and the fare will be fixed by distance.

Settling day on the Tokyo Stock Exchange passed off quietly on the 29th ultimo. The number of shares transferred was 80,450 being an increase of 17,120 over the number for September, and the total price was 4,750,780, being an increase of 707,740 *yen* as compared with the figure for the previous month. The average price, however, was only 59 *yen*, being 4.80 *yen* less than the September price.

On the 29th ultimo the first general meeting of the shareholders of the Korean Central Bank was held in the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce, and was attended by more than one-half of the shareholders. It was decided that the expenses of establishment should be limited to 34,685 *yen*, and that the Governor should be Mr. Ichihara Morihiro.

There has been a great deal of talk recently about a further reduction of the banks' rate of interest, but if the *Yamato Shimbun* be rightly informed, there is a difference of opinion among bankers on the subject. The Mitsui and the Fifteenth Bank are in favour of reducing the rate, but the Mitsu Bishi Bank is neutral and the First and Hundredth Banks are opposed. Those who advocate reduction hold that the remarkably low price of rice has checked the business revival which was expected to follow the abundant harvest, the result being that people think only of saving money and have no heart for launching out into new enterprises. On the other hand, those who oppose reduction believe that a revival is imminent. Most of the small banks are said to belong to the former group, and it seems therefore probable that the rate will be lowered.

According to statistics compiled by the Statistical Bureau in the Cabinet, the population of Japan, Hokkaido included, on the 31st of last December, was 51,458,037.

The population of the principal cities of Japan at the end of the same period stands as follows:—

Tokyo	2,168,151
Osaka	1,217,765
Kyoto	441,460
Yokohama	392,871
Kobe	377,208
Nagasaki	175,936
Hakodate	87,298
Niigata	61,089

The *Shogyo Shimpo* has a most disquieting telegram from San Francisco to the effect that the nine Japanese banks established in California were all obliged to close their doors on the 20th ultimo. in consequence of a continuous run. The same fate overtook five Japanese financial companies. The total capital of these banks and companies is 2,700,000 *yen*, but nothing is definitely known as to the amount of their deposits. It may reasonably be assumed, however, that the deposits averaged fully three times the capital, in which case the total sum involved must have been between 8 and 9 million *yen*, to say nothing of indirect losses and of the disastrous effect upon Japanese trade in California. The prime cause assigned for this catastrophe is the great reduction which has taken place in the number of immigrants from Japan.

The *Official Gazette* of the 2nd inst. contains a list of the judicial officials appointed in Korea under the new system. The list occupies 9 pages, and the noteworthy feature is that it contains a very large number of Korean names.

It will be remembered that in the days immediately succeeding the panic of 1907, sundry speculative knaves set their wits to work to invent all sorts of rumours calculated to depress the market. To such a pitch did they carry these machinations that police interference ultimately became necessary. It appears that similar fabricators of false intelligence have now appeared upon the scene. The recent sharp fall in securities is attributed to them. They are said to have started a rumour that the Stock Exchange had backed promissory notes to the extent of nearly a million *yen* in favour of a broker who had no assets to meet them. It is thought probable that the assistance of the police will again be needed on this occasion.

An Osaka telephone message reports that on the 2nd instant, over 1,600 casks of Japanese soy, valued at some 10,000 *yen*, which had been manufactured by the Japan Soy Brewery, of Amagasaki, were confiscated by Government officials in Osaka. It is stated that the said soy contains poisonous ingredients.

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INCITEMENT TO OUTRAGE.

UNDER the caption of "Making the Innocent Suffer for the Guilty," the *Japan Herald* translates portions of two articles appearing in the columns of the *Tokyo Mainichi Dempo* and the *Osaka Mainichi Shimbun*. They are articles probably written at the prompting of vehement indignation caused by the shocking murder of Prince ITO. One is prepared to find that some Japanese publicists were stirred beyond calm endurance by a crime so heinous. Yet the articles quoted by the *Japan Herald* can not be called extravagant. Taking into consideration the murder of Mr. STEVENS, the murder of Prince ITO, and the repeated murders of helpless Japanese civilians (including women) by the Korean insurgents, even uninterested onlookers will not find much reason to marvel if the adoption of a sterner system of descipline in Korea be advocated, or even if the annexation of the peninsula be called for. Prince ITO himself would never have approved of recourse to extreme measures, whatever fate overtook him. But all men are not ITOS nor has human nature an unlimited supply of patience to draw upon. It is not our purpose, however, to defend these articles of the Tokyo and the Osaka journals. They are more or less excusable in the circumstances, but that is all that can be said of them. What is absolutely inexcusable, on the other hand, is the *Japan Herald's* action in reproducing these two articles as typical of the tone of the Japanese press on this occasion. In point of fact, the moderation shown by the vast majority of the Tokyo journals in the face of such an event is remarkable, and can not be too heartily applauded. Yet any reader of the *Japan Herald* would inevitably infer that the Japanese press had been betrayed into such excitement as to demand that the innocent should be made suffer for the guilty. This *suppressio veri* and *suggestio falsi* is a frequent habit with writers who make a business of holding Japan up to the world's aversion. Precisely the same thing was done recently in connexion with a momentary complication between Japan and the United States. Possibly the *Japan Herald* may attempt to plead inadvertence. The plea will not hold for a moment in the face of the concluding portions of the article. For there we find it stated that the "title of Mr. STEVENS to be regarded" as a good and wise friend of Korea "is a matter of opinion;" and this is followed by an attempt to create the impression that Japan's methods of dealing with the insurgents in Korea are inhuman. Thus, on the one hand, it is hinted that the fate which overtook Mr. STEVENS was not wholly undeserved, and, on the other, the Koreans are invited to conclude that they are victims of Japanese brutality. No chapter in the history of the foreign press of Japan is more discreditable than the support given by a considerable section of it to the pernicious campaign of the *Dai Han Mai-Il Shimpo* and its late proprietor. That journal, those that wrote in it, and those that defended it, invited the Koreans to an absolutely hopeless struggle, and thus indirectly contributed to the deaths of hundreds of men. The *Japan Herald* is now engaged in a similarly criminal employment. It loses no opportunity of holding the Japanese up to public execration because they can not conduct bloodless campaigns against armed insurgents who themselves maim and murder whenever they find an opportunity, and because in quelling these rioters who render life and property wholly insecure in Korea, they do not themselves suffer correspondingly heavy losses. That is what it comes to. If the writing in the *Japan Herald* has any meaning at all, it can not be interpreted otherwise. We are impelled to ask the familiar question, how would it be if the cases were reversed? How would it be if, instead of a German journal published in Japan and devoted to embarrassing Japan in her attempt to solve a problem of vital international importance, there were a Japanese journal published in Germany and engaged in the same mischievous manœuvres? We are inclined to think that the editor of such a journal would get short shrift. Unless he crossed the frontier pretty smartly, he would be invited to contemplate the interior of a German jail. And worthily would he be served.

A DYING LIBERALISM.

IT cannot but be with signs of regret that the student of affairs perceives unmistakeable symptoms of decay in the body-politic of Liberalism in England. Nor are these symptoms less dangerous—to the the victim itself—because the body affected is outwardly in a flourishing condition. The Liberal Party, which has now been in power for over three years, boasts a backing of unprecedented numerical strength. Yet it is clear that its vigour is merely superficial. Liberalism, as a whole, has been attacked by an insidious cancer. There may be some who will urge that the disease is only in the incipient stage; but there are grave reasons for fearing that it will prove mortal, and that Liberalism, as reared by men like Lord JOHN RUSSELL, GLADSTONE and MORLEY, is already on the road which leads from decay to death.

Twenty years ago Mr. GLADSTONE defined Liberalism as "the process of setting free the individual man, that he may work out his vocation without wanton hindrance." In other words, the ideal political and social policy aims at Liberty with Responsibility, and without Interference. With the ideal citizen, it will be at once admitted, no more is necessary. But, it must also be admitted, there is much wickedness and misery in the world, which it is impossible to ignore. Granted; but the only satisfactory way to deal with the great question of social regeneration is by the improvement of the individual. Or, to express the principle in the admirable form enunciated by the same great leader of men:—"It is not by the State that man can be regenerated and the terrible woes of this darkened world effectually dealt with." Legislation will not make a moral, of an immoral, man; nor can virtues be created by the State. The hearts of its citizens must be reached and bettered in other ways—from within, rather than from without. The true method in government is for the State to make of its citizens, not puppets in a game, but men. Hence the policy of wisdom aims at giving each man opportunity, and liberty to use it. We are not concerned to deny that reforms, political and social, are ever necessary, even in the best ordered State; but the principle of individual effort in in that direction must nevertheless be observed, if lasting improvement is to result. Neither of the great political parties by which alternately Britain has been governed for a century past, can, of course, claim a monopoly in respect of reform. Liberals and Unionists alike—or Conservatives, as the latter were formerly called, though, in view of recent developments, the name seems likely to come once more into general use—can point to a creditable record in this respect; but the Liberal party has always endeavoured to associate itself in a special degree with a policy of reform. Of late years, however, and particularly since the present Government came into power, its measures of improvement have assumed a new, and even sinister aspect, till, in the Budget of 1909, there was introduced a measure not of reform, but of revolution. The canker of Socialism, whose internal ravages Mr. GLADSTONE detected a quarter of a century ago, and denounced, has risen to the surface; and the Liberal Party, in this year of grace, cannot conceal, if it would, the presence of the disease. The apologists of the Party—among whom are to be numbered, curiously enough, the Prime Minister himself—are at some pains to deny the disagreeable fact. Mr. ASQUITH, indeed loudly proclaims himself to be an "anti-Socialist." But of what avail is it for Mr. ASQUITH to proclaim himself the guardian of the nation's liberty, while "his Chancellor of the Exchequer takes his financial proposals *en bloc* from Mr. Philip SNOWDEN, while the Hardies and Graysons hail Mr. LLOYD-GEORGE as their disciple and their lord?" The initiatory idea of Socialism is that the State should do for the individual what the individual ought to do for himself. Its central principle is that the State should take private private property for public uses. Its final expression of legalised tyranny will be to deny the right of inheritance. Such is the creed which has been embraced with fervour by a large section — the younger and more "advanced" section— of that great Party which one of its most distinguished members described as "the child of long travail," which had kept England unscathed "among wild storms of revolution." Not only has the

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new faith been embaced, however, but the country which has entrusted its destinies to these blind guides already finds itself plunged in the vortex of a conflict which an unprincipled attempt to foist upon it a new social system has inevitably entailed. We say unprincipled, because it is proposed to bring about this change in the life of the nation under cover of a Finance Bill, as to whose final form, forsooth, none but the socialist-ridden majority in the Lower Chamber of the Legislature must have a word to say! Happily, it is for the Country, "that land of great achievement and illimitable destiny—once, perhaps still, the exemplar of the world," to speak the ultimate word which shall decide its fate. We believe, when that day comes,—and it cannot now be far distant—the sound commonsense of the Englishman as well as the teachings of experience, will enable it to decide aright; and save posterity, as well as themselves, from the blight of a diseased and dying Liberalism.

THE CHAPMAN-ALEXANDER MEETINGS IN KOBE.

[COMMUNICATED.]

We were greatly pleased with this band of Christian workers in Kobe. The writer attended all the meetings held in the Union Church and in the Gymnasium, and found them satisfactory beyond his expectation. This, too, in spite of the fact that Dr. Chapman himself, whom we had specially wished to hear, was unable to speak a single time. Constant preaching for six or seven months and the great responsibility attending such a mission had brought him to the limit of his nerve reserve, and the doctors absolutely forbade his speaking another time. I trust, however, that he may be able to preach at least once or twice in Yokohama.

The meetings were characterized by freedom from sensationalism and claptrap of all kind; the absence of fads and hobbies; by easy mingling and friendliness on the part of the workers; directness, simplicity and spirituality in the preaching; and by trust in God rather than in men for permanent results.

Mr. Alexander is a capital leader of the singing, and he is ably seconded by his excellent accompanist, Mr. Robert Harkness, and by Mrs. Norton, who is always ready to sing a beautiful solo. Also, Mrs. Alexander and Miss Cadbury, her sister, make their contribution of sweet song. The good humour of the leader is contagious, and he quickly has his audience with him and taking part with a will. The heart that goes into the singing, and its spiritual quality remove it from the realm of merely interesting performances.

The workers had no apology to make for themselves or their message, and, like St. Paul, came at their own charges, neither asking nor receiving a cent for their services, and providing, through preference, even their own entertainment. Neither was there any selling of books or photographs, or other devices for gathering up stray pennies. On the other hand every member of the party had some contribution to make to the profit and welfare of those to whom they had come.

The party was in Kobe three days, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 22-24, and the congregations and interest steadily increased from beginning to end, so that at the closing service in the Gymnasium on Sunday evening, the attendance was two or three times as large as at the first service there on Friday evening.

We only wish they could have stayed longer, but feel sure that they have done much good, and that there will be permanent results from their short stay here. We bespeak for them a good hearing in Yokohama.

THOMAS H. HADEN.

Kobe, October 30th, 1909.

It is related of Moody that early in his career he become known in Chicago as a man who was always asking others about their spiritual condition. One day a man was asked by a stranger whether he was a Christian or not. The natural reply was, "That's none of your business." "But it *is* my business," replied the stranger. "Then you must be D. L. Moody" was the answer, and a conversation ensued.

I cannot find this anecdote in the Life of Moody, but I have seen the man, and I believe the story to be essentially true. Moody was a man who first of all impressed men with the fact that he was about his own business when he was trying to get men to see his Lord as he himself saw Him. It has been said of Moody that "he made revivalism a new thing—no longer a matter of sporadic excitement but the foundation for the actual work of practical Christianity. Of Dr. Chapman it has been said by competent observers that he is a worthy successor of Moody. If it be remembered that there is a new revivalism as well as the old revivalism, it will be found that many of the criticisms brought forward against revivals by some American professors and others have nothing to do with the same business-like methods of men like Moody and Chapman.

The Chapman-Alexander party is going through the world about what it conceived to be its business, and practical business men behind them are providing the means. One gets some idea of what that business is by attending a few of the meetings. At the outset the business of Mr. Alexander, the musical director, seems to be to weld the individuals before him into a unit.and to break up stiffness. The first effect he accomplishes by making the people sing together. He has some marvellous way of controlling the voices of the congregation without help from trained choir or anything. Soon he has people singing together and feeling together, and the conglomeration has became an aggregation under his touch. Then he offers a short simple prayer and the singing goes on again for some twenty minutes in a meeting of one hour. Everything is informal and unusual. It may be for the purpose of breaking up formality that he offers a prize of a hymn book to any one who will stand up and sing the chorus of a new hymn, or that he asks some children to come forward and sing an often repeated chorus. In some such way he makes people feel at home with one another, and then they are ready to listen sympathetically with one heart.

The message that the evangelists bring is no new one. There is no private interpretation of scripture, no attack on the work of others, no undue appeal to the emotions. They speak as to men who accept the authority of their message. In the general meetings held in the Gymnasium at Kobe, one speaker introduced the work of the Pocket Testament League, the object of which is to induce people to carry the scriptures with them and to read at least one chapter every day. Some in the local congregation wondered why such a subject was presented to such an audience, but experience had led the party to use these methods. The speeches on that occasion were plain presentations of the way in which this work had grown up and the possiblities before it. At another of the general meetings an account was given of the Chapman-Alexander Prayer Circle, the members of which agree to pray for the party as they go through the world preaching. Dr. Chapman was prevented by illness from attending any of the meetings, but had he been present he might have explained, as he did in Boston, the purpose and methods of the "King's Business Covenant of Service." At the last of the three general meetings the speaker took as his subject Paul's shipwreck, suggesting the many perils of life and the need of one who can speak with certainty. The speeches were all simple, both in matter and in manner, and yet they were powerful. They produced conviction and are perhaps characteristic of the new revivalism. Certainly no one could fail to be impressed with the earnestness and naturalness of the speakers.

Dr. Chapman says always that the work is to be considered a failure unless the local churches are in a better condition six months later than they were before his party came. I believe that Kobe will stand this test and that the results will be similar to those in Boston as they were summed up five months after the services were over in the book entitled "Boston's Awakening":—

"The revival has wonderfully increased church loyalty. A new spiritual fraternity has developed. There has been no reaction. There will be none. The work was calm, deep and sane; it commends itself more than ever to Christian leaders and teachers. The city itself has been lifted to a higher ethical level. The general public exhibit a more reverent spirit and a greatly increased religious interest."

PRINCE ITO'S REMAINS PASS HIRANUMA STATION.

The special train conveying the remains of the late Prince Ito arrived at Hiranuma Station at 12.25 p.m. on the 1st inst., when the consuls of the different Powers and a large number of leading foreign residents, the high officials of the prefectural government, the Mayor of Yokohama and many other leading members of the city gathered there as a mark of respect to the late Prince. On arrival of the train Baroness Sufu placed a wreath on the bier in one of the carriages, and Viscount Suyematsu, who was travelling in the same carriage, representing the family of the deceased Prince, returned courtesies to all the sympathisers assembled on the platform. The Viscount said he regretted he was not able to exchange greetings with every one present, and the British Consul-General, Mr. J. C. Hall, conveyed the Viscount's message to the foreign members present. Baron Sufu, Governor of Kanagawa prefecture, who had gone to Yokosuka to receive the remains of the Prince, was in the train, and proceeded to Tokyo in attendance. The students of the Yokohama Middle School stood in rows along one side of the platform to pay their homage to the illustrious dead. During the day all the foreign business houses and stores closed for one hour, from 12 to 1—as a mark of respect to the deceased statesman, and at the different Consulates the flags were at half-mast throughout the day. In both the Japanese and foreign business quarters, flags heavily craped were displayed.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the above Society was held in Van Schaick Hall on Friday evening. There was a good attendance of members, and Mr. Mollison, the President, presided over the meeting. Mr. Karl Lewis was to have given a lecture, entitled "A Trip through Korea," illustrated by lantern slides. Owing to fusing of an electric wire and consequent inability to light the lantern, the lecture had to be postponed. The President, having expressed his sympathy with Mr. K. Lewis, said it was a strange concidence that at a time when the residents of this city were to have introduced to their notice the neighbouring peninsula of Korea, a subject of that country should have been guilty of the dastardly crime that had thrilled the whole world—the cruel assassination of Prince Ito, Korea's best friend in Japan, and a man who had at all times stood between the Koreans and the harsher treatment that but for him might have been been meted out to that unhappy country. The speaker was sure all present would agree that it was fit and proper for them that evening to offer to the Japanese Government and the nation at large their respectful condolences at the death of Prince Ito, the main pillar of the State, and in every sense of the word, Japan's Grand Old Man.

An excellent musical programme was then carried out, the participants being Miss Blundell, Messrs. W. H. Lewis, T. H. Darton, M. D. A. Darling, F. P. Pratt, and A. E. Cooper.

GEORGET, the French cyclist, on September 19, won the twently-four hours' race in Paris by covering 528½ miles. Shirley, of England, retired.

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THE CRICKET GROUND.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE Y.C. & A.C.

An extraordinary general meeting of the above Club was held in the Cricket Pavilion on Monday evening (1st inst.) at 5.30 to discuss important matters relative to the expiry of the lease of the Ground. Dr. Wheeler, the President, presided over a large attendance of some 200 members, those present including Messrs. H. W. Andrews, A. W. Austen, E. G. Babbitt, G. H. Bell, D. H. Blake (Vice-President), V. R. Bowden, G. G. Brady, F. H. Bugbird, P. A. Cox, E. F. Crowe, E. C. Davis, C. M. Duff, A. J. Easton, E. B. S. Edwards, W. D. S. Edwards, E. Eddison, B. C. Foster (Hon. Sec.), E. W. Frazar, O. T. Gillon, J. H. C. Goodban, H. V. Henson, H. E. Hayward, S. Isaacs, H. D. C. Jones, J. Williamson Jones, A. G. Kellogg, M. B. Lendrum (Hon. Treas.), W. H. Lewis, H. S. Martin, J. Martin, L. E. McChesney, D. Marshall, R. B. McKinnell, J. P. Mollison, E. K. Morgan, A. Owston, A. C. Hutton Potts, A. L. Robinson, M. Russell, N. F. Smith, E. L. Squire, O. D. Strome, H. A. Stewart, C. Thwaites, &c.

The SECRETARY having read the notice convening the meeting, Dr. WHEELER said that the Committee had done all in their power to secure a renewal of the lease, but had failed. "No" had been the answer given them all the time. The Committee, together with the Advisory Board, had tried to obtain the ground on the same conditions as those pertaining at Kobe, namely, under joint control, but this had also been refused. He wanted the members that evening to come to a decision on the question, and in order to simplify matters and to prevent needless discussion, he would read a letter which he had received an hour ago from Sir Claude MacDonald:

Tokyo, 21st October, 1909.

Dear Dr. Wheeler,—When I saw the members of the Committee, the Advisory Committee and some other gentlemen interested in the future of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club on the 22nd instant, I endeavoured to explain as clearly as I could the position which the Club held with reference to the Japanese authorities, both central and local. From much that I have heard since, I do not think this position is well understood by many members of the Club; with your permission therefore it might be useful if I stated, as briefly as possible, what that position is, and what the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club are now "up against." The Central Government have informed us, both verbally and in writing, that it is quite impossible to renew the lease of the Cricket Club Ground, or otherwise continue to maintain it in its present position, because it is required towards making a park and garden for the use of the public of Yokohama. Governor Sufu has also informed me in this sense, and has duly notified the club that their lease cannot be renewed. Though careful search has been made in this Embassy, and in the British and some other Consulate in Yokohama, nothing has come to light to prove the contention that the Club, or the general public, have a right to the continued use of the Cricket Ground under the Settlement Clause of the Revised Treaties. On the expiration of the lease, 28th July, extended to October 28th, the entire control of the Cricket Ground passed back into the hands of the Japanese authorities, and they have definitely and absolutely decided that the Cricket Ground and its fixtures have to be moved elsewhere. Governor Sufu and the Municipal authorities are prepared to make a ground, not, however, as big as the present ground, in another part of the public garden for cricket and other outdoor sports, where the turf and fixtures of the Club could be placed and utilised, under certain conditions. It is open to the Club, therefore, either to accept this offer, or to take their turf, pavilion, etc., to some other ground outside the park. It will be within your recollection and that of the gentlemen I had the honour to meet on the 22nd instant, that they requested me to ascertain what the conditions were under which the Japanese authorities would prepare the new ground, and it was decided that the Club should send me suggestions that would be acceptable to themselves, especially if they should decide to offer their turf, etc., for the new ground. These suggestions were duly sent me and at an informal meeting held at this Embassy on the 26th instant, I put them before his Excellency Governor Sufu. I do not think I am betraying any confidence when I say that his Excellency stated that he did not see any reason why they could not be accepted and embodied in the Regulations which will apply to the new ground. Governor Sufu pointed out, however, that nothing could be done towards definitely dealing with such details of the Government offer of a new ground in the public park until the formal protest which the Committee of the Club made on the 23rd July against his order to give up the old ground had been withdrawn. I understand there is some hesitation on the part of the Committee to withdraw this protest without the authority of a general meeting of the Club, and I am informed that one of the objects of the present meeting is to decide whether such authority shall be given or not. You will of course understand that a refusal to withdraw the protest is tantamount, so far as the Club is concerned, to declining the offer of the Japanese authorities to provide a new ground, when the second alternative, that of moving to some site outside the Public Park, will have to be considered. I trust I have made the position clear. I am, yours very sincerely,

Claude M. Macdonald.

The PRESIDENT then invited discussion.

Mr. N. F. SMITH, a member of the Advisory Committee, asked Mr. J. P. Mollison, who had acted as Chairman of that body, to lay before the meeting the result of the negotiations carried on up to the present time, as the members would then learn the position of affairs *vis-a-vis* the Club and the Japanese authorities.

Mr. D. MARSHALL wanted to know who the Advisory Committee were and what they had done. He was sure that other members would be equally glad to receive this information.

Mr. FOSTER said the Advisory Committee were appointed in July, 1907, for the purpose of advising the ordinary Committee as to what was best to be done with regard to securing a renewal of the lease. Mr. C. V. Sale was the first Chairman, and the subsequent members were Messrs. V. R. Bowden, J. P. P. Mollison, H. D. C. Jones, J. Williamson Jones, S. Isaacs, and Gibbs. Messrs. H. D. C. Jones and Gibbs resigned later.

MR. MOLLISON then rose, amid much cheering.

Mr. President and Gentlemen,—It is my privilege as well as my duty to inform you of the proceedings of the Advisory Committee appointed some two years ago, to confer with and assist the deliberations of the Cricket Club's Committee as to what steps should be taken with a view to the preservation of the Cricket Ground, and whilst I do not propose to weary you with details of the innumerable meetings that have taken place for the discussion of the momentous questions, I must crave your indulgence and draw considerably, I fear, on your patience, in order to make clear to you the position as the combined Committees find it, and the conclusions they have come to after no little consideration and research. I feel sure you will all admit the tremendous importance of the subject and that the object in view is well worth fighting for. What we are fighting for, gentlemen, is the birthright of the young men of Yokohama, and a heritage bequeathed to them by the early pioneers of the community, that it is the bounden duty of every young man in the place to spare very effort to preserve. I appeal therefore with every confidence to all members of the Y.C. & A.C., and especially to the younger members, as they are chiefly concerned, to endorse and support the decision come to by the majority of the combined Cricket Club and Advisory Committees. But I do not ask them to give their support without a knowledge of the facts, and so will now read to you a memorandum on the subject drawn up by Consul-General Hall dated May 15th, 1908. Before doing so, however, I may mention that at a combined meeting of the two committees held at my office in June this year, a majority of those present decided that it would be wise, might do some good and could do no harm, to present the petition that was so numerously signed about two years ago, to Governor Baron Sufu, for a renewed lease of the Cricket Ground, leaving the control in the hands of foreigners. I believe I am right in saying that the petition met with no response whatever, certainly no official response. I mention this because by that time other members of the Committees had abandoned all hope of a renewed lease of the Cricket Ground, feeling as they did that they had no claim to a lease, and realised that the only way to preserve the Cricket Ground—their right to the use of it conjointly with Japanese—was under the 18th clause of the existing Treaty, which confirmed the binding agreements previously made between the Japanese Government and the Foreign representatives. Thus prefacing, I will now proceed to read Consul-General Hall's Memorandum, craving the exercise of your patience because of its length.

MEMORANDUM

on the YOKOHAMA PUBLIC GARDEN showing that the central portion thereof was originally set apart as a recreation ground for cricket, athletic sports and other outdoor games, and that it has ever since been continuously used for the same public purpose for which it was originally set apart.

As some doubt seems recently to have arisen as to the right of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club to the continuance of the use of the Cricket Ground after the expiry of the existing lease in July, 1909, it seems desirable to put on record the historical facts which prove that not only the Public Garden as a whole but also that central portion of it known from the very beginning as the "cricket ground" is entitled to the protection of the stipulation of the Revised Treaties (Art. XVIII. of the British Treaty) which provides that all lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the settlements shall be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart.

The port of Yokohama was opened in 1859, and the need of places for recreation and exercise for the foreigners commorant in the settlement was shortly after brought to the notice of the Japanese Government. From the outset, and continuously ever since, the necessity of such places for recreation and exercise has been acknowledged and provided for by the Japanese Government in concert or in consultation with the Foreign Representatives. Hence in the first International Convention relating to the Yokohama Settlement, that of 1864, the very first article provided that an allotment of ground one English mile (eighteen Japanese cho) in circuit was to be "made and designated in perpetuity for a parade and exercise ground, for all nations, also for a race course for the foreign community . . . . . and as it is for common occupation both by Japanese and foreigners *as a place of exercise*, no rental was to be claimed for the same, with exception of the outside circle destined for a race-course.

Two years later, in December, 1866, the site at first chosen for the race-course and place of exercise having been found unsuitable, the agreement was altered, and the sites for the race-course and the place of exercise were dissevered. The former was constructed on its present site, the plateau overlooking Negishi Bay, whilst, as regarded the latter, the Japanese Government agreed to "enlarge, lay out and plant as a public garden, to be used both by foreigners and Japanese," the site which is now the public garden. It was further stipulated that "no rent will be charged for this garden by the Japanese Government, but the Governor of Kanagawa and the foreign Consuls will concert measures for defraying the expenses of preserving the grounds."

As showing the importance attached to these provisions for recreation and exercise, in the eyes both of the foreigners and Japanese, it is to be noted that, as in the first, so in this second international agreement for the improvement of the settlement, they are dealt with in the first article of the convention, taking precedence of all other public wants; and that in the latter case, instead of only two plenipotentiaries, representing the central Government, there were three Japanese plenipotentiaries; the third being the Governor of Kanagawa, the local authorities beng thus associated with the central Government in the international obligations then undertaken.

It was not till several years had elapsed that the work of filling up the ground and preparing the site of the public garden was finished. In 1870 the Japanese Government announced to the foreign representatives that the laying out of the public garden was about to be commenced, and requested to be furnished with a plan showing what sort of a public garden was desired by them. The plan was accordingly furnished as requested, and is presumably now in the archives of the Japanese Ministry for Foreign Affairs. Unfor-

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tunately no copy of this plan seems to have been preserved in the chancellerie of any of the foreign Legations, but there is good secondary evidence as to its essential features, so far as regards the point now under consideration.

In the arbitration before the Hague Tribunal respecting perpetual leases in Japan the case of the Japanese Government has, as one of its appendices, a series of twelve maps of the former foreign settlements. The first two of these maps delineate Yokohama and its foreign settlement. Of the official authenticity and accuracy of these maps it is impossible to entertain a particle of doubt. Now the first of these two maps shows that the public garden was included as being a part of the foreign settlement, and the second, showing the settlement on a much larger scale, delineates the public garden by a parallelogram, inside of which, occupying its central portion, is a smaller parallelogram. The outer marginal portion of this space, *i.e.* between the two parallelograms is designated "Public Park": the inner central portion, *i.e.* the smaller parallelogram is designated "Cricket Ground."

It is hardly possible to conceive a more formal, public and official international proof of the status of the cricket ground than that which this map affords. But is is only the last link in a chain of proofs which would be sufficiently complete without it.

Though the plan of the public garden, including a recreation ground as its central portion was made in 1870, the actual laying out of the garden was not taken in hand until 1874. Meanwhile, facilities for recreation and exercise of various kinds had been amply provided by the courtesy of the Japanese authorities. The Athletic Association had been granted the free use of the old Negishi rifle range and the lease at a moderate rent of a running path round the rifle range. As soon as the new swamp concession had been sufficiently filled in to allow of cricket being played on it, the Cricket Club had been allowed to turf space for the game on the spot now occupied by buildings between Yechigo-cho and the public garden But in 1871, after more than four years' use of it, this temporary cricket ground had to be given up, the ground being required for building sites, as originally stipulated. Though at this time the laying out of the public garden had not yet been begun, the ground had been raised to the level of the adjoining building sites' portion, and the boundaries of the garden had been marked out. The Cricket Club was able therefore, with the assent of the Kencho, to transfer its turf to the central portion of the inchoate public garden in 1872, and the game was played there for two years prior to the actual laying out of the garden. The cricket ground was thus, from the outset, the nucleus of the Yokohama Public Garden. As such it has always been recognised by the Japanese authorities, central and local. After the plan had been submitted by the Foreign Representatives in 1870 another delay of over three years occurred, but in 1874 the work of laying out and planting the garden was taken in hand. In a letter to the Chairman of the Consular body dated April 13th, 1874, the Governor enclosed a plan, which had been agreed upon by his Government and the Foreign Representatives. An exact copy of that map, taken from the original now in the achieves of the Senior Consul, is appended to this memorandum. The cricket ground, a square of 90 yards by 90 yards, i.e. an area of 2,025 tsubo, occupies its centre. Not only is this area marked on the square, but also the words *ari-kitari shiba uye-tsuke*, which mean:—Spread over with pre-existing turf, that is to say, the Cricket Club's turf, transferred from the temporary cricket ground two years before. Thus both before the fact and after the fact, the allotment of the centre of the public garden for the purpose of a cricket ground received the explicit assent of the Government.

But the area thus set apart was soon found to be too small, and the Cricket Club petitioned through the British Minister for an enlargement of it. This was granted without delay by the Government, the measurement being altered to 110 yards square, giving an increment of 1,000 tsubo.

But the space thus successively demarcated in the centre of the garden was not for the exclusive use of the Cricket Club. Athletic sports had been practised for years before on the Negishi rifle range, but as that range was soon to be given up, the Athletic Association applied in May, 1874, for a running path to be constructed round the cricket ground area, and this request was likewise granted by the Japanese authorities, as being in conformity with the original purpose of the public garden.

Although the cricket ground in the centre of the public garden was ready in 1872, and in constant use from that date, the work on the outer or ornamental portion of the garden was not finished till four years later. Shortly after it was completed, and the garden made available to the general public, the question of meeting the expense of maintaining it in proper order had to be faced. The arrangement of 1866 stipulated that the garden was to be under the joint control of the Japanese local authority and the Board of Foreign Consuls, and that the expenses of the maintenance should be borne equally by the Japanese and foreign communities. The foreign community, however, refused to implement the contract which the Foreign Representatives ten years before had made on their behalf. In vain were they urged and pressed by the Consuls to raise a subscription amongst themselves for this purpose Even the Cricket Club deferred making any contribution until such time as their finances might be more prosperous. After patiently waiting to give the foreign diplomatic and Consular officials every chance of persuading their nationals to bear their share of the burden of up-keep, amounting to *yen* fifty a month, the Japanese Government at length stood upon its rights and demanded that the stipulations for joint maintenance and control of the garden should be cancelled. It was impossible to resist so just a claim, especially as the demand was accompanied by an assurance that the Japanese authorities would, on obtaining full control, themselves undertake the up-keep of the garden, *whilst continuing its original character*. On this condition the Foreign Representatives formally recorded their assent to the cancelling of the stipulations of Article I. of the Convention of 1866. At the same time and for the same reason and on the same condition they also assented to the cancelling of Article X., which provided for a lease to the foreign community of another garden on the Bluff. This was in June, 1878.

Ever since that date the obligation then undertaken by the Japanese Government, namely that the two gardens should continue to be maintained as public gardens under purely Japanese control, has been faithfully fulfilled.

The Cricket Club had from the first borne the expenses of the turfing and keeping in order of the central section of the garden specially assigned for the use of public games. Though other clubs, viz. the baseball and tennis players, used the ground occasionally by arrangement with the Cricket Club, the latter was always recognised as having the preponderating interest, and it was to the cricketers that the Japanese authorities, with good reason, looked for co-operation in the maintenance of the garden in its original character as one for the common enjoyment of both elements of the population. But this pecuniary responsibility necessarily implied a nominal control of the ground vis-a-vis the other clubs using it. As soon, therefore, as the Japanese authorities had recovered sole control and management of the public garden they granted a lease of the Cricket ground to the Cricket Club. This was unquestionably the best arrangement that could possibly have been made, and it has worked satisfactorily without hitch or friction for a period of thirty years. It was in July 1878, only a month after obtaining the complete control, that the lease to the Cricket Club was granted. And as showing the liberal and friendly spirit in which the matter was handled by the Japanese authorities it should be noted that besides granting the lease at a moderate rent they, in the following year, granted an enlargement of the area of the ground to the extent of 600 tsubo (2,400 square yards).

Five years later, in 1884, the Cricket Club and the Amateur Athletic Association (which, like the Baseball and Football Clubs, had its own separate organisation) were amalgamated and the Kencho thereupon granted a new lease to the new club thus constituted, which lease continued in force until the coming into effect of the revised treaties in 1899, when it was renewed for a period of ten years.

It is the fear that the lease may possibly not be renewed when it expires next year that is now agitating the athletic portion of the foreign community. It is to be hoped that their fears are groundless. On the one hand the Japanese authorities have an honourable record of thirty years fulfilment, in the spirit as well as in the letter, of an international engagement. On the other hand the foreign club has never failed in its observance of the condition that no one sport or club is entitled to the exclusive use of the ground. Both Japanese and foreigners enjoy the public garden and there has never been an instance of a Japanese athletic club being refused when an occasional use of the cricket ground has been applied for. An arrangement which has worked as satisfactorily for some thirty years might well be given a further trial for ten years at any rate. There is no reason for supposing that any new arrangement is actually required or would yield more satisfactory results.

Copies of the official correspondence and other documents on which this memorandum is founded are appended hereto. J. C. Hall.

July 15th, 1908.

That memorandum, gentleman, I am permitted to say, had Sir Claude MacDonald's explicit approval and high commendation, the latter going so far as to state that the whole community owed Consul General Hall a deep debt of gratitude for what he had done in their interests, an opinion, I am sure, you will all agree with and endorse most heartily. In contradistinction to that encomium, it is with great reluctance and no little regret that I feel bound to read the following letter which I received from Consul-General Hall yesterday:—

Yokohama, 31st October, 1909.

Dear Mr. Mollison.—I return herewith some of the documents belonging to the archives of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club lent me for perusal when giving advice to the Advisory Committee in my official capacity. There are others which I shall return to you when I go to office to-morrow.

I have no further concern with these papers, now that I am officially instructed by the Ambassador to desist from giving advice to the Committee or to members of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club as regards the Cricket Ground. This instruction precludes me, I regret to say, from any longer giving that advice and assistance to British subjects which they would otherwise be entitled to receive from me, and which up till now they have duly received from me, under our Government's General Instructions to British Consuls.

Yours sincerely, J. C. Hall.

Gentlemen, I make no comment on that letter, except that I regret the reason calling for it. But for the instructions it alludes to, Consul-General Hall would have been with us this evening, and would have been able to add much to his memorandum by way of additional evidence in support of the contention it maintains, because as is implied by the closing paragraph of the memorandum, it was drawn up in the first place with a view to obtaining a renewal of the lease, but at such length as, in case the request for a lease failed, to be useful in support of a claim to the use of the Cricket Ground, conjointly with the Japanese. In reply to Consul-General Hall, I wrote as follows:

No. 48. Yokohama, 1st Nov., 1909.

J. C. Hall, Esq., British Consul-General, Yokohama.

Dear Mr. Hall,—I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letters dated 31st October and 1st November handing me sundry documents belonging to the archives of the Yokohama Cricket & Athletic Club, and informing me that as you have been instructed by the Ambassador to desist from giving advice to the Committee or Members of the Yokohama Cricket & Athletic Club as regards the Cricket Ground, you have no further concern in these papers.

I am sure the other Members of the Advisory Committee and also the Members of the Yokohama Cricket & Athletic Club will regret, equally with

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myself, that your valuable assistance and advice are no longer available to them.

Believe me, yours sincerely, James P. Mollison.

This brings me up to July of this year when the chief labours of the two committees may be said to have begun. Under date 14th July a letter was received by the Y.C. & A.C. from Baron Sufu, reading as follows:—

Kanagawa Kencho, 14th July, 1909.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your communication of the 26th March last. Since that date I have given thorough and mature consideration to your request for continuation of the use of the cricket ground in the Yokohama Park, but as regards this point, the Yokohama City Council, as well as myself, desire that, with suitable arrangements, the ground may be thrown open to the whole population of the City as a public garden, while as I informed you previously, we recognise at the present time, the necessity of throwing open the site as a public garden for the benefit of Japanese and foreigners in common. Therefore much as I regret it, I request that you will understand that I am unable to allow the continuation of its use.

Within three months from date of expiration of the term of the lease of the ground, I beg that you will remove, at your convenience, the wooden railings and other things now on the ground.

I have &c., (Signed) Sufu Kohei, Baron,
Governor of Kanagawa Ken.

To Dr. Edwin Wheeler, President,
D. H. Blake Esq., Vice-President,
of the Yokohama Cricket &
Athletic Club.

You will notice that this letter is of a most uncompromising nature, without a loophole of escape, it being even suggested from Baron Sufu's mandate—in so many words—clear out. After consulting with Consul-General Hall, the following reply was sent on 23rd July to Baron Sufu's letter, through Consul-General Hall, reading as follows:

Yokohama, 23rd July, 1909.

To His Excellency Baron Kohei Sufu,
Governor of Kanagawa Ken. Present.

Sir,—We have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Excellency's communication dated 14th inst., transmitted through H.B.M.'s Consulate-General.

We have carefully noted contents, but believing as we do that the Yokohama Cricket & Athletic Club has a clear right to the use of the Cricket Ground, under the settlement clause of Revised Treaties we must respectfully protest against your order to remove the wooden railings and other things on the ground, because they are necessary adjuncts to and inseparably connected with the use of the Cricket Ground.

We take this opportunity of informing your Excellency that we are placing the protection of what we conceive to be our Treaty Rights in this matter in the hands of our official Representatives.

We have the honour to be,
Your Excellency's obedient servants.
(Signed) Edwin Wheeler, President.
(„) D. H. Blake, Vice-President.

I should here mention that on 19th July Consul-General Hall had already written to Baron Sufu a letter, a copy of which I find amongst my papers, and as it has an important bearing on the question and is acknowledged in a later letter from Baron Sufu, I propose to read it for your information:—

[COPY]

British Consulate-General,
Yokohama, 19th, July, 1909.

Dear Baron Sufu,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th instant, with its enclosure, in reply to mine of the 24th July, 1908, in which I requested, as a favour, that the existing lease of the Cricket Ground to the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club might be renewed on its expiry this month. You inform me that the question whether this ground should continue to be leased or not rests *entirely with the Japanese Government* and that it is not their intention to renew it.

I accept Your Excellency's decision on this point as final, and conclusive; and have accordingly transmitted, as desired, your reply addressed to the President and Vice-President of the Club announcing your decision.

I must, however, *place on record my dissent* from the views expressed in certain portions of your letter to me now under acknowledgment.

I hold, as strongly as ever before, that the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club have a right to the use of the ground under the XVIIIth Article of the Revised British Treaty and the corresponding Articles of the Revised Treaties with the other Powers. The rent which the Kencho has been receiving from the Club for the past thirty years was not in consideration of the use of the ground, but in consideration of the exclusive nominal control of it secured to them by the lease. The ground has never paid rent in the sense of that word as used in the said article of the treaty; and if any doubt may be thought to arise as to the meaning of the word "previously" it seems to be set at rest by the equivalent expression three lines lower down:—"originally set apart."

Furthermore, without presuming to question the applicability of the Laws and Ordinances quoted by Your Excellency as to the Administration of Government property, I would respectfully remind you that the Public Garden was within the recognized limits of the former Foreign Settlement, and though now presumably incorporated with the Municipal commune, such incorporation does not abrogate either the grant of the whole garden to public use not the grant of the central portion of it for the use of public sports and exercise.

Under these circumstances I cannot but consider the order for the removal of the Club's pavilion, &c., as premature, seeing that the building is absolutely essential to the full enjoyment of the Club's right to use the ground, and I therefore beg that this portion of Your Excellency's communication to the Club may be favourably reconsidered.

Yours sincerely, (Signed) J. C. Hall,
H.B.M.'s Consul-General.

Under date 27th July a letter was received by Consul General Hall, a copy of which was passed on to the Y. C. & A. C. and a reply requested. This letter reads as follows:

(COPY.)

Kanagawa Kencho, 27th July, 1909.

SIR,—With reference to the question of the continuation of the use of the Cricket Ground inside the Yokohama Park, which formed the subject of a petition previously made by the representatives of the Yokohama Cricket & Athletic Club, I have already informed you that I am unable to grant this request. But, under date of 19th instant, you requested my reconsideration, and further, in your communication of the 24th instant signed by the President and Vice-President of the above-mentioned Club, and, at the same time, declaring your complete agreement with this protest, you forwarded an official protest to me.

However, my views on this matter being in accordance with the instructions which I sent a few days previously to the above-mentioned Club, and also communicated to you, I beg you will understand that no grounds exist for giving the matter any further consideration whatever,

I beg to request you to communicate this to the President and Vice-President of the above-mentioned Club.

I have, &c., (Signed) Sufu Kohei, (Seal).
Baron.
Governor of Kawagawa Ken.

J. C. Hall, Esq., H B.M.'s Consul-General.

P.S.—I beg to inform you also that I am investigating a scheme whereby, in accordance with the wishes of the citizens, both Japanese and foreign, of this port, in future a section of the park is set apart which will be sufficient for general public sports and for a play-ground, without distinction between Japanese and foreigners. It is, however, my intention that on no account is the giving of any special privileges to private individuals or to corporations to be permitted.

You will notice that the postscript sounds the first note of victory on the side of the Y. C. & A. C. by intimating that it was under consideration to set apart a portion of the Public Garden as a play-ground for joint use with the Japanese, and convincing the two committees that a respectful maintenance of the protest that had already been put in to Baron Sufu would eventually lead to the recognition of our right to the use of the present Ground. Accordingly a letter was addressed to Mr. Harrington on 21st August (Mr. Hall being absent) for transmission to Baron Sufu, as follows:

(COPY.)

Yokohama, 21st August, 1909.

Dear Sir,—We desire to inform you that a combined meeting of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club Committee and the Advisory Committee, was held yesterday afternoon in the Pavilion to consider Baron Sufu's letter to Consul-General Hall, dated 27th ultimo, a copy of which you kindly furnished Dr. Wheeler with on the 18th instant.

The general opinion was that in view of our letter to Baron Sufu, dated 23rd ult., informing him that we had placed the matter in the hands of our Official Representatives, no direct notice of Baron Sufu's letter of the 27th idem to Consul General Hall, should be taken.

But in response to Mr. Rumbold's request made privately through your goodself for an expression of the views of the Y. C. & A. C. as regards the joint use of the *present* ground with the Japanese,—without withdrawing or modifying in any way the rights we believe that the Y.C. & A.C. are entitled to enjoy under the Revised Treaties to the use of the ground,—it was resolved that if nothing better could be obtained, a precisely similar arrangement to that in force at Kobe, as regards the Recreation Ground there, would be satisfactory to the members of the Y C. & A.C.

We have the honour to be, your obedient servants,
(Signed) Edwin Wheeler, President.
(Signed) D. H. Blake, Vice-President.

T. J. Harrington, Esq.,
H.B.M.'s Acting Vice-Consul, Yokohama,

In connection with that letter I am sure it will interest members to hear the arrangement under which the Kobe Recreation Ground has been worked conjointly with Japanese for a great number of years.

MEMORANDUM. KOBE RECREATION GROUND.

The original arrangement whereby foreigners and Japanese jointly use the Recreation Ground in Kobe is contained in an Agreement between the Japanese Government and the Foreign Minister of date August 19th, 1875, wherein it is stated that the entire management of the ground is left to the "Municipal Council of the Foreign Settlement of Kobe" which holds it as a "perpetual trust for the common recreation of foreigners and Japanese" (vide p. 1153 of "Treaties and Conventions between the Empire of Japan and other Powers" published by Japan Foreign Office 1884)

On the revised Treaties coming into operation the Japan Authorities took the place of the Municipal Council, and the Shiyakusho, with the idea of allowing the foreigners to have an appearance of joint interest, appointed a Committee called the Kobe Recreation Ground Upkeep Committee to look after the ground. The members of the Committee are influential Japanese and foreigners, the Mayor or Vice-Mayor being Chairman. All applications for use of the ground are made to Mr. Lightfoot, Secretary of the Committee, who, on behalf of the Committee, writes "approved" on the application and forwards it to the Chairman. The latter grants the application and the "permit" has to be produced to the constable stationed on the ground, whose duty it is to see that the ground is only used under proper authority. The Cricket and Football Clubs obtain their "permits" for the season (not on each separate occasion).

The Cricket and Football Clubs pay for the upkeep of the ground (including turfing, etc.) and this gives them an indefinable privilege to the use of the ground, but no difficulty ever arises with the Japanese, as the latter (usually schoolboys) only use the ground for baseball on Sundays, and occasionally on other days for matches.

There is a pavilion ("hut," according to Mr. Lightfoot, is a better description) owned and used by the Cricket Club, but permission to use it is never asked, as clubs using the ground always arrive "togged." The Football Club also have a pavilion which is used as a theatre, etc., but this pavilion and the cricket pavilion are outside the paling of the Recreation Ground. Tax is paid for the land on which these pavilions stand, the ground having been granted to the K.R. & A.C. by the former Municipal Council in 1869. No lease or other written authority for holding the ground actually exists.

The Shiyakusho (City Office), not the Kencho (Public Office) are the controllers.

The next phase of the proceedings opened after Sir Claude MacDonald's arrival when a Sub-Committee was appointed by the other members of both Committees to interview Sir Claude on the question. Their repart was submitted to a meeting of the Combined Committees on Wednesday last, and reads as follows:

Yokohama, October 26.

We, the undersigned, in pursuance of the duty assigned to us as a Sub-Committee by the joint Cricket Club and Advisory Committees at the meeting held at the Cricket Pavilion on the 27th of September, to interview Sir Claude MacDonald with regard to the preservation of the present Cricket Ground, desire to place on record the result of our labours as follows:—

In the first place, as instructed by the above meeting, we called on Consul General Hall, and asked him to obtain for us an appointment with Sir Claude MacDonald, which he kindly promised to do. We took advantage of this interview with Consul-General Hall to ask him if he still adhered to his opinion that the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club were in legal possession of the present ground, and that the burden of proof to the contrary rested on the Japanese authorities before they could legally request the Cricket Club to withdraw; to which question he unhesitatingly answered in the affirmative, and added that he confirmed the advice he had already given on many occasions, viz., to maintain an attitude of respectful, silent protest, doing nothing to provoke Japanese

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hostility whilst quietly disregarding the Governor's notice to remove the palings, pavilion, etc.

At our interview with Sir Claude MacDonald at the British Embassy on the evening of the 30th of Sept., we found His Excellency sympathetic in the extreme, and although informing us that so far as he had been able to go into the question, the weight of evidence appeared to him to be against the claims of the Y.C. & A.C. to the use of the ground, still he had an open mind and was ready to be convinced, in fact would like to be convinced in the opposite direction. "Nor will it take much to convince me," he said, "and I shall see Consul-General Hall at the earliest possible moment (to whom we had referred as the authority of our opinions) for such evidence as he can produce in support of his own convictions." Sir Claude added that even if Consul-General Hall failed to convince him, he would use his best efforts based on all the arguments he could bring forward, and also take advantage of his very close personal friendship with His Excellency Count Komura, to obtain for the Y.C. & A.C. what they so much desired, viz. the preservation and continued use of the present ground conjointly with Japanese Clubs, under the same or similar regulations to those in force at Kobe.

We left the Embassy in high spirits, and with good hopes of what Sir Claude would be able to do for us, unfortunately hopes destined only to be crushed by his letter to Mr. Mollison dated 9th October, reading as follows:—

British Embassy, Tokyo,
Oct. 9th, 1909

Dear Mr. Mollison,—I saw Mr. Hall (as I promised your Committee) on the 6th inst. and he entirely failed to produce the least evidence that we have a Treaty right to the Cricket Ground, indeed most of the evidence he produced went to prove diametrically the opposite. The map which went to The Hague, and from which I hoped great things, is, I am sorry to say, worthless, and proves nothing. A careful examination of the papers shows me, and everybody else who has examined them (Mr. Rumbold, Hampden, Crowe, Bonar), that we have a treaty right to use the whole of the Public Gardens as a recreation ground in conjunction with the Japanese, and that is all. If the Japanese Authorities granted a lease of a certain portion of it for the purpose of playing cricket or any particular game, or games, they were acting contrary to the terms of the Treaty. If the Cricket Committee do not agree with my view (and that of the eminent authorities I have mentioned), and will appoint two of their members to go through the dossier, I will hand it over to them and they can satisfy themselves. My advice is to approach the Japanese Authorities in an amicable manner, when I am sure something can be arranged. If you like, I will come down to Yokohama, go over the ground with your Committee, and when we have decided what we want, I will tackle Governor Sufu, who is the only man who has full powers to deal with the subject on the Japanese side.

Believe me, yours sincerely,
Claude M. MacDonald.

This was a severe blow to us, but after mature consideration we decided to answer Sir Claude's letter as follows, under date of 14th October:—

No. 48, Yokohama,
14th October, 1909.

My Dear Sir Claude,—Many thanks for your letter dated 9th inst., which I at once passed on to Mr. Williamson Jones and Mr. Blake for perusal; and we have since discussed the contents together, also in consultation with Mr. Hall.

We are all, of course, very much disappointed to learn that you are not yet convinced of the soundness of the Club's contention as to the existence of its right to use the ground and the guarantee of the right by the last clause of the Settlements Article of the Revised (existing) Treaties.

Pending your further consideration, however, of this point, in the light of such further evidence as we may be able to adduce, we are in hopes of being able to convince you that we are, in fact, now in lawful use and occupation of the Cricket Ground, and that the Japanese Authorities have not yet shown us what right they have to evict us after more than a generation of lawful and unquestioned occupation and enjoyment of a plot of ground which the Japanese Government itself, under what we hold to be a binding agreement, granted for our use, nearly forty years ago, and for the laying out and upkeep of which, throughout that long period, they have not contributed so much as a single *sen*, everything being paid by the Club.

If we succeed in convincing you on this point, we shall feel that we have made a big stride towards the attainment of our desires, which, in a few words, and in respose to your enquiry, are simply the preservation of the present Cricket Ground, and the retention of the paling, the Pavilion and other buildings which are necessary adjuncts to the use of the ground for Cricket and other sports, indeed to the Club's existence. That is what we want, and what we hope through your good offices we shall obtain under an arrangement for joint use with the Japanese Clubs, similar to what has worked smoothly at Kobe for a great number of years.

We highly appreciate your kind offer to lend the dossier for study by the Sub-Committee, and if you will kindly send it to the Consulate we shall take an early opportunity of going through it with Mr. Hall, whose assistance we rely on to elucidate points of difficulty.

We also appreciate your kind offer to come down and go over the ground with the Committee, and hope to be able to make an appointment convenient to yourself to that end very shortly.

We quite recognize the wisdom of your advice to approach the Japanese Authorities in an amicable manner, and hope you don't consider what we have done hitherto bears any other complexion. We have great confidence in what your own personal representations to Count Komura can obtain for us, and as a definite settlement of the question can hardly be hoped for in the near future, we should feel greatly indebted if in your negotiations with Count Komura you would suggest to him the desirability of a continuation of the present *status quo*, or a provisional working arrangement based on the Kobe lines, until such time as a solid basis of agreement has been arrived at.

Yours sincerely.

By way of reply to this letter we received an intimation through Mr. Harrington on the 21st inst. that Mr. Rumbold would meet the Sub-Committee at the Consulate at 2.45 p.m. on the 22nd inst., to go through the dossier with them, and that thereafter at 4.15 p.m. Sir Claude MacDonald himself would come down and communicate to the Sub Committee, also to as many of the Cricket Club and Advisory Committee as cared to be present, his matured views of the question.

Mr. Mollison, with the concurrence of Mr. Williamson Jones and Mr. Blake, intimated to Consul-General Hall their opinion, that they would prefer to meet Sir Claude alone, that is as a Sub-Committee especially appointed for the purpose, because in their opinion a crowd was likely to lead to confusion and possibly to incoherence. Accordingly, Mr. Mollison and Mr. Williamson Jones met Mr. Rumbold at 2.45 p.m. on the 22nd inst. Mr. Blake coming in later, and in the presence of Consul General Hall and Mr. Harrington, the latter of whom did the reading, went through the dossier as far as was possible before Sir Claude arrived. As the result of going through the dossier we desire to record that it in no way changed our convictions that the Y.C. & A.C. are entitled to the use of the present Cricket Ground conjointly with the Japanese, under the 18th Clause of the existing Treaty, by binding agreements made between the Japanese Government and the Foreign Representative, and that the onus of proof why the Club should not continue enjoying their rights devolves upon the former.

The Sub-Committee then adjourned to Mr. Crowe's room at the Consulate, where a meeting was held at which Sir Claude MacDonald presided.

James P. Mollison.
Williamson Jones.
D. H. Blake.

At that meeting Mr. Harrington made a statement endeavouring to prove that the Y.C. & A.C. had no right to the use of the present Ground, and the meeting was voted adjourned on Friday evening last when Consul-General Hall was invited and asked to give his matured views, which he did. The result was a vote of 9 to nil—two gentlemen not voting—that a letter should be signed by the President and the Vice President and sent to Baron Sufu. Mr Blake was willing to sign it as Vice-President, but Dr. Wheeler declined without the approval of the members of the Club. That, gentlemen, is what I ask you to give Dr. Wheeler, and if you do so, and maintain our eloquent and respectful protest against the removal of the turf and buildings which it embodies, I feel convinced that for years to come we shall see the Y.C. & A.C. enjoying the privileges of the present ground in friendly intercourse with the Japanese. (Loud applause.)

Mr. HENSON thanked Mr. Mollison for his able speech, but said he would like to reply to his criticisms. The members of the Club of course appreciated the hard work that had been done by the two Committees, who in their difficult task had experienced a great deal of trouble. With the permission of the members he would read a letter which he wrote and forwarded to the Club in March last.

No. 1, Yamashita-cho, 19th March, 1909.

Cyril Allen, Esq.,
Hon. Sec., Y. C. & A. Club.

Dear Mr. Allen,—An important Tokyo engagement preventing my being present at this afternoon's General Meeting I write to ask whether you are sure of your facts in stating in the Report, under the heading of "Lease of Cricket Ground," that "as the Club's interests are protected by Treaty we look forward to a speedy and satisfactory solution of the question." Solicitude for the interests of the Club prompts me to suggest the advisability of making certain of our position before taking action, which might place the Japanese authorities in a false position in the minds of the members and the foreign community generally and ultimately result in a breach impossible to repair.

So far as I understand the question the granting of the lease must be viewed in the light of a favour conferred by the Governor of Kanagawa Ken or the Municipal Authorities upon the members of the Club, and in declining to renew the lease the authorities would be strictly within their rights.

Unless I am misinformed the Public Garden was, under Convention of the 29th December, 1866, reserved free of rent for the use of foreigners and Japanese, it being stipulated that the Governor of Kanagawa Ken and the foreign Consuls would concert measures for defraying the expenses of preserving the grounds and maintaining order therein. It seems, however, that the foreign consuls did not secure the means of defraying their share of the expenses and at some date subsequent to the above Convention the Japanese authorities assumed entire control of the Gardens, leasing a part of the ground for residential purposes and granting a lease of the central portion to the Y.C. & A.C. for exclusive use. Just when this change was effected I cannot say, but the status of the Public Garden has changed very considerably since the Convention of 1866, and I should be greatly surprised to learn that the Club was protected in any way by Treaty stipulations.

So far as I am in a position to judge, the Club's tenure is under terminable lease, which the lessor has the right to determine this year.

My suggestion is that we should apply to the Japanese authorities for a renewal of the lease not as a right but as the continuation of a greatly esteemed favour. The Cricket Ground is so freely used by all the younger members of the community that its loss would be felt as a distinct hardship by the foreign residents. This is the 50th anniversary of the opening of Yokohama to foreign trade and residence, and it would be a gracious act on the part of the Japanese authorities to renew the lease and one that would do much to cement the mutual feelings of regard and esteem that are now making themselves manifest in so many directions between foreign and Japanese residents of this city.

If you think it desirable you have my permission to read this letter at the meeting this afternoon.

Yours truly,
H. V. Henson.

It would thus be seen that the views he held with regard to the tenure of the ground were not forced upon him as a result of what had taken place during the past few days. As they had just heard, the two Committees had decided that it was better not to approach the Japanese and ask for a continuation of the lease as a favour, but claimed it as a right. The result of that policy was shown that evening. They were assembled in a building for the use of which they had to obtain the permission of the Japanese authorities; their Cricket Ground was taken from them, and they were at the present time a Cricket Club without a Cricket Ground. The labours of the two committees had not been satisfactory. Mr. Mollison had spoken of the early pioneers and their association with the ground, but he (Mr. Henson) could not understand these men being willing to enter into negotiations for a lease of the ground if they were entitled to its use by Treaty, as alleged. He did not propose to enter into any argument regarding the lengthy statement read by Mr. Mollison, or the views of Mr. Hall contained therein, but he believed there was a gentleman present who would be able to give an opinion on the points raised. He was afraid that if the Club adhered to the protest sent in to the Japanese authorities it would serve no useful purpose, but would cause considerable ill-feeling. He understood the protest sent in by the two Committees to the Governor had created a very bad impression, and until it was withdrawn no satisfactory settlement was likely to be arrived at. He desired to know why the Committees did not call a special meeting of the members of the Club and define their course of action before taking steps which were likely to antagonise the Japanese. He understood on good authority that as long as the protest stood the Governor of the Ken would do nothing to assist the Club to obtain decent terms for a new ground,

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and in view of this he proposed the following resolution :—

"That this extraordinary general meeting of the Y.C. & A.C. instruct the Committee to withdraw the protest of July 23rd last, and to request an interval of two weeks to make arrangement for the disposition of the Club property."

Mr. M. B. LENDRUM seconded the motion.

Mr. MOLLISON suggested that Mr. Henson had not quite grasped the full statement made by him earlier in the meeting. The Committee in March last sent in to the Japanese authorities asking for a continuation of the lease of the ground, but that request brought forth no answer.

Mr. HENSON said he fully understood the meaning. The Committee had adopted a policy diametrically opposed to the one suggested by him: they made a protest claiming absolute right to the ground.

Mr. DUKE MARSHALL said there was one phase of the question which had not been referred to, and upon which he desired some information. He believed that about ten years ago the Y.C. & A.C. signed a lease with the Japanese Government, in which there was a clause that the Club would vacate the ground at three months' notice. If that was so, he could not see what reason they had for repudiating a contract made ten years ago.

Mr. T. Harrington, in the course of a lengthy statement, said the report made to the meeting by Mr. Mollison was not quite complete. Reference had been made to Article 18 of the Treaty, and with their permission he would read the particular section which referred to the Cricket Ground as follows :—

"All lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the said Settlements shall, subject to the right of eminent domain, be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart."

They would see that no mention was made of a Cricket Ground, and if the Club failed to show that the ground was originally set apart as a Cricket Ground, then their case was very weak indeed. In 1872 the following letter was sent by the Cricket Club to the British Consul :—

(COPY.)

Yokohama, 18th December, 1871.

Russell Robertson, Esq., H.B.M. Consul.

Sir,—Herewith I beg to hand you a copy of a letter addressed to His Excellency Sir Harry S. Parkes, by the Committee of the Yokohama Cricket Club, with reference to the formation of a New Ground, together with the scheme referred to therein showing the steps the Club are prepared to take in order to obtain the requisite concession from the Japanese Authorities.

Asking your kind attention to the enclosed and your assistance in his matter.

I am, Sir, &c., (Signed) Evan J. Fraser.
Hon. Sec.,
Yokohama Cricket Club.

Mr. HARRINGTON pointed out that in article 4 of the lease of the Cricket Ground signed between Governor Oki Morikata, of Kanagawa Prefecture, and Messrs. Edgar Abbott, Duncan McLaren, and A. Livingstone Robinson in 1884, it was stated that if the Governor "desires to cancel the lease of the said plot of ground for public reasons he shall give six months' notice of such intention to cancel to the Committee of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club," and failure to comply with any of the above conditions stipulated in the Agreement "shall render this deed null and void, and the ground shall revert to the Japanese Government. In view of this he thought it would be dignified action on the part of the members to comply with the conditions of the lease. (Applause.)

LEASE OF GROUND.

In pursuance of the Regulations controlling properties owned by the Government issued by Imperial Ordinance No. 275, and of those referring to the management of land owned by the Government issued by Imperial Ordinance No. 276, 1899, Asada Yasunori, Governor of Kanagawa Ken, does hereby lease a plot of Government ground, situated within the Yokohama Public Garden, to E. Flint Kilby, H. A. Stewart and H. A. C. Bonar, as the Representatives of the Yokohama Cricket & Athletic Club and the Representatives in succession who shall be properly elected and approved of by the said Governor, to whom a report shall be made as to his election, under the following conditions :—

1.—The said plot of ground shall be used as a Cricket and Athletic ground and its lessee shall be held responsible for all the expenses necessary for its maintenance and preservation.

2.—The said lessee shall not apply the said plot of ground for any purpose other than that for which it was originally leased, unless he has obtained special permission.

3.—The said plot of ground lies within the limits of the plan annexed hereto and its area is 5,516 tsubo.

4.—The term of the lease of the said plot of ground shall be 10 years from 29th July, 1899, up to 28th July, 1909. Should the said Governor see no obstacles, the term of lease might be renewed after the expiration of the present term of lease, and the relative rent, according to the rates prevailing at that time, increased or lowered.

5.—The rent of the said plot of ground shall be Yen 410.28 per annum and shall be paid in advance upon receipt of an order of payment dated the 1st April of each year, but the rent for a term from the date of this contract up to the 31st March, 1900, shall be paid in advance on the day on which this deed is signed.

6.—Should it happen that the said plot of ground be needed by the Imperial Government of Japan even within the term of this deed for a public purpose, the said Governor might then cancel this deed and order the surrender of the said plot of ground. In which case the lessee shall be entitled to make any demand for compensation for any loss which he might have directly sustained thereby.

7.—Should the lessee desire to surrender the said plot of ground at his convenience within the term of this deed, a three months' previous notice to this effect shall be given to the said Governor, and all the buildings etc., on the said plot of ground shall be removed without any compensation and surrendered plot of ground restored to its original condition. In this case, no outstanding balance, if any, of the rent already paid in shall be refunded.

8.—Whenever any public nuisance should be caused by the fact of the use of the said plot of ground, or whenever it should be found necessary on account of the enforcement of laws or ordinances, the said Governor might at any time add to or cancel or change the articles of this deed without any compensation.

9.—Should the lessee act contrarily to the said Imperial Ordinances or to the articles of this deed, the said Governor might cancel this deed. In this case, all the buildings shall within 3 months be removed by the lessee without any compensation and the said plot of ground surrendered, restoring the said plot of ground to its original condition. Should, after the expiration of the said period, the lessee neglect to perform it, the said Governor will cause it to be executed and the expenses thereby incurred shall be collected from the said lessee. In this case any outstanding balance, if any, of the rent already paid in, shall not be refunded.

10.—The deed granted by Oki Morikata, Governor of Kanagawa Ken, under date of 10th July, 1884, with reference to the leasing of the said plot of ground shall loose its efficacy on the date of the present deed.

In witness whereof Asada Yasunori, Governor of Kanagawa Ken, hath hereunto set his hand and affixed his seal of office the 29th day of the seventh month of the 32nd year of Meiji, or the 29th July, 1899.

(Signed) Asada Yasunori,
Governor of Kanagawa Ken.

Accepted on the above-mentioned terms and conditions.

(Sgd) E. Flint Kilby (Presdt.)
H. A. Stewart (Hon. Sec.)
Henry A. C. Bonar (Member of Comm.)

AGREEMENT AS TO USE OF LAWN BY YOKOHAMA CRICKET CLUB.

That the Yokohama Cricket Club be allowed upon the Lawn in the proposed Public Garden, the necessary ground over which they can put a superior quality of turf. That around this plot they be allowed to put a neat moveable fence for the purpose of preventing injury thereto by constant public use. That they be given over this plot a nominal control. That whenever the plot is desired for any other game or games, a request in writing to that effect shall be made to the said Cricket Club, who, it is understood, will at all times grant the same. It is distinctly understood that any disputes which may arise relating to the plot of ground shall be referred to the Consular Body, and decided by the majority, who may also, if they see reasonable cause, revoke the privilege in question.

Mr. D. H. Blake after referring to the *personnel* of the Club Committee and the Advisory Committee, said that with regard to Mr. Henson's suggestion that they should have asked for the ground as a favour, he would point out that this was done on many occasions, and it was only when the Committee found such a course produced no results, that they decided, in the interests of the Club to register their protest with the Japanese authorities. He thought that after the discussion which had taken place the members would admit that there were two sides to the question, and strong arguments in support of both. He himself would be one of the first to resent causing the Japanese authorities any undue irritation. He would be the first to support them in anything he thought to be right, and he would be glad to endorse the suggestion of Mr. Henson if he could see it was the correct thing to do: but before committing themselves to any definite action which would put them out of the present grounds, and possibly lead to the dissolution of the Club, it might be will to take independent legal advice to ascertain whether or not they had any Treaty right to its us.

Further discussion then ensued, on the conclusion of which Mr. Henson's resolution was put to the meeting as follows :—

"That this extraordinary general meeting of the Y. C. & A. C. instruct the Committee to withdraw the protest of July 23rd last and to request an interval of two weeks to make arrangements for the disposition of the Club property."

On a show of hands 30 voted in favour and 67 against, a number remaining neutral. The result was greeted with loud applause.

Mr. Mollison proposed that a letter read early in the meeting, approaching the Japanese authorities with a view to securing joint control of the Cricket Ground, and offering to co operate with them in promoting its upkeep, be signed by the President and Vice-President of the Club and forwarded to the proper quarter.

Mr. Williamson Jones seconded the motion.

Mr. A. J. Cornes proposed as an amendment that Sir Claude MacDonald be requested to arrange for securing a piece of ground for the use of a cricket pitch by the Club.

Mr. R. C. Bowden seconded the amendment, which on being put to the vote was carried.

Mr. Mollison proposed a further amendment as follows :—

"That the Y.C. & A.C. respectfully ask Sir Claude MacDonald to forward to the British Foreign Office a full statement of the case, and ask for the opinion of Sir Edward Grey, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs."

Mr. D. H. Blake seconded.

Mr. Henson pointed out that the Club was not exclusively British. Why not refer the matter to the other foreign Governments as well?

Mr. Mollison's amendment was then put to the vote and carried by a large majority.

This concluded the business of the meeting

TO TOKU-NO-SHIMA AND ALL AROUND IT.

(COMMUNICATED.)

The front door of the group of Islands which make up the county of Oshima, the extreme southern port of Kagoshima Prefecture is the little part of Naze in the island of Amami Oshima. Murray says "As there is nothing to see in Amami Oshima except the snake laboratory, a stay in Naze is not to be recommended." One wonders whether the authors of the Hand-book ever saw the snake laboratory, or if so, how the sight of it, as I saw it last year, with seven hundred squirming, hissing *habu*, waiting like so many dairy cattle, to give up their venom under the skillful manipulation of their keepers, could be dismissed in such a cold, matter-of-fact way. So successfully have snakes and scientists performed their parts in the past few years that an ample supply of serum has been accumulated, and Naze's chief attraction is closed for the present. A great fire which occurred three years ago burned up the low thatched huts which formed the old village, and a new one with well constructed Japanese houses with roofs of tile, has taken its place.

The most interesting feature of Naze, to the tourist obliged to spend a few days there, is a very good inn, the best one of the long chain of Ikebataya's, which extends from Kagoshima to Formosa. Steamship and forwarding agents,

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hotel-keepers and general commission merchants, the Ikebata firm has its branches in all the islands and is a very important factor in their development. In addition to the Osaka Shosen Kwaisha and the Kagoshima Yusen Kwaisha, the lines which call at Naze *en route* from Osaka via Kagoshima to Okinawa, the Ikebata firm is agent for another line, the Taiyo Shosen Kwaisha, which runs two steamers for the special Oshima Island trade. One of these steamers runs from Kagoshima to Naze direct and then, calling wherever there is a possibility of either freight or passengers, to Voronjima, the most southern island of Kagoshima-ken.

In size about 800 tons, this steamer has the rather curious name of the *Shinfuro Maru.* (新不老) "the New Never Growing Old *Maru.*"—The "New" in the name serves to distinguish it from its predecessor, another ever juvenile vessel which met its fate a few years ago off the southern coast of Toku-no-Shima.

The New Never Ageing was due to leave Naze on the 6th, so my telegram told me; but about eleven o'clock on the night of the 5th, her whistle was heard in the bay on her return from Rikai, another island of the Oshima group, and we were informed that she would go out at once. We were soon up, dressed and aboard, and at 3 o'clock on the morning of the 6th our voyage began. The sea was choppy and of the voyage little needs to be said. It had no interest for us. With steady steaming the distance would be covered in seven or eight hours, but the New Never Old does not steam steadily by any means, and the night of the 6th found us at ancher at Sammura on the east coast of Toku-no-Shima, some two hours from Kametsu, our desired haven.

Before daylight the next morning, we got our anchor up and started on our voyage again, and as we came in sight of Kametoku, the port of Kametsu, we could easily understand why our Captain did not care to enter it after nightfall. stretching away down the coast ran a reef over which broke one of the finest surfs I have ever seen in Japan.

The Island of Toku-no-Shima on which we thus landed has a population of about 42,000. Kametsu, its largest town with between 7000 and 8000, is also the largest town in the whole county of Oshima.

This whole group of islands belonged to the old province of Osumi. Most of the people whom I met spoke Japanese, but I heard enough of the island dialect to realize that, while it was not that with which my ears had grown familiar in Satsuma, neither was it the dialect of Loo Choo. If some one who had the ability to do so were to trace these dialects from Satsuma through Osumi and then from island to island, to the heart of the Loo-choo group, most valuable results would be obtained.

Another matter which would repay careful study, and which ought to be thoroughly investigated before it wholly disappears, is the tattooing on the hands of the women. This differs from island to island, that on Oshima proper being marked by a series of little crosses, probably conventionalized forms of the *itomaki*, the spools on which the thread is wound, which forms so conspicuous a feature of the Oshima woman's life. The Toku no Shima tattooing I should take to be a representation of the head of the fish-spear, of which I shall speak later.

The women's tattooed hands formed the one striking feature in which Toku no Shima resembled Loo Choo. For the rest, one could easily imagine himself in South Satsuma. The dress, both of men and women; the soft *obis* (heko-obi) tied in front; the dressing of the hair; all were like Satsuma. The people, too, looked like the Satsuma people, and from what I could hear and see, their dispositions seemed to resemble those of their mainland neighbours.

The little samisens resembled those of Loo-choo and, as in Loo-choo, were played by the men and not by the women; but the songs were not set to the weird unforgetable tunes which every visitor associates with his nights in Loo Choo.

Another feature which resembles Loo Choo is the stone walls which everywhere line the village lanes and here, as in Loo Choo, afford a harbour for the *habu*, the poisonous snake which is far more common than in Okinawa. I did not see any of them, however, and even where they are most common they are not half so dangerous as electric cars, automobiles or even horses.

The method of carrying burdens differed from anything I have seen either in Japan or Loo Choo, though I dare say it may be found somewhere in the main land. Women and, to some extent, men too, carried their loads on their back supported by a wide band over the forehead precisely in the way the Southern California Indian squaw carries a load. This method of carrying gives the woman the use of both hands, but it does not give her the fine erect bearing so characteristic of the women of Loo Choo.

While we were studying these things, the *Shinfurō Maru* had gone on her way to Okiyerabu and Yorou, and we expected her back some time on the second day. Her return was eagerly awaited by the whole village of Kametsu, for on her was to come the *Toshi san* (島) the island Governor, as the Oshima *Gemcho* is locally called. Great preparations had been made for his reception. A general meeting of the Red Cross Society, and a meeting of the local benevolent society, and an exhibition of sugar products were all waiting his arrival from Oki Yerabu, whether he had gone by the *Shinfurō Maru* on her previous trip. But one day, two days passed, and no word came either from the *Toshi sama* or the *Shinfurō Maru.* But at last on Saturday a telegram came from *Toshi* saying that he was ill and appointing some one to represent him at the various meetings. These were accordingly at once appointed for eight o'clock the next morning and so satisfactorily does the representation system work in Japan that I did not hear a single regret afterwards that the Island Governor could not come. One of the men of the village, empowered as his representative, came in his place; what more could be asked?

Fortunately for us, our ship did not decide to adopt a similar policy, and about nine o'clock Saturday night, the local Ikebataya branch sent a notice around the village that the *Shinfurō Maru* would arrive in the morning, and accordingly before I was fairly out of bed a man came for my luggage with the news that she was in sight and would go out at once.

But matters were not to proceed in such a rush as that. It was ten o'clock before we could get our tickets bought, all our good-byes said and ourselves aboard. We found the captain pacing the deck, eager to get off. The company's contracts require it to make thirty voyages a year, and no time must be lost if it is to be done. But still we waited, and ever and anon the captain pulled frantically at the whistle cord. He could not leave without the mails, and though the steamer had been expected at any hour for two days, nothing had been done in the way of getting them ready until after its arrival. Another hour passed and still we waited. Finally about twelve o'clock the two little bags of mail were sent aboard, and we were off.

Off this time, on a course which carried us right around the island, down the east coast and up the west. The north wind, which had blown steadily for the last four days, had abated, the breakers were almost quiet and scarcely a ripple played on the blue water as the *Shinfuro Maru* glided down the coast. So still was the surface that it was easy to see the bottom in fifteen fathoms of water. The sea seemed alive with flying fish, and their antics and the ever-changing panorama of the shore furnished us with constant excitement until Shikaura was reached.

Before we reached this point, however, the plain on which Kametsu is built had given place to a tableland, upon the top of which we could see everywhere the little patches of growing sugar-cane. This tableland is broken here by a little valley and were this debouches into the beach stood three houses, all that could be seen of Shikaura. One of these was a new Government warehouse, to inspect which we had brought a customs official. A fine large boat with five upholstered chairs, four of which were occupied by local officials, came off to meet us and welcome the inspector. There was no freight and no passengers, but we dropped anchor and waited until the inspection and attendant jollification were over.

While we were watching the proceedings on the shore, there came round the bow of the steamer what I at first thought was the wreck of a fishing boat. There were three men swimming in the water, dragging after them their tackle and catch. It was no wreck, however, but their ordinary, daily method of fishing. They wore goggles to enable them to see under water and carried a spear as well as lines for hand-fishing. When engaged at this they supported themselves in the water by means of a small cask so adjusted by ropes over the shoulders as to come just under the breast. Whenever an opportunity offered, however, the float was quickly cast off and they dived into the water to secure their prey with the spear. Prey seems the only appropriate term for fish taken in that way, and the men seemed as much at home in the water as the fish themselves. They had taken a long string of small fish and four large ones. These were beauties, two of them a deep red and the other two, brown and dark spots. Called by the ship's steward, they brought these aboard and after some bargaining the steward bought the lot, nineteen pounds in all, for one *yen* and forty-five *sen*. Their sale over, I had a chance to talk with them a little. They had been in the water six hours, they told me. They were in high glee, having in six hours' work made forty-five *sen* apiece and a string of small fish besides.

More than an hour had passed and our captain was again getting impatient. After he had given three or four series of frantic whistles, our official passenger was duly escorted back to the ship and we turned our prow round the southern end of the island toward Hetono. Our business here was to take on board the *Toshi*, who had been left there sick by our steamer on her way to Kametsu. High on the beach here, a warning to mariners to sail carefully around these surf-beaten reefs, lies the rusting boiler of the old *Never Ageing Maru*, the bones of which lie in the deep water somewhere near our anchorage.

The Island governor safely on board, we continued up the rocky west coast of Toku-no Shima until within sight of the village of San, where we had anchored at first. Here we turned sharply to the north toward the east coast of Kakerama-jima, the large island separated from Amami Oshima by the Amami Kaikyo channel. Some four hours of rather rough sea brought us to Komiya, at the entrance to the channel.

Once in this channel, we had some fourteen miles of a beautiful sail. The calm water, the dark mountainous background, the hundreds of lights from fishing boats everywhere, and, over all, the still night and solemn stars. How beautiful it was! Every few miles we stopped to take on passengers and freight. Dried fish (*Katsuboshi*), chickens, bananas, eggs in straw ropes, and bamboo carriers, every sort of marketable thing came on board. At every stop, too, even in the small hours of the morning, the eager country people, men and boys, women and girls, would throng the ship, peep into her cabins, gaze at her engine and go away with a wider and broader outlook in life and the world. Everywhere my white face was of the deepest interest, but everywhere, everyone was respectful and polite. No pushing, no crowding, only the firm purpose to see everything that could be seen, which I, too, possessed.

At last we passed the village of Taken and came out of the channel onto the west coast of the island of Amami Oshima. Thence three hours more and we rounded the point into the harbour of Oshima, and my share of the *Shinfuro's* voyage was completed.

Naha, Loochoos.

THE P. & O. Company will celebrate the seventieth anniversary of the granting of its charter next year. The foundations of this great line were laid considerably before 1840, but it was in that year that it was formally incorporated. The Cunard Line was also established in 1840, and will complete seventy years Atlantic service on July 4 of next year.

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OUR LONDON LETTER.

London, October 8.

The opening of the Theatrical Season has been marked by two events of more than ordinary interest. The first was an experiment conceived, and carried out in a great measure, by Madame Georgette Leblanc Maeterlinck, the wife of Monsieur Maurice Maeterlinck. The experiment consisted in the presentation of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*, untrammelled as far as possible by the conventions of the stage and the limitations of the footlights. The tragedy was "lived" rather than acted, in and near the picturesque ruins of the ancient Abbey of Wandrille, near Caudebec, in Normandy. With every scene the dramatis personae moved to a new part of the Abbey or its grounds. The audience followed, retiring into dark corners, and making itself as inconspicuous as possible. Banquo and Macbeth returned from the wars, and were received by Duncan upon a broad terrace of the Chateau, whilst the witches chanted very curiously, to English ears at least:

"Paddock crie Allez, allez
Le laid est beau et le beau laid
Allons flotter dans la brume,
Allons faire le tour du monde,
Dans la brume et l'air immonde."

Monsieur Maurice Maeterlinck's translation of *Macbeth* is remarkable for its conscientious effort to preserve the atmosphere of a Shakespearian play. In rendering the blank-verse portions, perhaps he has been a trifle over-conscientious, a certain coldness and lack of flexibility being the result. He is at his best when he is most original and most daring; that is to say, in his version of the witches' lines. Their Gothic romanticism, grotesque weirdness and blood-curdling quality without doubt appealed to his peculiar type of genius. He has:

"Tout autour du chaudron tourne,
Pour y jeter tour a tour
Intestins empoisonnees,
Crapauds que trente et un jours
Sous la pierre a sejourne
Qu'il y bouille, bouille,
Double, Double, puis redouble,
Le feu chante au chaudron trouble."

Madame Maeterlinck took the part of Lady Macbeth, and was seen for the first time in the refectory of the Abbey, where she read the fatal letter from her husband, which was the beginning of so much woe. King Duncan was welcomed to the Castle, at the very Castle gate, under the bright stars.

The great scene in which Lady Macbeth urges Macbeth on to the murder of Duncan passed in the refectory. There also was held the banquet to which Banquo's ghost came unbidden. The witches held their fearful orgie upon the grassy space within the cloisters, and along the cloisters glided the wraiths of the "crowned children." The sleep-walking scene was, once more, in the refectory, Lady Macbeth being seen passing along a high gallery, and then down a broad and ancient stairway. Here also Macbeth fought with Macduff his battle to the death, and so the play came to an end.

Madame Maeterlinck's method has freshness and novelty to recommend it. The members of the audience, no doubt, as they lurked in corners or peered from behind bushes, were possessed with a pleasurably fearful excitement, and a very real feeling of adventure. There must also have been a good deal of piquancy in assisting in so intimate a manner at the development of Lady Macbeth's private and domestic difficulties. But beyond this, and leaving out of account its many practical drawbacks, the innovation has little serious value. In the nature of things all art is hedged about with convention, and drama, not the least of the arts. There is little advantage in removing one set of conventions and replacing them by another; indeed the new conventions are apt to be the more obtrusive because of their very novelty. Moreover, in the case just described, can it be thought that the perambulating, eavesdropping audience that followed Madame Maeterlinck about the ruin and gardens of the Abbey of Saint Wandrille added anything thereby to their appreciation of *Macbeth*, or their conception of tragedy as a whole? The procedure departed from the restraint and the severity of appeal proper to tragedy. Better the bald announcement "This is a Blasted Heath," and the proud confidence in the interpreting imagination of the spectator.

How outraged would have been the taste of, say, Charles Lamb at the new French representation of *Macbeth*! So sensitive was he in this connection that he was of opinion that the great tragedies of Shakespeare ought not to be acted at all.

Who could have witnessed the revival of *King Lear* at the Haymarket, the second theatrical event of interest that has marked the beginning of the season, without thinking of Lamb and his famous criticism? "*The Lear* of Shakespeare cannot be acted. The contemptible machinery by which they mimic the storm which he goes out in, is not more inadequate to represent the horrors of the real elements than any actor can be to represent Lear. They might more easily propose to personate the Satan of Milton upon a stage, or one of Michael Angelo's terrible figures." This dictum is instinct with the ultra fastidiousness of its author. Shakespeare wrote the tragedy of *King Lear* for acting purposes, and it would be pity indeed if no one could be found with sufficient courage to represent it in these days. Honour and gratitude are due to Mr. Herbert Trench who has made the venture, and given to the public a *King Lear* remarkable for its dignity, its simplicity and its restraint. Too much can scarcely be said in praise of an interpretation which has had the wit and the rare taste to let the tragedy be. In direct contrast to recent revivals, when Shakespeare has been improved, explained and popularised, the producers, the actors, the scene-painters have combined to hold sacred the bleak severity of *King Lear*. The display of personality, individual charm, scenic attraction, introduction of subtle detail, these have been vigorously sacrificed and the elemental appeal preserved in its strength and unity. The result is something so convincing, so terrible, that it can only just be borne.

The spectator is brought face to face with primitive emotion, naked passion. He is assailed by a horror that will not be explained away, and a pity too immense to be described. A serious demand is made at once upon his understanding and upon his courage.

It would seem that the British public of to-day has neither the courage nor the understanding that is required. *King Lear* has run a bare three weeks, and is now to make room for something not so uncompromising. Taste is not the robust thing that it was in the days of Queen Elizabeth. The man in the street is never tired of saying that he goes to the theatre to be amused; he says it with an air of being clever and epigrammatic, with an air of finality as who shou'd close an argument for ever. The intellectual person, who prides himself on being a cut above the man in the street, loves a play that deals with social problems of a subtle kind, questions of conduct, situations moral, deadlocks, and hard cases, intrigues; these things, often in themselves sordid, are frequently treated in a manner the reverse of elevating, they are the necessities of a type of drama which did not originally spring from English soil, and which is unsuited to the national genius of this country. People who wish to be amused will doubtless crowd to see *The Arcadians*, a musical comedy, which has triumphantly survived the summer, and to the new *Dear Little Denmark*. People "who think" will ensure a long and prosperous run for Sir Arthur Pinero's singularly unpleasant and uninstructive play *Mid Channel*.

There yet remains a section of the public to be catered for by those who pull the strings in the world of theatrical enterprise. There are people who like what are called romantic plays. It is both curious and significant to observe what has been provided for these who are presumably the youthful, innocent, enthusiastic and impressionable members of society. In the first place, there is *The Whip*, the new sporting drama at Drury Lane, in which, as *The Times* has it, there is a little of everything—horses, hounds, motor-cars, wax figures, railway trains, wrongfully accused heroes, flashy adventuresses, book makers, jockeys, and fine old English gentlemen in fine old English broad-brimmed hats. There are of course machinations on the part of the wicked people, and plenty of exciting episodes; and in the end all the good sporting persons easily triumph over the bad. Poetic justice is liberally distributed all round, and the play is brought to a pleasing conclusion.

This sort of thing cannot do anyone much harm, if it can do no one any good. Although it draws an absolutely inaccurate picture of life, its tone is healthy enough. Moreover it does not deceive the most simple-minded; a Drury Lane melodrama is not expected to be true to life, any more than is a Drury Lane pantomime.

The Proud Prince at the Lyceum is as melodramatic as *The Whip*, in its way, and as broadly moral. But it stands upon a different footing, for it takes itself, and evidently expects itself to be taken, quite seriously.

The Proud Prince is King Robert of Sicily, whose story is told by Longfellow in his *Tales of a Wayside Inn*. Because of his pride, Heaven changed this Prince into the likeness of a court fool, while an angel took his place on the throne, until he had learnt humility and virtue. At the Lyceum, the play is given with great magnificence; there is lavish expenditure in the matter of colour and sound, costume and brilliant pageantry. There is no character drawing worth the name, not an ounce of real tragedy, not a scene that grips, not a moment of pathos. The religious element is treated with decency, even with a certain amount of delicacy, but with no subtlety, and with no power. The whole thing is picturesque, but unconvincing. In the end it leaves that vague impression of vulgarity, invariably produced by great display with little behind. The poetry of the story has been somewhere allowed to evaporate, its simplicity has been sacrificed, the mind is continually diverted by unessentials. The whole effect is of something meretricious

In *Arsène Lupin* is presented a popular romantic drama of another kind. The spectator of this play follows the fortunes, adventurous and gallant, of that very fashionable type of hero, the gentleman burglar. Mr. Gerald Du Maurier makes of *Arsène Lupin* a rascal of much grace and charm, who, of course, is entirely sympathetic throughout the play, which is extremely successful, and draws large audiences nightly. The truth is that there exists at present an immense vogue for this sort of thing. *Raffles, the amateur cracksman*, was a year or two ago the beau ideal admired by British boyhood, and his followers and imitators have been legion. Cheap magazines are full of stories of delightful scoundrels; and youthful patrons of the railway station bookstall have put into their hands glowing accounts of the charms of the criminal life. This literature inculcates a view of life which is extremely false, and extremely dangerous; it cultivates a taste, in reality both sordid and degrading. It upsets just and innocent notions upon the workings of society, ridicules the instinct of respect for law and order. Decent people are made to look dull or ludicrous. Courage, splendid audacity, endurance, resource, grace and beauty, these are reserved for the representatives of crime. It is a shame to see poor boys of the humbler classes, craning their necks from obscure seats in the pit or gallery; wide-eyed, flushed and eager, drinking in the pernicious stimulant of such a play as *Arsène Lupin*. It is their sight of the wonderland of Romance, and they set foot in that enchanted country falsely guided. It is their first vision of the life adventurous, and what a vision! It is not only these unfortunates who are thus subjected to deception. More expensive parts of the house are full of children. Can parents and guardians have any conception as to what they are exposing their charges? Probably none.

In these days the issues of right and wrong have become confused in every department of life, in politics, in religion, in the relations between the classes, in the relation between parents and children. Extreme leniency and slackness have become the fashion, with the doctrines of *laisser aller* and "every man a law unto himself." There is a spirit abroad of light-hearted immorality most foreign to the temper of the nation, together with a spirit of extraordinary irreverence.

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Here is a paragraph from one of the most popular of London newspapers. Let any serious person read it, and wonder at the contrast between the inherent gravity of the question under discussion, and the flippancy of its treatment.

"'The Sanctum'-private . . . . was formerly the private office of Mr. W. T. Stead, but it is now used as an office for medium and client in connection with the extraordinary and unique institution which Mr. Stead has founded and has called 'Julia's bureau.'

Here in this handsome apartment, its walls covered with photographs of the celebrities whom Mr. Stead has known in such large numbers, persons who desire to communicate with departed loved ones, can, so it is claimed, have their desire gratified, should the conditions be favourable.

Between Living and Dead. "Julia's Bureau" was opened at the end of April for communications between the living and the so-called dead in cases where there is a strong tie of affection between those who have been temporarily severed by death." Each applicant who desires to use it has to fill in a form in which he or she declares the belief that "the deceased would desire such an opening up of communication as earnestly as does the applicant."

The combination of modern business methods with Spiritualism is piquant, to say the least of it. In Mr. Stead's offices there is nothing except some rows of "Spirit photographs" to suggest anything uncommon. Persons with appointments with one or other of the mediums stay in a waiting room, which somehow reminds one of a dentist's antechamber, until they can be attended to. An outside office contains the ordinary appurtenances of a well-ordered business establishment . .

Alack for the great days of Queen Elizabeth, when Shakespeare wrote, and the citizens of London Town crowded to hear and were satisfied; when men held the spirits of the departed in wholesome awe and reverence; when *Julia's Bureau* would have been decried for the horrid desecration that it is; when Young England had no counterfeit, but true romance for the asking!

Even now, we are not forced to mourn without hope: there has been the great achievement of the conquest of the air, and news of fond adventures in the far North continues to reach us day by day.

A certain picturesque figure is happily growing more familiar every day, that of the Boy Scout. He frequents busy streets as well as lanes, woods and commons, clad in khaki shirt and breeches, wide felt hat, handkerchief knotted about his throat, bare knees and a long staff in his hand. General Sir Baden Powell's organisation of Boy Scouts is a movement which manifests its vitality all over the country. There are already more than a quarter of a million boys enrolled. The moral and physical advantages attached to it are very great. Its prime conceiver has done his work with a touch of genius; he has known how to appeal to the vivid imagination of youth, to combine romance and duty, strict military discipline with the spirit of adventure. Qualities of honour, courage, chivalry and readiness, are cultivated by the scouts almost unawares.

"The games of observation played by the Scouts are all delightful," says a writer in the *Spectator*. "Like Kim, when he practised the art of taking a quick encompassing view by trying to remember the various precious stones which had been set before him for a moment on a tray, the Scouts are always on the alert to take in all they see, and have necessarily a new interest in the most familiar scenes." No practised Scout could walk in the town without noticing, say, the number of horses as compared with motors, the contents of the shops, the size of the buildings, and so forth; or walk in the country without observing the position and amount of the water supplies, the character of the timber, and the state of the crops.

Here are the official tests for a Boy Scout. "To pass the second class test, a boy must tie four of the following knots, in less than thirty seconds for each knot: bowline, fisherman's knot, reef knot, clove hitch, and sheet bend; he must track a spoor for a quarter of a mile in not more than fifteen minutes, or describe satisfactorily the contents of one shop window out of four observed for one minute each; and he must go at Scout's pace for one mile in not more than thirteen minutes, know the Scouts' laws and signs, and the right way to fly the Union Jack. To become a first-class Scout, a boy in addition to this test must indicate the points of a compass from where he stands, make a journey alone of not less than fifteen miles from point to point, describe the proper means of saving life in various accidents, be able to read and write, have at least sixpence in the savings bank, prove that he brought a recruit and taught him to tie the six principal knots, and lay and light a fire not using more than two matches, and cook a quarter of a pound of flour and two potatoes without using cooking utensils."

The Scouts have secret signs and war dances. They honour their brother Scouts by singing for them a wild and savage chant known as the "Ingonyama Chorus." The leader of the chorus cries "Een gonyama, gonyama", which means "He is a lion!" The chorus answers "Invooboo, Yah bobo! Yah bo! Invooboo!" which means "Yes, he is better than that, he is a hippopotamus!"

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, October 9.

The Turkish special embassy to the Emperor of Russia was received at Livadia on Thursday, M. Izvolsky and the Russian Ambassador at Constantinople, M. Charikov, were present at the reception and banquet which followed to the Turks, Rifaat Pasha, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Nazim Pasha, Tigran Bey and Jemil Bey. There were thirty-six covers at the banquet, no ladies being present.

Lord Revelstoke, head of the banking house of Baring Brothers, left to-night for London after a stay of one week in Russia, which included a visit to Moscow. At the Premier Capital Lord Revelstoke was entertained by the Mayor and Corporation, speeches in favour of an extension of friendly relations with England being made, with special reference to the guest of the evening, who had been instrumental in putting on the British market the first municipal loan for Russia, that of the city of Moscow. In St. Petersburg Lord Revelstoke conferred with M. Stolipin, M. Izvolsky and M. Kokovtsev, but anything that passed can have reference only to the future. Other representatives of financial groups who were in Petersburg about the same time as Lord Revelstoke have also left for London.

At Odessa two British delegates are reported to have come to satisfactory terms with the local shipping exchange on the subject of disputed charges on exported corn from that port.

Several leading merchants from Bristol are now at Reval engaged in formulating plans for the proposed direct line of steamers from a Russian port to Bristol.

The country house of Senator Dedulin, in the Province of Jaroslaul, has been broken into and robbed, not however of any articles of intrinsic value, all of which were left untouched, but of documents and letters books, papers etc. from the archives of the family.

Senator Kovalensky, father of the young man who, in a state of disgraceful intoxication, recently fired revolvers upon the people and a policeman on the Nevsky Prospect, for which a comparatively trifling punishment was inflicted by a specially summoned court-martial, has committed suicide at the age of 49.

A duel took plake at Kovno yesterday between an officer of the garrison there and a student of the St. Petersburg University. The latter was killed on the ground.

A consignment of a million rotten eggs delivered for shipment to England was stopped at the ship's side. Before the necessary police formalities could be got through to have the lot destroyed the owners succeeded in removing from the Petersburg Port quays one-half of the quantity, which has been put on the Petersburg market. The police have destroyed the remainder and are busy seeking the consignees of the half-million sold in this cholera-stricken capital.

The Mayor of St. Petersburg is reported by the *Novoe Vremja* to have at length come to the conclusion that the cholera has become endemic in the capital of the Empire, and that no further playing with palliatives will be of any use. The Municipality has once more decided that a pure water supply and some form of sewerage are necessary to the health of the city. I believe the same decision has been arrived at on many occasions since its first appearance about forty years ago!

An official communiqué was issued yesterday on the Russo-German incident at Kharbin. It fills four columns of the *Rossia*, and includes the text of the "preliminary agreement" signed between Russia and China at Peking April 27/10 May, 1909; which was intended to make clear the situation growing out of the original agreement with China about the railway lease land, the modifications read into it owing to the Portsmouth Treaty of Peace after the Japanese War, and the rapid growth of actual needs of life under changed conditions on the spot. The attempt to bring all these into line is severely criticised by the Russian press. The main contention of Russia is that the land about the railway, that is, including Kharbin, belongs absolutely to the jurisdiction of the administration of the railway, but is under the suzerainty of China. The Portsmouth Treaty introduced "open door" and equality for all nations of opportunities in Manchuria, and Kharbin geographically is in Manchuria. Foreigners, other than Russians, began to assemble at Kharbin and there appears to have been considerable discontent with the taxes imposed by the administration of the railway. Yielding to pressure from various nationalities the Russians endeavoured to smooth matters over by a set of bye-laws which practically gave Kharbin a sort of local self-government by elected members of a board, with the supreme control left to the Railway administration and the Chinese authorities equally, and provision made, in case of these two supreme authorities disagreeing, for reference to be made to a sort of arbitration body elected by the population, irrespective of nationality.

In such a complication it is difficult to make out exactly how international rights stand. One thing, however, is clear; Russia built and made Kharbin, and did not lose it in the war, though her original intentions as to the future of this projected Capital of the Empire of the Far East have necessarily been modified. On the other hand, Kharbin has extended its boundaries beyond those marked out by the Russians. And the suzerain, China, has opened Kharbin to all nations for commerce.

Possibly the Minister of Finance, M. Kokovtsev, who leaves for the Far East on Tuesday, will succeed in producing order out of the chaos caused by the claims of various nationalities, the needs of life on the spot, and the agreements on paper. The jurisdiction of the railway is under the administration of the Minister of Finance, who will naturally deal with the whole question during his visit to the Far East.

One of those horrible domestic tragedies which throw such a sinister light upon the inner life of even good-class Russians recently came before the courts of law, and ended in an acquittal for the brother of the tortured wife on a charge of murdering the monster who for long years had ill-used his sister. It is unpleasant to record that the husband was a captain in a Russian cavalry regiment. He married the sister of another officer, and beat her systematically, besides putting even worse insults upon her wifely feelings than physical violence, which included "digging his spurs into her back" and other refinements of cruelty besides ordinary beatings. When the wife at last left him the wretch kept the children and taught them a number of abominable charges to be repeated by the infant lips to the poor mother. Her brother, returning from service in the Far East to Petersburg, endeavoured to restore peace, but his efforts resulted in a scene, in the presence of a superior officer. The husband so grossly insulted his brother-in-law and finally struck him, that the latter drew a revolver and shot him dead on the spot. He was yesterday acquitted of all blame by a court of law. It came out in evidence that the deceased was such a notorious bad character that he would have been drummed out of his regiment long ago, if it had not been for the prayers of his unfortunate wife.

At a student wedding in St. Petersburg on

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Thursday the bride's veil caught fire from the tapers held in the hand by both parties during the ceremony in the orthodox Church. Flinging down his taper, the bridegroom snatched off the veil, and the "bridemen," whose duty is to hold the crowns above the heads of the happy pair, quickly put out the flames without serious damage being done.

St. Petersburg, October 12.

The Emperor of Russia leaves Livadia to-morrow for Italy. His Majesty will not be accompanied by the Empress and Imperial family, nor will the journey be made, as originally planned, by sea. After all that Russia has gone through so recently, the fact that the Emperor is allowed by his advisers to make railway journeys through the length and breadth of the land is, in itself, the best proof of the improved condition of things in Russia. This will be the third journey by rail over a thousand miles in length taken by the Emperor in the past three months, in Russian territory.

The bye-elections in Moscow and in Odessa have both resulted in the return by an absolute majority over all other candidates added together of members of the Constitutional Democratic ("Cadets") Party. It was hardly expected that the victory of this party would be so complete in three of the principal towns, St. Petersburg, Moscow and Odessa. I understand that in at least two cases the party anticipated having to stand a second election, according to the Russian rule when no candidate secures an absolute majority of the total votes cast.

The Minister of Finance, M. Kokovtsev, leaves St. Petersburg for the Far East to-day.

A scheme is on foot to make the ports of Vladivostock (Far East), Windau, Libau and Reval (Baltic Sea), Nikolaev and Odessa (Black Sea), "free" ports, that is, to draw a cordon for custom purposes at some distance away from the line of quays, thereby allowing goods to be landed and disposed of with celerity, leaving the tedious processes of the Customs to be carried on at leisure in the warehouses within the cordon. The scheme has thus in view the convenience of shippers and will be especially valuable in such ports as Vladivostock, Reval etc, as freeze up for the winter, the lay-days of ships arriving being reduced to a minimum. An inter-departmental commission has been appointed to consider the proposals.

The Commodore of the Finnish Pilots has received a "severe reprimand" and the pilot actually in charge of the *Woodburn* has been sent to prison for seven days, in connection with the unfortunate incident of the firing upon a British ship in Finnish waters by guard-boats stationed around the Imperial yacht, the *Standart*.

The Russian dirigible "Uchebny," which made an ascent on Saturday and was lost altogether for a time, has been returned safely on country carts. It appears that the heavy fog prevailing caused the aeronauts to lose their way and they feared to descend until compelled by the supply of benzine for the motor giving out. When they came down, some twenty miles from St. Petersburg, they found themselves over a semi-morass. The muzhiks assembled from the villages at sight of the uncanny monster, but for a long time nothing could induce any of them to lend a hand to bring the balloon safely to an anchorage. At last a few bold spirits ventured and the airship was landed, the costly hydrogen gas all allowed to escape, and the envelope and car dismantled and packed on to three country carts, which only arrived in the capital next morning.

A Black Gang Congress has been opened at Moscow. Among the Presidents are several leading Churchmen, notably the Metropolitan of Moscow, and such members of the Duma as the notorious Purishkevich. The meetings are held in strict secrecy.

A St. Petersburg Insurance Company has got into trouble for accepting insurances against "expropriations" (the Russian euphemism for highway robberies in arms), and the directors will shortly be brought to trial. It is understood that the Government opposes any such insurances, on the ground that they would not merely lend themselves to simulated cases (of which many occur in Russia) but would, in particular, tend to produce a feeling of security and thereby lessen the personal and individual care taken by all owners of valuable property in Russia. As the law of Russia would not give a policy-holder any redress in case the insurance company declined to pay out on losses by "expropriations," the operations of this company come under the paragraph of the law which deals with what is called "procuring an unjust bargain." During the past two years it appears that a great many insurances have been effected against possible "expropriations," as indeed the frequency of these armed robberies made only natural. The official procurator is at present engaged in a thorough inquiry into the whole facts of the case with a view to prosecution.

In the South and South-west of Russia the climate now resembles that of an average spring. Everything is again green with a new growth: raspberry and chestnut are in flower a second time this year and buds have appeared again on many fruit-trees. In the North an unusual succession of fogs of quite respectable density has prevailed for several days past.

A gunboat taken up the Neva to a repairing yard on an exceptionally high tide has been stranded and cannot be got off. It has been found that the bottom of the boat is resting on the heads of piles driven into the bed of the river near the bank at the time of Peter the Great High water in the Neva is caused by the wind blowing strongly from the N.W. It will now be necessary to await another such wind before the *Amir of Bukhara*, the gunboat in question, can be got off again.

The Imperial waiting and reception room at the Krasnoe Selo station has been cleared of everything moveable by some well-informed thief. All the table linen, candelabra, rich writing sets in bronze, and the like, were removed.

On Sunday, the election day, amidst pouring rain, was opened at Moscow a monument to the first printer of books in Russia, the deacon Ivan Theodorov, who was established by Ivan the Terrible in a house called "Printing-House Court," now the Printing House of the Holy Synod, which, owing to its bearing the arms of Ivan the Terrible, one of the supporters of which is a unicorn, is often pointed out to credulous visitors to Moscow as the site of the old-time British Embassy there. The "first printer" succeeded in eleven months in producing one book, the "Acts of the Apostles," and only two in all were ever printed at this special establishment.

The Russian troops are being recalled, as promised, from Persia by instalments. Of the six companies of infantry at Tabriz, four are on the way back with a half-company of sappers and a battery of field artillery. The force now left at Tabriz is thus only two companies of infantry, four squadrons of Cossacks, half a company of sappers and one mountain battery.

A Moscow glass factory is reported to have discovered a new kind of glass which is practically unbreakable, nothing less than a rifle bullet making any impression on it.

The *Novoe Vremya* is dissatisfied with the termination of the Kharbin incident, by which the two German subjects who struck Russian policemen in the execution of their duty and set dogs on them will be tried by their own Consul, the gentleman who permitted the German flag to be hoisted over a Russian works for the purpose of evading payment of a just debt. It points out that the punishment of these persons, had they been Russians, would have been a term of imprisonment and possibly a court-martial.

THE JAPANESE BUSINESS MEN IN AMERICA.

The party of Japanese business men arrived at Newark on the morning of the 28th ult. and inspected varions factories. In the afternoon, they were invited to a luncheon at the Crueger Auditorium, and several speeches were delivered. Soon afterwards they visited the Edison Electric Experimental Station, where Mr. and Mrs. Edison received the party with warm welcome. Everywhere in the city, black crape was hung over the Japanese flag, on receipt of the ill-news of Prince Ito's death. On the next day, when the party arrived at Philadelphia, they were accorded enthusiastic receptions everywhere they went. On the 30th, they visited the Mint, where a handsome gold cup, they were told, had just been made, to be presented to the Japanese Emperor by President Taft, in commemoration of the visit of Japanese business men to America.

It is stated that this cup will be handed to Baron Shibusawa on the occasion of the forthcoming state banquet in Washington, so as to be presented to the Emperor by the hand of the Baron.

On the 29th ult. the members of the Japanese business mission visited the famous Independence Building, the Mint and the Commercial Museum in Philadelphia, and were banqueted at the Manufacturing Club in the evening. The next day, the party were taken by a special boat, placed at their disposal by the Mayor, to the Marines' Division, on an island in the Delaware. In the evening, a reception was given in their honour, when the Chairman of the above institution and several others delivered speeches, to which Barons Shibusawa and Kanda replied. On the 31st, they visited Fairmont Park and other places in the city, and left for Washington during the night.

The Japanese business mission arrived at Washington early on the morning of the 1st instant. The party went about the capital by motor-car, and paid a visit to the Department of State and the Departments of War and Navy, and the White House. In the afternoon, they visited Mount Vernon. On the next day, they inspected the exercises of cavalry and artillery in the Earlington barracks. A luncheon was given in their honour by Mr. Wilson, Under-Secretary of State, who acted for the Secretary of State (Mr. Knox being unavoidably absent). Mr. Wilson presented each member of the mission with a silver Commemoration medal, and Baron Shibusawa was entrusted with a special gold medal for presentation to the Emperor of Japan. These medals had been made in the Philadelphia mint.

TO PRINCE ITO.

How oft in history by th' insensate knife,
Or bullet from some madman's levelled gun,
We've seen end given to some hero life—
The very deed that waited doing, done,
The stroke dealt that completes the sacrifice!
For, let one spend himself for a great cause,
The ingrate hand must shed the blood that dyes
The altar. Aye,' tis one of mystery's laws,
How Saviours die by those they lived to save,
And by so dying have not lived in vain.
Such death is earnest that the life they gave
Shall have rich issue follow in its train.
Thus, Ito, we would count thee fortunate,
Thy death-stroke dealt thee by Koreans' hand,
No saddening proof of efforts made too late,
But harbinger of blessings for their land.

L.B.C.

INCENDIARISM AT KOBE LAW COURT.

AN ATTENDANT'S REVENGE.

It is reported that a clerk employed in the general office of the Kobe Chiho Saibansho went to the safe beneath the building of the Saibansho at about half-past 9 o'clock on Monday morning in order to get some documents, when he found that some of them were scorched. He at once reported the matter, says the *Kobe Herald*, to the overseer in charge, and as a result of investigation suspicion fell on a Court attendant named Kaida Kichijiro, who has been employed by the Court since August last. He afterwards confessed that in consequence of having been severely reprimanded by one of the clerks in the Accountants' Department a short time ago, he had since been looking for an opportunity for revenge, and that at 7 o'clock on Monday he obtained the key of the safe and set fire to the documents. Fortunately, the safe was air-tight, and the fire did not do any serious damage.

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NIPPON RACE CLUB.

FIRST DAY, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29.

PATRONS:—H.I.H. Fushimi-no-Miya, H.I.H. Arisugawa-no-Miya, and H.I.H. Kanin-no-Miya.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE:—Sir Claude Maxwell MacDonald, K.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., President; Dr. E. Wheeler, Vice-President; H.E. G. Bakhmeteff, F.H. Bugbird, Esq., H.E. Baron A. d'Anethan, A. J. Easton, Esq., S. Hori, Esq., B. C. Howard, Esq., S. Isaacs, Esq., D. Marshall, Esq., N. Mitsuhashi, Esq., K. Mori, Esq., L. Mottet, Esq., F. Strahler, Esq., H.E. Governor Baron Sufu and T. Thomas, Esq.

HONORARY MEMBERS:—H.E. Baron A. d'Anethan, H.E. A. Gerard, S. Hori, Esq., N. Mitsuhashi, Esq., H.E. Baron von Mumm von Schwarzenstein, H.E. T. J. O'Brien and H.E. Governor Baron Sufu.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:—S. Isaacs, Esq., Chairman; F. M. Tegner, Esq., Hon. Clerk of the Course; F. L. Elliott, Esq., Hon. Treasurer; F. H. Bugbird, Esq., K. Mori, Esq., H. D. C. Jones, Esq., P. A. Cox, Esq., and Geo. Hood, Secretary.

STEWARDS OF THE MEETING.

S. Isaacs, Esq. .....Chairman
F. M. Tegner, Esq. .....Hon. Clerk of the Course.
D. Marshall, Esq. .....Judge.
W. Y. Showler, Esq. .....Assistant Judge.
Dr. E. Wheeler .....Scales.
F. H. Bugbird, Esq. .....Handicapper.
P. A. Cox, Esq. .....Timekeeper.

E. C. Davis, Esq.	H. D. C. Jones, Esq.
A. J. Easton, Esq.	K. Mori, Esq.
F. L. Elliott, Esq.	T. Thomas, Esq.

Guy Stevenson.....Starter.

The first day of the autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held on Friday afternoon on the Negishi racecourse. The weather was dull and cold, and rain fell once or twice, but towards the end the sun burst through the clouds. The attendance was most meagre, the various stands being practically empty, furnishing proof, if such were needed, that all local interest in the "sport of Kings" has practically ceased since the prohibition of the *pari-mutuel*. Among the handful of spectators, it may be remarked, the ladies made a brave showing. A good day's sport had been provided and most of the races were keenly contested, while in the third race the winner established a record, covering the mile in 1.45 4/5, or 2 3/5 seconds better than that accomplished by Hitachi at the Spring meeting in 1904. The proceedings were carried through without a hitch, reflecting much credit on the officials concerned.

The following are the results:—

No. 1. Class A.—For N. R. C. SUBSCRIPTION AUSTRALIAN HORSES.—Value Yen 350, and the Second to receive Yen 100. For N.R.C. Subscription Australian Horses that have not won 3 races at date of entry. Weight for Age; Winners at date of entry to carry 3lbs. extra for one win, 10lbs. extra for two wins. Distance Three Quarters of a Mile.

Mr. Tandem's Dorothy, 137lbs. (Mr. F. L. Elliott) 1
Mr. Silk's Kamikaze, 137lbs.....(Masajiro) 2
Mr. Kanagawa's Avant Garde, 147lbs.....(Jimba) 3
Mr. Rafale's Mistinguette (late Flip Flap), (Kashichi) 0
Mr. Prince's Staffa, 137lbs. .....(Kawasaki) 0
Mr. States' Nevada II, 140lbs. .....(Fujita) 0
Mr. News' Silencieuse, 137lbs. .....(Seikichi) 0

Seven horses out of 10 faced the starter. The field was evenly dispatched on the second attempt. Mistinguette assumed the lead for a short distance, but was speedily overtaken by Dorothy and Kamikaze, this order being maintained at the Trees. The two leaders now came away from the field, Dorothy increasing her lead up the straight, and, despite all the efforts of Kamikaze, winning somewhat easily by two lengths. Turning the last bend Avant Garde overtook Mistinguette and gained third position. Time 1.20 1/5.

No. 2. Class B.—For N.R.C. SUBSCRIPTION COUNTRY BRED HORSES OF SPRING 1909.—Value Yen 300, and the Second to receive Yen 100. Weight for Age with 10lbs. deducted; Winners at date of entry to carry 5lbs. extra for each win. Distance Three Quarters of a Mile.

Mr. Latham's Hanabusa II., 132lbs. ...(Fitzgerald) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Tsukasa, 122lbs .....(Nihonyanagi) 2
Dr. E. Wheeler's Joan, 122lbs. .....(Hirayama) 3
Mr. Tandem's Young Japan, 132lbs. .....(Shindo) 0
Mr. States' Navajo, 127lbs. .....(Fujita) 0
Mr. Shigi's Katsumi, 127lbs .....(Kashichi) 0
Mr. Shigi's Katsuguruma (late Asaguruma), 127lbs...(Mima) 0
Mr. News' La Presse, 122lbs .....(Seikichi) 0

Hanabusa was greatly fancied for this event. Much time was lost at the post through the fractiousness of Hanabusa and Young Japan, but at last the field was dispatched, Hanabusa securing a flying start, Tsukasa being second. These two raced neck and neck together for some distance, but at the Shakespeare the whole field was bunched. At the trees Young Japan took the lead, but down the straight was displaced by Hanabusa and Tsukasa, Hanabusa winning a good race by a length. Joan improved her position on coming into the home straight and finished third. Time, 1.26½.

No. 3 (Extra). Class C.—For N. R. C. SUBSCRIPTION CHINA PONIES.—Value Yen 250, and the Second to receive Yen 75. Weight as per scale with 10lbs. deducted; Winners at date of entry to carry 10lbs. extra for one win, 18lbs. extra for two or more wins. Subscription Ponies of Spring 1909. 5lbs. allowance. Distance Three Quarters of a Mile.

Mr. May's Mr. May (late Piffle). 135lbs.....(Ichi) 1
Mr. States' New Jersey, 161lbs.....(Mr. Zahn) 2
Mr. Astral's Astral, 153lbs.....(Mr. Mottu) 3
Mr. J.E.B. de Courcy's The Corporal, 145lbs. (Mr. de Courcy) 0
Mr. Schwoab's Piccolo, 139lbs.....(Mr. Fischer) 0
Mr. Pickwick's All Mine, 155lbs. ...(Mr. Manton) 0

Only six out of the 14 entries came to the post. Mr. May was the first away, Piccolo being second and New Jersey third. This order was continued to the back straight, where New Jersey pushed into second place. At the Shakespeare Astral changed places with Piccolo. Mr. May led throughout and although New Jersey gallantly strove to overtake him coming down the home straight, the former managed to pass the judges' box, leading by about half a length. Astral was a bad third. Time, 1.37 3/5

No. 4. Class D.—For N. R. C. SUBSCRIPTION AUSTRALIAN HORSES AND SPECIALLY IMPORTED HORSES.—A Sweepstake of Yen 30, with Yen 300 added by the Club. Winner 75 per cent. and the Second to receive 25 per cent. Handicap. Distance One Mile.

Mr. Latham's North Head, 138lbs. .. (Fitzgerald) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's His Grace, 138lbs. ...(Nihonyanagi) 2
Mr. Canuck's Tonic, 153lbs .....(Asahi) 3
Mr. Snipe's Melbourne II., 132lbs.....(Jimba) 0
Mr. Hansa's Olly, 130lbs. .....(Mima) 0

This event created great excitement. A capital start was effected. Olly was first away, His Grace being second and Tonic third. At the dip, the field was bunched, but on going up the hill, Olly took first place, His Grace and Tonic following him. At the Shakespeare, North Head came through, dispossessing Olly of the lead. In the home straight the leader improved his position and won a fine race from His Grace by a length, Tonic being third, some two lengths behind the second. Time 1 45 4/5. This constitutes a record, the previous best being that of Hitachi in May, 1904, namely, 1.48 1/5.

No. 5. Class A.—For N.R.C. SUBSCRIPTION AUSTRALIAN HORSES.—Value Yen 350, and the Second to receive Yen 100. For N.R.C. Subscription Australian Horses that have not won more than 14 races at date of entry. Weight for Age with 5lbs. deducted; Winners at date of entry to carry 3lbs. extra for each win. Distance One Mile.

Mr. S. Minoda's Kokonoye, 135lbs.....(Kitago) 1
Mr. Silk's Midzuho, 141lbs. .....(Tsubouchi) 2
Mr. Hansa's Penelope, 150lbs.....(Higaki) 3
Mr. T. Ishiura's Tonami, 141lbs .....(Maseji) 4
Mr. Island's Mindoro, 144lbs.....(Sugiyama) 0
Mr. Snipe's Lady Voyou, 147lbs. .....(Kawasaki) 0
Mr. Nancho's Banri, 135lbs. .....(Nihonyanagi) 0
Mr. R. Kimura's Asagiri, 141lbs. .....(Mima) 0

This was the closest race of the day. After a long delay at the post, the field was eventually despatched to a grand start, Midzuho taking the lead, with Kokonoye second and Penelope third. Midzuho kept in front till coming down the home straight when Kokonoye, who had been second throughout, made a gallant bid for victory, finally overhauling the leader and winning an exciting race by a neck. Penelope and Tonami made a good fight for third place, which the former just managed to secure. Time 1.48 4/5.

No. 6. Class C.—For N. R. C. SUBSCRIPTION CHINA PONIES OF SPRING 1909.—Value Yen 250, and the Second to receive Yen 75. Weight as per scale with 10lbs. deducted; Winners at date of entry to carry 10lbs. extra for one win, 18lbs. extra for two wins. Winner of Race No. 3 excluded. Distance One Mile.

Mr. Pickwick's Tubby, 150lbs. .....(Mr. Mottu) 1
Mr. States' Old China, 150lbs.....(Mr. Zahn) 2
Mr. Burghdunum's Gemini, 137lbs.....(Kashichi) 3
Mr. Norfolk's Delaware II., 140lbs.....(Higaki) 0
Mr. Jester's Chan Chan, 155lbs. .....(Tsubouchi) 0
Mr. Buggins' Panay, 143lbs. .....(Fujita) 0
Mr. Canuck's Le Journal, 137lbs. .....(Asahi) 0

Much delay occurred at the post, but on the dropping of the tape, Old China got away with the lead, Gemini being second and Le Journal third. At the top of the hill Gemini displaced Old China, Panay taking third place. Old China regained the lead near the Shakespeare, Tubby having displaced Panay. Approaching the Apple Trees this order was still maintained, but on entering the home straight, Tubby, who had worked into second place, challenged the leader and finally secured premier position by a length and a half, Gemini being third, some two lengths behind. Time, 2.11 1/.

SECOND DAY SATURDAY, OCTOBER, 30.

Splendid weather favoured the second day of the autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club. The sun shone brilliantly and the day was in all respects a typical mid-autumn one. The attendance showed a vast improvement on that of the preceding day, and there were present many ladies whose charming toilettes were a pleasant relief to the ceremonial attire of their male companions. H. I. H. the Crown Prince and suite arrived on the course a few minutes before noon and were received by Sir Claude MacDonald and Dr. Wheeler, President and Vice-President respectively. The Prince was then escorted into the box in the Grand Stand, from which he, with his suite, witnessed the racing. Six events were down for decision, the most important of which—the race for H. I. M. the Emperor's Cup—brought out the largest field of the day, no less than 13 horses facing the starter. The handsome trophy was secured by Dorothy, after an exciting finish, in the record time of 1.47 3/5. Dorothy's success was a most popular one, and on coming in to weigh, Mr. F. L. Elliott, the rider and owner of the mare, received a great ovation. It may be stated that Mr. Elliott is the first foreigner who has trained and steered his own horse to victory in this race. The cup was presented by Mr. Miva, Court Chamberlain, who congratulated Mr. Elliott on his success. On the conclusion of this ceremony, Dr. Wheeler called for *banzai* for His Imperial Majesty, which were heartily given. The Prince, with his suite, left for Tokyo shortly before 4 o'clock. The town band played selections of music during the afternoon.

No. 1. Class A.—For N. R. C. SUBSCRIPTION AUSTRALIAN HORSES.—Value Yen 350, and the Second to receive Yen 100. For N. R. C. Subsription Australian Horses that have not won more that 14 races at date of entry. Weight for Age with 5lbs. deducted; Winners at date of entry to carry 3lbs. extra for each win. Winners at the Meeting 10lbs. extra. Distance One Mile and a Furlong.

Mr. Silk's Midzuho's 141lbs. .....(Tsubouchi) 1
Mr. T. Ishiura's Tonami, 141lbs .....(Masajiro) 2
Mr. Snipe's Lady Voyou, 147lbs. ..... (Kawasaki) 0
Mr. News' Silencieuse, 132lbs. .....(Seikichi) 0
Mr. Hansa's Penelope, 150lbs.....(Higaki) 0

Five out of seven entries faced the starter. Midzuho led past the Grand stand the first time round, Lady Voyou being second. Up the hill the latter got into first place, but soon gave way to Midzuho, this order being maintained to the trees. Tonami, who had been lying third, now came on and passing Lady Voyou in the home-stretch raced up to the leader, whom, however, he failed to overtake, and was beaten by a length, several lengths separating second and third. Time 2.0 4/5.

No. 2. Class B.—For N. R. C. SUBSCRIPTION COUNTRY BRED HORSES OF SPRING 1909.—Value Yen 300, and the Second to receive Yen 100. Weight for Age with 10lbs. deducted; Winners at date of entry to carry 5lbs. extra for each win. Winners at the Meeting excluded. Distance one Mile.

Mr. States' Navajo, 127lbs. .....(Fujita) 1
Mr. Shigi's Katsumi, 127lbs. .....(Mima) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Tsukasa, 122lbs.....(Nihonyanagi) 3

Of eight entries, three only came to the post. After some delay, Navajo jumped off with the lead, Katsumi following, Tsukasa being left at the post. Emerging from the hill, Katsumi secured first place and held it until reaching the home straight, where Navajo came with a rush and finally passed the winning post a third of a length in front of Katsumi, Time, 1.57 1/5.

No. 3. The EMPEROR'S CUP.—Presented by HIS MAJESTY THE EMPEROR. The second to receive Yen 150. For N.R.C. Subscription Australian Horses and Japan non-Subscription Country Bred Horses; Winners of 3 races or less at date of entry, Weight for Age; Winners of more than 3 races at date of entry 3lbs. extra for each win over 3 wins, not exceeding 15lbs. in all; Subscription Australian Horses in Japan for their Second Meeting 3lbs. allowance; Horses that have started at previous Meetings but have not won a race 5lbs allowance, allowance accumulative; Subscription Australian Griffins 12lbs.

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allowance; Winners after closing of entries to carry 5lbs. extra cumulative. Previous winners of Emperor's Cup under these conditions excluded. Distance One Mile.

Mr. Tandem's Dorothy, 137lbs. .....(Mr. Elliott) 1
Mr. Norfolk's Persephone, 137lbs. .....(Mr.Coffey) 2
Mr. S. Minoda's Kokonoye, 142lbs .....(Kitago) 3
Mr. Rafale's Midinette, 137lbs. ...(Mr. Fitzgerald) 0
Mr. Rafale's Mistinguette (late Flip Flap), 137lbs. (Kashichi) 0
Mr. Prince's Staffa, 132lbs.....(Tamazo) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's Toumaline, 140lbs.(Tsubouchi) 0
Mr. Island's Mindoro, 140lbs. .....(Tsugiyama) 0
Mr. Kanagawa's Avant Garde, 137lbs. .....(Jinba) 0
Mr. Nancho's Banri, 137lbs. .....(Nihonyanagi) 0
Mr. Silk's Kamikaze, 132lbs.....(Masujiro) 0
Mr. Takara's Mitsubiki, 143lbs. .....(Higaki) 0
Mr. R. Kimura's Asagiri, 137lbs. .....(Mima) 0

This, being the most important race of the meeting, brought out 13 runners. Dorothy, on account of her easy win the previous day, was greatly fancied. There was a long delay at the post, but on the raising of the tape, Persephone jumped off in front and on going up the hill secured inside position at the rails. Banri being second and Dorothy third. This order was maintained to the trees, but on coming down the home straight Dorothy drew up on the leaders, whom she overhauled near the judges' box, securing first place from Persephone by only a neck, Kokonoye finished third, a length behind the latter. Time 1.45 3/5.

No. 4. (Extra). Class C.—For N.R.C. Subscription China Ponies.—Value Yen 300, and the Second to receive Yen 100. Weight as per scale with 10lbs. deducted; Winners at date of entry to carry 10lbs. extra for one win, 18lbs. extra for two or more wins. Subscription Ponies of Spring 1909, 5lbs. allowance. Winners at the Meeting 7lbs. extra. If the top weight exceeds 161lbs., all weights to be reduced by the excess over 161lbs. Distance One Mile and a Half.

Mr. May's Mr. May (late Piffle). 142lbs. (Mr. A. L. Catto) 1
Mr. Astral's Smilax, 155lbs.....(Mr. A. L. Mottu) 2
Mr. Astral's Astral, 153lbs. .....(Higaki) 3
Mr. States' Old China, 145lbs. .....(Mr. M. Zahn) 0
Mr. Norfolk's Delaware II., 135lbs. .....(Coffey) 0
Mr. J.E.B. de Courcy's The Corporal, 145lbs. (M. de Courcy) 0
Mr. Burghdunum's Gemini, 132lbs.....(Kashichi) 0
Mr. Jester's Chan Chan, 150lbs.....(Tsubouchi) 0
Mr. Schwoab's Piccolo, 136lbs. ...(Mr. K. Fischer) 0
Mr. Pickwick's All Mine, 155lbs.(Mr. C. E. Mantor) 0
Mr. Pickwick's Tubby, 152lbs. .....(Asahi) 0

Old China secured the lead when the tape rose, but on passing the Grandstand for the first time Le Journal was first, with Mr. May second. Entering the Dip, Astral drew into premier place, Le Journal being second and Smilax third. In the back straight Old China made a bid for supremacy and ran neck and neck with Astral, Smilax being third. This position was maintained to the bend when Mr. May came up on the inside, overtook the leaders, and raced down the home straight well in advance of the field, eventually winning very easily from Similax by some half a dozen lengths, Astral being third. Time, 3.23 4/5.

No. 5. (Extra). Class D.—For N.R.C. Subscription Australian Horses and Specially Imported Horses.—A Sweepstake of Yen 30, with Yen 300 added by the Club. Winner 75 per cent. and the Second to receive 25 per cent. Handicap. Distance One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Snipe's Melbourne II., 120lbs. .....(Tamozo) 1
Mr. Canuck's Tonic, 150lbs .....(Asahi) 2
Mr. Latham's North Head, 105lbs ...(Fitzgerald) 3
Mr. Tatsuta's His Grace, 138lbs. ...(Nihonyanagi) 0

North Head took the lead, but soon fell back. On passing the Grandstand Tonic was leading, with Melbourne second. On going up the hill the latter raced into first position, with Tonic second and North Head first. Along the back Tonic displaced the leader, His Grace now coming into third place. Down the home straight Melbourne made his effort and challenging Tonic beat the latter on the post by about half a length. North Head was third. Time 2.16 2/5.

No. 6. Classes B. & E.—For N.R.C. Subscription Country Bred Horses.—Value Yen 300, and the Second to receive Yen 100. Weight for Age; Winners at date of entry to carry 5lbs. extra for each win. Subscription Horses of Spring 1909, 15lbs. allowance. Winners at the Meeting 5lbs. extra. Distance Seven Furlongs.

Mr. Tandem's Young Japan, 127lbs. .....(Shinda) 1
Mr. Latham's Maskee, 152lbs. .....(Fitzgerald) 2
Mr. Shigi's Katsuguruma (late Asaguruma), 122lbs .....(Mima) 3
Mr. News' La Presse, 122lbs .....(Asahi) 0
Mr. Prince's Shikuho, 142lbs. .....(Kawasaki) 0

Katsuguruma took the lead, Maskee being second, La Presse third. At the trees Maskee took first place, Katsuguruma second and Young Japan third. Entering the straight Maskee was still leading on the rails, but Young Japan came up rapidly and finally won by about two lengths, Katsuguruma being third. Time 1.41 4/5.

MISS ORTH'S CONCERT.

The Concert given by Miss Orth and her pupils in the Gaiety vestibule on Saturday evening was highly successful and was keenly enjoyed by all who were present. The pupils, who ranged from the young girl in her teens to the tiny mite, both boy and girl, of 6 or 7 years, displayed remarkable skill in the execution of their respective pieces, reflecting great credit on their gifted and painstaking teacher, who has done so much to further the musical education of many of the younger members of this community.

During the evening Miss Orth received valuable assistance from Mesdames Mollison and Schmid, and Messrs. W. H. Lewis, Pratt and Schmid. The first three were deservedly encored in their rôles as vocalists, and the last two played the violin and violoncello respectively in the Trio in C. minor, the pianoforte portion being under taken by Miss Orth. Miss Blundell ably accompanied the singers.

The following is the programme.

PART I.

Magic Flute .....2 Cl. 8 hds,.....Mozart
Misses E. Laffin, E. Esdale, L, Schlafke, D. Piggott.

Rondoletto..... 2 Cl. 8 hds .....Proksch
Misses M. Orth, C. Schlaffke.
Masters O. Abegg, K. Metcalf.

Menuett Trio.....Haydn
Misses L. Landis, G. Vehling.
Masters H. Abegg, W, Vehling.

Menuett Trio..... Mendelssohn
Misses R. Schmid, A. Posdnieff.
T. Pfister, C. Schlaffke.

Menuett Trio..... Beethoven
Misses M. Orth, K. Hutton Potts, G. Vehling, J. Williamson Jones.

Chacone .....Durand
Miss A. Posdnieff.

Coronation March..... Meyerbeer
Misses L. Russell, T. Be l.

Song—"Si tu m'aimais"..... Denza
Madame Schmid.

Frisches Grun ..... Spindler
Miss Irene Bell.

PART II.

Trio C Minor .....Beethoven
Miss Orth, Mr. Pratt, Mr. Schmid.

Song—"Ouvre tes yeux bleus".....J. Massenet
Mrs. Mollison.

Rustle of Spring .....Sinding
Miss Ethel Laffin.

Sonata F Minor .....Beethoven
Miss Milly Hahn.

Chant d'Avril .....Lack
Miss M. Mollison.

Rondo Capriccio .....Mendelssohn
Miss L. Russell.

Song .....
Mr. W. H. Lewis.

Bohemienne.....2 Cl. 4 hds...E. Del Vallèee de Paz
Misses L. Russell, M. Mollison.

LORD KITCHENER PASSES HIRANUMA STATION.

Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener, who left Shimonoseki on Monday morning, arrived at Hiranuma Station at 1.20 p.m. yesterday. On arriving at the station, he was met by Captain C. Dundas, the Naval Attaché of the British Embassy, Mr. J. C. Hall, the British Consul-General, Baron Sufu, Governor of Kanagawa prefecture, and the leading members of the British Association. Captain Dundas, Consul-General Hall and Governor Sufu entered the carriage and welcomed the illustrious visitor. Subsequently Lord Kitchener stepped on to the platform and shook hands with the members assembled there, who were individually introduced by Mr. Hall. Several foreign ladies were also present. On the departure of the train three cheers were given at the initiative of the British Consul and a body of school children on the other side of the platform cried "Banzai." Captain Dundas accompanied the Field-Marshal to Tokyo.

YOKOHAMA.

The prefectural government has drawn up the budget for the next financial year. The total amount comes to 2,093,310 *yen*, showing an increase of 540,000 *yen* as compared with the preceding year. The principal extraordinary expenditures are 170,000 *yen* for the Yoshida bridge, 90,000 *yen* for the prefectural government buildings, 80,000 *yen* for the Technical School, 40,000 *yen* for the Sakawa bridge, and 50,000 *yen* for repairing roads, etc.

A laudatory meeting in honour of Mr. Misawa, who has been for 29 years the principal of the Yokohama Commercial School, will be held at the instance of the alumni of the School on the 14th instant. It is reported that the contributions towards the fund for the above purpose amounted to 32,392 *yen* on October 30, wealthy merchants and others of this city having contributed 29,895 *yen*.

A lad named Mizota Toichi, who has been in the employ of a printer in this city, was arrested on 2nd inst. on a charge of theft. It is alleged that he has stolen since June last various kinds of articles valued at some 150 *yen* in all, from a number of foreign firms and Japanese stores.

On the afternoon of the 1st instant, Mayor Mitsuhashi and Assistant Mayor Saito took with them a letter of condolence from the Yokohama Municipal Council to the official residence of the late Prince Ito, at Reinanzaka, Tokyo.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended October 28th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	1	3	3	—	—
Died	—	—	4	1	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	6	6	5	—	—
Died	—	—	5	1	—	—

The regatta held on Wednesday afternoon by the students of the Yokohama Commercial School in front of the Club Hotel was a great success The racing finished at 5 p.m.

IN MEMORIAM: CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

THE STORY OF A CHINESE OXFORD MOVEMENT.

(By Ku Hung Ming.)

Matthew Arnold speaking of Oxford, the Oxford of the past, says: "We in Oxford, brought up amidst the beauty and sweetness of that beautiful place, have not failed to seize one truth: the truth that beauty and sweetness are essential characters of a complete human perfection. Thus our sentiment for beauty and sweetness, our sentiment against hideousness and rawness, has been at the bottom of our opposition to so many beaten causes, of our opposition to so many triumphant movements. And the sentiment is true and has never been wholly defeated and has shown its power even in its defeat." "Look," Matthew Arnold went on to say, "look at the course of the great movement which shook Oxford to its centre some thirty years ago. It was directed, as any one who reads Dr. Newman's 'Apology' may see, against what in one word may be called 'Liberalism.' Liberalism prevailed. The Oxford movement was broken, it failed; our wrecks are scattered on every shore. Quæ regio in terris nostri non plena laboris."

When, with those words of Matthew Arnold in my mind, I read the other day the account of the scheme for a University for China, originating, I understand, from Oxford, I rubbed my eyes and said to myself, what a long way the world has travelled since Dr. Newman's days. Dr. Newman's Oxford movement was directed against Liberalism. Liberalism in Dr. Newman's days meant progress and new learning. Now the object of the present movement in Oxford, the scheme for a University in China, is to bring Western ideas into China, and Western ideas in China, as everybody knows, means progress and new learning. What has then become of the Oxford sentiment which, Matthew Arnold

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says, inspired Dr. Newman's Oxford movement against Liberalism, against the cause of progress and the new learning? Have the scholars of Oxford now found a way to reconcile the Oxford sentiment with progress and the new learning? I myself do not think such a reconciliation is possible. It is said of old, "You cannot serve God and Mammon." Or is it possible that the Oxford scholars, under the cover of an alliance with the now triumphant cause of progress and the new learning, are really coming to help the Chinese now in their hour of despair? Noble-minded men in Oxford and in England say to themselves: "We really sympathise with the Chinese in their fight with progress and the new learning which is making them materialistic and ruining their morality. In order to help them to fight more effectively and win, we will supply them with weapons, taken, it is true, from the armoury of progress and the new learning, but tempered with our Oxford sentiment for beauty and sweetness and, if possible, better still, with the divine beauty and sweetness of Christianity"

Now instead of offering any suggestion or criticism of my own on the present scheme for a University in China, I think it may be of some use to Lord Cecil and those interested in this University scheme if I were to tell them the story of a great movement some thirty years ago in China which in many respects was a counterpart of Dr. Newman's famous Oxford movement in England. The Chinese Oxford movement was also directed against Liberalism, against the modern European ideas of progress and new learning. As the present new Oxford movement is coming, I believe, as I said, to help us Chinese to fight against modern European ideas of progress and new learning, I think the lessons to be learnt from our campaign in the past, how we fought, why and how we were defeated: all this will be useful to our new foreign allies. I am the more able to tell the story of our campaign, as I have myself had the honour of fighting in the rank and file of our Oxford men. We have fought hard for thirty years, but now our cause is as good as lost. Some of our men have betrayed our cause. Many have surrendered and all are now scattered far and wide.

The chief under whom I fought was the late Imperial Chancellor Chang Chih-tung. When I last saw him two years ago in Peking he was in utter despair and was only thinking how to mollify the terms of capitulation. My comrade in arms under Chang Chih-tung in the campaign, Liang Tun-yen, now the President of the Waiwupu, when I saw him last year, passed to me the order "sauve qui peut!"—I am perhaps the only one among our men who still absolutely believe in the final victory for our cause, the cause of Chinese civilisation against modern European ideas of progress and new learning. But I am now all alone, and like the hero of Virgil's story who, when Troy was taken, had to wander forth and at first tried to settle him self among the Thracians, a people with the "auri sacra fames," so I too have had to come to find a temporary refuge and resting place for my household gods and the great Gods of Troy (Penatibus et magnis Dis) here in Shanghai, where I have had to grapple with the mud dragons of the Whangpoo river, finding not an English gentleman in the whole place who would lift his finger to help me, because "what is everybody's business, is nobody's business."

The story I am going to tell, therefore, of our desperate fight for the cause of Chinese civilisation is a long story and bound up as it is with my past life and calling up memories of fallen comrades, dead, dear ones and all what might have been,—is for me personally one of unspeakable sadness.

Sed si tantus amor casus cognoscere nostros
Et breviter Trojae supremum audire laborem,
Quamquam animus meminisse horret luctuque refugit
Incipiam.

The Hanlin Academy in Peking was the Oxford of China—the seat of the flower of the intellectual aristocracy of the country. It was therefore in the Hanlin Academy that the movement which I have called the Chinese Oxford movement had its headquarters. The young Hanlins who joined and supported this Chinese Oxford movement were called the Ching-liu-tang,—the party of National Purification. This National Purification movement in China, like the Oxford movement in England, was a Confucian High Church Tory revival. The object of the movement, while opposing the introduction of foreign methods and foreign ideas favoured then by Li Hung Chang and the Chinese Liberals, was to purify the currents of national life by calling upon the nation to live more strictly according to the Confucian principles. In order to make people understand this Chinese Oxford movement, it is necessary for me first to explain at some length the organism of the Chinese social body or social order in China.

Matthew Arnold divided the English nation into three classes—Barbarians, Philistines and Populace. The Chinese nation may also be divided into three classes. The Barbarians in China are the Manchus,—the aristocracy by birth. The Philistines in China are the Chinese educated class from whom are recruited the literati. The Populace in China are the lower middle class living in cities and the working class, from whom are recruited the rich merchants and compradores,—the aristocracy, it may be called, by the power of industry. The characteristic and strength of the Manchu aristocracy is heroism or nobility of character. The characteristic and strength of the Chinese literati is power of intelligence. The characteristic and strength of the populace or working class in China is power of industry or hard work. Confucius says, "The power of conscientious hard work is the characteristic of men of moral character"; Matthew Arnold calls it Hebraism. That is the power of industry of the populace or working class in China. Confucius says again, "Love of learning is the characteristic of men of intellectual character:" Matthew Arnold calls it Hellenism. That is the power of intelligence of the Chinese literati. Lastly Confucius says, "Sensitiveness to shame is the characteristic of men of brave or heroic character." That is the heroism or nobility of character of the Manchu aristocracy. The Manchus, being the descendants of the only military caste in China, have, more than the Chinese, heroism or nobility of character, because their fathers were soldiers. Militarism more than anything else stimulates the growth of nobility of character, because a true soldier has constantly before him the ideal of self-sacrifice, and self-sacrifice is at the bottom of all nobility of character.

In a healthy and normal state of society in China, the nation has to depend first upon the power of industry of the people or working class to produce food and other necessary commodities for the national well being. The nation has next to depend upon the power of intelligence of the Chinese literati to train, educate and regulate the power of industry of the people and properly to distribute the product of that industry. Lastly and most important of all, the nation has to depend upon the nobility of character of the Manchu aristocracy to direct,—to see that the power of industry of the people is nobly directed, directed to noble purposes, and also that the product of that industry is justly and humanely distributed. In short, the power of industry of the people in China has to produce; the power of intelligence of the Chinese literati has to educate; and the nobility of the Manchu aristocracy has to direct the power of industry of the people to a noble national life,—to a noble civilisation. Foreigners who have travelled in the interior of China and seen the remains of bridges and canals in the country, will understand what I mean by noble direction of national life,—the direction of the power of industry of the people as regards things material to noble purposes. As for things of the mind, works such as the great K'ang-hsi dictionary will attest sufficiently to the nobility of character of the early Manchu Emperors and their ability to direct the power of industry of the mind of the nation to noble purposes.

The long peace, however, which preceded the coming of foreigners into China produced its natural and inevitable results. The nobility of character of the Manchu aristocracy for want of the stimulating power of active military service, stagnated and became impaired. As for the Chinese literati, the strenuous effort of mind required for the literary examination, it is true, still gave exercise to their power of intelligence. But for want of the tonic stimulus of the earlier strong inspiring Manchu influence, the power of intelligence of the Chinese literati also became very much impaired. The quantity of intelligence was there, but the quality was gone. One can see this very plainly when one compares the literature,—especially the poetry of the early K'ang-hsi period with that of later times when the Manchu influence became weak. In fact, the power of intelligence of the Chinese literati, without the strong ennobling Manchu influence to give it tone, lost its delicacy and became coarse and ignoble.(1)

The only national power of the Chinese nation left unimpaired after the long peace then, as it is now, was the power of industry, the power of hard work of the working class. Nevertheless even the unimpaired power of industry of the common people in China without the intelligent training and regulation by the literati, became not only coarse but less productive. But what was still worse than the want of intelligent training and regulation for the industry of the people, was the loss of noble direction. The power of industry of the hard working class in China, without the Manchu nobility of character to direct it to noble purposes, was wasted for ignoble purposes, *i.e.* to say, it was not directed to produce things necessary for the health of the body and beauty of the soul of the people in the nation, but to produce things merely to stimulate and satisfy the pleasures of the senses and cravings of vanity, in fact to produce means of comfort, luxury and ostentation.

Ruskin spent all his life to convince people that political economy is a moral science and its object should be to teach men and nations, not how to make money, but how to spend money. Indeed the financial distress of China and the economic sickness of the world to-day is not due to want or insufficiency of productive power, to want of manufactures and railways, but to ignoble and wasteful consumption. Ignoble and wasteful consumption in communities as in nations means the want of nobility of character in the community or nation to direct the power of industry of the people to noble purposes. Where there is nobility of character in a community or nation, people will know how to spend their money for noble purposes. When people know how to spend their money for noble pur-

(1) NOTE.—Intelligence without delicacy and sweetness in its pure native state, is what the English call commonsense. This commonsense or intelligence without delicacy and sweetness, when strained and hardened by over-work, is what Carlyle calls the beaver intelligence,—the intelligence of people whom Mathew calls Philistines. The commonsense or intelligence without delicacy or sweetness when sharpened by appetite is what Carlyle calls the vulpine intelligence. The beaver or Philistine intelligence is useful for routine work such as collecting customs dues, making statistics &c., but it should never be entrusted with power in any work connected with education, because it can educate the mind, but not the character,—the head, but not the heart of the people. Confucious speaking of education says: "With fear and trembling take care of the heart of the people; that is the root of the matter in education,—that is the highest education." The vulpine intelligence again is useful for building railways, cotton mills and electric machines, but it should never be entrusted with power in any work connected with civilisation,—because it is not humane and does not know what compassion is. Mahommed says: "God has put compassion in your hearts." It is because this vulpine intelligence without delicacy and sweetness or commonsense sharpened by appetite,—which is now the supreme power controlling the lives of nations and the destiny of civilisation,—does not know what compassion is, that we can explain why educated and civilised men cannot see and understand that it is not only immoral and wrong, but bad taste, bad form, to seek only to increase the comforts, luxuries and splendour of life for ourselves, while other human beings around us are actually starving or living on the bare necessities of life, and in order to increase those comforts, luxuries and splendour, to force trade and railways upon other nations regardless of their national life. Emerson says: "To live with some rigour of temperance or some extreme of generosity, seems to be an asceticism which common good nature would appoint to those who are at ease and in plenty a sign that they feel a brotherhood with the great multitude of suffering men."

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poses, they will care not for the what, but for the how,—not for the bigness, grandeur or showiness, but for the taste, for the beauty of their life surrounding. When people in a nation or community with sufficient nobility of character to care only for the tastefulness and beauty of their life surroundings, they will want little to satisfy them and in that way will not waste the power of industry of the people such as in building big ugly houses and making long useless roads. When the power of industry of the people in a community or nation is nobly directed and not wasted, then the community or nation is truly rich, not in money or possession of big ugly houses, but rich in the health of the body and beauty of the soul of its people.

Goethe says, "Every gift is valuable and ought to be unfolded. When one encourages the beautiful alone, and another encourages the useful alone, it takes them both to form a nation. The useful encourages itself; for the multitude produces it and no one can dispense with it. The beautiful must be encouraged; for few can set it forth and many need it." Therefore things which Yuan Shih K'ai and Dr. Morrison want for China, such as coal, iron, cheap soap, cheap trams, wireless telegraphy,—things which Goethe calls the useful, need not be encouraged. But things which the late Empress Dowager wanted for China, such as the beauty of her Summer Palace, the Confucian Analects, Chinese poetry and even the eight legged essays,—things which Goethe calls the beautiful, have to be encouraged; for "few can set them forth and not only many, but all need them." For without the thing, which Goethe calls the beautiful, there is no nobility of character and without nobility of character, as we have seen, the power of industry of the people in a nation will be wasted in ignoble and wasteful consumption. When the power of industry of the people in a nation or community is wasted in ignoble and wasteful consumption, then all the comforts, luxuries and splendour of the life of that nation or community are like the Dead Sea apples of Sodom and Gomorrah, splendid on the outside, but full of bitterness, ashes and death in the core.

Thus at the time which we are now speaking, after the long peace just before the coming of foreigners, the now renowned splendid life of comfort, luxury and gaiety in such cities as Soochow and Hangchow showed very plainly that there was the cancer of ignoble and wasteful consumption in the nation owing, as I have said, to the loss of power of the Manchu nobility of character to direct the power of industry of the people to noble purposes. Now ignoble and wasteful consumption not only wastes the power of industry of the people, but it makes a just distribution of the fruit of that industry difficult. When the fruit of the people's industry is not justly distributed, then the rich become richer and the poor, poorer.

This was the state of China when foreigners first came with their trade and opium into the country. The quick and easy way to make a fortune which foreign trade and opium opened to the merchant and compradore class on the sea coasts, very soon swelled the size and increased the inflammation of the cancer of ignoble and wasteful consumption already in the nation, and made a just distribution of the fruit of the people's industry not only difficult, but impossible. Thus while the rich and the parasites in the cities who feed on the rich become rich and richer, the people in the country who cannot become parasites, not only become poor and poorer, but cannot even live. When the people in a nation, except the rich and their parasites, find that after they have strained to the utmost their power of industry they cannot even keep their body and soul together—then the one only thing left for the people to do, is to get mad, rise up and violently tear up the national cancer which, as we have seen, showed its symptoms most plainly in such cities as Soochoo and Hangchow. The tearing up of the national cancer of ignoble and wasteful consumption in China at the time, is now known as the Taiping rebellion.(2)

When the convulsion of the Taiping rebellion came, the Manchu aristocracy became helpless. The reason for this was not because the Manchu aristocracy had entirely lost their heroism or nobility of character. Foreigners who will read the account of the battle at Petang in the Anglo-French North China expedition of 1860 can see in the splendid gallantry of the Manchu troops that the readiness to face death without turning back was still there in the Manchu aristocracy. But the real reason why the Manchu aristocracy became helpless before the Taiping rebels was because while the Manchu aristocracy had nobility of character on their side, the Taiping rebels had fanaticism on theirs.

Now what is fanaticism? Fanaticism is nobility of human nature gone mad. The strong sense of indignation against social wrongs had stirred up the nobility of character also in the stolid Chinese nature of the Taiping rebels and made them mad. Therefore against the fanaticism or noble madness of the Taiping rebels, the heroism and power of haughty resistance of the Manchu aristocracy were worse than useless. That is also the reason. I may remark here, why the old noblesse of Europe with all their splendid high spirit and other great moral qualities have always been and even to this day are so helpless against revolution and revolutionists. The haughtiness of an aristocrat may awe an ignoble mob of foolish apprentices and shopkeepers, but all the heroism and the finest fighting quality of an aristocrat who cannot or will not see the social wrongs of the people can do nothing against God's justice, which is always at the bottom of a revolution in Russia or a riot in Shanghai. Right and wrong, justice and injustice, get so mixed up in riots and revolutions that you require the eye to see as well as the hand to strike; otherwise you may break your mailed fist, even if the mail be of the best Krupp steel, against God's justice.

In short, in order to deal effectively with fanaticism or nobility of human nature gone mad, to deal with mad men, what is required above everything, is intelligence,—the power of intelligence. Therefore when the Taiping rebellion came, the Manchu aristocracy becoming helpless before the fanaticism of these rebels, the late Empress-Dowager had to call to her aid the power of intelligence of the Chinese literati, and depended wholly upon them to put down the rebellion. In this way the ruling power or the State, as Matthew Arnold calls it, i.e. the real power of initiative and direction in the State, in China passed from the hands of the Manchu aristocracy into the hands of the Chinese literati. The centre of the Manchu aristocracy is in Peking. The head quarters of the Chinese literati on the other hand is in the provinces. The passing of power from the Manchu aristocracy to the Chinese literati therefore meant the transference of the real power of government from Peking to the provinces. This was the beginning and is the true *raison d'etre* of the state of decentralisation which many foreigners have observed in the present government of China.

The abuses and evils of decentralisation at the time, however, were stopped by the personality of one great Chinese literati,—the late Marquis Tseng Kao fan (father of the Marquis Tseng who went to England as Minister). The great Marquis became the doyen of the Chinese literati, and being invested with almost absolute power by the late Empress Dowager, was virtually a dictator in China during the whole period of the Taiping rebellion. Under his leadership the Chinese literati nobly responded to the call of the Empress Dowager. These literati took off their long gowns, and knowing nothing of the art of war and unaccustomed as they had been to physical hardships, they yet strenuously set themselves to overcome all difficulties. They at first by their superior intelligence checked the impetuosity of the Taiping fanatics, and as they gradually learnt the art of war, succeeded at last in putting out the conflagration of the Taiping rebellion.(3)

The Taiping rebellion in China was a counterpart of the French revolution in Europe, both were a breaking up of an unjust rotten social order. As after the French Revolution in Europe, so in China after the Taiping Rebellion, the ruling power in the state passed from the aristocracy to the middle class. Moreover the stir caused by the breaking up of a social order always brings about with it the breaking up of the force of habit, routine and old custom in men's minds. People after a revolution are able to take a freer and independent way of looking at things. This free and independent way of looking at things is what is called Liberalism. When the intellect of a nation is thus freed from the bondage of routine and old custom, the national intellect at once becomes active and alive. Thus we find in China at the time of the Taiping rebellion as in Europe during the French revolution, there was an intellectual quickening and glow all over the country. In the beginning while this intellectual glory lasted, the great Chinese literati were able to direct and keep the forces let loose in restraint and to organise them into some order. But when soon the intellectual glow died out, the forces let loose (still calling themselves Liberalism) not only shaped themselves in any way, but ran into wrong and ill-directed ruts, which tended to impair the national life. It was to call these loose flying and ill directed forces into order according to the strict Confucian principles that the movement which I have called the Chinese Oxford movement arose in China.

This Chinese Oxford movement was chiefly directed against Li Hung-chang,—the Lord Palmerston of the Chinese middle class Liberalism. Li Hung-chang had succeeded the great Marquis T'seng Kuo-fan as the doyen of the Chinese literati. When the great Chinese literati had put down the Taiping rebellion, they had still two very difficult problems to solve. The first was a work of reconstruction,—the practical problem of social and administrative reorganisation. The other was the problem of what measures to take to meet the coming of Europeans with the destructive forces of their modern intensely materialistic civilisation.

The first problem,—the practical work of social and administrative reorganisation, the great literati of China at the time carried out, if not with perfect thoroughness, yet with a rapidity and success which was very creditable. In a very short time, after the final suppression of the Taiping rebellion, the whole administrative and social machinery in China was again in working order, and there was peace and order throughout the length and breadth of the immense Empire.

In dealing with the other problem, however,—the problem, namely, how to deal with the destructive forces of modern European civilisation, the great Chinese literati were as helpless before the destructive forces of the modern materialistic civilisation of Europe as the middle class in England were before the ideas and doctrines of the French revolution. To deal effectively with the destructive forces of modern European civilisation, required expansion on the part of the Chinese literati. But the literati in China, brought up under the influence of the narrow Confucian Puritanism of the Seng dynasty, had no idea of what expansion meant. The only idea the Chinese literati had of expansion in view of the coming of the modern European civilisation was that China must obtain modern guns and ships of war. That was the Chinese literati's idea of expansion.

There was, however, in China at the time one great man who had a true idea of expansion and he was a Manchu. While the Chinese literati were busy building arsenals and trying to manufacture modern guns, Wen Chiang, who was then Prime Minister and first President of the Tseng-li Yamen, founded the Tung Wen Kuan, a college intended to give Chinese youths a thorough European education. It is true that Marquis Tseng Kao fan also later on was induced to send 120 students to be educated in America. But the Great

(2) NOTE.—The tearing up of the national cancer in China by the Taiping rebellion began in the South, near Canton, because it was there that the inflammation of the national cancer became suddenly acute owing to the civilising influence of foreign trade and English opium. The tearing up of the cancer by the Boxer explosion,—for, as we shall see, such also was the inner meaning of that short but terrible explosion—began and took place in Tientsin because it was there the people felt most acutely the inflammation of the cancer of Li Hung Chang and his progress and new learning.

(3) The great Marquis Tseng Kao-fan said: I made the young literati of our schools lead the peasantry to put down the rebellion

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Marquis's conception of a European education was a very hazy and narrow one as compared with that of the great Manchu statesman. Marquis Tseng Kao-fan and the Chinese literati wanted the students to go abroad to learn to make guns and to be able to man the ships of war. The great Manchu statesman had a different conception of a European education. Any one who wants to know what a broad and noble conception the great Manchu statesman had of the work which he intended his Tung Wen Kuan to do, should read his conversation with the U.S. Minister reported in the Diplomatic Correspondence published by the U. S. Government. But unfortunately the carrying out of this great Manchu statesman's true idea of expansion for the salvation of China was entrusted to the Inspector of Customs, now Sir Robert Hart. Instead of obtaining the services of first-class thoroughly competent men for this most important educational institution upon which the future salvation of China depended, Sir Robert Hart appointed one of his personal friends, an American ex-missionary, to be President of the Tung Wen-kuan College. Thus the Tung Wen-kuan Colle, e, instead of being a source of light, enlightenment and expansion for the Chinese nation, became merely a second-class boarding school for poor starving good-for-nothing young men.

In fact there were at one time in China two men in whose hands lay the salvation of the Chinese nation. But unfortunately both these two men were, as Matthew Arnold would say, Philistines. Hinc illae lacrymae. Whatever may be said of the services which Sir Robert Hart and Li Hung-chang have undoubtedly rendered to China, yet the utter indifference and neglect with which Sir Robert Hart treated the interests of the Tung Wen-kuan College and all educational matters in China and the way Li Hung-chang treated the 120 returned American students will always redound to the everlasting disgrace of these two men. As Li Hung-chang believed for the salvation of China in guns and warships, Sir Robert Hart believed, above all things, in a big revenue for China. Of these two conceptions of the source of a nation's greatness, I venture to think that Sir Robert Hart's conception is even a baser and ignobler one than that of Li Hung-chang.

We have seen that the Chinese literati's conception and idea of expansion for China was to obtain modern guns and ships of war. In order to carry out this programme of expansion, Li Hung-chang had attracted round him men of the rich, lower middle and compradore classes who had made money by foreign trade; and these men all showed an inclination to favour what they called progress in the direction of adopting foreign ways and methods. Their crude ideas of adopting foreign ways and methods, however, had all the vulgarity and hideousness which Matthew Arnold speaks of in the English middle class Liberalism. This vulgarity and hideousness of course shocked the flower of the intellectual aristocracy in the Hanlin Academy,—the Oxford of China. In this way, the Oxford movement became intensely anti-foreign. It was anti-foreign, not because these scholars hated foreigners; it was anti-foreign, because these scholars saw before their eyes that the foreign ways and methods of Li Hung-chang and his entourage were hideously vulgar and demoralising. This is the moral basis of the anti-foreign spirit of the true Chinese literati.

The Dr. Newman of the Oxford movement in China was the late Li Hung-tsao, then President of the Han-lin Academy. He was not a great thinker, but he was, like Dr. Newman, a man of great sweetness of temper and purity of character. The present generation of literati to this day speak of him not only with respect, but with affection. After his death, the late Empress-Dowager canonised him with the honorific Wencheng—"Gentle and blameless."

The two most famous men connected with this Chinese Oxford movement were the late Chang Pei-lun, the hero of the Foochow naval battle, and the late Imperial Chancellor Chang Chih tung. The other well-known men of this Oxford movement were the late Teng Chen-hsin, Chen Paochen (recently called to Peking), Hsu Chihchiang, and the late Chen Ch'e-tai (Governor of Kiangsu, who died just the other day).

This Oxford movement in China became overwhelmingly strong just before the outbreak of the Tonking war. After Li Hung-chang had made a muddle of the Fournier convention at Chefoo, these young Hanlins with the country behind them lifted their voices and Li Hung-chang was compelled to cower down and sulk for a time. Then Chen Pao chen was sent as Imperial Commissioner to negotiate with Patenotre at Kao Chang-miao in Shanghai. Chang Fei-lun was sent to defend Foochow and Chang Chih-tung to defend Canton.

These young hot-headed scholars without any experience of affairs, of course, made a mess of things. The ultimate result was—the French lost their patience and Admiral Courbet was ordered to blow up the Foochow Arsenal fleet. Chang Pei-lun, like the Latin poet, threw away his shield and ran away to the hills for safety. Chang Chih-tung was more fortunate. The French did not go to Canton.

After the war, Li Hung-chang had again to came back to power, and the Chinese Oxford movement was thus utterly broken. Chen Pao-chen, the Imperial Commissionner at Kao Chang-miao, was dismissed, Chang Pei-lun, the hero of the Foochow naval batt'e, was banished to work in the post roads. A still more questionable fate awaited him after his return from banishment. He became the son-in-law of Li Hung-chang. Teng Chen-hsin was sent to delimit the Tonking frontier and immediately after retired from public life. Hsu Chih-chiang was permanently shelved in the Hanlin Academy. He ultimately gave himself up to wine and women and died quite young. Before his death he sent a violent impeachment against Chang Chih-tung, denouncing him in scathing terms for turning renegade to his early principles and for making up to Li Hung-chang.

The two men of the Oxford movement who escaped disgrace after the break-up of the party were Li Hung-tsao and Chang Chih-tung. Li Hung-tsao remained in as great favour with the late Empress Dowager as ever. As we have seen, she canonised him after his death. This little fact is a sign to me that the heart ot the late Empress Dowager was really with the Oxford movement. As the late Queen Victoria could not bear Lord Palmerston, so the late Empress Dowager never really liked Li Hung chang, althongh she had to entrust the direction of affairs into his experienced hands. When Chang Pei-lun, the hero of the Foochow naval battle, returned from banishment and married Li Hung-chang's daughter, Li Hung-chang asked the Empress Dowager to restore Chang Pei-lun to his rank. But the Empress Dowager curtly refused. She could not imagine how a man who had once belonged to the Oxford movement could possibly marry the daughter of Li Hung-chang.

(TO BE CONTINUED.)

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE Japanese cruiser *Izumo* left Santa Barbara for Santiago on the 29th ult.

MR. VAN ROYEN, the Netherlands Minister in Tokyo, who shortly leaves for home on furlough, was received in farewell audience by the Emperor on the 30th ult.

MR. KINGO ISHII, Harbour Master of Yokohama, will leave here on the 5th instant for Europe via Suez to investigate harbour administration in European ports.

A FEW days ago, a burglar broke into the residence of General Kuroki at Aoyama, Tokyo, and got away with a ring and other goods valued at over 2,500 *yen* in all.

AT a general meeting of the shareholders of the Hoden Petroleum Company held at Nagaoka on the 27th ult., a dividend was declared at the rate of 20 per cent. per annum.

ON Saturday afternoon, a meeting of the Oriental Glass Company, of Osaka, was held at the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo. The company is one of those promoted by Mr. Loonen and now in liquidation. Messrs. Okura, Murai, Yoneyama, Nakayama, Nagamori and the liquidator, Mr. Jonas, were present at the meeting.

VICE-ADMIRAL LAMBTON, Commander-in-Chief of the British Squadron, has telegraphed to Baron Saito, Minister of the Navy, expressing his deep sympathy at the death of Prince Ito.

IN the event of Prince Yamagata being appointed President of the Privy Council, Viscount Hanabusa, Vice-Minister of the Imperial Household, will probably he made a member of the Council.

EARLY on Friday morning, a fire broke out in the Chiba Preliminary School in Chinatown. The flames soon spread to the office of the *Chiba Mainichi Shimbun*, and eight other houses were burnt down. Two firemen were injured.

IT is reported that Mr. Charles Stevens, a San Francisco Customs official, will shortly arrive in Yokohama. His mission is to make investigations into the market prices of various articles imported to America from different ports of Japan and China.

ACCORDING to a London telegram received in Yokohama, the Turkish Government is negotiating for a foreign loan of £7,000,000 in London, for the purpose of financial readjustment. The interest is four per cent. and the issued value, £89.

A TABLET marking the supposed site of Shakespeare's Globe Theatre was unveiled on the 8th ult. noon by Sir Herbert Beerbohm Tree in the Barclay & Perkins Brewery, on the south side of the Thames, in the presence of a large gathering of Shakespeare enthusiasts.

A PORT ARTHUR telegram received by the *Asahi* says that on October 30, a boat with ten pirates was discovered off the coast of Ensho near Port Arthur. The boat was captured, while the pirates fled towards the land. A policeman was killed by a shot, when the search was being made.

ON October 29, Commodore Tiedeman of the Netherlands squadron went to the Imperial Palace to pay his respects in company with Mr. van Royen, Netherlands Minister in Tokyo, and high officers belonging to the Squadron. After they had been received in audience by Their Majesties the Emperor and the Empress, they were honoured with a banquet.

IT is rumoured that the term of grace for removing the buildings and fittings on the Cricket ground in Yokohama having expired, the Kanagawa Prefectural Government will adopt a final measure in making the enclosure a recreation ground for the general public. In the meantime the policy of the authorities is believed to be against permitting the ground to be used by any particular cricket club.

THEIR Highnesses the Prince and Princess Kuni, who have been on their way home from America, arrived at Yokohama on the morning of the 30th ult., by the steamer *Tenyo Maru*. Baron Sufu, Governor of Kanagawa prefecture, and Mr. Mitsuhashi, Mayor of Yokohama, welcomed their Highnesses on board, and several princes and princesses of the imperial family met them at the pier. The party immediately left for Tokyo by train.

THE new *Invincible* cruiser, for the British Navy, to be laid down at Devonport Dockyard in November, will mark a further advance in ships of this class embodying the all-big gun principle. The new vessel is credited with a speed of nearly 30 knots, obtained from an increased displacement on a length of about 600 ft., which will permit of a more powerful machinery installation than that in the three *Indomitable* and the *Indefatigable*. The main armament will consist of 12in. guns, in association with a more powerful torpedo armament. The torpedo equipment will consist of the new 21in. weapons, with an effective range up to

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7,000 yards The vessel will carry only one mast of an improved design, and with greater resisting power than those now in use. The length of the new cruiser will render it necessary to extend the building slip by about 80ft. It is understood that this will be the type ship of a group of four single-masted cruisers, provision for the remaider of which will be made in the Estimates for the next financial year.

A SINGULAR electric plant is said to grow in the forests of India. Plucking its leaves gives a shock, and it affects a magnetic needle 20 feet away. The energy is greatest at about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, nearly disappearing at night. The intensity often increases greatly in storms, but in a heavy rain it becomes so inert as to have no influence on the compass. No magnetic metals are found near. Birds and insects seem to have an instinctive dread of the plant, and are never known to alight on it.

DESPITE the general depression in trade, the improvement in the Clyde shipbuilding industry is maintained, the output during September constituting a record for the current year, with a total of fifteen vessels and 44,900 tons, as compared with eighteen vessels and 43,600 tons in August. The total for the first nine months of the year is 161 vessels and 267,300 tons. The amount of new work placed during September was fairly satisfactory, the contracts including nine torpedo boat destroyers for the Government.

MR. J. M. BARRIE, the well-known Scottish author, has been granted a divorce on account of his wife's misconduct. Mrs. Barrie was an actress, but left the stage after her marriage. As Miss Mary Ansell she played with Mr. J. L. Toole in "Walker London," and did a great deal to create the immense popularity of that play. Her union with the brilliant author and dramatist, whose tenderness, mirth, and pathos have been the delight of millions, was looked upon as a real love-match, and the news of their divorce will be read with more than ordinary feelings of regret.

NEW spots on the sun were discovered at Oakland on the 7th ult. by Professor Charles Burckhalter through the Chabot telescope. Although such spots were seen prior to the recent electrical storm, which wrought havoc to telegraph wires through the country, Burckhalter says that there is little likelihood of a repetition of the disturbance. One large spot and four large groupings were observed by Burckhalter, who also saw the meteor which was reported in San Jose and Stockton last night. A number of meteors of the tramp variety have been reported lately, and all were of unusual brilliancy.

KING MANUEL of Portugal will, it is stated, arrive at Windsor Castle on November 15, his Majesty's birthday. He will first go to Madrid, to return King Alfonso's visit of last spring. The Lisbon *Seculo* says that King Manuel's visit to England will last twelve days. No official announcement has yet been made, but the *Seculo* declares that his Majesty's bride will be Princess Alexandra, daughter of the Princess Royal and the Duke of Fife, and that the marriage will take place in Lisbon early in April next. This is, however, emphatically denied in London. It is believed in Court circles that the King of Portugal will be betrothed next year to an Austrian Archduchess who has a very large fortune.

A FARMER near Mold has made a horrible discovery, says a London despatch to the *Peking Daily News*. In the hollow trunk of an oak tree in one of his fields he found the skeleton of a man standing upright. The body was identified as that of Griffith Hughes, aged fifty-two, a member of a wellknown family. Hughes often spoke of his boyhood days and how he used to descend the hollow of this particular tree for owls' nests. It is believed he had a longing to see the tree and dropped himself down the hollow trunk. Not being able to release himself, he must have died a lingering death. His cries could not have been heard, since the tree is in the middle of a large field.

CORRESPONDENCE.

PRINCE ITO'S MURDERER.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—With reference to Prince Ito's assassination, the *Japan Mail* and some other Yokohama papers have reproduced a telegram of the *Hōchi Shimbun* charging a Catholic with the dastardly deed. As I had some reasons for doubting the accuracy of the Japanese paper I sent to Rt. Rev. Bishop Mutel of Korea the following telegram: *"Journals declare Ito's murderer a Catholic: answer yes or no."* And the answer just to hand is this:—*No, positively no: besides no Catholic had any part in Stevens' assassination.*

Thanking you for kindly inserting this communication, I remain, dear Sir,

Yours very truly, P. H. MUGABURE.
Archbishop of Tokyo.

CHRISTIAN UNITY.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—In your issue a couple of days ago there appeared an article, or communication, to the effect that there is some effort being made to bring about union between the Eastern and Western Churches, which means, if I understood the article aright, between the Episcopal Churches of England, the United States, etc., on one side, and the Greek Church on the other. What other people may think about the matter I know not, but to me no news has given greater pleasure for a long time. I would that the Catholic Church of Rome were to be included in it. To outsiders like myself—I mean laymen—there is hardly anything so disheartening as the division between the different branches of the Christian Church, where, it seems to me, the breach might be without much difficulty filled. "Where there is a will there is a way;" and if this old saying be true, there *ought* to be unity. Personally I would do all in my power to further it. Another thing that is discouraging to outsiders is the differences of opinion on various dogmas and practices. Even within the realm of one Church, one minister tells me one thing, and another contradicts it. Where is their authority? There ought to be some authority one would think. The King's ambassador knows his duty, and there never need be two opinions as to what is his duty: why should there be two, three, or even more opinions regarding Christianity? Some Christians say that they never pray for the souls of the dead: others say they do, and personally I should like to think that some one would be so far interested in me after death as to pray for me The New Testament recommends praying over the sick and anointing; but how many obey this precept? To me it would be a great consolation, I believe. Some say that they do not like to enter such and such a church, because they use crosses and pictures there. Personally, if I go into a church where there are such things, they immediately remind me of the use of the building, and also of many beautiful truths and events in the life of our Lord. I once went into the church building of a missionary who objected to these things, but there was absolutely nothing which would tell me what the place was used for; not a single cross, not even a Christian picture or symbol of any kind. This, to me, looked bare and cold; but I would not say anything against it, for I respect the tastes of others. One good friend objected to an image of Christ in my room, yet he, in his house, had a picture of the crucifixion and an image of Mozart! I do not say anything against these friends more than that they were, perhaps, thoughtless or careless. Others say: "Oh, you should never attend the Methodist church! It is not a real church at all!" Here I am of the same opinion *partly*, inasmuch as I hold that the true Church of Christ is that which is descended from the Apostles. They were undoubtedly given certain rights which, I understand, were not given—at least in the same way—to any others. If I wanted to be admitted into a society, I would apply to some one in authority belonging to that society; so in the Church, I would apply to one who has authority. Thus it would appear that the Methodists, Congregationalists, Presbyterians, and others are not, according to my view, part of the true Church. Yet, if I remember rightly, when some one told Christ that he had seen a man casting out devils in His name and had therefore forbade him, our Lord told him *not* to forbid him, for if he used Christ's name he could not be His enemy. Therefore I hold that the Methodists, Presbyterians, etc., are, at the very least, good societies which do an immense amount of good and we have not any right to forbid them.

The day when the churches are united will be not only a red-letter, but a gold-letter day in the history of the world, and may it come soon!

Yours very faithfully, CONCORDIA.

THE LATE PRINCE ITO—A LAMENT.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

This page should be written in black, for a great Calamity has befallen the human race by the death of the Greatest Statesman of our time in the whole world. Poor Prince Ito—no, Glorious Prince Ito!—sacrificed in the cause of Humanity. He has devoted all his magnificent energies to uplift the East, aye, and to secure the Peace of the whole earth, and before his work was accomplished he falls.

Once before a nation preferred Barabbas to Christ. Here it is repeated again. The greatest and best of Rulers is made to die because he would not let evil men rule.

Though dead, his noble spirit will live again in the hearts of myriads yet unborn.

To-morrow morning I will go the first thing to tender my deepest sympathy at the Japanese Consulate here, and wish I could convey my feelings to all the Leaders of Japan! Heaven to-day is richer for the arrival of Prince Ito, but the Earth is much poorer without him.

I mourn for him not merely as a personal friend but also as one of the best supporters of Peace and Righteousness in all the earth.

I am so upset by the news that I cannot settle down to think of anything else.

TIMOTHY RICHARD.

Shanghai, October 26th, 1909.

THE EMPEROR'S CUP.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—In your account of the Emperors' Cup race on Saturday you state in regard to this particular race that the winning rider is the first foreigner who has owned, trained, and steered his mount to victory. I would mention that the winner in 1888 was owned, trained and ridden by me.

Yours faithfully, A. J. EASTON.

4th November, 1909.

[We apologize for the mistake, but the information in question was given to the Press representatives by a responsible official of the Nippon Race Club.—ED *J.M.*]

CHESS.

[*Correspondence relating to this column should be addressed to the* CHESS EDITOR, *The Japan Mail. Problem solutions should be handed in at the Japan Mail Office, or to Mr. W. B. Mason, not later than the evening of Thursday.*]

SOLUTION TO PROBLEM NO. 29.

WHITE

1. R — R sq.

Black's defence, in this fine problem, is so varied that we cannot find space to give it in detail.

* * *

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., Omega, J.S., H.B.W., W.A. de H.

* * *

We are pleased to see from exchanges that Mr. O. Balk, of Dunedin, one of the founders of the Y.C.C., is still taking an active interest in Chess matters.

* * *

PROBLEM NO 31.

By A. F. MACKENZIE.

Black, 9 pieces.

White, 12 pieces.

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN TWO MOVES.

* * *

The *Times* records the death of Mr. F. J. Lee, in his 52nd year. Although not quite in the first rank of the chess masters of the world, Mr. Lee was a well-known professional player. His play was of the

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stolid rather than of the inventive order, but he was a positive genius in the art of pawn end-game play. His game against Fox in the Anglo-American cable match of 1907 will be remembered in this connexion. The game ended in a draw, but this result was only attained by Mr. Lee's masterly handling of the p wns. He competed in four International Tournaments, as follows:—Bradford, 1888; London, 1899; Manchester, 1900; and Ostend, 1907; as well as in numerous other contests, including the recent congress at Scarborough. The following is a specimen of his play.

GAME No. 29.—From the British Chess Federation Championship Tournament.

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENING.

WHITE. F. J. Lee.	BLACK. E. G. Sergeant.
1. P—Q4	P—Q4
2. P—K3	P—Q B4
3. Kt—K B3	Kt—Q B3
4. P—Q B4	P—K3
5. Kt—B3	Kt—B3
6. P—Q R3	P—Q R3
7. QP x P	B x P
8. P—Q Kt4	B—Q3
9. B—Kt2	Castles
10. P x P	P x P
11. B—K2	B—K3
12. Castles	Q—K2
13. R—B sq	P—Q R4
14. P—Kt5	Kt—K4
15. Q—R4	Kt (K4)—Q2
16. Kt—Kt sq	B—K B4
17. Kt—R4	B—K5
18. P—Kt3	Kt—B4
19. Q—Q sq	P—R5
20. Kt—B3	Kt—Kt6
21. Kt x P	Kt x R
22. Kt x Kt ch	P x Kt
23. Q x Kt	QR—B sq
24. Q—Q sq	B x R P
25. Kt—B5	Q—Kt5
26. B x P	Resigns

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

REFORMS IN THE CONGO.

London, October 29.

A Congo reform bill has been introduced into the Belgian Chamber and gradually opens the whole of the Congo to free trade by 1912, with the exception of three million hectares of land. The bill reduces taxation, gradually abolishes forced labour and assigns thirty-three million francs for important works.

LAUNCH OF POWERFUL BRITISH CRUISER.

The British cruiser *Indefatigable* has been launched at Devonport.

NEW GOVERNOR-GENERAL FOR SOUTH AFRICA.

London, October 29.

Mr. Herbert Gladstone has been designated for the Governor-Generalship of South Africa.

DIVORCE LAW COMMISSION.

The Royal Commission for the consideration of the law of divorce includes Lord Gorell, the Archbishop of York, Lady Frances Balfour, and Mrs. J. Tennant.

SULTAN VISITS ASIA MINOR.

The Sultan has visited Ismed in Asia Minor, where he was received with public rejoicings. Returning to Constantinople he was escorted by a fleet of seventeen warships under Admiral Gamble, and was welcomed by cheering crowds.

THE BERMONDSEY ELECTION.

A VICTORY FOR TARIFF REFORM.

Later.

The by-election for Bermondsey proved a triangular fight of the keenest description. Humphreys, Tariff reformer, polled 4278 votes; Hughes, Liberal, 3291; Walter, Labourite, 1435.

DISAPPEARANCE OF NAVAL DRAWINGS.

Confidential drawings supplied to the naval contractors of the battleship cruiser *Indomitable* have disappeared. The ship, however, has been commissioned for some time, and the drawings therefore lose much of their value.

BANK AMALGAMATION.

Parr's and Stuckey's banks have amalgamated.

REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT IN GREECE.

Athens.—It is reported from Athens that Naval Lieutenant Typaldos with three hundred men seized the arsenal at Salamis. No resistance was offered.

The greatest excitement prevails. The Ministry of Marine is guarded by troops.

Later.

A despatch from Athens states that the situation was due to the imperative demands made by junior naval officers for drastic reforms. A torpedo flotilla consisting of eight vessels is about to join Lieutenant Typaldos, and it is feared that the rest of the fleet will also join the movement, owing to its hostility with the military troops of the garrison, who have declared their willingness to obey their officers and carry out orders. The first shots of the revolution were fired in the afternoon between the field batteries and torpedo boats, the battle lasting for twenty minutes. Afterwards, negotiations were resumed. Lieutenant Typaldos has demanded his appointment as Minister of Marine in twenty-four hours in order to enable himself to control the reforms in the Navy; otherwise his torpedo boats will attack the rest of the fleet. It is believed that the Lieutenant is the mad tool of others.

Later.

The naval revolution in Greece has arisen from the demands of junior officers for dismissal of a number of incompetent officers hold ng high positions.

Lieut. Typaldos, commanding the torpedo flotilla, to-day seized the arsenal at Salamis and threatened to overthrow the Government unless he himself was made Minister of Marine. The remainder of the fleet and land batteries bombarded the mutinous flotilla for twenty minutes, with the result that the Government recaptured the arsenal and put the mutineers to flight in three torpedo vessels.

It is rumoured that the latter have gone to Crete with the intention of stirring up a revolution there.

London, October 31.

Athens.—The mutiny is practically quelled. The mutineers lost 4 to 5 killed and several wounded. Two loyalists were killed and two wounded on board the battleship *Hydra* by the fire from the destroyers.

Troops have been mobilised in the provinces and are arriving at Athens.

The most conflicting rumours are afloat as to the fate of Typaldos. He appears to have escaped in a small boat and landed at Eleusis, though some say he escaped with the ringleaders on the *Velos*, which is the only one of the destroyers unaccounted for.

GERMANY AND MOROCCO.

London, October 30.

Germany has demanded of Morocco immediate payment to all German creditors.

THE RAJAH OF SARAWAK.

The Rajah of Sarawak has sailed from Marmora for Borneo.

PRIZE FIGHTING.

It is reported from New York that Jeffries and the negro Johnson have agreed to box for the championship of the world before any club offering the most, not later than the 5th July next.

GALES IN S.E. BRITAIN.

Prolonged gales and deluges have visited Britain, particularly in Kent and Sussex. The severest damage occurred in Maidstone, Folkestone, and Herne Bay, where hundreds of homes were ruined.

THE FINANCE BILL.

"ITS EEFECT ON THE LIVES OF THE PEOPLE."

The report stage of the Finance Bill has been finished after fifty-one sittings.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. Lloyd George dwelt on the change the Budget had effected in the lives of the people. The consumption of spirits had sunk 20 per cent., and that of other liquors had also decreased. The people were being driven against alcohol altogether.

"A BENEFICENT BUDGET."

Later.

Mr. Lloyd George in an article in the *Nation* describes the Budget as the beginning of a Liberal reform scheme. Future surpluses are to be earmarked at the outset for beneficent purposes, instead of being hoarded for the Tories to squander. Hence the Protectionist outcry.

OBITUARY.

Sir Edmund Monson, G.C.M.G., British Ambassador at Paris 1896—1904.

RUSSIAN JURISDICTION AT HARBIN.

London, November 1.

According to the *New York Herald's* Peking correspondent, Russia has proposed to the Powers the creation of a small international settlement outside Harbin. The proposal is considered unacceptable in diplomatic circles, since its acceptance would mean the recognition of the right claimed by the Russian railway administration to exercise political powers over all residents in the railway zones of northern Manchuria.

THE NAVAL REVOLUTION IN GREECE.

Athens.—The *Velos* has returned to the arsenal at Salamis. Lieut. Typaldos is not on board.

THE FLOODS IN ENGLAND.

London, November 1.

The London-Hastings line is blocked on account of collapsed embankments. Lower Canterbury and Ashford are flooded, while between Lewes and the sea there is a lake fourteen square miles in extent.

BERESFORD AND THE ADMIRALTY.

Mr. McKenna, First Lord of the Admiralty, in reply to Lord Charles Beresford, gives the tabulated careers of Beresford's former officers, showing that promotions in their cases were unprecedented.

Mr. Asquith, replying to Lord Charles Beresford, encloses a communication from Mr. McKenna refuting in detail the charges made against the Admiralty. Captains Hulbert and Campbell will, he says, shortly receive employment, the delay in their cases being solely due to the fact that no immediately available vacancies suited their seniority.

Beresford has replied lengthily, arguing that McKenna's explanations do not affect the accusations, which he reiterates, appealing to the tribunal of the nation.

McKenna declares that the imputations of intimidation and favouritism made by Beresford, unless unassailably borne out by evidence, are of the most odious character and most subversive of discipline.

ANOTHER "CORNER" BY PATTEN.

Patten, the financier who recently effected a corner in wheat, may do the same with

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American cotton. It is estimated that the profits he has already made in this direction amount to two millions sterling.

FLOODING OF A COLLIERY.

The Tareni Colliery in Swansea valley has been flooded. One hundred and fifty miners have been brought up alive and three dead bodies. There are still 150 persons below and the flood is rising.

Later.

The remainder of the miners in the Tareni Colliery have been rescued, except two, making five drowned.

CANNIBALISM IN ADMIRALTY ISLANDS.

Manila.—Cannibals in the Admiralty Islands have captured a boat containing three Englishmen and three Chinese. They ate them all except one Englishman who escaped.

GERMAN NAVAL SCANDAL.

The trial has begun at Kiel of the Director of the Navy Yard Stores Herr Heinrich, three subordinates and five merchants, who are charged with wholesale robberies of valuable stores.

MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN ENGLAND.

A return published of the results of the Municipal elections in the boroughs of London and in the provinces shows that the party gains and losses are practically balanced.

BRITISH POLITICS.

The House of Commons has rejected many of the Lord's amendments to the Housing Bill, chiefly in connection with the compulsory purchase of land restrictions.

FATAL TRAM ACCIDENT.

Mr. Towers, of the Local Government Board, and six others have been killed and 12 injured by an electric tram becoming derailed and falling into a ravine during speed tests near Villefranche, in France.

TURKISH LOAN.

London, November 3.

A Turkish Four per Cent. Loan of £6,363,640 sterling has been issued, whereof two millions are to be floated in London at the price of 80 and the remainder in Paris at 90.

BRITISH FINANCE BILL.

On the third reading of the Finance Bill, Mr. Austen Chamberlain moved its rejection. He acknowledged the good temper with which Mr. Lloyd George had borne the prolonged strain, and recounted the Opposition's objections to the Bill.

THE SLEEPING SICKNESS.

Berlin.—Dr. Kleine claims to have discovered that the tsetse fly does not convey the sleeping sickness.

LONDON COUNTY ELECTIONS.

The most notable feature of the London County Council Elections was that the 32 Progressive members have been reduced to two.

DEFEAT OF SOCIALISTS.

The Socialist candidates have been routed at the Glasgow Municipal Election, and similarly defeated all over the country.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of the well-known painter, Mr. W. P. Frith, R.A., C.V.O.

[The deceased was in his 90th year, having been born in January 1819.—ED. *J.M.*]

CENSORSHIP OF PLAYS IN ENGLAND.

The Committee on the censorship of plays has recommended the maintenance of the censorship but does not approve that plays may be performed at the risk of a manager or author. The Director of Prosecutions may take action against them if he deems them objectionable.

A FASHIONABLE WEDDING.

Later.

The wedding of Mr. Brodie, Liberal M.P. for the Reigate Division of Surrey, to Sir Robert Hart's daughter, Mabel, has been fixed for the 20th inst.

SOCIALIST SUCCESSES IN SAXONY.

Twenty-two Socialists have been elected to the Saxon Diet as compared with one in 1907.

TAXES IN GERMANY.

Berlin.—As a result of the increased tea duty, the imports of tea in September decreased one-third as compared with September 1908.

VICTORY FOR TAMMANY HALL.

In the New York Municipal elections, the Tammany Hall candidate Judge Gaynor has been elected Mayor.

November 4.

Gaynor's election constitutes the only Tammany success. All the minor offices are secured by Republican fusionists, who thus control the Board, and consequently the authorization of expenditure.

THE MUTINY IN GREECE.

Athens.—Four officers, ringleaders in the recent mutiny, were captured last night, after an exchange of shots, by gendarmes near Thebes.

PEARY'S CLAIM APPROVED.

Washington. — The Committee of the National Geographical Society, after examining Peary's records, unanimously declare that they afford conclusive evidence of his having reached the Pole.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

THE OPEN DOOR IN MANCHURIA.

London, October 28.

At Washington it is thought that the Manchurian railway negotiations are likely to be definitely postponed. It is semi-officially hoped that eventually the Japanese Government will come into closer accord with the Powers, especially with America, with reference to the exact meaning of the Treaty of Portsmouth, and a declaration against the cultivation of special interests in Manchuria.

OUTRAGES BY MOORISH GOVERNOR.

Later.

Tangier.—The Governor of Alcazar has committed an unparalleled series of outrages on natives and on the protected subjects of European Powers. Women have been outraged and children stolen.

RUSSIA AND THE LATE PRINCE.

St. Petersburg.—Mr. Stolypin, Russian Minister of the Interior, conversing with Ambassador Motono, said that Prince Ito had been murdered while accomplishing an act of peace and courtesy.

The Russian newspapers are confident that chivalrous Japan will honour Ito by perpetuating his task of promoting friendship with Russia.

JAPANESE STOCKS IN LONDON.

London, October 29.

On the London Stock Exchange, some purchases have been made of Nagoya and Osaka loan bonds.

THE TROUBLES IN PERSIA.

Teheran.—The vigorous measures taken by the new Governor of Teheran have largeyl diminished brigandage.

JEWS PERSECUTED AT FEZ.

Tangiers.—The Jews in Fez complain that the Sultan compels them to work in the palace. They are not paid for their services and are frequently bastinadoed.

THE CONGO.

London, October 29.

Brussels.—The Minister for the Colonies solemnly declared in the Chamber that the allegations of cruelty and oppression towards the Congo natives by officials are false. All known abuses are investigated, and the natives are gradually being granted the right to take the produce of the soil.

RUSSIAN SYMPATHY.

St. Petersburg.—The semi-official *Rossiya* deplores the death of Ito, who was friendly towards a Russo-Japanese Union. The whole of Russia sympathizes with Japan in the heartiest manner.

NAVAL MUTINY AT SALAMIS.

London, October 30.

Athens.—Fighting has taken place at Salamis between three mutinous destroyers and the loyal part of the fleet, resulting in one rebel boat being disabled, while the other two fled. The rebel commander had previously demanded his appointment as Minister of Marine for the purpose of reforms. The Military League supports the Government.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

Japanese securities are being bought as investments.

CUSTOMS FRAUDS AT NEW YORK.

New York.—The Collector of Customs is investigating wholesale importation frauds, including the undervaluing and underweighing of goods.

MILITARY MEDDLERS.

DISCIPLINARIAN APPOINTED MINISTER OF WAR.

London, November 1.

Constantinople.—In consequence of recent meddlings by officers in political matters, Ibrahim Pasha, a stern disciplinarian, has been appointed War Minister.

TROUBLED MOROCCO.

Tangier.—The ex-Sultan Abdul Aziz has been proclaimed lawful sovereign at Fez. The Sultan is sending all available troops to the capital. Abdul Aziz himself is quietly living at Tangier.

THE GREEK NAVAL MUTINY.

London, November 1.

Athens.—The mutiny has been a complete failure. The destroyers were prevented from escaping into Salamis Bay by the royal fleet. The mutinous officers abandoned their crews and escaped to the mainland. Fifty arrests have been made, but the leader of the mutiny is missing. The Government has recovered possession of all the ships, the arsenal, and the magazines.

RUSSIA AND PERSIA.

A special telegram from Teheran reports that the departure of the Russian troops from Kazvin, with the exception of a Consul guard of 50 Cossacks, was due to the initiative of the new Russian Minister, who is anxious to prove that Russia has no designs on Persia.

SOCIALIST GAINS IN SAXONY.

Berlin.—The elections in Saxony have resulted in further Socialist victories.

THE AMERICAN AND FRENCH TARIFFS.

London, November 2.

New York.—Owing to unwise provision in the Payne Tariff Law, the Government is unable to reply to the imposition of a French maximum tariff on American imports.

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GERMAN COMIC PRESS CENSURED.

London, November 3.

Berlin.—The excesses of the German comic newspapers in dealing with international affairs have been semi-officially censured.

THE KIEL SCANDALS.

The trial has begun at Kiel of the four officials of the Imperial Navy Yard and five merchants who are charged with theft and with receiving stores valued at £5,000 sterling.

THE SITUATION IN GREECE.

Athens.—The city has quite the appearance of a military league. The journals admonish the Chamber to finish its work in the quickest manner.

The Government has decided to try the incriminated officers in a civil court, as under the military code penalties would be inflicted which public sentiment would hardly sanction.

The troops are still pursuing fugitive mutineers.

AIRSHIP FATALITY.

Rome.—A military airship has travelled a distance of 290 miles from Bracciano to Naples and back to Rome, but while preparing to reascend, Commander-Lieutenant Rovetti was killed by the revolving screw.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

Later.

Russian and Japanese stocks are being bought.

TURKEY PROTESTS AGAINST DISCRIMINATION.

New York.—The Turkish Representative has vigorously protested against the interpretation of the Nationalization Law by the Washington Authorities, to the effect that no Asiatic is entitled to the rights of citizenship. The Embassy is obliged to object to the theory that four out of six principal races in the Ottoman nation — Turks, Armenians, Syrians, Arabs—are undesirable and inferior elements.

PERSIA.

Teheran.—The Government is endeavouring to relieve the town of Arbidel, which, its ammunition supply exhausted, is surrounded by tribesmen. The Russian force in the Caucasus is starting to protect the various consulates.

RUSSIA AND THE FINNS.

St. Petersburg.—An eminent statesman declares that the Government has no intention of assailing the rights and liberties of the Finns in annexing Viborg.

THE TSAR AND HIS PEOPLE.

London, November 4.

St. Petersburg.—The Tsar is returning from his winter palace. He is convinced that seclusion is unnecessary and harmful, and desires to resume closer touch with his subjects.

EXTENSION OF THE SIBERIAN RAILWAY SYSTEM.

The Commission on new railways, discussing the routes linking South Siberia and the Altai district with the Siberian trunk line, has decided that they are urgently needed.

(PUBLISHED BY THE "JIJI SHIMPO.")

OUTBREAK IN KOREA.

Seoul, October 30, 7 a.m.

Last night, over 300 insurgents attacked the Iwön station on the Seoul-Fusan Railway. They fired on the official buildings, burned them as well as the station, and dispersed at 12 p.m. On receipt of the news the Taijon detachment immediately sent a force by special train to attack the insurgents. The fate of the station people is still unknown.

(For later news *vide* Korea, Sunday, Oct. 31st)

("DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST" SERVICE TO THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

THE TURKISH ARMY AND POLITICS.

Berlin, October 29.

The difference between civic officials and militarists at Constantinople are constantly increasing. General Shevket Pasha has issued an edict to the officer's corps, according to which he threatens to inflict disciplinary punishment on all officers who are detected meddling in politics.

M. PLANCON.

The *Novoe Vremya* reports a rumour, according to which M. Plancon, the Chief of the Far East Department in the Russian Foreign Office, will be sent to Siam.

M. KOKOWTZOW.

M. Kokowtzow, the Russian Minister of Finance, now at Kharbin, will remain in East Asia, until it has been decided, if a successor to Prince Ito will be nominated by Japan for carrying out the negotiations, suddenly interrupted by the murder of Prince Ito.

THE CHANCELLOR.

Berlin, October 29.

Heir von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new German Chancellor, will pay a visit to present himself to the King of Italy in January next.

THE CHINESE MILITARY OFFICERS.

The Kaiser has given orders that all German military training schools may be shown to the Chinese military officers, now staying in Europe, for purposes of inspection.

FRANCE.

M. Deschanel, speaking in the French Chamber, stated that the coöperation of German and French capital in Morocco is still continuing.

THE ANATOLIAN RAILWAY.

The Sultan, having carried out a trip by railway to Ismid, declared that the Anatolian Railway was the greatest work of progress as yet carried out by Turkey.

REFORMS IN THE CONGO.

The Belgian Minister for the Colonies has made the proposal of introducing Free Trade into the Congo State.

GERMANS MURDERED IN PACIFIC.

Berlin, October 30.

At New Pommern, one of the islands in the German Bismarck Archipelago in the South Seas, some German subjects have been murdered by the natives.

Leopold Tonnemann, editor of the *Frankfurter Zeitung*, a well-known German journalist, is dead.

AUSTRIA.

Emperor Francis Joseph has honoured the Turkish Military Commission, now at Vienna, with high Austrian orders.

COLUMBUS TO BECOME A SAINT.

The beatification of Columbus has been instigated at Rome by American Catholics.

UNITED STATES.

Berlin, October 31.

Mr. Stuyvesant Fish, President of the Illinois State Railway Road, is rumoured to have been appointed as new American Minister to Peking.

THE EXCHANGE OF PROFESSORS.

The new American professors, sent over from America in exchange for German professors sent to America, have given their first addresses at the Berlin University in the presence of the Kaiser and Kaiserin.

RUSSIA.

Berlin, October 30.

The Tsar has returned to Livadia and M. Iswolsky, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, to St. Petersburg, from their trip to Italy.

MR. KOKOWTZOW.

A rumour is current at St. Petersburg, according to which M. Kokowtzow, the Russian Minister for Finance, now at Vladivostok, will go to Tokyo for the continuation of the negotiations with Japan, which, opened at Kharbin, had been suspended owing to the assassination of Prince Ito.

THE NAVAL REVOLT.

A naval revolution, led by some officers of the Greek Navy, has taken place at Athens, the arsenal on Salamis Island having been taken possession of by them with the assistance of some destroyers. The rioters were afterwards driven away by the fire of the ships which had remained loyal.

Berlin, October 31.

The insurrection at Athens has already been fully suppressed, the insurgent officers and men having been arrested.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF THE NEGUS.

The Negus Menelik of Abyssinia has suffered an apoplectic stroke. As successor to the throne his grandson, Prince Lidj Eyassu, has been appointed, which is said to be a check to the anti-foreign policy of the party of the Empress.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Berlin, October 30.

Siberian mails, with dates up to Oct. 13th, ex Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on Oct. 29.

Berlin, October 31.

Siberian mails, with dates up to Oct. 15th, arrived at Berlin on Oct. 31st.

RUSSIA.

Berlin, November 1.

It is reported from Russia that the Tsaritsa will perhaps go to Italy during the winter owing to the state of her health.

ITALY.

Prince Buelow, the German ex-Chancellor, has gone to Rome for winter sojourn. The Italian Press is welcoming him with very sympathetic articles.

THE REVOLUTION.

The situation at Athens remains still unsettled. British and Russian warships will perhaps go to the port of Piræus for the protection of the dynasty.

NEW UNREST IN NORTH PERSIA.

Berlin, November 2.

New unrest has broken out in North Persia.

Berlin, November 3.

Several tribes in North Persia have opened a movement in favour of the Ex-Shah and are besieging the fortress of Andebilin, North Persia. Russian troops are fighting against the insurgents.

THE CZAR AND EX SHAH.

Berlin, November 2.

The Czar has refused to receive in personal audience the Ex-Shah of Persia at Odessa.

OBITUARY.

The mother of the Chinese Minister to Germany, General Yin-chang, has passed away at Berlin.

MOROCCO.

Spain demands from the Rif-Kabyles as condition of peace the cession of territory in Morocco.

FINLAND.

The incorporation of the Government Wyborg in Finland into the Russian State has been postponed.

RUSSO-JAPANESE NEGOTIATIONS.

It is again reported from St. Petersburg that M. Kokowtsow, the Russian Minister

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of Finance, now at Vladivostock, will go to Tokyo with enlarged authority for continuing the negotiations with Japan.

THE GERMAN BUDGET.

Berlin, November 3.

The Budget of the German Empire of the next Fiscal Year has been fully balanced, 130 million marks having been curtailed from the expenses of the different estimates by the Treasury.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

NEW FRENCH MINISTER TO PEKING.

Peking, October 28.

M. Baljiri(?), the newly appointed French Minister to Peking, is expected to arrive here on the 2nd proximo. He will be received in audience by the Emperor the next day, when he is to present his credentials.

CHIENTAO.

Chientao, October 28.

The opening ceremony of the Consulate-General in this place was held yesterday. A lantern procession of Japanese and Koreans paraded the streets last night. Consul-General Mr. Nagatani gave a dinner to-day, at which more than 500 persons were present.

THE LATE PRINCE.

Seoul, October 28.

At a conference held in the presence of the Korean Emperor it was decided that the posthumous title of *Bun-chu-ko* should be conferred upon Prince Ito. It is stated that the character *Bun* signifies virtue and wide learning, and *chu*, taking thought of the country and forgetting one's own family. Thirty thousand *yen* will also be granted for the religious ceremony.

KOREAN EMPEROR SENDS TELEGRAM OF CONDOLENCE.

The Korean Emperor despatched this morning the following telegram of condolence to the Emperor of Japan :—

"We felt the utmost anxiety when we heard of the misfortune to Prince Ito, but we at that time prayed that he would recover. Now that he has passed away, we cannot but feel the deepest regret. Much more so, as the catastrophe was caused by one of our countrymen. The whole Court is stricken with grief. We beg to express our unbounded sympathy towards the Prince."

In the afternoon the Korean Emperor visited the residence of the Resident-General to express his condolence. All the schools and theatres have been ordered to be closed for three days, and the Imperial Court will observe mourning for the same period, in accordance with the customs in Korea.

Seoul, October 27.

It has been announced that the celebration of the *Kougensetsu* in the Korean Court will be abandoned.

ARREST OF ACCOMPLICES.

Harbin, October 28.

Ten accomplices of the assassin have been arrested, and further search is being carried on.

All the papers here publish articles sympathizing with the death of Prince Ito. The Russian Minister of Finance and others have attended a burial service in the Greek Church. The Minister left for Vladivostock to-night.

JAPAN'S POLICY IN MANCHURIA.

San Francisco, October 29.

The report that no change in Japan's policy in Manchuria will take place has made a good impression upon Americans.

EARTHQUAKE FELT NEAR VLADIVOSTOCK.

Vladivostock, October 29.

Owing to an eruption of Mount Hawacha (?) in Kamtchatka, several shocks of earthquake were felt in the vicinity of Vladivostock. Ashes fell heavily at Petropavlosk, 30 Russian miles from the mountain.

RESTRICTION BILL FOR INSHORE TRADE.

It is reported that the Russian Minister for Home Affairs will bring forward in a Cabinet Council a bill for restriction of inshore trade engaged in by foreign vessels.

IMPERIAL TELEGRAPHIC ANSWER.

Seoul, October 30.

His Majesty the Emperor of Japan sent yesterday a cordial telegraphic answer to the Korean Emperor.

KOREA'S EXPIATORY MISSION.

Prince Wi, the Korean special envoy, who had been expected to leave for Japan this morning, suddenly suspended his departure, the Minister of the Imperial Household starting instead. It is rumoured that late on Friday night Japan communicated to Korea the unnecessity of the visit of an Imperial prince.

LORD KITCHENER.

Seoul, October 31.

Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener and suite left here for Fusan this morning, after exchanging cordial greetings with the Commander of the Japanese garrison on the platform of the station. His Lordship was attended on by Major-General Ishii and several other military officers, who proceeded to Fusan with him. The pupils of the Higher Girls' School lined the route to the station.

Shimonoseki, November 1.

Lord Kitchener left here at 9.30 a.m. to-day. He will pass Hiranuma at 1.20 p.m. to-morrow, and is due at Shimbashi at 3.10.

ITO'S FUNERAL.

Mr. Kin, President of the Privy Council, Mr. Chang, Minister of the Board of Agriculture, Commerce and Industry, and the President of the Hangyang City Assembly, left here for Japan this morning in order to attend the obsequies of the late Prince Ito.

ILLNESS OF BRITISH MILITARY ATTACHÉ.

Lieut.-Colonel Boger, Military Attaché of the British Embassy in Tokyo, who has been attending on Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener, was taken to-day to the Dai Han Hospital, owing to illness.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

Harbin, October 31.

Various papers state, with some show of truth, that Count Okuma will shortly visit St. Petersburg to carry out the mission entrusted to the late Prince Ito.

GERMAN CONSUL IN MANCHURIA.

The German Consul at Mukden will hold additional posts at Kilin and the Amur.

CAPTURE OF KOREANS.

Seoul, October 31.

A member of the Sokpohhok-hoi named An Seiko, who is believed to have been one of the leading murderers of Mr. Stevens, was arrested on the 21st insrant at Phyongyang on suspicion of being an accomplice of the assassin of the late Prince Ito. Another member of the Association named Ryu Tosetsu, who has lately been in Antung, is said to have been arrested at Phyongyang to-day. The matter is kept strictly secret by the authorities.

KOREAN INSURGENTS.

November 1.

During the year ending the 30th ultimo, 3,098 rioters were killed in Chhollado, 367 wounded and 3,055 captured.

THE EX-EMPEROR.

The Korean ex-Emperor will visit the Residency-General on the 4th instant, the date of the State obsequies of the late Prince Ito, to tender his sincere condolences.

CAPTURE OF KOREAN LEADER.

A well-known ringleader Kin Kaisan who has infested the districts of Chhollado was arrested yesterday near Razan.

SULTAN OF MOROCCO.

Shanghai, November 1.

Tangier.—The execution of the Pretender has not quieted the opposition to the present Government of Morocco. The ex-Sultan being pronounced to be the legal sovereign the Sultan is preparing to despatch the whole of his forces against him.

ADMIRAL LAMBTON.

Vice-Admiral Lambton has arrived here in the *Alacrity*.

RUSSIAN MINISTER OF FINANCE.

Vladivostock, November 1.

The Russian Minister of Finance arrived here this morning, and received a warm welcome from the officials and leading residents. In an interview with the Japanese Consul, His Excellency expressed his deep sympathy with the loss of one of the most illustrious statesmen of the world. The Consul handed him a telegram of thanks from Count Komura for the courtesies shown on the occasion of the catastrophe. It appears that the Minister contemplates a visit to Japan. He will stay here three days.

MORE ARRESTS.

Seoul, November 1.

Since yesterday five suspected accomplices of the murderer of Prince Ito have been arrested, though their names are kept strictly secret. It is said that a letter concerning the Hague affair has been discovered on one of the men.

November 2.

A man named An Shoko, who has been a vigorous agitator of the anti-Japanese boycott, and who is the principal and proprietor of a European school of over 400 students has been arrested. He is said to be a Roman Catholic.

Phyongyang, November 3.

A member of the Dai Han Kyokai, belonging to the Phyongyang branch, has been arrested. He is believed to have some connection with An, the assassin of Prince Ito.

ITO'S ASSASSIN.

Changchun, November 2.

An Eung-Chbil and ten accomplices arrived here last night under a Japanese guard, and were sent south this morning.

Port Arthur, November 3.

An, the assassin of Prince Ito, and eight accomplices arrived here this morning under a guard of gendarmerie. They were at once sent to the Government prison.

THE RUSSIAN FINANCE MINISTER.

Harbin, November 2.

M. Kokovtseff, the Russian Minister of Finance, has made cordial inquiries after the condition of the Japanese Consul-General Mr. Kawakami. The latter is on a fair way to recovery. The Minister is expected to arrive here on the 6th instant on his return home to St. Petersburg.

MONEY FOR CHINA.

Shanghai, November 2.

It is rumoured that the Chinese Government contemplates raising a foreign loan in order to readjust the Boxer indemnity and other loans outstanding, and that some foreign capitalists have commenced negotiations regarding this matter.

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CHINESE STUDENTS TO GO TO GERMANY.

Peking, November 2.

A Berlin telegram is reported to have reached the Wai-wu-pu stating that on the 21st ultimo, when the Kaiser attended a luncheon held in the Chinese Legation, Berlin, the German War Minister announced that Chinese students would be carefully educated in the German military schools.

JAPANESE DECORATION FOR PRINCE REGENT.

The Japanese Minister Mr. Ijuin presented the Prince Regent to-day with a decoration conferred by the Japanese Emperor.

THE "IDZUMO."

San Francisco, November 2.

The Japanese cruiser *Idzumo* left Santiago for Honolulu to-day.

PEARY AND THE POLE.

The Committee of the U. S. Geographical Society has after close examination unanimously agreed as to Commander Peary's arrival at the North Pole. It is said that the Society will not give any decision as to whether Dr. Cook or Commander Peary reached the Pole first.

NEW MAYOR FOR SAN FRANCISCO.

Mr. McCarthy has been elected Mayor of this city by a large majority. It is believed that an anti-Japanese campaign will now be commenced, just as in the time of Mr. Schmidt.

NEW YORK MAYORAL ELECTION.

In the competition of the Mayoral election in New York, Mr. Gaynor of Tammany Hall has been elected by a large majority. Mr. Barnard of the Republican party ranked next.

EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATED AT HONGKONG.

Hongkong, November 3.

The Japanese residents gathered this morning at the Consulate-General to celebrate the Emperor's Birthday. In the afternoon, an At Home was given to the foreign residents. There was a display of fireworks both day and night.

A BROAD GUAGE RAILWAY IN MANCHURIA.

Mukden, November 3.

A broad-guage line between Mukden and Sekkyoshi, on the Antung-Mukden line, extending for 30 miles, was opened to-day.

ALCOHOL OF LITTLE USE AS MEDICINE.

Washington, October 8.—That alcohol in any form is seldom of distinct value in the treatment of disease appeared to be the consensus of opinion of the Twelfth International Congress on Alcoholism held in London in July last, according to a report of its proceedings made public by the Public Health and Marine Hospital service to day. The report was prepared by Dr. Reid Hunt, chief of the division of pharmacology of the Public Health and Marine Hospital service.

Some evidence, Dr. Hunt declares, was brought forward to show that alcohol, even in moderate amounts, has an unfavourable effect upon off-spring, and has a tendency to lower resistance to infection.

Especial emphasis, Dr. Hunt declares, was laid upon the extraordinary growth of total abstinence in the British army and navy, it having been shown that 40 per cent. of the army in India are total abstainers. This was attributed by the Surgeon-General of the British military establishment in a very considerable degree to the improvements in the surroundings of the soldiers, such as improved housing and food. Figures were presented illustrating how marked has been the decrease of the use of alcohol in hospitals of various countries.

BRITISH NAVAL THEORY AGAIN PROVED FALSE.

IMPREGNABLE BOOM TO GUARD PORTSMOUTH PIERCED EASILY.

London, October 9.—It was no little shock to the theorists when, at Portsmouth the other day, the gallant little *Fer et*, a torpedo boat destroyer of obsolete pattern, burst through the so thought "impregnable" boom. Consisting of heavy baulks of timber twenty feet long, two feet square and pointed, fastened together by strong steel hawsers, the boom looked an exceedingly formidable affair. Indeed, the idea that any vessel charging the obstruction would first be spiked by its sharp teeth, and then have her decks swept of funnels, guns and men by the six-inch hawser on the upper surface, seemed justifiable.

As the task was supposed to be one of great danger to the men taking part, they were a volunteer crew, and though it was arranged that all should come on deck before the moment of impact, the brave fellows elected to remain below at their posts. At full speed the destroyer went through the boom.

This is not the first time that the Admiralty, in order to check theory, has resorted to practice of a most realistic nature. Only about eighteen months ago the battleship *Hero*, which cost $2,000,000 twenty years before, was sacrificed partly to prove the efficiency of modern armour plating against modern projectiles, and partly to test whether the fire-control platform, upon which the entire management of the up-to-date ship in action depends, would survive the first few minutes' firing. It is not difficult to understand that if once the voice pipes, and electric telegraph and telephone communications between the control platform and the various gun positions are destroyed, the modern battleship is almost helpless.

After four bombardments, which did terrific damage, and left the water bestrewn with wreckage and dummy men, the *Hero* sank. She had proved that her armour plating, with which she had been specially fitted, could not be pierced; but the experiment also revealed an important weakness. The *Hero* had been sunk by a shot—a high explosive shell—which descended a few feet under the edge of the waterline armour, striking a vulnerable spot, which had been considered only open to torpedo attack.

Some idea of the cost of the experiments may be gathered from the figures of the *Belleisle* tests, carried out about seven years before those of the *Hero*. After eight minutes' firing from the guns of the *Majestic*, the *Belleisle* was a total wreck, and sinking rapidly. Practically all the men—represented by dummies—had been "killed," the woodwork of the ship was pulverized as if by dry rot, all the boats except the wreckage of one had absolutely disappeared, the funnel had also gone, and her two masts were tottering. The bill was $7500.

As the firing lasted only from six to eight minutes, the cost for shells and gun wear alone will be seen to work out at about $1000 a minute.

GIVES A MILLION TO THE CAUSE OF PEACE.

Boston, October 11.—To promote the cause of universal peace, Edwin Ginn, the Boston publisher, has set aside $1,000,000. For the rest of his life Ginn will contribute $50,000 annually to the peace cause, and upon his death this $1,000,000 will become available. By the time of his death the $1,000,000 will have been considerably increased.

This is practically the first business step in the cause. Interested in it with Ginn are a number of prominent men. Ginn has worked independently of the professional peace advocates and has not associated his project with that of the platform peace-workers. He has interested Andrew Carnegie in his plan, and says that undoubtedly Carnegie will give a handsome sum to the project.

"My aim is to unite the business men of the world in a great permanent association which shall have for its object the suppression of war," he said to-day. "Until now, men have been organized to kill one another, and this organization shall aim to keep them from wholesale killing."

CUTICURA

COMFORT FOR SKIN TORTURED BABIES

No more grateful and comforting treatment is possible for skin tortured and disfigured infants and children than warm baths with Cuticura Soap and gentle applications of Cuticura Ointment. For eczemas, rashes, itchings and chafings; for sanative, antiseptic cleansing; for skin preservation and prevention of infantile humours, Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment are unrivaled in purity, safety, efficiency and economy.

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27 Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; China, Hong Kong Drug Co.; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; Russia, Ferrein, Moscow; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The market for Raw Cotton remains lifeless, with prices steadily advancing in producing countries. As to Cotton yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece goods is quiet. In Woollens and Woollen Mixtures, the market appears to be more healthy, and business conditions are normal.

RAW COTTON.	PER PICUL.
American Middling... ... —	42.00 to 43.00
Egyptian	47.50 to 52.75
Indian Broach...	34.00 to 35.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 32.00
COTTON YARN	**PER BALE.**
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed...	420.00 to 460.00
COTTON PIECE GOODS.	
White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.... ...	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints— 24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PIECE 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches ...	1.30 to 2.40

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Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y. 0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Business is quiet, especially in Basic Bars.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y. 3.80 to 3.85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4.30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.55
Sheet Mild Steel	6.15 to 6.30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9.60 to 9.80
" Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	6.80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y. 3.88 to 3.98
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

Demand continues light, and no sales are reported.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y. 240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. Business in known brands is beginning to revive.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	11.50
Flag	"	10.60
Royal	"	10.60
Trophy	"	10.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.90
Lion	"	11.50
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00
Japanese:—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 "	2.78
Fuji	6 "	2.85
Pine	6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

Stocks held by Japanese mills are very small but still they will not place any new business at present prices.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15 to 5.30
Red " " "	5.10 to 5.20
Blue Stem	5.30 to 5.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet and prices have in most instances declined.

On November 2nd stocks were: filatures 25,972 bales; Re-reels, 5,714 bales; Kakeda, 1,288 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	Y. 1,000
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	930
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	950
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	880
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	950
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den	920
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	845
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	900
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	840
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	860
Re-reels—No. 1½	830
Re-reels—No. 2	800
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	830
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	810
Kakedas—No. 2	790

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

October	Present delivery.	October delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
29th	854	—	—	855
30th	—	—	—	—
31st	—	—	—	—

November	Present delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.	January delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
1st	859	847	852	858
2nd	859	842	844	853
3rd	—	—	—	—
4th	—	—	—	—

WASTE SILK.

Market is quiet. No change in quotations.

On November 2nd stocks were: Noshi, 15,839 bales, Kibiso, 17,729 bales; and Sundry, 1,064 bales

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	137½ to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	95 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	75 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	70 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	120 to 127½
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	90 to 100
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—There is a slight weakening owing to a decrease in demand, and prices are somewhat easier. Production is still diminishing and Raw Silk rates have also declined.

Kanazawa:—Owing to a decrease in demand, market is slightly weakened.

Kawamata:—Prices have advanced somewhat for 27″ and 36″, owing to demand from the European and Rangoon markets.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.45	8.25	8.00	8.00	7.95
27″	8.70	8.40	8.45	8.10	8.15
36″	8.55	8.40	8.40	8.40	8.25

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.20	8.05	8.10	7.75
27″	8.20	8.05	8.15	7.75
36″	8.30	8.10	8.05	7.80

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.90	11.00	12.00	13.20
36	12.50	14.10	15.90	16.40

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of November 2nd the quotation was £58.12.6.

Owing to weak markets at home, fresh business is absent.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report, large stocks being still held, with poor demand.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	916,082
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	176,922

Delivery.	Closing Price
November	11.24
December	11.40
January	11.66

(Osaka.)	(Kobe.)
November 11.45	November 11.43
December 11.53	December 11.45
January 11.65	January 11.60

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*
Superior	Yen 12.10
Medium	11.10
Common	10.10
Average	11.10

TEA.

There has been no change in quotations. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to October 20th, the sales amounted to 8,832,300 kin. The stock on the same day aggregated 56,800kin.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	36 — 37
Good Medium	34 — 36
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
November	125.45
December	125.75
January	125.80

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Nov. 5

London silver ⅛ higher, China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates all unchanged, closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0 5/16
— — Bills on demand	2/0 5/16@3/8
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 7/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2 1/16
— — 6 months' sight	2 1/4
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight	263
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	85*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83*
Shanghai—Bank sight	88 3/8*
— Private 10 days' sight	90*
India—Bank sight	152½
— Private 30 days' sight	154½
America—Bank sight	49¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50 1/16@3/8
— Private 4 months' sight	51¼@3/8
Germany—Bank sight	209½
— Private 4 months' sight	214½
Bar Silver (London)	23¼

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	B. L	Oceano	F Nov. 5
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Monteagle 1	F Nov. 5
America	P. M.	Korea 2	Sa Nov. 6
Hongkong	P. M.	Asia	Tu Nov. 9
Tacoma	B. L.	Aymeric	F Nov. 12
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru	F Nov. 12
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	F Nov. 12
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Sa Nov. 13
Europe	N. D. L.	Kleist	M. Nov. 14
Europe	M. M.	Ernest Simons	W. Nov. 16
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 3	Sa Nov. 20
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Su Nov. 28
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru	M. Nov. 22
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Su. Nov. 28

1 Left Vancouver on the 22nd ult.
2 Left Honolulu on the 27th ult.
3 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Monteagle	Sa. Nov. 6
Europe	N. D. L.	Prinzess Alice	Sa Nov. 6
Tacoma	B. L.	Oceano	Sa Nov. 6
Europe	N. Y. K.	Kitano Maru	Sa. Nov. 6
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kosai Maru	Su Nov. 7
Hongkong	P. M.	Korea	Su Nov. 7
America	P. M.	Asia	W Nov. 10
Europe	M. M.	Armand Behic	Sa Nov. 13
Hongkong	B. L.	Aymeric	Sa. Nov. 13
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	Sa. Nov. 13
Tacoma	B. & S.	Bellerophon	Sa Nov. 13
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Su Nov. 14
Hongkong	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	M Nov. 15
Australia	N. Y. K.	Nikko Maru	M Nov. 15
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	Th Nov. 18
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su Nov. 21
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru	W Nov. 24
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	M. Nov. 29
America	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Tu Nov. 30
America	C. R.	Amiral Oily	M. Dec. 20

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LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Konan Maru, Japanese steamer, 858, T. Aihatsu, 28th Oct.,—Wakamatsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salter, 28th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1 804, I. Goto, 29th Oct.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Benavon, British steamer, 2,549, R. Thomson, 29th Oct.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 29th Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,860, Geo. Anderson, 29th Oct,—Antwerp and London via ports, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Astyanax, British steamer, 3,021, McLean, 30th Oct.,—Swansea and Liverpool via ports, General. Butterfield & Swire.

Breconshire, British steamer, 3,696, J. M. Tomlinson, 30th Oct ,—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 30th Oct ,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Ernest Bent, 30th Oct ,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer 2,920, E. Combes, 31st Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Inverclyde, British steamer, 3,214, W. H. Lea, 31st Oct.,—Norfolk, Coal.—Jardine, Matheson, & Co.

Peking, Swedish steamer, 2,900, Eggerts, 1st Nov., —Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Prinzess Alice, German steamer, 6,721, P. Grosch, 1st Nov.,—Hamburg via ports, Mails and General. —H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Rygja, Norwegian steamer, 2,492, Svendsen, 1st Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 1st Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenlogan, British steamer, 3,740, J. McGregor, 2nd Nov., — London via ports, General. — Jardine Matheson & Co.

China, Austrian steamer, 3,855, Berguglian, 2nd Nov.,—Fiume and Trieste via ports, General.—Heller Bros.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 2nd Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakamiya Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,156, Nozaki, 2nd Nov.,—Jinsen, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Soyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,230, T. Ota, 2nd Nov.,—Uraga.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 3rd Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 3rd Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, W. W. Greene, 3rd Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Armand Behic, French steamer, 2,819, Guionnet, 3rd Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Palermo, British steamer, 4,909, J. B. Fergusson, 3rd Nov.,—London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Hirano Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,282, H. Frazar, 4th Nov,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Iki, Japanese coast defence, 9,700, Capt. S. Tsukiyama, 2nd Nov.,—Yokosuka.

DEPARTURES.

Seattle Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,832, T. Saito, 29th Oct.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co. (O.S.K. American line).

Tourane, French steamer, 2,338, Bourge, 30th Oct., —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salter, 30th Oct ,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 30th Oct.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha,

Soyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,230, T. Ota, 31st Oct.,—Uraga, Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 31st Oct.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Konan Maru, Japanese steamer, 858, T. Aihara, 31st Oct.,—Wakamatsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Earnest Bent, 1st Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Benavon, British steamer, 2,549, R. Thomson, 1st Nov.,—Dalny via Kuchinotsu.—Cornes & Co.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,804, I. Goto, 1st Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Oopack, British steamer, 2,517, R. J. Woodget, 2nd Nov.,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 2nd Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, E. Combes 2nd Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Breconshire, British steamer, 3,696, J. M. Tomlinson, 2nd Nov.,—Antwerp, London and Hull via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Rygja, Norwegian steamer, 2,492, E. H. Svendsen, 3rd Nov.,—Portland, Or., General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Soyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,230, T. Ota, 3rd Nov.,—Paita, Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Shimidzu, 3rd Nov.,—Takao via ports, General. —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, Austrian steamer, 3,855, Berguglian, 3rd Nov.,—Fiume and Trieste via ports, General.—Heller Bros.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 4th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Iki, Japanese coast defence, 9,700, Capt. S. Tsukiyama, 4th Nov.,—Yokosuka.

De Ruyter, Dutch cruiser, 5,084, Capt. Tydemann, 4th Nov.,—Hongkong.

Koningin Regentes, Dutch cruiser, 5,084, Capt. T. Pinke, 4th Nov.,—Hongkong.

Tarten Tromp, Dutch cruiser, 5,298, Capt. W. Termiftehn, 4th Nov.,—Hongkong.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Tenyo Maru* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Baron M. Arakawa, Mr. J. Asia, Mrs. Asia, Mrs. Asia and 2 children, Dr. P. Bru chetti, Mr. W. Bow, Mr. Morgan Brooks, Mrs. Brooks, Miss Frances Brooks, Mr. Frederick Brooks, Miss J. B. Cook, Baron Y. Fujimura, Baroness Fujimura, Mr. H. Goldman, Mr. S. Grace, Mr. C. A. Graham, Maj. J. O. Hutchinson, Com. C. Honda, Mr. S. Hattori, Mr. M. M. Joslyn, Mr. W. W. Kendall, Mr. T. Kraemer, Prince Kuni, Princess Kuni, Col N. Kunita, Mrs. M. Kimura, Dr. I. Katsuki, Mr. Edw. Keene, Mrs. F. Little, Miss B. Marsden, Mr. J. C. McCoy, Mrs. McCoy and maid, Mrs. H. E. Manwaring, Mr. H. J. Mori, Mrs Mori and 2 children, Madame Nagasaki, Mr. K. Nakahama, Mr. S. Niwa, Mr. U. Noda, Mr. J. Orange, Mr. Rudolph Peracea, Mr. J. O. Prescott, Mr. W. Regenold, Mr. Geo. M. Reynolds, Mr. Charles H. L. Stanley, Mr. C. S. Shank, Mrs. M. J. Turner, Mr. K. Takeda, Mr. L. K. Walsh, Mrs. L. K. Walsh, Mr. U. Yanagiya and Mrs. Yanagiya and maid. For Kobe:—Miss Rosamond Bates, Miss G. V. Correll, Miss Olive S. Hoyt, Miss M. M. Leodbetter, Mr. C. Y Mark, Mrs. H. B. Newell, Master N. Newell, Mr. J. B. Ross and Mrs. J. B. Ross. For Shanghai:—Mrs. M. L. Dexter. For Hongkong:—Mrs. M. M. Arnold, Dr. W. K. Beatty, Mrs. Beatty and infant, Master J. H. Beatty, Mr. W. E. Bouschor, Miss E. M. Buck, Rev. C. R. Callender, Mrs. Callender, Master P. Callender. Miss B. Callender, Mr. A. Dovale, Mrs. Mark St. C. Ellis, Mr. Clarence Grange, Mr. John F. Green. Mr. P. H. Hill, Mrs. Hill, Miss N. S. Hand, Mr. J. E. Jones, Mr. W. Parker, Mr. O. H. Paddison, Mr. C. E. Richardson, Mrs. Richardson, Miss E. C. Swett, Mrs. C. F. Smith, Mrs. Wm. Sporborg, Dr. D. W. Shaffer, Miss L. M Starling, Miss Y. L. Sterbens, Mr. W. F. Sherfesee, Rev. H. White, Mrs. H. White, Miss E. White and Rev. William O. Yates in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Tourane* for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. W. Pratt, Mr. J. Arthur, Mr. G. W. Bell, Mr. R. Bohm, Mr. Renzhaid, Mr. D. Manwell, Mr. and Mrs. Huet, Mr. E. Tronquois, Mr. B. C. Daver, Mr. Guindry, Mr. Marini, Mr. Sergent, Mr. Le Thess Alevandre and Mr. Jonaunean in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tenyo Maru*, for Hongkong via ports:—Miss R. Bates, Miss G. V. Correll, Miss O. S. Hoyt, Miss M. M. Leodbetter, Mrs. M. L. Dexter, Mr. C. Y. Mark, Mrs. M. M. Arnold, Dr. and Mrs. W. K. Beatty and infant, Master J. H. Mr. W. E. Bouschor, Miss E. M. Buck, Rev. C. R. Callender, Miss B. Callender, Mr. A. Dovale, Mrs. Mark St. C. Ellis, Mr. C. Grange, Mr. John F. Green, Mr. P. H. Hill, Mrs. P. H. Hill, Miss N. S. Hand, Mr. F. H. Kauffman and native servant, Mr. Jose T. Figueres, Dr. H. B. Newell, Mrs. H. B. Newell, Mrs. H. B. Newell, Master Newell, Mr. J. B. Ross, Mrs. J. B. Ross, Mr. J. B. Jones, Mr. W. Parker, Mr. O. H. Raddison, Mr. C. E. Richardson, Mr. C. E. Richardson, Mrs. Richardson, Miss E. C. Ewett, Mrs. C. F. Smith, Mrs. Wm. M. Sporborg, Dr. D. W. Shaffer, Miss L. N. Starling, Miss Y. I. Sterbens, Mr. W. F. Sherfesee, Rev. H. White, Mrs. H. White, Miss E White, Rev. Wm. O. Yates, Mrs. F. E. Walker, Mr. H. E. Walker and Mr. C. D. Walker in cabin.

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Tourane*:—

	Raw.				Waste.			
	Marseilles Option.	Lyon.	Moscow.	Milan.	France.	Sw'land	Trieste.	Peignes
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	342	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	107	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber Wolff & Co.	81	10	20	—	50	—	17	—
Otto Streuli & Co.	51	35	—	—	—	—	—	—
L. Mottet	45	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	34	—	—	—	56	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	25	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hara Yushutsuten	15	—	15	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett and Bent	10	35	—	—	38	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
do	19	Tamaito		—	151	—	—	—
Pila & Co.	—	145	—	—	4	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co.	—	98	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Strahler & Co.	—	46	—	—	—	—	—	—
P. Dourille	—	22	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nozawaya	—	20	Tamaito		—	—	—	—
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	—	—	15	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	—	10	31	Odessa	—	—	—	—
Vivanti Bros.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.	—	—	—	—	49	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.	—	—	—	—	42	—	—	—
Total	730	421	81	—	390	—	17	—

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

STEAMERS.

NAME.	FROM.	REPORTED.	
Aldenham	Hongkong	Left Kobe	Nov. 2
Asia	Hongkong	Left	Nov. 3
Australien	Marseilles	Passed Canal	Oct. 25
Awa Maru	London	Left	Oct. 30
Benalder	Hongkong	Left	Oct. 30
Benarty	London	Passed Canal	Sept. 27
Benlomond	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 11
Benmohr	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 25
Bingo Maru	London	At Kobe	Nov. 4
Braemar	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 11
Brisgavia	Hamburg	At S'hai	Oct. 31
Calchas	Liverpool	At S'hai	Oct. 27
Chingwo	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 7
Chiyo Maru	Hongkong	Left Kobe	Nov. 2
Dardanus	Singapore	Left S'hai	Oct. 20
Denbighshire	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Deucalion	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 14
Em. of India	Vancouver	Left	Oct. 28
E. F. Ferdinand	Trieste	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Ernest Simons	Marseilles	Passed Canal	Oct. 14
Glenlochy	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Hirano Maru	London	Left Kobe	Nov. 3
Indra	Natal	Left	Sept. 25
Indramayo	New York	Passed Canal	Sept. 20
Kamo Maru	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 23
Kasama	New York	Left	Oct. 20
Katuna	New York	Left	Oct. 20
Kawachi Maru	London	At Colombo	Oct. 29
Kintuck	Liverpool	Left S'hai	Sept. 15
Kleist	Hamburg	Left Colombo	Oct. 23
Korea	San F'cisco	Left Honolulu	Oct. 27
Lowther Castle	Algiers	Left	Sept. 13
Menelaus	Liverpool	Left S'pore	Oct. 27
Mishima Maru	London	Leaves	Nov. 6
Monteagle	Vancouver	Left	Oct. 22
Moyori Maru	Bombay	Left H'kong	Oct. 31
Moyune	Liverpool	Left H'kong	Oct. 22

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Namur	London	At S'hai	Oct. 26
Nikko Maru	Melbourne	Left Kobe	Nov. 2
Nore	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 7
Pakling	Liverpool	Passed Caual	Oct. 14
Palawan	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct. 21
Palermo	London	At Kobe	Oct. 29
Peleus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Oct 21
Poona	London	Left S'pore	Oct. 22
Sanuki Maru	London	Passed Canal	Oct. 30
Selja	Astoria	Left	Oct. 10
Senegambia	Hamburg	Left	Oct. 5
Shimosa	New York	Passed Canal	Oct. 4
Shinano Maru	Seattle	Left	Oct. 26
Silesia	Hamburg	Left Manila	Oct. 30
Silvia	Hamburg	Left	Sept. 13
Suevia	Hamburg	Left	Sept. 25
Takasaki Maru	Bombay	Left	Nov. 2
Tamba Maru	London	Leaves	Nov. 13
Tango Maru	Seattle	Leaves	Nov. 9
Tonkin	Marseilles	Left	Oct. 24
Vandalia	New York	Passed Canal	Oct. 21
Wray Castle	Boston	Left	Aug. 22
Yeboshi Maru	Bombay	Left	Oct. 20
	SAILING VESSELS.		
Daylight	New York	Left	July 24

RAILWAY TIME-TABLE.

DOWN TRAINS FROM TOKYO.

Leave Shimbashi.	Arrive Yokohama.	Stop at Hiranuma.	
5.30 a.m.	6.22 a.m.	—	(to Kodzu)
6.15 „	—	7.14 a.m.	(to Ogaki)
6.50 „	7.42 „	—	(Through to Yokosuka)
7.20 „	8.12 „	—	(to Kodzu)
7.45 „	8.37 „	—	(to Yokohama)
8.20 „	8.48 „	—	(Express to Kodzu)
8.30 „	—	9.01 „	(1st and 2nd Express to Kobe)
8.40 „	9.32 „	—	(Through to Yokosuka)
9.00 „	—	10.00 „	(„ to Uwotsu)
9.30 „	10.30 „	—	(Through to Yokosuka)
10.10 „	11.02 „	—	(to Kodzu)
10.40 „	11.32 „	—	(to Yokohama)
11.00 „	—	11.52 „	(to Kobe)
11.20 „	12.12 p.m.	—	(Through to Yokosuka)
11.50 „	12.26 „	—	(Express to Yokohama)
12 (noon)	12 52 „	—	(to Kodzu)
12.30 p.m.	1.22 „	—	(Through to Yokosuka)
1.10 „	2.02 „	—	(to Hamamatsu)
1.40 „	2 32 „	—	(Through to Yokosuka)
2.15 „	3 07 „	—	(to Yokohama)
2.50 „	3.42 „	—	(to Kodzu)
3.20 „	4.12 „	—	(to Yokohama)
3.40 „	—	4 25 p.m.	(Express to Shimonoseki)
4.00 „	4 52 p.m.	—	(to Numadzu)
4.30 „	4 58 „	—	(Express to Yokohama)
4 40 „	5.32 „	—	(Through to Yokosuka)
5.00 „	5 52 „	—	(to Yokohama)
5.30 „	6.22 „	—	(to Kodzu)
6 00 „	6 52 „	—	(to Yokohama)
6.30 „	—	7.05 „	(1st and 2nd Express to Kobe)
6 40 „	7 32 „	—	(to Kodzu)
7.15 „	8.07 „	—	(Through to Yokosuka)
7.30 „	—	8 13 „	(Express to Kobe)
7.50 „	8.42 „	—	(to Kodzu)
8.30 „	9.22 „	—	(to Yokohama)
9.00 „	—	9 43 „	(1st and 2nd Express to Kobe)
9.20 „	10.12 „	—	(to Kodzu)
10.00 „	10.52 „	—	(to Yokohama)
10.40 „	11.32 „	—	(to Yokohama)
11.00 „	—	11.49 „	(Through to Shimonoseki)
11.40 „	12.32 a.m.	—	(to Yokohama)

DOWN TRAINS LEAVING HIRANUMA.

7.18 a.m.	For Ogaki	
9.04 „	„	Kobe (1st & 2nd Express)
10.04 „	„	Uwotsu
11.55 „	„	Kobe
4.29 p.m.	„	Shimonoseki (Express)
7.09 „	„	Kobe (1st & 2nd Express)
8.17 „	„	„ (Express)
9.47 „	„	„ (1st & 2nd Express)
11.52 „	„	Shimonoseki

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Leave Yokohama.	UP TRAINS TO TOKYO.	Arrive Shimbashi.
5.30 a.m.	(from Yokohama)	6.22 a.m.
6.20 „	(„ „)	7.12 „
7.00 „	(„ „)	7.52 „
7.38 „	(„ Kodzu)	8 30 „
8.15 „	(Express from Kodzu)	8.43 „
8.25 „	(from Yokohama)	9.17 „
8.47 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	9.40 „
9.05 „	(from Yokohama)	10.07 „
9.43 „	(„ Kodzu)	10 35 „
10.20 „	(„ Yokohama)	11.12 „
10.45 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	11 37 „
11.18 „	(from Yokohama)	12 07 p.m
11.41 „	(„ Numadzu)	12 50 „
12.25 p.m.	(Through from Yokosuka)	1.17 „
12.58 „	(from Kodzu)	1 50 „
1.40 „	(„ Yokohama)	2.32 „
2 10 „	(„ Kodzu)	3 02 „
2.38 „	(„ Yokohama)	3.30 „
3.10 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	4 10 „
3 44 „	(from Hamamatsu)	4 45 „
4.30 „	(Express from Yokohama)	4.58 „
4 40 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	5.32 „
5.10 „	(from Kodzu)	6.02 „
5.40 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	6 32 „
6.08 „	(from Kodzu)	7.00 „
6 45 „	(Through from Ogaki)	7.37 „
8.00 „	(from Kodzu)	8.52 „
8 35 „	(„ Yokohama)	9.27 „
9.08 „	(„ Kodzu)	10.00 „
9 50 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	10 42 „
10.38 „	(from Kyoto)	11 30 „
11.30 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	12.22 a.m.

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October 2nd, 1909. 13w.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 13TH, 1909.

BIRTH.

GAUNTLETT.—At Yamaguchi, on Saturday, October 30th, the wife of GEO E. L. GAUNTLETT, of a Daughter.

DEATH.

MARTIN.—At Berlin, on the 9th November, RALPHIA CHANDLER NOWELL MARTIN, beloved only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. K. MARSHALL MARTIN. (By Cable).

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

IT is stated that the Mitsui family has decided to present a sum of 20,000 *yen* to the household of the late Prince Ito as a token of sympathy for the recent bereavement.

THE whole of the second, third and fourth-year students of the Shingu Middle School, Wakayama prefecture, numbering some 200 in all, went on strike on the 5th instant, on account of dissatisfaction with their principal.

THE Netherlands cruiser *Noord Brabant*, which has been attending the Portola celebrations at San Francisco, is due to arrive at Yokohama on or about the 20th inst. She will remain here six days, and will then proceed south.

FIELD MARSHAL LORD KITCHENER arrived at Nikko at 11.30 a.m. on the 5th instant, and put up at the Kanaya Hotel. While *en route*, His Lordship was met at Utsunomiya Station by Generals Oku, Fukushima and Oshima and others.

AT about 7 p.m. on the 4th instant, a fire broke out in the compound of the Imperial Guard Commissariat barracks at Meguro, Tokyo-fu. One godown and a portion of an outhouse were destroyed. The damage is estimated at some six or seven thousand *yen*.

THE trial run of the battleship *Satsuma* was successfully made on the 31st ult. Vice-Admiral Saito, Minister of War, and Admiral Count Togo sent telegrams of congratulation. At the same time the trial run of the cruiser *Ibuki*, which has received her armament at the Kure arsenal, came off with success and she was handed over to Captain Hidejima.

EIGHT Chinese students who have graduated from the Mercantile Marine School were allowed on the 1st instant to enter the Gunnery School at Yokosuka, where they will study for six months. Afterwards they are to receive instruction in torpedo work for six months, and will then go on active service for another six months, on board a training ship.

A WAKAYAMA telegram reports that the local authorities having sanctioned trawling fishery in that prefecture, over 500 fishermen of Saigasaki, Kaiso-gori, burnt the trawl-boats on the 8th instant and attacked the office. Afterwards the infuriated men made their way to the Wakayama Police Station, and assaulted the policemen who endeavoured to pacify them.

THE preliminary trial of Prince Ito's assassin and suspected accomplices commenced at Port Arthur on the 5th instant. Mr. Shirani, Chief of the Civil Administration Office in Kwantung, and Mr. Kurachi, Chief of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office, arrived at Port Arthur the same day. The latter is expected to go to Harbin, but his mission there is kept secret.

WE regret to announce the death, at Berlin, from peritonitis, of Miss Ralphia Martin, only child of Mr. and Mrs. C. K. Marshall Martin, of this port. The young lady, who left Japan three years ago to complete her education abroad, was about to return with her parents to this country, when her sad fate overtook her. The sympathy of their many friends in Japan will be extended to the bereaved parents.

COUNT MUTSU, Commissioner of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition, reports that on the 5th inst. the Lord Mayor of London gave a dinner to Prince Arthur of Connaught, Honorary President of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition. Baron Kato, Japanese Ambassador in London, leading British business men, and others, numbering over 100 in all. The Lord Mayor delivered a speech, asking those present to support the Exhibition.

ONE of the oldest residents of Bangkok has just passed away in the person of the Rev. Samuel J. Smith, Litt.D., in the ninetieth year of his age. He was born in Burma in 1820, his father an English Army teacher and his mother a Portuguese. He was adopted as a young child by an American missionary family, who in 1833 were transferred to Bangkok and brought their adopted son with them. Two years later the youth was sent to America to be educated and he did not return to Bangkok until 1849, and he has remained there ever since —a period of sixty years engaged in mission work. Mr. Smith was one of the pioneer journalists in Siam, and works have been produced by him for the assistance of students of the Siamese language. His comprehensive English Siamese Dictionary in five volumes was his greatest undertaking.

THE *Shokonsha* ("Invocation of Spirits") festival at Kudan, Tokyo, was celebrated on the 5th instant. In the morning the representative of the Emperor, the Princes of the Blood, military officers and privates paid homage at the shrine. Being favoured with fine weather, the dramatic and other entertainments on the open ground in front of the shrine were witnessed by a great concourse of people. The festival came to an end yesterday.

IT is rumoured that some lately dismissed officials of post offices have been issuing counterfeited three-*sen* stamps at a comparatively high discount. It is said that the counterfeits are so exquisitely made that it is very difficult to distinguish them from the genuine ones, except that the colour of the former is slightly darker. They are presumed to have been made in Manchuria and Formosa. Some revenue stamps are also said to have been counterfeited.

A CEREMONY marking the completion of the Tokyo Prefectural Technical School was held on November 10. Mr. Abe, Governor of Tokyo-fu, Mr. Okada, Vice-Minister of Education, Mr. Teshima, Principal of the Higher Technical School, and others attended the function. Mr. Teshima delivered an address, during which he said he hoped the time would soon come when the largest stores in the streets would be filled with home-made articles.

A DEPRESSION occurred on the 10th instant north of Wakasa Bay, and subsequently proceeded towards the north-east. There was another low pressure off the eastern coast of Hokkaido and in the Okotsk Sea, whilst a high pressure developed in North China. Rain fell in the central part of the main island of Japan and in those portions facing the Japan Sea, whilst in the southern and south-eastern districts, a strong southerly wind raged. The depression in the Bay of Wakasa is expected to pass away before long, and the weather in Tokyo and vicinity will gradually recover from its stormy condition.

ON the 5th instant a fire broke out in the compound of the Nagoya Warehousing Company, and, owing to an insufficiency of water, five warehouses covering 140 *tsubo* were destroyed. The damage is estimated at some 15,000 *yen*. The goods in the warehouses were insured for 7,500 *yen* with the Nippon, the Yokohama, the Kyoto, the Tokyo and the Meiji Fire Insurance Companies; and the buildings, for 1,000 *yen* with the Nippon and the Kyoto Companies. On the next day a factory in the same city where weights and measures are manufactured, was also burnt down. The loss in this case amounted to some 5,000 *yen*.

THE Hongkong branch of the Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China has received advice from its head office that Mr. Caleb Lewis, the senior joint manager of the Bank in London, decided to retire during October, and that the Directors have with very great regret agreed to accept his resignation. Mr. Lewis' career in the Bank commenced in 1864, and he goes into retirement on a well-deserved pension, with the best wishes of the staff at home and abroad. Mr. T. H. Whitehead will succeed Mr. Lewis as senior manager, and Mr. Thomas Fraser, now sub manager, will be associated with Mr. Whitehead as joint manager. Mr. W. E. Preston, formerly agent of the Bank in Calcutta, has been appointed to succeed Mr. Fraser as sub-manager.

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THE ASSASSINATION.

Saturday, November 6.

It would seem that up to the present the number of suspected persons arrested in Seoul aggregates eight, and further arrests are anticipated in the sequel of the examination of the assassin which is now going on in Port Arthur. We do not for our own part anticipate that this examination will lead to any signal results. The murderer being a Korean, his interrogation has to be conducted through an interpreter, and that is always a clumsy and inefficient method, even supposing the interpreter to be a Japanese.

Meanwhile Major-General Akashi, Chief of Staff in Korea, has proceeded to Manchuria for the purpose, it is believed of co-öperating with Mr. Kurachi, and rumour says that the latter will probably go to Harbin.

Viscount Sone is again quoted as emphatically denying that the Residency-General is interfering in any way, or has the least intention of interfering, with the conduct of the criminal case. His Excellency asserts that if he has any ideas on the subject of the assassination they are not connected with the prosecution.

Just as we anticipated, the Imperial Decree issued by the Emperor in Seoul on the 4th is said to be attributed by many Koreans to Japanese dictation. Judging from this, it is truly remarked that any such thing as a visit of the Emperor of Korea to Japan would lose all semblance of spontaniety, and would inevitably be attributed to Japanese coercion. The Authorities will therefore think twice before they encourage his Majesty to make such a journey. Meanwhile it should be observed that the Emperor has not hitherto shown any symptom of a desire to go to Japan. Moreover, we feel tolerably confident that, if he did evince such a desire in connexion with the assassination, the Emperor of Japan would suggest the advisability of postponing the journey.

When the Emperor of Korea visited the Residency-General on the day of the receipt of the news of the assassination, tea was served to his Majesty in foreign fashion, whereupon the Minister of the Imperial Household, Mr. Min, performed the duty of tasting for poison. This performance has evidently produced a very unpleasant impression on the minds of the Japanese. Tokyo papers are beginning to take up the matter, and to ask whether courtesy, etiquette or civilization dictated such procedure. Unquestionably at first sight the action of the Minister amounts to something like an insult. But the probability is that it was mainly mechanical. Very likely no forethought had been taken about the contingency of refreshments being offered, and therefore the Minister, on the spur of the moment, adopted a stereotyped precaution. After all, Korea is still very deeply in the shadow of old times.

The *Mainichi Dempo's* Seoul correspondent seems determined to connect the Roman Catholic religion with the assassination. He wires that, although the murderer An was duly enrolled as a Roman Catholic convert at 15 years of age, the Catholic fathers insist on denying that his name stands on their lists. Moreover, two of those arrested on suspicion are said to be unquestionably converts to the Roman faith. It will be observed that if An Chhungkuen was inscribed on the roll of converts at 15 years of age, he must have embraced the faith 17 years ago, and whether in that long interval he maintained any connexion with the Christian propagandists is a question which requires answering. We can only repeat our conviction that the organization of the Christian churches in Korea has probably been utilized by miscreants in the belief that they would find there an asylum from the consequences of their breaches of law. It would be grossly unjust to prefer any charge against the propagandists on such grounds.

The *Asahi Shimbun* says that the leading journals of Tokyo will probably hold a meeting in a few days for the purpose of protesting against the methods of the political police in Seoul, which would mean an indictment of Mr. Pak Cheson, Minister of Home Affairs, Mr. Oka, Vice-Minister, and Mr. Matsui, Chief of the Police Bureau. It is alleged that although a considerable sum is allowed annually for the secret service of these police, the money is devoted entirely to conducting researches into the doings of Japanese waifs and strays, and none of it is employed for discovering or tracing the acts of Koreans who are continually plotting an anti-Japanese campaign and devising criminal demonstrations.

The *Hochi Shimbun* says that the Palace has been clearly exonerated from all connexion with the crime. That can scarcely be called news, for nobody has thought of suspecting the reigning Sovereign, and although the ex-Emperor may still have a penchant for old-fashioned methods, he must be credited with sufficient sense not to mix himself up in such enterprises.

There is still a great deal of talk about the wealthy Korean merchant, Mr. Chhai, who has his headquarters in Vladivostock, and whose brother keeps a branch store at Gensan. We are unable to interpret the reasons for these suspicions. The only charge which thus far has been substantiated is that Chhai is emphatically anti-Japanese.

Sunday, November 7.

Mr. Kurachi, of the Foreign Department, is quoted as saying that his mission to Manchuria is not for the purpose of interfering in any way with the functions of the judiciary, but solely to watch the assassination case from a diplomatic standpoint. This may be taken to mean that, according to the nature of the developments, a necessity may possibly arise for diplomatic action. Mr. Kurachi's stay at Port Arthur is therefore of uncertain duration.

The *Nichi Nichi's* Seoul correspondent wires a very sensational piece of intelligence. It is to the effect that clear proof has been discovered that 13 or 14 days before the assassination a large sum of money was conveyed to An Chhungkeun, the murderer, by a number of the Ex-Emperor's household. The same news is sent by the *Kokumin Shimbun's* correspondent, who supplements it by reference to the movements of Mr. Hulbert. The latter is said to have proceeded to Port Arthur in the same steamer that conveyed Major-Generul Akashi, and the *Kokumin's* correspondent, in view of Mr. Hulbert's connexion with the Hague intrigue, suggests that his journey to the scene of the assassin's trial is undertaken with the object of keeping the Ex-Emperor posted as to the developments of the case.

We must expect to hear all kinds of rumours from Port Arthur during the next few days, but in estimating their trustworthiness it will be wise to remember that the preliminary proceedings in Japanese tribunals take place with closed doors, and therefore every report of what occurs at the magisterial inquiry into An's case must be received with a large measure of incredulity. At present the disposition is to magnify the results obtained, and to suggest that traces have been found of a widely ramified conspiracy having connexion with the anti-Japanese agitators in Vladivostock, North Korea and Pyongyong.

We learn from the Seoul correspondent of the *Mainichi Dempo* that a Korean named An Taikop has been arrested while in the act of conducting the wife and children of the assassin to Vladivostock. The place where the arrest was made is not stated, and of course the wife and children of the murderer are not in any sense liable unless, indeed—which seems scarcely possible—he has sons old enough to have been privy to his design. It is at all events evident that the police are acting with great energy, and we may reasonably hope that the affair will be sifted to the bottom.

Tuesday, November 9.

A story comes from Seoul to the *Asahi Shimbun* in the sense that on the day of the assassination of Prince Ito, a Korean, who was engaged on some work in the Palace of the Emperor, observed one of his countrymen hasten to the side of his Majesty and whisper to him some intelligence which evoked strong expressions of joy from the ex-Emperor. This tale having got abroad, inquiries were set on foot as to the identity of the person who conveyed the message, and he was discovered to be a certain Mr. Om, a gentleman-in-waiting. It goes without saying that the news which is supposed to have pleased his Majesty so much is believed to have been that of the assassination. Another story now in circulation is that on the evening of the 6th inst. the ex-Emperor invited all the representatives of the Min family to the Palace and had a long conference with them, which also is presumed to have had reference to the assassination. We mention these stories simply as indications of the suspicious mood that prevails in the Korean capital at present. It will be fresh in our readers' recollection that, according to previous statements, the receipt of the news of the murder threw the ex-Emperor into such a state of consternation that he was completely prostrated.

Another tale is that the Emperor himself evinced an idea that it would be necessary for him to proceed to Japan for the purpose of offering his condolences to the Mikado, but that his Cabinet persuaded him to abandon the design on the ground that the assassination had been the act of a solitary madman and that there was no occasion for Korea to assume national responsibility in connexion with it. This also is regarded as a fiction originating in official quarters and designed purposely to prevent the procedure attributed to the Emperor.

Mr. H. B. Hulbert's movements seem to be considered worth recording in detail, probably because he now goes by the name of one of the leaders of the anti-Japanese movement in Korea. Our readers will not be surprised to learn that no truth attaches to the rumour as to his landing at Dairen having been forbidden by the Japanese local authorities. It is now stated that he was suffered to land without difficulty, but that, finding himself shadowed by detectives, he took his departure for Shanghai. Some Japanese journalistic correspondents persist in thinking that his purpose in going to the Liaotung Peninsula was to watch the trial of the assassin. That, we think, is very likely, and would not have been at all reprehensible. But it is also very likely that Mr. Hulbert merely touched at Dairen *en route* for Shanghai and that he never intended to make any stay at the former place.

It appears that there is a barristers' association in Korea and that its members are

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busying themselves actively with reference to the rendition of the assassin to the Japanese authorities. They are said to have addressed to all the Governments of the West a strongly-worded memorial in the sense that the assassination of Prince Ito was essentially a political crime, and that the assassin was therefore entitled to asylum in Russian territory. They protest, therefore, that his surrender to the Japanese consular authorities was a distinct breach of international usage. The account of this action on the part of the Korean barristers is given in a Russian newspaper. Of course the only inference to be drawn from such a protest is that its formulators fear the detection of all the ramifications of the plot, if the trial be left in the hands of the Japanese judiciary. Russia has no machinery in Korea for following up traces indicated in connexion with the examination of prisoners, whereas Japan has a well-organized detective force in the Peninsula. For the rest, if the Korean barristers imagine that international law as recognised by civilized States can be utilized to protect assassins taken red-handed, their conception of Occidental justice is still defective.

There do not appear to have been any more arrests in Manchuria. The eight persons apprehended by the Russian police at the outset represent the whole number of those awaiting trial. It is alleged that two of them are believed to have been leaders in the conspiracy.

Mr. Murota, a member of the House of Peers, who was one of Prince Ito's suite in Manchuria, is quoted as speaking in enthusiastic terms of the courtesy and helpfulness shown by Russian officials of all grades in connexion with the assassination. There can be no doubt that the shocking incident has had one good effect: it has brought the Russian and the Japanese peoples closer together.

Wednesday, November 10.

The Sokpokhak-hoi is reported to be much excited about the arrest of its leader, Yi Kap, on suspicion of implication in the assassination. It has decided to memorialize the Residency-General, demanding Yi's release. It has also decided, according to rumour, that in the event of the Emperor visiting Japan to offer condolences or apologies, the Society will oppose such procedure by every device in its power.

The opinion of an influential section of the Japanese nation as represented by the *Jiji Shimpo*, is that while a visit by the Emperor of Korea to Japan for the purpose of expressing condolences and regrets is the least that can be expected, the present time would not be suited for such a measure. It is recalled that at the time of the attempt on the Czarevitch's life in Otsu, the Emperor of Japan journeyed to Kyoto to express his abhorrence of the crime, and that wholesome precedent ought to be followed by the Korean Sovereign. There is evidently no disposition to hold the Korean nation responsible for the actions of one of its insane units, but should the nation show any sympathy with the murderer, or utilize the occasion for a fresh outburst of anti-Japanese feeling, then, indeed, very serious results may ensue. The Japanese are obviously putting much restraint upon themselves, but whether their patience will break down depends wholly upon the attitude of the Korean people. They justly think that while a whole family is not to be held responsible for the insanity of one of its members, it certainly is to be held responsible for the proper restraint of the lunatic.

Thursday, November 11.

The statements with regard to the progress of the preliminary judicial inquiry now going on at Port Arthur are very conflicting. The correspondents of some Tokyo journals wire that extensive ramifications of the plot have been revealed, and that the area affected will be very wide. Others speak in quite the contrary sense. They allege that the inquiry has thus far elicited nothing of a sensational nature, and that Mr. Kurachi, who is watching the proceedings in behalf of the Foreign Office, will return to Japan without visiting Harbin.

Meanwhile five more suspects have been apprehended by the Russian police in Harbin and handed over to the Japanese; but two of them have been released, as no evidence of their complicity could be found.

Several members of the Tokyo bar, including some of the publicists who are known in the capital as the Portsmouth Clique, have been arranging the preliminaries of a combination to urge upon the Government the necessity of recourse to strong measures in connexion with the assassination. Learning, however, that a party having similar objects had been organised by several journalists of Tokyo, these barristers decided to join forces with the newspaper men rather than to agitate separately. We presume that such combinations have their uses, but, speaking frankly, their abuses seem much more conspicuous.

GERMANY AND ENGLAND.

It transpires that Lord Northcliffe, speaking on Sept. 7th in Winnipeg, did really say that the great activity in the Krupp factories, where a hundred thousand men are working day and night on war preparations, could mean nothing else than that Germany purposes to fight Great Britain in the near future, possibly in the year 1912. The telegraph transmitted this speech at the time of its delivery, but all who had not actually heard the words spoken, were disposed to doubt whether they had really been used. There is, however, no room for doubt. His lordship did actually speak in that strain. Now Lord Northcliffe occupies a very prominent position in Great Britain and is acknowledged to be a man of great ability. Why than did he use such language—language apparently calculated to offend Germany? We can find only one explanation, namely, that Lord Northcliffe and his fellow-thinkers believe in the atmosphere of free thought. They think that the best way to dispel the dangerous mood of mutual suspicion now growing between two great nations is to frankly acknowledge its existence and to discuss it without restraint. Each day brings confirmation of the growth of the mood. Its is becoming a settled conviction in the mind of the average Englishman that the Teutons are preparing to attempt the conquest of Great Britain and to wrest from her not only the supremacy of the ocean but also her immense over-sea dominions, and it is becoming an equally settled conviction in the mind of the average German that Englishmen are preparing to check his development and destroy his maritime trade. Which is the more wholesome course—to let these suspicions remain a secret but constantly spreading chancre in the hearts of the two nations, or to openly acknowledge the evil state of affairs and by unhampered discussion to kill its virus? There can not be much hesitation in answering. And in the context of the answer the thought immediately suggests itself that the situation is virtually under the control of the press. Assume that the leading journals of both countries earnestly and strenuously apply themselves to bridge the growing breach and to dissipate the increasing distrust, need there be any hesitation in predicting that the shocking peril would be averted? It is beginning to be widely thought that if there were no newspapers there would be very few international misunderstandings. If that be a just charge, then the converse must be true, namely, that if newspapers were differently conducted, their influence as international peace-makers would be great.

THE HUPEH PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLY.

The Hupeh Provincial Assembly has struck the first note of discord between the new local autonomic system and the Central Government. It has passed a resolution denouncing recourse to foreign capital for the purposes of the Yeh-Han Railway, and has asked the Viceroy to forward a copy of this resolution to Peking. The Assembly has also appointed a committee of ten members for the purpose of contriving that domestic funds shall be available for the construction of the railway, and the Chambers of Commerce at Wuchow and Hankow are said to be coöperating vigorously. It will be very interesting to see how the Central Government deals with this question. The incident is precisely what was expected to occur when the provincial assemblies were organised. In the particular case of this Hupeh Assembly, the pullers of the wires are said to be students who received their education in Japan, and who are keen advocates of the rights-recovery doctrine. Probably there are very few provincial assemblies in China which are entirely beyond the reach of such influences. Neither can we be at all surprised that Chinese politicians should work might and main in opposition to the system of loans which has lately been introduced. So long as private syndicates were left to negotiate for themselves, their operations did not assume any international character, but from the moment when foreign Governments began to interfere directly, it might easily have been foretold that popular sentiment in China would be aroused.

POSTAL IMPROVEMENTS.

The Department of Communications announces some very material improvements in postal facilities. The main points are that, in the case of such things as newspapers or circulars which are habitually addressed to the same persons, a substantial reduction is to be made, if the number exceeds 100. Moreover, addressed wrappers may be dispensed with when postal matters have to be delivered always at the same places. In such cases a list of the addresses will be taken by the post office, if so desired, and delivery will be made without any repetition of the addresses. As to parcels, again, they need no longer be carefully enveloped as has hitherto been required. It will suffice to wrap them up in such a manner that they will not fall to pieces in the process of transmission. Greater facilities are also provided for communication between the City and the suburbs. Finally, the post office undertakes to circulate advertisements at the rate of 5 *sen* per 100. This last facility is not unlikely to interfere seriously with the function of newspapers. Moreover, the business of the transport companies (*tsuun kaisha*) will be virtually ruined.

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KOREA.

Friday, November 5.

The Emperor of Korea issued an Imperial Rescript of considerable importance on the 4th instant, a date evidently suggested by the obsequies of Prince Ito. From the Japanese translations of the document, we learn that his Majesty set out by declaring that the first duty of statecraft is to place the State on a firm basis, and thus enable the people to feel secure. At present the internal and external affairs of Korea are in a complicated condition, and whether the Empire will stand or fall there is no possibility of predicting. The weakness of the country makes it difficult for it to stand alone, and Japan's assistance is essential. Conscious of this, his Majesty, on ascending the Throne, proclaimed the policy of progress, and has worked day and night to give effect to it. The Rescript then went on to laud the services rendered by Prince Ito to Korea during the past forty years, as an adviser of the Throne and as a sincere friend of Korea as well as an advocate of peace. The Prince had been appointed by his Sovereign to the important post of Resident-General, and in that high office had regarded the interests of Korea and Japan as identical, and laboured to lead the country along the path of safety and prosperity, truly sympathising with the Korean nation. The Emperor had been able to place complete confidence in the Prince, and the country, owing to the Prince's exertions, had at length come within sight of the objects of reform. The Rescript then went on to speak of what Prince Ito had done for the Korean Prince Imperial. Prince Ito had been a pillar of State to his own country, and a guide and tutor to Korea. Nothing could have exceeded his Highness' humility and his ability. Unhappily the great statesman had been struck down at Harbin by the weapon of a miscreant who knew not the right. To-day the obsequies were to take place, and his Majesty's grief knew no bounds. The assassin and his accomplices were ignorant of the state of the world and of the best interests of their country, and had inflicted a severe wound on Korea. If such lawless acts were to be continued in defiance of the will of the Sovereign and in disregard of the welfare of the country, the salvation of Korea would become an impossibility, and the security of the people would not be obtained.

Of course the above Rescript is intended to be an apology on behalf of the Korean nation for the heinous act of one of its members, and if there were any hope that the Emperor's words would be taken seriously by his subjects, the very frank expressions contained in the Rescript might have a usefel effect. But there is only too much reason to apprehend that the document will be regarded by a majority of the Koreans as written at Japanese dictation and not as a frank expression of the Emperor's actual views. We have very great doubts whether a final solution of the Korean problem can be found anywhere, short of annexation by Japan.

On the same day the ex-Emperor repaired to the Residency-General in an open carriage to offer his condolences on the occasion of Prince Ito's obsequies. His Majesty is said to have been much affected by the sight of a picture of Prince Ito which was hanging in the salon of the Residency-General. He expressed in very earnest terms his sorrow for the fate of the Prince, and, according to the reports of newspaper correspondents, he showed himself extremely affable and courteous.

Viscount Sone is quoted as saying that the abandonment of Prince Wi Hwa's visit to Japan was in accordance with the wishes of the Emperor of the latter country, and was not in any sense dictated by the Residency-General because of an idea that the Sovereign of Korea himself ought to proceed to Japan on a mission of apology. It might fairly be inferred that if the Emperor of Korea showed any disposition to take such a step, the Emperor of Japan would suggest the absence of any necessity for it. Undoubtedly the assassination of Prince Ito was an event of cardinal importance, but to suppose that it could in any way affect the policy of the Residency-General was a thoughtless hypothesis. The necessary measures with reference to the crime had already been taken in hand, and whatever course might be indicated as a result of the police investigations would be followed unflinchingly. For the rest, there was nothing to be said. Japan did not regard the Koreans in any sense as her enemies. Those whom she regarded as enemies were the misguided disturbers of the public peace, whose doings were injurious to the interests of Japan and of their own country alike If Japan considered Korea to be her foe, the course taken by the former would be very simple and would call for nothing more than the stretching out of her right hand. Were such her intention, she would not trouble herself about dealing with insurgents. For what purpose had the Oriental Development Company been established? Obviously, to assist the development of Korea's material resources, and thus to bring prosperity and happiness to the country. Such an enterprise would be ridiculous if Japan counted Korea her foe. There was not the slightest warrant for thinking that the Harbin incident, however shocking, would produce any change in the policy of the Residency-General.

The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Korea has published in the *Seoul Press* an emphatic denial of the statements that the assassin belonged to the Catholic Church, and that among Roman Catholics in Korea there are bands of men pledged to oppose Japan to the death.

Two more suspects have been arrested. This time Gensan was the scene of the apprehension, and the two men are said to be important persons in affluent circumstances.

In all the places in Manchuria and Korea where Japanese communities exist, as well as in China proper and Vladivostock, ceremonies were held on the 4th inst. in connexion with the obsequies of Prince Ito.

Monday, November 8.

A representative of the *Yorodzu Chiho* has interviewed a member of the Korean Delegation which came to Japan in connexion with Prince Ito's obsequies. He quotes this gentleman as saying, in effect, that while the number of the pro-Japanese party in Korea has unquestionably grown of late, the number of the anti-Japanese party has also increased. He himself belongs to the former party, but he strongly deprecates the error of confounding the latter with assassins and insurgents. In point of fact, both the anti Japanese and pro-Japanese sections are animated by a common feeling of patriotism. They differ only in the routes they would follow to reach their patriotic goal. One side believes that the country's complete independence can be achieved and maintained, whereas the other is persuaded that Korean independence in an illusion. Looking at the history of the country for the past 500 years, the latter class of publicists see that, in spite of its 20 millions of inhabitants and its comparatively isolated position, the Peninsula has never once been able to stand absolutely by its own strength. They clearly recognise, therefore, that a dependent position is dictated to their country by nature, and the only question to be answered is, whither should the nation look for protection? The speaker and his fellow-thinkers are persuaded that Japan is eminently in a position to guard the Peninsula, and that Japanese interests are most seriously involved in the matter. This conviction is growing among the people of Korea, and its development can be materially fostered by kindly and conciliatory treatment on Japan's part. She has not by any means fully used the resources of persuasion, as advocated by the late Prince Ito, but has had recourse to the strong hand where patience and benevolence would have achieved a much more permanent and satisfactory result. In short, the gist of this Korean's advice is that Japan should recognise even the insurgents to be animated by patriotic motives, and should deal with them as gently as possible.

Tuesday, November 9.

We regret to learn that Viscount Sone is again indisposed. He was attacked a few days ago by a cold which suddenly developed high fever, and his condition now inspires some uneasiness.

It is stated that Mr. Nabeshima, now Chief of the Foreign Affairs Bureau in the Residency-General, is to be transferred to Mexico as Japanese Representative. We sincerely congratulate Mr. Nabeshima on his promotion, and we sympathise with the Resident-General on the loss of such an able official.

Wednesday, November 10.

Two recent encounters between Japanese troops and insurgents are reported from Korea. One took place on the 31st of October and the other on the 6th of November. On both occasions the insurgents resisted stubbornly, but were ultimately dispersed with a loss of several prisoners and some arms and ammunition.

It appears to have been finally decided that the railways in Korea are to be transferred to the control of the Railway Board in Japan. This step having already been taken with regard to the Manchurian railways, there does not appear to be any valid reason for an exception in Korea's case.

Thursday, November 11.

The Imperial Envoy and his suite, sent by the Korean Court to offer condolences on the death of Prince Ito, have returned to their country. They are quoted as saying that they were the recipients of many threatening letters during their sojourn in Japan, and that, despite the great precautions taken by the police for their safety, they did not breathe freely until they set foot again on Korean soil at Fusan. They also explain that though they had meetings with leading Japanese statesmen, the latter were careful to refrain from any expression of policy.

There is evidently great anxiety in Korea about the final issue of the assassination. It has been wisely said that the motives we

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attribute to our fellows and the procedure we anticipate from them are but the reflexion of our own feelings and our own disposition. The Koreans evidently read into the mind of Japan the impulses by which they themselves would be governed in such a conjuncture as the present. Those that know Japan better, however, are well assured that she will not commit the injustice of confounding the innocent with the guilty, and that she will not, on account of the Harbin incident, make any change in her radical policy towards Korea, unless it be proved that the Koreans themselves applaud the assassination and find in it a motive for fresh lawlessness.

We may allude here to a singular misconception editorially ventilated in the columns of our local American contemporary, namely, that on the afternoon of the receipt of news about the assassination, all the Tokyo journals were obliged to submit for official censorship the contents of their next day's issues, in order to guard against the publication of any indiscreet utterances which might embarrass Japanese policy. It need scarcly be pointed out that such a course could not be legally taken by the Authorities, and that any attempt to take it in an arbitrary manner would provoke an outcry from the press We are surprised that a statement showing such ignorance of Japanese affairs should find its way into the columns of a journal published in Japan.

MR. CARNEGIE.

Mr. A. Carnegie is unremitting in his efforts to put a period to the perilous and ruinous rivalry of armaments which is now sapping the strength and killing the friendship of some great European nations. In a pamphlet from his pen issued by the Peace Society he demolishes the three axioms which are usually urged in defence of big armies and navies. The first is the patriarchal adage *Si vis pacem para bellum*. Mr. Carnegie's argument is, in effect, that preparations for war provoke a quarrel. Nations are only aggregations of individuals. Suppose, then, the case of two neighbours having "a difference" which a friendly interview would have solved. And suppose that one went on the *para-bellum* principle by buying a revolver. What is there left for the other to do but to follow suit and purchase a pistol in turn. Immediately, the question at issue is taken out of the realm of reason and transported into that of brute force. The second axiom is that armaments are intended only for protection and are no menace to other nations. To that Mr. Carnegie replies:—"So say all the armed nations, and it is true that every nation regards and proclaims its own armaments as instruments of peace only, because these are meant to protect her from the existing armaments of other nations; but just as naturally every nation regards every other nation's armaments as clearly instruments of war, and not of peace, because these may attack her. Thus each nation suspects all the others, and only a spark is needed to set fire to the mass of inflammable material." As for the third axiom, that armaments are the cheapest form of insurance, the answer is that the three great naval Powers, England, Germany and the United States of America, spent 215 millions sterling upon armaments in 1908, and that the burden of the "insurance" is rapidly growing unendurable. Peace preserved for 10 years at an outlay of 2,150 millions sterling is the most costly commodity ever conceived.

THE INSURGENTS IN KOREA.

It is painful to read in telegraphic despatches from Seoul to the Japanese press that they agree in representing a considerable access of disorderly feeling in the sequel of the Harbin assassination. They say that the event fanned the dying embers of the flame of insurrection, and that signs of unrest have made themselves visible in many parts of the country, especially the south. The attack at Iwon was the beginning of trouble, and although no overt acts of any magnitude have been reported since then, there are said to be evidences that outbursts may be expected at any moment. As we are on the threshold of winter, the season should prove a powerful preventive of any insurrection on a wide scale, yet it would seem that this factor does not possess its usual restraining force, and there are apprehensions that the troops will have to be put in motion again over a considerable area. General Baron Okubo was to have come to Japan in connexion with the autumn manœuvres, and the postponement of his visit is attributed to the receipt of disquieting intelligence.

Very likely all this is exaggerated. Indeed, we may be pretty sure that it is. General Okubo's departure from the country is probably dictated by considerations of caution, rather than by an actual menace of insurrection; and inhuman as many of the insurgents have shown themselves in their slaughter of unoffending civilians, and even women, the foreign public will be unwilling to believe that a foul murder like that at Harbin can move them to demonstrations of applause.

It may be mentioned here that the recent outrage at Iwon was not such a trifling affair as has been represented. The insurgents burnt the railway station, smashed the other buildings, and carried away three Japanese, who fate is not yet known, though it may well be surmised. The latest news, however, attaches considerable importance to the arrest of Chhong Hai-san, who is said to have been for a long time the principal insurgent leader in Chhollado. He was arrested on the 25th of October, and although he refused at first to give any information whatever, he was confronted with so much evidence that finally, on the 31st ultimo, he gave way, and confessed everything.

THE TOKYO PRESS AND THE ASSASSINATION.

The journalists of Tokyo are evidently resorting to very resolute measures in connexion with the assassination. The view they take is that the crime itself, however heinous, and whatever the status of its victim, is a trifling matter compared with its possible connexions. They maintain that there can be very little doubt as to the fell act having been inspired from high places, and this fact, taken in conjunction with the unrest in Korea, impels them to declare that the time has come for final measures, and that diplomatic phrases have now passed out of date. They therefore urge that recourse should be at once had to a more drastic policy, and at a meeting held in the Kairakuen on the evening of the 6th inst. they appointed a committee of six to give effect to this view.

We ourselves share the opinion of the Tokyo journalists is so far as concerns the conviction that the Korean problem can never be solved until the solution assumes a more drastic shape. But we do not at all share their opinion that the present occasion should be utilized, unless the clearest possible proofs can be obtained that collusion existed between the assassin and responsible Koreans in high places. Considering the factors which make for the disturbance of the moral balance of the Koreans at present, and considering also their history and their ethics, no one can be greatly surprised that desperate measures are resorted to by excited individuals. That is a more or less inevitable phase of the situation, and the world expects Japan to view it calmly and judicially. But, of course, the facts elicited at the trial may render extreme action necessary. Pending the issue of the investigation, it is surely premature to urge any definite course upon the Government?

SOY.

There is another economic complication of some magnitude. About two years ago an extraordinarily expeditious and cheap method of manufacturing soy was said to have been discovered, and a company called the Nippon Shoyu Kaisha was formed for the purpose of exploiting the discovery. The shoyu manufactured by the Company, which has its main office in Tokyo, with branches in Osaka and Hyogo, was said to be in no sense inferior in flavour to the genuine article, and in view of the immense consumption of soy in Japan the discovery seemed to possess great importance. Recently, however, the sanitary authorities tested some samples, and found that in order to prevent speedy decomposition of this new soy, the manufacturers were obliged to use a large admixture of saccharine and formaline, so that the product assumes a highly deleterious character. In consequence of this unfavourable analysis, a quantity of the soy, amounting to 50,000 *koku* and representing a monetary value of 750,000 *yen*, is said to have been lately seized by the authorities. If these facts be correctly stated, it is obvious that the fate of the Company is sealed, and rumour says that its fall will inflict a loss of about one million *yen* each on the Konoike and Kitahama Banks.

Rumour as usual appears to have greatly magnified the dimensions of the soy complication. The public were confidently informed that 50,000 *koku* would be confiscated, and that two important banks would suffer heavily. But it now transpires that the official analyses have detected deleterious matter in only one lot of soy, namely, that at the Amagasaki factory in Hyogo Prefecture, all the rest of the manufactured soy having been proved free from such ingredients. Hence the total quantity affected is only 4,300 *koku*.

THE DIET.

The *Official Gazette* of the 9th inst. fixes the 22nd of December as the day for the meeting of the Diet. This will be the 26th session. The *Jiji Shimpo* thinks that it may prove a somewhat contentious session. The question of the first rank which invites discussion will be the new tariff. That, however, is not likely to create dissension between the Cabinet and political parties. At the head of the second rank, however, stand two problems which may give a great deal of trouble. One is the Government's proposal to devote the surplus funds to raising official salaries; the other is the desire of the political parties to apply the same money to reducing the land tax. Even the *Seiyu-kai* will find difficulty in voting against the latter proposal.

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THE AUTUMN MANŒUVRES.

Friday, November 5.

His Majesty the Emperor left Uyeno Station for Utsunomiya at 11.15 a.m. on the 5th inst., to attend the grand manœuvres. His suite consisted of Marquis Tokudaiji, Grand Chamberlain. Prince Iwakura, Minister of the Imperial Household, Lieut.-General Baron Nakamura, Chief A.D.C. to His Majesty, and thirteen others. Her Majesty the Empress and H.I.H. the Crown Prince accompanied the Emperor to the station.

Five divisions of troops and a number of special bodies, totalling about 4,000 officers and 67,000 of all ranks, will take part in the manœuvres. The area of the operations extends over 25 miles from east to west and 50 miles from north to south. General Viscount Hasegawa commands the Northern Army, with Major-General Shigemi as Chief of Staff, while the Southern Army is commanded by General Viscount Nishi, with Major-General Ochiai as Chief of Staff. General Count Oku, Lieut.-Generals Fukushima, Iguchi, Akiyama and Nagaoka, Major-Generals Osawa, Yamada, Oshima, Matsuishi and Utsunomiya and 26 Colonels and Lieut.-Colonels constitute the Central, Northern and Southern Umpiring Departments, each of which is presided over by General Oku and Lieut.-Generals Iguchi and Nagaoka, respectively.

Lieut.-Colonel Nara, of the Artillery, is Chief of the Department for the reception of foreign guests, whilst Lieut.-General Murata, with other officers, has been appointed to attend on Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener. The latter, with his suite consisting of Major-General Sir Henry Rawlinson, Colonel the Hon. William Lambton, brother of Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton, and Captain Fitzgerald, his Private Secretary, left the capital on the 5th by special train.

Saturday, November 6.

The Emperor left Tokyo on the 5th inst. for Utsunomiya to take part in the autumn manœuvres. The Empress and several ladies-in-waiting accompanied his Majesty as far as Ueno station. The general plan of the manœuvres is that the Northern Army of three Divisions, having its headquarters at Shirakawa, is supposed to be moving against Tokyo, while the Southern Army, of equal strength, and having its headquarters at Utsunomiya, is defending the capital. When operations commenced, the distance between the fronts of the two forces was 50 miles, and by the 6th inst. they were expected to meet on the plain called Nasu-no-hara. General Count Oku is in supreme command of the manœuvres, and they are on a much larger scale than anything hitherto planned, for it will be observed that no less than six Divisions are in the field, and if to these the various special corps be added, the force under arms probably totals 70,000 men. Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener has taken up his quarters at the Kanaya Hotel in Nikko, whence he will be able not only to visit the field of operations, but also to view the scenic beauties of Japan. Of course there will be the usual Imperial inspection, followed by a banquet, so that his Majesty's return to Tokyo is not likely to take place before the 8th inst.

Monday, November 8.

According to latest accounts, the final struggle between the two armies did not take place on the 6th inst., as was originally expected by the general public, but will probably occur about the 9th. Thus far the Southern army has been defeated, and the advance of the Northern Army towards Tokyo has been victorious. Apparently there is not to be any review of the troops, and the manœuvres will terminate with the usual Imperial banquet on the 10th inst. Lord Kitchener is reported to be ubiquitous. He visits every part of the field, and the rapidity of his movements quite disconcerts newspaper reporters and kodak fiends, who have thus far failed to make any capital whatever of his presence.

The proceedings barely escaped being marred by acts of violence on the part of some Japanese socialists. One of these men was moved by a desire to avenge the murder of Prince Ito by making away with the principal Korean officer present at the manœuvres, and the others had no higher motive than a desire to obtain notoriety. The Utsunomiya police fortunately obtained a knowledge of their designs, and the whole of the would be malefactors, numbering 17 or 18, according to the *Kokumin Shimbun*, were arrested.

Tuesday, November 9.

The troops engaged in the manœuvres seem to have had a very rough time on the night of the 7th—8th inst. The Southern Army had to retreat during the darkness amid torrents of rain to the right bank of the Kinugawa, where it received reinforcements preparatory to assuming the offensive against the Northern Army, which was pressing hard upon its retreat. Yesterday (9th inst.) was to witness the final conflict.

Wednesday, November 10.

The manœuvres came to an end on the 9th inst. when the final encounter took place between the two armies along the line of the Kinu River. The umpire seemed to have decided that this concluding contest was a drawn battle, but newspaper correspondents speak as though the Southern Army showed itself inferior. The crossing of the river in the face of the enemy was one of the operations of the day. The Emperor subsequently issued a rescript complimenting the troops on their efficiency and on the evidences of progress shown by them in the manœuvres. His Majesty subsequently withdrew to the headquarters at Utsunomiya, having granted the troops three days' cessation of duties, which period of leisure will count, we presume, from the time of their return to barracks.

It is very difficult to follow the operations by means of the somewhat complicated and confused accounts published by the Tokyo press, but so far as we can see, both armies resorted to a flank attack, and both attacks succeeded, so that the two forces may be said to have pivoted on their centres.

Thursday, November 11.

It appears that although no march past took place at the conclusion of the manœuvres, the troops engaged were inspected by the Emperor at Ujiiye on the morning of the 10th inst. This place is 30 minutes by train from Utsunomiya. The inspection took place at 10 o'clock, and the Emperor was accompanied by Lord Kitchener. After the inspection the Emperor returned to Utsunomiya, and on the afternoon of the same day an entertainment was given within the grounds of the old castle at Utsunomiya—a castle celebrated in history as the scene of a plot for the murder of the Third Shogun by means of a movable ceiling. The Emperor attended the party at 3.40 p.m., and as the weather was very fine, everything passed off with great *éclat*. The proceedings came to a close at 15 minutes past four, and on the following forenoon at half-past eleven the Emperor took the train from Utsunomiya to Tokyo, reaching the latter city at half-past two in the afternoon.

There is a rumour that advantage will be taken of Lord Kitchener's presence in Tokyo to come to an understanding as to the military measures which should be taken under the Anglo Japanese Alliance in the event of war involving the Allies. But in publishing this rumour the *Mainichi Dempo* justly observes that such an understanding was reached long ago.

THE NEW PENAL CODE.

There has been much talk of late about a very great increase in the number of criminals undergoing punishment. This is in some degree attributable, of course, to the extended list of crimes taken cognisance of by the new penal code. But it is believed to be much more largely attributable to an unwise exercise of their powers by the judiciary. The new code, as our readers are aware, confers on the judges a much larger degree of discretionary power than the old code did, and the obvious purpose of such a reform is to bring the operation of the code into closer relation with the dictates of common sense. But the judges are said to have interpreted the code solely as designed to extend their powers of searching out and punishing crime. The result is that many arrests are effected upon suspicions so slight as to have been thought unworthy of notice under the old régime, and materials for conviction are manufactured after apprehension. This unwholesome state of affairs has been strongly taken up by nearly all the leading barristers of Tokyo. They hold that the present administration of justice interferes unduly with the rights of private individuals, and tends to exercise a distinctly demoralizing effect on the people at large. A meeting of barristers was held in Tokyo on the 5th inst. to discuss this subject, and a committee of 40 was appointed to give effect to the views of the meeting. Tokyo journals allege that the Committees of the *Seiyu-kai* and the *Yushin-kai* both share the views of the barristers, and thus the question seems likely to assume large dimensions.

MR. HULBERT.

We read in certain Tokyo newspapers that Mr. Hulbert, whose name was much talked of in connexion with the Hague intrigue, and who invited much hostile criticism by his attempts to excuse the murderers of Mr. Stevens, has been denied the privilege of landing at Dairen, whither he had proceeded by the *Sakata Maru*. We reproduce this piece of intelligence, not because we credit it, but because it furnishes an indication of the light in which Mr. Hulbert is viewed by many Japanese. The fact is that men like Mr. Hulbert have much to answer for. If they worked merely for the betterment of the Korean nation, we could appreciate and applaud their procedure, though occasionally it might appear ill-advised. But when they attempt to encourage what must be called the mad theory of Korean independence, they become the worst enemies of the country they seek to befriend. It is almost incredible that any intelligent man should close his eyes to the absolute impossibility of Japan relaxing her hold upon Korea. Such a suicidal policy on the part of the Japanese Empire is unthinkable; and if the late Mr. Bethell and his coadjutor, Mr. Hulbert, had not encouraged ignorant Koreans to strive for the impossible, there can be no doubt that the shedding of much blood would have been avoided. We all want to believe in the sincerity of these men, but belief is wholly inconsistent with any normal estimate of their intelligence.

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CHINA.

The casket containing the mortal remains of Chang Chihtung was carried out of Tientsin on the morning of 3rd instant on its journey to the native place of the deceased statesman. A very imposing ceremony is said to have been held on the occasion, in the presence of many of the leading members of the Government.

The negotiations between the Russian Representative in Peking and the Waiwupu are said to be proceeding busily. The exact points under discussion are not known, but it is believed that the most important items relate to Russian participation in Chinese railway loans; to the establishment of a Russian Consulate at Yaonan, and to Russia's relations with Mongolia generally.

A telegram to the *Yamato Shimbun* from Shanghai says that, with the exception of the newspaper called the *Shipao*, all the Chinese journals published in that Settlement contain most villainous and insulting allusions to the late Prince Ito's personality. We do not propose to befoul these columns by quoting verbatim the utterances of editors who are no less a disgrace to their profession than to their country. But one comment may be made. They blame the deceased Prince for exceedingly narrow views, inasmuch as, instead of making the union of the yellow races his prime object, he laboured in the interests of one country only at the expense of the rest. The Shanghai vernacular newspapers are for the most part edited by men who can scarcely be said to have emerged from the student stage. Are we to suppose that they look to the "yellow peril" as the saviour of the Orient?

The Seoul correspondent of the *Jiji Shimpo* wires a statement which professes to be the origin of the rumours recently circulated about Yuan Shihkai's intention of returning to Peking. The story is that, some time before Chang Chihtung's death, Yuan addressed to him an inquiry as to the advisability of returning to the capital. Chang replied, however, that the time was not yet ripe for such a step, and that to take it would be only injurious. Yuan is said to have been much disappointed by the Grand Secretary's advice, but he neverthless abode by it, and therefore, instead of repairing himself to Peking to attend Chang's obsequies, he sent a delegate only.

We read in Tokyo newspapers that a question which has been under consideration for several years has now at last been decided. It relates to the education of Chinese naval cadets in Japan. The Japanese naval authorities are said to have finally resolved to sanction a system which will provide for the education of a number of cadets every year. The programme is that each cadet will spend two years at the Mercantile Marine School in Tokyo. Thereafter he will go through two technical courses of six months each at Yokosuka, and then he will have six months' actual training on board ship. When he emerges from Yokosuka he will have the rank of midshipman, and after his six months on board ship he will become a second lieutenant.

Shanghai telegraphs to the *Asahi Shimbun* that the Customs Taotai at Newchwang has approached the foreign Chamber of Commerce at that port with a proposal for dredging the river Liao. His idea is that the work should be spread over a period of ten years, and that in order to obtain funds an *ad valorem* duty of 1 per cent. should be imposed on all the trade of the port, and a tonnage duty of 2½ *tael* cents upon all the shipping. It is not stated how this proposition has been received, but we apprehend that it will receive a welcome from the merchants of Newchwang. If the Liao were dredged so as to be a thoroughly serviceable waterway, it would undoubtedly become the great medium of transport in Manchuria.

It was unfortunately necessary to record in a previous issue that the Chinese newspapers of Shanghai had discussed the Harbin assassination in terms not only highly intemperate, but also emphatically hostile to Japan. It is therefore more or less reassuring to learn, on the strength of telegrams received in Tokyo, that out of six vernacular journals published in the capital only one takes a reprehensible line. That one is the *Chun-wai Jipao* (*Home and Foreign Daily News*). That journal speaks of the assassination as a great achievement. It says that while the Korean nation is groaning under the Japanese yoke, the people have not the courage to rise *en masse* against their oppressors. But now, what the nation as a whole fears to attempt, has been achieved by a single individual. The man is a hero in the eyes of the Peking newspaper, and should be honoured as such.

The obsequies of the late Empress Dowager of China took place on the 9th inst., the coffin being carried out of the Palace at 6.30 a.m. Telegrams received in Tokyo say that the spectacle was most imposing, and that the procession took 30 minutes to pass. The members of the foreign Corps Diplomatique were all present, and accompanied the bier as far as the East Gate. The Prince Regent was of course the chief mourner. It is stated that the various newspapers offices were closed for ten days in token of respect.

A telegram from Canton to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that the boycott in that city has entirely terminated and that the market for Japanese goods is steadily increasing.

No time has been lost in constructing the section of railway, measuring 2 miles, which connects the Yingkow line with the city. It will be remembered that the Chinese authorities opposed the building of this extension for a considerable time, and that their opposition was not withdrawn until the recent conclusion of the Mukden-Antung Convention. News now comes that the line is to be opened for traffic on the 15th inst.

It would seem that the people of Hupeh wanted only leaders to rise in rebellion against the contracting of foreign loans for the purposes of the Yeh-Han and Szchuan-Han Railways. In a recent issue we quoted telegrams showing that the new Local Assembly had inaugurated its career by voting *nem. con.* against contracting any liabilities to foreign countries on account of railway construction, and that the Chambers of Commerce in Woochow and Hankow were strenuously supporting this attitude. The telegraph now says that a committee has been appointed by the leading inhabitants of the province; that telegrams have been sent to all the principal officials concerned in Peking, and that a meeting of the capitalists of the province is to be held on the 13th inst. to discuss the problem of raising funds in the domestic market instead of having recourse to the foreign.

News has been received in Tokyo, it is stated, to the effect that the Viceroy of Manchuria has approached Mr. Consul-General Koike with a proposal that immediate steps should be taken to draft detailed regulations for the working of the Fushun mine and the payment of royalty on the coal extracted. The regulations in question were contemplated by the third Article of the Convention of last August, and they relate chiefly to questions of boundaries and taxes. Report says that Mr. Koike has proceeded to Peking to consult with the Japanese Representative in that city, and that on his return to Mukden the business of drafting the desired regulations will be at once commenced.

THE CRICKET GROUND.

Our own desire to see the Cricket Ground preserved as it is at present is so strong that we are very reluctant to traverse in any degree the statements set forth by Mr. J. P. Mollison in his letter published in these columns on the 9th instant. But since we believe that the only way for Yokohama to retain a cricket ground is to recognise things as they really are, we feel constrained to say that the community's title to the present ground does not appear to be established by any treaty or convention. The XVIIIth article of the Revised Anglo-Japanese Treaty constitutes the sole basis of the claim, and the lands therein reserved are explicitly defined as "all lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the Settlements." Can this category be interpreted as including land rented for a specific, not a public, purpose; for a fixed term of years, and for a fixed rent? With all the will in the world to be convinced, we can not possibly answer that question in the affirmative. It seems to us indisputable that the Japanese Authorities have a plain right to resume the present ground, and that the best way to enlist their aid in procuring a new pitch is to recognise their right and accept their offer of a site elsewhere. We heartily wish it were not so, but wishes are futile.

THE TOKYO SHARE MARKET.

We alluded briefly in a previous issue to a rumoured conspiracy on the part of men interested in bearing the Tokyo Share market. The details are now given by the *Nippon*. The principal actor in the fraud is said to be a broker named Morito, who was engaged in the operation of selling shares, and who therefore desired to pull down prices for the purpose of repurchasing. This broker is alleged to have employed a certain newspaper reporter, named Mr. Yatsushiro, and through him to have obtained access to the columns of the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the *Mainichi Dempo*, the *Chuo*, and the *Maiyu*, and thus to have succeeded in obtaining wide credence for a libel to the effect that the well-known broker Mitsuwa had barely succeeded in weathering his October obligations through the dishonest connivance of the Exchange officials. Of course, it is not to be supposed for a moment that the editors of newspapers like the *Nichi Nichi*, the *Mainichi Dempo* and the *Chuo*, had cognisance of this fraudulent attempt. But here comes in that unfortunate "third page." The obnoxious matter found its way into that part of the journals in question, as any obnoxious matter might do, for the matter of that. The *Nippon* alleges that the Mitsuwa broker has engaged counsel for the purpose of prosecuting these papers.

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THE CRICKET GROUND: A JAPANESE OPINION.

It may interest our readers to know that the *Asahi Shimbun* regards the result of last Monday's meeting in the cricket pavilion as a conflict between the British Ambassador in Tokyo and the foreign community of this port. The *Asahi* is quite right in saying that while the Ambassador was more than willing to lend his powerful support to anything in the shape of a petition from his nationals with regard to a cricket ground, he could not consent to endorse a claim advanced by them in the guise of a treaty right, inasmuch as his Excellency does not think that any such right exists. But we can not agree with our Tokyo contemporary that there has been a "collision" (*shototsu*) between the Ambassador and his nationals. Sir Claude MacDonald has always shown himself a zealous advocate of British rights, and has also shown that he possesses a rare gift of tact in asserting those rights. It would be extravagant to conclude that, because he differs from a section of his nationals as to the interpretation of a convention, there is anything like a collision between him and the community. It might have occurred to the majority who voted at the meeting that when an Ambassador with Sir Claude MacDonald's record fails to find any ground for supporting a claim advanced by British subjects, that claim must rest on an exceedingly slender basis. Still, we do not for a moment deny that the supporters of the claim are entitled to cling to their own opinions, and Sir Claude MacDonald would, we imagine, be the last person to deny that title.

The *Hochi Shimbun* makes the quaint error of declaring that the meeting passed a vote of want of confidence in the British Ambassador and the British Consul-General in Yokohama. That error is due, we presume, to the exclusion of the Japanese press representatives from the meeting. Why were they excluded? If access was allowed to the representatives of the foreign local press, what valid reason can be assigned for excluding the representatives of the Japanese press. It was in our opinion a very ill-advised measure.

The *Hochi* predicts that the Japanese Local Government will now proceed to assert its authority by removing the fences which surround the cricket pitch and by throwing the whole place open to the general public. We do not believe that the Local Authorities will do anything of the kind. They have a right to do it, if they be so disposed; but they will remember, we are convinced, that this question is largely one of sentiment, and that to mortally offend the foreigners who voted in the majority on Monday last merely for the sake of asserting a power which nobody questions, would neither be wise nor dignified. They will wait quietly, we believe, until the opinion of the British Government is fully expressed.

THE SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY.

One of the Managing Directors of the South Manchuria Railway, Mr. Kiyono, has just returned to Tokyo and been interviewed by a representative of the *Asahi Shimbun*. He says that the doubling of the track between Dairen and Changchun has now been completed throughout, and that the trial trip over the new line took place on the 3rd inst. successfully. The service of special mail trains, three per week, has been opened, and the time between Dairen and Changchun is shortened from 19 hours to 18 hours and 20 min. This calculation is on the basis of a speed of 28 miles an hour, but that can be increased if necessary. Going on to speak of the Mukden-Antung Railway, Mr. Kiyono says that the purchase of the necessary land has been completed. Considerable difficulty was experienced at the outset. An office called the *Kochi-kyoku* was established for the purpose, under the direction of Major Sato, on the Japanese side, and Mr. Yuan Liang, on the Chinese side. A very great discrepancy was found between the prices asked by the Chinese owners and the prices which the Japanese were prepared to pay; but as the officials of the South Manchuria Railway had taken the precaution of ascertaining beforehand the market value of lands in the vicinity, it was ultimately found possible to reconcile these ideas. Satisfactory agreements have therefore been concluded, and the payment of the money is to take place in a few days. This does not apply, however, to the section between Mukden and Chenhsiantun, concerning which some difficulty as to choice of route had to be overcome. It would seem that this difficulty has now been disposed of, and that the acquisition of the land alone remains to be effected. If Mr. Kiyono be rightly interpreted, the Mukden-Antung Road will be finished by the end of next year, and the journey between the two places will then be negotiable in one day. But in order to link up the Korean service with the South Manchurian, the iron bridge across the Yalu has to be completed, and that will not be till 1911. Mr. Kiyono speaks also in glowing terms of the progress of the works at the Fushun coal mine, and says that everybody applauds the energy shown by the Chief Engineer, Mr. Matsuda.

IN MEMORY OF PRINCE ITO.

A LECTURE ON THE LIFE AND WORK OF THE GREAT STATESMAN.

On Thursday, the day of the funeral of Prince Ito, memorial services were held in the public schools and colleges throughout Tokyo.

Mr. E. W. Thwing, Secretary for Eastern Asia of the International Reform Bureau, gave the following address at the Woman's University, Tokyo, where over one thousand students gathered to honour the memory of Japan's great reform leader.

"I was deeply moved this morning at Hibiya park where I witnessed the impressive ceremony to do honour to Prince Ito's memory. Not only has Japan suffered a great loss, but the world also mourns for one of its great men.

As representing a Bureau which stands for world-wide reforms I feel it an honour to have a part in this memorial service and to express appreciation of his life and work. Prince Ito has expressed a kindly sympathy for our work. In much his spirit was the same as the aims of our society. It was national and International welfare for which he strove.

1. *He stood for National and for World progress.*—More than forty years ago when returning from England the Prince of Choshu asked him, "Will changes be necessary in Japan?" "All must be changed," replied Prince Ito. So he has ever worked faithfully for reform and progress in Japan.

2. *Prince Ito was for peace at home and abroad.*—He knew that world-peace is a blessing that all should work for. The proverb says: "Water for one's own field," but he wished to see the benefits of peace not only in Japan but in all nations. "His visit to China some ten years ago was to bring about a better understanding that might preserve the peace of the Orient.

3. *The Prince believed in world-brotherhood.*—He felt that "all within the four seas men are brothers." He had the spirit of the true Samurai. First a strong patriotism for Japan, then a love for the world. Among women you have here a society called the "Love Country Woman's Society." After that comes regard for all mankind.

4. *Prince Ito was a believer in Education.*—Japan's position in the world to-day comes largely from Education. This splendid University for Women, the only one in the Far East, is an example of what Prince Ito's life has accomplished in accord with the wishes of his Imperial Master. I believe that the real civilisation of a nation is measured largely by the Education of its women. Japan takes her place among the great nations of the world in this. So in the Education of your boys and girls in the knowledge of world-evils, liquor and cigarettes, you make for world progress. Let us all join in world-reform for the uplift of all nations. Thus you will carry out the spirit of the Prince, bring blessings to your country and honour your Emperor."

The lecture throughout was followed with close attention and appreciation. It is the first lecture ever delivered by a foreigner in Japanese at this University.

AMERICAN ASIATIC SOCIETY AND THE LATE PRINCE ITO.

The American Asiatic Association of Japan presented on Saturday the following resolution—passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee, at Yokohama, on the 1st instant—to the family of the late Prince Ito. The presentation was made though Count Komura, Minister of Foreign Affairs:—

Whereas: His Excellency the late Prince Hirobumi Ito, whose career during his long service in His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government won him the esteem and confidence of the whole civilized world, as a man of broad sympathies, as a defender of individual rights, as a friend of religious liberty, and as a wise councillor; and

Whereas: It has pleased Almighty God to remove from the councils of the Japanese Nation this valued and trustworthy servant who has earnestly endeavored to ensure lasting peace in the Orient;

Be It Resolved: That the American Asiatic Association of Japan, feeling a sense of personal loss through this inscrutable Providence, tender the deep sympathy of all Americans resident in Japan to His Imperial Japanese Majesty's Government; to the people of Japan; and to the members of the family of the deceased statesman; and

Be It Resolved: That a copy of these resolutions be placed on the minutes of the American Asiatic Association of Japan:

That a copy be sent to the family of the late Prince Ito: and

That a copy be sent through the proper channel to H. E. Count Komura, Minister of Foreign Affairs.

(Signed) N. F. SMITH, President.
(Signed) E. G. BABBITT, Secretary.

MR. MILLARD.

The author of "The New Far East" and of "America and the Far Eastern Question" is now staying at the Grand Hotel in Yokohama, and has been interviewed by a representative of the *Kokumin Shimbun*. He is quoted as saying that he has paid several visits to Japan, but never for more than a week or so at a time; that he intends to stay two weeks on the present occasion; that he acted for some time as a correspondent with the Russian Army in Manchuria; that he has many Russian friends, but that he has only one Japanese friend, namely, Professor Asagawa of Harvard. These are no doubt excellent qualifications for pronouncing a final judgment on Japan and the Japanese. Mr. Millard goes on to strenuously disavow the anti-Japanese sentiments attributed to him. He claims to have held the balance evenly, and to have given Japan full credit for her virtues as well as for her faults. If Mr. Millard intends this statement to be taken seriously, we can only say that his writings constitute a striking travesty of his real views. Possibly, however, he has undergone a mental transformation, and is confounding his new convictions with his old foibles. We hope so.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

Friday, November 5.

It appears to be true that the Tokyo Electric Light Company and the Tokyo Gas Company have been exerting themselves to defeat the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway. They apprehend, not unreasonably perhaps, that when the electric lighting privileges enjoyed by the Tokyo Railway Company pass into the hands of the City, the competition of the latter in this field will become a serious feature. It would seem, however, that this opposition has not been successful, and that municipalization will soon become an accomplished fact. So far as the Railway Company is concerned, the holders of 15,000 shares are said to be opposed to municipalization, but this figure represents only one-seventh of the total number of shares. In the case of the City Assembly, eleven members are opposed, and 49 approve, it is said.

Saturday, November 6.

According to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* and other newspapers, serious difficulties have arisen in connexion with the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway. The trouble is stated to be one of price. We read that the Government is determined not to estimate the value of the Railway on any basis of increased fare, whereas the shareholders are determined not to sell on the basis of a fare which is manifestly inadequate. To reconcile these two views is deemed impossible, according to our Tokyo contemporaries. It has already been pointed out in these columns that without any change of fare from the present figure the Railway would bring to the City a revenue of a million and a half *yen* annually more than it brings to the Company, owing to the fact that the Municipality would not have to pay any transit tax. This important fact has to be taken into consideration, and for the rest we do not find it possible to believe that the Government is so unreasonable as to perpetually limit the Company to the present fare, which everybody recognises to be inadequate.

Sunday, November 7.

The critical moment of the negotiations for the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway being imminent, rumour is busier than ever. The gist of what people say is that whereas the Company and the Municipality could come to terms easily enough if they alone were concerned, the Government's idea of the purchase price varies greatly from the idea of either the Municipality or the Company. The sum of the matter is, we take it, that everyone is in the dark except those intimately concerned, and they are carefully holding their peace. Meanwhile the opponents of the measure, numbering 50 persons, held a meeting at the Matsumotoro in Hibiya Park on the afternoon of the 6th inst and passed resolutions, which, while approving of the principle of municipalization, declared that the present project must be condemned as being undertaken in the interests of individuals, and as being unnecessary in view of the fact that 40 odd years hence the trams will become public property gratis.

Tuesday, November 9.

We are not troubling our readers with any of the multitudinous rumours which Tokyo papers amuse themselves and delude their readers by circulating. The only point worthy of note is that many of the vernacular journals of the capital are curiously misled by their purveyors of intelligence. The Mayor of Tokyo ridicules their wild rumours, and explains that the delay which appears to have furnished material for the sensationalist is due merely to the preparation of the necessary documents and the completion of the essential investigations preparatory to opening negotiations with the Company. Mr. Ozaki must be a little weary of the misrepresentations made by certain journals even when his own utterances are in question, but the public is already familiar with the contempt in which he justly holds the contents of journalistic third pages. So far as our own information goes, the debacle which has taken place in the quotations of the Railway's shares during the past few days is attributable to an incident common enough in a falling market. Two minor brokers who held a large block of these shares became unable to keep the transaction margined, and had to sell out to the extent of many thousand shares. It is believed that this transaction has been almost, if not entirely, concluded.

Thursday, November 11.

The Tokyo newspapers yesterday morning agreed in alleging that the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway is now imminent, and that a formal scheme will be submitted to the City Assembly on the 16th inst. But great discrepancy exists in the statements made as to the purchase price, some alleging that 80 is the figure, others 85, and yet others 88. All these payments are to be made in 5 per cent. bonds at their face value. The usual incredulity as to the accuracy of newspaper utterances on such a subject may be exercised with propriety on this occasion.

THE HODEN OIL COMPANY.

It will have been observed that the shares of the Hoden Oil Company fell with panic-like rapidity on the 7th and 8th inst., a total drop of nearly 10 *yen* having taken place in those two days. This is not the first time that the Hoden Company's fortunes have been clouded. A few months ago, rumour busied itself very much with the affairs of the Company, and although the trouble was tided over for a time, an uneasy feeling remained in men's minds. The Company took a strong measure on that occasion. It brought an action against a broker, Mr. Yamagishi, for fraudulent misrepresentations, and the broker was criminally sentenced by the Echigo Local Court. He appealed, however, to the higher Tribunal in Tokyo, and rumour now has it that the appeal has led to disclosures which will result in a repetition of the Sugar-Company drama. We can not pretend to give any clue to the truth or untruth of this rumour, but it will naturally suggest itself to our readers that so much smoke can not exist without some fire.

It will readily be supposed that the affairs of the Hoden Oil Company are in everybody's mouth at present, and that many curious rumours are circulated. The most bizarre story of all is that told by the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which reduces the whole question to a political issue. Our readers may remember that some months ago the Oil Company instituted proceedings against Mr. Yamagishi, an employee of the Meiji-ya Firm in Nagaoka, the charge being that he had circulated reports injurious to the Company's interests. Subsequently, the Company, at the request of the Meiji-ya, withdrew the prosecution, but the Public Procurator objected and the trial proceeded, with the result that Mr. Yamagishi was found guilty. He appealed, and the appeal is now pending. But the *Yomiuri Shimbun* asks its readers to believe that this same Public Procurator, while insisting that the trial must proceed, asked the court to acquit the accused on the ground that the Company's affairs were in such a disgraceful condition as to be beyond injury by any accusation. The court, however, put aside the Procurator's views and condemned the accused. Such is the *Yomiuri's* version. It goes on to say that the Progressist Party are materially interested in the fortunes of the Company, and that the *Seiyu kai*, having discovered this fact, have been exerting themselves to collect evidence against the Company, so as to smirch the reputation of their political adversaries and to avenge their own misfortunes in connexion with the Sugar Refining Company. They have succeeded in unearthing various proofs, and—we still quote the *Yomiuri*—the arrest of the Directors on a charge of fraud will follow quickly. The obvious discrepancies of this story will at once suggest themselves to our readers. Much more credible is a statement attributed by the *Nippon* to Mr. Murai, one of the Company's Directors. He alleges that the whole rumour is based upon nothing more tangible than the fact that the Directors of the Company are not unlikely to be summoned before the Appeal Court to give evidence in the case of Mr. Yamagishi. This very probable event has been perverted by interested parties into the semblance of a charge against the Directors themselves, and thus means have been found for discrediting the Company and producing a slump in the market value of the shares.

But though Mr. Murai's explanation is credible enough, what are we to say about the singular lack of confidence which the Japanese seem to show in the integrity of great commercial or industrial enterprises in their own country? Is it not quite evident that the law is defective, and that some additional guarantee ought to be provided? Finally, is it not beyond question that the only feasible and effective guarantee is to institute a system of chartered accountants, such as that existing in England? Were there no chartered accountants in England, the British public would feel almost as insecure as do the Japanese to-day. So far as we know, the only great company in Japan which employs chartered accountants is the Muroran Steel Works (Seikosho), and it is obliged to employ English accountants, Japanese law not having provided any competent Japanese substitute.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

According to the *Jiji Shimpo*, the next half yearly meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, which is to be held on the 26th inst., will have to consider some important points. The election of two auditors and of a successor to the position on the Board vacated by the retirement of Baron Shibusawa will not, of course, present any difficulty, neither will the Directors' proposal to close two agencies. The great problem to be solved is whether the European and American services, the charters for which cease at the end of this year, shall be continued under the provisions of the new Navigation Encouragement Law, or shall remain under the old law as long as the latter's provisions permit. The Directors have doubtless decided among themselves what course to recommend in this important matter, but they are evidently determined to take the sense of the shareholders *en masse*.

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THE "NOVOE VREMYA."

The *Novoe Vremya* is certainly winning an unenviable reputation as a stirrer-up of international enmity. It recently published a long article attributing various schemes to Japanese conspirators whom it believes to be working in Finland and Sweden with the object of embarrassing Russia. It may perhaps be remembered that at the time of the Dogger Bank incident rumours of a corresponding nature were circulated in Russia, but it is very difficult to comprehend what object the *Novoe Vremya* can have in reviving at this time of day tales so obviously extravagant. We agree with the *Yomiuri Shimbun*, which translates the St. Petersburg journal's article, that nothing could be more unfortunate than these attempts to revive the hostile feeling which, so far as Japan is concerned, long ago became a thing of the past.

That indefatigable sensationalist, the *Novoe Vremya*, has been again playing the role of a political Cassandra. Taking for its text alleged utterances of the Russian Representative in Peking, the St. Petersburg journal predicts that if things be left in their present groove, another war between Russia and Japan is inevitable. The Russian Representative in Peking is quoted as affirming that China has ceased to be a trustworthy international factor, and that she has surrendered to Japan complete control of all the railways in Manchuria. This is interpreted by the St. Petersburg journal as proving that Japan, being virtually in possession of Korea and having obtained railway control in Manchuria, is now in a position to mass an army in Siberia within three days from the moment of adopting a decision to fight. Russia has no such capacity, and disaster therefore stares her in the face, if the Japanese choose to stretch out a hand. The only exit from this dangerous situation is considered to be an offensive and defensive alliance between England, Russia and Japan, the terms of the alliance being that Russia would pledge herself to abstain wholly from menacing India, and would thus free the hands of Great Britain and Japan in that direction, the *quid pro quo* being a guarantee against any trespass on Russian territory in Eastern Asia.

It is novel to find the *Novoe Vremya* advocating such an alliance, but we are not prepared to deny the utility of the proposed combination. If we know Japan at all, we do not hesitate to say that she has no aggressive designs against Siberia, and that she is at least as anxious to avoid a collision with Russia as the latter can be to avoid any rupture with the Far Eastern Empire.

ELECTRIC RAILWAYS.

During the post-bellum boom of 1906 many enterprises were projected which died on the threshold of inception. Notable among them were electric railways. No less than 39 of them came into existence on paper, and surveys were actually made in the case of 26, representing 609 miles of road. In the present state of the money market, when capital may be said to be going a begging and negotiable securities have all appreciated, one would suppose that the opportunity should be seized to gather up the threads which were snapped by the panic of 1907. According to the *Jiji Shimpo*, the first signs of renewed activity are showing themselves in the realm of electric railways. Five of these enterprises are planned in the suburbs of Tokyo, five in Kyoto and six in Osaka. The Tokyo suburban lines would act as feeders for the Tokyo Railway, and would materially extend the residential limits of the City. Charters have been actually obtained in some cases, and it is expected that the long-deferred work will soon be undertaken.

An important scheme which was mooted at the time of the post-bellum boom seems likely to be revived. Briefly speaking, it is a project for bringing the Azabu suburb of Tokyo into direct connexion by rail with Yokohama. This would be effected by building an electric road from Tengenji Bridge, which is one of the terminal points of the Tokyo Railway, to Hiranuma *viâ* Meguro and Koyasu. The total distance to be traversed is 15 miles 60 chains, and ordinary trains would travel that interval in 40 minutes, while express trains would cover it in 20 minutes. The total capital required is said to be 3½ million *yen*, and it is alleged that the work will be completed in two years. A charter for this line was obtained in May 1908, but the work had to be postponed on account of the commercial depression then prevailing. The principal projector is Mr. Okada Jiyemon, who occupied a similar position towards the Round-the-moat Railway.

THE KATSURAGAWA ELECTRIC POWER PROJECT.

Some time ago Tokyo newspapers published a statement, which appeared to be substantially true, to the effect that the Yasuda Bank had agreed to finance the Katsura River electric power scheme. The terms given by the Bank were said to be very liberal. Provided that the shareholders put up 2.50 *yen* per share, the Bank was to lend the 10 *yen* required to make up one-fourth of the total share capital, and thus enable the Company to come into legal existence. But even this concession is now said to have proved insufficient. Another quarter of the capital, namely, 12.50 *yen* per share, will have to be put up for the purpose of the works, and with regard to this fraction also, the projectors propose that the Bank should repeat the process of putting up 10 *yen* per share against 2.50 *yen* by the holder. The result would be that the Bank would have to lend 20 *yen* on the security of a share representing only 5 *yen* paid up by the shareholder. The Bank declines, it is said, to behave with such exceptional liberality, and the project is therefore hung up. Altogether, hydro-electric power schemes are having a hard time in Japan, which is perhaps not to be wondered at, for they have not proved themselves in foreign countries to be nearly so renumerative as rumour makes them.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The following are the figures for the foreign trade during the 10 days ended on the 10th instant :—

	Yen.
Exports	11,165,199
Imports	8,115,435
Excess of Exports	3,049,764

The total figures from January 1st to Nov. 10th are :—

	Yen.
Exports	337,951,199
Imports	341,335,435
Excess of Imports	3,384,236

NIGUTA.

Ninguta is a place of which the world at large seldom hears, though considerable interest attached to it during the Russo-Japanese War. News now comes that the town is the scene of a financial crisis. The only bank in the place, a Chinese concern, is said to have abused its note-issuing power, with the result that its paper lost credit completely, and nearly all the Chinese hongs in the town have been obliged to close their doors.

The latest news from Niguta is published by the *Mainichi Dempo*. It says that in consequence of the losses caused by the depreciated notes of the Chinese Bank in that city, the farmers in the neighbourhood have become enraged and are having recourse to violence. A military force has been despatched from Kilin to deal with this trouble.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, November 5.

The tone of the market showed a distinct improvement yesterday, owing to the discovery of the fraudulent scheme of the bears. Tokyo Railways, however, appreciated only slightly, buyers being already pretty full.

Saturday, November 6.

The market partially relapsed from its temporary activity to a state of renewed depression on the 6th inst. No plain reason is visible, the only explanation offered being that investors and speculators alike are holding their hand. There is nothing at present in sight to suggest either a rise or a fall of prices. Oils were largely sold, and their prices fell heavily in consequence.

Tuesday, November 9.

The oils ruled the market yesterday. On Tuesday some symptoms of improvement had been apparent, but on Wednesday rumours were circulated to the effect that the Directors of the Hoden had been, or were about to be, arrested, and the shares of that company tumbled headlong. The fall in Hodens has aggregated nearly 17 points in 4 days. There were also rumours that the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway would fail on the question of price.

Thursday, November 11.

News of a rise in the price of copper, of an excess of exports in the first 10 days of the month and of the untruth of the rumours injurious to the credit of the Hoden, produced a re-action yesterday and nearly all shares rose. We append the quotations for January delivery :—

	Nov. 10th.	Nov. 11th.	
Tokyo Railway	70.20	71.25	+1.05
Kei-hin Railway	61.90	61.50	— .40
Yusen Kaisha	—	—	.—
Toyo Kisen	—	—	.—
Tanko Kisen	36.95	36.50	— .45
Tokyo Gas	99.00	99.00	.—
Tokyo Dento	93.80	94.00	+ .20
Fuji Gass Spinning	95.00	96.40	+1.40
Tokyo Spinning	41.25	—	.—
Kanegafuchi Spinning	100.65	102.00	+1.35
Beer	77.05	77.10	+ .05
Hoden Oil	70.30	73.15	+2.85
Nippon Oil	80.00	81.00	+1.00
Rice Exchange	93.30	93.50	+ .20
Stock Exchange	163.55	165.30	+1.75

On the 10th instant a fire occurred in Uyenoharamachi, Kitatsuru-gori, Yamanashi prefecture. Owing to the strong wind blowing at the time, some 200 houses were burnt down, and telegraphic and telephone communications were interrupted.

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NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

Rumours continue to be circulated that the great banks of Tokyo are discussing the necessity of lowering their rate of interest on deposits. Many years have passed since Japan witnessed a state of affairs comparable with that now existing. Money is absolutely a drug in the market, yet no one has the courage to start any new enterprise. Among all the undertakings floated during the great boom which ended in the spring of 1907, only two or three reached consummation. All the others perished on the threshold of their existence, and among them were included not a few which at the time seemed full of bright promise. The shock given to investors and speculators on that occasion still exercises a crushing effect, and whereas capitalists are earnestly seeking profitable investments, projectors are absolutely spiritless. The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* declares that not to lower their rate of interest would be simply suicidal on the part of the banks.

The Washington correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* telegraphs that at a banquet on the evening of the 3rd inst. the United States Secretary of State declared that Japan and America had much to learn from each other, and that he would gladly see the *bushi's* code of ethics more widely adopted in his own country. The peace between Japan and America would never be broken, but they must make up their minds to engage in a strong commercial war. He sincerely hoped for a wider extension of the principle of international arbitration, which he regarded as the best instrument for preserving the peace of the world.

The affairs of the Otaru Lumber Company are now under serious consideration. Its total losses are said to amount to 770,000 *yen*, and the question is whether to reduce the capital or to make a call upon the shares. We may mention that the shares of the Company, 50 *yen* paid up, are now quoted at 8.10 *yen* in the open market. The suit commenced against Mr. Okura for a sum of 330,000 *yen* is still going on, and will be prosecuted, it is said, independently of any action taken by the Company with reference to adjustment.

As has been for some time predicted, Baron Uchida, hitherto Japanese Ambassador in Vienna, has been appointed to the same post in Washington, in succession to Baron Takahira; and Mr. Arakawa, Japanese Representative in Mexico, has been transferred to Spain, being accredited at the same time to the Court of Portugal.

A meeting of the shareholders of the Oriental Glass Company was held at the Imperial Hotel on the 5th inst., and it was decided to dissolve the Company. This is one of the unfortunate enterprises with which Mr. Loonen's name is connected as a projector.

The buyers—that is to say the party of Mr. Matsutatsu,—have won the day in the matter of electing a managing director of the Exchange. Mr. Matsuzawa Ryohichi has been chosen for the post.

The financing of the State railways during next fiscal year is stated by the Tokyo press to have been now definitely decided. The sources of revenue are three, first, Operating Profits, 8,640,000 *yen*; secondly, from the Implementing Funds, 3,200,000 *yen*; and thirdly, from the Postal Deposits, 28,444,000. This last figure stood at 31,310,000 *yen* in the original estimate of the Railway Department, but was cut down to the extent of 2,866,000 *yen* by the Department of Finance. The above total is to be applied as follows:—First, Expenditures for already Fixed Works 29,450,000 *yen*; namely, Constructions 19,700,000 *yen*, and improvements, 9,750,000 *yen*. Secondly, Supplementary Works 10,050,000 *yen*; namely, Improvements 9,450,000 *yen* and Constructions, 1,600,000 *yen*. This makes a grand total of 40,500,000 *yen* to be expended on railways during the 43rd fiscal year (1910-11).

When the customs returns showed at the close of October that only 6,433,000 *yen* remained to be wiped off the account in order to restore the balance between the imports and exports for the year, certain Tokyo newspapers were disposed to congratulate the country on this restoration of the balance of trade. But closer scrutiny does not confirm their exultation. If the imports had even remained normal while the exports increased, there would have been some cause for satisfaction, but what has happened is simply that imports materially diminished. This was specially true with regard to raw cotton. The high price of this staple abroad, supplemented by dullness in the Japanese market for cotton stuffs, must be regarded as the main causes of the greatly reduced import. The fact is that the unusually low price at which rice is quoted just now means a heavy loss to the agricultural classes, and as they constitute the backbone of the consumers, it is natural that the market should be very dull.

It is stated that it has been decided that Prince Yamagata shall succeed to the Presidency of the Privy Council, which has become vacant owing to the death of Prince Ito. The appointment is expected to be announced at the conclusion of the manœuvres. It will be remembered that Prince Yamagata stepped down from this position in order to make room for Prince Ito, when the latter gave up the leadership of the *Seiyu-kai*.

Nicolaievsk reports a cruel outrage committed actually within the city by a band of miscreants whose nationality is not mentioned, but who are spoken of as bandits, and may therefore be assumed to be Tartars. They broke into a Japanese clock-store, killed three Japanese subjects, including one girl, wounded a woman and carried off a quantity of booty.

The money market continues to be in a most depressed condition. During the first week of the current month the sums paid into the Bank of Japan totalled 10 million *yen*; its note issues were reduced by 19 millions, and its loans to the general public do not now exceed 7 millions. The market rate of interest is quoted at 1.4 or 1.5 *sen* per diem, but in reality the banks can not find employment for funds at anything like that rate, and call-money stands at .5 to .7 per day. Such a state of affairs has not been witnessed for many years. According to past experience, very cheap money has always had the effect of stimulating enterprise, but on the present occasion it appears to be powerless to produce any such result. Meanwhile the banks have not, so far, lost heart to the extent of reducing their rate of interest on deposits, but of course if present conditions continue much longer, that step will have to be taken.

Mr. Hiraoka, Governor of Saghalien, is quoted by Tokyo newspapers as speaking in very disappointing terms of the progress of Saghalien. He says that the Japanese population consists of three classes, namely, agricultural settlers, miscellaneous tradesmen and fishermen. These last are essentially a floating element of the population. They come in April and leave in October, and the fact that their number has increased during the last two years shows merely that their fishing grounds have been extended. As for regular settlers, however, only 43 have come to the island since last spring, and it is very evident that unless capitalists take a more practical interest in the development of the region, it must long remain a little frequented place. At present the total number of miscellaneous tradesmen residing on the island is 800 and there are moreover 1900 who may be described as belonging to the loafer class. In short, no signs are visible of healthy and permanent development.

According to Mr. Saito, Head of the Emigration Bureau in the Foreign Office, the Canadian Government is pursuing a very stringent policy with regard to immigrants. No respect is paid to nationality. Men of all races are ruthlessly turned back unless they satisfy the prescribed conditions. On the whole, the number of Japanese rejected is comparatively small. Until 1903 there was no law prescribing a physical standard, but after such legislation had been enacted, it was applied very strictly. Thus during the past year no less than 3,803 immigrants from Europe were turned back out of a total of 19,897. At the frontier stations similar vigilance is exercised in the case of persons coming from the United States. The number of these turned back during the 12 months was 4,580.

It is announced that a funeral ceremony in accordance with Buddhist rites in memory of the late Prof. Fenollosa, will take place at the Temple Homyoin of the Miidera Monastery in Omi on the 15th inst. Nearly all the men eminent in the world of science are taking part in this ceremony.

The telegraph says that the Russian Finance Minister returned from Vladivostock to Harbin on the 6th inst. and was to set out from the latter place for St. Petersburg on the 8th. His Excellency is rumoured to have promised various fiscal concessions to his countrymen in Harbin.

Tokyo newspapers state that the Railway Board has decided to have a quadruple line between Tokyo and Yokohama. This will be effected by laying a new track on either side of the existing lines. Nothing is said as to how the bridges will be negotiated, but that is only an engineering detail. The total cost is estimated at 10 million *yen* and the work will be completed in 1912.

For some time back, nothing has been heard of the proposal to establish a Central Bank in Manchuria. It will be remembered that this project was believed to be warmly advocated by the South Manchuria Railway Company and by the Japanese merchants in Manchuria, whereas on the other side were ranged the Specie Bank and the Finance Department in Tokyo. The Specie Bank was specially interested, because, had the project been carried out, that Bank would have fared in Manchuria as the First Bank has fared in Korea. It is now alleged that a decision has been adopted against the establishment of a new central Bank, and that the course pursued will be to invest the Specie Bank with special competence to issue loans on security to the extent of 3 million *yen*, instead of confining itself, as it has hitherto done, to the ordinary business of discounting bills.

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THE CRICKET GROUND.

IT seems to us very regrettable that the resolution proposed by Mr. HENSON at the recent meeting of the members of the Cricket and Athletic Club was not adopted. The meeting does not appear to have fully recognised that there is no question of losing the cricket ground altogether. What is on the tapis is merely a change of situation. Yokohama to-day is a very different place from the Yokohama of forty years ago. It has grown enormously, and the Japanese population is now so numerous that the Local Authorities find it no longer convenient to allow a large space to be segregated in the middle of the Public Garden. Therefore they have signified their intention of not renewing the lease under which that space is fenced off. We can not see that there is anything inherently unreasonable is this step. Nor do we think it a wise policy to cling to a privilege which accentuates the division between the Japanese and the foreign inhabitants of the port. Nothing is easier to conceive than that the Japanese community should have become impatient of this conspicuous reservation of a wide area in the very centre of the Public Park. Such a state of affairs suggests invidious discrimination, to say nothing of actual inconvenience. On the other hand, there is evidently no wish to behave illiberally, or to deprive the foreign residents of facilities for a recreation which is almost a necessity of their existence. Therefore the Japanese Local Authorities, while resolving to refrain from renewing the lease of the old and now incongruous cricket ground, propose to substitute an area in a more retired but scarcely less accessible situation. That they have a right to close the lease is scarcely open to doubt. The very fact that it is a lease for a fixed term constructively implies that right, and, moreover, the Article of the Revised Treaties which has been set up in controversion of the right does, in truth, explicitly confirm it. The lands reserved by that Article "for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart," are clearly defined as "lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government *free of rent*," and therefore the Article can not possibly be construed as applying to land for whose use rent has been paid during the past thirty odd years. Indeed, the original segregation of the cricket ground by special lease was a contravention of the old Treaties, which provided that the whole area of the Public Garden should be open for general use. In these circumstances we can not but think that the most judicious course for the Foreign Community would have been to frankly recognise the necessity which confronts the Japanese Local Authorities, and to coöperate with, instead of opposing, them. Could we discern a shadow of reason on the side of the majority who voted at Monday's meeting, we should support them heart and hand, for we have a keen sense of the romance attaching to a cricket ground peopled by so many unforgettable associations. But no valid argument of that nature being discoverable, the only practical way to save the situation is to gracefully accept the Japanese offer of a ground elsewhere. Certainly it appears regrettable that the meeting should have been invited to regard that offer as a concession wrested from the Local Authorities, to be followed by complete surrender if the Foreign Community stood firm. That construction is not calculated to smooth the way, or to evoke a mood of friendliness on the Japanese side. As for the resolution adopted, namely, that the British Ambassador should be asked to take the opinion of the Foreign Secretary, we can not hope that it will accomplish much. Sir EDWARD GREY has no competence to decide such a question without reference to the other Powers which have treaties with Japan, nor is there any reason to expect that he will approach it with greater sympathy or fuller knowledge than Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD has brought to bear. Altogether the Meeting does not appear to have been well advised, and when, in one breath, it voted that "Sir CLAUDE MACDONALD be requested to arrange for securing a piece of ground for the use of a pitch by the Club," and in the next, that he be asked "to forward to the British Office a full statement of the case and ask for the opinion of Sir EDWARD GREY," it placed his Excellency in a dilemma from which all his well-known tact and resourcefulness will scarcely suffice to rescue him.

CLEARING THE FIELD.

AMONG the first principles of political warfare is that which demands that, when controversy deepens into conflict, the issues in question should be made clear. Nothing is more important than that those who compose the respective parties should know, when the day of battle dawns, exactly what they are fighting for. Should a country be plunged into a political contest of more than ordinary magnitude—a contest, in short, which may bring in its wake a revolution—it is a prime necessity that minor differences should be sunk, and that the questions at stake, stripped of all irrelevancies, should be reduced to a clear and, if possible, a single issue. It will therefore be noted with satisfaction that a process of this description is now in progress in the Mother Country of the British Empire. What affects her welfare is, of course, of the deepest moment to all her daughter States across the seas; and thus it comes that Englishmen the world over are keenly interested in the struggle now imminent in the homeland—a struggle for which both sides are now actively preparing, and which may yet culminate in a social, as well as a political, upheaval. That there is need for some such preliminary procedure is evident from the fact that serious divisions of opinion have manifested themselves in both parties, though more especially in the Unionist organization. On the one hand, so far as the Government is concerned, while no resignations have occurred within the Cabinet, there are unmistakeable signs of lukewarmness on the part of several of its members. The fact that the leadership of the Liberal Party (how are the mighty fallen!) is now in the hands of "the tub-thumper of Limehouse"—as Mr. LLOYD GEORGE has come to be known since his notorious speech in that quarter—and in the hands of that adventurous young demagogue, Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL, is not without bitterness for some at least of the older members of the ASQUITH Ministry. Moreover, there is no doubt that, in the eyes of a considerable section of his Party, Mr. LLOYD-GEORGE, in bringing before the country a Budget which is frankly Socialistic in tone, has committed the unpardonable sin. "The Chancellor of the Exchequer," laments a recent writer, while deploring the demise of the Liberal Party, "has gone to Hyde Park for his supporters. . . . He has taken into his counsels the urbane Mr. GRAYSON, the benevolent Mr. KEIR HARDIE, the profound Mr. HENDERSON, and will have no more of the stalwarts of his own Party." Further, the policy of hesitation on the part of the present Government in the vital matter of national defence—so evident in the earlier part of this year—has alarmed and alienated many a supporter who places the safety of the Empire before, shall we say, old-age pensions. On the other hand, all is not well on the Unionist side. There has been a rift in the lute, a distinct cleavage of opinion on the respective merits of Free Trade and Tariff Reform. The prospect of a divided vote in Unionist constituencies is not calculated to inspire confidence on the eve of a great struggle. Such, then, is the situation upon which falls the announcement, made a few days ago by the Chief Liberal Whip, that a General Election has been decided upon for January. It is not a little significant, we may remark in passing, that this definite pronouncement should have been made at the present juncture, and before the House of Lords has had an opportunity either of rejecting, or of amending, the Budget. Those who hold that the time is not ripe for an appeal to the country, or who advocate the passing of the Budget by the Lords without substantial alteration, so as to avert a constitutional crisis, will doubtless experience a sense of disappointment. The Government, it would seem, has resolved to go to the country, whatever the Lords may do with that contentious measure. By this decision the Finance Bill itself, and not the status of the Upper Chamber, has become the *casus belli*. It may be that Ministers recognize that to postpone the struggle will result in a weakening, rather than a strengthening, of their forces; or it may be that they regard the total rejection of the Budget by the Lords as a foregone conclusion. Whichever of these considerations has finally prompted their decision, it has certainly not improved their position *vis à vis* the electorate. If the coming election is fought solely on the merits

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of the Budget of 1909, there can be, in our opinion, little doubt as to the result. For it appears to be now generally recognized, as recently stated by Sir WILLIAM ANSON—an authority frequently quoted by Liberals in the Lords *v.* Commons controversy—that while the Upper Chamber would not be justified in rejecting a money bill, in the strict sense of the term, yet "if, under cover of a money Bill, matters of general policy are introduced, the Lords have an undoubted right to amend or reject such a Bill—a right frequently exercised, and admitted by Mr. GLADSTONE to be not merely legal, but constitutional in its exercise." We believe that an argument so simple and so reasonable cannot fail to be appreciated by the average voter—be he Liberal or Unionist.

On the Unionist side, the grave possibilities of a division on the fiscal question have been averted. The Unionist Free Traders have seen the wisdom of waiving this minor difference in view of the graver issues involved. The principal organ of Unionist opinion on this point, the London *Spectator*—which has also, for obvious reasons, been the principal advocate of a compromise, rather than a dissolution, over the Budget—while reiterating its anti-Protectionist convictions, admits that "for the moment, the question of Free Trade will have to be in abeyance, and every effort must be concentrated on fighting Socialism and the Socialistic schemes of the Government." Similarly, Lord ROBERT CECIL, who may be regarded as the leader of the Unionist Free Traders, has agreed to a compromise with the East Marylebone Conservative and Liberal Unionist Association, stating that he is prepared to choose Tariff Reform rather than the Socialism of the Budget. This action on the part of the Unionist Free Traders at the present juncture is well-advised, and will save the Party from the perils of the "house divided against itself." It will no doubt be said that this falling into line has been dictated solely by the gravity of the outlook; but it is good policy, nevertheless. The seriousness of the whole political situation is thus ably insisted upon by the *Observer*:—

"This supreme controversy goes straight forward to the polls, and in a matter of weeks it will be decided at a General Election, the gravest and the greatest known for more than two hundred years. All—all—that the name of England means is at stake in this argument. The masses are free. They have a terrible freedom. Nothing but their own will can bind them. They may have Socialism, or anarchism, if they please. They may have any 'ism' they like. But let them say if they like it. Only England can work out her own salvation, but she must have the chance to do it. . . . . .

"But let us have no illusions. The coming elections will be contested with a fierceness, a bitterness, corresponding to the unparalleled magnitude of the issue; and to meet and beat the desperate methods of the demagogues will require, as it will arouse, the utmost efforts of the nation."

In view of this extremely grave condition of things, when, to quote Lord ROSEBERY, "the destinies of Britain are in the melting-pot," it is right that the field should be swept clear of trifles, and the issue set forth in unmistakable language. It cannot be stated in better terms than those uttered by Mr. BALFOUR in his last great speech at Birmingham—"The people of this country must decide whether England is to go downhill with Socialism, or uphill with Tariff Reform."

A JAPANESE PUBLICIST.

Professor Honda, speaking at the recently held conference on the Far East, said *inter alia*:—

Enough time has not yet elapsed to warrant a historian's verdict on what was known as the "Japanese situation" in the United States,—for it is futile to deny that there was such; but I may be allowed to venture a psychological restrospect on that nightmare, as it is sufficiently and surely past, so that we may talk about it with a sigh of relief. May we not sincerely hope that the old adage will prove true in this case and the dream go by the exact contrary, and that we may never repeat a similar experience again?

It is impossible justly to apportion the responsibility for this "situation," among the government, the people in general, and a small section of jingoes and yellow journals of one country or the other, or of both. Each of the three elements will try to excuse itself before the supreme court of sane judgment.

One war taught Japan that a dissenting third party could wrest from her what she considered the fruits of victory. Another war gave her the disappointing lesson that, without the sympathy of the whole world, she could not obtain what she thought she was justly entitled to.

This apparent failure was partially attributable to our opponents' brilliant success in diplomacy, and to our alienation of the sympathy of some foreign correspondents during the war. But the true explanation did not dawn upon many till much later, which was, that we were not in a position to enforce great demands against the wishes of the interested powers of the world, which were opposed to too enormous an accession of influence to Japan. * * *

American criticism of our dealings with China is only an aftermath of the "Japanese situation," in so far as the weapon of misrepresentation and sheer falsehood is employed. Our commercial rivalry is the sole and real cause of the trouble, and that kind of warfare can be conducted in a way perfectly fair and square. A frank and sympathetic acknowledgment, on either side, of certain unalterable facts will surely help mutual understanding.

One of these facts is the great anomaly of Japan's position in Manchuria. We fought for the territorial integrity of and equal opportunity in, China. Then we inherited and shared in privileges and concessions inconsistent with China's full exercise of sovereignty. What was accomplished in darkness and mystery, we have succeeded to in the broad daylight of the public gaze.

China's rise in national consciousness and the existing conditions of her internal politics demand strenuous efforts in the recovery of her rights. Japan, being the newest intruder and a novice in diplomacy, is the best antagonist for China to try her rejuvenated strength upon.

Both settled policy and national interest prompt the United States to make sure of equal opportunity in China. Where claims of justice and interest support each other, even a lawful acquisition by others is apt to be interpreted as infringement, and unavoidable competition looks like wilful opposition.

"American diplomacy," popularly so-called, direct, straightforward, fearless and independent, cannot be adopted by other nations at the present stage of human progress. There are a great many eventualities for which we must be ready, but of which we cannot explain details. If we explain, we may wrong one party, if we do not explain, we are suspected by all.

Neither this country nor Japan can extend her market anywhere better than in China, and both urgently need commercial expansion. There ought to be what I call "international socialism," by which the capital of one nation and the labour of another can be combined to mutual advantage.

There can be no question that Professor Honda put his finger on the spot when he said that the world's unfriendly mood toward Japan to-day is mainly due to resentment that a new rival, possessing great capabilities of commercial and industrial expansion, has entered the field of competition in the Orient.

PRINCE ITO.

Bishop M. C. Harris contributes the following letter to the *Seoul Press* under date of November 5:—

My first word is sympathy for the bereaved. The Emperor of Japan, deprived of the services of this loyal servant, which cover a period of forty years or more, will receive the condolences of all his subjects, and of the world at large. The Korean Emperor and Crown Prince, conscious of their great loss, are also plunged in grief. Who can withhold from Japan condolence when this "Grand Old Man" ripe in years, but vigorous and more active than in his earlier life, and at such a time as this, is taken from her? Also for the Korean people who have lost a friend who loved them as he did his own people and, though relieved of direct responsibility, was untiring in labours for their welfare. And especially for his widow and family, may God grant them consolation

For the missions in Korea (Catholic and Protestant alike of all countries), who learned to love and trust him and now shed grateful tears for all he did for them and the native Christians as well as the Korean people. Indeed, who is not bereaved at this hour? He was a world-statesman and while he sought first the welfare of Japan, he was burdened for the Far East, Asia, and the whole world. In breadth of sympathy, knowledge of world conditions and a desire for the peace and happiness of mankind, he stood almost alone. Where is there a statesman who has travelled so extensively and studied so profoundly all civilizations through the past forty years as our beloved and lamented Prince?

Again we admire the Prince for his refreshing frankness linked with sincerity. By some he was considered indiscreet and, indeed, if measured by the old standards, this might be true, but he never betrayed his country or any other country. He early accepted the highest principles and ideals of the East and West, and fearlessly professed them and sought their realization.

Speaking of the early days of Meiji and the principle which guided the leaders of those days, among whom he was prominent, he said, "We determined that in all things we would be true to the principle of righteousness." To me it seems there was incarnated in the Prince the highest and best of the Orient and Occident, and he lived to see these fulfilled in a large measure.

I must add one more word of gratitude. Prince Ito was the father of the Constitution and this will perhaps be his chief monument and title to fame. In company with Dr. Timothy Richard of China, I visited the Prince, who was then occupying the Palace at Omori, which the Emperor had graciously bestowed upon him in memory of his meritorious work for the Constitution. After the cordial interview so kindly given us the Prince conducted us to the hall where the Commission sat during two years in the presence of His Majesty and considered the great instrument, article by article. He said. "The great explosion took place when the article bearing on religious liberty and the separation of religion and the state, making the former a private and personal matter, was under consideration. There was even violent opposition by the conservative members. Finally I was commanded to speak, after which His Majesty, who is free from all prejudice and different from other men, gave His approval and then all was settled." The carrying into effect of his article occasioned not a little difficulty and a vast amount of labour, but the Prince was first in his efforts to accomplish this and now for many years in the Empire of Japan religion has been free and fully protected and encouraged without partiality, but best of all, Shintoists, Buddhists, Christians, Confucianists live harmoniously and co-operate on many lines for the good of the nation.

Many others have laboured with him and share in the glory achieved, but he was ever the intrepid leader, and never lost heart. The body of Christian missionaries in Japan for years past have been entirely free from any embarrassments and have no requests to make for additional privileges, but feel unbounded gratitude for all the favours conferred and the almost unexampled privileges which they themselves enjoy.

Now our great and good friend, the beloved Prince, is no more, and we grieve and cannot be consoled. Around the Prince's bier let us all gather and mingle our tears and consecrate ourselves to God for the realisation of the high aims which to the last he gave his life to fulfill. Peace to his memory.

In conclusion let us thank God that the cherished and well matured plans of the Prince for the regeneration and happiness of the Korean people are to be sacredly carried out by the Authorities.

May the day be near when the Prince's dream of a united, progressive, and peaceful Far East may be fulfilled.

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THE KING'S BIRTHDAY.

The formal celebration of King Edward's Birthday is to take place at the British Embassy on the 12th inst., but of course the 9th was duly observed in Tokyo. The Emperor sent a special message of congratulation early on that day from Utsunomiya, and it was conveyed to the Embassy by Count Toda. It goes without saying that the Embassy was thronged with visitors, comprising a great majority of all the leading residents of the capital without distinction of nationality.

On November 9, the British Consulate-General was crowded in the forenoon with visitors who came to tender their congratulations on the occasion of the Birthday of His Britannic Majesty. Among the callers were Baron Sufu, the Governor of this prefecture, and a number of Japanese high officials. The local Consular body and many British residents also paid their respects at the Consulate. In the former foreign settlement and in the Japanese portion of the town much bunting was displayed.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM BRITISH RESIDENTS OF YOKOHAMA.

The following message of congratulation to his Majesty King Edward VII on the occasion of his birthday was sent on the 9th instant by the British Association of Japan:—

Yokohama, November 9.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING,
Sandringham.

British Subjects send respectful and loyal congratulations.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN.

To this the following reply has been received:—

Sandringham, November 9,
President, 3.10 p.m.
British Association of Japan.

The King sends his sincere thanks to his British subjects for their loyal message of congratulation and good wishes. KNOLLYS.

VLADIVOSTOCK.

It is stated that there has been a sudden inflow of Koreans into Vladivostock since the assassination at Harbin.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a telegram from Vladivostock to the effect that the Russian authorities have agreed to reimburse to the extent of 500,000 roubles the losses suffered by Chinese residents in the riot which took place a few months ago. The claims preferred by the Chinese amounted to double that sum.

THE FUTURE OF MISSIONARY WORK IN JAPAN.

BY DR. J. D. DAVIS, KYOTO.

(This was the closing address at the recent Jubilee Conference in Tokyo)

The results of the first fifty years of missionary work in Japan should give us great hopes for the future. Fifty years ago it was death to be a Christian. The bulletin boards which everywhere proscribed Christianity and offered rewards to informers were only taken taken down thirty-six years ago. Thirty-seven years ago, next month, Ichikawa Yeinosuke died in prison in Kyoto for the crime of having in his possession and reading a pen-made copy of the Gospel of Mark in Japanese. The first church was organized only thirty-seven years ago. Prejudice and opposition lasted on into the middle of this fifty-year period. It is only about ten years since missionaries could freely travel and reside in the interior.

How changed is the situation today! Fear and prejudice are gone. People are everywhere ready to hear. Leading men in government circles are favourable to Christianity. The Emperor himself has made munificent gifts to distinctively Christian institutions. The Bible is translated, and hundreds of thousands of bibles and portions are sold and circulated every year. A great mass of Christian literature is also circulated every year. Flourishing Young Mens' Christian Associations are working in most of the higher schools of the empire. Lectures on Christianity are given in the universities. The little vanguard of missionaries which came fifty years ago, has become a battalion eight hundred strong.

There are nearly six hundred organized churches, of which more than one fourth are self supporting, including the pastors' salary. These churches have a membership of over seventy thousand, and the church membership was increased last year by over ten per cent. There are nearly five hundred ordained Japanese workers and over six hundred unordained male workers, and over two hundred Bible women. Nearly 100,000 scholars are being taught in more than one thousand Sabbath Schools. Several of the larger churches have organized missionary societies which are extending the work in Japan, and some of them are supporting evangelists in Formosa, Korea, Manchuria and China.

An independent, self supporting, self-propagating church has been begun in Japan which is rapidly gaining in numbers and influence. The Protestant Christians gave for Christian work last year nearly 300,000 *yen* ($150,000). There are nearly four thousand students in Christian boarding schools. There are also nearly one hundred Christian kindergartens and other day schools where eight thousand students are being taught. About four hundred students are being trained in theological schools, and two hundred and fifty women are being taught in Women's Bible schools.

With such a foundation, with such a capital with which to start out on the second fifty years, what shall we say of the future? What is the outlook? What is our privilege? What is our duty? Who shall measure the ratio of the progress of the work in Japan during the next decades? It ought to be an ever accelerating geometrical progression. All the factors needed for such progress are in our hands or within our reach. We only need to link the infinite Factor to them to speedily win a nation to Christ.

There are great incentives to press forward. Japan is powerfully influencing the Far East and all Asia. Her splendid success in constitutional government, in education, and in modern warfare has awakened old China, has stirred India, and is powerfully felt in Turkey and Persia. Who can measure the powerful influence which a Christian Japan would exert over all these nations?

But Japan is not yet evangelized. There remains yet very much land to be possessed. There are thirty or forty millions who have never heard of Christ, or only in the most general way. There are three provinces without a missionary in them, and only a very few Japanese workers, and many other provinces are almost untouched. The large majority of the seventy thousand Protestant Christians are found in a few centres. Three-fourths of the population of Japan are living in towns and villages of three thousand or less, and they are almost untouched by the Gospel. The great majority of the Japanese churches are struggling toward self-support, and the few bands of self-supporting churches are striving to bring the weak churches to self-support. Very little is being done at present, and there seems but little prospect that much can be done in the near future, by the Japanese churches to carry the Gospel to the thirty or forty millions who as yet have heard nothing. Both men and means are lacking.

Under these circumstances, what should be the future of missionary work in Japan? There is still need of it, and there is still room for it.

In order that this work may be most effective, however, certain things need to be recognised and acted upon.

1. We should realize that we are not to be the leaders, organizers, or directors of the work. Our Japanese brethren must take that place in the future. Let us cordially recognize this and cordially plan and work together as equals, or even follow their lead! In touring, in opening new work, and in other ways, we shall find that their leading or coöperation will generally ensure a larger measure of success than we can gain when we take the initiative alone.

Let us seek for ourselves, and pray that the Japanese churches may receive such a baptism of the spirit and love of Christ and such a zeal for saving men and helping forward Christ's kingdom in Japan, that we shall forget the "naigwai," (foreign and Japanese) and plan and work together as equal brothers in the one family of our common Lord!

2. Let us realize that "the harvest truly is plenteous but the labourers are few," and let us labour and pray that the Lord of the harvest may send forth more labourers into His harvest. There ought to be many more men in training for the Christian ministry. Every pastor and every missionary out to be looking for and leading young men to give themselves to this work. There is need that thoroughly trained men, graduates of Higher Middle schools and Universities should give themselves to this work and become leaders in the Church.

There is need of and room for more foreign workers. If young men and young women, realizing the need and the great open door for service here, can come with such love, and zeal, and devotion that they will gladly acknowledge the Japanese as leaders in the work, and cordially work shoulder to shoulder with them, there is no limit to the work which such workers can find to do, and there is no human measure to its effectiveness. I know one young missionary who, among other useful labours, is teaching the Bible to large classes of teachers and students in government schools, and who has started six Sabbath Schools in as many villages in the immediate vicinity, each of which is a centre of light. There are hundreds, if not thousands of places in Japan where this work could be duplicated, were the men here to do it.

The Shiga Ken, the province of Omi, about lake Biwa, with its population of 800,000, and its fourteen thousand towns and villages, has no missionary in it, and only six or eight Japanese workers. (Since this was prepared a missionary has entered one corner of this province). Christianity entered Kyoto, thirty-four years ago, but it has only touched six or eight places on one edge of this province. There are students in many of these towns and villages who have heard something of Christianity while in government schools in Kyoto and elsewhere, who would gladly welcome the Christian worker. Shall these multitudes in Japan wait another thirty, or fifty years before they hear the Gospel?

3. We need to realize the importance of united effort, a union that can be felt; not necessarily organic union, although let that come as fast and as far as possible, in the various groups of missions and churches; but let us have federated union which shall make clear to the world that our denominational differences are like the clothes we wear, while our hearts beat in unison as brothers in one great family. Let us pray, and work together as brothers. We should do this in educational work, in publication work, and in the work of direct evangelization. Save in the large centres, the field ought to be divided so that there would be only one denomination working in a place. The aim should be to carry the Gospel to the millions who are not now within its reach. In "Shuchu," or concentrated evangelistic work, it seems very desirable that there should be federation and cooperation. Such united effort on the part of all the Christians in a given locality, will be far more impressive and powerful than similar effort put forth at different times by separate churches.

4. Let us unite in declaring our faith in the great vital, fundamental principles of Christianity. These principles are being denied or minimized in the West, and there is danger of it in Japan. If such a wave of negation sweeps ever the Church here, it may retard the coming of the kingdom many decades of years. This is a time when every one should voice forth his conviction of the truth with no uncertain sound.

5. The most vital, the most fundamental need of all is a deep and all-pervading quickening by the Holy Spirit, which shall reach the hearts of all the workers and the rank and file of the churches. Without this the full evangelization of Japan may wait another fifty or one hundred years.

With such a wave, not an ephemeral one, but

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lasting on through decades of years, Japan will be a Christian nation in the near future. Such an all-pervasive deepening of the spiritual life and love would unite all hearts and solve all difficulties, The "Naigwai" would be forgotten in zeal for the work, Union in education, in publication and in evangelistic work would be effected. A great company of consecrated workers would speedily be raised up and prepared for the work. The churches would speedily come to self-support. All the professed followers of Christ would *live* and *preach* the Gospel. An abundance of money would be given to extend the work, and the Church in Japan would move forward as one grand, victorious army, loyal to Christ, to truth, and to duty.

My fondest hope and my most earnest prayer is that this Jubilee year will see the beginning of such a deep spiritual wave as shall usher in a future of rapid and glorious victory.

THE SIGNIFICANCE OF A TOKYO CROWD.

(COMMUNICATED).

The funeral of the late Prince was doubtless one of the most impressive scenes ever witnessed in Tokyo; nor indeed could it be easily precedented in any other city in the world. Arriving at Hibiya Park as early as 8 30 a.m., one had to penetrate the already gathering crowd to gain a point of vantage; and by the time the cortège drew in sight, more than two hours later, the crush was so tremendous that it required a line of policemen, at times three deep, as well as a regiment of lancers, to keep the living mass from involuntarily bursting into the space reserved for the sacred procession.

Yet the surging multitude, on the whole, preserved a demeanour of comparative quietness and decorousness befitting the occasion. Not a sign of careless unseemliness was noticed. Occasionally the voices of the police, simultaneously with their hands, were lifted in warning back the swaying mass, but otherwise there was no obtrusion of either sound or conduct. Nor was the duty of the officers of the law at such a time one to be envied. One could not observe the responsibilities of the police without admiring the degree of patience apparently at their command, as well as the goodnatured way in which a Japanese populace submits to repression from authority. Only once or twice was an arrest necessary, which was nothing, considering the vastness of those to be kept under control. Taking in the whole line of the procession from the residence of the late Prince to Hibiya, there could hardly have been less than half a million souls present to offer their last tribute of respect to the national honoured dead.

To a thoughtful mind the event must have had a significance greater than that of even the State funeral of a great man. For what came the multitude out to see? The last sad rites of sepulture performed over its greatest statesman? Yes, more than that! It was the consciousness that the great man had laid down his life for his country that drew together that vast concourse of people, and gave them a mind profoundly impressed by an all-absorbing idea. One could instinctively feel that the event was more than national; in the fullest sense, it was international as well. For why did the great man at a time when his life's work was ostensibly complete, set out on that hazardous journey to Manchuria, save at the stern behest of a duty that was probably unique? He was, as his friends had frequently heard him say, ready to lay down his life for the cause of his country. May it not eventually turn out that the great sacrifice was not for Japan only, but for the world? Was it not questions of world-wide import that lured him into the trap of the assassin? Was it not *the complaints of us foreigners* regarding his country's alleged aggression in Manchuria that led Prince Ito to stake his life in attempting to get at the bottom of the difficulty and, if possible, remove all just ground of criticism? If complaint leads the alleged aggressor to sacrifice his life in trying to remove the cause of offence, surely the complainer should be well assured of the justice of his objection before reasserting it and possibly causing the sacrifice of other innocent lives. The tragic demise of Prince Ito ought to draw all foreigners in this country into closer sympathy with Japan. His example should lead us to suffer each other internationally to a greater degree than before. Let us hesitate long and think well before giving way to a course of contention and complaint. Above all, let us *give to each his due*, and be just. *There can be no fraternity, either nationally or individually, without absolute respect for even-handed justice.* In all our dealings with the Japanese let this spirit be invariable. Commercial life alone will afford us ample opportunity for the exercise of this virtue; but socially and politically it must be kept well to the front also.

Some of our nationals have apparently been suspicious of Japan's concessions in China. If our only ground of contention against Japan is that she enjoys in Manchuria an advantage we ourselves covet, and fail to win, sucely it is most childish to complain. Is it manly to cry because another boy has found an apple and seems likely to eat most of it himself? It is no argument to say that the apple was taken from China. If so, it was not picked up before China had thrown it away. What other nation would not have similarly seized a wasted or neglected opportunity? This argument of aggression comes with least grace from those who discriminate against Japan in the matter of immigration. If the West excludes Japan from its shores and than comes out to the East and complains that Japan is monopolizing things there, the equitable attitude of the situation is remarkable, to say the least. Until, in the West, Japan finds an "open door" and equal opportunities with all other nations in the important matter of immigration, the right to enter protest against her superior advantages in Manchuria would in all justice seem to be premature. At any rate, *when we are disposed to be jealous and contentious over advantages not easily or naturally mutual, let us think of Prince Ito's love of Peace*, and his noble sacrifice of himself for its maintenance in Manchuria.

THE BOOK OF MORMON IN JAPANESE.

As the reviewer chanced, a few days ago, to be in Nakanishiya's shop below the Suruga-dai hill in Kanda, a new book struck his eye. It was *Mormonkyō*, a Japanese translation of the celebrated Book of Mormon. It cost eighty-five *sen* and your reviewer bought it as a curiosity.

It is now eighty-six years since Joseph Smith, the Founder of Mormonism, discovered, buried at Cumorah in Western New York, the golden plates on which were written, "in reformed Egyptian," the records of the family of Lehi the Manassite, who migrated from Jerusalem to America in the days of King Zedekiah (B.C. 600). It is about eighty-two years since Joseph Smith, having secured the permission of higher celestial powers, took the golden plates to his own house, translated them into English with the aid of Urim and Thummim, and published them as the Book of Mormon. And it is about the same time since the Angel, having provided for the translation of the golden plates into one modern language, resumed possession once more and retired with them into the invisible world of spirits. Joseph's Smith's version of the Book of Mormon remains as the final authority in Mormonism. There can be no textual criticism, whether higher or lower, for these are manuscripts with variant readings to compare, and the golden plates of the original have been wafted off by the Angel, of whom profane outsiders say that his real name was Solomon Spaulding, that he tried to write a religious novel which he could not sell, and that Joseph Smith, finding the discarded MS. lying about, made it the instrument of his revelation.

It is quite possible that but for one regrettable incident, the followers of Joseph Smith would long since have ceased to exist. Smith followed up his first successful venture in the business of revelations by many others, the result of which was to make his followers a people apart from others. Wherever they settled they found themselves on bad terms with their neighbours, they had to migrate further and further to the West, to the great unsettled land, from New York to Ohio, from Ohio to Nanvoo on the Mississippi. Through all their wanderings Joseph Smith kept up the spirits of his followers by revelations and prophecies and promises of greater prosperity. There were many enemies lurking discontented in the fold, but externally there was unity and defiance. The Latter Day Saints were to rule the world, and what were state authorities that they should obey them? In 1843 the Mormons nominated Joseph Smith for the Presidency of the United States. Soon after that the grand mistake was made. Joseph and his brother Hiram were arrested for resistance to the civil power and put into prison at Carthage while awaiting trial. The Governor of the State had promised them safe-conduct and protection, and he was bound to keep his promise. In spite of that promise the two brothers Smith were taken from the gaol and lynched on June 24, 1877.

Mormonism had gained martyrs, but lost a leader. Sidney Rigdon was the man that stood nearest to the martyred brothers, but he was no leader of men, and he was suspected of being disloyal. The man, however, came with the opportunity. Brigham Young, who was on a preaching tour in the East, hurried back to Nanvoo, procured the deposition and excommunication of Rigdon, and got himself nominated President of the Mormon Church. He was indeed the Cromwell of the Latter Saints. Prudent, sagacious, practical, resolute, he ruled over his people for more than thirty years with unquestioned authority. It is to him that is due the credit of the selection of Utah as a centre of settlement, the development of that barren desert into smiling and fertile fields, peopled with industrious thrifty farmers from all parts of the world. It is to him that is due the change of Mormonism from the wild lawless bands that followed Smith with their "Danite Avengers," to the peaceable folk that the Mormons are now.

It has not been without difficulty that the Mormons have persuaded themselves to part with some of their cherished theories and practices. They have bowed to the Sovereignty of the United States Law and have abandoned polygamy, not, they will tell you in consequence of the Judgment of the Supreme Court, but in consequence of a revelation which declared that to be illegal in the early years of the twentieth century which a similar revelation, coming from the same quarter, declared to be God's will for His people fifty years before. We need not quarrel with the reasons they give, so long as they honestly abide by the laws of civilized countries. And many competent observers of the Mormons in Utah declare that they are changing very much and will soon be scarcely distinguishable from other sects, except in point of doctrine.

Into the question of doctrine it is impossible to enter here. The interested reader may perhaps glean something from the book under review. It is well printed, well bound, and the literary style, as far as a poor foreigner can judge, is smooth and excellent. And being in Japanese it will do no great harm to the Faith and Morals of the Foreign Community of Yokohama.

SICAWEI OBSERVATORY.

TIME SIGNAL SERVICE.

In addition to the signal given by the Time-Ball at noon, the exact China-Coast time is given every night by the extinction of the four white lights of the time-signal Tower on the French Bund.

The lights are shown about 2 minutes before the first extinction.

	h.	m.	s.
Time of the 1st extinction	8	55	0.0
" 2nd "	8	56	0.0
" 3rd "	8	57	0.0
" 4th "	8	58	0.0
" 5th "	8	59	0.0
" 6th "	9	0	0.0

In case of error or failure, a *red* light is shown† during a few seconds to annul the wrong signal. The signals are worked directly from Sicawei Observatory by electric apparatus.

† Or preferably the *two white* lamps of the yard-arm are lighted up.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

In our last Summary we gave a short epitome of part of a speech delivered to the To-A-Kyōkai by Dr. Tomii on the Penal Code. We now add further particulars taken from the *To-A-no-Hikari's* report of the address. What is known as the new Penal Code was published in April, 1907 and went into operation in October, 1908. This was a revision of the Penal Law administered in this country from 1882 to 1894. The revised code now in use took many years to compile. The revision was begun in 1890 and was sent up to the Diet during its Sixteenth Session. It passed the House of Peers at that time, but the Session closed before it could be discussed by the House of Representatives. It was subsequently sent up a second time to this House but dissolution came before the House dealt with the Bill. Disappointed at the delay, in 1906, the Department of Justice appointed a Commission to examine and report on the Code. Mr. Matsuda, the Minister of Justice, was the Chairman of the Committee that went over the Code clause by clause. When it was presented to the Diet during its 23rd Session, after undergoing various alterations, it passed both Houses and was promulgated soon after.

The particulars in which the new Penal Code differs from the law in force in the early decades of the Meiji era are very numerous. But, speaking generally, it is true to say that the radical alterations made were rendered necessary by the change in our form of government or by our assumption of jurisdiction over foreigners. The creation of a Diet and all that that implied rendered our old penal law quite inadequate to meet modern requirements. New offices, new duties and responsibilities opened the way for new offences and these offences had to be specified in the new code. Then our old penal laws were not made for foreigners and specified nothing as to the treatment that they were to receive. Our relations with foreign countries have involved the drawing up of many new laws. The development of commerce and industry and the increase of facilities for communication were also involved in the framing of new laws to control them. The old Penal Law was drawn up before there was any Commercial Code or Civil Code in this country. These two codes contain laws that define new relationships and the duties they involve and the new penal laws are based on these laws.

There were in our old penal code numerous instances of penalties that were heavy or light out of all proportion to the offences committed, and next to no liberty was allowed to judges to alter them. This has all been changed.

The report of a long speech delivered before the Tō-A Kyōkai by Dr. N. Ariga, the well-known jurist, entitled "Japanese Learning and Methods of Investigating it," came out in the August and September numbers of the *Tō A-no Hikari*. The tone of the address in many ways marks a new departure in historical investigation in this country—a departure that will be welcomed by all foreign students of Japanese literature. The extreme conservatism of the majority of the University professors has long obstructed the way to free investigation of facts bearing on Japanese Archæology. Dr. Ariga is of opinion that the time has come for Japan to break loose from her traditional policy in this matter and study her own history in the same open-minded way she is studying other subjects. Just as Biblical scholars in the West have demonstrated beyond the possibility of a doubt that much which has passed as history for centuries is nothing more than myth or superstition, so our Japanese scholars will have to draw the line between fact and fiction in the annals of antiquity,* says Dr. Ariga. But he shall now speak for himself:—According to one of its rules, the object of this Society is investigation into everything that concerns Japanese civilisation, and the collection of information on theories that have been held or practices which have prevailed. The subjects it aims at studying are philosophy, ethics, religion, language, education, traditions, art and literature. Whether what I am going to say will fall within the province of the investigations of this Society I do not quite know, but the ideas given in this address were suggested to me by a study of recent European works on ancient history. These books have in many respects revolutionized thought. Historical truth has proved to be very difficult to obtain, and the whole learned world for centuries upon centuries down to very recent times went astray on this subject. Instead of the great civilisations of antiquity dating from some three or four thousand years back, they have now been proved to go back to six and seven thousand years. Investigations of the Assyrian, Egyptian and Mesopotamian civilisations and the excavations made in Crete by Mr. Arthur Evans have upset a great many historical theories. In modern times the ancient history of each of the great races and nations of the West has been to a large extent re-written in the light of the new discoveries that have been made. What has been done for Hebrew and Greek history we ought to do for Japanese history. As there is Hebraism and Hellenism, so there should be Japanism or perhaps preferably Japanology. This term should include everything bearing on the characteristics of the Japanese people, on the spirit and tendency prevailing among them from age to age, on all the mental and physical habits that they as a race have contracted and perpetuated. History as studied by us in this country hitherto has been confined to far too narrow an area. Nobody can understand the Japanese people by reading historical books only. The early history of the nation is still veiled in obscurity, because we have been content to rely on written records and oral tradition only, which are quite inadequate. It is in order to urge the advisability of our extending the area of investigation that I purposely substituted the word "Learning" for "History" in the title of my address. Following in the wake of Western nations, we must begin our study of Japanese history by going into an ethnological question bearing on our origin as a race. Where was the plain known as Takama ga-hara whence Izanagi and Izanami are said to have come? No scientific historical investigations can be of much value as long as this question is left unanswered. Hitherto, for various reasons, investigation of this point has been avoided altogether or inquirers into the subject have been silent as to their discoveries. (*Ima made iroiro no riyū kara wazato kenkyū wo sake, mata wa kenkyū shite mo iwanu de otta jidai ga atta ga.*) But there is no longer any reason for this reserve. As a matter of fact, in reference to the location of Takama-ga-hara all sorts of opinions are held and defended. Certain Mito scholars have decided that Takama-ga-hara is another name for Yamato. Others have located it in Hitachi. Those who have located it in some foreign country are by no means agreed as to place. Ethnologists, archæologists, linguists and students of geography working together surely ought to be able to settle this fundamental question bearing on the whole history of our civilisation. Another obscure point connected with our history and mythology refers to the time that elapsed between the creation of the world by Izanagi and Izanami* and the time of the appearance of Ninigi no Mikoto, the grandson of Amaterasu. History proper begins from the time of Tenson (Amaterasu *no mimago* and great grandfather of Jimmu Tennō, the first Emperor of Japan). Dr. Ariga, in the course of his long and somewhat technical address, draws attention to six other important points on which Japanese history throws no light. He then sums up his argument somewhat as follows:—The truth is that the facts given above and others which might be deduced force us to the conclusion that we are still in a state of profound ignorance as to our origin as a race and as to the source or sources of our civilisation, and if we hope to throw fresh light on this subject, we must certainly adopt new methods of investigation. The scholars among us who bear the name of *kokugakusha* have confined their attention to the study of such ancient books as the *Kojiki*, *Nihonki*, *Engi-shiki*, *Manyōshū* and the *Kogoshui* (古語拾遺). Their studies are marked by considerable bias. Their minds are no longer free to adopt new views. (*Hitotsu no tokubetsu no sūkō* [strong tendency] *ga aru. Hoka de wa nai ga, nan demo kan demo Kōshitsu ni kwan shita koto wa narubeku rippani kaki-nasō to suru koto de aru. Kayo no hempeki wa kenkyū wo ōi ni gai suru.*) With a view of getting rid of this tendency and starting fresh lines of inquiry, I have avoided the term *Kokugaku* and substituted for it the title *Nihongaku*, and what I propose is that we should endeavour to imitate the European archæologists who have thrown such marvellous light on Assyrian and Egyptian history.

There will be some, observes Dr. Ariga, who in reply to what I have said will tell us that, dig as we may, the grand relics found in Assyria and Egypt will never be discovered here, as the Japanese people in ancient times took no delight in raising permanent structures or lasting monuments. The archæologist, the ethnologist and the linguist will, we are told, find a great dearth of material in this country, and the truth of this can hardly be denied. But it can not be affirmed that our explorations hitherto have been very minute or that they have been perseveringly carried on Ceremonies, inscriptions, oral traditions and the folk lore of the people should all furnish material for this investigation. The Imperial archives, Imperial traditions and customs are now becoming the subject of study. I was connected with the Bureau engaged in investigating the system of administration followed in the Imperial Household (Teishitsu-seido Chōsakyoku) for some little time and came across a good many things that seemed to me calculated to throw light on our ancient history.

* * *

The *Tōkyō Nichi Nichi Shimbun* publishes a report of a speech made by Dr. Haga on the line adopted by the compilers of the new Japanese text-books for Primary Schools. From this report we extract the following:—The text-books to be used in our Primary Schools have now all been compiled and eleven of them have been sanctioned by the Chōsa Iinkai (Investigation Committee). The new text-books are very different from the ones now in use. They contain more material and a far greater number of Chinese ideographs. The books for the use of Fifth Year and Sixth Year Primary School-boys are longer than those now employed by over 30 pages, and the material used is of a more advanced type than that hitherto found in Elementary School text-books. In the sixth year the lads begin to read lessons on the Imperial Diet and the Constitution. One of the objects of the new books is to make study interesting to the pupils. For this purpose wise sayings and racy stories have been inserted. The publication of these new text-books is looked forward to with considerable interest by the whole educational world.

* * *

A writer in the *Chūō Kōron* signing himself "Yaitsu Dōjin," in an article entitled *Kakushidate suru kokumin* (*A nation given to Concealment*), says that one essential difference between Japanese and foreigners is this: while foreigners are naturally candid, Japanese find it hard to be so. When in society the one desire of the Japanese, according to this writer, is to hide their real opinions and thoughts. He goes on to observe that this habit of theirs entirely spoils social intercourse, which instead of being a pleasure is converted into a painful duty. (*Ware ware Nihonjin ni wa tsukiai to iu koto wa yukwai, kwanraku nado to iu kotoba to dō igi de wa naku shite, kutsū, gimu nado to iu kwannen to ainiyotta mono to omowarete oru.*) In all cases the great thing to do is to conceal the real state of feeling: to show no merriment when amusing

* Dr. Ariga does not actually go as far in the rejection of legends as his introductory remarks might lead one to expect. He accepts current traditions on the age of the gods, though he does throw doubt on their historical value.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

* It is somewhat surprising to find Dr. Ariga endorsing the view that the world was created by Izanagi and Izanami, but the language he uses admits of no other explanation: Here are his very words:—*Izanagi, Izanami, no ni Shin* (二神) *ga amakudatte kokudo, sansen* (山川), *sōmoku, oyobi shoshin* (sundry gods) *wo umareta toki kara kono Toyoashiwara Nakatsu kuni wa hiraketa ni sōi nai ga*, &c.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

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things happen or sorrow when the heart feels sad. "Yaitsu" endeavours to trace this characteristic to its source. The gist of what he says on this subject is that the Japanese are rather mistrustful of each other and that this is owing to the habit so many of them have of trying to discover the weak points in each other's characters. They have not, according to this writer, sufficient broad-mindedness to take people into their confidence (*Nihonjin wa hito wo iruru no garyō naku, yoku hito no ara wo sagasu koto wa kōnomu jinshū da.*) The fact that the people with whom a man associates are always on the look out for blemishes and failings makes a man wish to conceal all that he can conceal. But all this is wrong, says "Yaitsu." It comes from a desire that people have to appear better than they really are. Men are neither gods nor devils, but just ordinary human beings. As regards weaknesses and failings, all are on a level and to pretend to be better than our neighbours is folly. It is silly when people meet for one to try and set before the other a fictitious personage who never has existed. The Japanese as a nation need to cultivate more candour, says "Yaitsu." We give this opinion for what it is worth; it may not merit entire endorsement, neither perhaps does it call for unqualified condemnation.

* * *

The *Jitsugyō no Sekai*, which has hitherto been a Monthly, has now been converted into a Fortnightly Magazine. The October numbers of this industrial and commercial organ contain a good many well-written articles. The tone maintained by the *Jitsugyō no Sekai* is that of practical common-sense combined with progressiveness of spirit. The October 1st issue of the magazine, a memorial number in honour of its recent development, contains an article contributed by Dr. Miyake Setsurei the editor of the *Nihon oyobi Nihonjin*, entitled "What kind of men are young, and what kind of men are old?" A few extracts will suffice to show the line taken by this talented writer. Confucius says "When a man is full of youthful spirits the best discipline for him is fighting; when a man's youthful energy is in danger of being lost, by fighting alone can it be retained." Men can keep young if they go on fighting. Age is not to be measured by years but by the state of people's feelings. There are young men that are decrepit and old men that are full of vigour. The fighting power of men depends not on age, but on character, on mental and physical energy and on the possession of ideals. What old men need to guard against is mental decay and slavery. Bigotry, prejudice, obstinacy, inability to imbibe new ideas. Old men like Count Okuma and Baron Shibusawa are very rare. Not only have they kept themselves in a fine state of health by careful attention to the laws of health, but their heads show no signs of deterioration. In fact, the word "rejuvenescence" best describes their present state. They are specimens of old men whose intellectual and physical powers compare favourably with those of men in the very prime of life. It is difficult to decide when men are at their best. It depends much on the class of work they are doing. Comparisons can only be made among men of some distinction in the world, as there are crowds of people whose whole lives are marked by mediocrity or by a state beneath even that. There are men who follow intellectual pursuits all their lives and yet manage to retain their mental keenness up to the age of 70 or even 80. But one thing is essential to the preservation of a high state of mental vigour, that is, a stimulus to mental effort. If that be absent, energy flags. Is it because mental stimuli exist in greater number in big cities than they do in country places that people who reside in the country, though physically better fitted for mental effort than the dwellers in cities, retire from active life at the age of 45 or 50?

The last heading of Dr. Miyake's article is *Gakkō no Kyōin wa ittai ni baka da*, "School-teachers are generally fools." On this he remarks that with the idea of keeping young, many school-teachers spend a good deal of time with their pupils. This has the effect of dwarfing all their powers and turning them into blockheads. The lack of general intelligence among school-teachers is most marked in this country. Simple youthfulness of spirit as cultivated by certain teachers is too frequently accompanied by mental dormancy.

In the October 15th *Jitsugyō no Sekai*, Count Okuma contributes an article entitled "Mr. Fukuzawa's Common-sense and our Common-sense," in the course of which the following observations occur. The term common sense seems easy to understand. As used by Mr. Fukuzawa it stood for that practical wisdom which we call *shosei*. One might suppose that with equal opportunities for acquiring it all men would be found endowed with it to the same extent, but this is by no means the case. It is a curious thing, but the fact is that frequently much book-learning and a minute knowledge of special subjects hinder the development of common-sense. Some of the men who are most given to reasoning are altogether lacking in common-sense. Practical knowledge is no doubt needed in order to enable a man to take a common-sense view of any subject, but the theory spinner often lacks this and hence fails to show any common-sense in his decisions. The mental faculty known as common sense is partly synthetic and partly analytical. In order to reach a correct decision on any subject a man has first to analyze the facts bearing thereon and afterwards to construct a theory that explains those facts. Wide experience of men and things is needed, but even this does not seem to develop common sense in all cases. It is perhaps correct to say that the instinctive power of reaching wise decisions known as common-sense is partly the result of culture and partly the result of the circumstances in which men are placed. Mr. Fukuzawa showed himself to be highly endowed with common-sense when at a time when hardly anybody in this country favoured the introduction of Western learning, he not only steadily advocated it, but he himself undertook to teach our people how much they had to learn from Western nations. It is sound common-sense which enabled him to overcome all his inborn prejudices against foreign ideas and ways of doing things. The main difference between my common-sense and that of the late Mr. Fukuzawa concerns the application of the faculty rather than its nature. Mr. Fukuzawa applied it to education, and thereby obtained renown to which I can never pretend. I applied it to politics, with what results the world knows.

* * *

At the beginning of this year there appeared a work on Philosophy and Psychology which will certainly prove to be a valuable book of reference to all Japanese scholars interested in these subjects. Within the space at our disposal here we can not possibly do justice to Dr. Miyake's *Uchū* (*The Universe*), the book to which we are now referring. For the learned terms now in use in this country it is a perfect thesaurus, and in addition to giving the personal opinions and impressions of the author on the subjects discussed, the *Uchū* constitutes a concise history of the conclusions reached by Occidental and Oriental philosophers and psychologists on the cosmos and man's place in it. The *Uchū* covers 621 8½ by 5½ inch pages. The type used is No. 5. The price of the work is 3 *yen*, and it is sold at the Tōkyōdō Shoten Omote-Jimbō-chō, Kanda, Tōkyō. Like so many modern books in this country and elsewhere, the *Uchū* grew out of a number of magazine articles. These have been appearing within the past four or five years. Dr. Miyake, as is doubtless known to our readers, is one of the most prolific essayists of the present day. He displays great versatility of mind, ranging over a number of subjects that have little connection with each other. Though a man of ripe scholarship and a born philosopher, he resembles Huxley and Tyndall in the facility with which he expounds difficult subjects in a way that renders them comprehensible to ordinary readers. In the introduction to the *Uchū* Dr. Miyake tells us he has aimed at avoiding technical terms and abstruse phrases as much as possible. Though the present work is complete in itself, Dr. Miyake has in contemplation the preparation of two additional volumes: one on mankind considered generally and the other on the peculiar characteristics of different races and nations. The *Uchū* is divided into Five Parts and subdivided into chapters. The first chapters of the work deal with the various standpoints from which the Universe may be and has been regarded. The views of Indian, German and English philosophers on the cosmos and its origin and laws are given in these chapters. The next two Parts deal with the living world in its original and developed states. The distinction between what can and can not be known is emphasized on p. 81, where the famous saying of Confucius, *Shirazaru wo shirazu to suru wa kore shiru nari* (To recognize what is not known, this is the highest kind of knowledge), is quoted as the embodiment of the highest wisdom in discussing the problems of the Universe. The latter part of the work will perhaps prove more interesting to general readers than the earlier chapters. Part IV. is entitled "Consciousness." Chapter I. deals with its possibility and its limits. Chaps. II. and III. are on "Cognition." Chap. IV. is on the Extent and Plenitude of Knowledge. The next three chapters discuss the tendency of modern science, followed by three chapters on the tendency of religion. The last part of the work deals with man's conceptions of the Universe, which are based on the knowledge furnished to him: (1) by his intellect, (2) by his emotions, and (3) by his will. The last chapter is entitled "A certain amount of Satisfaction." It takes note of the many unsolved problems with which the man of science and the philosopher are confronted, and of the many apparent contradictions and inconsistencies in the operations of the great machine known as the cosmos. Though a study of the Universe teaches much, it leaves on the minds of all who think at all deeply numerous doubts which are never likely to be dispelled. The past has cleared up a great deal that was once obscure, but in whatever direction we look we still find much that baffles our powers of comprehension, says Dr Miyake.

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In celebration of the tenth anniversary of its establishment, the *Kyōiku Gakujutsu-kai* on Oct. 20th issued a Special Number entitled *Shakwai Kyōiku no Kenkyū* (An Inquiry into the Education of Society). This subject is treated by over twenty well-known writers. The conclusion which most of them reach is that while school education in Japan is fairly advanced, there is a great lack of numerous other educating agencies and influences. Libraries, museums, public parks, places of innocent amusement, grounds where various games can be played by all classes of people, lecture-halls and lecturers are very deficient. All the various means for enlightening and developing the minds of the public are discussed by one or other of these writers. Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō, Mr. Kōda Rohan and Mr. H. Shimamura deal with the influence of art and literature on society generally. Mr. Komatsubara writes on the books which should be put into the hands of young people; Dr. Ume goes into the question of the educating power of law, and the Head of the Tōkyō Music School shows how great in some cases is the elevating effect of music. One thing is very noticeable in the essays contributed, and that is the faith that writers seem to place in societies. This is one of the fads of the present age. No sooner does a man discover that something needs doing than he sets about founding a society to do it. A large number of existing societies accomplish very little real work of any kind. One writer in the volume we are noticing almost exhausts all the letters of the alphabet in the enumeration of the bodies he deems it necessary to have established in order to bring about the reform of society. Mr. Naruse, the President of the Women's University, is of opinion that the education of society must mainly be the work of women—hence the need of their higher education.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio is of opinion that the newspapers as they are now conducted are a distinct hindrance to the higher education of society, and here is his plan for improving them. The trouble with Japanese newspapers, says Mr. Ozaki, is just this, the persons who write for them undergo no kind of examination before joining the staff of a newspaper. Neither a lawyer nor a doctor is

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allowed to practise without giving proofs of his qualifications for the work he purposes doing. Though newspaper writers in many ways have it in their power by a misuse of their opportunities to do infinitely more harm than lawyers or doctors can possibly do, society takes no steps to guard itself against them. While these ill-educated, flippant mischief-makers have free access to newspaper offices and poison the air that society breathes, little improvement is to be looked for. Newspaper writers ought to be examined and receive licences before being permitted to contribute to newspapers. Most of our newspapers have some properly qualified writers on their staff, but it is true to say that the number of scribblers whose writing is a disgrace to society is very large. The records of crime of all sorts fully reported in our papers are such as would not be possible in England, where public opinion has reached a higher level than we have attained. The fact is that society in Japan exercises no kind of control over newspapers, and this being so, bad as they are to-day, it is impossible to say that they have reached the nadir of their turpitude. If society were different from what it is, these newspapers would be stamped out of existence.

The fact is it is high time that society exercised some kind of censorship over the press. That Government should do so is undesirable. But society could appoint a committee of experts whose duty it should be to try and prevent the publication of unsuitable matter. London does this in respect to the erection of unsuitable buildings. There is a Committee whose duty it is to attend to this business. There is one thing that is sadly needed in this country, and that is the creation of means for restraining the ill-disposed minority by enforcing the will of the well-disposed majority. In England much is effected in this line by means of clubs. In old Japan the *samurai* had their clubs, and it was deemed a great dishonour for a warrior to have his name struck off the roll of members. In England the clubs exercise a considerable amount of control over the press. A short time ago when one of the London papers published statements that were deemed disrespectful to King Edward, that paper was told by over twenty clubs that its action met with their strong disapproval. Certain newspapers are bad here solely because society exercises no kind of control over them. There are of course bad newspapers in England and America, but for the most part the soil there is uncongenial to their growth. But here the conditions are quite different. Society encourages in various ways the publication of scurrilous matter. The law* and society, acting together, ought to be able to effect a radical change in this matter.

THE TYPHOON AT HONGKONG.

The Hongkong *Daily Press* of the 25th ult. says:—The fishing fleet suffered rather badly during the typhoon, and though there are comparatively few losses, the vessels have undergone in many instances very severe treatment. The crippled boats are only getting back to port and many lame ducks were seen getting into Aberdeen at the week-end.

The steamer *Telemachus*, which arrived in port from Saigon on Saturday, brought in a shipwrecked crew of 21 Chinese who were rescued from a disabled junk south of Gap Rock.

The French gunboat *Argus*, which went up the Hot Spring river near Macao for shelter during the typhoon, and was carried by the rising waters into a rice-field, is still there, according to latest news. She is 600 yards from the river. The *Vigilante* has gone up to her assistance. Our Macao correspondent mentions the rumour that the farmer to whom the rice field belongs is asking $7,000 as compensation. A Chinese cruiser has gone up to render assistance. The Portuguese gunboat *Macau*, which got ashore on the bank of the river during the typhoon, was got off at high tide and returned to that harbour.

* Official censorship seems to be recommended here, but in an earlier part of the article Government interference with the press is pronounced to be undesirable.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

ENGLAND IN JAPANESE EYES.

(From Mr. Sugimura's *Dai-ei-yuki*.)

III.—SUPPER AT THREE A M.

The scene of this chapter is laid in Mr. Lawton's house. The back of the stage is occupied by a bookcase which covers the whole wall. On the top of the bookcase are two or three oil paintings In the centre of the room stands a small round table, on which are set out a dish containing roast lamb, a few smaller dishes and plates, and two glasses of foaming ale, just poured out. Mr. L. and I are sitting cheek by jowl at the table and devouring the lamb, the mint sauce the while tickling our appetites. L. raises his glass: I do the same. "Your health," we say to one another. L.'s younger brother is in hospital, very ill: the servant-maids are not up yet. Not a kitten is astir in the whole house: nothing besides ourselves. It seems rather ghostly.

When I came here first a month ago, the younger L. came out to meet me, grasped my hand warmly in both his, and gave me a most effusive welcome.

Why had I not let him know the hour of my arrival at the Station? Why had I not come straight here without going to a Hotel? He spoke half-vexedly, half-joyfully, and then took me in and introduced me to his elder brother. After that nothing would content him but he must send a telegram to Col. Cullen, whose acquaintance I had made at Tokyo, asking him to come over and spend the evening. A certain Miss Foyer who happened to be calling was pressed into the business, and thus an impromptu evening party with pot-luck supper was organized in my honour. And a very nice time we had of it, too.

Three or four days later I called again to find that my friend, the younger L., had gone to hospital with a bad inflammation of the eyes, and it was then that I realized for the first time what is the full meaning of the English word 'hospitality.' I have not seen him since.

And now as we drank our ale, Mr. L. told me the whole story of his brother's illness. He was continually regretting his absence. "If my brother were here, don't you know—" was constantly on his lips, and each time the words came, I felt a gulp of sympathy. The younger L. had often told me of his elder brother, whilst in Tokyo, and now that I saw the two together in London living in such brotherly intimacy, I could not but wonder how the cheerful and boisterous younger brother and his sedate and serious senior managed to hit it off together so very well. Whenever I went to the Hospital to enquire after the younger brother, I always found the elder brother there; and when, one day, I asked the sick man if his brother came every day, I received for my answer that not only did he come every day, but that he never came without bringing with him some flowers, some sweets, or a book.

It was 3 a.m., the London day was already dawning, and I insisted on breaking up the party and going home. L. accompanied me, as far as Piccadilly and put me into a cab. I begged him not to do so, for I knew that he must be tired, and I repeated my request more than once as we went along, but L. only answered me, with a quiet smile, that next time I came across an English journalist wandering helplessly in Japan I might do him a good turn if I would.

That reminds me. On another occasion I had been invited to a concert, and was going to keep my engagement, not far from Oxford Street, in an omnibus. A kindly-looking old gentleman sitting next to me found out that I did not know my way about very well, and took great pains to set me straight, commending me to the conductor as he got out, and making him promise to set me down without fail at the proper place. I thanked him, but he only smiled. "Not a word, Sir, not a word, Sir," he said, deprecatingly, "only next time you are in Japan and come across an Englishman that has lost his way, you might do him a good turn and set him right."

I was quite moved by the incident. I shall not forget the lesson when next I see an Englishman in distress. I shall certainly not pretend not to see him, or pass him by on the other side.

When I got back to Japan, I told this story to my grandmother. She looked at me in surprise "And the man that did this," she said, "do you mean to say that he was a Christian?"

I may perhaps add that my grandmother is a very fervent believer in the *Hokke*.

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, October 14.

M. Kokovtsev, on his way to the Far East, broke his journey at Moscow yesterday, where, according to usual custom, he received an address from the Moscow merchants and made them an important speech, afterwards being entertained at a banquet and then proceeding on his way. The President of the Exchange Committee read, on behalf of Moscow merchants, a long address, mostly occupied with expressions of gratitude to M. Kokovtsev for having pulled the credit of the country safely through the terrible strain of an unsuccessful war and the subsequent "internal troubles." But, as usual, Moscow merchants have a little grievance: this time it is that Moscow does not feel she is making headway in Manchuria against the activity of foreign rivals In his speech in reply, which occupies three columns of the newspaper, M. Kokovtsev pointed out that last time he appeared before them he represented both finance and commerce: that was four and half years ago. To-day he represented commerce no longer, a special Ministry of Commerce having since been created. Nevertheless, commerce, as the edifice, must rest upon sound finance as the foundation, and that foundation he had done his best to secure through the extremely trying period of war and internal trouble. The stability of the monetary system had been secured. Russia had kept her hold on what she had, and even had succeeded in saving something out of that. Now that matters were on a stable basis and the period of trial was, he hoped, over, it was time to think of developing and creating.

The work he had been able to do as Minister of Finance was manifested in the rapid rise in the quotations of Russian Funds, which from the very lowest point ever known had now climbed to reasonable figures. The discount rate had never before been known to be lower in Petersburg and Moscow than in Berlin, as was the case now. This had been attained not by the use of any artificial means of sustaining the State credit: he had never used such means and, so long as he remained Minister of Finance, he never would; but Russian credit had risen by natural means entirely. A comparison of the Budgets of various States would show them how advantageously Russia stood. He had imposed new taxation only to the extent of half a million sterling, the tax on tobacco and cigarette papers. The "Ordinary" Budget did not merely balance, it showed a surplus of something like three millions sterling. (No reference was made to the "Extraordinary" Budget which swallows up the surplus and creates a large deficit). Compare this result with Germany, where new taxation is being imposed to the amount of over twenty millions sterling. Or France, with its deficit of 200 million francs. In England actute friction prevails over the Budget, involving difficulties that may endanger the whole structure of the State. The English Budget demands new taxation to the amount of over thirty times more than he had imposed on Russia.

With reference to the Chinese Eastern Railway, the central object of his task in this journey to the Far East, he would endeavour to secure, as far as could be attained consistently with the national needs of the State, the following four objects: the railway, which had formerly had to fill two needs, political and commercial, was now by force of circumstances confined solely to the latter. It must facilitate the penetration of northern Manchuria to Russian goods: it must provide means of communication for Russian goods to Russian possessions on the Pacific and the Amur River: it must convey the raw materials of China to the Russian manufacturer: it must help to build up a foreign export trade of Chinese raw materials

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through the port of Vladivostock. Those four objects he would seek to secure in the course of his present journey.

M. Kokovtsev made no reference whatever throughout his speech to any co operation in any form on the part of the foreigner. The omission of all reference to the Budget as a whole, "Ordinary" aud "Extraordinary" was perhaps considered to render any such reference to foreign loans unnecessary to an audience of Moscow merchants.

The amenities of public life in Russia are in a primitive stage of development, as illustrated by the following correspondence apropos of the recent bye-elections in Petersburg, Moscow and Odessa. M. Purishkevich, member of the Duma, where he leads the Black Gang party, writes to M. Guchkov, head of the Octobrist party, a letter opening with: "Octobrist pups couldn't evidently be expected to turn out big dogs. The revolutionary blackguards of the Premier Capital (e.g. Moscow) have got the upper hand." This elegant epistle concludes: "The elections in Petersburg and Moscow have shown that the Octobrist party is a myth: all there is of it is in the Duma." M. Guchkov replies: "I quite understand your rejoicing, as I have always considered that your best friends in the struggle against the strengthening of constitutional freedom were the Cadets. Your joint efforts may succeed in delaying the establishment of constitutional rule in Russia, but they will not hinder its final triumph."

An official of the Moscow "Intendanstvo" whose pay was under three hundred pounds sterling per annum, paid in to his current account with a Moscow bank in one year no less than eight thousand pounds sterling odd. He is one of those being brought up for trial on various counts of taking bribes from purveyors of army equipment, etc.

The trial has begun at Kiev of the late chief of the detective police service in that town. The indictment, which is said to read like the pages of the modern popular detective story, includes every kind of charge of collusion with professional thieves, who were protected from the law on condition of sharing profits with the police.

At Olgopol in South Russia a curious charge has been tried against an Old Believers' Nunnery. Seven persons were tried for horrible cruelty to a nun, who was chained by the waist, naked, in a dark hole, in such a manner that it was impossible to lie down, and was entirely untended. A local chief of police discovered her and had her placed in hospital, but subsequently visiting the nunnery later he found the poor wretch again in the same state. Thereupon a charge was preferred of cruelty against the prioress and four nuns, including the aunt of the victim, and two elders of the Old Believers' organisation. Three of these persons were 80 years of age, and one of the octogenarians has been sentenced to eighteen months in the disciplinary battalions, the others to various terms of imprisonment.

The Octobrist Party will hold at Moscow next week the first Congresss that has been held since the opening of the Third Duma, and only the third Congress of the party since its inception. According to western practice it would have been expected that the party would assemble rather before than after the bye-elections which have proved so disappointing to their hopes.

A surprise "revision" of the Petersburg Zoological Gardens, leased by the municipality to a private entrepreneur, has revealed the fact that over a hundred of the animals in the collection have been disposed of for cash without authority from the owners!

Two French aviators have been in Petersburg several days waiting to fly, but no arrangements can be come to about a ground suitable for the exhibition. The Imperial Aero-Club of Russia held a meeting yesterday at which it was announced that they had been received into the community of international aero-clubs.

Several unjust or mistaken sentences of the political kind have lately been cancelled or considerably mitigated. Two students exiled on a "polltical" charge have been brought back from their Siberian exile and even exempted from police supervision. The Senate has quashed a sentence of two months' imprisonment on a schoolboy charged with "circulating forbidden literature" at Saratov, and has further declared him "to be accounted as acquitted by the court," which decision will enable the boy to continue his studies as if nothing had happened. At Ekaterinodar fourteen families of Jews under orders to quit the town have been allowed to remain, a member of the Duma havign proved their rights under an old law.

St. Petersburg, October 16.

The following is from an authoritative source. The Emperor leaves Livadia for Italy on Tuesday, October 19th, and will travel overland *viâ* Odessa and Warsaw through Germany to the appointed place of meeting not far from Turin, Racconigi, where it is expected that two days will be spent, and the return journey made by the same route. The Emperor will travel alone, unaccompanied by the Empress whose state of health prevents her undertaking any journey. It is this regrettable fact which has caused the change of plans, and, incidentally has given rise to a rich crop of irresponsible rumours on the Continent of Europe concerning the progress of negotiotions during the visit of the Turkish special embassy to Livadia. The following are the facts of the case. Sea voyages have always a most beneficial effect upon the health of the Empress and are prescribed by her doctors. It was therefore decided that the projected voyage to Italy should be made by sea, and this necessitated obtaining permission from Turkey for two Russian warships, the *Oleg* and the *Almaz*, to pass the Dardanelles as escort for the Imperial yacht. All the details of this arrangement were concluded within half an hour. And from this simple matter a mountain has apparently been made in the continental press. The question of opening the Dardanelles was never even mentioned at Cowes, and does not form the subject of immediate negotiation now: indeed, expert opinions are diametrically opposed as to the value of any change in this respect to Russia. When it became plain that the Empress's state of health would not permit her to take the journey, the Emperor abandoned all idea of a sea-voyage after all the arrangements had been completed, and will go by land in order to shorten as much as possible his absence from home. For the same reason the projected visits to, amongst others, Roumania and Bulgaria, have also been postponed until next year. His Majesty is expected to be back in Livadia on October 29th.

M. Stolipin, Premier Minister of Russia, has given an interview to the editor of a paper at Saratov where His Excellency formerly resided during his term as Governor of the Province. According to this interview M. Stolipin expresses himself as in favour of the growth of a provincial press in Russia, inasmuch as the provinces appear to be showing a better appreciation of the work of the Government than is to be found in the capitals, where press and public are given to pessimism. (This is interpreted to refer to the results of the bye-elections in St. Petersburg, Moscow and Odessa, in all which Cadet candidates received an overwhelming majority). Turning to the question of reforms he dealt with the agrarian reform now in progress which would eventually give to Russia a body of small landed proprietors and farmer landowners. Already over twenty million acres of land had been settled under the new conditions of land tenure by individual proprietors: this area was equal to some European States. In course of time the natural evolution of the reform would settle about the estates of the great landowners a solid body of middling and small landed proprietors, though, of course, there might be some contraction in the area of the great estates. Turning to local government reform, he said that the task before them was to bring local government, self-government, down to a lower level, to the lowest level in fact, to the peasant, but alongside to establish a representative of the central authority, which was now represented in the provinces not below the rank of Governor. The Zemstvo must be cleared of all class-distinctions. In conclusion he said: "Give us 20 years of tranquillity within and without, and Russia will change beyond all possibility of recognition. If the roots of the State are sound, the voice of Russia will ring with a very different tone in Europe and throughout the world."

The English Budget is attracting much attention in Russia. The *Novoe Vremya* in several leading articles has referred to the agitation now disturbing England over the Budget. To-day it says: "We consider it useless to enter into the details of the Budget from the point of view of right, which is always a problematical question. But it will suffice to say that the Bill accepted by the Commons undoubtedly appears to be in the literal sense a revolutionary measure." Referring to the Lords the paper says: "The English Lords are in principle 'peers,' that is, the equals of their King. They are not obliged to submit to his counsels. But the King of England can make as many peers as he may please, and thereby cow the most unruly of his Lords. The prerogatives of the Crown have hitherto been upheld by the Conservatives, but this time are being supported by the Liberals who have brought before Parliament a revolutionary Budget."

The *Novoe Vremya* is intensely indignant with Germany which "under all régimes endeavours to muzzle us"—and small wonder, for when the *Novoe Vremya* entertains hostility to any personality or nation the language it uses is decidedly instructive. For example: "It is said that Germany does not understand friendship on equal terms. A friend in her eyes means a vassal. We are ready to be friends with Germany and we are the friends of the German people. But we are not, cannot be, and shall not be the vassals of anyone." The offer will doubtless be appreciated by the great German nation, one portion of which, the Bavarian, has just committed what the *Novoe Vremya* seems to consider an outrage on Russia by repudiating the understanding on which for many years unfortunate offenders have been given up to Russia for charges generically known as "political."

M. Kokovtsev's Moscow speech is severely handled in papers of all political complexions. The Minister of Finance in vaunting the absence of new taxation, omitted to note that existing taxes had been raised, some as much as fifty per cent. He further forgot to say that countries which balance deficits by foreign loans do not need to impose new taxation, as do those countries which endeavour to pay their way and reduce their foreign debt. The growth of the latter in Russia is astounding. In 1903 the national debt wes 665 millions sterling: now it exceeds 900 millions. The interest charges in 1908 were forty millions annually, having risen from 29 millions five years before. "Russia is not living within her means," says the *Rech*, while the *Novoe Vremya* takes up the cudgels for Count Witte, upon whom the Minister's remark that he found the finances in a disordered state when he took up his post are supposed to be directed. "Out of these disordered finances, however," says the paper, "five hundred millions (sterling fifty millions) was found during the first period of the war."

To-day is the hundredth anniversary of the birth of the Russian poet Koltsov, whose lyrics have the true ring of the Russian common folk-song, such as the village lover composes for himself, words and music, every day. Koltsov took these native bursts of melody and gave them a literary form, which bears an unmistakable resemblance to the forms of the old viking songs on English soil, alliteration supplying the absence of the attraction of rhyme.

The ex-chief of detective police at Kiev and his assistant have been sent to prison for terms of three years each for systematically, during their occupation of office, protecting professional thieves and other law-breakers, and sharing profits with them.

M. Kokovtsev travelled from Moscow in his special saloon attached to the Siberian express. Although this saloon had been most carefully overhauled by the railway authorities with a view to the journey of some ten thousand miles to the Far East and back, the Minister had to change into an ordinary carriage only a couple of hours beyond Moscow, owing to defective axles—a curious comment on the Russian railway people!

St. Petersburg, October 19.

The Congress of the Octobrists, the third since

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the party came into being in 1905, opened at Moscow on Sunday in the presence of between two and three hundred delegates from various parts of Russia, but mainly from the central provinces. M. Alexander Guchkov, the leader of the Duma, in his opening speech indicated the position of the Octobrists before the country. At the opening of the Third Duma the Octobrists numbered only 100 members (out of a total of 442): later on their numbers increased to 150, but latterly they could only count 130 adherents in the Duma. If their party had decreased in numbers it had gained in quality, said M. Guchkov. The reactionary Rights numbered 50, and it was their secession from the Right Moderates that enabled us to obtain a majority by joining with the latter. With the vacillating parties of "Progressists" and "Nationalists" it was impossible for us to enter into reliable relations. The "Cadets" possessed some elements with which we might work, but unhappily these elements in the Cadet party were few, and did not command the sympathies of their fellow-members. It is true the Cadets are showing signs of a change, but whether these signs of change are to be accepted in all sincerity or are merely a temporary tactical move, it is impossible to say yet. At any rate with the Cadets we can only enter into temporary agreements on this or that point of common interest, for they are not interested in the productivity of the Duma. Our respective lines of policy may cross, may even perhaps coincide, but will never coalesce. Our nearest friends are the Moderate Rights, with whom we form agreements on many questions, but we had no all-round agreement with them: among them are a large number of priests and representatives of districts on the fringes of the Empire, and this renders the Moderate Rights less available for joint work owing to their peculiar views and tendency to intolerance. We have to regret the excessive splitting up of parties in the Duma, which retards good work. We Octobrists look upon Russia as a constitutional monarchy, with a Ministry responsible to the Emperor, and a two-champ parliamentary system.

A phrase unhappily used by an early speaker at the Congress has been caught up as characteristic of the party: the speaker said: "We are proud of the name 'Guchkov's braves.'" Other members objected to the term, the less instructed provincial members even expressing indignation, on the ground that they were "servants of their Emperor only"—a curious confusion of ideas that has usually been exhibited only by the outrageous Rights hitherto. The name has stuck, however.

With reference to the only real reproach made against the Octobrists, that they are the "lick-spittles of the Government," M. Guchkov had no difficulty in dealing with it. His arguments are a development of the old proverb about the blade of grass and the sturdy oak in the hurricane. That the Octobrists have a perfectly sound opinion of the real condition of Russia was shown by one speaker who said; "We (*sc.* the Duma) are an island of constitutionalism in a sea of government by arbitrary licence." That simile represents as nearly as may be the actual state of the case, and it is therefore only in Russia that any proof is required of the wisdom of the policy of "bending to the blast" pursued by the Octobrist Party under the able leadership of M. Alexander Guchkov. Any attempt to emulate the oak might conceivably even nowadays end in the Duma being severely dealt with once more.

The Black Gang Congress at Moscow has closed: its meetings were held in strict privacy, none but sworn members being allowed to be present. The main resolution passed was one to oppose tooth and nail the visit to Russia of English friends of Russian progress. Others dealt with the usual bugbear of the "true patriot," the "aliens," whose claims to the right of citizenship are bitterly opposed by the Black Gang. As a great concession the Black Gang "patriots" admitted the right of the aliens, Poles and Jews principally, to complain of their disabilities on the ground, as elegantly and characteristically put by one speaker, that "even a dog may howl when it's hungry."

An atrocious murder, believed but not yet proved to be in revenge for betrayal of party secrets, was committed on Sunday in St Petersburg by persons unknown. A widow lady, learning that in her house a former tenant had committed suicide, wished to sub-let it. A man giving the name of Fedorov, but speaking with an Esthonian accent, took the whole flat as it was, including the servant, arrived late at night, showed no passport, the next day despatched the servant to a suburban station to bring his non-existent luggage, and had disappeared before she returned. Next day the flat was broken open, and a man found on the bed with his head completely severed from the body and lying beside him. The nose, lips and ears, with portions of the skin and the whole scalp, had disappeared entirely, presumably burnt in the stove, where remains were found. By the body lay a butcher's knife, a keen-edged dagger which had inflicted three mortal wounds in the trunk of the deceased, and a razor. The nose of the victim was subsequently found under the bed. With the other missing parts of the face were burned also the washing-marks etc. cut from the linen and clothes found in the room. The political police are keenly interested in the potentialities of this mysterious crime, the commission of which in its details and costliness is believed to show that it is a party crime. The scalp, it is supposed, has been carried off as proof of the deed having been done

A German group has secured the monopoly for ten years of sugar refineries in Manchuria.

Another new form of athleticism which has taken root in Russia was exhibited on Sunday in a successful race "Cross-country" (the English words are used in Russian, as for most sporting terms), of "about four miles," the winner covering the distance in 24m. 23s

Schoolboy football matches are very keenly contested for a cup presented by the proprietor of the *Novoe Vremja*. Six clubs have been left in for the final "heats," and the contest has resolved itself into one between the "gymnasia" (grammar-schools) and the commercial schools, honours so far being about equal.

Capt. Kozlov, the recently returned Central Asian explorer, is represented as having said that the English by their expedition to Thibet had lost all their prestige. "Three thousand men with artillery attacked a body of peaceful monks wholly unconnected with politics, and in one fight the English killed 300 of these monks without losing any men themselves."

A gang of "expropriators" recently captured at Ufa have confessed that their robberies in arms had for their object the collection of a sum of money to create on the island of Capri a "refuge for revolutionaries!"

Russia is to issue new paper money of the 5, 10, and 25 rouble values. The first issue will begin Nov. 14th with the new 10-rouble notes.

Rumours are again current of the intention shortly to create a new "Province of Viborg" to include territory hitherto Finnish.

The approaching municipal elections in St. Petersburg are arousing much more than the usual amount of interest, owing to the effort that is to be made this time to infuse fresh blood into the municipal council, which has not won the confidence of Peterburgians by its failure to deal with the crying needs of the city so forcibly indicated by the epidemic of cholera.

Exceptionally warm weather prevails over the north of Russia for the time of year.

St. Petersburg, October 21.

In the visit of the Emperor to Italy the *Novoe Vremya* sees an event of the highest political importance, declaring that the future will show whether this view or that favoured by Austro-German sources, that the visit is devoid of significance, is the right one. The rapprochement between Russia and Italy has its origin in Austrian action in the Balkans, which disregarded somewhat too brusquely the interests of Italy. As those interests to some extent coincide with the interests of Russia in the Balkans a rapprochement between the two countries, through France, is now not only natural but assured. As far back as April 1908 M. Izvolsky in a speech before the Duma laid down a policy which, while satisfying the needs of Russia, coincides with the requirements of Italy in the Balkans. Since that date the ties have been growing rapidly and the visit of the Emperor marks the culminating point of this policy. "The fundamental axiom of diplomacy," says the *Novoe Vremya*, "is to make friends not with one's neighbours but with the neighbours of one's neighbours. Thus the most natural of alliances for France is that with the eastern neighbour of Germany, namely, with Russia. Applying the same theory to Italy, the natural ally of Italy is the northern neighbour of Austria, for the simple reason that Italy lies to the south of this Empire: that ally is Russia. Of course at the present moment one has not to speak of anything like an "alliance"—but preparations for an alliance when the present Triple Alliance expires in 1913, by which time the much-talked-of "Mediterranean Alliance" into which "would enter France, Spain, Italy and Austria, and to which would be joined Russia and England" is not by any means an impossibility. But even if these far-reaching projects are not decided at Racconigi, the *Novoe Vremya* is assured that the meeting will mark an important epoch in the history of Europe, though the immediate results may appear to be only the clearing up of some old misunderstandings and closer economic relations between Italy and Russia.

Considerable mystery still veils the identity of the man murdered and mutilated in Petersburg last Sunday, as also that of his murderer or murderers. The secret police appear to believe that the murdered man is one of their agents, but apparently have not yet found out which of them, as several were expected about this time from abroad. Another story is that the body is that of an engineer from Moscow who recently insured his life for ten thousand pounds and paid two years' premium in advance. The story started abroad that the victim is the notorious Azeff is denied here by persons who have seen and spoken to Azeff since the murder. The authorities have ordered the body to be kept unburied for the present and most strenuous efforts are being made to throw some light on the mystery by police inquiries throughout Russia. It appears to be generally accepted that the crime is a political crime, and the victim probably one of the foreign agents of the Russian political police. By some the mystery is connected with the recent discovery in an outlying part of St Petersburg of a secret factory of small hand-bombs, of the kind used rather to produce panic than to destroy life. For the present, however, nothing definite is known and rumours are flying wildly as usual.

The French aviator, M. Leganier, made a few trial flights on the military flying-grounds at Gatchina yesterday, preparatory to the public flights which are to take place on Saturday and Sunday next. This is the first recorded flight of heavier than air machines in Russia. The flights were only of a few seconds duration and the height never exceeded five metres above ground, the object of the trials being merely to test the condition of the motors. Nevertheless the Russian Aero Club has given its certificate to M. Leganier for these trials.

The Octobrist Congress concluded at Moscow, after a successful discussion of many cardinal points of policy which the party hope to make good during the life-time of the Third Duma. An especially valuable report was that of Count Komarovsky on the Russian Church and religious toleration. He maintained that while the supremacy of the State Church ought to be indisputable, yet that supremacy should not take the form it has up to the present of persecution of all other beliefs. Moreover the Russian Church should be restored to its original status as a Church, instead of, as now, being rather a department of state, a section of the secular government of the country. In order to restore the Russian Church to its rightful status the assembling of a Church Council is absolutely necessary, since, if the reforms so badly called for be entrusted to the organs of the secular government, the Church of Russia will not emerge from its present position as a mere department of State.

The Duma opens its autumn session on Saturday next. M. Khomiakov and the vice-presidents

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have arrived in St. Petersburg, and informal meetings of parties begin already to-morrow.

M. Stolipin in his speech at the opening of the autumn session, of the Agronomic reform committee which is engaged with the great question with which the Premier has identified himself, namely, the creation of a new class of individual land-holders throughout Russia, strongly upheld the principle of Russian nationalism. In speaking of the intended introduction of the Zemstvo into the provinces of Poland, he pointed out that every safeguard must be given by law to ensure that the Russian element, whether insignificant in numbers or feeble in wealth, should not be swamped by the power of local nationalities.

This question is for Russia what Home Rule once was for England, and the cardinal point upon which M. Stolipin laid so much emphasis is precisely that which divides the Octobrists from the Cadets. The latter would give all the nationalities of Russia equal rights. The Octobrists, and the present Government of Russia, hold that such a step would mean the dismemberment of the Empire. As a writer in the *Novoe Vremya* puts it: "England with her vast Empire does not give equal rights to Indians, Malays, negroes, etc. Neither must Russia, if she is to remain a great Empire, give equal rights to her 'aliens,' the Jews, Poles, Caucasian tribes and a host of minor elements that go to make up "All the Russias."

The increase of interest in athletics in Russia has been frequently referred to in these articles. A most successful exhibition, under Swedish auspices, has just closed here, at which athletic exercises of various countries were shown by national exponents. The athletic societies under the title of "Sokol" (Falcon) are rapidly forming a network all over Russia. M. Khomiakov, President of the Duma, tells me that the demand for the improvements of all kinds of athletic sports (cricket is about the only game which seems to have no chance of acclimatisation in Russia) is very much in excess of the supply. The President's son is himself an enthusiastic football player, and the movement in favour of outdoor exercise, football especially, is running like a grass fire all over Russia, through all ranks of the population, except the peasantry. The makers of footballs, racquets, boxing-gloves, etc. should not neglect the future that is opening for their wares in Russia.

The Standing Orders (Nakaz) of the Duma have not found favour with the Senate, which has refused to pass them into law in their present state. It is objected that the Duma has arrogated to itself here and there certain liberties which the Senate believes can not be supported by the plain meaning of the fundamental laws and their regulations that define the limits within which the Duma may work. While seemingly unimportant, the clauses and phrases objected to could undoubtedly be turned to use in certain eventualities on questions of principle.

It is reported to-night from Moscow that Count Tolstoy has again had several serious and prolonged fainting fits and his general condition is regarded as serious.

THE LAW COURTS.

CLAIM FOR COMPENSATION.

The hearing of a case in which Mr. K. Inouye, of the Hokkaido Tanko Kisen Kabushiki Kaisha, Sapporo, claims *yen* 52,805.15 from the Compagnie des Messageries Maritimes, No. 9, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama, was resumed on November 6 in the Yokohama Local Court.

Mr. W. K. Tresize, of the Yokohama Engine & Iron Works, was examined as witness, and stated that he had seen the steamer *Sydney* when he was asked in January last to make a close examination with a view to repairing the vessel. The vessel was found damaged in eight places on both sides of the bow, the most serious damage being on the port side, where a hole 5 feet by 2½ feet was found. In the seven other places there were indentations of greater or less extent. The iron plates forming the sides of the steamer were half an inch thick. It took from the 23rd till the 26th January to complete the repairs. The judge, showing him the specification (Exhibit B No. 2) made out prior to the repairing, asked witness if it had been made out by him. Mr. Tresize said: "Yes."

Plaintiff's Counsel, Mr. Kondo, presented Exhibits A No. 2—No. 6 to show the defraying of various expenses incurred at the time of collision.

Mr. Homma Genkei, an engineer belonging to the Uraga Dockyard Company, then appeared as a witness to give evidence as to repairs made before the accident had happened. He said that the steamer *Iburi Maru* was taken to the Uraga Dockyard during last spring for repairs, so as to enable the steamer to pass the official examination which always takes place every three years. It took nineteen days to complete the repairs, for which work the Uraga Dockyard Company received *yen* 10,849.21 from the plaintiffs. In witness' opinion, the vessel was worth some *yen* 115,000 when she was delivered to the plaintiffs. The vessel, which had been built in 1883, being comparatively well-made, seemed to be capable of being used for ten years more. Some 420,000 *yen* would be required to build a new vessel similar to the present one.

Another witness, Mr. Okano Shin, ex-chief engineer of the steamer *Iburi Maru*, was then examined. He stated that on the 23rd January last, the steamer *Iburi Maru* was taken out of the Uraga Dockyard to have a trial trip, when she was run into by the steamer *Sydney* and sank in six minutes. On that occasion the *Iburi Maru* was running at 8½ miles an hour. The coal on board the vessel amounted to some 150 tons valued at about 6 *yen* per ton. Soon after the accident some 700 *yen* was paid through him to the crew and others who had suffered by reason of the disaster.

Defendant's Counsel, Mr. Sato, then said that according to the statement of the officials of the Marine Bureau in Tokyo, the captain of the *Ibuki Maru* had at the critical moment given an order "Go astern," and Mr. Sato asked Mr. Okano if he had heard the order. This the latter denied.

Counsel for both parties having asked the judge to postpone the further hearing of the case in order to enable them to make a thorough investigations, the case was adjourned till December 4.

THE FERRER INCIDENT IN THE HOUSE.

SCENE CREATED BY SOCIALISTS.

MR. VICTOR GRAYSON, Socialist, vainly attempted to move the adjournment of the House of Commons on the 19th inst. in connection with the death of Senor Ferrer.

The House was crowded when, at the close of question time, MR. ARTHUR HENDERSON, chairman of the Labour Party, asked the Foreign Secretary what steps, if any, had been taken by the Government to prevent the shooting of Senor Ferrer without trial in a civil court.

SIR EDWARD GREY: His Majesty's Government cannot depart from the rule not to interfere or to express opinions concerning matters of internal administration of European countries when no British subject or no question of treaty rights is involved. (Cheers). In such cases the Government do not possess and have no means of acquiring special information as to the circumstances or as to the facts. This rule is one observed, so far as I am aware, by all European Governments in their dealings with each other, and to depart from it would serve no useful purpose.

MR. HENDERSON: Am I to understand that, notwithstanding the deputation that waited on the Foreign Secretary and asked him to take the matter up, nothing has been done?

SIR EDWARD GREY: I have nothing to add to the answer.

MR. CURRAN asked whether the Government had not interfered in previous cases. Would it not have been within its right now "in preventing the judicial murder—("Oh, oh")—of one of Spain's—("Order") —most distinguished citizens"?

MR. BELLOC: Rubbish!

MR. GRAYSON: In consequence of the unsatisfactory answer given by the right hon. gentleman, I beg to move that the House do now adjourn to discuss a definite matter of urgent public importance. (Labour cheers.)

The SPEAKER: I must point out that it is hardly an urgent matter.

MR. GRAYSON: May I explain that contingent on this individual matter there is the matter of those who are now being tortured in the dungeons of Barcelona, accused of complicity in exactly the same business as that for which Señor Ferrer was shot? Therefore I feel it is a matter of most urgent public importance, and I feel that the spirit of the House will agree with that. (Cheers and shouts of "No, no.") The thing I want to point out is that there are persons who are suffering in Spain and practically under a sentence who will be shot unless this be recognised by the House as a matter of urgency.

After further discussion the SPEAKER asked, "Has the hon. member the leave of the House? Has he the support of forty members?"

The Labour members present and four Liberals rose. The Speaker began to count, "Fourteen, fifteen, sixteen, seventeen, eighteen," he said

There was cheering and some laughter at the announcement of the number, which meant that the leave of the House was refused.

MR. GRAYSON, extremely pale, sprang to his feet and turned towards the Unionists. "Shame, shame," he shouted, "Cowards, cowards." There was a buzz of conversation, and through it came an exclamation from Mr. WILL THORNE, almost incoherent in its rapidity. The words that could be distinguished were "Signed the death warrant," "Sent to Heaven by chemical parcel post.'

The Liberals who stood up with the Labour Party were Sir G. Kekewich, Mr. Lynch, Mr. Bottomley, and Mr. Weir.

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. Ishii, Chief of the Harbour Department of this prefecture, left on the 5th instant for Kobe, whence he is to proceed on a tour of inspection through Europe and America.

It is reported that Mr. Hashimoto, Superintendent of the Police Department of this prefecture, has instructed all the police-stations in this city to report on the number of baseball clubs, the list of members, the place of play and other particulars. It is believed these instructions are in connection with the question of the Cricket Ground.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended November 4th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	1	3	1	—	—
Died	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	2	10	5	—	—
Died	—	—	3	2	—	—

On the 8th inst two men living at Hagoromo-cho, were arrested and charged with being acomplices of a burglar, who had entrusted them with the sale of *kakemono* and other articles valued at over 10,000 *yen*, which had been stolen from the residences of Viscount Matsudaira, Prince Iwakura and other peers. The two men admitted their guilt, and told the police the name and address of the said thief. The latter was immediately taken into custody and the stolen goods were all recovered.

COMMUNION IN THE OPEN AIR.

EXTRAORDINARY CEREMONY ON AN AMERICAN PASEBALL GROUND.

At Pittsburg, the home of several freak religions, says a Central News despatch of the 18th ult., an extraordinary open-air ceremony took place under the auspices of a recently formed sect of religious enthusiasts who call themselves the "Disciples of Christ."

Adherents of the sect to the number of 25,000 assembled on the ground of the Pittsburg Baseball Club and partook of Communion in the presence of a huge crowd of onlookers.

The Communion wine was handed round to members of the sect by scores of elders, and altogether no fewer than eleven barrels of grape-juice were used.

Some of the onlookers openly scoffed at the "Disciples," but the bulk of them seemed much impressed by the ceremony.

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NIPPON RACE CLUB.

THIRD DAY. FRIDAY, 5TH NOVEMBER.

PATRONS:—H.I.H. Fushimi-no-Miya, H.I.H. Arisugawa-no-Miya, and H.I.H. Kanin-no-Miya.

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S. Isaacs, Esq. .....Chairman.
F. M. Tegner, Esq. .....Hon. Clerk of the Course.
D. Marshall, Esq. .....Judge.
W. Y. Showler, Esq. .....Assistant Judge.
Dr. E. Wheeler .....Scales.
F. H. Bugbird, Esq. .....Handicapper.
P. A. Cox, Esq. .....Timekeeper.

E. C. Davis, Esq.	H. D. C. Jones, Esq.
A. J. Easton, Esq.	K. Mori, Esq.
F. L. Elliott, Esq.	T. Thomas, Esq.

Guy Stevenson.....Starter.

The third day's races of the autumn meeting of the above Club were held yesterday under unfavourable conditions, the weather being very cold and rain falling somewhat heavily during the afternoon. The attendance was remarkably poor, and a lack of enthusiasm characterized the proceedings. Seven events were down for decision and good racing, with several exciting finishes, was witnessed, notably in the Jockey Cup and in the last event, which resulted in a dead-heat. Mr. Zahn, the rider of Old China, secured the Cup, this being his fourth win. The presentation was made by Mrs. Spencer Smith, on the conclusion of which Mr. Isaacs, the owner of the winning pony, called for three cheers for the ladies, which were duly given. The victory was most popular and both owner and jockey were warmly congratulated.

The following are the results:—

No. 1. Class A.—For N.R.C. SUBSCRIPTION AUSTRALIAN HORSES.—Value Yen 350, and the Second to receive Yen 100. For N.R.C. Subscription Australian Horses that have not won more than 14 races at date of entry. Handicap. Distance One Mile and a quarter.

Mr. S Minoda's Kokonoye, 146lbs.....(Kitago) 1
Mr. Silk's Midzuho, 15 lbs.....(Tsubouchi) 2
Mr. Rafale's Midinette, 135lbs. ...(Mr. Fitzgerald) 0
Mr. Rafale's Mistinguette (late Flip Flap), 125lbs. (Kashichi) 0
Mr. Ishiura's Tonami, 147lbs. .....(Masajiro) 0
Mr. N. Kawakita's Tourmaline, 135lbs. (Nihonyanagi) 0
Mr. Island's Mindoro, 159lbs.....(Sugiyama) 0
Mr. Snipe's Lady Voyou, lbs.....(Kawasaki) 0
Mr. Takara's Mitsubiki, 133lbs. .....(Aasahi) 0
Mr. News' Silencieuse, 135lbs.....(Seikichi) 0
Mr. Hansa's Penelope, 142lbs. .....(Mr. Elliott) 0
Mr. R Kimura's Asagiri, 137lbs. .....(Mima) 0

Twelve horses faced the starter for the first event. Lady Voyou jumped off with the lead gaining position at the rails, but was soon overtaken, the order on passing the stand for the first time being Mitsubiki, with Mistinguette and Kokohoye second and third. On going up the dip this order was maintained, but in emerging from the hill Kokonoye had worked into second place, Mindoro being third. Along the back stretch, Midzuho displaced Mindoro, but on approaching the Shakespeare, the two horses changed place. Turning the bend in the home run the field was bunched, Kokonoye, on the rails, leading. The advantage the leader held to the end, running by half a length from Midzuho and Tonami, the latter coming up in the back stretch and secured third. Time, 2.20 2/10. Midinette was left at the post.

No. 2. Class B.—For N. R. C. SUBSCRIPTION COUNTRY BRED HORSES 1909.—Value Yen 300, and the Second to receive Yen 100. Handicap. Distance One Mile.

Mr. States' Navajo, 130lbs. .....(Fujita) 1
Mr. Shigi's Katsuguruma (Late Asaguruma), 130lbs...(Mima) 2
Mr. Latham's Hanabusa II., 130lbs....(Fitzgerald) 3
Mr. News' La Presse, 118lbs.....(Asahi) 0
Mr. Shigi's Katsumi, 125lbs. .....(Tomozo) 0

Hanabusa was very fractious at the post and delayed the start considerably. On the raising of the tape, La Presse was first away and kept first position up the hill, being followed by Katsumi and Katsuguruma. On emerging from the hill, Katsumi worked into first place, with La Presse second and Hanabusa II. third. At the Shakespeare Hanabusa raced neck and neck with Katsuguruma. Navajo, now came up rapidly and challenging the leaders on the home straight passed them nearing the judge box and secured first place by three-quarters of a length, from Katsuguruma, Hanabusa being third, a half length behind. Time, 1.59 9/10.

No. 3 (Extra). Class C.—The JOCKEY CUP.—For N.R.C. SUBSCRIPTION CHINA PONIES.—Value Yen 250, with Cup for the Rider, and the Second to receive Yen 75. To be ridden by Members of the Club, or Visitors whose names must be sent in to the Committee before the Meeting and approved by them. Handicap. Distance One Mile.

Mr. States' Old China, 148lbs.....(Mr. Zahn) 1
Mr. Astral's Astral, 155lbs. .....(Mr. Mottu) 2
Mr. Burghdunum's Gemini, 131lbs. (Mr. F. L. Elliott) 3
Mr. Pickwick's All Mine, 137lbs...(Mr. K. Fisher) 0
Mr. J. E. B. de Courcy's The Corporal 140lbs. (Mr. J. de Courcy) 0

This, the principal event of the day, brought out only five runners. No less than four tapes were broken before the field was finally dispatched. Gemini dashed off with the lead, followed by Astral, but going up the hill, the latter took first place, The Corporal being third. At the top of the hill, The Corporal passed Astral, this position being kept along the straight, with All Mine third. Old China, who had been left at the post, now began to improve his position and at the Shakespeare made a bid for supremacy. At the trees the field was bunched, Old China, however, on the outside gaining rapidly. Coming down the home straight Old China raced to the front, eventually passing the judge's box a length ahead of Astral, Gemini being third. Time 2.30 1/10.

No. 4. (Extra). Class D.—For N.R.C. SUBSCRIPTION AUSTRALIAN HORSES AND SPECIALLY IMPORTED HORSES.—A Sweepstake of Yen 30, with Yen 300 added by the Club. Winner 75 per cent., and the Second to receive 25 per cent. Handicap. Distance One Mile and a Furlong.

Mr. Canuck's Tonic, 14 lbs. .....(Coffey) 1
Mr. Snipe's Melbourne II, 120lbs .....(Tamazo) 2
Mr. Latham's North Head, 132lbs.....(Fitzgerald) 3
Mr. Hansa's Olly, 112lbs. .....(Fujita) 0

Tonic was first away on the raising of the tape, North Head being second. The leader maintained this advantage going up the dip, Melbourne now taking second place. Olly ran into third place at the trees. On coming down the home straight, Melbourne II made a splendid bid for victory, but failed to catch the leader, who won an exciting race by a neck, the same distance separating the second and third. Time 2.04 2/5.

No. 5. Class A.—For N.R.C. SUBSCRIPTION AUSTRALIAN HORSES.—Value Yen 350, and the Second to receive Yen 100. For N.R.C. Subscription Australian Horses that have not won 3 races at date of entry. Weight for Age; Winners at date of entry to carry 3lbs extra for one win, 10lbs. extra for two wins. Winners at the Meeting excluded. Distance One Mile.

Mr. Norfolk's Persephone, 147lbs. .....(Coffey) 1
Mr. Kanagawa's Avant Garde, 147lbs.....(Jimba) 2
Mr. Nancho's Banri, 140lbs. .....(Nihonyanagi) 3
Mr. Prince's Staffa, 137lbs.....(Tamazo) 0
Mr. States' Nevada II, 140lbs. .....(Fitzgerald) 0
Mr. Silk's Kamikaze, 137lbs.....(Masajiro) 0

There was some delay at the post. Persephone got away with the lead, but Nevada was left badly behind. Up the dip Kamikaze changed places with Persephone, Banri being third. At the trees Avant Garde ran into first place with Kamikaze and Banri second and third. Turning the bend Banri secured second position, but on coming down the home straight Persephone came to the front and passing the other horses won by half a length, with Avant Garde second and Banri third. Time, 1.48 4/100.

No. 6. Classes B. & E.—For N.R.C. SUBSCRIPTION COUNTRY BRED HORSES.—Value Yen 300, and the Second to receive Yen 100. Handicap. Distance One Mile.

Mr. Tandem's Young Japan, 135lbs. .....(Shindo) 1
Mr. Tatsuta's Tsukiyo, 120 lbs .....(Nihonyanagi) 2
Mr. Latham's Maskee, 150lbs. .....(Fitzgerald) 3
Mr. Prince's Shikuho, 129lbs ....(Tomazo) 0

Four out of 11 entries came to the post. Young Japan secured the lead, but was passed up the hill by Tsukasa, with Maskee third. At the Shakespeare, however, Young Japan took first place, this order being maintained down the straight, the leader finally winning by a length from Tsukasa, with Maskee third, some two lengths behind. Time 2.01 1/10.

No. 7. (Extra). Class C.—For N.R.C. SUBSCRIPTION CHINA PONIES.—Value Yen 250, and the Second to receive Yen 75. Handicap. Distance One Mile and a Furlong.

Mr. May's Mr. May (late Piffle), 150lbs. ...(Ichi) 1*
Mr Jester's Chan Chan, 139lbs. .....(Tsubouchi) 1*
Mr. Canuck's Le Journal, 123lbs. .....(Asahi) 3
Mr. Astral's Smilax, 152lbs. .....(Mr. Mottu) 0
Mr. States' New Jersey, 155lbs. .....(Mr. Zahn) 0
Mr. Norfolk's Delaware II., 125lbs.....(Coffey) 0
Mr. J. E. B. de Courcy's The Corporal, 133lbs. (Mr. Easton) 0
Mr. Schwoab's Piccolo 125lbs. .....(Masajiro) 0
Mr. Pickwick's Tubby, 149lbs. .....(Fitzgerald) 0
Mr. Buggins' Fanay, 133lbs. .....(Mr. Dinsdale) 0

* Dead heat.

Ten came to the post out of 14 entries. Mr. May was the first away, Delaware closely following. Passing the stand the positions were reversed, with Chan Chan third. On going up the hill Mr. May again secured first place, Smilax being second and New Jersey third. Chan Chan got into first position at the Shakespeare, being closely followed by Delaware II. and Tubby. Turning the bend Mr. May worked into third position and then into second, and raced down the straight neck and neck with Chan Chan, a splendid race resulting in a dead heat, Le Journal, close up, being third. Time 2.33 1/5.

FOURTH DAY, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6.

The autumn meeting of the Nippon Race Club was brought to a conclusion on Saturday, in cold and cheerless weather. The attendance was again sparse, and only a handful of members with their wives witnessed the racing. A good day's card was provided and some excellent racing took place, notably in the first event, in which the winner established a record.

The following are the results:—

No. 1. Class A.—The AUSTRALIAN WINNERS' HANDICAP.—Value Yen 400, and the Second to receive Yen 100. For N.R.C. Subscription Australian Horses that have not won more than 14 races at date of entry. A forced entry for winners at the Meeting. Distance One Mile and a Quarter.

Mr. Norfolk's Persephone, 137lbs. .....(Mr. Coffey) 1
Mr. S. Minoda's Kokonoye, 140lbs.....(Kitago) 2
Mr. Tandem's Dorothy, 140lbs. (Mr. F. L. Elliott) 3
Mr. Silk's Midzuho, 142lbs. .....(Masajiro) 0

Dorothy was favourite for this race. On the raising of the tape, Persephone took the lead, but was quickly passed by Dorothy. Past the Grand Stand and up the hill, this order was maintained. No change occurred until the home stretch was reached, when Persephone and Kokonoye rushed up to the leader, whom they passed, the former winning by half a length, in the record time of 2.18 1/5, the previous record 2.19 32/100 having been made by Hitachi in November 1907.

No. 2. Class B.—The COUNTRY BRED WINNER'S HANDICAP.—Value Yen 350, and the Second to receive Yen 100. For N.R.C. Subscription Country Bred Horses of Spring 1909. A forced entry for winners at the Meeting. Distance One Mile.

Mr. Tandem's Young Japan, 136lbs. .....(Shindo) 1
Mr. States' Navajo, 130lbs. .....(Fujita) 2
Mr. Latham's Hanabusa II., 137lbs. ...(Fitzgerald) 3

A good start was effected, the horses getting well away together. Young Japan came to the front up the hill and held the lead throughout, passing the post half a length in front of Navajo. Hanabusa II. a length behind the latter. Time 1.57 2/5.

No. 3. (Extra). Class C.—The CHINA WINNERS' HANDICAP.—Value Yen 300, and the Second to receive Yen 100. For N.R.C. Subscription China Ponies. A forced entry for winners at the Meeting. Distance One Mile and a Furlong.

Mr. Jester's Chan Chan, 139lbs. .....(Tsubouchi) 1
Mr. May's Mr. May (late Piffle), 150lbs.....(Ichi) 2
Mr. Pickwick's Tubby, 143lbs....(Mr. A. L. Mottu) 3
Mr. States' Old China, 143lbs.....(Mr. M. Zahn) 0

Despite his weight Mr. May was fancied for this event. Chan Chan was first away, but gave place to Mr. May up the hill. No change took place until the the home straight, when Chan Chan drew out and won by a length from Mr. May, Tubby being third, two lengths further away. Time 2.31 4/5.

No. 4. Class A.—The AUSTRALIAN CONSOLATION.—Value Yen 240, and the Second to receive Yen 75. For N.R.C. Subscription Australian Horses that have not won more than 14 races at date of entry and have started at the Meeting and not won a race. Weight for Age with 5lbs. deducted. Winners at date of entry to carry 3lbs. extra for each win. Distance One Mile.

Mr. Kanagawa's Avant Garde, 138lbs.....(Coffey) 1
Mr. Nancho's Banri, 135lbs .....(Nihonyanagi) 2
Mr. Island's Mindoro, 144lbs .....(Sugiyama) 3
Mr. Rafale's Midinette, 138 lbs. .....(Fitzgerald) 0

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Mr. Rafale's Mistinguette (late Flip Flap), 138lbs. (Kashichi) o
Mr. Prince's Staffa, 132lbs.....(Tamazo) o
Mr. T. Ishiura's Tonami, 141lbs. .....(Masajiro) o
Mr. States' Nevada II., 135lbs. .....(Tujita) o
Mr. Takara's Mitsubiki, 147lbs. .....(Higaki) o
Mr News' Silencieuse, 132lbs. .....(Seikichi) o
Mr. Hansa's Penelope, 150lbs. .....(Mr. Mottu) o
Mr. R. Kimura's Asagiri, 141lbs .....(Mima) o

This was the largest field of the day, and there was much trouble in despatching the 12 starters. Mitsubiki secured the lead, Banri being second. At the top of the hill, Mitsubiki increased this lead to four lengths, Mistinguette, who had replaced Banri, being second. At the trees Mitsubiki was still holding premier position, but soon fell rapidly behind. Avant Garde come through on the outside in the home straight, and won easily by four lengths from Banri, Mindoro being third. Time 1.49 4/5.

No. 5. Class B.—The COUNTRY BREDS' CONSOLATION—Value Yen 200, and the Second to receive Yen 75. For N.R.C. Subscription Country Bred Horses of Spring 1909 that have started at the Meeting and not won a race. Weight for Age with 10lbs. deducted; Winners at date of entry to carry 5lbs. extra for each win. Distance Three Quarters of a Mile.

Mr. Shigi's Katsuguruma (late Asaguruma), 127lbs (Mima) 1
Mr. Shigi's Katsumi, 127lbs. .....(Tamazo) 2
Mr. Tatsuta's Tsukasa, 122lbs. .....(Nihonyanagi) 3
Dr. E. Wheeler's Joan, 122lbs. .....(Hirayama) o
Mr. News' La Presse, 122lbs. .....(Seikichi) o

Five out of eight entries faced the starter. On the raising of the tape, Katsumi rushed off with the lead, followed by Tsukasa, Katsuguruma being third. Joan was left at the post. Approaching the trees, Tsukasa ran into first place, with Katsumi and Katsuguruma second and third. In the home straight, the latter came through the field and won by a length from his stable campanion, Tsukasa being third. Time, 1.27 4/5.

No. 6. (Extra). Class C.—The ALL CHINA CONSOLATION.—Value Yen 200, and the Second to receive Yen 75. For N.R.C. Subscription China Ponies that have started at the Meeting and not won a race. Weight as per scale with 15lbs. deducted: Winners at date of entry to carry 3lbs. extra for each win, not exceeding 18lbs. in all. Ponies which have been placed Second at the Meeting 3lbs. extra. Distance one Mile.

Mr. Astral's Astral, 144lbs.....(Mr. Elliott) 1
Mr, Astral's Smilax, 150lbs. .....(Mr. Mottu) 2
Mr. J. E. B. de Courcy's The Corporal, 138lbs. (Tsubouchi) o
Mr. Burghdunum's Gemini, 132lbs. .....(Kachiki) o
Mr. Schwoab's Piccolo, 132lbs.....(Masajiro) o
Mr. Pickwick's All Mine, 141lbs.....(Shindo) o
Mr. Canuck's Le Journal, 132lbs. .....(Asahi) o

After some delay at the post, The Corporal jumped off with the lead and at the top of the hill was still leading, with All Mine second and Smilax third. This order was maintained till the Shakespeare was reached, when Smilax came into first place. At the trees the field was bunched, but down the home straight Astral came away from the field, winning easily from Smilax, who beat The Corporal for second place by a length. Time 2 12 2/5.

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION IN AMERICA.

The members of the Japanese commercial mission arrived at Pittsburg on the morning of the 5th instant, and immediately proceeded to Homestead to visit the Carnegie Steel Works, where they were entertained at luncheon. In the afternoon they inspected the famous Westinghouse works, where various kinds of electrical machines are manufactured The party and the Japanese Consul-General Mr. Mizuno were banqueted by the proprietors of these companies. After visiting various industries in the city the next day, they departed for Cincinnati.

On the 7th instant the party of Japanese business men arrived at Cincinnati. The Mayor gave them a luncheon at the Country Club, and delivered an address of welcome, to which Baron Shibusawa replied. In the afternoon, the party inspected the waterworks there, nearly completed, and attended a banquet in the evening. It is stated that Mr. Mizuno, the Consul-General, will return home with the mission.

On the 8th instant the members of the Japanese commercial mission visited various factories, schools, etc. in the city of Cincinnati and attended receptions held in the Chamber of Commerce and the Municipal Office. During the night the party left for Indianapolis.

THE CHAPMAN-ALEXANDER MISSION.

The opening mass-meeting of the Chapman-Alexander Mission was held at the Gaiety on the evening of the 8th inst. The main part of the auditorium was fairly well filled, some 300 persons being present. The leaders of the mission having been introduced by the Rev. T. Roseberry Good, Mr. Alexander conducted the musical portion of the service, the audience falling in cordially with the evangelist's unconventional methods. Dr. Chapman then held the attention of the meeting by an eloquent and impressive address, lasting not more than twenty minutes. The evangelist spoke of the necessity of true charity in a minister of religion, as a greater qualification than intellectual ability and of the need that all professing Christians should represent—and not misrepresent Christ—in their lives by their personal exemplification of love for their neighbours and for all mankind.

The service closed with the singing of the hymn "When I survey the wondrous Cross" and the Benediction pronounced by the preacher.

Audiences of satisfactory dimensions continue to attend the meetings of the Chapman-Alexander Mission at the Gaiety. On Monday evening Dr. Chapman gave an interesting address from II Kings, VI. 6, on the incident of "the lost axe-head," the axe-head being taken by the preacher as symbolizing man's power of doing good. Dr. Chapman was prevented by indisposition from speaking on Tuesday, but Dr. Ottman, another member of the party, gave an address on the subject of "Faith," from Hebrews XI.

YOKOHAMA ON THE OCCASION OF PRINCE ITO'S OBSEQUIES.

On November 4 the Government offices, banks, schools, leading business firms and other institutions, public and private, were closed during the morning and all flags were flown half-mast. All theatrical and other performances were abandoned. In the late settlement the Consulates, foreign banks and leading mercantile firms were closed and flags heavily craped were displayed. At 9 a.m. the warships in port, Japanese, American and Dutch, hung their flags half-mast and fired minute guns during the morning. All the flags of the vessels anchoring in the harbour, both Japanese and foreign, were also half mast high.

THE LIBERAL REVOLT.

DEFECTIONS ON ACCOUNT OF THE BUDGET.

The defections from the Liberal Party on account of the revolutionary character of the Budget and the Government's surrender to Socialism are increasing from day to day until the movement has reached the dimensions of a revolt. The rate at which it is growing, says the Parliamentary correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, is causing grave concern to the Government.

This concern is inspired not so much by the actual number of the seceders as by the fact that there are any dissentients at all in view of the extraordinary exertions which have been made to bring the disaffected Liberals into line.

Trouble began with the Liberal "cave" which Mr. Raphael led on the subject of the land taxes in the spring. Remarkable astuteness was shown by the Chancellor in quelling this insurrection The members of the "cave" were plied with remonstrances from their constituencies—how engineered only Mr. Lloyd George knows; the Budget League was formed under the ægis of the Prime Minister; and when both these resources had failed, Mr. Lloyd George granted concessions on precisely those points that were likely to knock the bottom out of the opposition of the protesting Liberals.

After the interview between the dissentient Liberals and the Prime Minister and Mr. Lloyd George, those who remained obdurate were appealed to not to dissociate themselves from their party in a critical time, and for the most part they succumbed.

Now, however, after all these efforts, the revolt has broken out afresh. On Monday a letter from Lord Joicey was published in the *Daily Mail* in which he declared himself against the Liberal Party and the Budget. The next day Mr. Carlyon Bellairs, one of the ablest of the younger Liberal Imperialists, definitely crossed the floor of the House of Commons, partly on account of the Ministers' naval policy, but mainly because the Budget is Socialistic in tendency, and an entire departure from the doctrines of the old Liberalism.

The *Westminster Gazette*, a Liberal organ, makes the following comment on Mr. Bellairs' defection:—

Mr. Carlyon Bellairs has resigned his membership of the Eighty Club, and that is understood to be preliminary to his crossing the floor of the House. No surprise is felt at his decision. The wonder is, indeed, that it has been so long delayed, for Mr. Bellairs has for long been entirely out of sympathy with a great deal of the policy of the Government. His crossing the floor will leave him an account to settle with his constituents at King's Lynn, who seem to have happened on a strain of members uncertain of their political faith. He had already announced that he would not be the Liberal candidate at the next election.

"THE FINEST FLIGHT."

MR. LATHAM IN A GALE AT BLACKPOOL.

Mr. Latham was awarded a prize of £300 on the 22nd ult. for the finest flight of the aviation meeting at Blackpool. In view of the dull and unfavourable weather, there were not more than three or four thousand present altogether. A correspondent of the *Daily Mail* gives the following interesting account of the flight:—

"Suddenly there arose a hum of excited expectation. Latham's machine was being wheeled out. Down it went towards the further end of the course, the wheels sinking deep into the soaked ground. Then it was turned about, and Latham climbed into his seat in the canoe body between the spreading wings. Evidently, then, he meant to try conclusions with the wind, which was blustering in from the sea, its strength varying from twenty-four to thirty miles an hour on the ground.

What would he do? Simply cross the starting line and go back to his shed? He could do that without a turn. Turning in such a breeze would be very difficult and dangerous. But see, they are hoisting a signal. Up goes also the sign of the *Daily Sketch* speed competition. Is he going to be mad enough to go round the course? Realise what a thirty-mile wind is. Even if it blows steadily it has great force. To day it is sweeping over the sodden land in heavy gusts, against which we find it sometimes difficult to keep our feet. Yet with that frail craft—in that mimic bird of wood and canvas—Latham means to trust himself in the air.

He seems to be courting certain death. The other aviators stand in groups and speak in low tones with grave faces. Yet Latham smiles and chats quite happily. He has less anxiety than anybody on the ground. The propeller whizzes, and he gives the signal to "let go." But the machine swings round to the left, the tail goes up. It must be pulled down and the monoplane started off once more.

This time it simply leaps into the air. It does not run along the ground at all. As soon as the mechanics release their hold it springs up. I have never seen such a start. At once it is evident to the least experienced spectator that Latham will have a stormy voyage. The birdlike monoplane sways violently from side to side. It plunges downward with alarming movements of its graceful tail. Now and then it almost stops and hovers, so violent is the wind against it.

Getting round the first turning point is a hazardous manœuvre. He swings wide of the mark. He seems to be heading straight out to sea across the sandhills. Then he works gradually round. Foot by foot he fights his way, and a great cheer breaks from dry throats—dry with fear for his safety—as he makes for the next mark.

Now, with the wind abeam, at the further pylon from the stands he has another struggle. As I watch him through my glass I can see both his hands busy all the time working the control. One false movement and he might come

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hurtling to earth with horrible impact. Though his teeth are set, for it is hard work driving in such conditions, his face is calm and even smiling. He sees a little group of friends standing near the pylon and waves his hand.

Now he has about twelve hundred yards with the wind behind him. His pace is terrific. A hundred miles an hour, some say. I should say about seventy five. His own engine speed is about forty; add the wind, about thirty-five, to that. At all events, he is whirled along at a speed greater than that of any express train. As he passes the stands, there is another loud demonstration. But mingled with the cheers there is an agonised cry of "Come down!" It is the voice of an Italian colleague who is shaking with emotion. "It is terrible," he says; "I am trembling for his life."

Again Latham goes through the same struggle to get round the course. The last lap he completed in 4min 45sec. This time his task is harder. The gale has increased. That it is blowing gustily we can tell by the fact that at one moment we hear plainly the whirring of the motor, while the next it is carried away on the wind. As he beats down away from us we see him small and more birdlike than ever against the grey cloud wrack. When he begins to turn, the wind gets its chance. It whirls him round completely. For a moment he is tail foremost. But patiently he works back into position, and seizing his opportunity slips past the mark.

Again that rush down the wind, again the struggle to turn which carries him this time over the heads of the public in the two-shilling stand and outside the course before he can round the mark. And then there is a shout, "He's coming down." Yes, he is gradually nearing the earth. He drops, then drives ahead, then drops again and goes straight on once more. This is repeated several times, and then he shuts off his engine and drops on to the grass with the lightness and ease of a seagull. The finest feat that has yet been achieved in an aeroplane is over. A great sigh of relief goes up audibly, and then a great cheer.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A PEKING despatch says that Mr. Tsao Ju-lin has been appointed Junior Secretary to the Wai-wu pu.

A SMALL body of Japanese emigrants to Peru, numbering 47 only, left Yokohama on Thursday by the *Hongkong Maru*.

ADMIRAL Count Kabayama left Tokyo on the 9th instant to attend the railway opening ceremony to be held at Kagoshima on the 20th instant.

A LONDON dispatch of the 3rd inst. says that Mr. Herbert Gladstone, the Secretary of State for Home Affairs, has been designated to be Governor-General of South Africa.

THE fire that occurred on November 4 in the compound of the Imperial Guards Commissariat barracks at Meguro, Tokyo, is said to have been due to incendiarism.

A NAGOYA despatch says that on the 7th instant, a fire occurred in the compound of a zoological garden in that city, resulting in all the animals in cages being burnt to death.

A LARGE party of American tourists, consisting of 330 persons, under the charge of Mr. Frank C. Clarke of New York, is expected to visit Japan in the beginning of January next.

ACCORDING to the *Mainichi*, the Kobe Harbour Office has decided to construct two buoys for vessels of over 20,000 tons in the next fiscal year. The cost of each will be over *yen* 10,000.

IT is reported from Shanghai that Mr. Wu, Secretary of Chinese Legation in Washington, has been appointed to act as Chargé d'Affaires in place of the Chinese Minister resident in Berlin, Mr. Yin Chao.

IT is reported from Rome that Professor Stiattesi has invented an instrument which is stated to indicate an approaching seismic shock several hours in advance. Recently the instrument was tried for the first time at the Florence Observatory. Eight hours after it had indicated the approach of an earthquake, the earthquake was felt at Florence, Venice, Trieste, Agram, and other places.

ON the 5th and 6th instant the districts of Morioka, Odate, Yonezawa, Sendai and Nagaoka were visited by the first snow of the season, which covered the ground to a depth of 6 inches. This is from three to five days earlier than last year.

A NAIROBI telegram quoted by the *Asahi* states that nothing has happened to Mr. Roosevelt or to any member of his suite. The party, it appears, were absent from their encampment when the rumour was spread, but they have all returned there since.

THREE employees at Ozaki station, on the Tokkaido line, were arrested on the 6th instant charged with stealing various articles from the goods vans. It is alleged that they have stolen cotton piece goods and others amounting to a considerable sum since March last.

LORD KITCHENER returned to Tokyo on the 11th inst. from the scene of the manœuvres After a few days, His Lordship will proceed to Kyoto and Nara, leaving the capital on the 16th, and after spending a few days in sight-seeing, he will leave Kobe for home on the 21st or 22nd instant.

ON Friday afternoon Mayor Mitsuhashi received the following wireless telegram from Commodore Tydeman, the commander of the Dutch Squadron which left this port at 3 p.m. yesterday:—"Mayor Mitsuhashi Yokohama Netherlands Captains and Officers wish good-bye.—Tydeman."

MR. SAITO, Chief of the Imperial Household Account Investigation Bureau, has been ordered to go to Europe to purchase the marriage requisites for Princess Fumi. He left Tokyo on the 12th inst. for Tsuruga, whence he will cross over to Vladivostock and then proceed to Berlin, Paris and London by way of Siberia.

ON November 6 a railway train near Toyohara Station on the Oshu line dashed into a military baggage wagon which was being drawn by horses across a railway crossing. One private was killed on the spot and four others were more or less severely injured. The accident is said to have been due to the negligence of a pointsman.

MR. LE QUEUX, the novelist, who is also the representative in England of the Republic of San Marino, the smallest independent State in the world, states that the Presidential elections there have resulted in the election of a noble and a peasant. There has been no prisoner in the San Marino prison for the past five years. Another good thing about San Marino is that there are no taxes.

AN Ottawa despatch of the 8th. ult says that at the close of an address by Captain Bernier before the Canadian Club that afternoon, describing his last trip North on the steamer *Arctic*, Sir Wilfrid Laurier declared that next spring the Government would send Bernier in the *Arctic* to the North again, with permission to go right to the North Pole and claim all lands for Canada lying north of the present known lands.

AN official report from Batavia says that on the 7th instant two Japanese were assaulted by a body of natives, who mistook them for members of the medical inspection staff belonging to the Dutch Government. One of the Japanese was killed on the spot and the other severely injured. A chancellor was immediately despatched by the Japanese Consulate to the scene of the assault. One of the natives has been arrested.

NOT a single passenger's life was lost upon the railways of the United Kingdom through accidents to trains during 1908. This, perhaps, is the most interesting feature of the report just issued by the Board of Trade on the subject of railway accidents. There has been only one previous year, 1901, in which there was a similar clean sheet, there having been an annual average of 21 passengers killed in the last decade. The number of passengers injured in 1908 was also much below the average, 283 instead of 626. The report shows that an average of one passenger is killed in 12,500,000 journeys, and one passenger injured in 570,049 journeys.

ARISING out of two automobile fatalities near Farningham, says a London despatch to the Peking *Daily News*, a charge of manslaughter has been brought against Mr. Clifton Robinson, son of Sir Clifton Robinson. He is charged with causing the death of Thomas Goulding and his wife, of Old Canning Town. The Gouldings were walking with their children in the road when a motor car driven by Robinson ran into them, killing husband and wife.

IN the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Friday afternoon, judgment, says the *Herald*, was delivered in the action brought by Mr. L. J. Healing, the representative of Messrs L. J. Healing & Co., Ltd., Yokohama, against Mr. A. H. Groom, representative and Director of the Oriental Hotel, Ltd., Kobe, claiming a sum of Y.6,202.63 for a lift supplied to the Hotel by plaintiff. The judgment was in favour of the defendant, the claim being dismissed with costs.

DR. OSCAR JENNINGS, in his book, "The Morphia Habit," just published by Balliere, Tindall and Co., makes the extraordinary statement that "one medical man out of four is a drug habitué, usually a morphinist; that the proportion of medical addicts to the total of cases is in some statistics as high as 90 per cent.; and that one-fifth of the mortality in the profession is said to be caused by morphinism." Dr. Jennings is evidently an authority on the subject of the morphia habit, but it is hardly to be imagined that an allegation of this kind is likely to pass unchallenged.

A REMARKABLE story of how a country squire prophesied his own death, and how an old legend came true, comes from the Meont valley, Hampshire and is told in a home paper of the 9th ult. It concerns the death of Mr. Campbell-Wyndham, J.P., at Corhampton House, Corhampton. On the death of his mother, on September 8th last year, Campbell-Wyndham succeeded to an estate to which the legend is attached that a male heir cannot live more than twelve months after taking possession of the property. For generations past there was no male heir, and the property changed hands in the female line until Mr. Whyndham succeeded to it. After he had entered on his heritage, Mr. Wyndham was taken ill within the year, and prophesied that he would die on the anniversary of his mother's death. That day fell on Wednesday, and he died a few minutes after midnight.

A DESPATCH from Rome under date of 26th ult., states that the Pope has been greatly moved by the tragic death of Signorina Annetta Sarto, his niece, who has committed suicide at Milan, according to the Rome newspapers, in an excess of religious mania. Signorina Sarto had been throughout her whole life of a deeply religious character, and recently, in consequence of certain eccentricities which she displayed, she had been closely watched by her friends. She became obsessed with the idea that, in order to obtain the prize of Paradise, she must purify herself while still on earth. She had been heard to declare that such purification could only be secured through fire. She would frequently shut herself in her room and remain devoutly praying throughout the whole day and after one such day of incessant prayer Signorina Sarto is stated to have saturated herself with petroleum and set fire to herself. When assistance arrived she cried: "Leave me alone; I am going to Paradise."

IT seems impossible that an armed robbery should be committed in Hongkong in the early hours of evening and just within hail of a police station, yet such an occurrence, says the *Daily Press* of the 25th ult., took place at a shop near the Sailors' Home on Friday. About 7.45 on Friday evening a man wearing a long silk coat entered the matting shop at 292, Des Voeux Road and asked the two fokis on the ground floor if their master was surnamed Li. Before they could answer nine others rushed into the place and

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seizing the two fokis gagged them and bound their hands with wire. Then going upstairs they did the same to the master and his brother and four fokis, whom they took by surprise. One of the robbers was armed with a revolver and four or five carried knives. They took the key of the safe from the master's girdle and opened the safe, from which they took $1,290. As the robbers were about to take their departure a visitor entered and he declined to be gagged. He knew something of the fistic art and put up a fight, but he was knocked *hors de combat* by the use of knives, being stabbed several times. The thieves have not been arrested.

In his report on the trade of Hankow in 1908, Mr. Sugden, Acting Commissioner of Customs, writes:—In the spring the wealthy Chinese, on the initiative of compradores of foreign firms, started the first Chinese race club. 10,000 taels were subscribed, and within two weeks a temporary course was laid out, ponies collected, and a meeting held with great enthusiasm. During the summer the club—capital, 100,000 dollars—laid out a property, given by one of its members, on the plain close to the city and concessions. It abandoned its autumn meeting after the first day's racing on account of the death of the Emperor. The club is run on the lines of the foreign club, gentlemen jockeys only being allowed. A most striking evidence of the change that is coming over China is afforded by these young men of the rich gentleman class riding out to train in the early morning and competing on race days—working hard, sacrificing personal comfort and old ideas, for the sake of sport and the honour of a prize—while the older generation, brought up to consider bodily exercise derogatory, watches, applauds, and enjoys itself thoroughly in an unrestrained manner utterly opposed to the ideas of a decade ago.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CRICKET GROUND.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—With regard to your leading article *re* the Cricket Ground lease, may I be allowed to point out that if the protest had been withdrawn the Japanese Authorities would have been willing to grant a smaller ground in a corner of the park but this would have been *of no use for a cricket or football ground.* Something the same size as the present piece is required. Therefore you can hardly blame the Members for making one more effort, even if practically hopeless, to keep the present ground. I do not think the Japanese will bear any ill feeling to the Foreigners for showing a little spirit; rather would they despise us for showing a lack of it.

However, seeing the hopelessness of the question, I think it would have been more to the purpose if the Committee had decided to buy their own ground elsewhere, even if it will take a good many years to prepare and get in the same condition. The Japanese Authorities might be respectfully asked if they would care to grant the Club something for the turf and Pavilion, such money to go towards the Cricket Club purchasing their own grounds, in Hommoku or elsewhere.

What would have been ideal would be the continuation of the present ground on the same arrangement as in effect at Kobe.

Yours faithfully, MOONRAKER.

Yokohama, November 6th, 1909.

[We do not understand that the proposed ground would be too small for cricket or football.—Ed. *J.M.*]

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Referring to your leading article on the Cricket Ground Question in Saturday's issue, it is unfortunate for your views, that you put forward the payment of rent as your strongest argument against the claims of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, because this is a point that I have reason to believe was eliminated from the discussion by a very able despatch of Mr. Rumbold's to the Japanese Foreign Office, and accepted by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, I understand, as a conclusive disposition of that phase of the question. This was the *strong* plank of the Japanese argument, and it having collapsed, it seems reasonable to hope that the other planks may be disposed of in like manner, and the claims of the Y.C. & A.C. ultimately proved to be both just and equitable. Don't you think you are going too far when you say that the original segregation of the Cricket Ground was a contravention of the old Treaties, in face of the fact that the ground set apart by international agreement entered into between the Japanese Government and six Foreign Representatives? Surely nothing could be more binding than that.

It may have been a contravention of the old Treaties on the part of the Japanese Authorities to grant a lease, but who can blame them for that, certainly not foreigners, because, as explained time and again, that was found to be the only convenient way of giving the Cricket Club the exclusive control of the Ground, which was recognised by the Japanese Authorities themselves as necessary to the preservation of the turf and properties in good order and condition.

I think you are wrong in suggesting that the Y.C. & A.C. declined to coöperate with the local Japanese Authorities; indeed it is a recognised fact that from the outset they were not only willing but anxious to do so, if thereby the present ground could be retained. And I have every reason to believe that if Japanese residents of Yokohama could be polled to-day, the vote of the majority would be in favour of the Cricket Ground being preserved just as it is, not only for outdoor sports, but because it has become indispensable to Yokohama for Japanese fetes, celebrations and public ceremonials of all kinds, to which its gates have never been closed by the Y.C. and A.C. As regards the two resolutions carried, for transmission to Sir Claude MacDonald, there should be no dilemma, because the final one overshadowed the other, and only with the last one, which was carried almost unanimously, need Sir Claude MacDonald concern himself. If he kindly accedes to the wish of the majority of the members of the Y.C. & A.C. by referring the question to Sir Edward Grey, he will earn not only their gratitude but the gratitude of the whole foreign community, and if the decision of the British Government is against the Y.C. & A.C. I am quite sure they will accept the decision gracefully, whilst recognising that Sir Claude MacDonald has done his best for them.

Yours, &c., J. P. MOLLISON.

THE LAW OF LIBEL IN JAPAN.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Recent comments in various journals on the verdicts of Japanese judges in libel suits against newspapers, reveal some peculiar ideas as to editorial rights and the nature of justice. If a man deliberately injures the good reputation of his fellow, all right-minded persons agree that he ought to be punished and prevented from further engaging in so nefarious a practice. Any departure from this standard means deterioration of civilization. Neither can there be much difference of opinion among honest men as to what constitutes libel. In a recent finding the Japanese judge contends that "if an article raises suspicion of the character of a person commented on in it, and injures his credit and reputation in the community, it is no other than libel." Such a judgment is eminently sane, a fair interpretation of the law, and worthy of the bench of the foremost judiciaries of the world. If a judiciary cannot protect citizens from such treatment as is here indicated, it becomes a travesty of justice. If through personal animus or to please the more depraved element of a community, an editor undertakes to traduce the good name of a citizen, and tries to make him despicable in the eyes of the public, he is a libeller of the first water, and should be liable to indictment in the court of any civilized country.

That the libellous editor is not more often brought before the bar of justice is probably due either to lack of funds for prosecuting libel suits, or to the conviction that the opinion of the libeller carries no moral weight in the community. It has been conspicuous in Japan for many years that missionaries, as a rule, take no account of the libels that appear against them from time to time in certain foreign journals. Most of them are more closely under the inspection of their superintendents than they are under the scrutinizing eye of the editor: hence libels against them carry little weight. If they are in any way open to censure it is easily known and they are dealt with accordingly by the proper authority. It may be taken as an axiom that no reliable person will make a statement to the personal injury of another without being able to prove the truth of such statement. To make such statements without proof is villainous to a degree, and punishment for libel is but a mild way of escape from the severer condemnation justly deserved. In most cases the private citizen can afford to ignore libel, on account of his large circle of friends who are his protection. Politicians and public men generally appear to ignore their libellers. The Mayor of Tokyo some time ago intimated that no amount of newspaper libel would induce him to reply. This is the feeling of a great many people unjustly spoken of in public; but it is a grave reflection on the veracity of some editors. It is well known that some editors have a genius for throwing a good deal of mud without directly infringing the law of libel. But when they are tempted across the line, it is encouraging to know it to be a fact that in Japan there is the same law against libel that prevails in all other civilized countries and that this law is no dead letter in Japan, as some newspapers appear to have fondly supposed. To-day Japanese judges may be ranked among some of the legal lights of the world. Their vindication of Japanese laws against the malappropriation of funds, the villification of private character, as well as their attempts to purge the country of the vice of gambling, is worthy of all honour and will command the respect of all loyal citizens. Certainly no more salutary lesson could be taught by the justiciary than to insist on newspapers distinguishing between honest, fair-minded criticism, and defamation of character. LEX.

PRINCE ITO'S ASSASSIN.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Cher Monsieur,—En parcourant votre journal ce soir, je suis frappé de l'insistance que mettent certains journaux de la capitale à répéter que le meurtrier du Prince Ito était Catholique. Est ce quelque esprit sectaire qui les y pousse? est-ce une tentative de chantage? Veulent-ils établir une connexion entre l'esprit de l'Église Catholique et cet acte de stupidité et de violence? S'ils y prétendent, c'est qu'ils supposent à leurs lecteurs une mentalité bien inférieure, et une logique de primitifs. Et en cela, ils ne font guère honneur à leurs compatriotes.

Que le meurtrier du Prince ait été ou non baptisé jadis dans une église catholique, qu'est-ce que cela peut bien faire à son cas? Si on veut à tout prix lui trouver une lignée spirituelle, on fera beaucoup mieux de le ranger parmi les assassins des Okubo et des Mori, et les *rônin* qui accomplirent jadis des *vendetta* objectivement stupides, bien que subjectivement ils s'imaginaient obéir au *bushidô*.

Il est bizarre que pour apprécier le cas du meurtrier en question, des journalistes japonais aillent chercher si loin, alors qu'ils pourraient trouver des éléments d'appréciation si près d'eux.

Veuillez agréer, Monsieur le directeur, mes salutations empressées.

MAKOTO.

Tokyo, le 8 Novembre, 1909.

SERIOUS COMPLAINT AGAINST SIBERIAN RAILWAY.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I shall be glad if you can find room to insert the enclosed extract of a letter received by a Yokohama lady, who, in company with another lady, recently travelled to Europe via the Siberian Railway. As will be seen from the letter, the arrangements for the accommodation of passengers are of the most primitive character, and it is to be hoped that the local agents of the railway company will do their utmost to secure a speedy abolition of this disgraceful condition of affairs.

Yours, etc., DISGUSTED.

Yokohama, November 11th, 1909.

(extract.)

"The first night after leaving Vladivostock, I woke up in darkness between 3 and 4 o'clock, feeling that the car was overturning. You cannot imagine anything so terrible! The car was swinging to and fro, and where should we be next? Fortunately we were near a station, and had the break on already. Later on we were told that the car simply slipped off the rails; the three in front, and the rest behind, were all right. I jumped out of bed and my heavy handbag fell over me, scraping my chin; then people came with lights, to see if we were crushed, but finding us alive they went away again, and left us in darkness. We barely managed to find some clothes to put on, and then we sat huddled up in a corner, as the car was too upset to enable us to stand or sit properly. At 7 a.m. we were told to take another car, and had our luggage and bedclothes with us. This was a Russian car, much smaller, and the whole day we had the bedclothes filling the cabin; there was nobody to put them in order, and there was nobody to whom one could apply for advice or service; everybody was cross and surly. When the evening came, the car had no light, of which our neighbours complained, with the result that we had to change cars again at Harbin. This time they did not bring our bedclothes along, and when we returned after dinner, there was for the night's comfort a leather-covered sofa, without cushions. No bedclothes were to be had, as they had run short on account of so many new arrivals in Harbin! One would think they would at least have as many bedclothes as they

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had beds! But we had to sleep in our clothes and the rugs we happened to have with us. During the following day, a passenger left the train, and his bedclothes and the sheets were brought to us. Naturally we protested strongly, the dirty servant (who looked like a ploughboy one might see at home) did not understand a word outside Russian, but as we took the sheets off as quickly as he put them on, he at last understood that they were not wanted, and went off in a rage with the sheets and bedclothes, so we fully expected to have another night on the bare sofa, but they brought us clean things later on. Altogether, it seemed as if we had to fight for every comfort, even for the food. From Irkutsk everything was all right; we changed again to an International Car, where everything was clean, and where we were given towels, and other comforts and good light. In the Russian car, we could neither see to read nor work during the evenings. The servants on the International Cars are not only polite, but they will answer the bell when one rings."

AN EXPLANATION.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—From certain private correspondence I have had I gather that the import of a note that appeared in my last Religious Summary has been entirely misunderstood, and that into the quotation made from the statements of the Rev. R. J. Campbell some persons have read an insult to their creed offered by me, the writer of the Summary. The note I refer to reads as follows:—

To Mr. Ebina belongs the honour of having demonstrated to the Japanese Christian world that a Congregational Minister can deny the Divinity of Christ, miracles, the orthodox teaching on sin, the atonement, and other so-called cardinal doctrines of Christianity, and still retain his office as a Christian pastor. The Rev. R. J. Campbell has done the same thing in London. He can say what he pleases without fear of excommunication by more orthodox Congregational Ministers. He says, "All our body of doctrine is so much useless lumber, and even worse, for it erects a false standard of Pharisaism." He gives the name of "superstition" to such doctrines as the second coming and the general resurrection. Referring to the doctrine of the Fall, with its bizarre statements about sin and death, he declares "Nobody believes these things. . . . . least of all the wealthy proprietors and editors of the orthodox religious press." He observes, "The God of the ordinary Church-goer, and of the man who is supposed to teach him from the study and the pulpit, is an antiquated theologian who made his universe so badly that it went wrong ever since. Why he should be the injured party in all the miseries that have ensued is still less clear. . . . . Faugh! It is all so unreal and stupid. This kind of God is no God at all." Yet Mr. Campbell gets his church filled and retains his pastorate. Public opinion is evidently on the move.—(Writer of Summary).

Let me explain this note. Its object is to show how terribly illogical and self-destructive certain Protestant Churches are. To me it appears that the liberty they allow will sooner or later prove quite fatal to their continuance as distinctive organizations. When I wrote "To Mr. Ebina belongs the *honour*, &c.," I wrote satirically. To me it does not seem honourable either for Mr. Ebina or for Mr. Campbell to occupy the places they now fill. I think they should do as I did, cut off their connection with bodies in whose fundamental teaching they no longer believe. It seems to me matter for profound astonishment that the English Congregational Churches should take no steps to expel Mr. Campbell from their communion. In quoting him as I did I simply wanted to show what truly outrageous things a man may say nowadays and still retain his pastorate in a Christian Church. The real truth is that public opinion is liberal enough in London to allow this to take place. There is no other explanation. So far from approving of Mr. Campbell's action I denounce it *in toto*. He had no business to speak as he did and still remain a Christian minister. His mind is evidently still in a very unsettled state and his conclusions are most illogical. He is very popular among a certain section of Church goers on account of his boldness and sensationalism. He still accepts certain theological hypotheses, while rejecting others. All his inconsistencies are well exposed in an Open Letter which appeared in the May *Literary Guide*. If your readers think that I endorse every sentence I quote from Japanese or others, it comes to this, that I can quote nobody. My note in this case draws attention to a remarkable sign of the times to which notice was called in a London paper a little time ago. It is this: in certain Churches a man may teach anything he pleases, and still retain his connection with the Church. If that is for the good of Christianity, for the good of the Episcopalian, Presbyterian, Methodist, Baptist, Congregational and other Protestant Churches established here and in England, so let it be. But my idea is that of the Roman Catholics and of certain eminent Protestant theologians, that to allow the freedom demanded by men of the Campbell and Ebina type means the final doom of orthodox Protestantism. I ventured to call attention to a *harmful, glaring inconsistency*. Whether this was a work of benevolence or a work of malevolence, I leave well-informed readers to decide. Into newspaper correspondence on the subject I decline to enter.

I am, yours, &c.,
WALTER DENING.

November 9th, 1909.

AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The Alumnae of the Soshin Jo-gakko (Mission School at 34 Bluff) held a concert in Van Schaick Hall on Saturday evening, to raise money to assist their Alma Mater in her undertaking to furnish better equipment for her work. They wish to thank the many unknown foreign friends who helped them so generously by buying tickets and by the contribution of money. The concert was a success. The Hall was filled early in the evening, so that only tickets for standing could be sold to those coming later.

SHINA SUZUKI,
Pres. of Alumnæ Association.

CHESS.

All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor, Japan Mail Office.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week at the Hotel de Paris, No. 80 Main Street, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

* * *

Solution of Problem No. 30

White.	Black.
1. Kt to Q 5	1. K takes Kt
2. Q to K B 5 ch	2. K to B 3
3. Kt to Q 8 mate	
	if 2. K to B 5
3. Q takes P mate	
	if 1. B to K Kt 4
2. B to K Kt 2	2. B to B 3 ch
3. Q takes B mate	
	if 2. P queens
3. Q to K 4 mate	
	if 2. Kt moves
3. B to B 3 mate	
	if 1. B takes B
2. B x P or B to Kt 2	2. Any
3. Q mates accordingly	

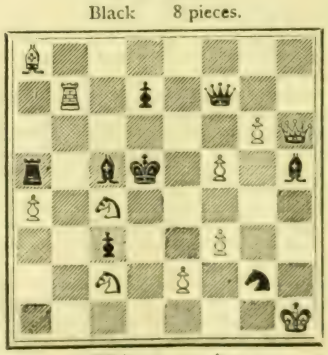
Correct solutions received from J. S. and Omega.

* * *

Commenting on the above problem Omega writes as follows:—"Main idea fair: but variations poor, with some duals on the second move. Not up to the usual Mortimer chop."

* * *

Problem No. 32.
By V. Marin.
Black 8 pieces.



White 11 pieces.

White to play and mate in three moves.

* * *

The attendance at the Yokohama Chess Club has not been very large this last month, and the President asks us to direct attention to the notification at the head of this column. Visitors will be cordially welcomed: and they will find some members present, ready and willing for a friendly tussle.

* * *

Game No. 30.—We give a new specimen of an old opening, recently played at the Scarborough Tournament.

Scotch Game.

White. Mr. Wainwright.	Black. Dr. Holmes.
1. P—K 4	P—K 4
2. Kt—K B3	Kt—Q B3
3. P—Q 4	P x P
4. K x P	Kt—K B3
5. Kt x Kt	KtP x Kt
6. B—Q3	P—Q4
7. Q—K 2	B—K 2
8. P—K 5	Kt—Q 2
9. Castles	Kt—B 4
10. P—K B4	Kt x B
11. P x Kt	B—B 4 ch
12. B—K 3	P—Q 5
13. B—B sq	Castles
14. Kt—Q2	R—K sq
15. Kt—K 4	B—B sq
16. B—Q 2	B—K 3
17. P—B 5	B—Q 4
18. B—Kt 5	Q—Q 2
19. Kt—B 6 ch	P x Kt
20. B x P	P—K R3
21. Q—Kt 4 ch	K—R 2
22. QR—K sq	B x RP
23. P—K 6	B x P
24. P x B	P x P
25. Q—K 4 ch	K—Kt sq
26. Q—Kt 6 ch	B—Kt 2
27. R—K 4	R—K B sq
28. R—Kt 4	R—B 2
29. Q x R P	QR—K B sq
30. QR—B 3	R x B
31. R x R	R x R
32. Q x R	P—K 4
33. Q—Kt 3	P—B 4
34. R—Kt 3	Q—K 2
35. P—K R4	P—Q B5
36. P—R 5	P x P
37. Q x Q P	K—R sq
38. Q—K 4	P—Q B 4
39. R—Kt 6	P—Q R4
40. R—Q B6	K—Kt sq
41. P—R 6	P—B sq
42. Q—Kt 6 ch	K—R sq
43. R—B 8	P—B5
44. R—K 8	Resigns.

TELEGRAMS.

(Reuter's Service.)

AERONAUTICS.

A record flight.

London, November 4.

Farman flew 144 miles at Mourmelon in a little over 4 hrs. 17 min. 53 sec. This is a record for an airship.

A fleet of three military airships of different types combined in the manœuvres between Cologne and Coblenz in a sham attack last night on the fortress of Ehrenbreithein.

THE EMPEROR MENELIK.

A paralytic seizure.

London, November 4.

The Emperor of Abyssinia has had a paralytic seizure. His condition is serious.

BRITISH POLITICS.

Date of general election announced.

Later.

Mr. Pease, the Chief Liberal Whip, in a speech at Hampstead, definitely announced that the General Election would take place in January.

Mr. Balfour and Mr. Ure.

There was a dramatic debate on the Budget last evening.

Mr. Ure passionately repudiated Mr. Balfour's charges against his honour. Mr. Balfour admitted that the language of his speech was of the strongest, but it had been made under provocation.

Mr. Asquith denounced Mr. Balfour's attacks on Mr. Ure as an outrage on public

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life. The Premier further expressed his surprise that Mr. Balfour had not apologised.

SIR ROBERT HART.

At the China Association banquet it was announced that Sir Robert Hart was returning to China, probably in the spring, but he may only stay a few weeks in order to adjust the difficulties regarding the appointment of his successor.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION BANQUET.

SPEECH BY MR. CHIROL.

Later.

At the China Association banquet, Mr. James Scott presided over a distinguished gathering, which included Sir Robert Hart, General Sir Alfred Gaselee, Sir Frank Swettenham, Sir J. McLeavy Brown, Sir Charles Dudgeon and Mr. Byron Brenan. The Chairman said that the position of the Association was most flourishing. Mr. Valentine Chirol, replying on behalf of the guests, said that Britain's position in China was not what it had been or ought to be. International coöperation must be on a footing of reciprocity and not, as recently, what savoured of sharp practice. Mr. Chirol eulogised Sir Robert Hart's work in the Chinese Customs. It was supremely important to maintain the present system, and there was some fear lest the British Government should be induced to acquiesce in a successor to Sir Robert who did not wield the same influence. Twenty years hence we should have to deal with a very different China. Not a jot or tittle of British rights could therefore be abated.

In conclusion, the speaker criticized the action of the British Government, and wished it would follow the same line as that taken by the American Government in the question of the loan.

A CURRENCY FOR HONGKONG.

London, November 5.

In the House of Commons, Col. Seely, Under Secretary for the Colonies, replying to Mr. Bryce on the question of a British or Chinese currency for Hongkong, said the Viceroy (of the Two Kwang) was taking satisfactory measures to deal with the matter. The Secretary of State had recently requested the Governor of Hongkong to report on the present position. On receipt of the report the Government will consider what steps should be taken.

LEADER OF GREEK MUTINY ARRESTED.

Lieut. Typallos and his companion Lieut. Demoules, both being attired in civilian clothes, were arrested at midnight on the Kiphisia road. They made no resistance.

GERMANY'S DREADNOUGHTS.

Later.

It is announced that the new German Dreadnoughts will have turbine propellers.

GAMBLING IN COTTON.

New York.—The break in the cotton market is due to the report that the speculator Patten is unloading.

BRITISH POLITICS.

BALFOUR ON TARIFF REFORM.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. Balfour said that tariff reform will be to the advantage of industries and workmen, whereas the Budget will undermine private property and destroy enterprises.

THE COMMONS AND THE LORDS.

Mr. Asquith, speaking in the Commons, insisted that the House of Commons alone has constitutional power to regulate the nation's finances, and that if this ancient supremacy be challenged—which he does not believe—no man sitting in the House would be unwilling to join issue.

BUDGET PASSES THIRD READING.

A MEMORABLE SCENE.

Later.

The third reading of the Budget has been passed by 379 votes to 149. Three Liberals abstained from voting and two voted with the minority. The Labourites solidly supported the bill.

It was a memorable scene. The floor and galleries were packed with people. Mr. Lloyd-George and Mr. Asquith received a great ovation.

THE GREEK MUTINY.

It is announced at Athens that Lieut. Typallos, the leader of the mutiny, will be tried for a political offence and will not be liable to the death penalty.

CHINA'S CURRENCY.

London, November 6.

Sir Edward Grey, the Foreign Secretary, speaking in the House of Commons, said he was glad to say that the Chinese Government had begun to move towards the improvement of the copper currency and had also framed regulations lately for the control of the issue of banknotes.

THE NEW YORK COTTON MARKET.

There is wild excitement on the New York Cotton Exchange. The losses ranged from 27 to 61 points on rumours that four of the leading bulls had liquidated their holdings at a profit of 13,000,000 dollars.

BRITISH POLITICS.

LORDS TO REJECT BUDGET.

The House of Commons has adjourned to the 23rd inst., after rejecting *en bloc* the House of Lords' amendments to the Irish Land Bill by 219 votes to 54.

The *Daily Telegraph* says that the Lords' rejection of the Budget is definitely settled, and will probably be moved by Lord Lansdowne.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

A luncheon was held at the Mansion House in connection with the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition.

Prince Arthur of Connaught was the chief guest, and there were also present Ambassador Kato, Mr. Yamaza and Count Mutsu, Secretaries of Embassy, the Duke of Norfolk, the Japanese Consul-General and other distinguished guests.

The Lord Mayor dwelt upon the King's interest in the Exhibition, and proposed the health of the Emperor of Japan and success to the Exhibition.

Prince Arthur of Connaught said he was confident that British merchants would realise the importance of the Exhibition and send exhibits worthy of the unique occasion.

Ambassador Kato said that Japan was doing its best to make the Exhibition a success, thereby drawing closer Anglo-Japanese political and commercial ties.

ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

Later.

Herr Dernburg, the German Colonial Secretary, who was the principal guest at a dinner given by the African Society in London, dwelt upon the community of Anglo-German interests in Africa and the necessity of a uniform policy towards the natives. The prestige of the white race must be maintained, he said, under all circumstances.

Colonel Seely, Under-Secretary for the Colonies, greeted Herr Dernburg on behalf of the Government. He said that the British and Germans had penetrated so deep into Africa that it would be a disaster to the whole world if strife arose.

LORD BERESFORD TO CONTEST MARYLEBONE.

Lord Charles Beresford has accepted an invitation to contest the Marylebone Division at the general election in place of Lord Robert Cecil. Lord Charles advocates tariff reform. Mr. Richard Jebb, who has been adopted by the rival Unionist Association, and who is also a tariff reformer, refuses to retire. Dr. Moon has been adopted as the Liberal candidate.

AMALGAMATION OF RUBBER COMPANIES.

It is reported from New York that the Continental Rubber Co. and the Intercontinental Rubber Co. have amalgamated under the title of the latter. The capital is forty million dollars.

BRITISH TRADE RETURNS.

London, November 7.

The increase of imports is £1,905,477 and that of exports, £923,192.

A NEW AERONAUTIC RECORD.

M. Paulhan, flying at Sandown Park, made a world's record. He reached an altitude of 977 feet.

OBITUARY.

Viscount Selby.

[The deceased, better known as the Rt. Hon. W. C. Gully, was Speaker of the House of Commons, 1895 to 1905.—ED. *J.M.*]

MUNIFICENT BEQUESTS.

The Scottish-American banker, John Kennedy, has bequeathed £7,000,000 to his relatives and £5,000,000 to charities, missions and universities.

NEW BRITISH NAVAL BASE.

London, November 8.

The *Observer* states that Scapa Flow, in the Orkneys, is intended as a naval base, thus crowning the policy of making the North Sea a British lake.

GERMANY AND MOROCCO.

Tangiers.—The Germans are pressing Morocco to settle their claims immediately and are urging the contract for a loan. The Sultan has replied evasively. His answer is considered highly unsatisfactory to all parties.

EFFICIENCY OF BRITISH NAVY.

Later.

Rear-Admiral Sir Percy Scott, speaking at a banquet in London, said that the Navy was never more efficient, and that the naval officials at the Admiralty, in spite of the most ferocious and odious attacks, had persevered in carrying out the necessary reforms. He also said that the loyalty of the officers was unshaken.

KING OF PORTUGAL'S TOUR.

The King of Portugal has started on an official tour to Madrid. Extraordinary precautions have been taken for his safety in Madrid.

THE KIEL SCANDAL.

As a result of the Kiel revelations on the 2nd inst., it was decided to reorganize the German Naval yard on a commercial basis.

A WISE MEASURE.

The French Minister of War proposes legislation for the exclusion of all criminals from the French army. Eleven thousand of such men were enrolled in the conscription last October.

GERMANY'S FOREIGN POLICY.

London, November 9.

Count Bernstorff, German Ambassador at Washington, addressing the Academy of Science at Philadelphia, defined Germany's

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foreign policy as purely commercial, without territorial ambitions. Germany, he said, was the first to side with America on the occasion of the new departure in Chinese affairs, and had proved always ready to adhere to the open-door principle, even at the expense of sacrificing some temporary advantages.

BIRTHDAY HONOURS.

The Birthday honours include :—Colonel Seely (Under Secretary for the Colonies) and Admiral Sir Edward Seymour, to be Privy Councillors: Knighthoods have been conferred on Dr. Robertson Nicoll, the well-know Nonconformist literateur, Lieut. E. H. Shackleton, the famous explorer, and the Hon. W. J. Napier, ex-Attorney-General, Straits Settlements; Sir Frank Swettenham receives the Grand Cross of St. Michael and St. George, and Mr. May, of the Hongkong Service, has been made a Commander of the same Order.

KING OF PORTUGAL'S TOUR.

King Manuel of Portugal has arrived at Madrid. He drove to the Palace accompanied by King Alfonso.

COAL-MINERS' STRIKE IN AUSTRALIA.

Later.

It is reported from Sydney that twelve thousand coal miners in the Newcastle and Maitland districts have struck work. The struggle is expected to be a protracted one. Retailers have already doubled the price of coal. It is feared the situation may become serious, and the trade in wool and wheat may be seriously hampered. It is suggested that coal may be obtained from Japan.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of Mr. Lionel Brough, the well-known comedian, who was born in 1836.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

The House of Lords has formally passed the first reading of the Budget.

THE LORDS AND THE COMMONS.

Later.

The House of Lords has rejected the London Elections Bill, making London a single parliamentary borough.

CANADA'S NAVY.

The Dominion Cabinet has decided that the Naval Bill, to be introduced this session, will provide for the construction of three second-class cruisers and four destroyers.

THE KIEL SCANDALS.

London, November 10.

A storm of indignation has been raised in Germany about the Kiel scandals. It is comparable with the outburst resulting from the Kaiser's interview with the *Daily Telegraph's* correspondent. An enquiry into the mismanagement of naval affairs has been demanded. The Kaiser has given audience to Admirals Tirpitz, Fiscthel and Müller on the subject.

BRITAIN'S POSITION IN CHINA.

In the House of Lords, Earl Stanhope asked (1) whether, in view of German claims to participate in the construction and financing of railways in the Yangtse valley, Great Britain had recognized German's exclusive railway and mining rights in Shantung; (2) whether, in view of similar claims being put forward by Russia in the Yangtse provinces, the Anglo-Russian Convention of 1899 with regard to railways had been abrogated, and whether Great Britain was able to claim equal opportunity on the north of the Great Wall; (3) whether or not it was desirable to determine the geographical limits of Japan's veto on China's measures to develop western Manchuria and Mongolia.

The Earl of Crewe, Secretary of State for the Colonies, answered: (1) with regard to the first question, Great Britain had not given Germany any assurance in the sense indicated; (2) the participation of Russia in railway enterprises in the Yangtse valley was confined to a loan unsecured by any mortgage on the line. The loan did not appear to contravene the Anglo-Russian Convention. The Government did not anticipate any similar British participation in railway enterprises north of the Great Wall. On the occasion of the protest on the part of Russia, it was important to remember the great change which had taken place in China since the Anglo-Russian Agreement. Also, it was important to remember that all new roads would be under the control of the Chinese Government; (3) The answer to the third question was that, as the matter stood, it was entirely one for arrangement between China and Japan.

THE BUDGET CRISIS.

The Times understands that the Opposition in the House of Lords will move a resolution that, in the opinion of the House, issues so serious as those of the Budget can not be passed without consulting the country.

ADMIRAL FISHER.

A peerage has been conferred on Admiral of the Fleet Sir John Fisher, G.C.B., O.M., First Lord of the Admiralty since 1905.

THE LORD MAYOR'S BANQUET.

Later.

At the Guildhall Banquet Mr. Asquith said that the political situation was brighter than it was last year. He knew of nothing standing in the way of a full and friendly understanding with Germany. He referred to the spontaneous association of the Government and people of England in Japan's mourning for her illustrious statesman, Prince Ito.

SVEN HEDIN.

Among the recipients of birthday honours is Dr. Sven Hedin, who has been made Companion of the Order of the Indian Empire.

THE COAL-STRIKE IN AUSTRALIA.

London, November 11.

Sydney.—As a result of the coalminers' strike in the Newcastle and Maitland districts, coal has risen to fifty shillings a ton. The P. & O. Steamship Company are preparing to import large quantities of coal from Japan.

PANAMA CANAL TO BE FORTIFIED.

A Washington telegram states that a joint board of Army and Navy officers has been appointed to visit the Panama Canal to study means for fortifying the Canal.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

RUSSIA IN THE FAR EAST.

London, November 4.

Peking.—Information concerning M. Kokovtsoff's mission to Manchuria indicates that the policy of the Russian Government continues to be hampered or influenced by the bureaucratic element. The Chinese Eastern Railway Company was reluctant to surrender its former dignities and privileges. The Government's efforts to introduce regular Consular authority in Manchuria had been neutralized by divided counsels at the St. Petersburg Foreign and Finance Ministries.

WOMAN SUFFRAGE IN AMERICA.

New York.—President Taft says that he does not favour woman suffrage. While not convinced that all women desire the suffrage, the President said that when they do so, they can have it.

REBEL LEADER TAKEN.

London, November 5.

Athens.—The rebel reader (Lieutenant Typallos) has been captured. He declared that he intended to surrender voluntarily, in order to clear his character.

DISAFFECTION ON GREEK WARSHIP.

Symptoms of insubordination on the Greek ironclad *Hydra* have been checked by the captain admonishing the crew.

JAPANESE-AMERICAN RELATIONS.

London, November 5.

New York.—Mr. Knox, U.S. Secretary of State, in welcoming the Japanese Commercial Mission at a banquet given in Washington, paid a high tribute to the late Prince Ito, who, he said, was a noble and self-sacrificing patriot and statesman of masterly constructive ability. While warning the Japanese that they must expect keen and friendly trade competition with America, Mr. Knox dwelt on the necessity of peaceful intercourse, settling differences by arbitration, gradually realizing the noblest ideals for the unity, concord, and prosperity of the world.

A QUESTION OF PRICE OF FLOUR.

Geneva.—The failure of the Swiss Government to arrange with Germany a uniform price for the sale of flour is seriously affecting the Swiss millers, and there is much danger to Switzerland who is dependent on Germany for wheat and flour.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

The House of Commons has carried the third reading of the Finance Bill by a majority of 230.

The crucial debate on the second reading in the House of Lords begins on the 22nd inst.

The country is preoccupied with the probability of a general election in January next, should the Lords reject the Bill. There are indications everywhere of the difficulty of making up the popular mind on this momentous question.

GREEK AFFAIRS.

London, November 6.

Athens.—The senior naval officers are indignant with the new law shortening the age limit. They are, however, not likely to take further steps, as the Chamber is voting all bills at lightning speed.

CANADIAN PREMIER ON ARMAMENTS.

London, November 6.

Ottawa.—Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Premier replying to anti-militarist resolutions passed by the Quebec Trades Congress, declared that it was as impossible to do without armies and navies as without police. It had been decided to have a Canadian Navy in order to defend their rights and to assist the motherland, if required.

GERMANY AND MOROCCO.

London, November 8.

Tangiers.—The Sultan's reply to the German demand for the payment of his creditors is vague and unsatisfactory.

GUN-RUNNING IN PERSIAN GULF.

Bombay.—A British cruiser has captured 1200 rifles and 120,000 rounds of ammunition from gun-runners in the Persian Gulf.

PERSIANS CROWN JEWELS TO BE PLEDGED.

Teheran.—The Cabinet and the Deputies at an extraordinary council agreed to pledge the Crown jewels, to provide funds for the expedition to Andebil, where much slaughter and pillage are going on.

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SPANISH MILITARY APPOINTMENT.

Barcelona.—General Weyler of Cuban notoriety has been appointed the new Captain-General. He hopes by holding out the olive-branch and by the military code in his hands to restore order in Catalonia.

THE CAMPAIGN IN MOROCCO.

London, November 8.

A telegram from Melilla states that the Spaniards have begun active operations and are occupying the lower portions of Mount Gurugu.

CANADA TO RETALIATE AGAINST AMERICAN TARIFF.

An Ottawa telegram states that the Canadian Government is about to take measures of retaliation against the drastic provision of the American tariff imposing a tonnage duty on Canadian ships entering American ports.

THE UNREST IN PERSIA.

A St. Petersburg telegram states that, despite the pillaging at Ardebil, the Russian Consulate, foreign residents, and 2,000 refugees are safe.

AUSTRIAN PRESS ON GREEK AFFAIRS.

Vienna.— A portion of the Austrian Press has begun an inexplicable campaign, proclaiming the hopelessness of the Greek outlook and the certainty of the dethronement of the King.

JAPANESE SECURITIES.

London, November 9.

On the London Stock Exchange Osakas are notably weak. There is a small sale of Japanese 4 and 4½ per cent. bonds.

THE GREEK NAVAL MUTINY.

Athens.—The Greek War Minister, in a manifesto, thanks the Army for its loyalty and patriotism in connection with the naval mutiny.

THE IRISH PARTY.

London, November 9.

New York.—The British Commoner, Mr. T. P. O'Connor, declares that no combination can prevent the Irish party being masters of the situation in the next parliament.

MOROCCO.

Madrid.—The General commanding at Melilla states that the principal object of the campaign has been achieved. He is confident that the natives have been taught an effective lesson.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

London, November 10.

Constantinople.—The Government has requested Greece to take urgent measures to prevent a notorious brigand band from invading Epirus.

THE GUILDHALL SPEECH.

The Premier's prediction, in the course of the Guildhall speech, that Ito will always find a place among the rare men honoured by history as the Architects of great nations was greeted with cheers, as was likewise his tribute to Ito's prescient patriotism and untiring self-sacrifice

JAPANESE SECURITIES.

London, November 11.

On the London Stock Exchange the Osaka Municipal Bonds have partially recovered from their fall.

AMERICAN PRESS AND CANADA'S NAVY.

A New York telegram states that the majority of American newspapers are favourable to Canada's resolve to build a navy. The *New York Herald*, however, foresees a situation, which, by Canada being tied to the naval power of Britain who in turn is tied to Japan by an alliance against the world, will become a menace to the harmony of the American continent. This may entangle America in war and give Japan the mastery of the Pacific.

JAPANESE SECURITIES.

Later.

On the London Stock Exchange there is a steady investment in and demand for Japanese securities.

THE PANAMA CANAL.

A New York telegram states that the Culebra Cut, the backbone of the Panama Canal scheme, has been half completed and will be totally finished in four years.

[Seven years was the period estimated for the completion of the Culebra section of the Canal and eight years for the construction of the dam and locks at Gatun.—ED. *J. M.*]

("DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST" SERVICE TO THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

THE REICHSTAG.

Berlin, November 5.

The Reichstag will begin its new session on Nov. 30th, when the Kaiser will open it with a speech from the throne.

PROPOSED TREATY WITH GREAT BRITAIN.

The *Kreuz Zeitung*, the official organ of the Conservatives, pleads for the conclusion of a Treaty between Great Britain and Germany, by which both Powers should guarantee one another the unimpeachable *status quo* of their possessions.

M. KOKOWTZOW.

It is reported from St. Petersburg that the journey of M. Kokowtzow, the Russian Minister of Finance, to Tokyo had to be given up owing to differences with M. Iswolski, the Minister for Foreign Affairs.

CRETE.

Berlin, November 7.

The Cretan question presses for a speedy solution with respect to the difficulty of the situation at Crete and demands the opening of negotiations as to the autonomy of the island.

MOROCCO.

An armistice has been concluded between the Spaniards and the Kabyles in Morocco. Spain demands the cession of certain districts at the Rif.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to Oct. 20th and Oct. 22nd, arrived at Berlin on Nov. 5th and Nov. 7th respectively.

MR. ROOSEVELT.

The rumour, which has been spread that ex-President Roosevelt has been killed on a hunting expedition in Africa, is not verified up till now.

HERR DERNBURG.

Herr Dernburg, the German Secretary of State for the Colonies, has been honoured at a banquet, given to him, when in London, by the African Society. In a speech, made by him on this occasion, he emphasized the common interests of Great Britain and Germany in Africa.

JAPANESE MILITARY INVESTIGATORS.

The Japanese Military Mission, now on a round tour of inspection in Europe, under the leadership of Colonel Hongo, will go for ten days to Moscow and St. Petersburg.

GERMANY.

An East Asiatic Museum of Art has been inaugurated at Coeln.

The third son of the German Crown Prince has been baptised.

Berlin, November 8.

Herr Dernburg, the German Secretary of State for the Colonies, now in London, expressed himself very confidently as to the solution of the Congo question.

FRANCE.

M. Pichon, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, is pressing Mulai Hafid, the Sultan of Morocco, for a final decision as to the loans of the State.

TURKEY.

The Sublime Porte is still hesitating to concede the English shipping monopoly at the Euphrates and Tigris rivers in Mesopotamia.

PORTUGAL.

King Manuel of Portugal has started on his visiting tour to Madrid, Paris and London.

CHINA IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Berlin, November 9.

Earl Stanhope, speaking in the House of Lords, demanded a declaration of the Secretary of State for the Colonies as to the position of Great Britain with regard to the railway question in the Yangtse Valley and of Germany in Shantung. Earl Crewe, the Secretary of State for the Colonies, replied that Great Britain had recognised the exclusive position of Germany as to mining and railway rights in Shantung. Earl Crewe, replying to a further interpellation as to the position of Great Britain north of the Great Wall, also stated that since the conclusion of the railway agreements between Great Britain and Russia, and between Great Britain and Japan, all new lines were put under control of the Chinese Government, which must be taken as a great change of the former state of affairs. According to the above declarations of Earl Crewe, it must be accepted that the standpoint of the Secretary of State for the Colonies is to maintain the "open door" policy in the Yangtse Valley as well as in Shantung.

HERR DERNBURG AT LIVERPOOL.

The Chamber of Commerce at Liverpool has given a banquet in honour of Herr Dernburg, the German Secretary of State for the Colonies, now on a visit to England. The President, in his speech on this occasion, expressed the strong hope of a final settlement of all misunderstandings prevailing between Great Britain and Germany. He also ridiculed the idea of a war between the two countries. Herr Dernburg, replying to this speech, said that the German people were animated by the best wishes towards their neighbours. He also expressed the hope that both States would act conjointly in the settlement of the Cotton question.

THE BOSNIAN ANNEXATION.

A Communiqué of M. Iswolski, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, in which he severely blames Freiherr von Aehrenthal, the Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs, for the annexation of Bosnia, is strongly objected to, even by the Russian Press.

TURKEY.

The Turkish Government plans to open Turkish seas for free shipping commerce.

COLLIERS' STRIKE THREATENED.

The breaking out of a very serious strike of the miners in Australia is feared.

SCHILLER CELEBRATIONS.

Berlin, November 10.

In remembrance of the 150th anniversary of the birthday of Schiller, national celebrations have been held everywhere in Germany.

COUNT ZEPPELIN.

Count Zeppelin has been honoured with the Gold Medal of the French Academy of Science.

AIRSHIP INVASION IMPRACTICABLE.

State Councillor Dr. Martin, who has won a name by many publications on the political importance of the motor airship science and who is the originator of the idea of an

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invasion of England by airships, in a new work on the same topic, has withdrawn his original ideas as absurd and impossible to be carried out.

THE COLLIERY STRIKE.

Conferences between employers and workmen are taking place in Australia as to the object of the mining strike. Failing a compromise a general strike will be proclaimed.

FRANCE.

A rumour is being spread in France, which, however, is not confirmed up to now, that President Fallières will resign in January next.

GERMAN WAR SCARE "A PIECE OF MADNESS."

Mr. Macara, the President of the Manchester Cotton Association, speaking at a banquet at Manchester in honour of Herr Dernburg, the German Secretary of State for the Colonies, said that the idea of a war between Germany and Great Britain was a crime on both nations. Herr Dernburg, in his reply, said that the whole panic of invasion must be called a piece of madness.

Mr. Asquith, the British Premier, speaking at the banquet at the Guildhall, in celebration of the King's birthday, expressed the wish of full understanding and friendship being arrived at between Great Britain and Germany.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

THE EMPEROR'S BIRTHDAY AT WASHINGTON.

Washington, November 3.

The Japanese Emperor's Birthday was celebrated this morning at the Embassy here, and in the evening Mr. Matsui, the Acting Ambassador, gave a banquet. At the latter, Mr. Knox, Secretary of State, and Mr. Ballinger, Secretary of the Interior, referred to the amicable relations existing between Japan and America.

U.S. MINISTER AT PEKING.

San Francisco, November 3.

It is reported that though Mr. Fairbanks, the ex-Vice-President, has been recommended as Minister to Peking, he will not accept the post.

A PROTEST.

Seoul, November 4.

Archibishop Mutel of the Roman Catholic Church has published a protest in the *Seoul Press* that the assassin of Prince Ito is not a Roman Catholic, as stated by Japanese papers, and that there is no association for an anti-Japanese boycott among the native Catholics.

EX-EMPEROR AND THE STATE FUNERAL.

The ex-Emperor visited the Resident-General at 10 a.m. to day to express his personal condolence in connection with the State funeral of the late Prince Ito. The Grand Chamberlain was also despatched by the Emperor on a similar mission.

THE OBSEQUIES OF PRINCE ITO.

All the business houses and stores closed to-day as a mark of respect to the late Prince Ito, and the flags were at half mast throughout the city.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

Shanghai, November 4.

The Wai-wu-pu and the Russian Legation in Peking have had several negotiations relating to railway construction in Kinchow, which China had agreed upon with a British syndicate. Russia also desires to participate in the undertaking.

THE "THIRD" AT SHANGHAI

The celebration of the Japanese Emperor's Birthday held last night was a great success. The Belgian Consul-General, doyen of the Consular Corps, proposed the health of H.M. the Emperor of Japan, and the Japanese Consul-General proposed that of the Sovereigns and the Presidents of the different Powers.

To-day the flag was at half mast at the Japanese Consulate-General as a mark of respect to the late Prince Ito.

THE LATE CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

Peking, November 4.

Yesterday morning the coffin of the late Grand Secretary Chang Chih-tung left here for the native province of the deceased, amidst a large crowd of mourners and spectators.

THE LATE PRINCE.

Seoul, November 6.

Subscriptions for the erection of a statue and a monument to the late Prince Ito are being invited and contributions are being collected.

THE OBSEQUIES OF THE LATE PRINCE.

The Resident-General, Viscount Sone, went yesterday to the palace of the Korean Emperor and the ex-Emperor to tender his thanks for the courtesies shown by them on the occasion of the State funeral of the late Prince Ito.

THE LATE EMPRESS-DOWAGER.

Peking, November 6.

The Diplomatic Corps here paid a final tribute to-day to the casket containing the remains of the late Dowager. The bier is to be carried out of the capital on the 9th inst.

A SPECIAL MISSION.

Dairen, November 7.

Major-General Akashi arrived here this morning from Chemulpo on a special mission.

HULBERT NOT ALLOWED TO LAND.

Mr. H. B. Hulbert arrived here this morning from Chemulpo, but the Government authorities would not allow him to land.

A BANK IN DIFFICULTIES.

Harbin, November 8.

The China Bank, the only organ of monetary circulation in the district of Ninguta, has little credit as the result of an excessive issue of bills. This has resulted in a panic in financial circles, and many large firms have suspended business since the 5th inst. The value of the notes issued is said to amount to 5,000,000 taels.

REDUCTION OF DUTIES.

The Russian Minister of Finance, acceding to the request of traders, has promised to reduce the rate of duty on goods in general. Certain goods are to be free of duty at once. The Minister is expected to leave here for St. Petersburg to-day.

MR. HULBERT.

Dairen, November 8.

Mr. H. B. Hulbert was allowed to land to-day. He is, however, being shadowed by the police.

THE EX-EMPEROR STILL PLOTTING.

Seoul, November 8.

It is reported that on the night of the 6th instant the Korean ex-Emperor summoned the members of the Bin family to the palace and had a secret conference with them for a long while.

ILLNESS OF RESIDENT-GENERAL.

Resident General Viscount Sone, who has been confined to his house by illness for a few days, became worse to day.

KOREAN POLITICS.

November 9.

The Sokpohhak hoi has memorialized the Residency-General, demanding Yi's release. The Society is strongly opposed to the Korean Emperor's visiting Japan.

THE ANTI-JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Antung, November 9.

The anti-Japanese boycott here has completely ceased. The sale of Japanese goods is gradually increasing.

KOREANS EMIGRATING.

Vladivostock, November 9.

Since the assassination of Prince Ito, the number of Koreans coming to this district has gradually increased.

CHINESE CLAIM INDEMNITY.

The Chinese who suffered injuries on the occasion of the disturbances here, have claimed an indemnity of 2,000,000 roubles. The Russian Government has paid some 500,000 roubles.

THE LATE DOWAGER-EMPRESS.

Mukden, November 9.

Viceroy Hsi, with the Governor of Mukden, laid a tribute to-day at the mausoleum of the late Empress Dowager. All the schools were closed, and the town was in mourning.

CONSUL-GENERAL'S MISSION.

Mukden, November 10.

The Japanese Consul-General Mr. Koike went to-day to Peking. His mission is to make arrangements as to the colliery tax at Fushun and the frontier question.

KOREAN ENVOY RETURNS FROM JAPAN.

Seoul, November 10.

The Korean envoy and his suite returned from Japan last night. The envoy immediately proceeded to the palace to submit a report to the Emperor. The messenger sent by the ex-Emperor also repaired to His Majesty's palace on a similar errand.

THE LATE PRINCE.

It was decided at the Cabinet Council held on the 8th instant that the sum of 100,000 *yen* should be presented to the family of the late Prince Ito.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer		Date
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of India	F	Nov. 12
Tacoma	B. L.	Aymeric	F	Nov. 12
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru 1	F	Nov. 12
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	F	Nov. 12
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Sa	Nov. 13
Europe	N. D. L.	Kleist	M.	Nov. 14
Europe	M. M.	Ernest Simons	W.	Nov. 16
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru 2	Sa	Nov. 20
Hongkong	P. M.	Mongolia	Tu	Nov. 23
Portland	P. & A.	Henrik Ibsen	W.	Nov. 24
America	P. M.	Siberia 3	F.	Nov. 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Su	Nov. 28
Hongkong	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru	M.	Nov. 22
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Su.	Nov. 28
Hongkong	B. L.	Kumeric	Tu	Nov. 30
Hongkong	P. & A.	Selja	Th.	Dec. 9

1 Left Hongkong on the 9th inst.
2 Left San Francisco on the 2nd inst.
3 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of India	F. Nov. 12
Europe	M. M.	Armand Behic	Sa Nov. 13
Hongkong	B. L.	Aymeric	Sa. Nov. 13
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	Sa. Nov. 13
Tacoma	B. & S.	Bellerophon	Sa Nov. 13
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of China	Su Nov. 14
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Yamaguchi M.	Su Nov. 14
Hongkong	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	M Nov. 15
Australia	N. Y. K.	Nikko Maru	M Nov. 15
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	Th Nov. 18
Europe	N. D. L.	Kleist	Sa Nov. 20
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su Nov. 21
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru	W Nov. 24
Europe	N. Y. K.	Sado Maru	W. Nov. 24
America	P. M.	Mongolia	W Nov. 24
Hongkong	P. & A.	Henrik Ibsen	Th. Nov. 25
Hongkong	P. M.	Siberia	Sa. Nov. 27
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	M. Nov. 29
America	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Tu Nov. 30
America	C. R.	Amiral Oily	M Dec. 2
Tacoma	B. L.	Kumeric	W Dec. 1
Portland	P. & A.	Selja	F. Dec. 10

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VICAR COMMENDS CUTICURA

Which Brought Him Relief from Affection of Face and Forehead —Tried Several Other Remedies and Consulted Two Physicians.

IN MIDST OF BUSY LIFE SENDS LETTER OF PRAISE

DUNKIRK VICARAGE, FAVERSHAM,
July 10, 1907

"*Dear Sir:*—I am very busily engaged in preparation for the reopening of our parish church which has delayed my reply to your recent letter. I may tell you that I have been vicar of this parish since January 1854, and am now in my eighty-fifth year. My ailment affected my face and forehead. It commenced five or six years ago and I had recourse to several remedies and consulted two physicians. After a while I happened to read an advertisement about Cuticura and determined to give it a trial. So I began with the Cuticura Soap, then purchased Cuticura Ointment, then added the Resolvent, for which I have substituted the Pills. Now I consider myself virtually cured and neither trouble doctor, nor myself, nor any one else about skin affections. I have much pleasure in recommending Cuticura Remedies. I use no other soap but Cuticura for my face and hands.

"Yours very truly, W. J. Springett."

ECZEMAS

And Other Itching, Torturing Humours Cured by Cuticura.

Warm baths with Cuticura Soap and gentle anointings with Cuticura Ointment afford instant relief in the most distressing forms of itching, burning, scaly, crusted humours, eczemas, rashes, inflammations, irritations, and chafings of infancy and childhood, permit rest and sleep and point to a speedy and permanent cure, in the majority of cases, when all other remedies fail.

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

Cuticura Remedies are sold throughout the world. A Single Set often Cures. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; South Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U. S. A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

SEVERE EARTHQUAKE.

At 3.14 p.m. on November 10 a fairly strong shock of earthquake was felt in Osaka. It lasted for about two minutes.

About the same time there were severe oscillations in Takamatsu, Imabaru, Okayama and Miyasaki, etc. Several houses suffered more or less damage in various parts of these districts, and two persons were killed in a village near Okayama. It is stated that only a slight shock was felt in Fukuoka, Maizuru, Tsu, Yokohama, Gifu, Nagasaki and Fukui, whilst nothing was felt in Akita.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The price of American Raw Cottonhas suddenly advanced. As to Cotton yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece goods is quiet. In Woollens and Woollen Mixtures, the market appears to be more healthy, and business conditions are normal.

RAW COTTON. PER PICUL.

American Middling	43.00 to 44.80
Egyptian	47.50 to 52.75
Indian Broach	34.00 to 35.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 32.00

COTTON YARN PER BALE.

Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch. PER PIECE.	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	V.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

Business is quiet, especially in Basic Bars.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y. 3.80 to 3.85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4.30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.55
Sheet Mild Steel	6.15 to 6.30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9.60 to 9.80
Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	6.80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y. 3.88 to 3.98
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

Demand continues light, and no sales are reported.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change on the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y. 240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. Business in known brands is beginning to revive.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	11.50
Flag	"	10.60
Royal	"	10.60
Trophy	"	10.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.90
Lion	"	11.50
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00

Japanese:—

Rising Sun	6	*kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6	"	2.78
Fuji	6	"	2.85
Pine	6	"	2.90

WHEAT.

Stocks held by Japanese mills are very small but still they will not place any new business at present prices.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.15 to 5.30
Red " " "	5.10 to 5.20
Blue Stem	5.30 to 5.60

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet and prices have in mos instances declined.

On November 11th stocks were: filatures 33,184 bales; Re-reels, 5,088 bales; Kakeda, 1,309 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	V.1,000
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	930
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	950
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	880
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	950
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	920
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	845
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	900
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	840
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	860
Re-reels—No. 1½	830
Re-reels—No. 2	800
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	830
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	810
Kakedas—No. 2	790

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

November	Present delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.	January delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
5th	852	842	846	853
6th	847	839	843	850
7th	—	—	—	—
8th	846	836	—	846
9th	838	—	833	838
10th	828	820	822	828
11th	—	—	—	—

WASTE SILK.

Market is quiet. No change in quotations.

On November 10th stocks were: Noshi, 10,481 bales, Kibiso, 16,924 bales; and Sundry, 962 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	137½ to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	95 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	70 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	120 to 127½
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	90 to 100
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—There is a slight weakening owing to a decrease in demand, and prices are somewhat easier. Production is still diminishing and Raw Silk rates have also declined.

Kanazawa:—Owing to a decrease in demand, the market is slightly weakened.

Kawamata:—Prices have advanced somewhat for 27″ and 36″, owing to demand from the European and Rangoon markets.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.35	8.20	8.00	8.00	7.95
27″	8.40	8.30	8.00	7.90	8.00
36″	8.40	8.35	8.25	8.20	8.10

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5¼ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.00	7.90	7.80	7.65
27″	8.05	7.85	7.90	7.60
36″	8.00	7.75	7.75	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.90	11.00	12.00	13.20
36	12.50	14.10	15.90	16.40

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of November 11th the quotation was £39.12 6.

Owing to weak markets at home, fresh business is absent.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report, large stocks being still held, with poor demand.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	845,868
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	167,954

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Delivery.	Closing Price
November	11.34
December	11.59
January	11.91

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
November	11.82	November	11.92
December	11.84	December	11.90
January	12.04	January	12.08

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*
Superior	Yen 12.60
Medium	11.60
Common	10.60
Average	11.60

TEA.

There has been no change in quotations. From the first offering of new tea in Yokohama up to October 20th, the sales amounted to 8,832,300 kin. The stock on the same day aggregated 56,800 kin.

QUOTATIONS.

	Y.	
Choicest	—	—
Choice	—	—
Finest	—	—
Fine	36 —	37
Good Medium	34 —	36
Medium	32 —	33
Good Common	30 —	31
Common	28 —	29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
November	125.05
December	125.10
January	125.95

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Nov. 11

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ lower and Shanghai sterling quotations $\frac{1}{16}$ lower causing local rates on Shanghai to rule accordingly firmer, no change otherwise.

London Bank T.T.	2/0½
— — Bills on demand	2/0½@$\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{13}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1$\frac{1}{16}$
— — 6 months' sight	2/1$\frac{3}{16}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
Private 4 months' sight	262½
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	85*
Private 10 days, sight do	83*
Shanghai—Bank sight	88*
Private 10 days' sight	89½*
India—Bank sight	152½
Private 30 days' sight	154¾
America—Bank sight	49⅝@¾
Private 30 days' sight	50⅜
Private 4 months' sight	51⅛
Germany—Bank sight	209½
— Private 4 months' sight	214⅝
Bar Silver (London)	23$\frac{5}{16}$

* Nominal.

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Nikko Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,434, M. Yagi, 3rd Nov.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, H. S. Smith, 6th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irizawa, 6th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General, —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 7th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Namur, British steamer, 4,179, H. W. Kemick, 7th Nov.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General. —P. & O. S.N. Co.

Oceano, British steamer, 3,050, W. R. Davies, 7th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,016, Jas. Mihench, 7th Nov.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

J. B. Aug. Kessler, Dutch steamer, 3,198, 7th Nov., —Singapore, Oil.—Rising Sun Petroleum Co.

Asia, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Gaukroger, 7th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Selja, Norwegian steamer, 2,789, O. Lie, 8th Nov., —Portland, Or., Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 8th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3,953, S. Robinson, 9th Nov.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Bingo Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,873, A. Christiansen, 10th Nov.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Calchas, British steamer, 4,279, G. A. Rodway, 10th Nov.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General —Butterfield & Swire.

Arratoon Apcar, British steamer, 2,931, A. Stewart, 10th Nov.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Brisgavia, German steamer, 4,166, Schwinghammer, 10th Nov.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 5th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, W. W. Greene, 5th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Astyanax, British steamer, 3,021, McLean, 6th Nov.,—Marseilles and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Peking, Swedish steamer, 2,900, Eggerts, 6th Nov., —Marseilles, Havre and Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Prinzess Alice, German steamer, 6,721, P. Grosch, 6th Nov.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Glenlogan, British steamer, 3,740, J. McGregor, 7th Nov., — London via ports, General. — Jardine Matheson & Co.

Supply, U.S. supply ship, 4,460, E. S. Bisett, 7th Nov.,—Kobe and Shanghai.

Oceano, British steamer, 3,050, W. R. Davies, 7th Nov.,—Vancouver and Tacoma via Victoria, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 7th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 8th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3,953, S. Robinson, 9th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C.P.R. Co.

Selja, Norwegian steamer, 2,789, O. Lie, 10th Nov., —Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Wakasa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,884, N. Nielsen, 10th Nov.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Palermo, British steamer, 4,909, J. B. Fergusson, 10th Nov.,—Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Asia, British steamer, 2,936, Harry Gaukroger, 10th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 11th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

J. B. Aug. Kessler, Dutch steamer, 3,198, Vander Biesen, 11th Nov.,—Singapore, Oil.—Rising Sun Petroleum Co.

Moyune, British steamer, 3,016, J. Riley, 11th Nov., —Australian Ports via Kuchinotsu, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Arratoon Apcar, British steamer, 2,931, A. Stewart, 11th Nov.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED

Per American steamer *Korea* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss Ellen A Billings, Mr Edw. G. Bouncken, Mr. Chas. Bryan, Mr. E. N. Dixon, Mr C. V. Hibbard, Mrs. C. V. Hibbard, Miss Esther Hibbard, Master Lowell Hibbard, Mr A. Kaechelen, Mr. P. C. Knapp, Mr. C. Machida, Mr E. N. Meneer, Mr. M. Miyoshi, Mr. K. Monami, Mrs. Jno. Moore, Mr. O. M. Poole, Miss A. de F. Thompson, Mr. G. O. Wallenberg and valet, Miss G. Wythe, Mr. K. Yamaguchi, Mr. Y. Wakayama, Mrs. Fred Paine, Mr. A. C. Berghoff, Mr. A. E. Bradley, Mr. J Cheshire, Mr. John H. Eagle, Mrs. John H. Eagle, Mr. F. W. C. Foster, Mrs. F. W. C Foster, Mrs. Alice C. Foster, Mr. H. L. Higgins, Mr. R. Lever, Mr. W. H Lever, Mr. Frank Lindsay, Mrs. Frank Lindsay, Mr. J. N. Mockett, Miss Georgia Moreland, Mr G. B. Perkins, Mr. G. Ponein, Mrs G. Ponein, Mr George Robinson, Mrs. George Robinson, Miss Birdie Wood, Mr G. Gerdes, Mrs. G. Gerdes, and Miss H. Roth. For Kobe:—Mr. Raoul Grenade, Mr. C. V. Guteries, Miss Delia D. Lavens, Miss Anna M Queen, Mr. H. Nose and Miss Mattie S. Tate. For Nagasaki:—Miss M. E. Andrews, Miss G. Chaney, Mr. C. H Derr, Mrs. C. H. Derr, Miss Ruth Derr, Mr. J. C. Owen, Mrs. J. C. Owen, Miss Leila Owen, Miss Margaret Owen, Miss Rebecca Owen, Mrs. L. E. Phipps, Mrs. L. E. Phipps, Mrs. A. M. Williams, Mr. T. C. White, Mr. G. F. Lerrigo, and Mrs. G. E. Lerrigo. For Manila:—Mr. Frederick Anderson, Mrs Frederick Anderson and infant, Miss Elizabeth Anderson, Mr Ulysses S Andes, Mr. Barry Baldwin, Mrs. Barry Baldwin and servant, Miss Dorothy Baldwin, Mr. W. A. Blossom, Mrs. F. W. Brooks, Miss Helene Brooks, Capt J. C. Buttner, Mrs. J. C. Buttner, Mr. E. J. Carpenter, Mr. Fay C. Cole, Mrs. Fay C. Cole, Mrs. C. H. Connor, Mr. Chester B. Cox, Mr. Chas. S. Derham, Mr. James R. Driggs, Mr. C. F. Getchey, Mrs. A. W Hastings, Mr. Charles G. Huey, Mrs. E. F. Johnson, infant and maid, Miss E. Johnson, Commander Hilary P. Jones, U.S N., Mr. J. R. Klepfer, Mr. A. J. Mitchell, Mrs. A. J. Mitchell, Mr. Ralph B. Robinson, Commander Geo. R. Salisbury, U.S.N., Mr. G. H. Schulte, Mr. L. D. Weeks, Mrs. L. D. Weeks Mr. Harold E. Young, Mr. R. N. Clarke, Mrs. R. N. Clarke, Miss Annie Lewis, Mr. Julius Rothschild, Mrs. Geo E. Wolf and servant. For Hongkong:—Dr. A. Bonthius, Mrs. A. Bonthius, Miss A. Durvee, Rev. W. H. Giebel, Mr. Fred J. Halton, Mrs. Fred. J. Halton and maid, Master Fred Halton, Master Gerald Halton, Master Lawrence Halton, Mr. Liao Ngantow, Mrs. Liao Ngantow, infant and servant, Mr Liao Sing Quang, Miss Isabel Liao Miss Victoria Liao, Miss Susie Liao, Miss Ines Liao, Master Harry Liao, Master Christopher Liao, Miss L. Vander Linden, Mr W. A. Loomis, Mrs. W. A. Loomis and Mr J. A. Macaulay in cabin.

Per British steamer *Monteagle*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. W. Armstrong, Mr. A. E. Asger, Mr. J. Bevet, Miss Amy B. Coe, Mr. E. S. Crowe, Mr. and Mrs. Chow Don and child, Miss F. Drew, Mrs. F. Ezra, Mr. F. Forde, Mrs. F. Forde, Mrs. J. Goddard, Miss Goddard, Sister Godolevia, Miss S. Gowan, Mr. M. Greenfield, Miss E. Griffith, Mr. and Mrs. O. A. Hall, Miss L. B. Hall, Mr. F. Hamil, Dr. Mabel Hannington, Mr. Albert Hashin, Mr. C. M. Heanley, Miss Huggins, Mr. F. Johnson, Sister Mary Josepha, Mr. H. Kawasaki, Mr. A L. Kennan, Mrs. A. L. Kennan, Mr. T. H. Kingsley, Mr. J. Kissler, Mr. L. Labi, Mr. J. Lake, Dr. A. G. Larson, Mrs. A. G. Larson, Dr. Livingston Learmouth, Mrs. L. Learmouth, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Lee, Sister Mary Lothhario, Mr. A. Lukan, Mr. B. H Mackie, Mrs. B. H. Mackie, Miss Mackie, Mr. A. L. C. Madden, Dr. F. P. Manget, Mrs. F. P. Manget, Mr. J. J. Mansfield, Mr. W. Medcalf, Mr. W. H. Miles, Mrs. T W. Moffat, Miss M. C. Morris, Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Nagle, Mr. W. P. M. Newman, Mr. H. A. Oberg, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond, Miss A. Rice, Mr. A. R. Robertson, Miss A. Robinson (Doctor), Miss A. K. Robinson, Dr. A. C. Selmon, Mrs. A. C. Selmon, Miss Ruth Selmon, Master Paul Selmon, Mr. F. A. Soderberg, Mr. C. A. F. Spamer, Miss L. M. Spamer, Mr. A. W. Studd, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Taylor, Mr. I. T. Tomita, Mr. T. N. Varty, Mr. James Ware, Mrs. James Ware, Miss A. Ware, Miss H. Ware, Miss F. Ware, Mrs. J Watson, Miss M. Watson, Miss G. Weaver, Rev. A. Weir, Mr. D. B. Wickersham, Mr. E. W. Wolfe, Mrs. E. W. Wolfe and child, in cabin.

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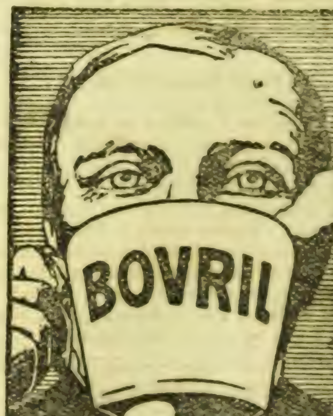
October 2nd, 1909. 13w.



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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 20TH, 1909.

BIRTHS.

WARD.—On November 13th at 90-A, Bluff, Yokohama, to Mr. and Mrs. B. M. WARD, a Daughter.

ABBEY.—On November 15th, 1909, at No. 5 Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of Mr. TOM ABBEY, of a Son.

MARRIAGE.

GRAY—CONDON.—On Saturday, Nov. 13th, 1909, at H B.M.'s Consulate, by J. C. Hall, Esq., I.S.O., and afterwards at Union Church, by Rev'd. J. Wilbur Chapman, D.D, WALTER, eldest son of the late JESSE WILLIAM GRAY, of Yokohama, to MARY ISABEL, only daughter of J. CONDON, Esq., of Auckland, New Zealand.

DEATHS.

CRAWFORD.—At 68-B, Bluff, on Saturday, the 13th instant, HANNAH, relict of the late E. A. CRAWFORD, and daughter of the late Squire Wilson, "Keldholme" Yorkshire.

SMITH—At his residence, No. 603 Amanuma, on Saturday night, the 13 inst. from chronic kidney disease, in his 73rd year, WILLIAM SMITH, Norwegian subject.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

IT is reported that the Russian Government intends to establish a consulate at Chongjin, in order to promote trade with North Korea.

THE Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club has decided to postpone its proposed extraordinary general meeting from the 18th instant to the 22nd.

ON the 11th instant, a woman aged 33, who lives in the city of Shizuoka, gave birth to four children, all boys, three of whom subsequently died.

A SAPPORO despatch says that during last month over 30 officials and civilians were arrested at Muroran in connection with the illegal felling of trees in a government forest.

GENERAL COUNT NOGI has been ordered to attend the celebration of the completion of the soldiers' monument erected at Port Arthur. The ceremony is to take place on the 28th instant.

A RUSSIAN financial agent, M. Willenkin, who has been in Tokyo for some time investigating the condition of Japanese finance, is, it is stated, returning home on furlough, leaving Tokyo on the 24th instant.

MR. HAMANO SADASHIRO, one of the first English scholars in Japan and formerly a professor of the Keio Gijiku, passed away on the 14th instant at his residence at Mita, Tokyo. The funeral took place the next day.

IT is reported that the Government of Formosa has decided to establish a wireless telegraph station at Fukikaku, in the island. The construction work will probably be commenced before the end of this year.

ACCORDING to returns issued by the Japanese Municipal authorities at Seoul, at the end of last month, there were 7,637 Japanese households in Seoul with the total population of 27,838 (males 15,439; females, 12,399).

THE *Kasuga Maru*, which arrived at Nagasaki on Thursday from Shanghai, reports that some ten Koreans having no regular occupation, are living in Shanghai on a high scale of luxury. They are said to have emigrated in order to escape the oppressions of the Korean intriguers.

ON or about Thursday, December 16th, the Amateur Dramatic Club of Yokohama will produce at the Gaiety Sir Charles Wyndham's great London success, "The Tyranny of Tears," by C. Haddon Chambers. On its first appearance this play was acclaimed by the critics as one of the sweetest and most charming of its year, a description which equally well fits it to-day. We are given to understand that the cast is an exceptionally strong one, and feel confident that the A.D.C. can look forward to yet another in its long list of successes.

THE total number of recruits who will enter barracks on the 1st proximo is reported to be 77,900 men, including 64,980 infantry, 3,900 cavalry, 4,500 artillery, 1,530 engineers, 3,230 commissariat and 240, communication corps.

BARON MATSUDAIRA, Vice-President of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition, is reported to be so ill as to be unable to fulfil the duties of his important post. Unless he recovers within a short time, Baron Makino or Mr. Yamagata will probably relieve him.

ON November 12, there was a high atmospheric pressure in Yokohama, and the temperature was so low that the first frost of the season was observed in different parts of the Bluff. It was six days earlier as compared with normal years. There was much frost at Hodogaya and Okano-machi.

A SEOUL despatch received by the *Kokumin Shimbun* says that a national memorial service for the late Prince Ito will be held there on the 26th instant. On the occasion, five representatives from each province of the country will attend the function. The expenses for the service are to be defrayed by the Government.

FINANCIAL COMMISSIONER Mr. Mizumachi will leave Tokyo about the 20th instant. His mission is to let the world's markets know the true state of finance in Japan, as well as the spirit of thrift prevailing among the Japanese. He is also said to have been entrusted with some other important business.

MR. RANDALL HARGREAVES, of Kobe, the well-known baritone singer, is about to leave Japan for America on January 1st next to re-enter the musical professi n. Yokohama lovers of music will be interested to hear that he is arranging a Grand Farewell Concert at the Gaiety about the middle of December, full particulars of which will be shortly advertised.

ON the 8th instant Horii Jinshiro, a salesman of the Mitsukoshi Dry Goods Store, in Tokyo, was arrested with two accomplices at his own house. It is alleged that Horii has stolen, since March last, a quantity of valuable fabrics worth some 20,000 *yen* in all. The names, however, of the buyers having been surrendered by the accused, the Mitsukoshi Store has recovered most of the stolen articles.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Choshu Maru* (1 203 tons) which arrived at Yokohama on the 11th instant from Dairen, met with a severe storm, when four hours out from that port, which she left at 6 a.m. on the 3rd. Being unable to proceed any farther, she took refuge in a neighbouring bay, whence she left for Yokohama on the 5th. The cargo consisting of 1,768 tons of bean-cake, beans and wheat has been slightly damaged by sea water, and the vessel also suffered more or less.

THE health returns for Kobe for the week ending the 13th instant show that eight cases of typhoid fever, four of dysentery and twenty-five of bubonic plague were reported. One case of typhoid fever, two of diphtheria, one of dysentery and fourteen of bubonic plague proved fatal during the period. Seventeen cases of typhoid fever, three of diphtheria, six of dysentery and thirty-five of bubonic plague were under treatment. The total number of births registered during the week was 195. There were 148 deaths.

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KOREA.

Friday, November 12.

A curious story is wired from Seoul by the *Asahi's* correspondent. It is to the effect that the Minister of the Korean Household and the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, who had proceeded to Tokyo to attend the obsequies of Prince Ito, were persuaded that their lives would be attempted during the funeral. So obsessed were they by this conviction that, on the evening before the obsequies, they held a farewell meeting in the Imperial Hotel, and, further, instructed their secretary to effect an insurance of 3000 *yen* on their lives. Subsequently this mood of apprehension was completely removed by an interview with Marquis Katsura, who is supposed to have assured them that no change whatever would be made in Japan's policy towards Korea in consequence of the assassination.

On the whole, the Korean nation seems to be living in an atmosphere of apprehension. Many of the people are said to be behaving in a very illogical manner. Apprehending recourse by Japan to an extreme policy, they are doing precisely what might be expected to provoke such a policy, namely, throwing stones at railway carriages and exhibiting in general a demeanour of unrest and defiance. The people of Pyongyang are said to have held a meeting and to have decided that a large deputation should be sent to Tokyo to express the nation's regret, but the people in the south resent the idea of such action.

The Cabinet seems convinced of the sincerity of Japan's declarations, but the problem of how to keep the people quiet is evidently causing some concern, and it is anticipated in certain quarters that advantage will be taken of the crisis by the enemies of the Ministry to bring about the latter's downfall.

Mr. Nabeshima, who has been for four years Chief of the Bureau for Foreign Affairs in the Residency General and who is now to proceed to Mexico as his country's Representative, has been interviewed at Moji en route for Tokyo. He alleges that in his opinion both the Emperor and the ex-Emperor sincerely regret the assassination. Indeed there has never been any question about the Emperor's disposition, and it may be accepted as certain that the ex-Emperor recognised in Prince Ito a sincere friend of Korea and a second father to the Prince Imperial. His Majesty knows well that it will be impossible to replace this great statesman. As to the much-talked-of visit of either the Emperor or ex-Emperor to Japan, Mr. Nabeshima sees no reason whatever for such step. During Prince Ito's residence in Seoul, the ex-Emperor showed a disposition to proceed to Japan, but Prince Ito discouraged the idea on the ground that it would be a very fruitless expense. Mr. Nabeshima adds that there is not the slightest reason to anticipate any change in Japan's policy towards Korea as a consequence of this terrible incident. It goes without saying that the utmost vigilance will be exercised to unravel all the threads of the affair, and that punishment will be fully meted out wherever punishment is due. But that concerns the guilty parties alone, and it is not believed that they have their headquarters in Korea. The assassin's mother and younger brother have been examined, and have given evidence in the sense that the man was always an extreme agitator and an advocate of violence. Some years ago, he formed one of a body of bandits. The strong probability is that the scheme of assassination was devised, not in Korea itself, but among the disaffected Koreans in Vladivostock, Hawaii and San Francisco. Mr. Nabeshima is further quoted as saying that nothing could exceed the confusion of functions which prevailed under the old régime. Foreign affairs were left to the management of the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, and forestry concessions were granted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs. It had taken all Mr. Nabeshima's time during the past four years to straighten out these tortuous affairs, but everything might now be said to be in fair working order. From the same authority we learn that the assassin An has a brother who is serving as a customs official at Chinnampho, but by this brother also he is denounced as a demented desperado. There is very little reason to doubt that he belongs to the same band of ruffians as does Chhyon, the murderer of Mr. Stevens. Chhyon is still at large, and it is rumoured that he effected his escape from jail in San Francisco through the connivance of a certain consul. It is quite conceivable that the news of An's successful deed may impel Chhyon to attempt some further exploit.

Meanwhile the examination of the eight prisoners at Port Arthur does not seem to be progressing, in consequence of the absence of Mr. Hiraishi, President of the High Court in Kinchow, and of Mr. Mizoguchi, Public Procurator of that Court. These two officials have proceeded to Harbin, where it is rumoured that seven other persons have fallen under suspicion.

Saturday, November 13.

It appears that the Korean Envoys to the obsequies of Prince Ito waited on Viscount Suyematsu during their stay in the Japanese capital and had a long conversation with him on the subject of the Prince Imperial's education.

The Japanese population of Seoul at the end of October is thus given by the *Seoul Press*:—

According to returns issued by the Japanese Municipal authorities at the end of last month there were 7,637 Japanese households in Seoul with a total population of 27,838 (male 15,439; female, 12,399).

The work of road construction in Korea is evidently being carried on vigorously under Japanese auspices. We take the following from the *Seoul Press*:—

The work of constructing and opening highways undertaken by the Civil Engineering Bureau in the Korean Home Department is making good progress. We learn that the roads between Chongjin and Kyongsong, Kunsan and Chonju, Machontong and New Wiju, Whangju and Whangju station, and Haiju and Yongtangpo, have already been completed, while work is still in progress on seven other highways. The following table shows particulars of the work:—

Roads.	Total length (miles).	Already finished (miles).
Chinnampo-Pyongyang	35	24
Mokpo-Kwangju	57	45½
Taiku-Kyongju	46	39
Suwon-Uichyongli	31½	16
Kongju-Schchyongli	23½	15
Chinju-Masan	41	10½
Anju-Lyongpyong	19	16

We further learn the authorities concerned have asked for the defrayment of 210,000 *yen* for the improvement of a road between Hainam and Hatong in South Korea. This road passes through Kangjin, Changhsung, Posang, Sanchyon and Kwangyang and has the total mileage of about 92. There being certain reasons to have it improved as speedily as possible, work will at once be taken in hand immediately after approval is given. It is expected to be completed in the course of next year.

It is evident that the so-called insurgents in Korea are in many cases mere bandits. An instance is mentioned of a well-to-do resident in Keuntung, who, having been obliged to absent himself for two years through fear of bridgandage, returned home last spring only to be carried away almost immediately and held for ransom. It is stated that Japanese gendarmes have ascertained the name and whereabouts of these robbers, and that their apprehension is likely to follow soon.

Sunday, November 14.

The insurgents who were taken prisoners in the recent operations under Major-General Watanabe, or who surrendered on that occasion, to the number of 700, are still held in custody, and the question of how to dispose of them has caused some discussion. It is said to have been decided that they shall be employed on road-making in Southern Korea, receiving pay at the rate of 30 *sen* per diem. They will thus be given a chance of becoming good citizens, but if, on the contrary, they neglect this opportunity and revert to their evil ways, they will be punished with the utmost rigour of the law.

AMERICA AND JAPAN.

It is pleasant to be able to record the assurance given by the American Secretary of State that the result of the investigations as to the nature of the last Treaty between China and Japan is to absolve the Agreement from all monopolistic import. Apparently the Governments in Peking and Tokyo have both stated explicitly that the mining rights reserved by the Convention in the zones of the Mukden-Antung Railway are not exclusive. They do not reserve to the contracting parties the right of working all mines that have hitherto been discovered or may hereafter be discovered within the zones. What the Convention provides is simply that mines now known to exist and already opened within the earmarked region shall be exploited jointly by Chinese and Japanese, while as for mines hereafter found, the working of them will be conceded without any reference to this Agreement. Mr. Secretary Knox evidently felt uncertain as to the exact scope of the Convention. He thought it capable of being read in the sense that the whole of the zones in question were to be permanently reserved for Chinese and Japanese coöperative enterprise, which would unquestionably have been contrary to the principle of the open door. We at this side of the world, who are in a better position to appreciate Japan's mood, never suspected her of committing such a diplomatic blunder as to run counter to the much-talked-of doctrine of equal opportunities for the sake of grasping a purely hypothetical advantage. It may very well happen that no such thing as an attractive mine will ever be discovered within the zones concerned, apart from the mines now actually operated. Why, then, should Japan put a weapon for her own attack into the hands of foreign States in order to secure a purely nebulous advantage? On the other hand, Mr. Secretary Knox would not have been justified in taking anything for granted. He merely did his duty in strictly examining the subject, and moreover by so doing he has greatly cleared the atmosphere.

After writing the above lines we find an article in the *Jiji Shimpo* which practically takes the same view of the situation as we ourselves have done. The *Jiji* contends that Japan can not be too circumspect at present in her international dealings, for she is by no means a *persona gratissima* in the

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eyes of Western States. It is therefore wise on her part to have given assurances to the United States Government, as she seems to have done. On the other hand, our Tokyo contemporary thoroughly approves of the action taken by the Secretary of State in Washington for the purpose of clearing up a doubtful point. The course pursued by Mr. Knox was frank and just.

KOREAN ADMINISTRATION.

It appears from telegrams published by the *Mainichi Dempo* that Japan is about to give a new complexion to her administrative work in Korea. The system hitherto pursued both in the Central and the Local Governments has been to retain Korean subjects in the highest posts and to fill the junior positions with Japanese. Thus in Seoul the portfolios of the various Departments are held by Koreans, but the Vice-Ministers and certain other high officials are Japanese. In the provinces, again, while the post of governor—or "inspector," as he is there termed—is held by a Korean, practically all the other administrative positions are assigned to Japanese subjects. Thus the machinery for accomplishing large administrative reforms has been created, but, on the other hand, its operations have hitherto been of a negative character. In other words, while every effort was made to check the corruption and extortion that used to prevail under the old régime, nothing in the shape of constructive administration was essayed. This limitation of the sphere of usefulness was prompted by a sense of the necessity of acquiring a full insight into local conditions and traditional customs by way of preliminary to taking any positive action. It is stated now that, the desired knowledge having been obtained, the work of reforming the provincial administration will be undertaken on more practical and radical lines. The posts of provincial governors will be filled by Japanese subjects, and a committee of investigation has been appointed by the Cabinet in Seoul to collect and supply all such information as may be required by those engaged to carry out the projected reforms. We take these details from the *Mainichi Dempo's* telegrams, and we observe that they are confirmed in the main by telegrams to other journals, the *Mainichi's* correspondent, however, being the more explicit.

THE HODEN OIL COMPANY.

It will have been observed by readers of the Stock Exchange reports that on the 11th inst. the shares of the Hoden Company recovered slightly from the heavy depression of the past few days, their reputation having been re-established by a statement from one of the Directors. The occasion, however, is evidently to be still further utilized by sensation-mongers. Telegrams have been sent from Nagaoka to two of the Tokyo newspapers, hinting that something is radically wrong, and basing this allegation upon the fact that the Local Court is subjecting some of the Directors to examination. This step on the part of the Court may be wholly connected with Mr. Yamagishi's appeal against the judgment which condemned him for libel. But it may also have another significance, and we apprehend that some time must elapse before things are completely cleared up. Meanwhile the slump in the shares is reported to have hit some of the Echigo folks very hard.

THE MODERATES IN KOREA.

The moderates in Korea have taken a very decided step. They have issued a strongly worded circular to their countrymen throughout the 13 Provinces, setting forth at considerable length and in most unequivocal language the blunders that the anti-Japanese party in Korea have committed and the consequences that these blunders have entailed. It is frankly insisted that the Koreans themselves are to blame for all the evils that have overtaken them, and that if they persist in blindly following their present route, not only the downfall of the country must ensue, but also the extermination of the nation. A State may be rebuilt from its ruins but an extinct nation can never be revived. The people of Korea are therefore vehemently exhorted to turn their backs on their evil advisers, and to recognise the benefits that Japan has conferred on the country, as well as the sincerity of her intentions towards it. The circular then goes on to speak of the splendid services rendered to Korea by the late Prince Ito, as a promoter of the material advantages of modern civilization and a pioneer of national enlightenment in Korea. His death is described as an irretrievable calamity, and the Koreans are invited to observe that this great misfortune has been brought upon them by the hand of one of themselves. It is urged that the only course now suitable to the occasion is that a deputation consisting of two representatives from each of the provinces should repair to Japan to express Korea's condolences and her poignant regret for the terrible event at Mukden. The thirteen provinces are therefore invited to send delegates to Seoul for the purpose of consulting about the details of these demonstrations.

This is certainly the sanest step that Korea could take in the circumstances. It will dissociate her respectable citizens from all sympathy with the crime of the murderer, and it will certainly create a feeling of warm appreciation in the minds of the Japanese people.

THE LATE PRINCE ITO'S MISSION.

Conjectures are again beginning to be circulated about the true purpose of Prince Ito's visit to Manchuria, and people are found to state that the Prince made such and such an assertion on such and such an occasion. The dead do not speak, and it is therefore possible to attribute to the late statesman any assertions that suit the purpose of newsmongers. As for the trustworthiness of the stories told, it may safely be inferred from the fact that the Prince and the Russian Minister of Finance are alleged to have had 20 minutes' talk in the train before the Prince alighted, and to have then and there settled many of the most important points to be considered. Anyone so extremely credulous as to believe that the Russian Minister of Finance would have thus bombarded the Prince with questions of international importance before there had been even time to leave the train, may be left in the undisturbed enjoyment of his own fancies. For our own part, we are fully persuaded that although Prince Ito's presence in Manchuria would have contributed greatly to bring about a solution of the various problems connected with that part of the world, his Highness had no sort of official mandate and was not authorized to represent the Government of Japan in any sense.

THE PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES IN CHINA.

Intelligence from China indicates that events are justifying the apprehensions entertained with regard to the relations destined to develop between the new provincial assemblies and the Central Government. The Assemblies consist almost entirely of pure Chinese. If they include any Manchu element, it is insignificant, for the men of property, and therefore the franchise-holders, are practically all Chinese. It was to have been expected, therefore, that the Assemblies would lose no time in seeking some weapon to attack the Central Government, and unfortunately for their country's good relations with Japan, they appear to have found the desired weapon in the recently concluded Mukden-Antung Convention. The Assembly of the Metropolitan Province is said to be taking the lead in this matter. Practically the whole of its members have joined an association having for object the investigation and the enforcement of the Constitution, and the Assembly has further telegraphed to all the corresponding bodies throughout China inviting them to unite in an attempt to set aside the objectionable Convention. The impeachment of his Excellency Liang, by whom the Convention was negotiated, is one of the planks in the Assemblies' platform. Independent news from Hongkong confirms the above, and adds that the Canton Assembly has received with acclaim the suggestion from Pehchili, and that the efforts of the Viceroy to restrain the movement are futile. If the local assemblies, at the very outset of their careers, are essaying to take a hand in the foreign policy of the Central Government, there is no telling to what limits the trouble may not be pushed.

THE KOREAN INSURGENTS.

General Baron Okubo returned on the 16th inst. from Korea to Japan, and is quoted by a news agency as saying that the objects of the Chhollado campaign were fully attained. The troops advanced by night only. They commenced their marches at sunset and terminated them at daylight, so that the insurgents were frequently taken by surprise. Their principal leaders numbered three, of whom two were taken prisoners. These leaders were found living in large caves in the rocks, where their wives and concubines also resided, and where they enjoyed an existence of ease, if not of luxury, issuing requisitions for supplies or money, and slaying or threatening to slay any of the inhabitants who refused to comply. One of these leaders was specially remarkable; a man named Chin Namil, which term means the captain of the south. Altogether, about a thousand of the insurgents were killed and as many more captured, while two thousand made act of submission. At one time some of the most powerful leaders of the insurgents had as many as 10,000 men under their command, but that state of affairs has come to a complete end, and now only very small and isolated bands are in the field. Moreover the sources from which the Chhollado insurgents drew their supplies of ammunition have been cut off, and it is calculated that not more than 20 rifles now remain in that province. It had been originally expected that when the insurgents were driven from the hills, they would take refuge in the islands off the coast, but that apprehension was not verified by events; and as for the insurgents already living on the islands, they offered very little resistance.

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JAPAN AND KOREA.

The *Mainichi Dempo* quotes a publicist, whom it describes as a former Japanese Representative in Korea, and makes him insist earnestly on the necessity of frankly annexing the Peninsula. The gist of his argument is that, so long as things are left in their present nebulous condition, there will always be intriguing Koreans, who, by throwing dust into the eyes of the Court and of their countrymen, will keep alive the delusion that Korean independence is possible. The consequence of such a state of unrest must be to interfere seriously with the progress of reform, and thus not only to enhance the difficulty experienced by Japan in dealing with the country but also to bring needless suffering on the people. Everybody, whether Japanese or foreign, recognises that annexation is the inevitable outcome of the situation, and that it is but a question of time. The present seems to be eminently the best time, and this ex-Minister quoted by our contemporary raises his voice in support of immediate action.

We can not, of course, identify the author of the above views, though Mr. Oishi Masami seems to be the only person answering to the description; but we can, and do, most emphatically deny that the present time is in any sense suitable for the adoption of an extreme course. It must be patent to the shallowest intelligence that if Japan stretched out her hand now, the world would inevitably accuse her of making political capital out of the death of Prince Ito, and of converting the act of a solitary lunatic into a reason for an international *coup*.

Meanwhile the coterie of barristers and newspaper men, who are interesting themselves conspicuously in this question, held a meeting on the 13th inst, and having named themselves the Korean Question Fellow Thinkers (Chosen Mondai Choshi-kai), proceeded to pass a resolution calling for the adoption of a drastic policy towards Korea. We have closely examined the list of the promoters of this movement, and the only one among them whom we can recognise as having any claim to publicity is Mr. Otaki Kanichi, whose name our readers may perhaps remember in connexion with the Portsmouth riots. It goes without saying that these men can not for a moment be supposed to represent public opinion in Japan.

News from Mukden says that, although the anti-Japanese boycott has been ostensibly abandoned, Chinese traders have not yet begun to hang out their old signboards advertising Japanese goods for sale. Moreover, considerable consignments of non-Japanese articles have arrived from Tientsin and Shanghai, so that the state of affairs is not at all favourable from the Japanese point of view.

In a recent issue we stated the facts that a party of barristers and journalists, calling themselves the Taikan Doshi kai, had been formed in Tokyo, and had adopted a resolution declaring that a radical change in Japan's policy towards Korea was essential. This resolution left much to be desired in point of perspicuity. There might be a radical change in any direction, but the *Seiyu kai* not unnaturally interpret the resolution to mean that its supporters advocate abandonment of the conciliatory measures hitherto adopted by the Residency-General and their replacement by an attitude which would mean the complete annexation of the Peninsula. Against anything of that kind the *Seiyu kai* have thought it necessary to place on record an emphatic protest. They justly point to the fact that the hands of Japan herself are not clean. She has had her Koyama Rokunosuke, who attempted the life of Li Hung-chang at Shimonoseki, and her Tsuda Sanzo, who sought to kill the Czarevitch at Otsu. It is not on record that either China or Russia thought of judging the Japanese nation by the acts of these solitary madmen, and it would be the acme of extravagance on Japan's part to metamorphasize her policy towards Korea because the latter has produced a solitary murderer. Of course, there is no telling what the trial of this man may disclose; but, as things stand at present, the resolution adopted by the above party is not only premature, but extravagant.

On the other hand, an anonymous staff-officer of the Japanese troops stationed in Korea is quoted as expressing a strong opinion that much more drastic measures must be adopted with regard to the insurgents. This officer alleges that the people of Korea have inherited a legacy of error since the 16th century. They read the history of the great Hideyoshi expedition as a proof that Japan signally failed in a stupendous endeavour to subdue and annex the Peninsula, and they consequently entertain a conviction that in a protracted struggle with Korea, Japan would come off second best. That is the belief which inspires the insurgents to keep the field, and the only way to disillusionize them is to let them see what Japan can accomplish when she is really in earnest. Besides, she owes it to the law-abiding section of the population, which enormously outnumbers the insurgents, to restore the security and good order for lack of which the country is suffering so much at present.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

There appears to be some apprehension in Chinese political circles that the death of Prince Ito will produce a change in the policy of Japan towards her Western neighbour. The *Peking Times* gives expression to this fear in interesting terms. It says that while Prince Ito's policy was at the core progressive, he had accomplished such great things that his reputation was already made, and he could well afford to abstain from any striking *coups*. But such is not the case with the men who succeed him. In their case personal ambition exercises an influence which it had ceased to exercise on Prince Ito, and it is to be feared that the object of this ambition will be China. Such is the gist of the *Peking Times*' comments as conveyed by a telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun*. The analysis has at least the merit of novelty, for so far as we have hitherto been able to notice, the apprehension about a change in Japan's foreign policy has been suggested mainly by the idea that Prince Ito's death removed the great pillar of the civil party in Japan and placed the military party completely in power. There is certainly some ostensible reason for such a theory, inasmuch as Prince Ito has been succeeded in the presidency of the Privy Council by Prince Yamagata, and inasmuch as the present Premier of Japan won all his first laurels as a general. In fact, nothing could have been further from anticipation than that the future moulder of his country's policy was to be sought in the brilliant Captain who organized and commanded the memorable march through Manchuria and effected the skilful junction with the Third Army which moved up the Liaotung Peninsula. But if Marquis Katsura's career has proved anything, it has proved that he pays supreme deference to public opinion. Probably no man in Japan is more conscious of the fact that his country is distinctly unpopular among Western peoples to-day, and that any false move made in Tokyo would be sharply exaggerated and quickly taken advantage of. Japan can not afford to sacrifice the sympathy of the world, and the Cabinet now in power appreciates the situation keenly. We say nothing of higher motives nor anything about personal ambition. Appeals to refined ethics have little value in the context of international politics, and as for personal ambition it is a fundamental factor of progress.

JAPANESE AND RUSSIAN PHYSICIANS.

Several months have passed since talk began to be heard about troubles between Russian and Japanese physicians in the Maritime Province. The general impression was that the matter had been satisfactorily settled at the time, and that the Russian Authorities had withdrawn their objection to recognising the diplomas of Japanese physicians practising within Russia's Far Eastern dominions. It now transpires, however, that such was not the case. An understanding was indeed arrived at, but its nature was limited, the provision being that the physicians of each nation should confine themselves to treating persons of their own nationality. It is not to be assumed that the Russians specially showed any lack of liberality in this matter. Tokyo newspapers state that similar restrictions were imposed by the Japanese Authorities in Nagasaki with regard to Russian physicians at Inasa. Recently the inconvenience of the arrangement received practical illustration, — when a Japanese doctor, Mr. Shibata, was summoned to give immediate assistance in the case of a Russian suddenly attacked by a severe access of colic. He naturally did not hesitate to relieve the man's suffering, but this incident appears to have brought the whole question again upon the tapis, and it is now said that the two Powers will adopt the rational course of fully recognising each other's medical diplomas.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH EUROPE.

Tokyo newspapers publish a statement that an agreement has been come to by Japan and Russia with regard to railway services between Europe and the Far East. The main facts of this interesting compact are that persons travelling by special train from Tokyo to St. Petersburg *viâ* Moscow, Vladivostock and Tsuruga will be able to perform the distance in 13 days 10½ hours at a cost of 330.63 *yen* first class and 222.71 *yen* second class. By ordinary trains the time will be 18 days 5 hrs. 50 min., but there will be no first-class on these trains, and the second-class fare will be only 152 81 *yen*, the third-class being 79.26. If Moscow be omitted on the route, the time will be unchanged, but the charges will be reduced by 10 *yen*, roughly speaking. As for the service from Tokyo *viâ* Bakan, Dairen and Moscow, the time by express train will be 14 days 6 hrs. and 50 min. and by ordinary train 20 days 13 hrs. and 50 min. The fares by express train will be 337.63 *yen* 1st class and 218 12 *yen* 2nd class, and by ordinary train the 2nd-class fare will be 146.76 *yen* and the 3rd class 85.15 *yen*. It will be observed that the Dairen route takes nearly a day longer than the Vladivostock and costs 4 *yen* more.

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THE ASSASSINATION.

Friday, November 12.

The *Yamato Shimbun* and the *Mainichi Dempo* have succeeded in obtaining what purports to be a photograph of the assassin, An. The picture has evidently been hanging on a wall somewhere, and may be the portrait of somebody else for anything we know to the contrary. But it is at all events well chosen, for it depicts the face not only of a bloodthirsty ruffian but also of a man on the verge of melancholy madness. The assassin appears to be wearing Korean dress, which would suggest that the portrait was taken some considerable time ago.

Saturday November 13.

A telegram from Vladivostock says that five of the Koreans who were recently arrested in that city on account of a collision with Japanese residents, are still undergoing judicial examination, and it is thought that some charge more grave than a mere assault has been preferred against them. Among the five there is included the principal of the Elementary School for Koreans in Vladivostock.

Mr. Mizoguchi, Public Procurator of Kwantung, returned to Port Arthur from Harbin on the 11th inst. He is quoted as saying that all the necessary information with regard to the assassin has been obtained, but that of course it can not yet be made public, neither is the Procurator in a position to indicate the date when the trial will commence.

Mr. Mizoguchi is further quoted as saying that in the brief interview which took place between Prince Ito and the Russian Minister of Finance in the railway-car at Harbin, the Prince urged the Minister to pay a visit to Japan, and promised that, if he did so, he should receive every assistance in the Prince's power to settle all outstanding issues. This is the brief conversation the import of which has been so studiously exaggerated.

Sunday, November 14.

The Public Procurator, Mr. Mizoguchi, having returned from Harbin to Port Arthur, the examination of the prisoners at the latter place has commenced. One of the eight suspects, by name Kim, is said to have addressed a memorial to the Japanese Authorities, insisting that he was always inspired by the greatest respect and affection for the late Prince Ito, and that to be thrown into jail on suspicion of connexion with the assassination of that great statesman is an astounding act of injustice. He prays therefore to be released at once. The memorial is said to be well written, Kim having formerly served as a school teacher.

As for the assassin, An, he is said to have compiled a six-page document setting forth his reasons for the murder.

The people of Korea seem disposed to make a display of regret for the death of Prince Ito. The Prefectural Association at Seoul is taking the lead in this matter, and has decided to hold a public meeting towards the close of this month *in memoriam* of the Prince. The Association is under the leadership of Mr. Yu, a graduate of Waseda University. Similar action is said to be taking place in other parts of the Peninsula, and so far as outward appearances are concerned, the Koreans seem disposed to dissociate themselves as far as possible from the shocking crime. We entertain very little doubt that many educated Koreans are fully alive to the benefits of Japan's guardianship, and in the case of that section of the population these memorial demonstrations are doubtless sincere, while as to their good effect there can not be much question.

Tuesday, November 16.

The magisterial examination of the assassin was commenced on the 13th inst. at Port Arthur. Thus far, the facts ascertained are that he was a resident of Harbin, where his family are living at present, and that he had no accomplices in Seoul. The Seoul police are said to be very busy making investigations, but they have not found any traces of connexions with that place. Whatever plots were hatched had either Harbin or Vladivostock for their scene.

Wednesday, November 17.

The preliminary examination of the assassin at Port Arthur is said to have been concluded, but the statement has been officially contradicted. The assassin has compiled a document setting forth 15 reasons for his act. The first is that it was to avenge the murder of the late Queen of Korea. (This act, our readers will remember, was perpetrated years before Prince Ito began to have any direct connexion with Korean affairs.—Ed. *J.M.*). The second reason is that Prince Ito was responsible for the November Treaty of 1906. The third, that by his direction the Convention of 1907 was framed. The fourth, that at his instance one Emperor was deposed and another set up. The fifth, that by his contrivance the Korean Army was disbanded. The sixth, that at his door lie the deaths of many good Korean subjects. (The assassin evidently applies this epithet to all Korean insurgents.) The seventh, that the Prince trampled on the rights of Korea. The eighth, that he was instrumental in the burning of Korean school-readers. (What this means we are quite unable to say.) The ninth, that the Prince deprived the people of the right to read newspapers freely. The tenth, that he was responsible for the issue of Japanese paper-money in Korea. The eleventh, that he raised a Korean loan of 3 million *yen*. (Presumably this refers to a part of the monetary accommodation obtained from the Japanese Treasury.) The twelfth, that Prince Ito was a disturber of the peace of the Far East. The thirteenth, that his acts were inconsistent with his professions of protection. The fourteenth, that he was one of those who slew the late Emperor of Japan, father of the present Sovereign. The fifteenth, that he played fast and loose with the Orient and with the world.

Considerable interest attaches to this defence as it may be supposed to indicate the ideas that prevail among the enemies of Japan in Korea. It will be news to the world to find that anybody believes in the assassination of the Emperor Komei; but, after all, this accusation is hardly wilder than the charge that Prince Ito was a disturber of the peace of the East.

Thursday, November 18.

It appears that the circle of persons implicated in the assassination is likely to be extended. Rumour says that the arrests effected in Korea itself, and alluded to in an official item of news published on the 17th inst., are five, and of course these additional arrests have caused fresh uneasiness. After all, nothing could be less unlikely than that An Chung-keun planned and perpetrated such a deed without the connivance of several accomplices. He certainly had no idea of escaping the consequences of his deed, for he must have known well that anything like successful flight after perpetrating such an act would be out of the question. From that point of view it is conceivable that he took as few people as possible into his confidence, in order to narrow the circle of punishment in the event of his judicial examination eliciting inconvenient information. But, for our own part, we are inclined to think that recourse to assassination had long been in the minds of not a few Koreans, and that they had been only awaiting an opportunity. The success that attended the murder of Mr. Stevens and the immunity enjoyed by his slayer were sufficient to inspire imitation.

THE RESIGNATION OF VISCOUNT SUYEMATSU.

It will have been observed by our readers that Viscount Suyematsu has resigned the position of Educational Official in the household of the Crown Prince of Korea and has also resigned the associated post in the Imperial Household in Japan. This step on the part of the Viscount has naturally given rise to much conjecture. It is said that the resignation was tendered on the day before the Emperor set out for the autumn manœuvres, and that it would have been tendered immediately after the assassination of Prince Ito, had not the Viscount been deterred by a desire to avoid augmenting the confusion consequent upon that tragic event. The Emperor of Japan is said to have accepted the resignation with considerable reluctance, and the Korean Court views it with some uneasiness, while as for the little Prince himself, he is reported to have wept bitterly when Viscount Suyematsu took leave of him. It appears, however, that the Viscount's only reason for resigning is that he accepted the post originally merely as the lieutenant of Prince Ito, to whose counsels and directions he looked for aid in the discharge of his duties. Deprived of the guidance of Prince Ito, he does not feel competent to undertake the task; and he therefore insists on resigning. The effect of this resignation is that Prince Iwakura now stands alone in the position of Educational Superintendent of the Prince Imperial's household.

THE RESIDENT-GENERAL.

There is again talk of Viscount Sone's retirement from the post of Resident-General. It is alleged that Marquis Katsura telegraphed a week ago desiring his presence in the capital, but the Viscount was unable to set out owing to a fresh access of fever. In fact, the general opinion appears to be that Viscount Sone's health is unfortunately not good enough to enable him to discharge the onerous duties of his present post. Rumour is accordingly busying itself to designate his successor. In some quarters Viscount Ito Miyoji has been spoken of, and certainly the return of this eminently able official to active office would be heartily welcomed by the public. But the Viscount's views are believed to be somewhat at variance with those of the present Premier, and consequently the eyes of the public have been fixed upon General Viscount Hasegawa, the latter being considered the more likely candidate. Many people would be disposed to think that if the state of Viscount Sone's health really incapacitates him, his successor ought, if possible, to be chosen from the ranks of civil life. The appointment of a military man to the Residency-General would certainly not tend to placate Japan's critics.

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CHINA.

It would seem that the China-Japan S.S. Company is at last becoming a paying concern. It has had the struggle for existence incidental to all pioneer enterprises, but it has now emerged from the trial stage, and finds itself in a position to pay a dividend of 5 per cent., as against 2, which was the best it could do hitherto. This access of prosperity is attributed mainly to an increased traffic in beans and cereals on the Yangtsz River and to a greatly developed movement of raw cotton and yarns connected with the Japanese trade. The Company is to hold its general meeting on the 27th inst. Its accounts will then show a net profit of 267,396 *yen* for the past half-year, and adding to this a sum of 1,548 *yen* brought over from the previous account, a total of 268,944 *yen* becomes available. The Directors propose to allot 13,365 *yen* to legal reserves; 10,000 *yen* to rewards; 43,075 *yen* to be carried forward, and the remainder to go to the payment of a dividend of 5 per cent.

The Local Assembly in Pehchili has found another opportunity of asserting itself. The question now is one of coal mines. Sir John Jordan is said to have recently preferred to the Waiwupu a request that in view of the difficulties attending the working of the Kaiping coal mine, a charter should be granted for working the mine at Lanchow. We gather that the Waiwupu is not indisposed to accede to this demand, and the telegram further states that the British Minister pressed for a speedy reply. But here the Local Assembly at Tientsin stepped in and decided to protest in the strongest manner, and to fight with every weapon in its possession, against the grant of any such concession. Evidently the influence of the provincial assemblies is to be exercised in a distinctly anti-foreign direction. From the temper displayed by these assemblies we now begin to appreciate the difficulties with which the Peking Government has hitherto had to contend in conducting its relations with foreign Powers.

We are not surpised to learn from telegrams in the *Mainichi Dempo* that a lengthy memorial has been presented to the Throne in Peking, urging that until education on modern lines is more widely spread throughout the masses in China, the institution of constitutional government would be premature and must do more harm than good. The memorial is said to be of great length, and presumably it deals with the experience already garnered in connexion with the Local Assemblies. These seem determined to invade the sphere of their country's foreign politics in a manner which is entirely foreign to the legitimate functions of such bodies, and the object lesson they have given thus far is calculated to inspire grave apprehensions as to what may happen when China has a national assembly. The memorialist is a certain Mr. Hu, of whose qualifications and political position we can not speak.

Telegrams reach Tokyo to the effect that the delimitation of Portuguese boundaries at Macao is proving a very difficult question for the conference which has been engaged during the past few months attempting to solve it. The Peking Government is said to be desirous of having recourse to the Hague Tribunal, and if that proposition be formally advanced by the Waiwupu, Portugal will be more or less constrained to agree, for the matters at issue are largely academical. It is a curious and interesting fact that China is conspicuous among all the nations of the earth in readinesss to welcome the principle of international arbitration. It is true that her only safety lies in that direction, but none the less her proclivity to appeal to the Hague Tribunal evinces a remarkable degree of confidence in the impartiality of foreign jurisconsults.

A curious telegram comes from Tsingtao. It says that the German merchants at that place have become involved in great trouble owing to an unsuccessful attempt to corner the opium market. Hitherto the quantity of opium reaching Tsingtao during 20 years is said to have been only 1000 boxes, but owing to the operations of the German merchants 3,200 boxes are already in store at the place, and 5,000 more are expected. Meanwhile the price of the drug has fallen sharply, and as from 3 to 4 millions *taels* are involved in the transaction, serious trouble is anticipated, unless the deal can be closed before the Chinese new year. We take these details from the *Asahi Shimbun's* telegrams, but it seems to us that they are to be received with much reserve.

A telegram from Peking to the *Asahi Shimbun* says that the Russian Representative in Peking has been negotiating earnestly with the Waiwupu for the opening of Yaonan to foreign trade and the posting of a Russian Consul there. The Waiwupu, however, according to the same authority, shows not the slighest disposition to accede to this proposal. Certainly the time is not very opportune for formulating any programme which depends upon the liberality of the Chinese nation towards foreign trade and intercourse.

There is renewed talk of the docking of the pigtail in Chinese circles, and this time the statement comes accompanied by a rumour that officialdom is seriously thinking of abolishing Chinese costume and substituting clothes of European style but made with Chinese materials. Undoubtedly these measures would go farther to convince foreign nations of the reality of Chinese reform than any other step that could be officially taken. But sumptuary regulations of such a character are calculated, above all things, to rouse popular indignation. Japan had to face the same problem at the beginning of the Meiji Era. Her leaders saw plainly that the old costume of the country was quite unsuitable for life in offices built and furnished in foreign style. They saw, too, that the queue and the semi-tonsure were altogether incongruous with the wearing of hats and therefore with the adoption of foreign costume, while being also a most uneconomical style of head-dress in view of the time needed for manipulation. Yet so well understood was the necessity of consulting national prejudices in such a matter that the authorities wisely limited themselves to prescribing foreign costume for office purposes only, and leaving men free to wear anything they pleased in private life. As for the queue, it was left severely alone. Some astute rhymster devised a couplet to the effect that to tap on a tonsured head was to produce the sound of a cheap pumpkin, whereas to tap on a cropped head was to get an echo of civilization and progress. This fragment of doggrel caught public fancy, and very soon it drove the queue out of existence. Thus the problem was solved without producing any convulsion, but we doubt whether such a simple and happy solution can be found in China's case.

The great poppy-growing fields of China are in the province of Szchuan, and it has always been a matter of anxiety how the inhabitants would receive the anti-opium edicts when these came to be actually enforced. Telegrams published in Tokyo on the 18th inst. say that serious riots have resulted from the officials' endeavour to give effect to the order against poppy-sowing; that the capital town Chintu is in a state of confusion, and that Viceroy Chou is quite unable to deal with the situation.

The Railway Association recently formed in the province of Hupeh seems to have got to work actively. It has commenced its propaganda against borrowing money abroad for purposes of railway construction, and it has set itself to enlist domestic financial aid. It would seem that the Association is very much in earnest, and certainly its propaganda will constitute a new difficulty for the negotiators of the Yeh-Han and Szchuan-Han Railway loans. But the affair has one feature which suggests that it may prove practically weak: the movement is said to be headed by students. One can not deem it likely that under such auspices the agitation will appeal largely to the moneyed classes.

MR. MILLARD.

The *Nippon Shimbun* has been interesting itself considerably in interviewing Mr. Millard during his brief stay in Japan, and has been devoting some space to refuting his statements and demonstrating his want of qualifications for the task he has undertaken as an interpreter of Japan. It does not appear to us that such a discussion has much public interest, but Mr. Millard's emphatic denial of any connexion with Mr. Crane is worth quoting, inasmuch as he was generally supposed to be coming eastward in the capacity of Mr. Crane's private secretary. He alleges distinctly that he never intended to stand in any official relation whatever to Mr. Crane, but the *Nippon* declines with equal emphasis to accept his denial unreservedly. At all events the Tokyo paper describes him, not unjustly we think, as one of the most prominent dealers in sensation who are engaged in the mischievous task of helping the East and the West to misunderstand each other. We are most unwilling to do Mr. Millard any injustice, but the portrait of himself imprinted on the pages of his books seem to us to betray a man who forms his theory first and fits his facts to it afterwards. There is no surer method of deceiving oneself, and unfortunately the eyes of the public seem specially constructed for the reception of that kind of dust.

CHIENTAO.

It appears that there is likely to be another Chientao question, this time between Russia and Korea, and of course Japan will be incidentally involved as the guardian of the Peninsular Empire. It is practically impossible without a very detailed map to decipher the facts of this new controversy, but the gist of the matter appears to be that the boundary stone between Russian and Chinese territory has been gradually moved back for a distance of over three miles by Korean settlers in Russia. The explanation given is that the land in this vicinity is particularly rich, and its Korean cultivators moved back the boundry stone so as to place their farms beyond the reach of the taxes levied upon land under Chinese jurisdiction.

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LORD KITCHENER.

The Tokyo Municipality entertained Lord Kitchener and his staff at the Maple Club on the evening of the 11th. The name Maple Club has come to be associated in the minds of the general public, both Japanese and foreign, with dreams of graceful maidens and soft entertainments. But somehow an idea prevails in Japan that the hero of the Soudan and South Africa has an innate aversion to the fair sex, to flowers, to dancing and to everything connected with the sybaritic side of life. Accordingly, extreme care was taken not to offend the Field-Marshal's eyes by any flutter of a *kimono* or flash of an *obi*, and instead of being received at the vestibule by kneeling lasses, his Lordship was met by men in ancient armour carrying the weapons of mediæval days. Doubtless it was all highly interesting and entertaining, but while the Field-Marshal must have been pleased to have an opportunity of inspecting the arms and armour of old Japan in genuine form, we imagine that he would be disposed to rebel against the austere character assigned to his tastes. He certainly has a keen love of artistic objects, and the category of the latter would scarcely be complete were it denuded of the fair sex and of flowers. The Municipal officials, however, were not absolutely inexorable. They drew the line of exclusion beyond the staff of pretty girls who serve habitually as waitresses at the Maple Club.

The Emperor of Japan has been pleased to confer high Orders on Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener and the members of his staff. The Field-Marshal has received the First Class of the Rising Sun and Paulownia; Major-General Rawlinson, the Second Class of the Rising Sun; Lt. Colonel Lambton, the Third Class of the Rising Sun; Major Lord Brooks, the Fourth Class of the Rising Sun and Capt. Fitz-Gerald, the Fifth Class.

The Field-Marshal is having a busy time in Tokyo with entertainments of all kinds. After the Garden Party at the British Embassy on the 12th inst., his Lordship dined with the Prime Minister, and on the following day he attended a reception given by the Minister of War at the Mitsui Club. He is to lunch with the Emperor to-day (Monday) and he attended a dinner *à la Japonaise* given by the British Society of Tokyo on Sunday. It is announced that he will leave Tokyo on the 16th inst. at 6.30 p.m.

On the 15th inst. Lord Kitchener and his staff had the honour of being entertained by the Emperor at luncheon, the British Ambassador and all the principal naval and military officers in Tokyo being among the guests. His Lordship was allowed to view all the art treasures of the Imperial Household, and his Majesty presented to the Field-Marshal some beautiful specimens of Japanese art. In the evening his Lordship dined with H. I. H. Prince Fushimi. He left Tokyo on the 16th inst. at 6.30 p.m.

The *Mainichi Dempo's* Peking correspondent sends a telegram which we have no hesitation in labelling an unqualified error. It says that when Lord Kitchener was on his recent visit to Mukden, he examined the art-treasures preserved in the old Palace there, and having expressed great admiration of their unique character and beautiful technique, he asked that, if possible, some of them might be given to himself. These facts having been communicated to Peking by Viceroy Hsi, the Authorities in the Chinese capital issued instructions that a pair of Kanghsi porcelain vases should be presented to the Field-Marshal. It is scarcely credible that any responsible correspondent should be betrayed into wiring such foolishness. That Lord Kitchener admired the objects in the old Palace is likely enough, but that he asked to have some of them bestowed on himself is the very most unlikely thing that could possibly be conceived.

On the 12th inst., Lord Kitchener, accompanied by Lieut.-General Murata and others, visited the Military Cadet School, where His Lordship was photographed, with five students who have distinguished themselves in their studies and conduct. His Lordship paid a visit on Saturday morning to Marquis Inouye, when he expressed his sincere regret with regard to the loss of Prince Ito. In the afternoon, the Field-Marshal and his suite visited the Akasaka palace, and were much pleased with the autmunal aspect of the fine Japanese garden there.

On the 14th inst. Lord Kitchener, accompanied by Lieut-General Murata and a Master of Ceremonies, visited the Mitsukoshi Dry goods store in Tokyo, and then proceeded to the residence of Prince Yamagata at Mejiro to attend a luncheon party there. Yesterday His Lordship viewed the shooting of wild ducks in the grounds of the Shiba Detached Palace, and after attending a luncheon at the Imperial Palace, visited the Uyeno Museum and the Fine-art Exhibition.

Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener, prior to his departure on the 16th inst., gave a farewell luncheon at the Shiba Detached Palace, at which were present the Princes of the Blood, Prince Yamagata, Marquis Katsura and others. Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald accompanied his Lordship as far as Nara.

On the morning of the 17th instant, Lord Kitchener arrived at Kyoto, where he was welcomed by the Governor and many others. His Lordship visited various fine-art depots in the city, and made several purchases. The British Ambassador, Sir Claude MacDonald, arrived at Nara on the evening of the same day to await Lord Kitchener, who was expected there yesterday.

A SENSATIONAL PARAGRAPH.

We always hesitate to assist in giving currency to the stories told by some of our vernacular contemporaries, for it generally turns out that they can claim only a very little grain of truth and sometimes not even that. This definition appears to apply to a tale told by the *Mainichi Dempo* about the iron smelting works of the Tanko S.S. Company. The idea with which these works were established was to utilize the sand iron of Hokkaido for the purposes of the Seikosho. The two enterprises are of course wholly unconnected, but it is easy to understand that if the smelting works can not act as a feeder to the Seikosho, the *raison d'être* of the former must practically disappear. The *Mainichi Dempo* now alleges that no relation of the sort is found to be possible; in other words, that the Seikosho has refused to have anything to do with the products of the foundry. Our contemporary quotes figures to show the heavy loss that all this will entail upon the Tanko S.S. Company, but considering that the smelting works are still in their infancy and that the Seikosho can not yet be said to have commenced operations, we are quite unable to believe that things have reached the stage indicated by the *Mainichi Dempo*. In fact we think that the whole story scarcely deserves to emerge from our esteemed contemporary's

third page.

SAGHALIEN.

We read in Tokyo journals that the budget for Saghalien next year amounts to 2 million *yen*. As usual the most important item of revenue is fishing licences These stand at 800,000 *yen*, against last year's figure of 880,000. The public was prepared for this reduction, inasmuch as events had made it evident that last year's estimates of the capacity of the fisheries had been exaggerated. Posts and telegraphs contribute 130,000 *yen*, and the Treasury disburses half a million. These are the principal items of revenue. On the side of expenditures, the most interesting item is 200,000 *yen*, for roads and irrigation ponds. Of this total, the sum to be expended next year is 90,000; and the expectation is that, by the construction of suitable irrigation works, no less than 40 million acres of land will become arable. Another conspicuous item is the Shikutsu coal mine. During the past year this mine was exploited experimentally only, but a suitable plant having now been erected, it is expected that 80,000 tons will be taken out this year, yielding a revenue of 240,000 *yen*. As for colonists, there are from 1,200 to 1,300 households, and as they have occupied all the buildings and taken over all the cattle left by the Russians, further provision has now to be made. There are two steamship services, namely, one conducted with two ships by the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, and the other with one ship by the Osaka Shosen Kaisha. These steamers ply once every six days to Otaru, and it is in contemplation to double their number next year.

We find in the *Kokumin Shumbun* a very rosy paragraph about the prospects of a newly discovered enterprise in Saghalien, namely, the extraction of pine-tree gum. It appears that this matter has been for some time under investigation, and the result is that the supply is pronounced to be practically inexhaustible, so that Saghalien is expected to prove a formidable competitor of Germany, which country has hitherto enjoyed the practical monopoly of this product. It is estimated that a revenue of from 2 to 3 million *yen* per annum can be obtained from this source. The gum is largely used for caulking ships and for making printers' ink.

KAGOSHIMA.

All through the pages of Japanese history Kagoshima has figured as a semi-independent principality, chiefly owing to the immense mountain barrier between Hitoyoshi and Yoshimatsu. To negotiate this barrier defied the strength of any hostile fief or any combination of fiefs, and the task was never achieved until Hideyoshi took it in hand. But now the barrier has yielded to the iron horse. Kagoshima has been brought into railroad connexion with Japan proper, and it is predicted that material changes will take place in the conditions of the town after the opening of the line on the 20th inst. Nagasaki is expected to be the main sufferer. All the produce, including the rice of Higo, a most important item, will now probably be carried to Kagoshima for shipment instead of continuing to find its way to Nagasaki, and Kagoshima will also become the natural port for South China and Formosa. All this means, however, that corresponding improvements will have to be effected in the harbour accommodation, and there is now talk of introducing a bill in the next session of the Diet to meet the situation.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

The journals of the capital continue to talk of the municipalization scheme as being now on the verge of consummation, but they differ radically in their estimates of the amount to be paid to the Company. Thus, while Mr. Fukuhara, President of the Imperial Life Insurance Company, which holds a very large block of shares, is quoted as saying that nothing less than 80 *yen* net per share can be accepted, a certain newspaper alleges that the price paid will not exceed from 72 to 73 *yen*. In fact, it is plain that beyond the broadest outlines of the case these journals have no positive information.

All the Tokyo newspapers agree in stating that the municipalization question is now approaching its final stage, but they differ radically as to the price at which the Government is willing to sanction municipalization. The general opinion seems to be that anything higher than 80 *yen*, paid with 5 per cent. bonds at their face value, will not receive official sanction. That would mean 72 *yen* per share net. Whether the Company would agree to sell at such a price is considered questionable. In this state of perplexity it is not surprising that the market quotation of the Company's shares should be comparatively weak. We ourselves do not believe that our Tokyo contemporaries are rightly informed on this subject.

It appears that the negotiations for the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway have virtually failed. The price offered by the City is so small that the shareholders can not possibly be induced to accept it. This result is wholly unexpected, and will strike business men as very peculiar. Every body supposed that the Mayor of Tokyo, who has hitherto had complete charge of the affair, must have assured himself from the outset that the City was prepared to offer a price acceptable to the Company. On that assumption, the certainty that municipalization would be achieved was accepted by the public, whereas it would now appear that all the transactions between the Government and the Municipality were on a purely hypothetical basis, and that the precaution of ascertaining the Company's lowest figure was not taken. Naturally the Company made no move on its own account. The proposal for municipalization had not come from the Directors, and it was therefore for the other side to approach them. The whole thing is a fiasco, and those concerned in it have a good deal to answer for to the investing public. Some of the Tokyo newspapers attribute the blame to the Government, whose idea of the proper terms is scarcely practical. But nothing can obliterate the fact that the responsible parties entered this negotiation without looking properly ahead.

It appears that the real difficulty about the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway has been created by the Government. The latter's estimate of the price that should be paid to the Company is *yen* 66.66 per share, and as this would be delivered in 5 per cent. bonds commanding, at most, 90 *yen* in the open market, the actual price stands at 60.00 *yen*. On the other hand, the Company would be allowed to retain all its ready money funds, which amount to 9,495,535 *yen*, and if these be added to the above figures the purchase price per share would be 68.00 *yen* approximately. There is not the slightest chance of the Company accepting such a proposal, and when the Government's figure came up for discussion in the Council of Aldermen on the 16th inst, there was for a moment doubt as to whether the farce should be enacted of approaching the Company with such a proposal, which is 20 millions less than the city was prepared to pay last year. It seems to have been decided, however, that the Government's ruling should be duly communicated to the Company, although the latter's refusal is a foregone conclusion. Nobody appears to understand the Government's action, for the sanction originally given in formal terms becomes a mere farce if the basis of agreement was impossible. Above all extraordinary is the fact that the Government should have arrogated to itself the right of imposing a hard and fast figure. Had there been any such intention originally, that price should have been clearly designated in the conditions of purchase which were given out with so much solemnity. If that very natural step had been taken, the fruitlessness of the whole negotiation would have become evident from the outset. The only thing to be said is that, if the Government estimates the Company's property at such a low figure in consideration of the present rate of fare, there should not be any hesitation in allowing an increase.

The general opinion at present appears to be that an agreement will ultimately be arrived at between the Municipality and the City, although there may be a rupture of the negotiations *pro tem*. Our readers are aware that the City's offer is 58 million *yen*, and it now appears that the Company is willing to take 65 millions, so that the difference is only 7 millions. Sixty-five millions paid in 5-per-cent. bonds at their face value would mean 75 *yen* per share, and assuming the market price of the bonds to be 93 *yen*, this would give 70 *yen* a share, approximately. Then there would remain the various reserves, which represent a further sum of 10.91 *yen* per share, bringing the figure to over 80 *yen*, which is the lowest that the Company professes itself willing to take. It is observable that the Municipality, in estimating the sum that would accrue to the shareholders, seems to have included the dividend for the half-year which ends on the 30th inst. That appears to us to be unfair. The dividend has been already earned, and will come into the pockets of the shareholders in any circumstances.

REUTER'S SERVICE.

We have had occasion to comment more than once on the strong disposition evinced by the *Japan Chronicle* to make uncomplimentary references to the manner in which Reuter's telegram service to Japan is conducted. Probably there never has been, not ever will be, a telegraphic service absolutely perfect from every point of view, telegraph agents being only human, and of necessity having their own social, political or economic proclivities. But, on the whole, Reuter's agents seem to get very near the ideal, and we say so not without knowledge, for during the past 27 years this journal has steadily subscribed for Reuter's Service. In that long interval we have heard it accused of partiality at the expense of so many nations and so many causes, that the variety of the charges has constituted the best possible evidence of the agency's fairness. Gratitude, it seems to us, would be more in place than abuse. As for the Kobe journal's strictures, that they are not always based on fact is shown by correspondence reproduced below from the London *Morning Leader* of October 18th, in which the great news agency disposes thoroughly of at least a portion of the offensive charge of partisanship brought against it by the *Japan Chronicle* :—

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "MORNING LEADER."

Sir,—Your issue of the 5th inst. contains the following :

An energetic protest is made by the *Japan Chronicle* of 19 Sept. against the character of the political intelligence sent from England to Japan by Reuter's Telegram Agency.

A leading article remarks that the function of such an agency, supported by journals of all political creeds, "is the dissemination of news and the statement of facts"; but that, judging from the English political information which Reuter dispenses, "it might almost be thought that the organisation was run in the interests of the English Conservative Association or the Tariff Reform League."

The article states that, whereas Reuter cabled a report of Lord Rosebery's Glasgow speech, it wired no particulars of the enthusiastic meetings addressed by Mr. Asquith.

As an illustration of the honesty of this allegation, on the faith of which you have given publicity to a statement evidently intended to create ill-feeling against our Agency, we beg to subjoin copy of our telegraphic report to Japan of Mr. Asquith's speech, which we were asserted to have suppressed :

Asquith remarkable reception Birmingham. Audience 7,000 Bingley Hall. Afterwards addressed overflow meeting, 4,000. Described meeting demonstration determinaton secure equitable distribution burden taxation. Defended land taxes. Asked where Rosebery's alternative; was Tariff Reform the alternative. Asquith admitted seriousness charges by statesmen Rosebery's standing. Lords' interference Budget would be the most formidable revolution on recent times. Liberals eager accept challenge.

Comment is needless: but you will doubtless recognise the propriety of removing the imputations so unjustly supported by their reproduction in your columns and of giving to this rectification the prominence assigned to the original statement.—Yours, etc.,

W. P. BRADSHAW, Secretary.
Reuter's Telegram Company, Limited.
Old Jewry, E.C., 16 Oct.

*** The criticisms of the *Japan Chronicle* were shown by our representative to Reuter's editor before publication in the *Morning Leader*, and his reply to them was printed in the same article in which the criticism itself was quoted. —Ed. "M L."

It seems evident that our Kobe contemporary is not itself a subscriber to Reuter's service and, such being the case, its carping against the efficiency of the service seems at least ungracious. Even if the *Japan Chronicle* has to rely for telegraphic news on the contents of other newspapers, the very serious, if not reckless, blunder it here stands convicted of might easily have been avoided by reference to our own columns, where the telegram quoted by Reuter's Secretary in his letter to the *Morning Leader* was duly published on the Monday after the Friday when the British Premier's great address at Birmingham was delivered—the address concerning which Reuter's agent was explicitly accused of not wiring any particulars.

THE BIRTHDAY PARTY AT THE BRITISH EMBASSY.

The Birthday Party at the British Embassy was given on the 12th inst. in veritable King's weather, and was attended by virtually all the leading members of all the nationalities in Tokyo and Yokohama, a tribute to the great popularity of Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald. From half-past two the guests began to assemble and before three o'clock the whole of the southern garden was crowded. At a little after three, Lord Kitchener and his staff arrived. They had been lunching at the Admiralty. A few minutes later, the eastern and western gardens were thrown open for refreshments, and the party broke up at 4 o'clock after a most enjoyable afternoon.

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POLITICAL PARTIES.

The approach of the next session of the Diet is turning men's minds in the direction of domestic politics, and the two great Parties are beginning to show activity. The *Seiyu-kai* have held two important local meetings, one at Sendai and the other at Niigata. At both gatherings the resolutions adopted were practically identical, namely :—(1) respect for the rights of the individual ; (2) the adoption of a positive policy in the region of finance, taxation, communications, and foreign affairs ; and (3) the vigorous prosecution of certain local enterprises. Mr. Motoda Hajime attended the Sendai meeting as representative of the head office, and Mr. Hara Kei attended the gathering at Niigata. The former politician's speech made it clear that his Party have determined to vigorously take up the question of abuses of judicial authority in applying the provisions of the new criminal code. Also he indicated that the *Seiyu-kai* advocate reductions of the business tax and the income tax so as to lessen the burdens of the mercantile and manufacturing classes. He further dwelt upon the fact that Germany is, as he expressed it, watching the world with haughty eyes from her pedestal in Europe, and that the United States Government is preparing to play a leading rôle in Far Eastern affairs. This utterance is somewhat inconsequential so far as Germany is concerned, but we give it as reported by the telegraph. Alluding to the death of Prince Ito and to the apprehensions expressed in some quarters that the sad event would injuriously affect the fortunes of the *Seiyu-kai*, Mr. Motoda strenuously denied anything of the sort. He claimed that the *Seiyu kai* is based upon principles, not upon persons, and he warned his hearers that the only danger to the Party lay in the possible development of a feeling of self-sufficiency inspired by the length of their roll of members.

Mr. Hara Kei's speech at Niigata took for its keynote the necessity of recognising the great responsibilities devolving on the *Seiyu-kai* in consequence of the preponderating influence they exercise in the Diet.

Mr. Sugita Teiichi spoke at the same meeting, but the only interesting feature of his speech, as reported, was a protest against the common fear lest Prince Ito's death might cloud the Party's prospects.

The Progressists, on their side, appear to be taking up this question of individual rights *vis à-vis* the criminal code with no less energy than the *Seiyu kai* are showing. It would seem, however, that the Progressists, *more suo*, are endeavouring to fix upon the Government's shoulders responsibility for the excesses and errors committed by the Judiciary. They say, in effect, that the present occupants of the bench are deficient in common sense and in competence ; that they slavishly observe all instructions emanating from the Department of Justice, and that it is essential to appoint better men. We can not but speculate as to the attitude which the *Seiyu-kai* and Progressists would adopt were they invited to vote for the occupants of the bench salaries adequate to secure first-class men.

Altogether it would seem, judging from present appearances, that the conduct of the Judiciary is to be the great political issue in the next session of the Diet. We do not see, however, that anything striking is likely to result. Such complaints as those formulated by the barristers and endorsed by the political Parties can lead to only one result, namely, the appointment of a commission of inquiry.

THE JAPANESE NAVY.

There have been some rumours of late in the sense that a fourth programme of naval expansion is about to be undertaken. This is denied by the naval authorities. They point out that the third programme was to have been completed, according to the original plan, in the eleven-year period from 1903 to 1913 inclusive. This was subsequently lengthened to 1915 and thereafter to 1916, so that seven years have still to elapse before even the third period programme is completed. The only vessel built with money taken from the construction fund within that period is the *Ibuki*. Other outlays made for purposes of repairs etc. were defrayed from the Maintenance Fund, from the Implementing Fund, and so forth.

It has been decided that the big destroyer now under construction at the Nagasaki Dockyard shall be called *Yamakaze* (mountain wind), and that her sister ship now building at Maizuru shall be called *Kaifu* (sea wind). These destroyers are over a thousand tons. They stand midway between the larger vessels of the same type recently added to the British Navy and the typical 400-ton boat which has hitherto represented this class of fighting vessel.

The confusion under which the public mind has laboured hitherto with regard to the problem of naval construction has been cleared up by a statement which apparently emanates from official quarters. From this we learn that there are virtually three programmes. First, there is the regular third-period programme of construction, for which the consent of the Diet has been obtained and funds have been duly allotted. There is, secondly, the emergency programme, carried out with the Implementing Fund (*hosoku hi*). Finally, there is, in the third place, the Emergency Programme carried out with adjustment funds (*seiri-hi*). Under these programmes the following vessels have been built, building, or bought :—

THIRD PERIOD EXPANSION PROGRAMME.

	Tons.
Katori, Battleship	15,950
Kashima, „	16,400
Ibuki, Armoured Cruiser	14,600

EMERGENCY IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMME.

Aki, Battleship	19,150
Satsuma, „	19,150
Tsukuba, Armoured Cruiser	13,750
Ikoma, „ „	13,750
Kurama, „ „	14,600
Tone, Cruiser	4,400
Yodo, Despatch Boat	1,250
Mogami, „	1,350

EMERGENCY ADJUSTMENT PROGRAMME.

Kawachi, Battleship	21,000
Settsu, „	21,000

The above represent a total of 13 ships, aggregating 176,300 tons displacement approximately, and to these have to be added 29 destroyers built under the Emergency Implementing Programme. Then we have the vessels that are still to be built under the above programmes. They are as follow :—

THIRD PERIOD PROGRAMME.

Battleship, 1	16,000 tons.
Armoured Cruisers, 2	11,000 tons each.
Cruisers, 2	5,000 „ „

EMERGENCY IMPLEMENTING PROGRAMME.

Armoured Cruiser, 1	14,600 tons.
Cruisers, 2	4,100 tons each.
Destroyers, several	375 „ „
Torpedoers, 6	120 „ „

All the above have still to be constructed. They represent 17 vessels, aggregating over 70,000 tons.

THE newly-built battleship *Satsuma* completed her trial runs on the 16th inst. She is to be brought to Saseho by the end of this month.

THE YUKON EXHIBITION.

Mr. Oda, Japanese Commissioner to the Yukon Exhibition, has just returned to Tokyo and has presented a glowing report as to the success of the Exhibition. He says that the Japanese exhibits attracted conspicuous attention. They had been selected not with a view to immediate sale but in great part to introduce to the notice of the people of Alaska the possibilities of Japanese trade. Thus many objects were shown which nobody was prepared to find coming from Japan, and much admiring surprise was evoked. As for sales, they were remarkably numerous. Porcelains, lacquers, antimony ware, iron, manufactures, ivories and silk fabrics sold as fast as they could be offered. The great silk weaver of Kyoto, Mr. Takashimaya Iida, not only got rid of all the fabrics originally sent by him but also had to obtain another consignment from Japan. The attention of the fair sex was specially riveted on the display of culture pearls from the now famous store of Messrs. Mikimoto & Co. The capital invested in the Exhibition was only 800,000 dollars, and it was all recovered with a considerable surplus. Three millions was the number of visitors originally estimated, but 3¾ millions turned the stiles. Mr. Oda is further quoted as saying that the party of business men visiting the United States are supposed by some to have had an easy time, but the very opposite is the truth. They have had to attend long banquets at least once every day and often twice, and their physical endurance has been put to a severe test, to say nothing of their laborious investigations.

BLACKMAILERS.

Four persons have been arrested in Tokyo on a charge of blackmailing. Three of them are connected with newspapers and the fourth appears to be a kind of *soshi*. The newspapers involved are the *Banzai* and the *Choya*. There was a time when the latter journal held its head high among the craft, but for years back nothing has been heard of it, until it now emerges into notoriety, bracketed with the *Banzai*. It appears that the device employed was for one of these newspapers to publish a libellous attack, and then the other would blackmail the victim of the attack by threatening to reproduce the libel. They practised this scheme to the tune of 300 *yen* on a money-lender called Yanagi, but unfortunately for the blackmailers, Yanagi made known his tribulations to the public procurator.

Another blackmailer also has been arrested in the person of Mr. Nakayama Seijiro, the proprietor of an institution having the high-sounding title of "The Ideal News Agency combined with the Japan Literary Society." This gentleman served at one time as a police constable, but he seems to have learned the ways of thieves from contact with them, and after undergoing punishment six times for petty larceny, he conceived the idea of establishing a blackmailing news agency. He, too, is now in durance vile. We may mention here that it has become the fashion of late to publish and circulate in the suburbs of Tokyo weekly journals which are only small sheets, and which may be said to be devoted entirely to libelling individual citizens. We often hear talk among foreigners in Japan about the noble privilege of free speech, but it seems to us that some lessons have been recently learned on that subject.

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THE SOY COMPANY.

The latest object of journalistic attack is the Japanese Soy Company, which, if Tokyo newspapers are to be believed, has fallen into a most parlous condition. The *Nippon* devotes a great deal of space to the history of the Company and to the development of its embarrassments, the sum of the analysis being that the Company's assets represent only 1,400,000 *yen*, whereas it has floated bills totalling 2,400,000; that its reserves amount to only 10,000 *yen*; that its shares (17.50 *yen* paid up) are now quoted at 4 *yen* in the open market; that its President and largest shareholder, Mr. Suzuki Tosaburo, has resigned his post, and that the Konoike Bank has discounted the Company's paper to the extent of 2,000,000 *yen*. How much truth there may be all this we are unable to say, for unfortunately it has become quite impossible to place implicit reliance on the non-editorial statements of the Japanese press, and it seems to be the fashion now-a-days to dish up economic sensations daily for public delectation.

It is stated that Mr. Iwashita, President of the Kitahama Bank, who is now on a trip to Manchuria, has been wired to return, in connexion with the troubles into which the Japan Soy Company has fallen. We understand that this artificial soy, as it may be termed, is scarcely distinguishable from the genuine article when used cold, but for purposes of cooking it is palpably inferior. Moreover it keeps badly, and the difference in price between it and the familiar old soy is only 30 *sen* per barrel. In other words, while the genuine soy costs 2.60 a barrel, the artificial is sold at 2.30; not a very substantial difference.

The news this morning is that the Soy Factory at Amagasaki has been closed and all its contents have been officially sealed, including 45 vats each containing 150 *koku* of soy. This is the factory where the use of saccharine was discovered to be taking place. What the authorities will do with the factory and its contents remains to be seen, but of course the whole of the artificial soy enterprise has received a blow from which it is not at all likely to recover. We may mention that the use of saccharine by confectioners of Japan has long engaged the attention of the sanitary authorities, and strenuous measures have been taken to check the practice.

THE BANK OF JAPAN.

An extraordinary appreciation, amounting in all to nearly a hundred *yen* per share, took place in the quotations for the Bank of Japan's script within the past few days. In spite of this strong upward tendency, there were almost no sellers, and the public is naturally much perplexed to discover the cause of such a sudden and sharp movement. Rumour says that an increase of the Bank capital is imminent, and as this would give to each shareholder a share, or part of a share, at par, and as further the Bank is supposed to have amalgamated itself with the Central Bank of Korea, these reasons were at first considered sufficient to account for the appreciation. But Mr. Takahashi, Vice-Governor of the Bank, is quoted as saying that he has not heard anything about an imminent increase of capital, and that, as for amalgamation with the Central Bank of Korea, no such project has hitherto been discussed. Thus the whole business remains still a mystery.

A RAILWAY QUESTION.

There is a curious item of news about the railway from Swatow to Chouchoufu. This line traverses a distance of 30 miles and was constructed entirely under the engineering direction of Mr. Akuzawa, an expert connected with the Formosan Government. The work was commenced in May 1904, and the line was formally opened to traffic in December 1906, the cost of construction having been one million taels, more than three-fourths of which money was put up by a wealthy Chinese resident of Formosa, Mr. Liu. In the circumstances, it was not unnatural that a large number of the employees of the Railway should be Japanese subjects, nor was it altogether unnatural that this feature of the enterprise should attract Chinese attention. The upshot of the matter was, according to telegrams published by the *Asahi Shimbun*, that the Department of Posts and Telegraphs sent commissioners to conduct an investigation, and on the strength of their report, not only have the greater part of the Japanese employees been dismissed, but also arrangements have been made for the purchase of all Mr. Liu's shares. Our Tokyo contemporary thinks that the story is to be received with due reserve, and we are inclined to take the same view, observing, however, that such an incident accords with the rights-recovery mood of China at present.

THE SEIKOSHO.

Telegrams received in Tokyo from Muroran say that at 7 o'clock on the evening of the 12th inst. a disturbance was raised at the Seikosho by some 200 employees, who had received notice that their services would no longer be required. These men showed a disposition to resort to extreme violence, but they were ultimately pacified on finding that they were not to be dismissed empty-handed.

We may mention here some naval promotions which indirectly affect the Seikosho. They hinge upon the elevation of Admiral Count Togo to be Admiral of the Fleet, a position which corresponds to that of Field-Marshal in the army. The post now held by Admiral Togo, namely, Chief of the Naval General Staff, will, it is said, be filled by Vice-Admiral Baron Iijuin. Further, Rear-Admiral Kato, now Vice-Minister of the Naval Department, will be appointed Port Admiral at Kure, being succeeded at that Department by Rear-Admiral Takarabe. The present Port Admiral at Kure is Vice-Admiral Baron Yamanouchi, and it is expected that he will become Manager at the Seikosho.

EMIGRATION.

It is stated by the *Hochi Shimbun* that there is some intention of forming a semi-official bureau for managing affairs of emigration after the manner of Austria-Hungary and Italy. At present there are 18 emigration companies in Japan, and the fraction of their capital which they have actually subscribed barely suffices for carrying on a hand-to-mouth business, when the 50,000 *yen* required by the Foreign Office as security from each company is put up. The result of these competitive and ill-organized methods is that no efficient steps are taken for ascertaining the qualifications of would-be emigrants, and great harshness is exercised in collecting moneys advanced. All things considered, the Government is seriously thinking of forming an emigration bureau which will be largely under official control. Thus far the *Hochi*. It will probably occur to our readers that, however objectionable may be official intrusions into business spheres, the case under consideration presents an exceptional feature, namely, that the question of emigration has come to be an international problem, and can not safely be left to take care of itself.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* quotes Mr. Kato, Vice-President of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, as saying that although rumour has put the dividend for this half-year at 9 per cent. or less, the Company will be able to pay 10 per cent., as before. It is true that the American service has not been successful, and that it shows as yet no sign of mending, but on the other hand the Australian and European services, especially the latter, have done fairly well. Thus the Company finds its position by no means as unfavourable as rumour would have the public believe.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, November 12.

On the 12th instant the Exchange showed considerable vitality owing to rumours of a reduction in the discount rate abroad and a marked appreciation of copper. All shares rose, except those of the Tanko S.S. Company.

Saturday, November 13.

The tone of the market was pretty firm on the 13th inst., with the exception of a few stocks, notably Tokyo Railways, which were decidedly weak in consequence of unfavourable rumours as to the price which will be offered to the Company.

Monday, November 15.

The market yesterday was sharply affected by a rumour that the price offered by the Municipality for the Tokyo Railway is exceedingly low. The Railway's shares fell 5 points for immediate delivery in the previous session, but steadied somewhat in the afternoon.

Wednesday, November 17.

The market presented no features worthy of note on the 17th instant. There is still some idea that the Railway Company and the Municipality may find an exit from the deadlock and the former's shares consequently remain tolerably steady.

Thursday, November 18.

The tone of the Exchange yesterday was tolerably strong, though in the case of the Rice Exchange only did any very marked appreciation take place. We append the quotations for January delivery :—

	Nov. 17th.		Nov. 18th.		
Tokyo Railway	68 25	...	68.40	...	+ .15
Kei-hin Railway	60.90	...	59.60	...	—1.30
Yusen Kaisha	80.00	...	79 85	...	— .15
Toyo Kisen	—	...	36.10	...	.—
Tanko Kisen	37.10	...	—	...	.—
Tokyo Gas	100.05	...	100 20	...	+ .15
Tokyo Dento	94 00	...	93.70	...	— .30
Fuji Gass Spinning	98.00	...	98 45	...	+ .45
Tokyo Spinning	42.65	...	42 95	...	+ .30
Kanegafuchi Spinning	104.10	...	105.60	...	+1.50
Beer	77.80	...	77.50	...	— .30
Hoden Oil	76.45	...	76.40	...	— .05
Nippon Oil	83 20	...	84.25	...	+1.05
Rice Exchange	110.00	...	114 85	...	+4.85
Stock Exchange	166 45	...	166.85	...	+ .40

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HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER.

There appears to be quite a growing mania for hydro electric undertakings in Japan. We hear of charters being applied for at one place or another and we are inclined to think that the Government's action has something to do with this mood on the people's part. The Government, as our readers have been informed, is about to ask the Diet for a grant of money to be applied to investigating the sources of hydro-electric power throughout the Empire, and if the Diet consents, no charters will be granted to private companies pending the result of the investigation. In anticipation of this delay, projectors are therefore hastening to put in applications. The latest is for utilizing the Yodogawa to supply power to the mills of Kyoto and Osaka. It is said that this enterprise would be likely to prove a formidable competitor of the Ujigawa scheme which is in process of being carried out.

THE RICE EXCHANGE.

It will have been observed that the shares of the Tokyo Rice Exchange jumped up by no less than 7 points on the 16th inst. The reason of this sudden upward movement is that it has been decided to double the capital of the Company. At present the capital stands at a million and a half of *yen*, and there has for some time been talk of an increase. But the recent trouble in connexion with the Matsutatsu affair necessitated a postponement of this plan, and only now has it again been brought on the tapis. Tokyo newspapers say that it is not certain whether the additional capital will be raised from the present shareholders or from the general public, but we question whether any uncertainty can really exist as to the procedure that will be adopted.

"F.C.G." AND THE BUDGET.

Sir F. C. Gould, in the *Westminster*, depicts Lord Lansdowne as Hamlet contemplating the Budget and saying :—

"To pass or not to pass, that is the question :—
Whether 'tis nobler for the Lords to suffer
The slings and arrows of a land-tax Budget,
Or to take arms against the hideous thing,
And by opposing end it. . . .

But that the dread of that which must ensue,
The 'going to the country from whose bourn
Few Tories may return,' puzzles the will,
And makes us rather bear the ills we have
Than fly to others that we know not of?"

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The affairs of the Japan Warehousing Company have become so involved that the arrest of two of the Directors, Mr. Ueno Toyojiro and and Mr. Ueno Seijiro, has been effected, and several other arrests are expected to take place shortly. The charge against these Directors is that they issued fraudulent deposit receipts showing goods in the warehouse at Fukushima, whereas no such goods had any existence. On the security of these notes they borrowed 130,000 *yen* from a certain insurance company. It would almost seem as though scandals of this kind were never to be exhausted.

With regard to Ex-President's adventures in East African hunting grounds, a Nairobi message of Sept. 18 reads as follows :—

Mr. Cresswell, a Government engineer in the Public Works Department at Nyori, came into Nairobi this afternoon and brought word that Mr. Roosevelt had a very narrow escape when shooting a bull elephant. When shooting elephants it is often necessary to creep into the herd and shoot the selected bull at a range of fifteen to thirty yards. Roosevelt, accompanied by Cunninghame, the big game hunter and guide, followed this procedure, and killed his elephant at the second shot. Suddenly, before Roosevelt could reload, another bull elephant charged him at close range from the herd. Cunninghame and Roosevelt got behind trees, and Cunninghame fired and turned the bull from Roosevelt just in time.

In the above incident, or some similar one, is doubtless to be found the origin of the false report which emanated from New York last week, and of which a good deal was made locally. Nothing is more natural, of course, than for sensation-mongers and *makers* of news to fall occasionally into one another's traps.

Under the heading of "A great Prince, the London *Daily Mail* of the 27th ult., has the following appreciative "leader" on the late Prince Ito :—.

The sympathy of the civilised world is with Japan in the loss of her greatest son. Prince Ito gave his life to his country. He more than any man or any party was responsible for the position to which Japan has risen among the nations. The first—with Count Inouye, who happily survives—to brave the terrors of the unknown and the penalty of death in order to bring to his people the secrets of European progress and civilisation, his was the brain that guided and his the hand that sustained the first steps of Japan toward emancipation from mediæval despotism. Born a feudal retainer, he lived to be four times Prime Minister of a constitutional Government. He found Japan armed with bows and arrows and left her a mighty and victorious military and naval Power. He began his career in a land closed to the foreigner and lived to make her the ally of Great Britain. These are achievements of which no other man living or dead can boast, and in which not Japan alone but the whole world may take pride. Living, he was one of those great forces that make for progress by the ways of peace, for he loved peace and abhorred war, though fate determined that he should taste of its bitterness. Dead, his memory and his example will be for ever a priceless heritage to his countrymen and an inspiration to mankind.

Telegrams from London indicate a steady tendency towards reduced rates of interest, and one result has been a marked appreciation of Japanese State securities. The latest quotations were war bonds £105 5s. 6d.; 5 per cent. bonds (old) £103 10s. 10d.; new 5 per cent. bonds £101⅝, and 4½ per cent. bonds £98. It is thought that Mr. Mizumachi's return to London is connected with the Government's project for converting the 5 per cent. bonds.

We are now in possession of somewhat more accurate intelligence as to the promise made by the Russian Minister of Finance with regard to trading facilities in the north. A telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo* from Vladivostock attributes to his Excellency a promise that goods may hereafter be entered duty free at Possiet Bay, and carried thence without tax to Funchun on the borders of Chientao. Further the Minister stated that rates of freight by the ships of the volunteer fleet would be reduced, and that warehouses would be built, presumably at Possiet Bay. This project thus assumes the character of emphatic competition with the Songjin-Hoiryong road.

By the opening of the last section of the Kyushu Railway, the Grand Trunk Line of Japan has been completed from Sapporo on the north to Kagoshima on the south, a distance of 1,800 miles. The most difficult part of the whole undertaking was the section between Hitoyoshi and Yoshimatsu, a distance of 21 miles, and the worst point in that section was the tunnel under the Yadake-toge. The first part of this line to be thrown open was the Tokyo-Yokohama section, which began to carry passengers and goods in 1872. The total expenditure on the whole line has been 13,131,683 *yen*, and therefore the average cost has been 140,000 *yen* per mile, in round figures.

On the 13th inst. Mr. Kawashima Jimbei exhibited at the Kazoku Kaikan in Tokyo the most wonderful specimen of gobelin tapestry ever seen. It measured 53ft. in length by 18 in width, and the execution of the design was as perfect as the dimensions were extraordinary. Count Okuma conducted a select party of guests to view this wonderful production. In an adjoining chamber were shown some of the articles which Mr. Kawashima intends to show at the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition next year. They were unquestionably the richest specimens of the weaver's art we have ever seen.

It appears that the barristers of Tokyo are very earnest in their campaign with reference to the operation of the new criminal code. They have held further meetings, and are said to have determined upon a general assembly in Tokyo on the 11th proximo, as well as a big lecture meeting on the following day, when all the barristers throughout the Empire will be invited to send delegates. The barristers take the line that the discretion reposed in the Judiciary by the new code is so harshly exercised as to constitute a grave menace, and in many cases more than a menace, to the rights of individuals.

Quite a historical scene was witnessed at the British Embassy on the 12th inst. Of the six hundred guests who enjoyed Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald's hospitality, those that had eyes to see witnessed a memorable sight. Seated at one of the refreshment tables were Marquis Inouye, Marquis Matsukata, Marquis Katsura, Count Okuma, Lord Kitchener, and the Ambassadors of Russia and England. Prince Yamagata was unfortunately at another table, or the group would have been quite complete.

The actual trials for establishing wireless communication between Japan and Hawaii are to be made about the middle of next month. Of course the trials will be between stations in Japan, the immediate object being to ascertain the capacity of the receiver, which is said to have been immensely improved by a Japanese engineer, Mr. Torigata, and to have acquired in his hands a potency which is expected to insure success. The longest distance over which wireless communication has hitherto been established is 2,500 miles, between England and the United States, whereas the distance between Hawaii and Japan is 3,500. If therefore the proposed installation prove a success, it must be regarded as a great step in wireless telegraphy.

If the Vladivostock correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* be well informed, Russia is not disposed to allow the Japanese to develop Chyongjin as the port of Chientao without competition. The correspondent alleges that it has been decided to allow duty free transit to all goods passing between Vladivostock and Funchun. The latter place is on the boundary of Chientao, and if it were connected by rail with Vladivostock, the line between Chyongjin and Hoiryong might have a formidable rival.

A London journal writes :—

No hats are worn by the Japanese ladies. Instead, they exhibit coiffures that, to the Western male mind, at least, are utterly incomprehensible. These hirsute creations are the abiding pride of not only the "little maid from school," but the middle-aged and

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old as well. Hairdressers are naturally much in demand in Japan. They usually come to the house to arrange this wonderfully black and shining mass of "woman's crowning glory," and spend hours in combing, oiling, and moulding the Japanese tresses into these marvellous butterfly effects one sees everywhere. Hair pins, combs, beads, and other ornaments enter prominently into the Japanese coiffure, which, when completed, is supposed to remain undisturbed for from five to ten days, says Doctor Roush. The block of camphor wood scooped out to fit the neck, and used as a pillow, permits the Japanese women to sleep without disarranging their hair.

It is plain that the writer of the above has not been in Japan for many years. The "marvellous butterfly" coiffures of which he speaks are practically things of the past in all upper circles. But it remains true that Japanese women wearing Japanese costume carefully eschew hats. We do not quite see that the two things—a hat and a *kimono*—are so greatly incongruous, but feminine taste in Japan has resolutely banished them from one another.

We find the following in an American journal:—

The building of a new face has been successfully accomplished in Boston, Massachusetts, and, according to reports published, the new art will open up a career for skilled practitioners who will "displace the tawdry advertising quacks known as beauty doctors." Stephen Calabro, 25 years old, was discharged from the Massachusetts General Hospital recently with new features and scalp, following a series of operations among the most remarkable in surgical history, and extending over a period of three years, and done as a work of scientific interest by Mr. Charles Porter, of the Harvard Medical School. Calabro, who was horribly burned, and was thought to be disfigured for life in an explosion in 1905, submitted himself for treatment in March, 1906. His face, neck, scalp, and arms were one mass of turtle-like skin known to the medical profession as chelyoid tissue. He left the hospital with a new forehead, new eyelids, new cheeks, a new nose, a new chin, a new neck, and finally a new head of hair. Calabro was given ether 30 times. The operations consisted of skin transplantation and grafting. Much of the skin was taken from other parts of Calabro's body, but his brother Thomas, and other members of the family, sacrificed portions to aid their brother. One of the greatest difficulties met with in the treatment of Calabro, was making a new head of hair. Nearly the entire scalp had to be replaced, but this was finally accomplished, and now the young man has a prolific crop.

The *Shogyo Shimpo* says that about a thousand officers and seamen of the mercantile marine are now out of employment and that the prospects for students graduating from the mercantile marine colleges are very gloomy. In these circumstances attention has been again directed to an application received at the commencement of this year from China, but declined at the time. Chinese employers were anxious to obtain Japanese officers to replace Occidentals in forming the crews of ships, but the project was rejected mainly on the ground of linguistic difficulties.

It is stated by the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* that the Japanese Government has decided to make Port Arthur a commercial harbour instead of reserving it as hitherto for naval purposes. The reasons given for this decision are that, as things stand at present, the trade of the place is steadily declining, and must disappear almost entirely unless some drastic remedy be applied. No resource offers except the free admission of merchant vessels, and the Tokyo Government is said to have decided in that sense.

Mr. Bryan seems to have made a long speech at Denver to the Japanese businessmen who are now visiting the United States. It was doubtless a very eloquent address, but to re-translate it from the Japanese version would involve a degree of mutilation for which we are not prepared to be responsible. The great orator spoke in very feeling and appreciative terms of Prince Ito, whose acquaintance he made during his recent visit to Japan, and he appears to have had a good deal to say about the progress of society and about the wholesome feature that, just as the condition of a community depends upon the prosperity of the individuals composing it, so the peace and happiness of the world depend upon the welfare of the nations inhabiting it.

The result of the investigation made at Maizuru by the Public Procurator and the gendarmerie is unfavourable to the three Russian merchants of Kobe who were recently charged with taking photographs within forbidden areas. It is said that the photographs have been distinctly proved to violate the law, and accordingly full information has been forwarded to the Hyogo Local Court, where the trial of the accused will be opened in a short time. The names of the three persons charged are given by Tokyo newspapers, but we refrain from reproducing them.

The Christmas number of the *Graphic* for this year is a really wonderful specimen of the art of illustration, which has now been developed to a degree not dreamed of thirty or forty years ago. The coloured pictures are veritably worthy to be framed and hung, and the black-and-white sketches are at once powerful and delicate. Then there are the stories and the verses, all appropriate to the occasion, and all absorbingly interesting. It is, in truth, a substantial addition to the joys of Christmas.

Our attention has been called to an error which recently appeared in these columns. In our issue of the 12th instant we stated that the Seikosho was the only Japanese Company which had hitherto submitted its accounts to a professional audit, whereas in our issue of July 19th we had referred to the audit of the Kanegafuchi Spinning Company's books by Mr. A. M. Spence, of Messrs. Hunter & Company, Kobe.

A fire broke out at the Residency-General in Seoul on the 15th inst. at noon. It caused some commotion at first, on account of the suspicion that it was a case of incendiarism; but the flames were quickly subdued without causing any serious damage, and it subsequently transpired that they had had their origin in an over-heated stove.

Our readers doubtless remember that there was much talk some time ago about amalgamation being effected between the Shibaura Electric Works and the General Electric Company of the United States. The negotiations came to an end, owing to some difficulties which were differently explained by the parties concerned, but if the *Jiji Shimpo* be truly informed, the project has been now virtually consummated. The United Company will have a capital of 2 million *yen*, 1,300,000 of which will represent the Shibaura Works; 200,000 will be taken up in Japan and 500,000 will be subscribed by the American Electric Company, which will thus acquire one-fourth of the control. Such is the *Jiji's* account; but, for our own part, we are inclined to doubt the practical feasibility of any joint arrangement which does not place the foreign and the Japanese elements on a perfectly equal footing.

The celebrated art publishers of London, Messrs. Raphael Tuck & Sons, give us for the approaching Christmas a Pandora's box of very delightful objects. There are almanacks of great beauty, picture-cards and puzzle-cards, children's books, ingenious and attractive toys, and, in short, a multitude of most charming articles. We cannot imagine a more pleasing Christmas present than this collection of surprises, each commanding full admiration until the next comes under our delighted eyes. One specially commendable feature is that the recipient of the richly furnished case not only derives enjoyment himself but is enabled to dispense pleasure through a wide circle of friends by distributing these artistic souvenirs among them.

There are many comments on the altogether unprecedented accumulation of raw silk which now exists in Yokohama. The total figure is put at from 43,000 to 44,000 boxes, against 40,712 boxes in 1908; 41,474 in 1903; 40,633 in 1901 and 41,430 in 1900. On the other hand, this great accumulation of Japan's principal staple of export is not causing any inconvenience whatever in the money market. Last year the financing of a quantity smaller by some 3,000 boxes taxed the resources of the banks considerably, but this year so much money is lying idle in their vaults that they find it quite an advantage to have such an opportunity of investment.

A total eclipse of the moon takes place on the 27th inst. It will be visible from first to last in Hokkaido and regions eastward of that place, but the first contact will not be seen from Tokyo, where the eclipse will have partially taken place before the moon rises at 4.25 p.m. It will be observed that the moon will be very nearly full at the time of the eclipse, and thus the spectacle should be very interesting.

TOKYO NOTES.

The annual Garden Party given at the British Embassy in honour of the King's Birthday took place on Friday afternoon, having been postponed for three days in order that Lord Kitchener might be present. It was, as usual, a very large and successful entertainment, the invited guests mustering in goodly show. Among the Japanese guests we noticed the Premier, the Minister of Marine, Count Matsukata, Count Okuma, Viscount Kagawa, Prince Tokugawa, Admirals Togô, Inouye, Shimomura, Sakamoto; Generals Oku and Nogi; Surgeon-Admiral Honda, Baron Takagi, Viscount Inabe, &c., a large number of ladies and gentlemen connected with the Foreign Embassies, and foreign residents of Tokyo, prominent and otherwise. Lord Kitchener arrived somewhat late: he had been to the Palace, where he had been honoured by His Majesty with a high decoration. Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald were excellent hosts as usual, and the weather was all that could be desired. A characteristic feature of these gatherings of Britishers, one that is not frequently emphasized with sufficient care, is that they give opportunities to men who seldom meet one another of shaking hands and exchanging a few friendly words. Occasions for meeting our fellow-countrymen are much fewer in Tokyo than they are in settlements like Yokohama or Kobe.

* * *

The November Number of the South Diocesan Magazine has just made its way to my writing desk. It contains a very excellent letter by Rev. H. B. Walton on his experiences in Korea during the summer. Mr. Walton is better known in Yokohama than in Tokyo: but here, too, we esteem him as a keen observer and sound critic, and whatever he has written on the needs of the Peninsula will be received with respect.

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There is also a diary of a trip to the Bonins by four or five ladies, who recently accompanied the Bishop and other clergy on a visit to the Islands for the consecration of a Church.

* * *

For brevity in a Missionary Report let me commend the following, which hails from Hamamatsu.

If 'Hamamatsu' will rhyme with 'gnats'
(Which some philologists deny),
I might perchance a plea advance
For writing little; yet I'll try
To say at least one thing, which is,
"We're few but merry: by and by
You'll hear from us again"—ah! bizz!
Three gnats at once, *negaitai.*

* * *

The Tokyo Dancing Association had its first meeting for the season this week at the *Sanyentei* in Shiba Park, the members present, with their guests, numbering about eighty in all. This is the first dance that has ever been given at the *Sanyentei* under the auspices of the Association. The dancers had but little reason to complain, but the poor *chaperones* were not nearly in such good case. What the foreign community of Tokyo really wants is a Public Hall in some central and yet quiet situation, a building large enough to contain a room for dancing and other entertainments, a Library, and one or two comfortable parlours for meetings of Committees, &c. There are several societies and associations in want of some suitable and permanent abode, and such a building would meet a much-felt want. The *Yuitsu-kwan* (Unitarian Hall) near Shibazono Bashi would be exactly the thing that is required, if it could be reproduced in some convenient locality somewhere near Hibiya Park.

* * *

I have been told of an interesting discovery recently made by the Governor of Chiba Ken. On arriving at his post, and making acquaintance with the locality, he found that there was a certain village, not far from Chiba, the inhabitants of which enjoyed a great reputation for probity and industry. The village attracted the Governor's attention, and he set himself to make its nearer acquaintance. He found that the inhabitants had, as it were, a religion of their own, the precepts of which they adhered to with considerable loyalty. This religion had been brought to them about two centuries ago. At that time a stranger from the West had come to settle amongst them. He was a quiet inoffensive man, who rubbed no one up the wrong way, and in process of time he succeeded in winning the affections of the villagers. Then, by degrees, he began to talk to them about religion, and ere long was recognized by them as their religious teacher, the tenets he taught them being of a very simple yet spiritual character. In course of time these teachings attracted the attention, then the suspicions, of the authorities, and the man was denounced as a Christian. He at once committed suicide, but his teachings have remained in the hearts of his neighbours, and his memory is still green.

* * *

The Governor has been able, by means of further researches, to establish the identity of this man, with another of the same name, who had mysteriously disappeared from Nagoya a few years previously. That man had been a Christian, had been denounced to the authorities, and had fled to escape martyrdom. "When they persecute you in one city, flee ye to another," may have been the maxim on which he acted. He could not escape (any more than could Jonah) from what lay inevitably before him. And yet he left his mark behind him. I hear that the Governor is about to publish the results of his interesting investigations.

* * *

It is the practice of the Tokyo residents to do certain things at stated times; and just now the right thing to do is to go and see the chrysanthemums, whether in Hibiya Park, at Dangozaka, or near the Ryōgoku Bridge The people have been flocking to see the flowers, natural and artificial, and I saw a showman at Dangozaka who was kept so busy by the constant stream of visitors that he was fain to snatch hasty meals of *nigiri meshi* between his sentences. Some of the flower-scenes were very quaint and suggestive, but one has to be well acquainted with Japanese history and legend to fully appreciate them. I often wonder how far a nation which thus delights to twist the poor chrysanthemum into weird shapes and attitudes can be rightly styled a nature-loving people.

* * *

The Imperial University Sports were held on the University Campus on Saturday, Nov. 13. The weather left nothing to be desired. The day has long since gone by when it could be said that Athleticism was not given its proper place in the scheme of Japanese education.

* * *

The recent death of Mr. Hamano Sadashiro, concerning which there appeared a paragraph in Wednesday's issue of the *Mail*, carries our thoughts back to the early days of the great Institution with which he had been so long connected. Mr. Hamano had been on the staff of the Keiogijuku about forty years when he was carried off by the hand of death. When he first came to the school, it was not yet the powerful factor in the national life that it is now, but it had great potentialities. Its Founder, Fukuzawa, was actively concerned in its management, and Fukuzawa was already a power. Mr. Hamano was one of Fukuzawa's most faithful disciples. The soul of loyalty, diligent, kindly, with a certain roughness and abruptness of manner, he had that greatest of all gifts, the power of self-effacement in order loyally to carry out the plans and purposes of another. It has been by the labours of such men that the Keiogijuku, with its sister institutions, the *Jiji Shimpo* and the Kojunsha, has been built up, and Fukuzawa's truest monument is in the hearts of the men he influenced. Talking of Fukuzawa, it is not generally known (or, if known, has been widely forgotten among foreigners) that about twenty years ago, at his request, a committee of Keiogijuku men, who knew their master's mind, compiled a code of practical ethics for the guidance of students. The code has not as yet been translated into English, but this defect has now been remedied, and I hope in a few days to be able to give the readers of the *Mail* an opportunity of reading it. I think they will find it excellent. It has none of the frothy, self-styled patriotism that characterizes some effusions of the Japanese. It looks the difficulties of practical life straight in the face, and gives sound and sensible advice. It is based on the two fundamental principles of Independence and Self-respect, and is in all respects a most excellent document.

It does not, as some Japanese utterances do, place Japan in a class by itself, and the rest of the poor world nowhere. It distinctly recognizes the rights of other nations to a position of equality. Had there been more of Fukuzawa's principles of independence and self-respect in Korea, and less of the Jingoism of the half-educated wholly materialistic Japanese of the lower middle class, there might perhaps have been no assassination of Prince Ito.

* * *

I cannot agree with the *Mainichi Dempo* in its advocacy of the complete annexation of Korea to the Japanese Empire. A measure of this kind would certainly solve certain pressing immediate difficulties, but how would it solve them? By an appeal to force which would turn Korea into an Ireland or a Poland of the Far East, which would alienate from Japan the sympathies of China and which would break up for ever, and hopelessly, that union of Far Eastern nations which is so important to them all. Prince Ito saw a great deal farther than most newspaper men do, and we may be sure that the open annexation of Korea would have been the last measure he would have advocated.

* * *

Everybody in Tokyo will be pleased to hear of the formation of a Canadian Club. Canadians are almost always good fellows—at least, I have never come across one that wasn't—, and we have a pretty large Canadian contingent of our own in the capital. A Canadian Club should be quite as popular and quite as useful as a St. Andrew's or a St. George's Club, and if there is to be a Ball connected with it, the ladies of Tokyo and Yokohama will not decline the invitations. We venture to suggest that the Maple Club seems to be the natural place of *rendezvous* for Canadians.

* * *

And what about gallant little Wales? Welshmen ought to have some organ through which to drink confusion to Lloyd-George!

* * *

I am glad to see that Father Papinot has brought out an English edition of his Historical and Geographical Dictionary of Japan. The French edition has for long been a standard book of reference. I hope the English edition may be still more useful. I wish the editors of the *Melanges* could extend the sphere of usefulness of their journal by means of an English edition.

K. C. C.

BATTING AND BOWLING AVERAGES.

We have received the following lists, says the *Kobe Herald*, of the batting and bowling averages of the Kobe Cricket Club during the past season.

BATTING.

	No. of Innings.	Runs.	Most in an Innings.	Times not out.	Average.
S. Stephens	12	329	65*	4	41.12
C. J. Lucas	11	276	63*	3	34.50
W. J. Turnbull	9	235	122*	1	29 37
J. Weekes	11	245	62	1	24.50
J. M. Mollison	10	213	67*	1	23.55
V. B. Wilson	10	152	55	2	19.10
M. Ellerton	7	129	86	0	18 42
H. R. Nicoll	12	157	60	2	15.70
H. E. Green	10	151	55	0	15.10
H. Macnaughton	7	52	38*	2	10.40
A. J. Buckley	7	41	21*	1	6.83

* Signifies not out.

The above batted in six innings or over.

BOWLING.

	O.	M.	R.	W.	Av.
H. R. Nicholl	143 3/6	25	433	56	7.73
S. Stephens	76 3/6	5	280	23	12.17
J. M. Mollison	76	8	310	21	14.76
A. J. Buckley	57 3/6	9	259	14	18.50
J. Weekes	57 5/6	6	280	14	20.
H. E. Green	56 3/6	2	282	12	23.50
W. J. Turnbull	38	3	159	6	26.50

The above bowled in 6 innings or over.

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THE PROGRESS OF TARIFF REFORM.

[COMMUNICATED.]

EVIDENCE is accumulating that the policy of Tariff Reform is being accepted by a large and increasing section of the British nation as the policy of the future. It is less than a decade since Mr. JOSEPH CHAMBERLAIN—when his duties as Secretary of State for the Colonies led him, more than any other statesman of the day, to "think Imperially"— may be said to have made the propagation of this fiscal Gospel the chief object of his life. From being a Missionary of Empire, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has become the Apostle of Tariff Reform. The transition was no great one. The new doctrine of Protection, judiciously applied, assumed in its great propounder's eyes a priceless value as a bond to bind together, securely and permanently, the vast congeries of States and Dependencies which makes the British Empire. To a man of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S profound business training and experience, the practical aspect of such a bond probably presented itself with convincing force. "Sentiment is all very well," he doubtless reasoned with himself, "and Sentiment there must be. But let us give our kinsmen across the seas a practical interest in the land of their birth, and in their sister States. Let them come rather to the Mother Country for the necessities of national life than to the alien and the outsider; and let us, on our part, extend over their young lives a protecting and a fostering hand." Such, we may be sure, was the train of thought which fired the imagination of the great Imperialist, and led him to forsake the shibboleths of so-called Free Trade in favour of a fiscal policy which, in addition to its intrinsic merits, could serve so mighty a purpose as the consolidation of an Empire. Looking back over the events of the past few years, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has every reason to be satisfied with the progress made by the policy which will always be intimately associated with the closing period of his career. His colleague and political chief, Mr. BALFOUR, has formally accepted Tariff Reform, in the name of the Unionist Party, as their political creed; and when due allowance is made for the immense difficulties involved in the task of converting a nation from one set of beliefs and practices to another, the progress made in the comparatively short interval which has elapsed since the time of that acceptance is indeed remarkable. And it is not a little curious that the Radical Party, which has always endeavoured to associate itself with measures of advancement and reform, should now be found clinging to an antiquated formula, and fighting for the preservation of a fiscal system which (whatever its merits fifty years ago) modern conditions have proved to be utterly inadequate to the increased and altered needs of the country and of the Empire. It has only to be remembered that the indisputable commercial and maritime supremacy so long enjoyed by England, and which may be said to have amounted almost to a monopoly of the world's trade half a century ago, is already a thing of the past; that two of the youngest and most virile nations on the face of the globe—Germany and the United States, to wit—have challenged that supremacy and have entered with youthful zest into the peaceful, but none the less deadly, rivalry of commerce; that, in addition to the many advantages under which these younger and more populous nations have entered the lists, they have brought to their service numerous artificial aids which their older rival had never before found necessary — and a very little reflection should render the urgent need for some revision of old-time methods and systems apparent to any thinking man. When, moreover, on the new proposals there lies the glamour of a *Zollverein* for the British Empire, of a linking of scattered colonies, of a unification of diverse ideals and interests—why, it may well be asked, should the Liberal-Labour-Socialist Party have none of it? This is, we fear, yet another story of a great opportunity lost. The Imperial idea, inextricably woven into the whole question by its great enunciator, carried with it no appeal to a party then hopelessly floundering in the bog of Little Englandism—whose obstinate adherence to crazy dogmas would have led them to sacrifice a Dominion—and, if need be, all the Dominions—on the altar of their misguided faiths. Rather, therefore, than associate themselves with a policy that savoured of a love of Empire (labelled by these soured egotists "Jingoism") the great "Liberal" party has chosen to cling to the musty tenets of the past, and, in search of new adherents, has opened its arms to the exponents of organized robbery in the persons of the Henry-Georgites, the Graysons, the Keir Hardies, and other like rebellion-mongers. From a political point of view, the move served its immediate purpose. The Liberal party, at the present moment, is numerically strong, but it is fundamentally rotten. The earthy legs of the unwieldy image are giving out. Those who look in the wordy tangle of its supporters' speeches for some principle to fight for, some ideal to pursue, find nothing but a bolstering-up of decadence, a truckling to the enemies of all that is best in their country's institutions. On the other hand, ever since the present Government came into power, their opponents have made the country listen to a clear and captivating call—the reform of the country's fiscal system with a view to the benefit of the Empire as a whole. At a number of bye-elections in all parts of the country Tariff Reform has been made the outstanding issue for the electorate to pronounce upon, and in no case has the verdict been given against it. Twelve seats have been won by the Unionists, and in every other case the Liberal vote has shown a marked decrease; three seats have been captured by Labour members from their nominal allies, while there has not been a single Liberal gain. A very striking demonstration of the progress made in the constituencies by Tariff Reform was recently furnished by the Bermondsey election. Here, in a district where Liberal and Labour doctrines might reasonably be expected to have a strong hold upon the voters, a former Liberal majority of 1,759 has been turned into a Unionist majority of nearly one thousand. When it is borne in mind that the Irish vote of 1200 was given solid for the Liberal candidate, the decrease of 1,500 in the Liberal total becomes the more significant. It was a fair opportunity for an expression of opinion on the respective merits of the Government's financial methods, as revealed in its "Poor-man's Budget," and that of the Unionist party, as based on the principles of Tariff Reform. The result has been a crushing defeat for the Socialism-with-water policy of this so-called Liberal Ministry, and a striking victory for the rational and imperialistic teaching of the Tariff Reformers. While the Government can gather little consolation from this contest in their long-drawn controversy with the Lords, the verdict of the electors of Bermondsey, uttered with no uncertain voice, is of the happiest augury for the General Election which is to take place in January next, and for the fast-advancing cause of Tariff Reform.

THE SIZE OF WARSHIPS.

ATTENTION has once more been drawn to the question of the size of warships by the announcement that a new ironclad is to be built for the British navy, which represents a very great advance in displacement and dimensions on any vessel yet laid down. The new ship, which is to be called the *Lion*, is described as a "cruiser," but when one reflects on the unprecedented size of the vessel and the character of its armament, it becomes a subject of wonder how long the fanciful distinction between a modern cruiser and a modern battleship will be kept up. This latest addition to the fighting strength of the British Navy is designed to have a tonnage of 26,350 tons, a length of 700 feet and a speed of 28 knots. If, as may be inferred from these particulars, the vessel is intended to be an "improved-improved *Invincible*," or, in other words, an "improved *Indefatigable*"—that being the latest representative of what has come to be known as the battleship-cruiser type, and which was launched on the 28th ultimo,—the least remarkable of her specifications which have so far come to hand is her speed; for her predecessors, though nominally designed for 25 knots, have actually attained to 28. This extraordinary rate of motion for so heavy a vessel has, of course, been rendered possible only by the introduction of turbine-driven machinery; and if the new vessel exceeds her anticipated speed to the same extent as did the *Invincible* and her sisters, she may be credited with a speed of well

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over 30 knots—the average speed of the best type of destroyer. But the most notable feature of the new vessel is its size, which bears striking testimony to the rapidity of development in modern warship-building. In October 1906, the first *Dreadnought* rode out of Portsmouth harbour, a vast and costly experiment, but representing an increase of only 1,400 tons on its immediate predecessor. As a warship, the *Dreadnought* itself is a failure; but the two million pounds sunk in her phenomenally rapid construction was well spent from the point of view of experience. The lessons learned in an exhaustive series of trials were embodied in the *Bellerophon*, *Superb* and *Temeraire*, launched in the following year. But though each successive type of "Dreadnought" represented a slight advance in displacement, the eighth vessel of this class, namely, the *Neptune*, launched at Portsmouth at the end of September, displaced only some 3,000 tons more than her prototype. As for the great "cruisers," of which the *Invincible* was the first, none of them has exceeded 18,000 tons displacement. The battleship-cruiser *Lion*, therefore, represents an advance of a clear 5,000 tons over any battleship, and of 7,000 tons over any "cruiser," yet laid down for the British navy. No doubt there will be an outcry from representatives of the "moderate dimensions school" of naval experts. It is to be feared, however, they will be but voices crying in the wilderness, as they were even in the pre-Dreadnought era. Nevertheless, it is clear that there must be a limit to the size of these mighty instruments of war, and that that limit cannot now be far off. There are some publicists, like Count Reventlow, who hold that the first Dreadnought was not merely a costly experiment, but a costly blunder. But ample evidence can be adduced to show that the all-big-gun type of ship represents no more than a step—albeit a very long step—in the natural evolution of naval construction; that long before its adoption in practice, the idea had been mooted by a distinguished Italian constructor; and that if England had refrained from following out this natural process, some other Power would have taken the lead. The all-big-gun ship his come to stay, and with it has come the demand for increased dimensions and increased speed. The only question for debate remains—At what point in this development will the size of such a vessel become a disadvantage, rather than a gain? It must be confessed that the advocates of moderate dimensions—Lord Brassey, for example, pinned his faith to battleships of 13,000 tons—have the balance of argument, in theory, on their side. The warship of 25,000 tons, with a length exceeding by 100 feet that of the Cunard liner *Lucania*, presents an immense target to the enemy's fire. Again, the monster battleship is no more proof against the deadly torpedo or the sunken rock than is a vessel of moderate size; and it must not be forgotten that the torpedo, its radius of action increased to 4,000 yards, is no weapon to be despised. Thirdly, the increased size of warships carries with it the necessity for increased harbour and docking accommodation. Fourthly, there is the question of cost, which, having risen 150 per cent. within the last decade, threatens soon to become prohibitive. Finally, there have to be reckoned the destructive potentialities of the airship, against which the mightiest warship afloat can do little, and which may bring about a revolution in naval construction within the next few years. An illustration of the difficulties incurred in handling the monster battleship has recently been afforded by the trouble experienced by the German builders of the *Westfalen*, the first Dreadnought completed in the Fatherland. This vessel was built and launched at Bremen, some distance up the Weser, but on completion it was found impossible to bring her out of the river without waiting for an exceptionally high spring-tide. Such are the misfortunes which are apt to overtake the ship of huge dimensions. On the other hand, the advocates of the 20,000-ton or 25,000-ton ship are able to point to the immense advantage, under conditions of actual warfare, of concentration of strength, in the form of heavy guns, in the fewest possible number of ships; and to the fact that a fleet consisting of more than a certain number of units becomes unwieldy, and labours under a tactical disadvantage which may easily prove fatal, even with a numerically inferior enemy. Vice-Admiral Ablefeld, in the *Deutsche Review*, thus elaborates the point:—

"A fleet (A) composed of ten ships, each of them carrying four guns and a fleet (B) of five ships, each of them with eight guns, meet in battle. The commander of fleet B will find himself in a position of superiority from the simple fact that his line of battle is half as long as that of his adversary, so that at any moment he may change the position of his squadron in a much shorter time than his foe, and make his ships take any formation he chooses with greater rapidity, in accordance with the vicissitudes of the battle. Moreover, he can more easily concentrate the fire of his ships on any particular point of his adversary's line. For undoubtedly the concentrated fire of eight guns from any single ship is more certain and precise than the fire of eight guns from the decks of two different ships."

There is another very powerful factor, it must be added, on the side of those who advocate the multiplication of the large, and the increasingly large, man-of-war: it is the goad of naval rivalry, applied unceasingly. So long as one Power, from motives of policy, desires to "go one better" than a rival Power, and will not allow considerations of cost to interfere with that ambition, so long will the dimensions of warships continue to be large, and continue to increase.

THE BOOKSHELF.

A Secretary of Legation; by Hope Dawlish. Messrs Kelly and Walsh.

An old friend has appeared in the garb of a new edition. Probably some of our readers have not yet made the acquaintance of "A Secretary of Legation." If not, we strongly advise then to repair the omission without loss of time, for the penalty of neglect is that they deprive themselves of a very great pleasure. It need scarcely be noted that the scene of the events described is Japan, for which the term "Zafia" is substituted; but it will perhaps be news to many that "Hope Dawlish" is a *nom de plume* whose original is a very distinguished man, well known in the East. We do not believe, however, that the story is taken from real life: in other words, that the events noted occurred either actually or approximately in Japan. They are very strange events: quite conceivable, but also quite out of the common; and indeed, the latter appreciation applies to the book as a whole. It is a very uncommon book. Not uncommon merely because it deals with a subject which, so far as we know, has never yet been subserved to romancist purposes, but also and chiefly because the manner of treatment is very novel. There are absolutely no superfluities. The necessities of the plot are consulted with rigid economy, and even the analyses of motives, though they often occupy considerable space, leave one with an impression of brevity. Moreover, the author has not attempted to depict characters that inspire love. "Henry Dale," his hero, is neither heroic, nor imposing, nor amiable. He is an every-day type of young man placed amid circumstances much too strong for him, and yielding to them weakly, nay almost contemptibly. Perhaps the figure that creeps nearest to our heart is George Trehearne, whose personality is only slightly projected on the canvas until the moment of his great trial and his great triumph. Is it not so generally in life? Do we not live for the most part in very small spheres where the forces of attraction and repulsion are but weakly exerted? "A Secretary of Legation" is thus normal in its developments and characters, though abnormal in its conception and design. We seem to recognise some of the figures that move across the stage, but our identifications have no element of confidence. The author has been careful not to limn his portraits too faithfully.

Foreign Judgments and Jurisdiction; by Sir F. T. Piggott. Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Hongkong, and Messrs. Butterworth & Company, London.

The third Edition of Part II of this learned and valuable work has now been published. It consists of Book IV on "Judgment *in rem*," and Book V on Status. In his preface Sir Francis Piggott arrives at some startling conclusions. One is that the doctrine of domicile "rests on no such stable foundation as the common consent of nations; and that it is unsound to his derivate, the Roman law; is illogical and anachronous; and is from its studied abandonment of British subjects unworthy of this Imperial age." He further writes:—"I venture to say that if in the days to come, one solitary fragment of the law of a country, known to the historian of that future day as England, should be unearthed, as the fragments of Gaius once were for us, and if that fragment were that one sentence of the Earl of Halsbury's judgment, in which he says that the parties to the marriage being French it is sufficient, in determining their rights, to refer to French law, then the exact scientists would construct from it a whole scheme of English principles applicable to international family law, with as certain assurance of its accuracy as the scientist of to-day has reconstructed the dinosaurian reptiles from a few fossil bones." No less than 248 pages are devoted to three subjects—marriage, legitimacy and divorce—and the fact conveys some idea of the author's thoroughness.

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Great interest for British subjects resident in Japan attaches to the recognition of their marriages made without compliance with the local law. This is freely discussed in page 284 *et seq.*, and as the matter attracted much attention in Japan within the past few years, Sir Francis Piggott's clear digest of the law is particularly welcome. The impression prominently produced upon the mind of a layman reading this work is that the author has achieved the novel feat of making perfectly intelligible to non-legal minds the most abstruse legal problems.

Annotated Civil Code of Japan; Vol. II; by J. E. De Becker. Messrs. Kelly and Walsh.

The second volume of Mr. De Becker's excellent work has now appeared. It deals with Obligations, Contracts, Business Management, unjust Enrichment, Torts, Law concerning the Application of Laws in General, Public Deposit Law, Regulations relative to the Handling of Public Deposits, and Auction Law. The last four subjects appear in the form of an appendix covering XLIII. pages; the other matters fill 286 pages. At a rough calculation we should say that three-tenths of the space is devoted to the text of the laws discussed, and the remainder to the annotations. The latter are in clear, concise English, and one is able to arrive at a thoroughly definite conception of the laws, a happy result not always within a layman's reach. A great deal of labour and special knowledge are needed to compile such a work, and it will be universally agreed that Mr. de Becker has laid the community under a great obligation. Living in a country where the laws are codified, but where the script in which they are embodied renders them inaccessible to the vast majority of foreign readers, we should all be liable to suffer great inconvenience if an expert like Mr. de Becker—who possesses the dual qualification of a thorough knowledge of the law and of the language in which they are written—did not come to our assistance with what must after all be largely a labour of love.

OUR RUSSIAN NEWSLETTER.

(*From Our St. Petersburg Correspondent.*)

St. Petersburg, October 26, 1909.

The assassination of Prince Ito has had a most depressing effect in Russian official circles. It is remembered here that Prince Ito endeavoured to form an alliance with Russia before the war with Japan, and was only prevented doing so by the dilatory treatment accorded to his proposals by the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Count Lamsdorf. The Prince had reached Berlin before he received from the Russian Ministry a reply to his proposals, and the reply was in such a form as to arouse suspicions of the sincerity of the Russian Government in Prince Ito's mind. He therefore sent back from Berlin a despatch delicately hinting at the impression produced on him by the Russian reply, indicating the value of time and decisive action, and immediately proceeded to London, where he concluded the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, so damaging to Russia's cause thoughout the war. Apart from friendly memories of those days, the negotiations to be carried through by M. Kokovtsev, Russian Minister of Finance, were regarded here with equanimity for the results, chiefly owing to the belief in the friendly attitude and sentiments of Prince Ito towards Russia. I am authoritatively informed that this dastardly crime will not cause any change in the official programme of M Kokovtsev's visit to the Far East. The Japanese Embassy here to-day flies the flag at half-mast, and numerous callers have expressed their condolences on the great loss sustained by Japan in the person of Prince Ito. I am informed from the Embassy that Japan will immediately send another representative to Kharbin.

The visit of the Emperor of Russia to the King and Queen of Italy at Racconigi near Turin was a perfect success, and His Majesty is due back at Livadia to-morrow As usual the non-Russian press of the world has devoted much space to wondering descriptions of the precautions taken to ensure the Emperor's safety on this long railway journey. But it should be remembered that upon no crowned head in the world does so much depend to-day as upon the life and health of the Emperor of Russia, whose heir is a five-year old child, and his Empire still in the earliest embryonic stage of development from an age-old despotism to a new form of constitutional government. Until the return of Russia's Foreign Minister, M. Izvolsky, who arrives here this week-end, it is impossible to say with any authority what precise results have been obtained at the royal interview. Both monarchs were attended by their foreign ministers and their respective ambassadors at the capitals of either country. It is confidently stated in the press that the main object of the interview, apart from the effect it is calculated to have in persuading German Chauvinism to lower its tone, was to arrange a common plan of action in the Balkans, where the interests of Russia and Italy are in practical agreement against the overweening ambitions of Austro-Hungary. This is the first foreign journey the Emperor of Russia has ever taken without the Empress and the Imperial children, and it is owing solely to His Majesty's desire to get back to his family circle, over which the prolonged indisposition of the Empress casts a gloom, that has prevented him paying the intended visits to the rulers of Bulgaria and Roumania, which are therefore postponed till next year.

The Autumn Session of the third Duma, which is now entering upon its third year of existence, has opened amid the now customary pessimistic chorus of unsatisfied ambitions. M. Khomiakov, the President, informs me that, in his belief, the session will pass more quietly than has been the case hitherto, and be productive of measures of cautious reform. The Octobrists, the predominant party, though they command a majority only by temporary coalitions with one or other of the parties in the Duma, have again relegated to a later place the burning question of "inviolability of the person," and decided to open the session with further discussion on agrarian reform. As the agrarian reforms were put in operation by the Government before the third Duma came into existence, and are being carried through by the Government with very little heed to the Duma's recommendations, this choice indicates the intention of the Octobrists to make the Duma continue "marking time" until the Government shall have laid before them a definite line of policy.

A great deal of excitement is being caused unnecessarily over the supposed unjust treatment by Russia of the "gallant little Finns." Finland represents about two per cent. of the Russian Empire. History has no record of its independent existence as a nation. Peter the Great took Finland from Sweden, and Alexander the First, a century later, gave up to the Finns the Province of Viborg together with a large and generous measure of constitutional freedom. But Russia rightly holds that Finland is an integral portion of the Empire, and Imperial needs must always have precedence over merely local advantages. The Province of Viborg forms about one-sixth of the territory of Finland, and is becoming necessary to Russia, inasmuch as the military defences of St. Petersburg are no longer far enough away from the city to guarantee, in these days of improved artillery, the safety of the capital from even a hostile raid, to say nothing of more serious operations of warfare. Russia proposes to re-assume the Province of Viborg, and the Finns are crying aloud, as is their custom, to all Europe of the injustice of "annexing" Finnish territory. It is apparently forgotten by those who unthinkingly side with the "gallant little nation" (which never was a nation) against the "brutal autocracy" (which no longer exists), that the change in the form of government throughout the Russian Empire is bound to call for some change in the relations of Finland to the Empire. The question becomes one of the integrity of the Russian Empire, and not even the most unscrupulous admirers of Finland can venture to assert that the Finns have ever shown themselves whole-hearted loyalists to the Empire. As a matter of fact, the Finnish attitude towards Russia has ever been that of the Irish nationalist towards England, with a super-added calculated insolence of which the débonnaire Irishman could never be guilty. Take that characteristic act of the Finnish authorities in dealing with the late Emperor of Russia when he was cruising in Finnish waters. A bag of letters was sent ashore from the Imperial yacht for transmission to Russia and elsewhere. Among the letters were several of the Emperor himself, his family, and the rest were all from the Imperial entourage. The envelopes bore Russian stamps. It seems hardly credible, but it is the fact that the Finnish authorities declined to receive the letters until Finnish stamps had been affixed! During the Japanese War Russia did not feel safe in having a Finnish army within reach of the capital, and that army was disbanded. This year a money contribution in lieu of personal service has been laid upon Finland. And the manner in which Finland has received this very natural impost has necessitated the despatch of Russian troops into the country to prevent, if possible, the spread of disaffection beyond the bounds of settlement by peaceful means of all outstanding questions. According to the statement of Mme. Bakman, wife of the Russian Governor-General of Finland, who recently accompanied her husband on a twelve days' official tour through the country, all that the Finns desire is to be let alone. But the needs of the Russian Empire, of which Finland forms an integral part, and the part nearest to the capital of the Empire, no longer permit that a disaffected Ireland should continue to make trouble within thirty miles of the seat of government of an Empire covering a sixth part of the globe. There is more to be said for the Russian side of the case than has generally been thought outside Russia. In any case the re-assumption of the Province of Viborg by Russia, dictated as it is by Imperial needs, is unlikely to take place in the immediate future, inasmuch as financial readjustments would be necessary, Finland having borrowed several millions sterling abroad, nearly two millions in England, and the loss of one-sixth of her territory cannot

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but affect the validity of the security offered to obtain these loans. A simple solution of the question, for Russia, would be for the Finns, encouraged by shortsighted admirers abroad, to exhibit once more their attitude of provocation to the supreme government and bring about possibly a scene or two of bloodshed. Russia would then dispose of the matter with decision and celerity, paying very little heed to the platonic outcries of the rest of the world. Those who wish Finland well would do better to advise extreme care and patience and a wider sense of Imperial responsibilities in face of the crisis that is upon her.

ENGLAND IN JAPANESE EYES.

(*From Sugimura's Dai ei yuki.*)

IV.—LOOKING FOR A LODGING.

It was my intention, if possible, to get a few days of quiet work done in London, and therefore, the day after my arrival, I set myself to look for lodgings. But alas! as I was an absolute stranger in the place, without sense of direction, and scarcely able, as it were, to discern night from day, it was a most perplexing question for me where to look for lodgings, and how to set about it. In my perplexity I referred my trouble to our Consul-General, Mr. Takata, who at once, most kindly and readily offered to accompany me in my search. A few minutes later we were in a cab, in quest of adventures.

We went hither and thither in our wanderings: at the end of three hours or so we had succeeded in finding nothing in the least to our tastes. Then I took my leave of Mr. Takata, and in the afternoon transferred myself and my woes to Mr. Komura, a Secretary of the Embassy, whose acquaintance I had only made the day before. Again I was in luck, for this time Mr Komura offered to come with me. I was indeed the recipient of much kindness.

In Japan I should have walked round about Moriwaka-chō or Jimbō-chō, scanning the sign-boards of the rows of boarding-houses and enquiring from door to door for a vacant room; but in London I found that there was nothing on the exterior by which to distinguish a lodging house from a private dwelling. It was hopeless, therefore, to try and find out by just walking along the streets. The first thing to do is to read and mark the advertisements in the *Telegraph* or other papers, and then to hunt up all the likely places, and even so, one must take the risk of discomfiture when one makes an error of judgment and gets by mistake into a house that is not a lodging at all.

That was how we began; the next house we called at, we asked if it were a *boarding house*. Again we had erred: it was not a boarding house, we were told, but a private Hotel, or, as one might say, a Family Hotel. It was a very subtle distinction, which we could not easily grasp: we could only see that the Private Hotel gave itself airs, and stuck up its nose at the Boarding House. There are people who do that everywhere.

At the next house the landlady herself came out, and treated us to *misō* (*miso wo koneru*, "to talk thirteen to the dozen"). She told us that there was a large garden to the house, that some of her lady guests were fond of music, that all her lodgers were ladies and gentlemen, that the cuisine was excellent, that it was more than ten years since she had started in the lodging-house business, that her Bankers were the——, and that she should be glad to refer me to them. Mr. Komura looked at me, and said in a loud voice that he was very much afraid that a house with so many advantages would not do for us. Still, just to satisfy ourselves, we would go in. Sure enough, the house was what might have been expected; dirty and fusty. We saw what we presumed to be one of the "lady guests,"—a pale-faced, hysterical looking woman. We asked to see the garden. Well,—there was a garden, but it was a sort of little public park in a square about one street off! We wondered what kind of reference we should get at the Bank, and hastened to make our exit.

At another place we were received by a kindly-looking person, who had a business like way of dealing with us. "I have some rooms," she said. "The rent is so and so much. If you think the terms will suit you, I'll show you the rooms." We found there was no ventilation worth speaking of, so went next door, where we found the mistress of the house on the doorstep evidently expecting us. In another place we were refused by three or four houses in succession, a treatment which rather surprised us, until we found some time later that an Indian gentleman had recently gone off without paying his bill, and that consequently the whole street had conceived a prejudice against Asiatics. It was rather hard, but the people of any country can only judge of foreign nations by the individuals they see, and this defaulting Indian was the representative in their eyes of all Asiatics.

This place did not suit us, the other was not to our fancy. At last, after much walking, we found a nice Private Hotel close to the South Kensington Museum. The bed-room was a very small one on the fourth floor (my night-shirt does not take up very much space), dining-room, bath-rooms, smoking-room &c. all were attractive. The landlady seemed a quiet person. Mr. Komura was of the opinion that it was a place where I could receive visitors without feeling ashamed of my surroundings, and I determined to fix my choice. The charges were three guineas a week; in Japanese, four *yen* fifty *per diem*. I moved in that evening.

EXCAVATIONS IN GREECE.

Under the above heading *The Times* says:—

Attention may be called, though the discovery is a year or two old, to the diggings at Zerelia, where the English excavators found "a rich neolithic deposit, six to eight mètres thick, with eight superposed settlements"—that is to say, evidence of eight towns, one built on the ruins of the others, on the same site. How far does that carry us back? Probably, as Mr. Dawkins says in the account he gave to the *Journal of Hellenic Studies*, to the middle of the third millennium B.C. Thessalian civilization, in some sort or other was already 1,500 years old at the time of the Trojan war; and this the spade has proved, when nothing else could have proved it. Among a multitude of other results of the excavations of the last few years, two or three may be mentioned. In a cleft of a rock at Sunium, in the year 1906, Dr. Stais found two colossal archaic statues of Apollo, eleven feet high; the more perfect of them is now in the museum at Athens, after lying hidden since the Persian invasion, twenty-four centuries ago. Some time later another Greek scholar, Dr. Arvanitopoullos, found built into an old tower in Thessaly thirty stelæ, decorated, not with sculpture, but with well-preserved paintings, which the discoverer believes are copies of famous Greek pictures mentioned by Pliny. A third and rather exciting series of discoveries has been made by Dr. Dörpfe'd in the island of Leucas, which he—almost alone, we fear, among scholars—believes to have been the Homeric Ithaca; and among them are the remains of a great house, with tombs adjoining, which the learned investigator hopes to prove to have been the actual palace of Odysseus, where the suitors were slain. As to Asia Minor, much productive work is being done on the sites of the great coast cities; whereas in the island of Rhodes the Danish excavators have found a whole *cache* of statuettes, with signed bases. These mention no less than sixty-four names of sculptors—enough to furnish the archæologists of the next two or three decades with materials for the most riotous speculations. But Rhodes and the Ionian coasts have only been very partially explored as yet, while of the underground wealth of the *Hinterland* of Asia Minor only enough is known to promise rich results for future years. How much depends on the Turkish Government; but the new rule in Turkey, if it goes on as well as it has begun, will bring about a new era for the archæologists.

These zealous scholar-diggers, of whatever nation, are doing a great work. It is true that they have discovered few masterpieces of art, and the hope of finding treasures to rival the Hermes or the Venus of Milo is becoming faint. But they are doing something much more important. They are transforming, or have already transformed, our ideas of the beginnings of European history. They have withdrawn at least a part of the veil that till the other day covered the early stages of Hellenic civilization. They have shown that the Heroic Age was no product of a poet's imagination, but that it really existed, and that it was the successor of a series of civilizations which had flourished in the same regions. Of course, the master-key to the problem is offered by the discoveries in Crete, which have proved that, as far back as the third millennium before Christ, a mighty power held sway over the Ægean, and that it was swept away and its seat of rule destroyed by an invasion, on successive invasions, from the North. Scholars are as yet far from agreeing about the stages and dates of the changes that followed, or about the right meaning and extent of such terms as Minoan, Mycenæan, Achæan, and Dorian. If Dr. Evans some day succeeds in deciphering the Cretan script, doubtless we shall know much more than we know at present about the earliest period. Meantime, the new light that is being thrown on history is chiefly illuminating much later epochs, and especially that of the early days of Hellenic history. The spade works impartially upon the remains of a hundred generations. It has discovered Minos and his palace; it may some day reveal the buried treasures of Herculaneum. But just at this moment the greatest service that it is rendering to knowledge is in its dealing with the period represented by these Spartan excavations—those "dark ages" which followed upon the Achæan and Dorian conquests, and about which, though the Homeric poems and the Attic tragedians have invested them with an immortal lustre, written history tells us so little.

THE YOKOHAMA COMMERCIAL SCHOOL.

A congratulatory meeting was held on the 14th inst. at the Yokohama Commercial School in honour of Mr. Misawa, principal of the School, who has occupied the post for 28 years, since the establishment of the school in 1881, and has now attained the 60th year of his age. After some musical selections by a band, Mr. Okurusu, the Chairman of the meeting, gave the opening address, whereupon Mr. Ono, on behalf of the congratulators, read an eulogistic speech, and presented Mr. and Mrs Misawa with a *mokuroku* (a written statement of the total amount subscribed, namely, 33,442 *yen*.) On receiving this handsome present, Mr. Misawa delivered an address of thanks. Congratulatory addresses were then read by Mr. Mano, chief of the Commercial Education Bureau, who represented the Minister of Education, Governor Sufu, Mayor Mitsuhashi, President of the Municipal Assembly, and several others. Baron Kamada, Principal of the Keio Gijuku, delivered an address, eulogizing the career of Mr. Misawa, and hoping that he would continue to spare no efforts on behalf of the school, and said Mr Misawa's success was largely owing to Mrs. Misawa's personal aid. Count Okuma then appeared on the rostrum and delivered a speech, in the course of which he spoke of the great influence which an instructor has over his pupils, and regretted the lack of cordial relationship at the present time between teachers and their pupils. He praised the virtues of Mr. Misawa, and concluded his remarks with the declaration that the future prosperity of Yokohama will depend largely upon the school over which Mr. Misawa presides. Count Okuma then turned to Mrs. Misawa, and thanked her for her personal efforts, which had contributed so largely to her husband's success.

A congratulatory ode was sung by the pupils of the school, accompanied by the band. The principals of the Higher Commercial schools in Tokyo and Nagoya and many other persons sent congratulatory telegrams. At about 4 p.m., three *Banzai* were given, at Mr. Okurusu's proposal, and all present had their portraits taken in a group in commemoration. In the evening about 1,200 of the students organized a lantern procession in honour of the occasion.

MR. J. H. GUBBINS.

The new University Lecturer in Japanese recently appointed by the aid of the Chancellor's Endowment Fund, Mr. John Harington Gubbins, gave on the 28th ult. his first public lecture, the first of a series on "The Progress of Japan." The subject of the lecture was "The Conditions existing in Japan when the First Treaty was Negotiated." Mr. Gubbins, who, says the *Morning Post*, is well known as a scholar, the author of "A Dictionary of Chinese-Japanese Words" and of a "Translation of the Civil Code of Japan," entered the Japanese Consular Service in 1871, and there are few students who have had a longer experience or more close connection with the remarkable developments, social and civil, in that country.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE JAPANESE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Full reports of the great Protestant celebration of the fiftieth anniversary of the opening of their Missions in this country have already appeared in these columns. If much was said about the past on that occasion, it seems to be the opinion of a good many Japanese Christians that not enough was said about the future. What will be the final form or forms that Protestant Christianity in this country will assume? Supposing it were possible for Doctors Hepburn and Brown, Bishop Williams and the Rev. James Ballagh to appear on the earth fifty years hence, would they recognize the Japanese Christian creed of that time as identical with the one they proclaimed here during several decades? We are almost certain they would not. Our conclusion is the result of extensive reading of what leading Japanese Christians have written on this subject. If the Japanese leaders of the Protestant movement are no judges of the direction which this movement is taking, to whom are we to apply for guidance in this matter? Last month we quoted the Rev. D. Ebina on the undercurrents of thought among Japanese Protestants. He is most confident that the rationalistic form of Christianity, that is, practically Unitarianism, will in the end, as far as Japanese Protestants are concerned, prevail over orthodox belief. We now turn to the writing of another outspoken Japanese theologian, the Rev. R. Minami. In an editorial which appears in the November *Rikugō Zasshi* entitled *Nihon Kirisutokyō to Jiyuha* (Japanese Christianity and the Liberals) he expresses himself as follows:—How is our Christian society developing at the present time? Will those who now defend the old theology and the old articles of faith go on doing so in future? We think not. If we assume that eventually Japanese churches will all be independent and no longer under the guardianship of the missionaries, then it is pretty sure that by far the larger number of pastors will adopt the new theology. An orthodox Christian pastor made the following remark to us a little time ago: "All we Japanese pastors think as you Liberals do. The only difference between you and us concerns the expression or non expression of the views held." (*Waga Nihonjin no bokushi ra wa mina kimira Jiyūha no hitobito to dōyō naru shisō wo yū su. Tada kore wo kuchi ni suru to sezaru to no betsu aru nomi.*) This is probably quite true. Another remark I heard was this:—"Many pastors do not tell their followers of their change of belief for fear of leading them astray." This too we can well believe. Look in another direction. Look at the theological teaching in those churches which are developing rapidly. Is it not all on the lines of liberalism? This is enough to show that the liberal form of Protestant Christianity occupies a most important position in this country and has a great future before it. While this is so, at the semi-centennial Conference of missionaries and others held in Tōkyō a few weeks ago, there was no public recognition of the existence of liberals in the church. Surely this was very strange. Somebody may say that on such an occasion to have drawn attention to the existence of an unorthodox set of Christians would have greatly hurt the feelings of old orthodox missionaries. Why should people's feelings be considered, when truth is concerned? What was the chief object of this Conference? Surely not so much a reviewing of the past as the making of plans for the future. If that be so, the truth should have been spoken, bitter as its taste might be to certain persons. (*Yoshi ya kugen nari to suru mo, makoto wo kataru no hitsuyō wa kiwamete ōi narishi nari.*) Unless the members of the Conference were prepared to go as far as that, the whole Convention, as has been pointed out by a writer in the *Kirisutokyō Sekai*, can hardly escape the charge of being no more than an "exhibition of antiquities or a collection of curios." If those who convened the Conference were afraid to draw attention to other workers while proclaiming their own merits, then Mr. Uemura's warning against turning the Conference into a self advertising agency is very much to the point.

In saying all this our object is not to boast of anything we have done, but simply to emphasize the fact that history is history and that any account of Japanese Protestant Christianity which fails to draw attention to the important rôle played by the liberal section of the Church, is not true to facts and is consequently untrustworthy.*

* * *

In his organ the *Michi* Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki has two editorials dealing with Protestant Christianity in this country. "Imported Christianity has come to an end" is the burden of the first article, and "The Failure of the Christianity of the Meiji Era" is the title of the second. "Along with the semi-centennial Conference imported Christianity has been consigned to its grave" says Mr. Matsumura. The Nineteenth Century will be remembered for the extent to which imported Christianity failed all over the world, proceeds the *Michi*. It failed in Hawaii: it failed in Africa and in India, in China and in Korea. (*Kayeri mireba jūkuseiki no hokko seru O Beijin no gwaikoku dendō wa ō-shippai ni owareri*). As for Japan, the veteran missionaries who taught in schools years ago, in the matter of education, did much good work, but their preaching ended in failure. And if they failed in past years, how can their successors fare otherwise to-day? They preach exploded doctrines. Christian thought has progressed, but they have remained stationary. Their bookshelves are laden with fusty works on theology that only serve as curiosities. But the failure of the missionaries is our salvation Had they succeeded, we should have been their slaves as much as are the Christians of other Oriental countries. To the slow advance of Christianity in Japan, Count Okuma drew attention in one of his recent speeches. He said, "Compared with the progress of other parts of civilisation, the propagation of Christianity has proceeded very slowly." And it is proceeding more slowly to-day than it ever did. Who that remembers what took place nearly 30 years ago in Yokohama and Tōkyō can help mourning over the existing stagnancy in the Church? As we have said above, we are suffering from the results of the adoption of imported Christianity. (*Kore mattaku yunyū-teki Kirisutokyō no tsu-mi ni ki su*). The question that I put to my fellow Christians is this: What is to be our plan of action in the future? To-day the situation is this: there are among us a few men who succeed in filling their churches. But they are a mere handful, and nothing that they can do in the way of personal effort will suffice to arouse the whole church. Without some big scheme for reaching the whole church and imparting to it a new spirit, no great success is to be looked for. Self-denial, self-sacrifice, readiness to make way for younger blood and to further the adoption of new views must be shown As for doctrine, this is no time for vacillating. Let it be made plain to everybody that if men want to go on believing in original sin, the atonement, the miraculous birth of Christ and the inspiration of the Bible, they can do so, but if, on the other hand, there are others who desire to unequivocally reject these doctrines they are at full liberty to act thus. Christ taught four things only—belief in God, love of one's neighbours, cultivation of virtue and everlasting life. Up to this we must try to live. But existing hypocrisy must be laid aside. As long as there are so many Christians who have not the courage of their opinions, how can Christianity effect great things in this country? There are numbers of men among us to day who though in their hearts they no longer believe in the atonement, still use the words "for Christ's sake," who though they have rejected the story of Christ's miraculous birth, still talk as if he were God, and while they have given up the theory of the inspiration of the Bible, treat it as though it contained a Divine Revelation. What good can be effected by people of this sort? There are people who are silly enough to imagine that they can reform the young men found in Japan to-day by preaching the old theology. It is no better than using a lamp after the sun is up. . . . . We need new incentives to work. In past times there has been too much self advertisement in the Christian Church. The motives of missionaries in working have often been the sending home of a good report, the triumph over other sects, the extension of the influence of the nation to which they belong.* None of these are Christian. It is no use our expecting great results immediately. We must live and plan for the distant future. Unless we can rid ourselves of the many weakness that cling to Japanese Christianity to-day, the cause is hopeless. The old has to die in order that the new may live. If this can not take place, then what men call the Jubilee Congratulatory Conference had far better be named the Obsequies of Meiji Christianity.

Dr. K Ukita, the Director of the Waseda Normal School and the editor of the *Taiyō*, contributes to the November *Michi* an interesting article entitled *The Religion of the Twentieth Century and the Japanese Church*, which we now proceed to epitomize. There are people who predict that the twentieth century will witness the total decline of religion, but I am one of those who hold a contrary opinion. It is true that many of the old religions have collapsed or are collapsing, and that even those which have not reached that state show no signs of being capable of further development. Despite its grand organization and all the power that it has wielded in past ages, the Roman Catholic faith has begun to lose ground in civilised countries among educated people.† If it obtains new adherents in future, they will be obtained among uncivilised or semi-civilised people. Though Roman Catholicism makes adroit use of the defects of Protestantism and shows great skill in employing various means for extending its influence, its fate is certainly sealed. Turning to Protestantism, its situation is no whit more favourable than Catholicism. In the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries it showed a considerable amount of life in opposing the Roman Catholics and denouncing their errors, but it has suffered from the defects of its original organization and from the instability of its rule of faith. It is to-day divided up into numerous sects. Such union as the Roman Catholics enjoy is unattainable among Protestants. Just as feudalism was an improvement on the old despotism that preceded it so Protestantism may be a little ahead of Catholicism in some things, but neither the one form of Christianity nor the other is qualified to bring the world under its rule. It is quite clear that in the coming age men will be too enlightened to have any use for Romanism, and even to-day there is a demand for religion that is superior to Protestantism (*Ima ya mata Shinkyō ijō wo yōkyu suru ni itareri*). If things are thus in the West, they are not otherwise in the East. Neither Mohammedanism nor Buddhism are capable of further development. Utter lifelessness and inefficiency characterize them to day. In a word, there is nothing to be hoped for from the historical religions. But religion itself has elements in it that can not be destroyed, and on the ruins of the past men will certainly construct new creeds. World-wide faiths will gradually replace national faiths. But the tendency to day is in favour of allowing the greatest liberty as to forms and symbols and in organization Tastes, proclivities, states of knowledge and degrees of enlightenment differ so widely that no one form of faith will ever satisfy all minds. We wish to see all religious people respecting each other and even worshipping in each other's sacred buildings. We would put amens and hallelujahs into the mouths of Buddhists and teach Christians to pray to Buddha

* Mr. Minami tells us he has been a Christian for 25 years. He first studied German and Theology under Mr. Spinner more than a quarter of a century ago, and we doubt whether any Japanese theologian, with the exception of Professor Hatano, is so well acquainted with the latest German religious thought as this well-known Christian writer.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).

* *Senkyōshi no doki wa yoki hōkokusho wo tsukuru ni ariki; shūka-teki kyōsō ni uchikatsu ni ariki: sono kuni no seiryoku wo kwakuchō suru ni ariki*

† A very interesting work on the present position of Roman Catholicism in Europe and America has recently been published by Joseph McCabe entitled:—*The Decay of the Church of Rome*, which was very favourably reviewed at considerable length by the London *Spectator* a few months ago.

Methuen is the publisher, and the 7s. 6d. *net*—(WRITER OF SUMMARY).book sells at

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in Buddhist temples (*Kirisutokyōto mo mata jiin ni maude* (詣), *sanzen shōmyo suru wo jisezu; mata yorokonde reihai nembutsu mo nasubeki nari.*) When believers in Buddhism and believers in Christianity begin to worship together in church or temple indiscriminately, then and then alone shall we be sure that the absurd notion entertained so long in Western countries, that Christians alone are civilised and enlightened and that all non-Christian nations are no better than barbarians, has been entirely abandoned. In recent years enormous interest in Eastern religions has been aroused among Western nations. Europeans and Americans now realize that they have much to learn from us. This constitutes a golden opportunity of which our religious teachers should make full use. As for Christianity in the West, it seems to incline to what is known as Unitarianism more and more. Of this our Churches will do well to take note. They themselves should aspire to figure as pioneers in this movement, which aims at rationalizing the creed.

* * *

The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* (Congregational) has commented very fully on the Protestant Jubilee celebrations held in Tōkyō last month, and here are some of its remarks. For the conversion of a nation to Christianity half a century is a very short time, considering that it took three or four centuries to bring the Roman Empire under Christ's yoke. In a nation like ours that has had a civilisation of its own and religions of its own for a very long time, what reforming effects the propagation of Christianity will eventually have, it is not easy to determine. In considering this question history is our best guide. Though we Japanese have never produced a religion of our own, in the way we have adopted foreign creeds we have shown we possess most wonderful assimilative power. We made Buddhism and Confucianism our own, modifying and adapting them in various ways to our needs. Both these creeds were so Japonicized as to be essentially different from their original state. There are those who think that Buddhism has never been so great anywhere as it is in Japan. While adopting foreign religions and reforming ourselves by means of them, we contribute to each creed a great many new qualities. No real conversion can take place in a nation unless the process of assimilation is working freely and well. The influence of religion on a nation and that of a nation on religion are equally great. How long will it take us to assimilate Christianity and how much of it shall we assimilate? Christianity can only thrive among us after it has been thoroughly Japonicized. The Christianity taught in the past fifty years has been essentially foreign in type. That which will spread among us in the coming five decades will be pronouncedly Japanese. The curtain has dropped, and the first act in the Christian drama is over. It will rise again and show entirely different scenes, in which the actors will all be Japanese.

Numerous are the reflections suggested by the recent celebration. One can not but ask to what degree the whole nation has been affected by Christianity? What influence has Christianity on the mind of the nation? How deeply founded is our Japanese Christianity? If this question be answered in a calm impartial manner, joy turns to sorrow, gratitude gives place to remorse, and we can not but regret that our structure has no more stability than the little sand castles that children are wont to erect on the seashore.* Though it is true that in the life of a nation fifty years is a very short period, when a nation learns as much and changes as much in fifty years as we have done, the fifty years measured by the events which have been crowded into it are the equivalent of 500 years of ordinary national life.† When we remember what rapid strides other things have made within these same fifty years, when we bear in mind what environment our Protestant Christianity has enjoyed, in what an atmosphere of progress it has lived, the fact that its basis is still so insecure and that it has contributed so little towards the reform of the nation fills our hearts with the deepest mortification. (*Gojin wa utata kangai no jō ni taezaru nari*). The foundation-stone of Japanese Christianity has not yet been laid. (*Setsugen* (切言) *sureba, Kirisutokyō no teisoshiki wa imada waga kuni ni oite kyokō serarezaru nari.*) If asked to say what was the feeling that was most deeply rooted in the minds of those who attended the jubilee celebration, we should reply it was one of deep sorrow and distress. The consciousness of weakness and the remembrance of past neglect were uppermost in every heart. This, rather than gratitude for the past, was the prevailing tone. As for the evangelistic work of the past, in its methods, its objects and its spirit, it has sadly stood in need of reform. This is recognized by everybody. If Christianity is to succeed in future, it must do so by our setting about propagating it in a new fashion. We must be prepared to sacrifice both the principles and the policy followed in the past for the sake of the great object we have in view. Satisfaction with past achievements none of us can feel. Our eyes are on the future and from it we expect great things.

* * *

In the *Fukuin Shimpō* (Presbyterian) we find a report of an important Conference of the ministers and elders of the Presbyterian Church held in Tōkyō early in October. The organization of the Conference has, we are told, undergone a change. Hitherto for some years three bodies only have sent each one minister and one elder to the annual Conference, but this year the old practice of allowing each separate Church to send a delegate was reverted to, resulting in a very big gathering of pastors and elders. According to reports read at the Conference, the total number of converts belonging to the Nihon Kirisuto-Kyōkai is 19,524. The number of baptisms last year was 2,072. The total amount of the contributions for the year amounted to 93,800 *yen*. The total value of the property owned by the Mission has risen to over 390,000 *yen*. Although there were a few discordant elements, yet on the whole this year's Conference was marked by the spirit of union, says the *Fukuin Shimpō's* report.

* * *

In his recently published *Uchū*, Dr. Miyake Setsurei discusses religion at considerable length in a very calm and rational manner. His opinion is that no one religion can suit all minds. The creeds men adopt depend largely on inherited tastes, education or environment. All creeds seem to have their esoteric and exoteric doctrines Both in Christian and buddhist countries mysticism has charms for certain minds. As science advances, religion is bound to undergo rationalization more and more. The creed of the intellectual in these days is a species of idealism, but it is idealism that rests on solid argument. The belief of such people differs essentially from what is known as religious belief. It is no more than ordinary trust in certain principles. Almost all persons of intelligence and knowledge who have religious faith have ceased to place any confidence in ancient traditions. They no longer think that what are called sacred books are free from errors, they consider miracles quite impossible, avoid as much as possible the mention of God, and are inclined to assert openly that no such entity as spirit exists anywhere. Yet many of these people join in religious worship. They do so because they consider that the general effect of the worship is good. The tendency to-day is for men to keep their personal convictions on religion to themselves . . . It seems certain that neither science nor philosophy can take the place of religion. Hence we must infer that in an altered form religion will still exist.

* * *

Month after month the *Kaitakusha*, the Y.M.C.A. organ, publishes a number of well-written articles on the burning religious questions of the day. It opens its pages to writers of various schools of thought, orthodox and unorthodox. In the October number we find an article entitled, *The Study of Doctrine and the Culture of Faith*, the gist of which we now proceed to give. In days gone by Christians rather gloried in the supposed unreasonableness of their religion. *Credo quid absurdam*, said Tertullian, and so for many ages men were taught that the more contrary to reason doctrines appeared to be, the greater was the merit of accepting them. Irrationality, instead of being a drawback, was a strong recommendation to Christianity according to the popular theory of those times. Incomprehensibleness and inexplicability were deemed valuable assets to the Christian religion. But these ideas have now been entirely discarded. Then, as to the nature of God and his connection with the Universe, the dualistic system of philosophy which breaks up the universe into two entirely distinct substances, the material world and an immaterial God, is being abandoned in Europe and America by thoughtful people. (*Shisōka wa sude ni nigenron-teki kaishaku-hō ni akitari.*) Among those who are well up in modern thought there is a strong antipathy to the notion that any Being exists outside of and independent of the universe. The Supernatural Being who was in former times supposed to dwell far off in Heaven and only to appear on earth on extraordinary occasions in a miraculous way, the extra-mundane God of the dualist, has in the minds of intelligent people been replaced by the intra-mundane God of the monist. We now realize that God is within us. Reasoning has brought about this change. That reasoning dishonours God is a great mistake. It has in bringing Him nearer to us increased our reverence for Him. Reasoning has thus proved an aid to faith. It is ridiculous to think, as some seem to do, that the tendency of modern thought on this subject is to undermine religious faith altogether. For many decades have not faith and reason helped each other, acting like the two wings of a bird or the two wheels of a chariot in furthering man's progress? In former times, dating from Kant onwards, the mind was perpetually discussed by psychologists under the three headings of intellect, emotions and will, which were often represented as opposing each other, but in modern times the mind is regarded as a unit that is incapable of being thus split up into separate parts. In mental processes all three faculties complement and aid each other. As for religious life it is necessarily closely connected with the intellect, the emotions and the will, but in faith reason must play a very important part. By reasoning men have brought themselves to believe in an *Immanent Reality*.

Turning to our Japanese Christianity, the first thing we perceive is how radically different is its condition to-day to what it was say some thirty years ago. Things were done all too hastily at that period. It was a time of revolution and war. Doctrines were not properly stated and too much reliance was placed on appeals to emotion. There are those who would resort to what they call revivals to-day, but it is very questionable whether this is the best way to set about forming Christian churches. To me it seems that nothing is more urgent than a thorough study of Christian doctrines. Doctrines are the product of various ages We have to decide what shall be the leading features of our Japanese Christianity. In my opinion our young men should set themselves to investigate the subject of Christian doctrine and should determine what among all that is taught is most worthy of forming a part of our Japanese Christian creed.

In an article entitled *Shūkyō-teki kenkyūto Shūkyō-teki keiken* (Religious Study and Religious Experience), appearing in the November *Kaitakusha*, Mr. E Kashiwai says that religious investigation may err in becoming too wide and religious experience may do the same when confined to too narrow limits. Mr. Kashiwai goes on somewhat as follows:—When investigating Christianity it is not necessary to inquire what are the views of scientists, literary men and artists thereon. That is not the way to get at the truth. With certain students of religion there is too great a tendency to attach importance to what people who are not authorities on religion say about it. Whatever the subject of study may be, we should consult the writings of those who are authorities on that

* *Waga kuni Kirisutokyō no kontei hatashite ikubaku no fukaki wo yū suru ka? Mottomo reisei ni, mottomo kōhei ni korera no mondai ni kotayen to hosseba, gojin no yorokobi tachimachi henjite, urei to nari; gojin no kansha wa tachimachi henjite, zange to naru wo kinzuru atawazu.*

† For this reason Tennyson says, "Better fifty years of Europe than a cycle of Cathay."—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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subject. This applies to religion as well as to science and philosophy. For Christianity the Bible is the best book to study. In order to determine what place Christianity holds in the world of thought it may be necessary to survey its surroundings to a certain extent, but this must not be allowed to take the place of actual religious experience. There are mysteries which are only revealed to those who devote themselves to Christ unreservedly. In order to understand religion properly one must take into account the many varieties of religious experience of which the Bible furnishes examples. To each of us personally these experiences may be more or less strange, but it would be wrong to draw conclusions from this as to their impossibility in the case of others, as the history of each man's experience differs.

OUR AMERICAN LETTER.

Philadelphia, U.S.A., October 21, 1909.

As sudden as the rise of a thunder storm in Summer, has come the tempest over the recall of Charles R. Crane, Minister to China, just as he was setting sail from San Francisco. This has been the biggest diplomatic sensation that Washington has ever known since Lord Sackville West, the British Minister, was announced to be *persona non grata* by the Cleveland administration. Interest in the incident has been quickened by the general bewilderment of the public, and the consciousness that behind the story is more than appears in the newspapers. Minister Crane had been feted and feasted all over the land. He had made a number of rather ordinary speeches, in which he expressed the conventional interest of America in China and the determination of the American Government to protect the open door. He was at pains, apparently, always to allude to President Taft's Shanghai speech on this subject, and to keep well within its limits. Newspapers hailed him as a model minister, the American man of affairs who had not meddled in politics.

When the dispatches announced his sudden recall from San Francisco, for conference with the officials at Washington, the public could not understand why. Then, after a day or two of conference, Secretary Knox announced that Mr. Crane's resignation had been accepted, ostensibly because of an injudicious interview with a Chicago newspaper. As a matter of fact, Mr. Crane's name did not appear in this interview, and the substance of the article had been printed previously in cablegrams from the Orient. It is generally agreed that this is only the apparent reason for the recall.

The situation is rendered more picturesque by the somewhat defiant attitude of Mr. Crane. He refused to be made a complaisant scapegoat. He declared that he had said nothing that was not well within the limits of President Taft's instructions; which, as he quoted them, were too colloquial and vigorous to appear in a state paper. He severely arraigned the State Department because he had been unable to get from it any definite instructions whatever, concerning his mission in Peking. Mr. Crane intimates that there is a political scheme back of his recall; although others hint at the secret strife of warring financial interests as being a factor in this mysterious case. He refused to say whether he would resign or not, until he had heard from Mr. Taft on the subject. The latter was put in a quandary. He was in the Far West, but eventually he telegraphed accepting the resignation. It is pointed out that the President was forced into the position of having to choose between his appointee, Mr. Crane, and his Secretary of State, Mr. Knox. Of course, he stood by his Prime Minister.

Mr. Crane had no political supporters at this crisis. He had not been recommended by the Senators from Illinois, and was scarcely known to them. President Taft apparently chose him because of his representative business standing, and because he had travelled in the Far East. Some persons, who keep a close watch on these matters, have been concerned because Mr. Crane had travelled much in Russia and was said to be openly sympathetic with the Russian revolutionists. Plainly, he is not of diplomatic character. Those who have heard him speak have marvelled at the directness and openness of his remarks concerning national questions. It is suspected by some who look for hidden reasons, that the primary dissatisfaction with Mr. Crane arose from the fact that he was travelling across the continent, and intended to sail to the East, in the company of an American magazine writer, who has lately issued two books on the Orient, both of which are bitterly anti Japanese in character. This gentleman did not hesitate to boast to his friends of his relationship with Mr. Crane, and it was apparent that the minister relied largely upon the counsel of this self-confident journalist. Presumably, the Japanese authorities informally made known their thought on the impropriety of this, although this is only a surmise. It is known positively that some of the officials of the State Department were gravely concerned over the injudiciousness of Mr. Crane's associating himself intimately with an avowed antagonist of a friendly Power.

Incidentally, it is pointed out that Secretary Knox's remarkable letter declaring that investigations are still pending concerning the Manchurian agreement between Japan and China, was a more or less diplomatic serving of notice upon Japan that America is concerned for the Open door policy. That this is known to everybody who is at all in touch with the State Department in Washington. The whole situation assumes grave and far-reaching aspects when it is realized that America is seriously contemplating making a stand for the preservation of the open door. President Taft has entered upon an avowed policy of participation in oriental affairs and of securing for America a share in the oriental trade.

It is an open secret that America's participation on the much debated railway loan is not primarily a matter of finance. When the startling request for a share in the loan came from Washington, it purported to be from a group of financiers. In truth, the request to the financiers came from the government, rather than to the government from the financiers. Evidently, America means to establish her position in the Far East, along commercial lines, although she, of course, has no territorial aspirations.

Government policies, in this respect, evidently have a wider and longer reach than customary. It is the intention of President Taft, as his instructions to Mr. Crane showed, to endeavour to arouse the whole country to an interest in the Far Eastern question. There is significance in the fact that President Taft not only is approving and supporting the present winter's national campaign of missionary agitation among laymen, but he himself is to make one of the first addresses of the series in Washington. In some seventy-five American cities, and in all the leading cities of Canada, there will be held this winter great mass meetings and conferences by the leading laymen of all the churches. This is under the direction of the Laymen's Missionary Movement, a phenomenal organization of an international character which seems able to enlist the foremost men of all commissions. The burden of all the speeches at these gatherings is the Far East and the crisis there. This is nothing short of a tremendous educational propaganda, of vast political import. While it may not be thought that the leaders of the movement are in any sense cognizant of the use that may be made of their endeavours in an international political sense, yet they are doing more to create an intelligent interest in the Far East, on the part of the framers of public opinion, than almost any agency now at work.

The government lent hearty approval and coöperation to another innovation in American life, an academic conference on the Far Eastern question. This was held at Clark University, Worcester, Mass., of which Dr. G. Stanley Hall, the famous psychologist, is president. This continued for an entire week, bringing from many directions interested men from various walks of life. The first day was given to India, and one or two native students made addresses that were entirely too hysterical to have much weight in this scholarly gathering. Dr. John B. Jones, of Madura, a missionary, whose book, "India, its Life and Thought" is being widely read in this country, made an address upon the present situation in India. The more radical of his hearers thought it rather too pro-British in its tenor, but others recognized Dr. Jones' scholarly discrimination and his authoritive knowledge.

The Philippines had the second day and an amusing episode in this connection was the advent of two anti-imperialists, who entered the conference, hurled their bolts of criticism against the government's Philippine policy, and decamped without hearing any rejoinders. They had little sympathy in the audience. Korea had a morning and an afternoon, with ex minister Horace N. Allen, Dr George H. Jones, and Professor George Trumbull Ladd among the speakers. Dr. Allen's historical paper on Korea was a most illuminating document. The presence of Prof. Ladd was protested by some, because of his avowed partisanship for Japan. Most persons had, however, not seen his book, which he wrote at the instance of Prince Ito, and his complaisant infallibility added a picturesque touch to the proceeding. Somebody characterized him as "Omniscience in breeches."

Japan had three sessions, and a through discussion in which several scholarly Japanese participated. There was frequent criticism of the anti Japanese outbreaks on the Pacific coast, and congratulation upon the wholesomeness of the present attitude of America toward Japan. Sharp criticism was given to the Japanese by Mr. T. F. Millard, when he treated the "Distinctive Need of an American Policy in China." This, and an allusion or two from Judge Wilfley, were the only anti-Japanese notes in the conference, while many friends of Japan were heard. One of the best addresses was made by Dr. Otis Cary, of Kyoto.

China had three full days. The speakers included Judge L. R. Wilfley, who was given the degree of Doctor of Laws at an academic session of the University, Mr. H. F. Merrill, late of the Chinese Customs Service, who is now supervising the Chinese students in the United States, and whose paper was one of the most scholarly and illuminating and satisfactory of the conference; Dr. I. T. Headland, of Peking; Prof. S. W. Williams, son of S. Wells Williams; Mr. Chester Holcombe; Prof. J. W. Jenks, of Cornell University, who discussed the financial situation of China; Major Eben Swift, who described the military situation in China and Japan; William T. Ellis, on "Awakening the West to the Awakening of the East," Prof. Archibald P. Coolidge, of Harvard; Dr. Hamilton Wright, who talked on opium; Dr. Amos B. Wilder, Consul General at Shanghai; and Dr. D. Z. Sheffield and S. A. Hunter. Minister Crane delivered a short address.

The success of this conference, and the widespread attention it attracted, have already inspired other institutions of learning to consider a similar gathering. Clark University had decided to make it an annual occasion. A number of Japanese students were in attendance upon the session, as well as many educators and missionaries.

W. T. E.

OUR ST. PETERSBURG LETTER.

St. Petersburg, October 23.

The Emperor of Russia meets the King of Italy to day, the monarchs being accompanied by their respective Ministers of Foreign Affairs. Exceptional importance attaches to this visit at a moment like the present, and the Russian press is probably well informed in stating that to day marks a date in the history of Europe.

The Russian Parliament resumed its sittings to day; the customary form of prayer preceded the sitting in both the Upper House and the Duma.

As usual at such moments the air is full of conjectures as to the results to be anticipated from the third year's work of the Third Duma, but as even the immediate programme of action has not yet been decided on any such conjectures are premature. Still less to be relied on are the bold assertions, likewise recognisable by this time as quite customary, that this or that party is on the

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eve of splitting up, or this or the other Minister has gone over to the side of the reactionaries. It is the general belief that the coming session will at least get to work on some of the genuine measures of reform for which the country has been waiting in vain so long, with a patience that may possibly, if too much strained, take the form of absolute indifference to the existence of the Duma. It is hinted that the believers in the "good old ways" will take every opportunity to encourage this state of mind in the masses of the people, and the advantageous position in which the administration finds itself, thanks to the record harvest with which Russia is blessed this year, will help not a little in the same direction. At the same time it is a solid fact of overwhelming importance that the Russian Duma to-day enters upon the third year of its existence; no amount of adverse criticism of the Duma from the point of view of what it has or has not "done" in that period can count against the mere fact of its existence—in Russia. All the rest will come—in time.

I hear that the Russian secret police are again just now very much on the alert, their anxieties having been greatly increased by the fact that the dangerous revolutionaries have changed their tactics consequent upon the revelations recently made public as to the manner in which the police succeeded in securing reliable information of the most secret plots and plans of their enemies. At a meeting, said to have been held in Russia near Kiev, this autumn, the advocates of bombs and bullets round-the-corner as weapons in the political conflict came to a decision as to their future activity, which they believe will paralyse the detective skill of the police. Instead of the Central Committee of the revolutionaries being acquainted with all the facts of any attempt to be made on the life of "obnoxious" persons, that Committee is henceforth to know no more than the names on the proscribed list, which is drawn up by the Committee. The execution of any of the deeds which these advocates of violence call their "sentences of death" will be entrusted to the local organisations, whose duty it will be to select one or at most two persons to actually carry out the attempt. In this way it is hoped to prevent the leakage of plans that formerly always enabled the police to forestall terrorist acts when deemed advisable. Apparently for the future the Central Committee will draw up the list of the "proscribed" and circulate the names among the local organisations: these will then do their best to carry out the "sentence of death," choosing their own time, manner and instruments for the purpose. Thus an assassination, accomplished or attempted, will not necessarily involve the discovery of a whole organisation: only a few members, probably misguided newcomers eager to prove their devotion, will be sacrificed, and being of no particular account their loss will not cripple any given organisation. Altogether a cowardly mean expedient!

A Moscow student friend of mine calls my attention to yet another direction in which the youth of Russia, apart from the growing passion for outdoor games, especially football, is coming to recognise the value in education of open air exercise. He says: "Ten of my fellow-students formed a little group to make an 'excursion' in Russia this summer. We carefully picked our men and limited ourselves to that number, so as to be sure of harmony and good-fellowship. About the same time a dozen of the girl students of the Higher Courses hit upon the idea of an excursion to the same region chosen by us, the Caucasus. We got the necessary permission, which entitles us to travel at cheap rates on all railways, secured promises of assistance from local authorities, joined forces and set off. The girls had with them a lady-teacher, but otherwise we were all young people about the age of twenty, and all belonging to the faculty of natural science. Of course these excursions are old enough in one way: professors used to take out a chosen few and make them work as they went along studying the antiquities of Greece and Rome on the spot, for example. Our idea was different; we mainly sought an agreeable holiday and exercise, with the knowledge of some of the best parts of our native country. Our professors and specialists certainly gave us all the information they could before we started, told us what to look out for, where to find this or that phenomenon, etc. Well, we took train to Nizhni-Novgorod, thence sailed down the Volga to Tsaritsin, made on to Novorossisk Batum, Baky, Kutais, Tiflis, did the Caspian and the Black Seas, and so home again. But the best part was the hundred miles on foot in the Caucasus, which indeed was the principal object of our journey. We tramped every yard of it, over the difficult Ossetine road across the Caucasus range, where landslips and snowfalls gave us plenty of adventures. This road is over a higher pass than the better known Georgian military road, and I think it is far more interesting. Of course we collected specimens of all interesting minerals, visited mines, studied the flora and fauna, and so on, but without any sense of work in it. Yes, the girls tramped it all the way, and not one of them was laid up, whereas several of our fellows were. We always managed to spend the night under a roof even in the wildest parts: generally a village school-house, local priest's barn or some such shelter, all the men camping out in one room and the girls in another, regular campaigning style all through. Every day we chose 'elders' to attend to the provisioning. It cost us in all, for forty days' trip, under eight pounds sterling, everything included. There was no unpleasantness except with an occasional jack in office. No, and no one fell in love. Yes, there were reasons, but, indeed, we started out with a fair understanding on all main points, and you know the 'comrades' courte' passes sentences which are severe enough to make them obeyed, if need arise. With our party it didn't. Yes, there were quite a dozen similar expeditions this summer from our University alone, and I know of a good many others from other Universities. We intend to improve on the idea next year." But my friend was afraid that all this passion for outdoor life and sports will sap the brain-power of the younger end; he finds that already the fellows who play football fall off in their book work. I endeavoured to persuade him that the strength of character that comes from a little independent action out of doors away from pastors and masters, in combination with one's equals only, makes for the growth of "character," a quality that has not hitherto been much fostered by the cramming processes of the Russian schools, which turn out annually thousands of brain-stuffed pessimists with exhausted vitality and too much miscellaneous knowledge, minus the power or even the wish to acquire any more.

There is a member of the Russian Upper House who in his student days tramped many hundred miles about Russia, and perhaps a few other rare members of Russia's original aristocracy may say the same. Many thousands of peasants do the same every year in the guise of pilgrims. But for the ordinary student, of no means and middle-class family, to take up this admirable idea points to a healthier state of things in Russia within the next decade. A generation of students who have spent their days on an intelligent tramp will produce steadier politicians than the present generation of ingrained pessimists, grown out of premature examination of forbidden knowledge in the unhealthy student atmosphere of old days.

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION IN AMERICA.

The party of Japanese business men arrived on the 10th instant at St. Louis, where they inspected the Commercial National Bank and the Simons Hardware Works, and afterwards were entertained at a reception at the Bourse. In the afternoon they visited a brewery. In the evening, a dinner was given in their honour at the St. Louis Club. The Japanese Honorary Consul, Mr. Smith, ex-Governor Mr. Francis, and ex-Mayor Mr. Wells delivered appreciative addresses of welcome, to which Barons Shibusawa and Kanda replied. The next day, the party visited various factories, printing offices, etc., and departed for Kansas City in the course of the evening.

The members of the Japanese Commercial Mission, who arrived at Kansas City on the 13th instant, were given a reception at the Commercial Club, and after being entertained at luncheon there, they visited the National bank, a textile works and several other factones. In the evening a dinner party was given in their honour at the Baltimore Hotel, when the Mayor and the President of the Chamber of Commerce gave addresses of welcome, to which Barons Shibusawa and Kanda replied. The party left for Omaha in the course of the evening.

On the morning of the 14th instant the members of the Japanese Commercial Mission arrived at Omaha, where they were welcomed by the governor, the mayor and others. The party visited the engine works belonging to the Union Pacific Railway Company, and after partaking of luncheon at the Pumping Station, they made a tour of the city, inspecting the Fine Art Exhibition and many other places. In the evening, a dinner was given in their honour at the Commercial Club, when Mr. and Mrs. Bryan were present, they having come from Lincoln in order to receive the Japanese mission. Mr. Bryan delivered a speech on international friendship, and two others gave addresses of welcome, to which Baron Shibusawa replied.

The Japanese Commercial Mission arrived at Denver on the evening of the 14th instant, and the members immediately attended a lecture meeting held by the Japanese Society. The next morning the Governor held a reception in their honour at the local government office. The party visited during the day various schools, clubs, factories and other institutions. In the evening they attended a banquet at the Palace Hotel, when he Governor and several others gave addresses of welcome, to which Barons Shibusawa and Kanda replied. In the course of the evening, the mission left for Salt Lake City. Messrs. Nakano, Kato, Minami, Watarase, Noda and Honda left for California on the night of the 14th, and are to meet the rest of the party at Los Angeles.

THE CHAPMAN-ALEXANDER MISSION.

A large audience was present at the Gaiety on the 11th inst., when Messrs. Chapman and Alexander conducted the fifth meeting of their Mission at this port. At the close of the musical portion of the service, ably conducted by Mr. C. M. Alexander, Dr. Chapman, who had recovered from his indisposition of the previous day, delivered an impressive address on the passage in Acts XXiV, 25—"As he reasoned of righteousness, temperance and judgment to come, Felix trembled." The speaker alluded to the difficulties in the way of righteous living in such places as Yokohama, and declared that the only safeguard against the temptations of Far Eastern treaty ports lay in complete surrender to Christ.

A large audience, nearly filling the Gaiety, assembled for the closing meeting of the Chapman-Alexander mission on the 12th inst. After the musical portion of the service, led by Mr. C. M. Alexander, Dr. Chapman delivered an impressive address based on the text (II. Cor. viii., 5) "*First* they gave their own souls to the Lord." The burden of the preacher's message was the necessity for professing Christians to live whole-heartedly for their Master.

Dr. Chapman preached at the Union Church on Sunday morning (14th), and the Mission Party left by the *Empress of India* in the afternoon.

CHRIST CHURCH.

A Harvest Festival service will be held at Christ Church on Sunday next, the 21st inst., when it is hoped that the Congregation will make a strong effort to reduce the present debt on the Church funds (about *yen* 1,500).

On Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, the 25th inst., Bishop McKim will hold a special service at 11 a.m. at Christ Church, at which all members of the congregation and their friends are invited to be present.

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L'ABBE GUERIN.

It is with feelings of keen regret that the community has heard the rumour that the Reverend Mr. Guérin, one of the most respected and popular members of the Catholic Mission in Yokohama, has been, or is likely to be, transferred to another field of work in the provinces. Mr. Guérin arrived in Japan, while quite a young man, some fourteen or fifteen years ago, and for several years past has acted as the *procurateur* of the Church at this port. Imbued with great zeal and enthusiasm, he has consistently shown that he is a strong believer in the maxim *Laborare est orare*. During his stay here he has displayed a genius for organisation and much energy and ability in effecting notable reforms and economies, and has generally infused new life into the management of the Catholic Mission. It was entirely due to the efforts of Mr. Guérin that the Catholic Church in the Settlement was removed to its present convenient site on the Bluff, and on this account alone he has earned the gratitude of the congregation. Moreover, during the few short years of his residence in Japan, he has been instrumental in founding two important girls' schools in Tokyo (the Seishin Gaku-In, conducted by the Ladies of the Sacred Heart, and the school at Yotsuya conducted by the Ladies of St. Maur), the Trappist Monastery in Hokkaido and the Trappistines Nunnery, also in Hokkaido. Granting that it may be necessary for building up the Mission in another part of the country that Mr. Guerin's valuable services are about to be requisitioned by his superiors, we cannot but feel that it is most unfortunate both for the Church to which he belongs and the community generally, that a man so eminently fitted for the particular duties which he has hitherto so admirably discharged, and one so universally liked and esteemed, should be removed from his present sphere of action. We sincerely hope that the rumour will prove not to be founded on fact, and that Mr. Guérin will remain with us for many years to come.

YOKOHAMA.

On the afternoon of the 20th instant a memorial service for the policemen of this prefecture, who have died in the service of their country, will be held in the compound of the Daijin-gu Shrine at Iseyama.

The Yokohama Electric Railway Company will hold a general meeting on the 25th instant to discuss changes in the regulations of the Company and the issue of debentures amounting to 2,000,000 *yen*.

On the evening of the 13th instant a fire broke out in a house at Onoye-cho, Shi-chome. The flames threatened to spread, when the patent Merryweather motor fire-engine, recently purchased by the city from Messrs. Andrews and George, arrived on the scene. Such was the power developed by the engine, that the flames were subdued in a short time. Only two houses were destroyed.

At 4.32 a.m., on November 14, a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. It lasted for 42 seconds.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended November 11th are as follows:—

Yokohama—	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
New cases ...	—	1	2	4	—	—
Died	—	—	2	1	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	—	8	6	—	—
Died	—	1	2	4	—	—

The Canadian residents in this city will hold a meeting at 5.30 p.m. on the 23rd instant at No. 60, Main Street, to discuss the subject of instituting a Canadian Society.

On the 15th instant the "Hichigosan Miyamairi" (seven, five and three-year old children's visit to their tutelary shrines) was celebrated in the city. A large number of children of these ages, with their parents, visited the shrines of the Iseyama Daijingu, the Benten of Hagoromo-cho, the Osanno-miya, etc.

On the 15th instant, a Chinese employee of the Deutsche-Asiatische Bank of this city, who, on an order of the Chinese compradore, received 10,000 *yen* of the bank's money from the Yokohama Specie Bank, yielded to avarice and absconded with the money, after giving a false report to the Kaga-cho Police Station that he had lost the money on his way home. Being afraid of detection, he wrapped up in a coat 9,600 *yen* of the amount and sent it on the same day to one of his friends in Tokyo. Afterwards whilst enjoying himself at Kanagawa, a policeman of the Kaga-cho Station entered the room and arrested him. He confessed to the crime immediately, and the police wired to the Tokyo Police authorities to seize the parcel forwarded by the accused. The Kanda police effected the arrest of the friend who had hidden the 9,600 *yen*, and thus the whole sum of money was recovered and subsequently returned to the bank.

On the 17th instant a goods train was derailed in the compound of Higashi-Kanagawa Station, owing to the carelessness of a pointsman. Fortunately the accident took place on the branch line, so that no interruption occurred to any of the Tokaido trains.

Two burglars armed with revolvers broke into a house at Nakamura-cho, on the night of the 17th instant. It is stated that they first knocked at the front-door, calling out loudly that they had come from the Yamate Police Station, and as soon as the door was opened, the thieves, who seemed like workmen, pointed their revolvers at the mistress, and subsequently marched off with a silver watch and seven *yen* in cash.

Governor Sufu went to Atsuki-cho, Aikō gori, on the 17th inst. to pay a visit to Lieut.-General Yamada, Commander of the Imperial Guards Division, which has been carrying out manœuvres in this prefecture. At the same time, the Governor inquired after the health of Princes Kitashirakawa, Asaka and Higashikuni, who were taking part in the manœuvres.

TOKYO LITERARY & MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The October meeting of this Society partook chiefly of a business character, and the members opened their session proper with a very successful evening last Monday. The Hall of the Methodist Publishing House was pretty well filled when President Tucker took the chair at half-past eight. There were no direct descendants of Tennyson present to lend glamour to the occasion and the Society accordingly had to fall back on the efforts of its members to call forth interest. As the celebration of a centenary is generally used by periodicals of all classes to recall episodes of a career and in this way the subject comes to be treated exhaustively, the Committee decided that it would be best to select one of Tennyson's compositions to be read by members impersonating the characters and let who wished go to the recognised sources to refresh a memory as to the person of the author. "The Falcon" was ably presented by Miss Scheres-chewsky, Miss Margot von Fallot, Mr. Stevens and Mr. Nonweiler, to all of whom the Society is much indebted for their efforts faithfully to portray the different characters.

After the interlude, Miss Sweet played a couple of piano selections which were received with evident delight: Miss Hasu Gardiner charmed the audience with her dainty rendering of a French song, and Mr. Colchester who had been so good as to come up from Yokohama was not allowed to think of returning until he had given four songs.

The Society is to be congratulated on its fresh lease of life. The Officers and Committees look forward to a very successful session and hope that the members and community will do everything possible to support them in making the evenings attractive. The foundations of the programme for the Christmas meeting are already well laid and a good time is undoubtedly in store. Those desirous of joining the Society should apply to the Secretary, Rev. J. A. Welbourn, 3, Yayoicho, Hongo-ku, and thereafter the treasurer will be pleased to see them.

FUNERAL OF THE LATE MR E. H. GILL.

In the presence of a large and representative gathering of foreign and Japanese residents, the mortal remains of the late Mr. Eugene Halleck Gill were committed to rest in Kasugano Cemetery on the 15th inst., says the *Kobe Herald*. Among the large number who attended to pay their last tribute of respect to one who for years worked as unobtrusively as unselfishly for the good of the town and community, we noticed Mr. Y. Aoki, representative of Mr. Kashima, the Acting Mayor. The impressive burial service of the Church of England was read in the Chapel and at the graveside by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Foss, Messrs. Greppi and W. J Robinson (two of the oldest friends of the deceased gentleman), Dr. Thornicraft (representing the International Hospital), Mr. A. H. Groom (Kobe Golf Club), Mr. C. G. Town (Kobe Fire Insurance Association), Mr. J. Marshall (Foreign Board of Trade), Mr. H. Lucas (President of the Kobe Club), Mr. H. Pitteri (Vice-President of the International Committee), and M. Scidmore (U.S. Consul-General) acted as pall-bearers; while Messrs. C. M. Birnie and H. Nutter (partners with the late Mr. Gill in the old-established firm of Browne & Co.) followed as chief mourners.

THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON DIVORCE.

As already announced in our telegram columns, a Royal Commission of unusual character, with women members, has been appointed on the question of divorce. The terms of reference are:—

To inquire into the present state of the law and the administration thereof in divorce and matrimonial causes and applications for separation orders, especially with regard to the position of the poorer classes in relation thereto, and the subject of the publication of reports of such causes and applications; and to report whether any and what amendments should be made in such law or the administration thereof, or with regard to the publication of such reports.

The Commissioners will further have power to make an interim report with a view of enabling such steps as they may recommend to be taken for the redress of any hardship from which in their opinion the poorer classes may suffer under the existing law and administration.

The Commission is constituted as follows:

Lord Gorell, Chairman.
The Archbishop of York.
The Earl of Derby.
Lady Frances Balfour.
The Right Hon. Thomas Burt, M.P.
Lord Guthrie.
Sir W. R. Anson, M.P.
Sir Lewis T. Dibdin.
Sir George White, M.P.
Mrs. H. J. Tennant.
Judge Tindal Atkinson.
Mr. E. Brierley, stipendiary magistrate of Manchester.
Mr. Rufus Isaacs, K.C., M.P.
Mr. J. A. Spender.

The secretary to the Commission is the Hon. Henry Gorell Barnes, to whom correspondence may be addressed at 2, Pump-court, Temple.

This Royal Commission is the result of the debate in the House of Lords in July last, when Lord Gorell, ex-President of the Divorce Court, urged that the county courts should have powers of divorce for the sake of the poor and that publication of cases should be prohibited. The Archbishop of Canterbury feared the danger of tampering with the marriage tie, and the Lords compromised by agreeing on the need of inquiry.

Lady Frances Balfour is the sister of the Duke of Argyll, and sister-in-law of Mr. Balfour; Mrs. H. J. Tennant, wife of the Liberal M.P. for Berwick, was formerly a superintending inspector of factories. Lord Guthrie is a Scottish judge; Sir W. Anson, the constitutional historian; Sir Lewis Dibdin, Dean of the Arches; Sir G. White, a Nonconformist leader; and Mr. Spender, editor of the *Westminster Gazette*.

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THE ATHLETIC SPORTS OF THE TOKYO IMPERIAL UNIVERSITY.

On the 13th inst. was held the annual athletic meeting of the Tokyo Imperial University. Around the enclosure of the playing-fields, a large number of chairs and benches were provided for spectators, and on one side of a slope, special seats for ladies were prepared. Most of the hundreds of spectators were students of various schools and colleges.

In the 400 metres race, Mr. Mishima was the winner, running the distance in 56.70 seconds, and in the 600 metres, Mr. Kasuga reached the goal first in 1 minute 41.34 seconds. In the high jump, Mr. Honda attained to 1.75 metres, the last record being 1.78 metres. In the 600 metres races for students of private colleges, government schools and middle schools, the the Koitsu Kyokai, the Higher Agricultural and the First Higher Middle School were successful. In the 1,000 metres race, Mr. Mishima was again the winner, reaching the goal in 3 minutes 12 seconds. In the Inter-collegiate races, the law-department were victorious. The tug of war was won by the students of the First Higher Middle School against teams from the Imperial Colleges.

Baron Hamao and a number of professors and graduates attended the sports until th ir conclusion at about 5 p.m.

RAW SILK THEFT IN YOKOHAMA.

The police of the Isezaki Station, Yokohama, having been told that certain receivers of stolen articles were keeping in stock a large amount of raw silk, owing to the recent decline in its price, made certain enquiries and discovered that for some time past Japanese *banto* and other employees in foreign firms had been stealing large quantities of raw silk, carrying a little away at one time, out of the samples forwarded by Japanese firms. Subsequently the police arrested over 30 men during the last few days, of whom Wakasugi Kazo, head of the raw silk department of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., and several other *banto* of various foreign firms, have been sent to the public procurator's office. These silk samples stolen have hitherto been regarded as a kind of perquisite belonging to the *banto*, and no Japanese firms have dared to complain about the theft. It is said that there has hardly been any Japanese raw silk dealer that has not sustained more or less losses in consequence, the principal firms being Messrs. Kamezen, Nozawaya, Ono, Mitsui and the Yokohama Raw Silk Co. The amount annually stolen by these dishonest *banto* and others is estimated at some 200,000 *yen*. It is believed that further arrests will be effected.

FIRES.

A big fire occurred on the 11th instant at Sunakawa-mura, Ishikari, Hokkaido. Some two hundred houses were destroyed. The damage is estimated at about 300,000 *yen*.

On the 15th instant a fire broke out in a laboratory in the compound of the Shingu Middle School, in Wakayama prefecture. The damage is estimated at some 50,000 *yen*.

On the same day a building in the compound of the Aichi Hospital of Nagoya caught fire, which soon spread to other buildings. It is feared there may have been some casualties among the patients.

Another fire occurred on the 16th inst. in a pharmacy situated in Minami-Shinagawa, Tokyo-fu. Owing to the strong wind blowing on the occasion, three buildings in the compound and some fifty tenement houses were burnt down. The buildings in the pharmacy being insured with the Kyodo and the Meiji Fire Insurance Companies for 1,000 *yen* each, the actual damage is estimated at about 3,000 *yen*. The inmates of the tenement houses being all poor people, the district officials have constructed a temporary refuge for them.

A STEAMER'S TERRIBLE EXPERIENCES IN A TYPHOON.

The *South-China Morning Post* of Nov. 3 wrote as follows:—Driven down from the north by a fierce gale coming through the Formosan channel, and whipped back by the whirling winds of a typhoon from the south, the good ship *Zafiro* had a hard experience on her trip from Hongkong, and anchored in Manila Bay after being more than three days on the trip. The *Zafiro* sailed from Hongkong at five o'clock on Saturday afternoon, the 23rd October, and between nine and ten o'clock was in the teeth of a heavy gale which was making mountainous waves as it swept into the China Sea through the Formosan Channel. This was all right and the ship ploughed along ahead of the wind and sea in a fine manner, but on Sunday afternoon the glass dropped rapidly and the ship encountered a cross sea whipped up by the typhoon coming from the southward. Everthing was battened down and for forty hours Captain Rodger never left the bridge of his ship, while the vessel ploughed stoutly through the adverse sea. Tremendous volumes of rain accompanied the typhoon but this rain did not serve to keep the seas down, and all day they swept over the decks of the ship. Early Sunday the stalls on the port side of the vessel were smashed, thus releasing a number of cattle which were thrown around the deck and washed from side to side by the successive seas which came on board. Five were badly injured, and two died before reaching Manila. The lowest reading of the glass was 29.16, Sunday evening, and the *Zafiro* was put about toward the east, staying there until it had passed over the China Sea to the westward. After heading about on Sunday evening a heavy sea hit the ship on the port side with such force as to smash two port holes in the saloon. From Saturday night until Monday afternoon the vessel was in the grip of the gale and typhoon, and all that time the skipper never once left his post on the bridge. During the worst of the trip she could make but from two to three knots, but after being put back on her course and heading again for Manila, 11½ knots were easily made. It was Monday evening before it was possible to head back, and then the ship was gradually worked around to her course and for Manila. In all there were 64 passengers on board.

THE UNION ESTATE AND INVESTMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

ANNUAL REPORT AND STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

The Directors have the pleasure to lay before the shareholders a statement of the Company's accounts for the year ending 30th September, 1909.

The net profit for the year after deducting all charges, interest, and other general expenses amounts to *yen* 37,095.37.

	Yen.	Yen.
An Interim Dividend of 3½ per cent. paid in April last absorbed the sum of	18,375.00	
The amount now available is therefore *yen*	18,720.37	
and the Directors recommend a Final Dividend at the rate of 6 per cent., making 6½ per cent. for the year amounting to	15,750.00	
Transfer to Reserve fund (to bring this up to *yen* 8,000)	2,000.00	
Carry forward to next account	970.37	37,095.37

The Company's buildings have been kept in good repair.

The Building Department has some important work on hand and has good prospects for the future.

Mr. D. Marshall, one of the Directors, retires by rotation but offers himself for re-election.

The accounts have been audited by Messrs. Pearson, Mackie and Dempster, Chartered Accountants, and the Directors recommend their reappointment.

By Order of the Board,

HUTCHISON & Co., Agents.

EDWARD ROGERS,)
D. H. BLAKE, - Directors.
D. MARSHALL,)

Yokohama, 15th November, 1909.

STATEMENT OF WORKING ACCOUNT FOR YEAR TO 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1909.

	Yen.	Yen.
To Building Department Expenses	7,748.47	
To Repairs & Allowances for wear and tear	8,469.08	
To Expenses	585.53	
To Commissions	5,159.81	
To Fire Insurances	3,760.59	
To Stationery and Advertising	407.61	
To Ground Rent and Taxes	3,794.13	
To Balance to Profit and Loss Account	41,397.34	
		71,322.56
By Gross Earnings from Rentals and other sources	71,318.56	
By Transfer Fees	4.00	
		71,322.56

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

	Yen.	Yen.
To Interest	4,355.00	
To Directors and Auditors' fees	1,700.00	
To Balance, being profit for year	37,095.37	
		43,150.37
By Balance forward from last year	1,753.03	
By Balance of Working Account transferred	41,397.34	
		43,150.37

BALANCE SHEET. 30th September, 1909.

ASSETS.

	Yen.	Yen.
Properties	689,000.00	
Furniture and Fixtures	6,000.00	
Building Supplies	1,500.63	
Sundry Debtors	338.09	
Suspense Account	13,064.39	
Anglo-Japanese Bank	20.29	
		709,923.40

LIABILITIES.

	Yen.	Yen.
Capital 10,000 shares of *yen* 100.00 each (whereof 5,250 shares issued and fully paid up)		525,000.00
Debentures, 636 (@ *yen* 100.00		63,600.00
Reserve Fund		6,000.00
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank, overdraft		53,416.38
Sundry creditors		33,752.07
Suspense Account:		9,434.58
Profit and Loss Account Profit for year	37,095.37	
Less:—Interim Dividend paid	18,375.00	18,720.37
		709,923.40

In accordance with the provisions of the Company's Act, 1908, we hereby certify that we have obtained all the information and explanations which we have required.

We have examined and audited the books and accounts of The Union Estate and Investment Company, Ltd., for the year ending 30th September, 1909, and beg to report that the above balance-sheet, and within statements of accounts as prepared by us, are in our opinion properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the Company's affairs, according to the best of our information and the explanations given us, and as shown by the books of the Company.

PEARSON, MACKIE AND DEMPSTER,
Chartered Accountants.

Yokohama, 5th November, 1909.

AMONG the most ambitious transportation enterprises yet projected is that which is to connect the "Keys" of Florida with the Cuban railway system. Viaducts are to connect all the islands from the coast of Florida to Key West, one being as much as seven miles wide. The trains will run literally through the open sea, with the Atlantic on one side and the Gulf of Mexico on the other, for a distance of over seventy miles. At Key West they will be run on to specially constructed steamers, taken to Havana, and there transferred to the Cuban railway, to continue the journey to Santiago. A section of the line was opened last year, and when it is quite finished one may board the train in New York, and be taken in the same carriage to Santiago de Cuba in about forty hours.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CRICKET GROUND.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I greatly appreciate your sympathetically expressed desire that the present Cricket Ground might be preserved just as it is for all time, and wish I could convince you that the only hope of doing so rests on maintaining the protest and waiting the opinion of Sir Edward Grey and the British Crown lawyers. Your inferential contention that the Cricket Ground is land that was rented for a specific purpose is, I consider, a misleading statement of the case. The land itself, *per se*, was not rented at all, because it is not reasonable to suppose that 5500 *tsubo* of such eligible land was rented for the paltry sum of *yen* 410.25 *sen* per annum, or even less at the time. You will doubtless say that the low rent was due to the generosity of the Japanese authorities, but I venture to point out that the lease to which you and others attach so much importance was the natural outcome of the right to the use of the Cricket Ground granted by the Japanese authorities under solemn international agreement, when it was set apart for cricket and other outdoor sports. Had there been no right to the use of the Ground, assuredly no lease of its exclusive control would have been granted, and the one follows the other just as naturally as water runs down hill. Besides, this rent question, which was the Japanese authorities' strong plank (as it appears to be yours), was finally disposed of by Mr. Rumbold's able despatch to the Japanese Foreign Office, to which I alluded in my last letter, and with the disposal of the rent question the whole argument based on the existence of a lease with the Japanese authorities falls to the ground. We return to the status quo,—that is to say, to the argument under which the Cricket Ground was originally set apart for cricket and other out-door sports. If proof is required of the present Cricket Ground having been set apart for cricket and other sports, we have only to turn to the official Japanese map of 1874, which clearly defines the centre of the Public Garden and distinctly designates it the Cricket Ground. This map was confirmed by another official Japanese one on exactly the same lines in 1880, and yet again by the similar one presented to the Hague Tribunal in connection with the House Tax question, all three being consecutive and connecting links in the chain of evidence that to me is unassailable.

The so-called rent must be regarded as a payment in consideration of the exclusive control thus secured. The Y.C. and A.C. had no authority to admit in the lease that the ground should revert to the Japanese Government, even if they had the wish, and it must be remembered that the form of the lease was drawn up by the Japanese authorities and put before the Club for signature. It was a case of Hobson's choice. If you want the exclusive control you must sign this lease, otherwise the ground will be thrown open to foreigners and Japanese alike (for cricket and other sports, however, not as a flower garden), and so in order to keep the exclusive control which was necessary to the existence of the Club in their own hands, the lease was signed. But the Cricket Ground still remained one of the lands granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for public purposes of the Settlement, to be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart. And I repeat that no one can question the fact that the present Ground was originally set apart for cricket and other outdoor sports. As regards the attempt being made to induce members of the Y.C. & A.C. to stultify their votes recorded at the Extraordinary General Meeting held on the 1st inst., to which end I understand another Extraordinary General Meeting has been called, I consider it the most unworthy and unbecoming proceeding that Yokohama has ever witnessed, and sincerely trust it may meet with the failure it deserves. One strong reason why it should fail is that Sir Claude MacDonald has informed the Y.C. & A.C. in a despatch addressed to their President and Vice-President that the whole question has been referred to the British Foreign Office for their opinion, and it would be wanting in courtesy to Sir Claude MacDonald to ignore his despatch; wanting in respect to Sir Edward Grey not to wait his decision, and wanting in dignity on the part of the members as a Club, to wilfully withdraw to wilfully stultify themselves by withdrawing a thrice-affirmed protest sent through the British Consul-General and endorsed by him in a strongly worded despatch to H.E. Governor Baron Sufu.

I appeal therefore to all members of the Y.C. & A.C. to stand by their protest until Sir Edward Grey's decision is known, and not cut away their anchors only to find themselves drifting on to a lee shore without help and without hope; throwing away, in fact, a substantial chance of a favourable opinion from the British Foreign Office for a vague and hazy idea, (without any guarantee) that Governor Sufu will do *something* for them *if the protest is withdrawn*.

Yours, &c., J. P. MOLLISON.

"DISAFFECTED RUSSIAN SOLDIERS."

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—On the 19th of October the *Daily Mail* inserted an article under the heading "Disaffected Russian soldiers" in which it was stated that a number of Russian soldiers quartered in Hwangtaohetzi in Manchuria had deserted, together with 80 Chinese soldiers.

According to official information received from our authorities, there is, as it could be surmised, absolutely no foundation in these reports, and there was *not one* case of desertion in the Russian troops neither in Hwangtaohetzi nor in the whole Priamur and Zaamur military districts.

I would be thankful to you to place this statement in one of the nearest issues of the *Daily Mail*.

A. BOUTENEFF,
Secretary of the Russian Embassy.

Tokyo, November 11th, 1909.

MR. R. J. CAMPBELL'S THEOLOGY.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Perhaps I may be allowed a few words in regard to Mr. Dening's explanation in the *Mail* of Nov. 12 of certain statements by him about Mr. Ebina and Mr. R. J. Campbell.

Mr. Dening's sarcasm was so delicate that I, as well as others of his readers, did not perceive it to be sarcasm at all, but took it in earnest. However, his explanation has set that right.

But possibly he is wrong in blaming Mr. Ebina and Mr. Campbell. Those gentlemen, I believe, are Congregationalists. Now in the Congregational body, in which I was brought up, there is no central authority empowered to decide upon or impose upon the individual churches any creed, confession or doctrine. There is in the United States a central representative body composed of delegates from the individual churches, a sort of Church congress, and, if I am rightly informed, that body has formulated a creed or confession of faith expressing what the Congregational Churches generally do in fact accept, and has advised its acceptance by the individual churches. But it has no authority to require them to accept it, or to read out of the Congregational body a church that refuses to do so; it can only advise. Each individual church has a full and undoubted right to decide for itself what doctrines it will believe and teach. The usual course is for a committee appointed by the church itself to draw up some sort of a creed or confession of faith, which is submitted to the church and, if satisfactory, adopted by a majority vote. The same authority that made the creed, the body of the church members, can change it at their pleasure. And what they can do by a formal vote they can do informally or tacitly by permitting their pastor or those persons whom they entrust with the office of teaching to teach or preach any doctrines that they please, however different from the doctrines held by other Christians or other Congregationalists.

If therefore a Congregationalist clergyman practises no improper concealment or dissimulation but preaches frankly and sincerely such doctrines as he really believes, so long as his own church are satisfied he is doing nothing dishonest or wrong, whatever those doctrines may be, even though they are such as can not properly be called Christian at all. I do not intend to suggest that Mr. Ebina and Mr. Campbell's doctrines are not Christian: there is room within the limits of Christianity for much difference of opinion even on important matters. Whether the fact that individual churches permit the preaching of such doctrines as those of Mr. Ebina and Mr. Campbell "means the final doom of orthodox Protestantism," is one of the questions upon which good men, and good Christians, will differ and on which I express no opinion. But even if it does, that does not make it wrong for a Congregational clergyman to preach them, if his church approves. A Congregational Church is not under any obligation to be either orthodox or Protestant. It is entirely free and untrammelled.

It is true that the Congregational Churches are in a general agreement upon many points of doctrine; there is what may be called a body of Congregational doctrine. If any particular church departed too widely from that, the other Congregational churches would probably "disfellowship" it, that is, refuse to recognize it as being Congregational or even Christian, and its continued use of those names might in fact be incorrect. But there is nothing wrong or dishonest in calling oneself by a wrong name, if that is not done with an intent to deceive, and especially if the person doing so honestly, though it may be mistakenly, believes himself to be using it correctly. Some of our Episcopal brethren like to call their church the Catholic Church and their clergymen Catholic priests. The great majority of Christians believe that they apply that name wrongly, but no one, so long as they use it in good faith, has any fault to find with them on the score of its being wrong or dishonest.

X.Y.Z.

November 14, 1909.

CHRISTIANITY IN KOREA AND THE ASSASSINATION.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Thank you for assuring words as to the situation here. There may be a few students and agitators who have now had relation with the Christians of Korea and who may be implicated in the assassination, but I can assure you that Catholic and Protestant alike have excluded from their Churches and schools all politics and religious doings. The native pastors never make reference to political conditions. Of course all rebellious acts are sternly forbidden. The truth is, that they are all so well satisfied and indeed happy under the just, liberal administration, that they are only too glad to encourage the youth in their studies and the people to be cheerful as to the future. Mr. Nabeshima has assured me that relations with all the Missionary bodies are satisfactory and there are no complaints. All deeply grieve over the death of the Prince: they have done all they could to show this. The Christian Schools all attended the memorial service for the Prince. The native pastors offered prayers for the Prince's family and for Japan and Korea. His death will tend powerfully toward the reconciliation of both peoples. It is a satisfaction to send you these words, at a time when some are disposed to create distrust. Most truly we feel for you in the loss of a great and good Friend.

Very sincerely, M. C. HARRIS.

November 10, 1909.

A REQUEST OF DR. N. ARIGA.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Kindly allow me to present through the columns of your paper a request to Dr. Ariga, whose recent utterances are reviewed in your issue of to-day by the writer of the Monthly Summary of Japanese Current Literature. Allow me to quote from the Summary: "Just as Biblical scholars in the West have demonstrated beyond the possibility of a doubt that much which has passed as history for centuries is nothing more than myth or superstition, so our Japanese scholars will have to draw the line between fact and fiction in the annals of antiquity, says Dr. Ariga."

As the Dr. is also a well-known jurist, it is only natural to assume that he knows whereof he speaks when he states in effect that such so-called Biblical History which passed muster for centuries, has in recent years been demonstrated beyond the possibility of a doubt to be nothing more than myth or superstition.

Assuming therefore that the Dr. has the data at hand and speaks from personal knowledge, so that it will require but little of his valuable time to give the desired information, I beg to request of Dr. Ariga that he will kindly give us a few citations of Biblical History which have become "beyond the possibility of doubt" mere myth or superstition.

Yours in search of truth, E. H. VAN DYKE.

Tokyo, November 15th, 1909.

L'ABBÉ GUÉRIN.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Referring to the news of Rév. J. Guérin's departure from Yokohama, as published in your to-day's paper, allow me to say that it is sincerely wished by his innumerable friends that his absence will be only a short one.

On the other side, it would be an irreparable loss to the R.C. Mission if he should not come back and continue the most valuable services he has rendered to it up to now.

In fact, it will not be an easy task to replace him, as he has proved to be the most suitable man for the difficult duties entrusted to the Procurator of the R.C. Missions; attending, at the same time, to several small parishes in the interior and giving thus the edifying spectacle of a life of activity and devotedness.—Enclosing my card, I remain, dear Sir, yours very truly, X.

MR. SHACKLETON.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—I notice that the gentleman who has recently achieved world-wide fame in beating all records in respect of Antarctic exploration is usually termed "Lieutenant" Shackleton. The consequence is that the general public appear to labour under the impres-

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sion that he is an officer, or an ex-officer, of his Majesty's Navy. Will you permit me to correct this impression? Mr. Shackleton is an ex-officer of the merchant service, and does not, I imagine, desire or claim any right to the title of "Lieutenant," his name not appearing as such anywhere in the Navy List.

It is needless to say that the merchant service is extremely proud of Mr. Shackleton, who is by no means the first member of the merchant service to do great things for the country in the way of exploration, vide Captain James Cook, of immortal fame, who in the early stages of his career served in the British Mercantile Marine, and subsequently, as was the case with many others of his kind, rendered incalculable service to the empire in the way of exploration.

By a pleasing coincidence, a movement is on foot in order to perpetuate the memory of Captain Cook, whilst the more modern service of another member of the mercantile marine is at one and the same time receiving universal praise and acclamation.

T. W. MOORE (Secretary).

The Imperial Merchant Service Guild.

CHESS.

All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor, Japan Mail Office.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week at the Hotel de Paris, No. 80 Main Street, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 31.

WHITE	BLACK.
1. K to K R 3	1. R to B 5
2. Q to K Kt sq mate	
	1. R takes P
2. Q to K B 4 mate	
	1. K B takes Kt
2. R to Q 6 mate	
	1. K B takes P
2. B to B 2 mate	
	1. R to Q R 8
2. R to Kt 4 mate	
	1. Q B takes Pch
2. Kt takes B mate	

Other variations obvious.

* * *

Correct solutions received from W.H.S., and "Omega" Correct solution of No. 30 also received from W.H.S.

* * *

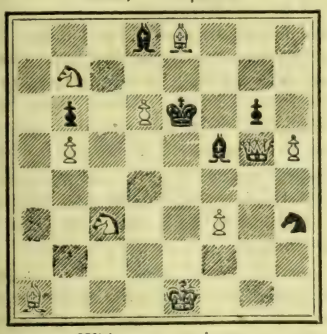
"Omega" comments thus on Problem No. 31:—A good problem: note the mates with various pieces, also some plausible ties to mislead the unwary.

* * *

PROBLEM NO. 33.

By A. ELKHAN.

Black, 6 pieces.



White, 10 pieces.

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN TWO MOVES.

* * *

Our Chess Editor (Mr. W. B. Mason) is on tour in China and Manchuria for a few weeks. We trust our friendly critics will not be too severe upon the *locum tenens*—"He is doing his best."

* * *

Mr. A. L. Jordan of Nagasaki renews his challenge to a correspondence game. We hope some one will accept. We can assure our readers that correspondence play with Mr. Jordan is, in itself, a liberal Chess-education.

* * *

Mr. Blackburne, the famous English player, says:—"In Chess when we get to be over fifty years of age, we have to give way to younger men." We give a recent game in which the veteran had to lower his flag to a man many years his junior.

* * *

GAME No. 31.—FRENCH DEFENCE.

WHITE. Mr. R. P. Michell.	BLACK. Mr. J. H. Blackburne.
1. P—K 4	P—K 3
2. P—Q 4	P—Q 4
3. Kt—Q B3	P x P
4. Kt x P	QKt—Q 2
5. Kt—K B3	KKt—B3
6. B—Q 3	Kt x Kt
7. B x Kt	Kt—B 3
8. B—Q 3	B—K 2
9. Q—K 2	P—Q R3
10. Castles	P—Q Kt 3
11. B—Q 2	B—Kt 2
12. P—Q B4	Castles
13. B—Q B3	B—Q3
14. Kt—K 5	P—K Kt3
15. QR—Q sq	Q—K 2
16. KR—K sq	QR—Q sq
17. Q—K 3	B x Kt
18. Q x B	Kt—Kt 5
19. Q—B 4	P—K B4
20. P—K R3	P—K Kt4
21. Q—Kt 3	Kt—R 3
22. P—Q 5	P—B 5
23. Q—B 3	P—Kt 5
24. Q—K 4	R—B 2
25. Q—K 5	K—B sq
26. P x Kt P	P—Q B4
27. P x P	Resigns

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

THE FATE OF THE BUDGET.

London, November 11.

The Times' announcement concerning the rejection of the Budget is accepted as conclusive.

THE COAL STRIKE IN AUSTRALIA.

A Sydney dispatch states that the colliery owners have refused to confer with the men under threats, in consequence of which seven southern collieries have struck work.

SERIOUS ELECTRIC RAILWAY ACCIDENT.

A Vancouver telegram states that eighteen persons have been killed and four injured in a collision on an electric railway in that town.

SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENTS WITH A MONO-RAIL CAR.

Experiments with a full-sized Brennan gyroscopic mono-rail car at Gillingham in Kent have been most successful, fifty passengers having been carried with smoothness and ease.

[Mr. Louis Brennan, C.B., is also the inventor of the well-known Brennan torpedo. On May 8, 1907, he exhibited his new departure in railway travelling before the Royal Society at Burlington House. By means of an ingenious application of the well-known gyroscope a railway vehicle is made to run on a single rail apparently without the slightest danger of toppling over, and with such stability as to manipulate sharp curves or remain upright when not propelled.]

ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

November 12.

There is talk in the German Press about the possibility of an *entente* between Germany and England. This has been revived by Mr. Asquith's speech. The *Daily Chronicle* believes that Mr. Asquith is in possession of proofs of a change in German sentiment towards England. There has been an interchange of views on this subject since the accession of the present Chancellor, Bethmann-Hollweg.

THE LONDON MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

Two representatives of the London Missionary Society, Messrs. Martin and Hawkins, have started for Peking *via* Siberia to reorganize the stations.

KING FERDINAND.

King Ferdinand and his consort have reached Berlin. The Kaiser met them at the station and welcomed them heartily.

AUSTRO-HUNGARIAN DISCORD.

London, November 12.

At Budapest a meeting of the Independence party resolved by a majority of 120 to 74 on opposing the proposed Coalition Cabinet, insisting that the Government programme must include universal suffrage and the establishment of an independent national bank. Kossuth protested and seceded from the party.

A NEW BANK FOR INDIA.

A new bank, styled the Eastern Bank, has been formed under the auspices of the Sassoons with a capital of a million sterling, to carry on the usual banking business in India.

AMERICAN NAVAL STATIONS IN THE PACIFIC.

Washington.—President Taft has approved the recommendation of the Army and Navy Board in favour of making Pearl Harbour in Hawaii the chief naval base in the Pacific. It has also been decided to construct a temporary station at Olongapo in the Philippines, and to abandon the improvement of Manila harbour, leaving the protection of the Philippines to the army.

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

According to the *Daily Telegraph*, the dissolution of Parliament will take place on January 10th.

MOB LAW IN AMERICA.

TERRIBLE EXCESSES.

London, November 13.

At Cairo, Illinois, a mob of 10,000 persons, many of them women, lynched and burned the negro violator of a girl.

They then raided the local jail and tore down the cage containing a white man, accused of murdering his wife, and hanged him at a telegraph pole.

The mob is still committing excesses. Eleven companies of militia have been summoned.

THE AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

JAPANESE SUPPORT SOLICITED.

Sydney.—The strikers in New South Wales have cabled to the Japanese miners for their support.

Later.

Other strikes are threatened in Australia in sympathy with the miners. Business is disorganised. The post office is offering 60 shillings a ton for coal.

ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

Later.

The German Ambassador, Count Wolff Metternich, speaking before the Manchester Chamber of Commerce, said that on behalf of Germany he grasped the hand of friendship extended by the great emporium, and was confident of the desire of both nations to live in amity and peace.

A SCHOOL OF PEACE.

MUNIFICENT BEQUEST BY BOSTON PUBLISHER.

Mr. Edwin Ginn, M.A., D. Lit., a wealthy Boston publisher, announces that he will devote £10,000 sterling annually to promote peace, and assigns £200,000 in his will for this purpose. He intends to establish a school for the advocacy of peace, with a large staff of lecturers.

THE REJECTION OF THE BUDGET.

WHAT IT WOULD MEAN FINANCIALLY.

London, November 14.

The *Economist* estimates that the rejection

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of the Budget will cause a loss to the Exchequer of from 37½ to 51 millions sterling.

Baron Swaythling, M.P., head of the banking firm of Samuel Montagu and Co, London, stated in an interview that the rejection of the Budget would mean a seriously light money-market, with an enormous increase in imports, while "we have an insufficient amount of gold to pay a fraction thereof."

STORMS IN THE WEST ATLANTIC.

Newfoundland, Hayti and San Domingo have been visited by hurricanes, causing floods and great damage.

THE STEINHEIL MURDER CASE.

London, November 15.

As the result of the trial of Mme. Steinheil at Paris on a charge of murdering her husband, the prisoner was acquitted amid frantic cheering.

COLLIERY DISASTER IN ILLINOIS.

Spring Valley, Illinois.—Four hundred miners have been killed by a fire in a colliery at Cherry. The work of rescue has been abandoned.

Later.

An official report says that the number of miners entombed at Cherry is 250.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION OF THE VICEROY OF INDIA.

As the Earl of Minto, Viceroy of India, in company with Lady Minto, was driving through Ahmedabad, two bombs were hurled at them from the crowd. The missiles struck members of the escort, but failed to explode. One of them, however, subsequently exploded, injuring a passer-by who had picked it up.

CHURCHILL AND THE LORDS.

Mr. W. Churchill, speaking at a banquet in Bristol, said that should the Lords pitch into the gutter millions of the State revenue —with a resultant deficit to the Treasury estimated at fifty millions—the Liberals were confident of a brilliant victory.

BARON MOTONO.

A telegram from St. Petersburg says that Baron Motono has gone on a short visit to Japan, where his father is seriously ill. There were rumours that his departure was due to political complications, but these have been officially declared to be without foundation.

AN ANARCHIST OUTRAGE.

At Buenos Ayres an anarchist threw a bomb at the carriage of the Prefect of Police. The Prefect's secretary was killed. The anarchist shot himself, but is expected to recover.

DISASTROUS COLLISION IN THE STRAITS.

Later.

Singapore.—The British India S.S. *Oudh* and the Messageries Maritimes S.S. *Nascigne* (?) collided, and the latter sank. The *Oudh* saved 61 from the French liner, but 7 European passengers, the captain, 5 officers and 88 of the native passengers and crew were drowned. Sharks mauled many of the survivors.

KING OF PORTUGAL'S TOUR.

London, November 16.

King Manoel of Portugal has arrived at Portsmouth, where he was received by the Prince of Wales. They proceeded together to Windsor Castle, where Their Majesties King Edward and Queen Alexandra, with other royalties, welcomed the royal guest.

OPENING OF TURKISH PARLIAMENT.

The Sultan of Turkey, speaking at the opening of Parliament, referred to the extension of military service to all Turkish subjects. He dwelt on the necessity of perfecting the army and navy, and further stated that the relations with the Powers were friendly.

The estimates show a deficit of £4,427,807.

BOMB EXPLOSION IN CANEA.

Later.

A bomb was exploded at Canea near the Chamber of Deputies. The damage was slight. It is believed that the object was to prevent the meeting of the Assembly elected by the Government.

OPENING OF PERSIAN PARLIAMENT.

A Teheran dispatch states that the Shah opened Parliament yesterday.

SIR W. WILLCOCKS ON MESOPOTAMIA.

London, November 16.

Sir William Willcocks, lecturing before the Royal Geographical Society on Mesopotamia, said that the proposed improvement of irrigation and communication would give facilities for the annual production of a million tons of wheat, two million cwts (?) of cotton, and millions of sheep and cattle. Babylonia would then again compare in wealth with its ancient rival Egypt.

[Sir W. Willcocks, the well-known authority on irrigation, who has been associated since 1899 with reclamation works in Egypt, is not to be confounded with General Sir James Willcocks, of Indian frontier fame.—ED. *J.M.*]

LORD CHARLES FOR PORTSMOUTH.

It has been arranged that Lord Charles Beresford will stand for Portsmouth, instead of for East Marylebone, at the General Election.

[Lord Robert Cecil, we understand, has been accepted as one of the Unionist candidates for Blackburn. Mr. Richard Jebb, the Tariff Reform candidate, referred to in our issue of the 8th, will probably stand for Marylebone. Both the present members for Portsmouth are Liberals.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE OPEN DOOR IN MANCHURIA.

A Washington despatch states that the U.S. Government announces that an official assurance has been received (? from Japan) that the terms of the Chino-Japanese Agreement do not create a mining monopoly along the South Manchurian and Antung-Mukden railways and do not exclude Americans from obtaining mining terms.

THE LORDS AND THE FINANCE BILL.

Lord Lansdowne's motion regarding the Finance Bill is that the House of Lords is not justified in consenting to the Bill until the latter has been submitted to the judgment of the country.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

Prince Tsaitse and the Chinese Naval Commissioners have arrived at Naples aboard the N.D.L. liner *Luitzow*, which ran aground near the harbour, but was subsequently refloated, after pumping and lightening her. The Prince is proceeding to Genoa and thence overland to London.

PRINCE FUSHIMI.

Later.

Prince Fushimi has arrived in England from the Continent. He was met at the railway station by Ambassador Kato.

ARBITRATION TREATY RENEWED.

Sir Edward Grey, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Portuguese Foreign Minister have signed a renewal of the Arbitration Treaty.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

King Edward will receive the Chinese Naval mission at Windsor on Saturday next.

KING MANOEL RECEIVES THE GARTER.

King Edward has invested King Manoel of Portugal with the Order of the Garter.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of Sir Frederick Dixon-Hartland, Unionist M.P. for Uxbridge, Middlesex.

THE STRAITS SETTMEMENTS DINNER.

London, November 17.

At the Straits Settlements dinner held in London, there was a brilliant gathering, Sir Frank Swettenham, a former Governor, presiding. In toasting the Straits, he asked where the Government would find the revenue to replace that from opium. He doubted if the rubber taxes would suffice, or if the Tanjong Pagar Dock would be the goose to lay the golden eggs. He hoped that the question of expediency would not be allowed to shake the faith of the Malays in British promises.

Sir Walter Napier, Attorney General, Straits Settlements, in responding to the toast, referred in glowing terms to the advance of sanitation in the Straits.

Mr. Allenson, in proposing the health of Colonel Seely, Under Secretary for the Colonies, said he hoped that the home Government would display the same broad-minded policy in the Straits as in South Africa.

Colonel Seely, in responding, paid a high tribute to the work of Sir John Anderson, the Governor of the Straits, and dwelt on the romance of the Eastern Empire, where, he said, "we are the trustees for the people and the Government." He was confident that the Imperial authorities had all the best thought in the Straits and at home with them in their opium policy. Nothing should be done in a hurry, but surely, he said, it would be a gain if the Colony did not rely solely on one source of revenue. In conclusion, he emphasized the point that the Imperial authorities did not desire to impose their own morality at other peoples' expense in a matter of opinion.

LORD LANSDOWNE'S MOTION.

"AN ACT OF WAR."

London, November 18.

Lord Lansdowne's motion is the universal theme. The Conservative papers extol the adroit wording, which contains no suggestion of a veto, but merely affirms the principle that the people must rule.

The Liberals denounce the motion as an act of war, and express the hope that Mr. Asquith will not be a party to any suggested negotiations. It is pointed out, in the same quarters, that the wording leaves the door open for a retreat at the last moment.

It is understood that a compromise will be effected over the Housing and Irish Land Bills, and that the Lords will pass both immediately.

Later.

The annual conference of the Conservative Associations at Manchester was attended by 2,000 delegates. They resolved on warmly approving Lord Lansdowne's action as permitting the Lords to show their confidence in the people.

The brewers have reduced their retail prices to the rates prevailing before the introduction of the Budget, as they hold that it is unlikely that the new dues will be enforced.

KING MANOEL.

King Manoel, accompanied by the Prince of Wales, drove to the Guildhall, where he was presented with the freedom of the City. Subsequently he was banqueted at the Guildhall,

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(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

From Mr. Consul Uyeno, Hawaii.

THE "IZUMO" AT HAWAII.

The cruiser *Izumo* arrived here on the 15th instant, and is receiving a welcome from officials and people.

THE SITUATION AT HARBIN.

Harbin, 15th November.

There are no more law-breakers (? suspects), and the precautions and searches of the Russian and Chinese police have ceased. Thus everything is quiet. Two or three Russian gendarmes, however, are still guarding the Japanese Consulate.

PRATAS ISLAND.

With regard to the handing over of Pratas Island, the Commissioners of the two countries left Hongkong on the 13th instant and reached their destination on the 14th. Thereafter steps were to be taken, and the business should be finished by the 17th or 18th.

THE EXAMINATION OF THE ASSASSIN.

The telegram published by the newspapers that the preliminary examination of the murderer, An, has been concluded at Port Arthur is incorrect. The examination is still going on. Further, many of his accomplices have been apprehended in Korea.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE "TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

THE MUTINY IN GREECE.

London, November 11.

Athens.—All the mutineer officers except one have been arrested.

LIMITATION OF ARMAMENTS.

St. Petersburg.—The *Novoe Vremya*, commenting on the reported intention of Germany to abandon its shipbuilding rivalry with England, declares that Russia would give unqualified approval to the policy of limitation of armaments.

UNPOPULAR PRECAUTIONS.

Madrid.—The extraordinary precautions taken to ensure the King of Portugal's safety have disappointed the public. Only 50 spectators were present at the military review. The Republican newspapers are giving lectures as to the unpopularity which restriction will surely cause to overtake illiberal rulers.

THE SPANIARDS IN MOROCCO.

London, November 12.

According to a special Melilla despatch, the Spanish campaign in Morocco, being weakly prosecuted, is almost barren of results. Unless the Spaniards really pacify the Moors, the retention of occupied territory would mean a constant drain upon Spanish military resources.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, November 12.

On the Stock Exchange there is a renewed demand for Japanese securities.

DEFENCE OF HAWAII AND THE PHILIPPINES.

New York.—Pearl Harbour in Hawaii has been selected as the chief American naval station in the Pacific. The proposed improvement of Manila Harbour being abandoned, a temporary station will be constructed at Olongapo, in Luzon. The army is to be primarily responsible for the protection of the Philippines.

REFORM OF THE RUSSIAN LOCAL COURTS.

London, November 13.

St. Petersburg.—The Duma has begun a debate on the bill for reforming local courts. The committee has inserted a provision for re-establishing elective justices of the peace.

FLOODS IN JAMAICA.

London, November 14.

Kingston.—There has been an unprecedented rainfall in Jamaica, lasting five days. Road and bridges are damaged, railway services suspended and telegraphs crippled. It is impossible to communicate with the interior.

AMERICAN CUSTOMS FRAUDS.

New York.—The Grand Jury is drawing up indictments against officials of the American sugar trust for frauds on the Customs. The Superintendent of the Williamsburg refinery was arrested to-day.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

Athens.—Turkey's persistent demands for a settlement of the Cretan question, it is believed, presage further pressure upon Greece. It is impossible that Turkey should be contemplating force immediately, but misgivings are entertained as to what may happen in the spring. The premier has demanded 30 million drachmae for naval armaments.

THE MOROCCAN CAMPAIGN.

London, November 15.

Melilla.—Representatives of the Riffs are expected shortly to confer with the Spanish Commander.

BOMB-THROWING IN BOMBAY.

Bombay.—A Hindu threw a bomb at the Viceroy in Abmedabad. The infernal machine did not explode, and no one was arrested.

THE PERSIAN PARLIAMENT.

London, November 15.

A Teheran telegram says that the Persian Parliament opens to-day (15th). The majority of the Deputies are prepared to support the Government.

A RADIUM INSTITUTE.

A New York telegram states that a radium institute is to be organized there. It is proposed to establish a clinical research laboratory and provide free treatment for the poor.

LABOUR TROUBLES IN STOCKHOLM.

Stockholm.—The efforts of the Government to effect a settlement of the labour dispute have failed.

THE CRETAN QUESTION.

The Protecting Powers will shortly inform Turkey that they consider the time inopportune for raising the Cretan question.

RUSSIAN TROOPS FOR PERSIA.

London, November 16.

A Teheran telegram states that 2,000 more Russian troops are embarking at Baku. They will land on the Russian frontier at Astara and there await developments.

TO PURIFY THE U.S. CUSTOMS.

A New York telegram says it is understood that President Taft is determined to sift the Sugar Trust scandal and thoroughly purify the Customs service.

JAPANESE AND CHINESE BONDS.

London, November 16.

On the London Stock Exchange Japanese securities are in renewed request. Chinese Railway loans are in better tone.

GREAT BRITAIN AND HER COLONIES.

Ottawa.—Speaking during the debate on the Address, Sir Wilfrid Laurier, the Premier, declared that the Canadian Parliament was unanimously committed to the organization of a Navy. He thought that Australia and New Zealand would concur with the Canadian view that if the Empire was to remain strong, the Colonies must not remain satellites, but must develop themselves to the fullest and so strengthen the whole Empire.

SNOWSTORM IN ST. PETERSBURG.

A St. Petersburg telegram states that the city has been visited by a heavy snowstorm and floods. The workmen's quarters are inundated and there is great suffering.

KING OF PORTUGAL IN ENGLAND.

The King of Portugal has arrived in England. He was warmly greeted by Londoners whilst *en route* to Windsor. He was received at Windsor Castle in greatest state.

ANARCHIST MOVEMENT IN BUENOS AYRES.

London, Novembhr 17.

A Buenos Ayres telegram states that in consequence of the extension of the anarchist movement, three thousand active anarchists will shortly be deported. The party newspapers have been suppressed and a proclamation of a general state of siege has been issued.

THE UNREST IN INDIA.

A Calcutta dispatch states that the vernacular newspapers abuse the reform scheme. The extremists are energetically promoting the boycott of the reforms.

AMERICA AND THE MANCHURIAN AGREEMENT.

London, November 17.

Washington.—With reference to the Government's interpretation of the clauses of the Manchurian Agreement relating to mining operations along the South Manchurian and Antung-Mukden railways, as not giving China or Japan exclusive industrial control, it is intimated on the best authority that this means the Government's acceptance of the whole Agreement and that no inquiries of the signatory Powers concerning the other clauses are contemplated. The Government apparently considers that Japan acted within her rights.

THE RUSSIAN STATE BANK.

St. Petersburg.—The announcement that the Governor of the State Bank has become the Minister of Commerce does not indicate any change in Anglo-Russian relations. It is a distinct rebuff to the advocates of reaction.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, Novemder 18.

On the Stock Exchange, Japanese securities are higher, and steady.

STRONG MEASURES IN GREECE.

Athens.—The bill reducing the administrative areas and lessening the opportunities for undue political pressure has passed the Chamber, despite prolonged opposition. The Military League intimated that the Chamber would be blockaded unless the measure was passed, thus averting the defeat of the Government.

("DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST" SERVICE TO THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

GERMANY.

Berlin, November 11.

Vice-Admiral Coerper, formerly Commander of the German East Asiatic Squadron, has been appointed Inspector-General of the naval educational institutes.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The English Press supports the pro-German expressions of Mr. Asquith, the British Premier, which he made in his speech at the Guildhall. The German Press comments upon them also very sympathetically.

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Le Temps states that a great change of feeling is also to be recognised in France.

ITALY.

It is semi-officially denied by the Italian Government that any written convention has been concluded at the meeting between the Tsar and the King of Italy at Raccionigi.

CRETE.

The Protective Powers have decided to take no notice of the last Cretan Note as to the necessity of opening negotiations with regard to the autonomy of the island.

HOLLAND.

The Dutch Press expresses itself sympathetically as to the visit of Queen Wilhelmina and Consort Heinrich to England.

RUSSIA.

M. Kokowtzow, the Russian Minister of Finance, has been recalled to St. Petersburg from the Far East.

GERMANY.

Berlin, November 12.

Archduke Franz Ferdinand, the Austrian heir-apparent, and his consort, the Duchess of Hohenberg, have arrived at Berlin as guests of the Kaiser. A Court banquet and a Court hunting party will be given in their honour, in which also the Chancellor will take part.

THE ARBITRATION CONVENTION.

The Convention of Arbitration between Germany and Great Britain will be prolonged for several years.

STEAMSHIP AMALGAMATION.

The Turkish Government has given its agreement to the fusion of the Turkish and British steamship lines on the Euphrates and Tigris rivers.

A Ministry of Commerce will be instituted by Turkey.

The Sublime Porte has presented at Berlin and Vienna its last Cretan Note, which had been refused recognition by the Protective Powers.

UNITED STATES.

President Taft has ordered that Hawaii shall be made in future the naval base of the Pacific Squadron, and that the harbour construction works at Manila shall be correspondingly decreased.

WEST INDIES.

A tidal wave in the West Indies has caused the loss of many lives.

RUSSIA.

A fusion between the Great Russian and the moderate parties of the Duma has been perfected, by which the Government has won at least a hundred certain votes.

M. Stolypin, the Russian Premier, has gone to Livadia, in order to make reports to the Tsar.

ANGLO-GERMAN AMENITIES.

Berlin, November 13

Count Wolff Metternich, the German Ambassador to Great Britain, has made a speech before the members of the Chamber of Commerce and of the Exchange at Manchester. His pro-English expressions were received with great enthusiasm.

The provisional Commercial Convention between Germany and Great Britain will probably be prolonged.

TURKEY.

The Sublime Porte has given its agreement to a lengthy consideration of its last Cretan Note.

A GENERAL DISMISSED.

Lieutenant-General Asinari di Bernezzo, the Commander of the 7th Italian Army Corps at Ancona, has been put on the retired list for indiscreet speeches, in which he expressed Irredentist ideas.

THE DUKE OF THE ABRUZZI.

Berlin, November 14.

The marriage of the Duke of the Abruzzi to the American, Miss Elkins, arranged a few months ago, has finally been given up owing to the strong opposition of the Italian Royal family.

GERMANY.

The Kaiser has invited General Yin Chang, the Chinese Minister to Germany, to take part in the ceremony of swearing in the naval recruits on November 15th at Kiel and in the review of the new battleships, just put in service.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Chancellor, has had several conferences with the Austrian heir apparent, now on a visit at Berlin.

The Convention of free domiciliation between Switzerland and Germany has been signed with full satisfaction to either side.

The Humburg Amerika Line will include Tsingtau in Kiautschou in its new East-Asia time-table.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to Oct. 29th *ex* Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on Nov. 14th.

FRANCE.

Mme. Steinheil, who was accused of the the murder of her husband and has been in prison for some time, has been released by order of the Appeal Court.

FRANCE.

Berlin, November 15.

King Manoel, in a speech at Cherbourg, called King Edward the true friend of France.

GERMANY.

The Crown Prince and Crown Princess will go for several weeks to Vorarlberg, in order to participate as usual in the winter sports.

DEPARTURE OF MR. MOTONO.

A semi-official telegraphic agency at St. Petersburg states that the sudden departure of the Japanese Ambassador to Russia, Baron Motono, to Tokyo is only caused by the serious illness of his father and not by any political reasons.

M. Timaschew, the Director of the Bank of Russia, has been nominated Minister for Commerce.

HOLLAND.

Queen Wilhelmina of Holland will not go abroad this year, she having decided that she will nurse her daughter herself during the first year, the latter making excellent progress by this treatment.

PARLIAMENT REOPENS.

The Turkish speech from the throne at the opening of the new session of the Chamber emphasizes the friendly relations of Turkey to all foreign Powers. As President of the Chamber has been nominated its last President, the Young Turkish Deputy Riza Pasha.

ITALY.

Berlin, November 16.

Dr. von Muehlberg, the Prussian Minister to the Vatican, has presented to the Pope at Rome a personal letter of the Kaiser on the occasion of his Episcopal Jubilee. The Pope has expressed his gratefulness in very warm terms.

PERSIA.

The Persian Parliament at Teheran has been opened. The speech from the Throne states with regret that Russian troops are still remaining in Persia, and expresses the hope of their speedy withdrawal.

FRANCE.

The famous Norwegian poet Bjoernstjerne Bjoernson is critically ill at Paris.

RUSSIA.

It is reported from St. Petersburg that M. Kokowtzow, the Russian Minister of Finance, has emphasized at Kharbin the perpetual value of the East China Railway to Russia.

ARGENTINA.

Martial law has been declared in Argentina.

ANOTHER CANARD.

A conversation of the Kaiser and a British Admiral is reported from England, in which the Kaiser is said to have recommended the introduction of military service into Great Britain. These expressions are declared by the Kaiser to be absolute inventions, Prince Heinrich of Prussia also denying their authenticity.

A BISHOP ASSASSINATED.

Berlin, November 17.

The Bishop of Cuzco, in Peru, has been assassinated by a bomb, thrown by an anarchist.

PERSIA.

The troops of the insurgent North Persian tribes have, at the persuasion of the Russians, retired from the fortress of Ardebil, captured by them a few weeks ago.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

MR. H. B. HULBERT.

Shanghai, November 11.

Mr. H. B. Hulbert left here to-day by the steamer *Saikio Maru* for Dairen, whence he will proceed overland to Germany.

THE RUSSIAN FINANCE MINISTER

Harbin, November 10.

The Russian Minister of Finance who has completed his mission to the Far East, left here this afternoon for St. Petersburg.

KOREAN POLITICS.

Seoul, November 11.

The Korean Minister of Agriculture repaired last night to the palace of the ex-Emperor to submit a report regarding the recent visit to Japan. To-day all the Ministers of State held an important Cabinet Council.

KOREAN RIOTERS.

Masampho, November 11.

The Japanese force, numbering 61, which had been despatched to punish the rioters in the neighbourhood of Shinchao, returned to-day to Fusan.

CAPTURED REBELS AT WORK.

Seoul, November 13.

Some 600 of the captured rebels are being employed in road repairing along the coasts of Chhollado.

THE KOREAN MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE.

Seoul, November 12.

The Korean Minister of Agriculture is reported to have lost countenance on account of his incorrect report regarding the interview with Premier Katsura.

CESSATION OF THE ANTI JAPANESE BOYCOTT.

Mukden, November 13.

The spread of the anti-Japanese boycott has completely ceased. The Chinese traders, however, have not put up signboards for the sale of Japanese goods.

THE CRISIS IN HUNGARY.

London, November 13.

The Hungarian Minister of Industry and Commerce, M. Francis de Kossuth, has resigned his position as the leader of the

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Independent party. The political crisis in Hungary is now in an acute stage.

MR. HSO'S RETURN TO PEKING.

Peking, November 13.

Mr. Hso, of the Wai-wu-pu, returned here yesterday from Manchuria, and was received to-day in audience by the Emperor to present a report on the tragic end of the late Prince Ito.

THE DELIMITATION OF MACAO.

Hongkong, November 14.

The delegates of China and Portugal have negotiated for four months in connection with the question of the frontier of Macao, but as there is little hope of coming to a satisfactory conclusion, the negotiations have been suspended.

CHINA AND JAPAN.

Peking, November 14.

The *Peking Daily News* states in its to-day's editorial that, Prince Ito being dead, the danger to China is becoming grave.

CONSTITUTIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR CHINA.

To-day's *Official Gazette* publishes a memorial presented by an ex-member of the Provincial Assembly Bureau, the gist of which is that constitutional government is injurious to a nation imperfectly educated.

OPEN PORTS IN CHINA.

Peking, November 15.

The Viceroy of Manchuria has telegraphed to the Wai-wu-pu that he has positively declined to open Yaonan, where Russia desires to establish a consulate.

THE OPIUM TRADE.

Tsingtao, November 15.

The traders in this place have cornered all the opium, and the circulation of money is very sluggish. Many of them will become bankrupt unless the price of opium advances before the end of the year

FIRE AT RESIDENCY-GENERAL.

Seoul, November 15.

One of the buildings in the dwelling of the Resident-General caught fire at noon to-day. The fire was put out before it became serious.

THE RUSSIAN FINANCE MINISTER.

Shanghai, November 15.

According to a Peking telegram, M. Kokovtseff, the Russian Finance Minister, will proceed to Peking from Harbin.

THE ASSASSIN OF PRINCE ITO.

Port Arthur, November 16.

The preliminary examination of An, the assassin of Prince Ito, being concluded, he has been committed for trial. An has given the reasons for the assassination, in a long statement consisting of fifteen articles. The number of the accomplices is eight in all.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Phyongyang, November 16.

A general meeting will be held on the 18th inst. to discuss the question of dissolving the local Chamber of Commerce.

THE "OPEN DOOR" IN MANCHURIA.

San Francisco, November 16.

Mr. Knox, the U.S. Secretary of State, who, it was recently reported, was about to enter a protest against the Sino-Japanese agreement, has published a statement to the effect that he has obtained assurances from Japan and China that their agreement concerning mining operations along the South Manchuria and Antung-Mukden Railways does not infringe the principle of the open door.

REFORMS IN CHINA.

Peking, November 16.

The question regarding the change of the Chinese costume is at present under debate. European clothes made of Chinese material have already been adopted by the troops and the police. It is reported that the abolition of the queue and the wearing of the hair in the European style will be carried out after the costume has been changed.

EXAMINATION OF THE ASSASSIN.

Port Arthur, November 16.

Mr. Nakagawa, a public procurator belonging to the Residency-General, having finished the primary examination of the assassin of Prince Ito, left here this evening for Seoul. It is stated that he will make a close search in certain quarters on his return to his post.

RAILWAYS IN MANCHURIA.

Mukden, November 17.

Mr. Magario, Chief Engineer of the Kilin-Changshan railway, came here to-day to make certain arrangements with Viceroy Hsi. It is reported that the construction work of the line will be begun in May or June next. It is stated that six engineers are to be engaged, three Japanese and three Chinese.

COAL-MINES IN MANCHURIA.

The Japanese Consul General Mr. Koike returned here from Peking last night. On receipt of instructions from the home government he is expected to commence negotiations with the Chinese Government in connection with the limits of the collieries at Fushun and the rate of duty to be imposed on their output.

IN MEMORIAM: CHANG CHIH-TUNG.

THE STORY OF A CHINESE OXFORD MOVEMENT.

(By Ku Hung Ming.)

(CONTINUED FROM NOVEMBER 6.)

As I have called Li Hung-chang the Chinese Lord Palmerston, so I may call Chang Chih-tung the Gladstone of China. Both are the products of the Oxford movement, one of the Oxford of China as the other of England. Gladstone began as an Anglican High Church Tory and ended as a Home Ruler. Chang Chih-tung began as a Confucian and ended as an advocate of constitutional government. Chang Chih tung is a scholar, but like Gladstone a scholar of superficial, not deep scholarship. In fact both of these men showed in the culture of their mind the weak point in both the English and Chinese Oxford movements.

The weakness of the Oxford movement in both cases was that the movement concerned itself with ideas based upon given principles, in England upon the principles of Christianity and in China upon the principles of Confucianism. The scholars of the Oxford movement in both cases took for granted that the given principles of Christianity and of Confucianism are true: they did not dare to test and ask if these given principles are true, not by the authority of Christ or Confucius, but by the eternal nature of things. In short, the Oxford movement both in China and in England never carried its thought to first principles. The ideas of the Oxford movement in both cases therefore never reached down to the moral root of things. In this sense the Oxford movement in both countries was not a true but a superficial and sham intellectual illumination. The scholars of the Oxford movement have not the vivifying ideas, the soul convictions of a true thinker, because their ideas never reach down to the root of their moral being. This is the explanation why men of the Oxford movement are so liable to change. Dr. Newman changed his religion. Gladstone and Chang Chih-tung changed their politics over and over again.

In short, like Gladstone, Chang Chih-tung is not a thinker, but a great rhetorician, not a scholar in a true sense, but a literati. But Chang Chih-tung as a man of the Oxford movement has an aptitude for ideas which Li Hung-chang never had. Li Hung-chang was really a Philistine, but like Lord Palmerston an aristocratic Philistine. He had the outside Polish and good form of the Hanlin Academy, the Oxford of China. But he had absolutely no culture whatever beyond the routine education of the literary examination. He made up, however, for his want of culture by industry and methodical application to business. His long and multifarious experience in dealing with affairs supplied him with solid common sense which enabled him to deal with affairs with a firmer grasp than scholars with superficial and vacillating ideas like Chang Chih-tung.

After the French war Chang Chih-tung remained in Canton and while there he drifted from the principles of the Oxford movement and became a Progressist. He and not Yuan Shih-kai is the true originator of the movement now known to foreigners as the Reform movement in China. Reform movement had three marked stages. The first stage was in the direction of Industrialism. Chang Chih-tung conceived this in Canton and carried it out in Wuchang. The second stage began after the Japanese war and it was in the direction of militarism and military organisation. Chang Chih-tung organised a model Chinese regiment officered by German officers at Woosung near Shanghai. The third and last stage in the Reform movement began after the Boxer outbreak and it was in the direction of the Westernisation of education.

We shall now see how, as in England according to Matthew Arnold it was the influence of Dr. Newman's Oxford movement which helped to break up the middle class Liberalism, so here in China it was also the influence of the Chinese Oxford movement which helped to pull down Li Hung-chang and his hideously vulgar and corrupt oligarchy. The influence of the Oxford movement,—the Oxford sentiment for beauty and sweetness,—enabled and made Chang Chih-tung hate the vulgarity of the men whom Li Hung-chang employed to introduce foreign methods and the hideousness of their corruption. Chang Chih-tung with all men of the Oxford movement was at first absolutely opposed to the introduction of foreign methods because of the vulgarity and hideousness he saw accompany those methods. But after the French war, Chang Chih-tung saw that strict Confucian principles alone were useless against such things as Admiral Courbet's ugly monster ships of war with their terrible guns. Chang Chih-tung seeing this began to compromise. As he saw there was no way of escape from the necessity of adopting these hideous foreign methods, he thought he would try to eliminate as much as possible the elements of vulgarity and hideousness of these methods. I should like to say here as a proof of Chang Chih-tung's purity of motive and noble patriotism that during the terms of his Viceroyship both at Canton and Wuchang while he spent and, some people may say, squandered lavishly the public money to introduce foreign methods, he gave and spent as freely all his private fortune to establish great colleges and schools for stimulating the study of the Confucian principles which he thought were now more necessary than ever to counteract the vulgarity and hideousnesss of the foreign methods which he was obliged to introduce.

In this way Chang Chih-tung became a Progressist and the Progressive policy of Chang Chih-tung, a man of the Oxford movement, was the current in the politics of China which first crossed, then checked and finally broke up and suppressed the vulgar middle class Liberalism of Li Hung chang and his corrupt oligarchy. In fact it was the current of feeling created by the Oxford movement in China which contributed to swell the tide of secret dissatisfaction among all classes of the literati against the self-confident middle class Liberalism of Li Hung-chang and his oligarchy and thus prepared the way for its sudden collapse and final suppression after the Japanese war. When Li Hung-chang came back from Japan with peace and dishonour, it was the tide of the secret dissatisfaction created by the Oxford movement which made old staunch bigoted Conservatives like the late Emperor's tutor Weng Tung-ho throw in their lot with the rising party of Radicals of Kang Yu-wei with all their fierce and violent Jacobinism.

Matthew Arnold says: "Violent indignation

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with the past, abstract systems of renovation applied wholesale, a new doctrine drawn up in black and white for elaboration down to the very smallest details, a rational society for the future: these are the ways of Jacobinism." These were also the ways of Kang Yu-wei which the Rev. Timothy Richard and foreigners who call themselves friends of China so much admired.

Moreover, foreigners not only admired Kang Yu-wei and his ways, but foreign ministers in Peking tried to interfere with the free action of the late Empress-Dowager while she was trying her best to save the country from the fierce and violent Jacobinism of Kang Yu-wei and his friends. To complicate the situation the common people, the whole peasantry of North China, rose up to support the Empress-Dowager against Kang Yu-wei and his Jacobinism.

Foreigners mistake when they say that only the literati in China are anti-foreign and the common people are not anti-foreign. In every country the common people are more conservative than the educated class. In China the literati and the common people are equally anti-foreign and anti-progress, the latter perhaps more so. The only class in China who are not anti-foreign and anti-progress are the compradore and parvenu class, who make money from foreign trade. Therefore the common people rose up against Kang Yu-wei's Jacobinism because Kang Yu-wei's Jacobinism meant the wholesale Europeanisation of China. I am not sure how much, but it is certain that the secret influence of the early Oxford movement in China helped to make the common people instinctively feel that Europeanisation of China meant the bringing in of vulgarity and hideousness. When, therefore, the common people saw that foreigners and foreign Powers were openly supporting Kang Yu-wei's Jacobinism, which to the people meant the bringing in of the demon of vulgarity and hideousness, what is more natural than that the people, with that demon of vulgarity and hideousness like a nightmare on their souls, should rise up and make a supreme effort to throw all foreigners in China into the sea? That was the inner moral cause of the Boxer fanaticism.

The situation in Peking, therefore, became a most complicated and desperate one, which the late Empress Dowager was straining all the energy and power of her statesmanship to save. But the European diplomats in Peking, instead of sympathising with the Imperial Lady, dictated and bullied, bringing besides a handful of soldiers to support their bullying and dictation. In order to fight against the fierce and violent Jacobinism of Kang Yu-wei, the Empress-Dowager had to call out the high spirit and power of haughty resistance of the Manchu aristocracy. The late Mr. Michie in his book, "The Englishman in China," has shown that of all classes in China the Manchus are the least anti-foreign. But now the blood of the Manchu race was up and when that blood with its high spirit and power of haughty resistance came face to face with the bullying and dictation of the foreign diplomats, an explosion of courage became inevitable. Thus great though the late Empress-Dowager was, yet the German poet says, "Against stupidity, even the gods fight in vain."

During all this very critical time, Chang Chih-tung had a very difficult part to play. The Jacobinism of Kang Yu-wei had grown out of his programme of progress. Kang Yu-wei, Liang Ch'i-chao, the most brilliant of the Jacobins, in fact nearly all the most prominent young Jacobins, were either pupils or special protegés of Chang Chih-tung. When Kang Yu-wei first preached his Jacobinism after the Japanese war, he was immediately expelled from Peking. It was the support given him by Chang Chih-tung which enabled Kang Yu-wei to go a second time to Peking and captivate and convert the late Emperor Kuang Hsu to his course of Jacobinism. But here again the influence of the Oxford movement saved Chang Chih-tung. That Oxford sentiment for beauty and sweetness of which Matthew Arnold speaks made Chang Chih-tuug hate the violence and fierceness, the crudeness of Kang Yu-wei's Jacobinism. Chang Chih-tung thus turned back upon Kang Yu-wei and the Jacobins just at the last moment.

Liang Ch'i-chao, the most brilliant of the Jacobins, has since accused Chang Chih-tung of being, like Yuan Shih-kai, an opportunist,—of turning back upon the Jacobins after they had fallen. The accusation is absolutely false and unjust. I was myself present at a council called by the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung to consider what was to be done against the Jacobinism of Kang Yu-wei who, in the name of the Emperor, was then beginning to pour out reform decrees from Peking. I remember the occasion very well, because it was the first time that the Viceroy had admitted me into the inner Council of his intimate and confidential followers. I had before this taken the liberty of pointing out to the Viceroy, from my personal knowledge of Kang Yu-wei, the baseness of his character and the charlatanry of his schemes. I translated as well as I could to the Viceroy the saying of Dr. Johnson: "Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." The Viceroy, however, would not listen and told me that I did not understand Chinese politics. But now when Kang Yu-wei's Jacobinism showed its teeth, the Viceroy remembered me and therefore specially summoned me to the council of his intimate friends to consider what was to be done. This Council was held on the roof of the Cotton Mill at Wuchang. The Viceroy was very excited. I can still see the old Viceroy walking up and down in the moonlight and repeating: Pu te-liau! Fu-te-liau! (it is all up! it is all up!) Our Council came to no decision.

I have given the above details in order to make it impossible for people to doubt my testimony on behalf of my old chief against the accusation that he turned upon his friends the Jacobins like the real opportunist and renegade Yuan Shih-kai. But what is still better, perhaps, than even my testimony to disprove this unjust accusation against Chang Chih-tung, is his own famous "Tract," or book, known to foreigners as "Learn" or, as it should be properly translated "The need of Education." Foreigners think that this book of Chang Chih-tung's proves his approval of Kang Yu-wei's programme of reform. It does nothing of the kind. This remarkable book, written immediately after our Council meeting on the roof of the Wuchang Cotton Mill,—was Chang Chih-tung's manifest against Kang Yu-Wei's Jacobinism, and, at the same time, his "Apologia pro vita sua." The manifesto was to warn his followers and all the literati in China against Kang Yu-wei's method of reform, by telling them that all such reform must begin first with education. The "Apologia" is a statement of the reasons which led him to renounce his early strict adherence to the Confucian principles and to favour and advocate the introduction of the methods of Western civilization.

This famous book of Chung Chih-tung's, like Dr. Newman's equally famous "Apologia," is a most remarkable instance of the curious aberration of the human intellect. According to those two men truth and moral principles of right and wrong are not absolute,—not binding upon all men under all circumstances. For Dr. Newman, as Charles Kingsley has pointed out, "truth for its own sake need not and, on the whole, ought not to be a virtue of the Roman clergy." With Chang Chih-tung, the Confucian principles are true and hold good absolutely for the life of the individual, but not for the life of a nation in modern times. The teaching of Confucius lays it down that men and nations must not set their heart on wealth, power and material prosperity. According to Confucius "a ruler must hold in low estimation the possession of worldly goods, but value moral qualities." But the new learning of modern Europe teaches that the basis of a man's success in life and of a nation's greatness lies in the possession of wealth, power and material prosperity. According to the Rev. Timothy Richard, the most fervent apostle of the new learning in China, "an education which has no commercial value, is absolutely useless."

Chang Chih-tung, brought face to face with these two contradictory ideals—the ideal of the Confucian teaching and the ideal of the new learning of modern Europe—tried to compromise in a very ingenious way. Chang Chih-tung came to the conclusion that a man must have two sets of moral principles,—one for his individual life and the other for the life of the nation. As individuals, the Chinese must hold and adhere strictly to the Confucian principles, but as a nation, the Chinese must throw the Confucian principles overboard and adopt the ideal of the new learning of modern Europe. In short, according to Chang Chih-tung, the Chinaman individually must remain Chinese, and continue to be the Confucian "superior man," but the Chinese nation,—the State in China—must become European and be a carnivorous animal. In order to prove his thesis, Chang Chih-tung brings out of the great store of his learning, examples from Chinese antiquity in anarchic times, when the Chinese nation did also try to become a nation of carnivorous animals.

Chang Chih-tung justifies this strange and absurd compromise of his by the exigency of the times,—the danger of China and her civilisation surrounded as she is by carnivorous nations who recognise no right but might. Therefore for Chang Chih-tung, the patriot and Confucianist, the interests and salvation of the Chinese nation and her civilisation, as for Dr. Newman the interests and preservation of the Roman Catholic Church and Christianity, override all principles of morality. In fact, as Dr. Newman loved the beauty and sweetness of Christianity so intensely not in order to save and preserve Christianity which, to him, is embodied in the Roman Catholic Church,—Dr. Newman thinks he is justified, under certain circumstances, to throw away the principles of Christianity; in the same manner Chang Chih-tung, in his intense anxiety for the safety of China and her civilisation, thinks he is obliged to compromise, to throw the Confucian principles overboard, at least as far as the life of the Chinese nation is concerned.

The fact is both Dr. Newman and Chang Chih-tung, as all the men of the Oxford movement are liable to be, from the inherent weak point in the movement which I have already pointed out,—both these men were extreme idealists, idealists whose intellects were warped by their over-intense idealism. Confucius says, "I know now why there is no real moral life. The wise—in the pride of their intellect,—go too far, and the foolish do not go far enough." But the French Joubert says, "Ignorance, which in matters of morals extenuates the crime, is itself in intellectual matters a crime of the first order." This method of compromise adopted by Dr. Newman and Chang Chih-tung leads in morality and religion to Jesuitism and in politics to what is called Machiavellism. Thus although, like Dr. Newman, Chang Chih-tung, as I have shown, is a man of noble character and of the purest motive, yet this Machiavellism taught by Chang Chih-tung to the literati and governing class in China when adopted by men of less noble and ideal nature than he himself, by men of base and ignoble nature such as Yuan Shih-kai, will do more harm to China than even the vulgarity and corruption of Li Hung-chang.

* Note.—Mencius, when asked by the King of Liang whether he had anything wherewith to further the interests of the country, answered, "Why speak about interests? Let us rather speak of humanity and righteousness." But the modern Christian missionary apostles of the new learning, if asked by the mandarins to tell them of the all-importance of righteousness in Christianity, would answer, "Why speak of righteousness? Let us speak rather of railways and from what country China can make the most advantageous loan." I will take the occasion to say here that I have been present at many interviews which Christian missionaries in China have had with Viceroys, Governors and all classes of mandarins, and yet I have never once heard the all-importance of the righteousness that is in Christianity taken as the topic of conversation. All the talk was about railways, science, finance, medicine, technical education and anti-footbinding.

ACCORDING to the *Seoul Press*, a few days ago a party of some insurgents broke into the house of a farmer named Kim in Paickchon, Whanghaido, and tried to seize 500 bags of rice, the property of Lutong shrine. The farmer informed the Police Office near by, and the insurgents were compelled to retire. Subsequently the farmer caused the rice to be conveyed to Seoul. The next day the insurgents again appeared, and, carrying away the farmer from his home, buried the unfortunate man alive.

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FLOODS IN S.E. ENGLAND.

SIX FEET OF WATER AT FOLKESTONE.

It was only after four days and nights' continuous deluge, says the *Daily Mail* of Saturday, the 30th ult., that the sun shone yesterday. By night the temperature fell, and to day there are prospects of cold showers and even snow. Yesterday there was snow in Westmorland and Lincolnshire.

More rain has fallen in Kent and Sussex during the past four days than in any equal period since records came to be made. Since 6 p.m. on Monday at least 600,000,000 tons of water has fallen on the two counties, and were it not for their splendid natural drainage the floods would have been unparalleled.

London has been wet, but the south-east of Kent four times wetter, as the following figures show:—

	Inches.		Inches.
Margate	5.43	Worthing	4.15
Ramsgate	5.14	Southsea	3.76
Brighton	5.14	London (City)	1.39

During the whole of the wettest October on record, that of 1880, 7.29 inches of rain fell in London. During the past week some places on the South Downs must have had quite this amount in a fourth of the time. The curious fact is that while the month's rainfall in London, 3.2 inches for twenty-two rainy days, exceeds the average of 2.7 inches for sixteen days, the sunshine of the month, 73.7 hours, is five hours more than the average. The truth is that the rain this year has been spread over so many days as to give the maximum of discomfort.

EXCITING INCIDENTS AT FOLKESTONE.

In the early hours of yesterday morning the Foord district of Folkestone was submerged by a flood due to the overtaxing of an underground channel along which the Pent stream flows from the hills. Practically every house within a triangular area a mile and a half long, of which the base lies along Black Bull-road, was inundated, and at the corner of Black Bull-road and Foord-road the water rose to nine feet on the ground floors of the houses.

The flood was here aggravated by a torrent from the reservoir in the North recreation grounds. This is fed by a spring, and during the severe downpour on Thursday night it overflowed its banks, streamed four feet deep along a valley in the recreation ground, washed out a breach in a concrete wall, poured through two terraces and houses, burst a gap 25ft. long in the 6ft. brick wall that surrounds the North council schools, flowed through the schools, and then surged foaming down Black Bull-road and by Watkin-road and Pavilion-road, to join the rising flood in the valley of the Pent.

About 12.45 a.m. the Pent suddenly overflowed its banks in its open channel from Black Bull-road to the harbour and poured up through the manholes along its subterranean course higher up, although the drain is 7ft. in diameter. Rapidly the whole of the low-lying area bounded by Sussex-road, Park-street, and a line from the end of Garden-road to St. John's Church became a lake 6ft. or 8ft. in depth, above which the first-floor windows of the houses looked out on to the top branches of submerged trees, and on which hen coops, rabbit hutches, barrels, and dog kennels floated.

"At one o'clock," said Mr. Clayson, tailor, living at 45, Bradstone-avenue, "I was awakened by a heavy blow on the door. I rushed to the window. A policeman, up to his knees in the water that covered the road, stood below. 'Get all your furniture up from your basement, he shouted; 'you're going to be flooded.'

"I aroused my wife, and we hurried downstairs. The water was pouring in at the back and front. I waded hastily into my workroom and seized some materials from the table. When I came down again the water was up to my chest. We waited upstairs until about 3.45. Then the water began slowly to drain off, and a friend came down the road in a boat and took us off to his house to breakfast. When the water had all gone, by about eight o'clock, there was an inch of mud all over the floor."

THE NAVAL MUTINY IN GREECE.

DETAILS OF THE FIGHTING.

Athens, October 29.

The day has been one of intense excitement, says the correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, wiring from Athens on the night of Friday, the 29th ult.

A naval mutiny took place in the morning. A number of destroyers and the cruiser *Camaris*, the whole under a certain Captain Typaldos, rebelled and sought to capture the Salamis arsenal. The Government warned the loyal battleships and the arsenal by telephone, but the mutineers took possession of the islands of Leros and Kyra, where the naval powder magazines are. The battleships followed the rebel vessels.

At four o'clock this afternoon the destroyers fired a blank shot against the battleships, which replied with blank cartridges. The destroyers then fired shell, and the battleships returned their fire. After an engagement of some duration the destroyer *Sphendones* was hit and all the rebel ships retired. The Army lines the shores opposite the arsenal, with orders to fire on all mutineers landing. Soldiers have been sent for from Chalcis and Nauplitt. The arsenal defences are weak, and it may fall to-night. Communication between the Piræus and the arsenal has been cut by order of the Government. The palace and parliament are guarded by troops.

To quiet the populace the Government spread a report that the cannonade was only a salute to the British Minister by British ships. The people are nervous and excited.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT.

"After 2,000 years Salamis has again been the scene of a naval battle. I have just returned from Scaramanga," says Reuter's correspondent, "where I witnessed the fighting between the field batteries and the big warships on the one side and the mutinous torpedo boats on the other. When I arrived on the hillside commanding a view of the naval station where the rebel captain Typaldos was established, I was stopped by a cavalry patrol, which informed me that infantry and artillery were posted on the other side of the headland off which the loyal battleships were stationed. Three torpedo-boat destroyers were cruising before the arsenal, where one old cruiser was stationed.

"Soon after four o'clock the first shots were fired, and a sharp exchange of shell followed. Some of the shots struck the arsenal buildings, but I saw only one shell hit a torpedo-vessel, which was immediately enveloped by a great cloud of smoke. During the action three torpedo-boats gradually retired steaming astern. I could easily see the shells from the battleships and the batteries ashore ricochetting over the water. Finally the mutinous vessels went behind the shelter of a headland and the firing stopped. The leading torpedo vessel hoisted signals, the purport of which could not be ascertained.

"On my way back to Athens I passed a battalion of infantry which was guarding the road from Eleusis to Athens. The officers were eager for news, and many of them wept over the outbreak of fighting and cursed Typaldos for having provoked civil war.

"It is impossible even to estimate the naval losses, as Salamis is three miles distant, and as I was not allowed to enter the firing line I could not ascertain the losses of the troops.

"Athens is quiet but greatly excited. It is generally felt that the Military League will suffer great loss of prestige and may be compelled to proclaim a dictatorship."

CAUSES OF THE REVOLT.

The naval revolt is the sequel to the military revolt which began in July with an agitation for redress of grievances and for reforms that would remove from Greece the reproach of being defenceless.

The revolutionists profess to have no design against the throne, but King George has hinted that his forbearance has limits.

The causes of this agitation are the incapacity and corruption of the Administration; the failure of the annexation policy in Crete: the independence and military strength of Bulgaria; the example and success of the Young Turks in Constantinople; the abandonment of Greek aspirations in Macedonia, and the unpopularity of the Crown Prince.

ECONOMIC TRANSFORMATION OF JAPAN.

BY "THE TIMES" SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT LATELY IN THE FAR EAST.

Japan has writ her name large in the history of the world during the first decade of the 20th century, but though she has established her claim to rank with the Great Powers, and though she is conscious of the position she has achieved for herself, neither the demeanour of her people nor the language of her statesmen betrays any trace of the overweening spirit which is sometimes imputed to her.

THE CREATION OF A NEW MIDDLE CLASS.

The Japanese need peace, and they know that they need it. It is not merely that the war with Russia has been a heavy drain upon the financial resources of the country. Between March 31, 1904, and March 31, 1907, the national debt leapt up in rough figures from £56,000,000 to over £227,000,000. Japan does not grudge the sacrifices which she conceives to have been essential to the vindication of her vital interests in Eastern Asia and of her position as a Great Power. But for the maintenance of the position to which she has attained by her military and naval achievements, she requires to establish her economic position on an equally sound and permanent basis. That is a task which will admittedly absorb all her energy for many years to come. For it is a task for which her traditions have not prepared her, as they had prepared her for conquering her place by the prowess of her army and navy. Togo and Nogi used no mere figure of speech when they attributed the capture of Port Arthur and the crowning mercy of Tsu-shima to the ancestral spirits of Japan. It was the spirit of old Japan, armed with the perfected weapons of modern warfare, that won those victories. But the spirit of old Japan had nothing in common with the commmercial spirit of our times.

It was relatively easy to convert the feudal aristocracy of the pre-Meiji era into terms of battleships and army corps. It is much more difficult to evolve commercial and industrial efficiency out of a social system which held commerce and industry in contempt. It would perhaps be an exaggeration to say that there was no middle class in old Japan, though in the old social hierarchy it was the peasant, and not the urban citizen, who ranked next to the Samurai. There was a social borderland in which the Samurai, under exceptional conditions, merged into the inferior world of trade and finance without altogether losing caste. Even in these primitive times the Shoguns and the great Daimyos had to be financed, and their larger needs supplied, by responsible persons. Thus one of the most powerful and enterprising houses in modern Japan, the Mitsui, can trace its origin back to old Japan. But these are exceptional cases. Japan as a modern State, bent on financial, industrial, and commercial expansion, has had to build up for itself a middle class, of which the germs scarcely existed at the beginning of its great evolution. It is being built up by a double process. Many of the old Samurai class, shorn of their former privileges and former privileges and former resources, had to surrender at the same time their former prejudices in the search for new means of livelihood, whilst many of the old trading class were quick to equip themselves by modern education for the higher forms of activity thrown open to them. The rulers of new Japan have done everything in their power to help this process forward by the material encouragement given to trade and industry and by the social recognition ganted to succesful pioneers of the new departure. The most potent influence of all in effacing the old class distinctions was the introduction of a national system of education and of universal military service—that most democratic of all institutions, since it establishes equality on the broad basis of a common duty. The Samurai could no longer affect to despire the trader, who

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now shared with him both the school bench and the privilege of defending the honour of his Emperor and his country.

INDUSTRIAL EXPANSION.

The result have been in many respects astonishing. The currency, which 30 years ago was in as chaotic a condition as that of China, to-day has been placed on a sound gold basis, thanks mainly to the financial ability of Marquis Matsukata, one of the Elder Statesmen at the disposal of Ministers. An elaborate banking system has been developed, representing over £40,000,000 of paid-up capital, and £15,000,000 of reserve funds; and some of the leading banks, such as the Bank of Japan, the Yokohama Specie Bank, the Japanese Industrial Bank, and not a few others, have conquered for themselves a high place amongst the financial institutions of the world. The mileage of Japanese railways, now over 5,000 miles, has been quadrupled within twenty years —without counting the Korean and South Manchurian railways, which are owned by Japanese companies. The development of posts, telegraphs, and telephones has proceeded on an even greater scale, and the revenues of the department, which only amounted in 1899 to £1,740,000, exceeded £3,850,000 in 1909, whilst the amount invested in postal saving banks rose during the same decade from under £2,200,000 to £10,698,409. The Japanese merchant flag, represented by a steam tonnage of nearly one and a quarter million tons, is known in every sea, and the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, on one of whose excellent steamers I crossed the Pacific a few weeks ago, has alone a well-equipped fleet of 265,000 tons in the aggregate, running not only to the United States and to Europe, but to South America and Australia, besides local services in Japanese, Chinese, and Korean waters.

Japanese shipping receives heavy subsidies from the State, amounting to about £630,000 a year, but in return for those subsidies it has not only given employment to thousands, but it rendered invaluable service to the navy during the last war. The steamer, for instance, on which I travelled, the *Shinano Maru*, was one of those employed by Admiral Togo as scouts, and was actually the first to signal by wireless telegraphy the approach of the ill-fated Russian fleet under Admiral Rozhdestvensky. A similar system of subsidies has given a powerful impetus to ship-building in Japan, where by the end of 1908 there were already 236 private shipyards and 52 private docks. Powerful firms like the Mitsui, the Mitsubishi, Messrs. Okura, Messrs. Takata, etc., take a leading part in every branch of a national import and export trade which has risen within 30 years from under $6 000,000 to nearly $100,000,000 in 1907. Great industrial cities have grown up like Osaka, the centre of the cotton-spinning industry, whose population, less than 400,000 a quarter of a century ago, now exceeds 1,200,000. The aggregate capital of Japanese industrial companies, which in 1882 was estimated at £10,000,000, rose within the same period to more than £126,000,000, and in the cotton industry alone the number of spindles increased from 65,000 to over one and a half million. According to statistics collected by Mr. Takahashi and Mr. Igarashi, the national wealth of Japan was assessed at the beginning of 1905 close upon £2,500,000,000, to which must now be added, over and above any normal increment, the economic value of the position she has acquired in Southern Manchuria and Korea.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BALANCE-SHEET.

Against this enormous expansion has to be tse not only the large increase of national indebtedness to which I have already referred, but the increased ratio of State expenditure and taxation. The total State expenditure, normal and extraordinary, in 1898-99 was under £21,000,000. In the year 1908-9 it had risen to over £62,000,000, the national debt charge having within the same period risen from £2,726,000 to £17,683,000. The land-tax alone has been raised during that time from £3,844,000 to £8,571,000, and the income-tax from £235,000 to £2,757,000, a more than tenfold increase which might well make Mr. Lloyd-George's mouth water. Other taxes have also been made to yield very large increases, and the establishment of State monopolies on tobacco, salt, and camphor, and the purchase of the railways by the State, have added to the revenue at the expense of the public. Though the actual amount of taxation levied per head of population in Japan is still very much lower than in Western countries, it already represents probably a heavier burden in proportion to the average amount of income. Nor must it be overlooked that the economic expansion of Japan has been conducted on a perilously slender margin of capital. Japan is not a naturally rich country, though it has, like France, if not in the same measure, a solid foundation of prosperity in its agriculture and in the patient toil and thrift of its peasantry. Its mineral resources, with the exception of coal, are not believed to be very abundant, and they are still largely undeveloped. Many industries are still dependent upon the subsidies and bounties they receive from the State, and the tendency of the State to convert into monopolies for its own benefit some of the most lucrative branches of trade and industry circumscribes the sphere of individual activity and discourages the investment of both domestic and foreign capital.

The big wave of depression, precipitated by the crisis in the United States two years ago, which has followed the great boom after the war, has no doubt been a salutary check to over-sanguine speculation; and with the remarkable adaptability to the teachings of experience which is one of the saving characteristics of the Japanese, both public and private finance is returning to sounder and more cautious methods. But the lesson has been a costly one, and it has shown that the vast social changes involved in so great an economic revolution are fraught with other than mere economic dangers.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It is stated that Mr. Ijuin, the Japanese Minister in Peking, will be recalled home shortly.

The 15th being the Belgian National Holiday, a reception was held at the Consulate in the forenoon.

The Nippon Yusen Kaisha is reported to have decided to abolish its branch offices at Vladivostock and Chemulpo.

It is stated that the officials of the Russian Volunteer Fleet will despatch several ice-breakers to Vladivostock at the beginning of next month.

Thursday being the anniversary of the birth of King Vittorio Emanuel III, the Emperor sent a telegram of congratulation to the Royal Household of Italy.

Princess Fushimi, Jr., arrived in Paris on the 6th instant. Her Highness is expected to leave there about the 16th for London, where Prince Fushimi, Jr. will meet her.

The Crown Prince being indisposed, it is now announced that he will not attend the manœuvres of the Imperial Guards Division in Sagami province, to be held there shortly.

The Tokyo Keiba-kai will hold a race meeting at Ikegami on the 20th, 21st and 23rd instant. It is reported that H.I.H. Prince Nashimoto will attend the meeting on the 21st.

Marquis Katsura, in his capacity as Minister of Finance, will attend the experimental coinage exhibition at the Osaka mint. He is expected to leave Tokyo shortly for this purpose.

The Austro-Hungarian Ambassador, Baron von Call, who shortly leaves for Siam, repaired to the Imperial Palace on the 17th instant to take leave of the Emperor and the Empress.

Her Majesty the Empress, accompanied by her usual retinue, attended on the 13th instant the anniversary celebration of the establishment of the Female Department of the Peers' School.

According to an official report received by the Home Department, explosions took place in the crater of Asama on the morning of the 10th inst., when sounds like peals of distant thunder were heard in the vicinity. There was, however, no apparent sign of eruption.

The Degree of Doctor of Divinity *honoris causa* has been conferred by the University of Cambridge upon the Rev. Walter Andrews, M.A., of St. John's, Bishop-designate of Hokkaido in Japan.

It is reported that eleven insane Japanese, who arrived at Yokohama on the 14th instant from Canada by the steamer *Monteagle*, had been sent back by the local Government of New Westminster.

On the 17th inst. His Majesty the Emperor personally appointed Field-Marshal Prince Yamagata to the Presidency of the Privy Council, and Baron Makino to be a member of the same Council.

According to an official report the total numbe. of schools now existing throughout Korea is 2,223r One-third of these are mission schools and one-half private, while one-twentieth are government institutions.

It is stated that Prince Fushimi will attend the unveiling ceremony of the soldiers' monument erected at Port Arthur to be held on the 28th instant. His Highness will leave Tokyo on the 18th instant.

It is said that the Foreign Office has received an official report from Harbin to the effect that the Russian Minister of Finance left there on the 10th instant for St. Petersburg direct by the Siberian railway.

The railway authorities have finally decided to construct another double track between Shimbashi and Yokohama, during the years 1910,1911 and 1912. The expense is estimated at some 10,000,000 *yen*.

Early on the morning of the 11th instant, an up and a down goods train collided with each other at Manpu Station on the Sanyo line. A brakevan of the up train was shattered, and the conductor was killed on the spot.

According to the latest returns of the Department of Justice, 97 foreigners are imprisoned in Japanese jails, of whom 63 are convicted. These figures include 48 Chinese, 9 Koreans, 4 British, 1 Russian and 1 Italian.

A Matsumoto (Shinano) despatch says that a new railway line will be opened on the 1st prox. between Shiojiri and Narai, a distance of 13 miles. There will be a service of three trains daily from both termini.

The Railway Board has commenced a service of excursion trains on Saturdays and Sundays for the benefit of the viewers of autumnal foliage and chrysanthemum shows at Inohami, Takao, Narita, Hakone and other places.

When the Norddeutscher liner *Kleist* arrived at Aden she reported that Mr. T. B. Jex-Blake, son of the Dean of Wells, who was *en route* for India, disappeared on the 15th ult. He had shown signs of melancholia.

Princess Kitashirakawa, Sr., left Tokyo on the 16th inst. to attend the graduation ceremony of the Naval Cadets' School at Etajima, held on the 19th instant. Prince Teruhisa, a son of Her Highness, is one of the graduates.

It is reported that the old Korean warship *Yangmu*, which has long been lying in the harbour of Chemulpo, was sold by tender a few days ago to the Harada firm, of Osaka. The amount realised by the sale was 42,000 *yen*.

An engine-driver and two conductors, charged with negligence in connection with a collision in the compound of Uyeno Station in August last, were sentenced on the 11th instant to a fine of 100 *yen*, 60 *yen* and 50 *yen*, respectively.

Apropos of the recent Caruso craze in Berlin—the best seats in the Opera House are being speculated in at from £5 to £10 apiece—the *Lokalanzeiger* of the 19th ult. rebukes the people of Berlin for their "Caruso madness." It says that the ostentation and snobbishness

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which are beginning to get the upper hand in Berlin are gradually giving the Kaiser's sedate capital the aspect of a "nouveau-riche American metropolis."

According to an official report, the total number of cases of pest in Kobe since its first outbreak reached 300 up to the 10th instant. During October last, there were 17 cases, and eight occurred during the first ten days of this month.

A Kofu (Yamanashi prefecture) telephone message reports that a few days ago, two lads arrested on suspicion of theft, were tortured at Yoshida Police Station. They are said to have been "smoked" with burning chillies and scorched with red-hot tongs.

It is reported that in view of competing with sea-borne transportation between Osaka and Kyushu, the Railway Board has decided to reduce greatly the charges on goods to be taken by rail. It is said that 40 or 50 per cent. reduction will be effected.

Two clerks belonging to the Railway Transport Association in Nagoya, have embezzled some 15,000 *yen* of the Association's funds since 1906. One of them absconded some time ago, whilst the other has given himself up to the authorities of the Nagoya Local Court.

It is reported that the cinematograph films representing the scenes at Harbin on the occasion of the assassination of Prince Ito, were sold by auction to Mr. Tanomogi of the Japan Press Agency in Tokyo, for 15,000 *yen*. There was keen competition for the pictures.

It is reported that the Cricket Ground measuring 5,516 *tsubo* in the park of this city, which had originally been a state-owned land, has been assigned by the Minister for Home Affairs as municipal property, in compliance with the application of the Governor of this prefecture.

A man named Mikami Masukichi, who some years ago attempted to make a direct appeal to the Empress, brought a lawsuit on the 9th instant in the Tokyo Local Court against Mr. Kamei, Superintendent of the Metropolitan Police, for false imprisonment, the damages amounting to 89,930 *yen*.

It has lately been discovered that a cotton dealer named Tobe Jukichi, of Tokyo, with four others has imported from China a considerable quantity of dirty old cotton (*boro kero wado*) during the last ten years, infringing the prohibition published in 1899. The man Tobe was arrested on the 11th instant.

A despatch from Quetta, Northern India, dated Oct 22. says:—Exhausted tribesmen arriving here to-day report the wholesale destruction of villages in north-eastern Baluchistan and western Punjab by a terrific earthquake shock Hundreds are dead in the villages of Miti, Mankambela, Tanio, Kanda and Kurani.

According to a Fukuoka telegram received by the *Asahi*, the Standard Oil Company of New York has concluded negotiations for the purchase of 35,000 *tsubo* of land at Kanokoshima, Fukuoka prefecture, where a large oil refinery will shortly be built. It is believed that the Company will enter into severe competition with the Rising Sun Petroleum Company.

The famous Lancashire brass band known as the "Besses-o'-th'-Barn" is stated to have left Liverpool on a long tour to South Africa, New Zealand, Australia, and probably China and Japan; and the return journey will most probably be made through the United States and Canada. Mr. Alec Owen will conduct the band, and thirty-three bandsmen have signed agreements.

It is reported, says the *Kobe Herald*, that three men, residing at Himeji, were arrested on the 10th inst. by the police authorities on charges of forging Korean paper money to the amount of *yen* 130,000. The notes were concealed in the cellar of a godown adjoining the house which they occupied, and it is said that the men were preparing to dispose of them in Korea and Manchuria. It appears that since July last they had been posing as dealers in fertilizers, thus escaping detection. The police obtained a clue to what was going on in September, and at the end of last month they discovered the forged notes and some of the apparatus used in forging them. The men now arrested are said to have had many accomplices.

In reference to the earthquake on the 10th instant, Dr. Omori says that the area of the oscillation was five times larger than that of the recent disturbance in Omi province, but fortunately the centre being in the sea (probably the Hyuga Nada), the damage was comparatively small. The seismograph in Tokyo indicated a slight vibration lasting about three hours.

An Ottawa dispatch of the 23rd ult. says that Canadian Trade-Commissioner Harris, in Japan, reports to the Trade and Commerce Department that the next Japanese Budget will provide for an expenditure of twenty million dollars on Government railways. He says that if the Canadian steel companies would send representatives to Japan they could get a share of the business.

A paper read before the Paris Academy of Science on the 25th ult. stated that by experiments with an instrument called a stellar barometer, M. Norman has discovered that our sun is by no means the warmest member of the stellar system. The heat of the sun is only 5,990 degrees, while that of the Pole star is 9,800 degrees, and the heat of Aldebaran, in the constellation of the Bull, is 60,000 degrees.

The *Seoul Press* states that the old nickel coins in Korea are to be withdrawn absolutely from circulation after the end of next month. It is stated that the number of old nickel coins withdrawn by the authorities up to the end of last month reached 380,032,308. It is expected that the Korean Government will shortly issue notices regarding the withdrawal of the coins for distribution to every village in the country.

Princess Victoria Louise, the only daughter of Emperor William, was on the 23rd ult. appointed a colonel in the famous Second Hussar Guards Regiment, stationed at Dantzig. The Emperor William presented his daughter to the higher officers of the regiment on the grounds of the new palace at Potsdam. The young colonel was mounted, and wore the regimential uniform. She looked her smartest in the frogged Hussar tunic and dolman, which was richly trimmed with black astrakhan and silver lace. Her fur busby bore in front the grim skull and crossbones, shaped in silver. This is the Emperor's favourite uniform.

The *N.-C. Daily News* states that a telegram was received soon after midnight on Saturday from Soochow stating that Dr. David T. Stuart had accidentally shot and killed himself late that day. It appears that after an unusually hard day's work attending patients in the Elizabeth Blake Hospital, of which he and Dr. J. R. Wilkinson were surgeons-in-charge, he took a stroll in the country with his gun. When Dr. Stuart did not return home, Dr. Wilkinson became anxious and instituted a search, with the result that Dr. Stuart was discovered about half-a-mile from the Hospital lying face downard with the gun close by. An examination showed that he had received a full charge of shot in his left side which had penetrated his heart, killing him instantly. He had been dead two or three hours. Dr. Stuart was connected with the American Presbyterian Mission (South), of which mission his parents, the Rev. Dr. J. L. and Mrs. Stuart, of Hangchow, have been honoured members for nearly forty years.

It is reported, says the *Kobe Herald*, that a girl operative named Kitayama Shin, aged 19, employed by the Yamamoto Match Factory, Okihama, Ibo district, in this prefecture, was engaged with some other girls in preparing some hydrochloric acid at about half-past 9 o'clock on Friday morning when by some mischance the material suddenly caught fire. All the girls ran outside, with the exception of Kitayama, who tried to extinguish the fire, as she feared, it is said, that it had been caused by her carelessness. The flames, however, spread rapidly, and the unfortunate girl, unable to escape, was burnt to death. The proprietors of the factory are reported to have given the girl's family *yen* 10 toward the funeral expenses and *yen* 100 as a token of condolence. It is stated, further, that the Riosui Match Factory has presented her family with a sum of *yen* 10 in recognition of her bravery. The damage caused by the fire is put at only *yen* 40, practically no harm having been done to the factory building.

A Kobe telegram states that Mr. Mai Shaopeng, a noted Chinese merchant of Kobe, who owes the Kobe office of the Yokohama Specie Bank some 800,000 *yen*, has lately refused to pay the debt, on the ground that the liability was originally due to a draft drawn on behalf of the Chinese compradore of the Bank. On the 14th instant Mr. Yamakawa, an auditor of the Bank, went to Kobe to reprimand the compradore, and the latter saw Mr. Mai the following day, when the compradore was assaulted by one of the assistants of Mr. Mai. It is feared that the China trade will be affected in no small measure.

Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd., of Yokohama, lately instituted a protest against the rejection by the Patent Bureau of a trade mark for cotton fabric, on the ground that it resembles one already registered under No. 9,789 for a similar article. Both the trade-marks represent a dog surrounded by boulders, with the name of the manufacturer. The dog in the registered one is a Japanese one, while the other in Messrs. Dodwell & Co.'s is a spotted one. The protest has been rejected on the ground that, in accordance with the provisions of No. 4 of Art II. of the trade mark Law, the trade-mark in question cannot be registered.

The P. & A. chartered (Norwegian) steamer *Selja*, Captain O. Lie, which left Kobe on Sunday for Hongkong, is reported to be badly ashore near Kurushima, says Monday's *Kobe Herald*. The cause of the accident is not yet known here. She was in charge of Pilot Mori, formerly Captain of the O. S. K. steamer *Tetsuren Maru*. Captain J. B. Macmillan, Surveyor to Lloyd's Agents, left here for the scene of the disaster this afternoon. According to information received here, the *Selja*'s engine-room is full of water and it is considered doubtful if anything can be done to release her from her dangerous position until the tides rise again.

The Mitsui Bishi Dockyard Company has received a telegram from its salvage vessel *Arima Maru*, stating that, as the result of work by divers and the pumping out of water, the S.S. *Selja*, which stranded near Kurushima, was refloated at 10 o'clock on Wednesday morning.—*Kobe Herald*.

For many years Nuremburg has been the centre of the toy trade of the world, the principal products being metal toys of infinite variety, wooden and pasteboard toys, blocks, puzzles, &c. About 12,000 people are employed in this industry in the twin cities of Nuremberg and Fuerth, about one-half of the number being women and girls. There are about half a dozen factories, employing several hundred workmen each, the largest of which gives employment to an average of 1,500 persons; and besides these there are hundreds of concerns employing from half a dozen to 100 people. It is not unusual to find a factory in which, besides the proprietor and his wife and children, only two or three extra men are employed. The total value of the toy output of this district for 1908 is estimated at about £1,000,000, which was perhaps 25 per cent. under that of 1907. The toys were exported to every land on the globe, but considerably more than one-third of the entire product went to the United States. The German toy output for 1907 is estimated at £5,000,000, of which £3,800,000 was exported, and of that total the United States and Great Britain took more than half.

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MILLIONS

OF WOMEN

Regard Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Ointment as unrivaled for Preserving, Purifying and Beautifying the Skin, Scalp, Hair and Hands, for Sanative, Antiseptic Cleansing and for the Nursery.

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; China, Hong Kong Drug Co.; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; Russia, Ferrein, Moscow; So. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

Post Free, Cuticura Booklet on the Skin

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Saturday, November 19.

The Raw Cotton market remains quiet, with prices maintaining their high level. Some interest is shown in Indian Cotton. As to Cotton yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece goods is quiet. In Woollens and Woollen Mixtures, the market appears to be more healthy.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	41 00 to 45 00
Egyptian	50 00 to 55 00
Indian Broach	33.00 to 34.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	30 25 to 31.00

COTTON YARN

	PER BALE
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260 00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330 00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460 00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5 40 to 9 30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6 40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11 50
Prints—24 yards, 31 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0 25 to 0 35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0 70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1 90 to 2 25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2 50 to 3 65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	V.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0 36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

A fair amount of business is being done in all lines, with the exception of that for Basic Bars.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3 80 to 3.85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4.30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.55
Sheet Mild Steel	6.15 to 6.30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9.60 to 9.80
Galvanised Iron Sheets Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	6 80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.88 to 3 98
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3 54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

Demand continues light, and no sales are reported.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15 50 to 18 90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change in the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200 00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2 00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. There is practically nothing doing.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	10 80
Flag	"	10.60
Royal	"	10.60
Trophy	"	10 60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.70
Lion	"	11.80
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00

Japanese:—			
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*		2.85
Takasago	6	"	2.78
Fuji	6	"	2 85
Pine	6	"	2.90

WHEAT.

There has been no business done. Prices in America have considerably advanced on account of an active demand having arisen from Europe and the Eastern States.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.60 to 5.70
Red " " "	5.50 to 5.60
Blue Stem	5.75 to 5.85

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market has continued very weak with rapidly declining prices, the general feeling being most depressed.

On November 18th stocks were: filatures 33,528 bales; Re-reels, 6,283 bales; Kakeda, 1,108 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	V. 970
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	910
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	920
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	850
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	910
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	880
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	820
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	870
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	810
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	850
Re-reels—No. 1½	820
Re-reels—No. 2	790
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	810
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	790
Kakedas—No. 2	770

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

November	Present delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.	January delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
12th	830	819	—	831
13th	831	823	823	831
14th	—	—	—	—
15th	819	809	813	820
16th	816	—	809	815
17th	823	815	—	829
18th	833	816	823	834

WASTE SILK.

The market is getting slightly active.

On November 18th stocks were: Noshi, 8,935 bales, Kibiso, 16,270 bales; and Sundry, 1,013 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	137½ to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	95 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	70 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	120 to 127½
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	90 to 100
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—There has been a weakening in prices in general, but principally in the lighter weights. The production has shown no signs of increasing.

Kanazawa:—Prices have declined slightly in accord with the Raw Silk market. There has been no appreciable revival in the demand and the production continues small.

Kawamata:—The demand has been comparatively active, and there have been some fluctations in prices.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.35	8 15	8 05	8 05	7 95
27"	8.35	8.25	8 05	8.10	8.05
36"	8.35	8 2	8.15	8 05	8 05

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.00	7.90	7.80	7.65
27"	8.05	7.85	7.90	7 60
36"	8.00	7 75	7.75	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7 70	8 30	8 90	9 40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.90	11.00	12.00	13 20
36	12.50	14.10	15.90	16 40

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of November 17th the quotation was £60.

Home markets have improved to some extent.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43 50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38 50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47 00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report, large stocks being still held, with poor demand.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	802.735
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	157.590

Delivery.	Closing Price
November	11.33
December	11 46
January	11.76

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
November	11.56	November	11 65
December	11.60	December	11 69
January	11.79	January	11.88

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RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*
Superior	Yen 12.30
Medium	11.30
Common	10.30
Average	11.30

TEA.

There has been no change in quotations. Total settlements at Yokohama from May 1st to November 13th amount to 87,020 piculs, against 82,241 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest ... ... Y.	— —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	36 — 37
Good Medium	34 — 36
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
November	127.05
December	127.50
January	128.50

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Nov. 18.

London silver $\frac{1}{16}$ higher and China sterling quotations unchanged, causing no alteration in local rates on China, but sterling and Francs private paper are somewhat easier to negotiate.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0$\frac{1}{2}$
— — Bills on demand	2/0$\frac{5}{8}$@$\frac{9}{16}$
— — 4 months' sight	2/0$\frac{13}{16}$
— Private 4 months' sight	2/1
— — 6 months' sight	2/1$\frac{1}{8}$
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	258
— Private 4 months' sight	262$\frac{1}{2}$
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	85$\frac{1}{4}$*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83$\frac{1}{4}$*
Shanghai—Bank sight	88*
— Private 10 days' sight	89$\frac{1}{2}$*
India—Bank sight	152$\frac{3}{4}$
— Private 30 days' sight	154$\frac{3}{4}$
America—Bank sight	49$\frac{5}{8}$@$\frac{3}{4}$
— Private 30 days' sight	50$\frac{3}{4}$
— Private 4 months' sight	51$\frac{1}{8}$
Germany—Bank sight	209$\frac{1}{2}$
— Private 4 months' sight	214$\frac{1}{2}$
Bar Silver (London)	23$\frac{3}{8}$

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE.

For	Line	Steamer.	Date
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Kaga Maru	M. Nov. 22
Hongkong	P. M.	Mongolia 2	Tu Nov. 23
Portland	P. & A.	Henrik Ibsen	W. Nov. 24
Europe	M. M.	Ernest Simons 3	F. Nov. 26
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Tango Maru 4	F. Nov. 26
America	P. M.	Siberia 5	F Nov. 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Su. Nov. 28
Europe	N. D. L.	Prinz Ludwig	Su. Nov. 28
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Sa. Nov. 27
Hongkong	B. L	Kumeric	Tu Nov. 30
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	W Dec. 1
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Monteagle	W Dec. 1
Tacoma	B. L	Suveric	Tu Dec. 7
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	W. Jan. 5

2 Left Hongkong on the 13th inst.
3 Left Saigon on the 14th inst.
4 Left Seattle on the 9th inst
5 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. L.	Kleist	Sa Nov. 20
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su. Nov. 21
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Chikuzen Maru	Su Nov. 21
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Kaga Maru	W Nov. 24
Europe	N. Y. K.	Sado Maru	W. Nov. 24
America	P. M.	Mongolia	W. Nov. 24
Hongkong	P. & A.	Henrik Ibsen	Th. Nov. 25
Europe	M. M.	Ernest Simons	Sa Nov. 27
Hongkong	P. M.	Siberia	Sa. Nov. 27
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Su. Nov. 28
Hongkong	N. Y. K.	Tango Maru	M Nov. 29
America	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Tu Nov. 30
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Monteagle	W Dec. 1
Tacoma	B. L	Kumeric	W Dec. 1
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	W. Dec. 1
Portland	P. & A.	Helcules	— — —
Hongkong	B. L	Suveric	W. Dec. 8
Australia	N.Y.K.	Kumano Maru	Sa. Dec. 11
Tacoma	B. & S.	Ningchow	Sa. Dec. 11
America	C. R.	Amiral Orly	M. Dec. 20
Hongkong	G. N.	Minnesota	Sa, Jan. 8

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham, 12th Nov.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. —C. P. R. Co.

Seattle Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,832, T. Saito, 12th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co. (O.S.K. American line).

Benarty, British steamer, 2,510, J. D. Sarchet, 12th Nov.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Hands, 12th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tjiliwong, Dutch steamer, 3,053, A. Pander, 13th Nov.,—Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Kaiserin Elizabeth, Austrian cruiser, 4,200, Capt. O. Hansa, 13th Nov.,—Hongkong.

Kleist, German steamer, 5,123, O. Pahnke, 13th Nov.,—Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Bellerophon, British steamer, 5,727, Thos Bartlett, 13th Nov.,—Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,960, K. Kawara, 14th Nov.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Minnesota, American steamer, 13,323, T. W. Garlick, 14th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—G. N. S.S. Co.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,733, I. Sato, 14th Nov.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, E. Combes, 14th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 14th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Lowther Castle, British steamer, 2,961, Howe, 15th Nov.,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Konan Maru, Japanese steamer, 858, T. Aihara, 15th Nov.,—Wakamatsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shokwa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,904, K. Takemura, 15th Nov.,—Taku, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,360, R. Swain, 15th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fooksang, British steamer, 1,987, T. A. Mitchell, 17th Nov.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 17th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 17th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Ching Woo, British steamer, 2,517, T. W. Cullum, 17th Nov.,—Swansea and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 18th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Menelaus, British steamer, 3,006, J. W. Williamson, 18th Nov.,—Shanghai.—Butterfield & Swire.

DEPARTURES.

Hongkong Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, H. S. Smith, 11th Nov.,—Manzanillo and Valparaiso via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham, 12th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, K. Asakawa, 12th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benarty, British steamer, 2,510, J. D. Sarchet, 13th Nov.,—Vladivostock, General.—Cornes & Co.

Armand Behic, French steamer, 2,819, Guionnet, 13th Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Brisgavia, German steamer, 4,166, Schwinghammer, 13th Nov.—Havre and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Seattle Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,832, T. Saito, 13th Nov.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., (Agents, America Line Osaka Shosen Kaisha).

Choshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, T. Watanabe, 13th Nov.,—Nagoya, General. — Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Bellerophon, British steamer, 5,727, Thos. Bartlett, 13th Nov.,—Puget Sound Ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Shiokubi Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,350, A. Yamashita, 14th Nov.,—Sasebo, General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of China, British steamer, 3,003, R. Archibald, 14th Nov.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Hands, 14th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Inverclyde, British steamer, 3,214, W. H. Lea, 14th Nov.,—Cebu via Moji.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 14th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nikko Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,434, M. Yagi, 15th Nov.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tjiliwong, Dutch steamer, 3,053, A. Pander, 15th Nov.,—Macassar via ports, General.—Ed. L. van Nierop & Co.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,960, K. Kawara, 15th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails & General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Namur, British steamer, 4,179, H. W. Kenrick, 16th Nov.,—Marseilles, London and Antwerp via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Calchas, British steamer, 4,279, G. A. Rodway, 16th Nov.,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, —Butterfield & Swire.

Konan Maru, Japanese steamer, 858, T. Aihara, 16th Nov.,—Hachiman, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer 2,920, E. Combes, 17th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,733, J. Sato, 16th Nov.,—Takao, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 18th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Shokwa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,904, K. Takemura, 18th Nov.,—Nagoya, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Minnesota, American steamer, 13,323, T. W. Garlick, 18th Nov.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—G.N. S.S. Co.

Menelaus, British steamer, 3,006, J. W. Williamson, 18th Nov.,—Marseilles, Havre and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 18th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per British steamer *Empress of India*, from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. Y. Asaka, Mrs. Y. Asaka, Miss Shuroher Asaka, Miss Chiyo Asaka, Rev. E. L. Bliss, Mrs. Bliss and child, Rev. H. Campbell, Mrs. H. Campbell, Mr. A. S. Collins, Madame L. Dewette, Rev. J. H. Freeman, Mrs. J. H. Freeman, Mr. O. S. Haggie, Miss E. Hains, Rev. G. G. Harris, Mrs. G. G. Harris, Mrs. E. C. Hindmarsh, Mr. D. Hellems, Mrs. D. Hellems, Rev. J. W. A. Henderson, Mrs. J. W. A. Henderson, Mr. E. L. Hunter, Mr. H. J. Ibbotson, Rev. E. D. Kellogg, Mrs. E. D. Kellogg, Mr. H. A. Kennedy, Miss H. L. Kennedy, Rev. D. S. Kern, Mrs. D. S. Kern, Mr. J. W. K. Lawrence, Mrs. J. W. K. Lawrence, Mr. S. E. Lees, Mr. G. Lees, Mrs. Lees, Miss O. W. Lees, Mr. S. C. Lewis, Mrs. S. C. Lewis, Dr. L. Loenholm, Rev. P. S. Mayer, Mrs. P. S. Mayer, Rev. D. McRae, Mrs. D. McRae, Mrs. Mary P. Newell, Mr. D. A. Purves, Mr. Alex. Reid, Mrs Alex. Reid, Mr. McNeil, Reid, Mr. Hugh Sato, Mr. G. Sasaki, Mr. A. J. Shaw-Hillier, Rev. J. L. Stewart, Mrs. J. L. Stewart, Rev. R. E. S. Taylor, Mrs. R. E. S. Taylor, Mr. H. P. Thomas, Dr. J. E. Thompson, Mr. T. G. Weall, Mr. Wm. G. Wehr, Lieut. Wen Ying Hsing, Mr. J. M. Wilcox, Mrs. J. M. Wilcox, Dr. E. C. Wilford, Mrs. E. C. Wilford, Mrs. W. T. Wilgress, Mr. Dana Wilgress and Mr. K. Wang, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* from Hongkong via ports:—Lieut. J. H. Uri, Mr. Scott, Mr. H. A. Moran, Mr. and Mrs. F. R. Lilley, Mr. H. E. Reynell, Miss Reynell and Mr. C. J. Baker. For Mrs. Vancouver Hornby, Miss Hornby and Mr. C. W. 168 Jul Hupeden in cabin; 39 in Asiatic second class; in Asiatic steerage.

Per American steamer *Minnesota* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr F. W. Mackie, Mr. R. Veit, Mr. H. Spleitgerber, Mr. J. C. Worley and Mrs. J. C. Worley. For Seattle:—Mrs. O. Westover, Mrs. S. L. Kidder, Mr. G. W. Morton, Mrs. H. Lorentzen and child, Miss L. Rudberg, Mrs. E. M. Suplee, Mr. M. M. Morrill, Mrs. A. Strausz, Mrs. W. S. MacLeed, Mr. C. L. Creed, Miss I. K. Greenlee. Mr. N. Nichong, Mr. Lee Yong, Mrs. Lee Yong, Mr. S. Tang Mr. L. W. Wing, Mr. L. F. Shing, Mr. N. T. Yuen, Mr. T. Y. Sheung, Mr. L. S. Ling, Mr. W. P. Yuen, Mr. N. Y. Sun, Mr. C. Mui, Mr. Y. C. Yuen, Mr. C. Hoi, Mr. L. N. Yuen, Mr. L. Tsim, Mr. N. Y. Quen, Mr. N. P. Yim, Mr. Y. Taip, Mr. L. K. Hee, Mr. S. Warfield, Mr. L. Y. Shan and Mr. T. Mitika in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per French steamer *Armand Behic* for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. Goodrich, Mr. A. K. Behrend, Mr. and Mrs. V. Meyer and 1 boy and Mr. Nakagawa in cabin.

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Per British steamer *Empress of China*, for Vancouver, B.C :—Mr. C. M. Alexander, Mrs. Alexander, Miss Barton, Rev. J. W. Chapman, D.D., Master Chapman, Lieut. C. Colson, Mr. Albert Gregoire, Mr. R. Harkness, Mr. G. H. Hemingway, Mrs. Hornby, Miss Hornby, Mr. C. W. Jul. Hupedens Rev. F. C. Ottman, D.D., Mrs. Wm. T. Payne, Mis. Hope Payne and Mis. N. Thomas in cabin.

Per British steamer *Namur* for London and Antwerp via ports :—Miss A. Muspratt, Miss Wilkinson, Eng. Com. W. A. Wilson, N.N., Rev. and Mrs. Jno. Pate, Miss E. A. Billings, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Porter, Miss Muspratt, Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Sparke, child and amah, Mr. W. Hasford, Mr. Wibel and Mr. Rumpf in cabin.

CARGO.

Per British steamer *Empress of China* for Vancouver, B.C. :—

TEA.

From	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hongkong	1,694	—	—	1,279	—	2,973
Foochow	—	—	—	650	—	650
Keelung	—	—	437	—	—	437
Shanghai	1,630	2,503	1,157	—	—	5,290
Kobe	195	—	—	—	—	195
Yokohama	150	—	5	—	—	155
Total	3,669	2,503	1,599	1 929	—	9,700

SILK.

From.	New York.	Easton.	San Francisco.	Montreal.	Holyoke.	Total Bales
H'kong & Canton	180	—	—	—	—	180
Shanghai	356	—	15	—	—	371
Yokohama	847	—	—	40	—	887
Total	1,383	—	15	40	—	1,438

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Armand Behic* :—

	RAW. Marseilles Option.	Lyon.	Moscow.	Milan.	WASTE. France.	Switzerland	Trieste.	Peignes.
Siber Wolff & Co.	365	—	113	—	—	—	—	—
do	—	—	—	10	—	—	—	—
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	105	—	—	—	9	—	—	—
Hara Yushutsuten	105	—	55	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co	90	50	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	52	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.	50	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
L. Mottet	30	—	11	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.	10	—	—	—	38	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	5	—	—	—	127	—	—	—
Pila & Co.	—	60	—	—	3	—	—	—
Carlowitz & Co.	—	52	—	—	—	—	—	—
F. Strahler & Co.	—	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett and Bent	—	40	—	—	—	—	—	—
P. Dourille	—	20	—	—	—	—	—	—
		St. Etienne						
Varenne & Co.	—	10	5	St. Chamond	—	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.	—	10	—	40	—	—	—	—
Vivanti Bros.	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
Total	812	282	187	55	177	—	—	—

Per British steamer *Namur* for London and Antwerp via ports :—

	RAW SILK. Douppioni Silk France.	Douppioni Silk France	WASTE SILK France	Peignes France.
Bavier & Co.	—	—	182	—
Siber Wolff & Co.	—	—	50	—
Cl. Eymard	—	—	52	1
Total	—	—	284	1

Silk shippers by *Seattle Maru*, for Tacoma on the 15th Nov. :— Bales.

China & Japan Trading Co., Ltd.	86
Nabholz & Co.	20
L. Mottet	10
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	381
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	337
Total	834

Silk shippers by *Empress of China*, for Vancouver on the 15th Nov. : — Bales.

Vivanti Bros.	180
Siber, Wolff & Co.	165
F. Strahler & Co.	70
Bavier & Co.	50
L. Mottet	20
Nabholz & Co.	15
Comptoirs Soies	10
Jewett and Bent	10
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	156
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	121
Hara Yushutsuten	90
Total	887

By Royal Warrant to H.M. THE KING.

LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE

gives a delightfully appetizing flavour to all Meat Dishes, Fish, Soup, Game, Cheese and Salad, and assists digestion.

The Original & Genuine Worcestershire.

Silk shippers by *Bellerophon*, for Puget Sound Ports on the 15th Nov. :— Bales.

Mitsui Bussan Kaisha	276
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	91
Total	367

RAILWAY TIME-TABLE.

Leave Yokohama.	UP TRAINS TO TOKYO.	Arrive Shimbashi.
5.30 a.m.	(from Yokohama)	6 22 a.m.
6.20 „	(„ „)	7 12 „
7.00 „	(„ „)	7 52 „
7.38 „	(„ Kodzu)	8 30 „
8.15 „	(Express from Kodzu)	8.43 „
8.25 „	(from Yokohama)	9.17 „
8 47 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	9.40 „
9.05 „	(from Yokohama)	10.07 „
9.43 „	(„ Kodzu)	10.35 „
10.20 „	(„ Yokohama)	11.12 „
10.45 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	11.37 „
11.18 „	(from Yokohama)	12 07 p.m.
11.41 „	(„ Numadzu)	12 50 „
12.25 p.m.	(Through from Yokosuka)	1.17 „
12.58 „	(from Kodzu)	1 50 „
1.40 „	(„ Yokohama)	2.32 „
2 10 „	(„ Kodzu)	3 02 „
2.38 „	(„ Yokohama)	3.30 „
3.10 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	4 10 „
3 44 „	(from Hamamatsu)	4 45 „
4.30 „	(Express from Yokohama)	4.58 „
4 40 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	5.32 „
5.10 „	(from Kodzu)	6.02 „
5.40 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	6.32 „
6.08 „	from Kodzu)	7.00 „
6.45 „	(Through from Ogaki)	7.37 „
8.00 „	(from Kodzu)	8.52 „
8.35 „	(„ Yokohama)	9.27 „
9.08 „	(„ Kodzu)	10.00 „
9 50 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	10.42 „
10.38 „	(from Kyoto)	11 30 „
11.30 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	12.22 a.m.

FURS and SKINS. WATSON & Co., 40, GREAT QUEEN STREET, KINGSWAY, LONDON, ENGLAND, buyers of Furs and Skins of every description, in small or large parcels, or will receive for Sale on commission, prompt settlements and advances by mail or cable, correspondence invited. Address Bills of Lading as above.

October 2nd, 1909. 13w.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, NOV. 27TH, 1909.

BIRTH.

CORNES.—On 18th inst., at 204 Bluff, Yokohama, the wife of A. J. CORNES, of a Son.

DEATHS.

LLOYD.—At Ketchikan, Alaska, Nov. 17, 1909, ARTHUR JOHN DOUGLAS, only son of Rev. ARTHUR LLOYD, aged 31. May he rest in peace. (By cable.)

BLUNTSCHLI.—At Zurich, Switzerland, on November 23rd, GEORGES BLUNTSCHLI, of the firm of Sieber & Co. (By cable).

DOMBALLE.—At 3.30 a.m., on the 24th inst., Madame H. DOMBALLE, in her 67th year.

MEIKLEJOHN.—At her residence, No. 11-A, Bluff, at 1 a.m., on the 25th inst., ELIZABETH YUKI MEIKLEJOHN at her 52nd year.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Training and the Second Squadron have proceeded to Port Arthur to attend the unveiling ceremony of the mounment there.

A SENDAI telegram states that the competition between the Standard Oil Company of New York and the Rising Sun Petroleum Company has become very severe.

A SEOUL despatch states that several insurgents were arrested on the 15th instant by the garrison stationed at Tattyon. They are suspected to be accomplices of the rioters who recently attacked Iwon station, on the Seoul-Fusan Line.

THE rendition of Pratas Island being completed, the only thing remaining to be done is the payment of 130,000 *yen* to Mr. Nishizawa. It has been agreed that the payment should be made within 15 days after the rendition of the island.

THE business term of the Bank of Japan expiring in the year 1911, it is reported that the question of increasing the Bank's capital is being discussed in business circles. There are, however, two opinions, one favouring an increase of the capital, whilst the other opposes the proposal.

THE Niiname sai (Harvest Festival) was celebrated in the Imperial Palace at 2 p.m. on the 23rd instant. His Majesty the Emperor, attended by several Princes of the Blood and a number of the high officials of the Imperial Household Department, was present at the ceremony.

RESIDENT-General Viscount Sone is reported to have stated, in connection with the rumoured visit of the Korean Emperor to Japan, that he has heard nothing of any such intention on the part of the Emperor, and that he believes the rumour to have been fabricated by alarmists.

THE Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Shokwa Maru* (2,622 tons) which left Yokohama at 7 a.m. on the 18th instant for Atsuta, Owari Province, ran aground near the Futtsu Battery, not far from Yokohama. The Uraga Dockyard Company immediately despatched a boat to the scene of the accident.

NAKAMURA SHUNJIRO, M.P. for Kanagawa prefecture, and three others, the agents of Mr. Tsuchiya Dujiro, M.P., who had been accused of infringing the election law, were sentenced on the 22nd inst. from one to four months' minor imprisonment. Mr. Yasuji, the son of Mr. Tsuchiya, was acquitted.

RIGAKU HAKUSHI KUSAKABE SHIROTA, a Japanese student studying in England, is reported to have visited various islands in the North Polar region during the last summer vacation. He left Hamburg on August 2 and returned on the 29th of same month, calling at several ports in the Scandinavian Peninsula.

ON the 19th inst., a thief broke into a storehouse belonging to Mr. Oani Naoji, a wealthy farmer of Yamato-mura, Kozagori, Kanagawa prefecture, and marched off with the *Keicho Koban* and other old gold and silver coins valued at some 4,000 *yen*, and several articles of clothing estimated at about 1,000 *yen*. The thief has not yet been arrested.

THE Emperor Francis Joseph on the 28th ultimo conferred the following decorations on the members of the Japanese military mission which has been in that country for some time for the purpose of studying the training and educational systems in vogue in the Austrian Army:—Major-General Hongo, Grand Cross of the Francis Joseph Order; General Staff-Colonels Soroki, Suzuki, Tonosuke, and Sukuki, Iron Crown of the Second Class; Lieut.-Colonel Shiki and Majors Yokomichi Moriye, and Tamura, Commanderships of the Francis Joseph Order.

A SHIZUOKA youth named Koda Seihichi, who is only 18 years old, is reported to have invented an instrument by means of which a fish-torpedo and a submarine-boat can freely be manœuvred without requiring the services of an engineer. He applied for the patent rights on September 27. It is reported that he will carry out experiments in the beginning of next month, off Shinagawa

THE U.S. fleet, recently dispatched to these waters, consisting of eight cruisers, under the command of Admiral Sebree, arrived at Manila on October 31st and anchored outside the breakwater. The first division, with the flagship of the Admiral, the *Tennesse*, at the head was in the first line, and the second division, commanded by Admiral Barry, on the flagship *West Virginia*, formed the second.

THE Japanese exhibitors who have received gold medals at the Alaska-Yukon Pacific Exhibition are 132 in all. The principal of them are the Tokyo Printing Company, the Okayama Forestry Association, the Kansai Silk Company, the Osaka Glass Manufacturing Company, the Oriental Mousseline Company, the Toyama Silk Weavers' Guild, the Osaka Copper-ware Manufacturing Company, the Kobayashi Dentifrice Manufacturing Company, etc.

THE quantity of coal forwarded from the Chikuho (North-eastern Kyushu) collieries to Moji, Wakamatsu, and other places during October was, says the *Nagasaki Press* 567,465 tons, an increase of 81,740 tons over the figures for the previous month. The output of the Miike collieries, which are owned by the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, during October was 137,559 tons; the quantity sent to various places was 116,071 tons, of which 23,352 tons went to Kuchinotsu and 14,302 tons to Nagasaki.

THE leading members of the Tokyo Bankers Club gave a dinner on the evening the 22nd instant to Baron Uchida, Ambassador to Washington; Mr. Arakawa, Minister to Madrid; Mr. Hiraoka, Governor of Karafuto, and Surgeon-General Tsujimura. Baron Uchida delivered an address, in the course of which he said that he hoped the influential bankers would exert themselves to the utmost in order to fulfil the peaceful mission of Japan in the Far East. Mr. Arakawa and others made speeches on the subject of industry.

A CLERK named Esawa Shosei, belonging to the Naval Accountants' Bureau, who has since the beginning of last year embezzled some 7,000 *yen* of Government funds, drew 3,000 *yen* more on the 20th instant from the Second Bank, and absconded with the money. It is alleged that the chief of the Bureau having discovered the offence, ordered Esawe on that day to transfer his official business to his successor. A colleague named Miwa Daisuke is said to be an accomplice, having received 1,000 *yen* from Esawa on the above date.

THE graduation ceremony of the Naval Cadet School at Edajima, was held on the 19th instant in the presence of Prince Takeda, who represented the Emperor. Baron Saito, Minister of the Navy, Admiral Togo and several other high naval officers attended the function. Diplomas were awarded to 179 graduates, including Prince Teruhisa Kitashirakawa and 12 others who graduated with the highest honours. The Imperial gifts, consisting of handsome field-glasses, were awarded to the three who distinguished themselves most in their studies.

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CHINA.

Friday, November 19.

The extension of the South Manchuria Railway into the town of Yingkow has been at length effected, and the road is to be opened for traffic to-day. This extension is only 2 miles, but it had been hung up for years prior to the conclusion of the Mukden-Antung Convention. China always insisted upon regarding the road from Tashichiao to Niukiatung as quite independent of the South Manchuria Railway, and as therefore excluded from the purview of the Portsmouth Treaty. She insisted that this section should be restored to her, whereas the Japanese insisted with equal resolution that the line must be regarded as part of the system of railways handed over to them by Russia. There was doubtless some measure of reason on each side, but we may take it for granted that had Russia remained in possession in Manchuria the line in question would never have been transferred to Chinese hands. At all events, so long as this greater question remained open, the lesser problem of continuing the line right into the town of Yingkow was necessarily shelved. Immediately, however, on the signing of the Mukden-Antung Convention, Japan vigorously took the work of construction in hand, and although the length of the extension is only 2 miles, its completion within a space of less than three months is quite a respectable feat of engineering.

The Civil Service examinations in Peking have just been completed. There were 380 candidates, and 285 of them passed successfully, the subjects chiefly chosen being law and politics, while there were comparatively few applicants in the branches of medicine, philosophy and literature. The first 13 places on the list were won by students educated in England and Germany, and the successful candidates included 60 from Waseda University, but neither among these latter nor yet among the students from other Japanese educational institutions were there any prize-winners. We recently reported the result of the military examinations which redounded so greatly to the credit of the Japanese students.

It appears that these civil service examinations just held have caused much discontent. The complaint is that the examiners themselves had no competent knowledge of foreign sciences, and that in apportioning the marks to each student, they were guided mainly by the record of his scholastic career in the country of his education. It is indeed alleged that a regular scale of credits was fixed with reference to the diplomas already possessed by the various students.

Sunday, November 21st.

The organisation of the first part of the Imperial Guards in Peking having proved a success, orders have been issued for enrolling another regiment of infantry with the due proportion of artillery and other arms. The duty of choosing and enrolling the men is said to have been entrusted entirely to the officers of the Eight Banner Corps, so that the force will consist entirely of Manchu. It is alleged that some difficulty is experienced in procuring suitable recruits, owing to the fact that the system of conscription has not yet gone into force.

The German steamship service which has hitherto plied to Chinwangtao during the winter months, is to change its terminus to Dairen this year.

A telegram from Shanghai says that at the instance of the Japanese Consul one of the Chinese vernacular newspapers (*Shengchau Jipao* ?) has been suspended and the editor and publisher are to be tried by the Mixed Court. The offence is the publication of matter impairing Japan's fair fame and injuring the relations between China and Japan.

It will be remembered that the telegraph recently reported a decision by the Local Assembly of Pehchili to enter a strong protest against the last Convention between Japan and China and to demand its cancellation. The latest news with reference to this is that the Assembly has drawn up a memorial in the above sense, and has appointed a committee to arrange for the presentation of the document and to promote the movement.

The people of Shansi have apparently found that their ideas were larger than their purses in the matter of repurchasing the mining concessions granted to an English syndicate some time ago. The repurchase was duly effected, but when it came to paying the money, difficulties supervened. The idea had been to form a local company for working the mines and to pay off the concessionaires with the proceeds of the share subscriptions. But unhappily there were no subscribers. Nothing remained, therefore, except to seek the Peking Treasury's help, and that has been done to the extent of half a million *taels*. Whether the Treasury acceded or not the telegram does not say.

From Tiehling comes news that public opinion is much disturbed by a rumour about the pending partition of the Chinese Empire. The rumour is very explicit. It assigns Mongolia to Russia, Manchuria to Japan, Yunnan and Kweichow to France, a large expansion of territory in the neighbourhood of Hongkong to England, the Yangtsz valley to America and Shantung to Germany. This partition is to be carried into operation on the 1st of next January, according to current report, and the people of Tiehling are so perturbed that trade is palpably injured. These details are given by a telegram to the *Mainichi Dempo* from Tiehling.

There appears to be considerable difficulty in reconciling the Okura Company's statement of the moneys sunk by it in the Penhsihu coal mine with the Chinese estimate of the Company's investment. The difference between the two amounts from 300,000 to 400,000 *yen*, and as Messrs. Okura & Co. naturally refuse to surrender the title to such a sum, the negotiations have reached a deadlock.

On the other hand, the negotiations with reference to the Fushun mine are reported to be progressing favourably, as China is showing considerable broadmindedness.

The *Niroku Shimbun* attributes to Mr. Ishii, Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, a project for bringing about a better understanding between China and Japan by sending a party of Japanese merchants to visit the neighbouring Empire, in the same manner as that pursued with regard to the group of business men now touring the United States. Our contemporary affirms that the preliminaries of this step have already been taken in hand, and that next spring will probably be the time chosen for carrying it out.

Monday, November 22.

The Hankow branch of the association formed in Pehchili under the auspices of the Local Assembly for the purposes of opposing the flotation of any foreign loans in connexion with the building of the Yeh-Han and the Chuan-Han Railways held its second meeting in Hankow, apparently on the 20th inst. One of the orators is described as having become ungovernably excited in denouncing the consequences of such loans and in appealing to the patriotism of the people. He went so far as to cut off his little finger in the presence of the whole Assembly, and of course this dramatic act produced a great sensation among the audience. The telegraph states that promises of domestic capital aggregating 10 million taels have already been recorded, and that there are good prospects of obtaining the whole amount required for the building of the railways without any recourse to foreign aid. It is plain that all this must embarrass the Central Government very seriously. In fact, we do not see that much hope remains of negotiating the loans successfully. But in that case the promises made in Peking will have to be redeemed by some other process, and whatever process be adopted, a new weapon will certainly be placed in the hands of the rights-recovery party. It has often been predicted that the establishment of representative institutions in China would involve very serious results for the Manchu Government, but nobody thought, we imagine, that things would move with the rapidity they are now showing. Everything seems to have happened in a most ill-timed manner. But for the insistence of Germany and subsequently of the United States to participate in the loan, an agreement would doubtless have been signed, sealed and delivered long ago, and even in the face of these delays the meeting of the local assemblies might have been anticipated, had it not been for the death of Chang Chihtung. Undoubtedly the foreign Representatives in Peking have a most difficult task to discharge.

Tuesday, November 23.

If we may credit the accounts sent to Tokyo by the Peking correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun*, some troublesome Court intrigues are not unlikely to disturb the calm of Chinese politics. One incident specially mentioned is that the present Empress Dowager, that is to say, the Consort of the late Emperor, returning from the obsequies of the great Empress Dowager, took precedence of the latter's mortuary tablet. Moreover, after the mortuary tablet had been duly carried back to the city and enshrined, the high personages who attended the funeral did not appear in full strength to burn incense and pay homage. It is incidentally related that some of the ladies of the late Emperor or Empress Dowager's Court—as to this point there is obscurity,—had planned to commit suicide at the grave (presumably of the great Empress Dowager), and there is also a rumour that a scheme was mooted to burn the building where the bier rested *en route* for the cemetery. Except as showing that a spirit of unrest is abroad, we do not trace any connexion between these latter happenings and the plot of which they are said to be features. That plot is to raise the mother of the reigning Emperor, that is to say, the wife of the Prince Regent, to the position of Empress Dowager, at the expense of the Consort of the late Emperor. In fact, it would seem that the intrigues which caused so much trouble even when the powerful hand of the late Empress Dowager grasped the helm of State, are recovering vitality and may cause a fresh commotion in Court circles.

Another somewhat untoward occurrence took place at the obsequies. When the catafalque reached the burial place, a man

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was observed taking a photograph of the scene. He was immediately arrested, as also were five others who had been similarly engaged at various points along the route. On examination it transpired that these men had all been despatched by the Viceroy of Pehchili, his Excellency Tuan Fang, and the whole procedure was officially denounced by Marquis Li Kuochieh, grandson of the late Li Hung Chang and Senior Councillor of the Board of Commerce. The Viceroy of Pehchili is a *persona gratissima* in the eyes of the Prince Regent, and it is thought probable that he may escape with a fine.

The complete surrender of Pratas Island to Chinese ownership was concluded on the 19th inst. All the property of Mr. Nishizawa was handed over to the Chinese Commissioners, and the Yellow Dragon flag was hoisted on the Island to the sound of a salute of 21 guns from the Chinese warships in attendance. It is very gratifying to learn that this troublesome affair has been happily settled. Both sides showed commendable moderation.

Wednesday, November 24.

Contrary to expectation, the arraignment of Viceroy Tuan Fang by the grandson of the late Marquis Li has led to the removal of the Viceroy from his high position, his post being given to Mr. Chên Kuei-lung, now Viceroy of Hu Kuang. It is scarcely credible that such a paltry incident as the sanction given a photographer to take a picture of a public pageant can be the real cause of removing from office one of the most distinguished statesmen in China. We are not surprised, therefore, to read that other reasons are assigned. They are that his Excellency Tuan, on the occasion of a recent audience, admonished the Prince Regent in unequivocal terms about his personal conduct; and, further, that the influence and reputation of the Viceroy have increased so much of late as to render him an object of suspicion and envy in high places.

A correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* who has been an eye-witness of the proceedings of the new Local Assembly at Mukden sends to his journal an account which represents the institution and its working in a somewhat unfavourable light. He says that the 50 members of the association consist of 30 who have qualified to be office-holders; 8 who are actually local officials, and 12 *bonâ fide* representatives of the people. Naturally, they have little or no idea of the canons of procedure and the methods of debate. This was vividly illustrated when the first batch of bills came before the Assembly for consideration. They were passed as quickly as they could be read, and then the Assembly, finding itself with nothing to do, decided to reconsider the same bills.

There is a somewhat puzzling account in the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo* with regard to the steps recently taken by the railway authorities to bring the line right into the town of Yingkow. The perplexing feature of the account is that it represents two new lines as having been built for the purpose, namely, one direct from Niukiatun to Yingkow, and the other from the latter place to a point on the main line between Niukiatun and Tashihchao. The object of the second line is not clearly stated, but it probably has to do with goods' transport.

There has been a raid by mounted bandits on the office of an engineer named Mr. Sawa at Santaitsz in the region between Mukden and Antung. It took place on the night of the 22nd inst. The bandits carried off about 200 *yen*, and killed two Japanese, wounding three severely and six slightly.

The Chili Local Assembly has formally conveyed to the Waiwupu its protest against the Mukden-Antung Treaty, and its request that the Treaty should be advocated. The Waiwupu, of course, will take no action in such a sense. It is further stated that the Assembly, not finding time to discharge all the business presenting itself, has asked that its session should be extended for ten days.

Thursday, November 25.

The Hunghutsz in Manchuria are evidently disposed to supply a practical answer to the Chinese Government's claim that the Japanese railway guards on the Mukden-Antung line must be removed. They have made no less than three raids during the past few days, and have caused no little injury to life and property. There does not appear to be the least warrant for reading a political motive into these doings. They seem to be robbery, pure and simple. The bandits have obtained information of the fact that considerable sums of money are just now in process of transfer from the railway authorities to the Chinese subjects whose lands have been purchased for laying the line, and these robbers are determined that a share of the silver shall come into their own pockets. In the face of such proceedings, it is not easy to see how the Chinese Government can insist on the withdrawal of the Japanese railway guards.

A few days ago the telegraph stated that a serious difference existed between the Okura Company's statement of the monies invested by it in the Penhsihu coal mine and the Chinese commissioners' estimate of the same. But a later message affirms that this discrepancy is trifling, and that an amicable settlement is in sight. It has therefore been decided to conclude the Penhsihu agreement first, and then to proceed with the negotiations relating to Fushun.

THE NEW CHINESE REPRESENTATIVE IN WASHINGTON.

The newly appointed Chinese Representative to the United States, Mr. Chang Yin-Tang, has been interviewed at Nagasaki *en route* for his post. It appears that he was at one time Secretary of Legation in Washington and subsequently Chinese Consul in San Francisco, but he evidently made no resolute attempt to utilize these opportunities for mastering the English language, as he invariably now pleads ignorance of it. So far as Mr. Chang's record is known to the public, his name is connected solely with Tibetan affairs. He accompanied Mr. Tang Shaoyi to Calcutta five years ago, in connexion with the negotiation of the Tibet Convention; he was appointed Special Commissioner to investigate the affairs of Tibet in 1905; he became Assistant-Resident in Lhassa in 1906, and he negotiated the Tibet trade regulations last year. His latest post has been that of Acting Junior Councillor to the Waiwupu. It is evident that he has at all events one qualification for the diplomatic service, namely, circumspection: the newspaper correspondents could get nothing whatever out of him at Nagasaki. They report that he is accompanied by 17 students who are going to America to complete their education, and that he has an immense quantity of baggage, but this latter item of intelligence became familiar long ago in connexion with Chinese Plenipotentiaries going abroad.

RAILWAY QUESTIONS IN CHINA.

It is reported from Peking that at a recent meeting held by the high officials of the Waiwupu a decision was arrived at to reject the application of an Anglo American Syndicate with reference to furnishing capital for the proposed Kinchow-Tsitsihar Railway. It was with regard to this line that so many rumours recently found their way into circulation, and it was in reply to China's inquiries that Japan was reported to have said that while the road would certainly fall under the definition of parallelism to the South Manchuria Railway, she was not prepared to veto its construction under certain conditions. Whether there was any truth in these stories we are not in a position to say, but we have no hesitation in repeating our previous assertion that the proposed line would constitute a heavy drain upon the resources of the Central Treasury for several years at all events.

Another telegram from Peking says that the Board of Communications is in receipt of messages from the Viceroys of Szchuan and Hukwan, stating that public opinion in those provinces is strongly averse to the employment of foreign capital for building either the Yeh-Han or the Chuan-Han line. It certainly looks as though this complication would never be solved in favour of the foreign capitalists. We must say frankly that after every allowance has been made for the rights-recovery mania, the residuum of blame, and it is not at all a small residuum, rests on the shoulders of foreigners themselves. So soon as they engaged in a scramble among themselves to secure the sweets of the concession, it became a foregone conclusion that the Chinese would develop aversion to conceding anything, and would infer that they had better keep for their own eating a plum of which foreign nations showed so much anxiety to get a bite.

MR. CRANE.

We have not yet heard the last of the Crane incident. The New York correspondent of the *Mainichi Dempo* telegraphs that Mr. Crane is openly attributing his recall to the machinations of Japanese or of Japan's friends in America. On the other hand, the same correspondent wires that the moderate section of American citizens are pleased to think that the United States will not be represented in Peking by a Minister having for private secretary a man so likely as Mr. Millard to disturb the relations between Washington and Tokyo.

We may mention here that the *Nippon* has published a series of 8 articles severely attacking the views expressed by Mr. Millard in his recent work. It is quite useless for Mr. Millard to contend that he is actuated by motives of justice and benevolence. He must be read by the light of his own printed expressions, and that a Japanese newspaper should find those expressions prejudiced and offensive is not at all surprising. We who live in the Far East are unfortunately only too familiar with that peculiar type of publicist who while devoting himself to blacken Japan's reputation, pretends all the while that he is doing it for her good. The public is not to be thus easily deceived. It remembers the words of wisdom—"by their speech ye shall know them."

MR. IKARI SAWAO, Chief of the Yuzawa post-office in Osumi province, has absconded with 3,000 *yen* of the Government funds.

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KOREA.

Saturday, November 20.

It appears from the Seoul correspondent of the *Asahi Shimbun* that political parties in Korea threaten to be troublesome. The telegraphic analyses of these movements, sent from Seoul, generally prove so misleading that one hesitates to accept any of them wholesale. The *Asahi's* correspondent, however, wires with great assurance. He says that when Mr. Cho, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, was recently in Tokyo, he visited Marquis Katsura and urged that steps should be at once taken to break up the recently-formed coalition of three parties in Korea, as their combined action would certainly prove most embarrassing to the Cabinet. Marquis Katsura is reported to have replied that he could not for a moment entertain such a representation. If it were made at all, it should be addressed to the Residency-General, and for his own part he saw no necessity for the suggested step. News of this procedure on Mr. Cho's part having reached Seoul, is said to have still further exasperated the three parties against the Government, and it is reported that a fourth party has now sprung into existence, having for its maintenance fund the estates of the various Confucian shrines throughout the provinces and enjoying Christian support. This party consists of followers of Confucius, in other words, of literati, and it is said to be strongly opposed to the combination which menaces the present Cabinet. We are perplexed, however, to comprehend how any association of Korean literati can be credited with liberal views.

Another telegram to the same journal quotes Mr. Chong, who was one of the Korean representatives at the obsequies of Prince Ito, and attributes to him the remarkable opinion—remarkable for a Korean—that the present state of uncertainty is highly perilous to the welfare of Korea, and that it would be wiser to resort to the final step (*saigo no shochi*), by which we interpret him to mean annexation. Mr. Chong says that he intends to agitate in support of this view, for which purpose he will invite a meeting of provincial delegates in the capital. Of course it is very conceivable that law-abiding folks in Korea may have become weary of the state of unrest and uncertainty prevailing in their country, and may be longing earnestly for the stable and prosperous conditions which they are coming to recognise in Japan.

One of the difficult features of the situation is that the Korean agitators find asylums in Vladivostock, Hawaii and San Francisco. They have organs there which write in the bitterest and most incendiary strain, declaring any weapon to be legitimate so long as it is wielded in the cause of the country's independence. The hot-blooded youths who edit these journals do not confine themselves to preaching from their high stools. They also lend active aid to the propagandism of crime, and it is plain that unless measures be adopted for checking this perpetual incitement to violence, dire consequences must result. Rumour alleges that the Japanese Government are devising means of dealing with the danger.

It is well known that the second of Mr. Stevens' assassins is now residing safely in Vladivostock, and there can be no doubt that the connivance or perfunctoriness of the police in San Francisco which rendered his escape possible, has had an exceedingly injurious effect in encouraging similar acts of lawlessness.

The *Seoul Press* seems to have got itself into some trouble. On the 19th inst. it published a leading article the text of which is not yet to hand, but which dealt in very scathing terms with the Tokyo movement of barristers and journalists in favour of the final annexation of Korea. We can not for our own part think that such a movement deserves to be treated with ridicule. So far as Korea herself is concerned, we are persuaded that the kindest and wisest course would be to place her finally and thoroughly under Japan's tutelary wing. But, unhappily, Korea's welfare is not the only factor in the problem, and at any rate the present is not the time for discussing such a measure.

Sunday, November 21.

The Prime Minister of Korea was under examination in the Japanese Civil Court at Seoul for two hours on the 19th, in connexion with what is alleged to have been a fraudulent transaction in land eight years ago. This is the first case of any importance tried by the newly-organised courts in Korea, and it is consequently watched with exceptional interest. Telegrams from Seoul attempt to give particulars of the charge, but we find it impossible to construe any intelligible story out of these materials. All that can be said is that a sum of 100,000 *yen* is at stake, and that the Consort of the ex-Emperor is said to be implicated. Of course the administrative methods pursued in Korea eight years ago left a great deal to be desired.

The Korean Court has addressed to the Emperor of Japan a telegram expressing high appreciation of the appointment of Prince Iwakura to the position of Grand Tutor of the Prince Imperial in succession to the late Prince Ito.

The Seoul correspondent of the Tokyo *Asahi* says that it has been officially suggested to Viscount Sone that his return to Japan for purposes of consultation would be opportune at this juncture. He has replied, however, that he is not in a condition to make the journey at present. The correspondent adds that, although not actually confined to bed, the Viscount is in a very debilitated condition, and it is thought that he will return to Japan in the middle of December, partly in order to avoid the season of great cold in Seoul.

There appear to be two rumours now occupying popular attention in Seoul. One is that a change of the Minister of the Imperial Household is imminent; the other, that the ex-Emperor has decided to visit Japan by way of expressing regret for the death of Prince Ito. The Korean capital is at present in a credulous mood, and reports emanating thence are to be accepted with great caution.

Tuesday, November 23.

The Confederation of three parties in Korea is occupying a considerable share of public attention at present. The leaders of the Confederation are credited with a desire to make political capital out of the assassination of Prince Ito. The plan pursued by them is to insist that one of two measures is essential to evince the nation's abhorrence of the crime committed at Harbin. Those measures are a journey by the Emperor of Korea to Japan or the resignation of the Cabinet *en bloc*. The former procedure is well understood to have been disapproved by public opinion, and therefore the latter alone remains feasible. Indeed, it is at the latter alone that the leaders of the Confederation are aiming. They are not supposed to be seriously troubled about a national demonstration of regret. What they want is to bring about a change of Ministry, and they are said to have already arranged for all the new office-holders, a majority of whom would be chosen from their own ranks and the rest taken from members of the present Cabinet and from the elder Statesmen. Rumour says that the Residency-General has been approached by the Confederation in the sense of a change of Ministry, but no one supposes that the Residency-General will consent to anything of the kind at the present juncture. On the other hand, it is evident that this Confederation has to be reckoned with as a political factor of no small importance.

The question of a special Chinese settlement at Seoul threatened at one moment to assume troublesome dimensions, but seems to be now on the verge of amicable arrangement owing to the conciliatory attitude of the Peking authorities. The latter are said to have adopted the view that a matter of such secondary importance should not be allowed to disturb the relations between neighbouring countries, and they have therefore signified their readiness to make concessions such as will secure a solution.

The movement in favour of erecting a monument in Seoul in honour of the Emperor of Japan seems to be gaining adherence among leading Korean officials. The proximate cause of the movement is the language of the Imperial Decree recently issued in connexion with the assassination of Prince Ito, in which document his Majesty frankly declared that the Korean nation has not strength to defend itself and must rely upon the protection of Japan. The proposed monument would be at once an affirmation of that principle and an acknowledgment that Korea recognises the benefits she has received, and is receiving, at Japan's hands. The Japanese themselves, if we may judge from the tone of the Tokyo newspapers, are not disposed to regard this movement as inspired by any great measure of sincerity. They speak of it as a device for "conciliating by worship." There was a time when among the sights of Seoul men reckoned a colossal gate, erected specially for the purpose of giving access to the Chinese Embassies which occasionally visited the capital of Korea when she was still recognised as a Chinese protectorate. This gate has ceased to exist, but the spirit which led to its erection is read into the new movement for a monument to the Emperor of Japan. We can not discover whether the idea is to set up a statue or to build some other kind of memento, but it will of course rest with the Emperor of Japan to decline or to sanction the proposed token of respect.

THE ASSASSIN.

Friday, November 19.

Tokyo leading journals continue to startle their readers with reports of the facts elicited at the magisterial inquiry in Port Arthur. We recently epitomised 15 reasons said to have been alleged by the prisoner in justification of his heinous crime. That piece of intelligence was taken from the columns of the *Asahi Shimbun*, and we reproduced it since there was just the barest possibility that the assassin might have contrived to elude the vigilance of the prison authorities and to obtain publicity for such a document. But what is to be said of a story now sent across the wires by the correspondent of the *Mainichi Dempo* to the effect that An Chungkeun has confessed that he is one of

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a band of 26 men who were commissioned by high officials in Seoul to perpetrate the murder, and that he rejoices to have been himself the successful one. Surely it ought to occur to our Tokyo contemporary that if ever the secrecy prescribed by law was likely to be strictly observed by the officials concerned in a preliminary examination, it would be in a case such as that now proceeding at Port Arthur. And it ought further to have been plain to our contemporary that, among all particulars carefully guarded against publicity, none would have been kept more secret than a confession such as the Mukden correspondent now attributes to An. We have no hesitation in affirming that not the smallest grain of truth is to be found either in the story of the 15 reasons or in that of this officially commissioned band of 26 assassins. Why should such wild canards be published? They can only tend to disturb public feeling and to foster a sentiment of anger in the breasts of Japanese towards the Koreans. Canards can not be wholly avoided, but on an occasion so momentous as the present the public has certainly a right to expect that newspaper editors will exercise some circumspection. We may take it as axiomatic that nothing which transpires at the preliminary examination of An will reach the public's ears until the man's trial takes place in open court. For our own part we go a great deal farther, since we are disposed to hope that there never will be an open court at all in this case. To try An publicly would be merely to supply him with a platform from which to proclaim views calculated to inspire imitators of his crime. By inviting the presence of two or three foreign officials it should be quite easy to guarantee the tribunal against any silly suspicion of prejudice or unfairness; but as to allowing the public at large to partake in the trial, there can be no second opinion, we think, about the unwisdom of anything of the kind.

Saturday, November 20.

Mr. Nakagawa, Chief Public Procurator of the Local Court in Seoul, has returned to that city from Port Arthur, whither he proceeded in connexion with the trial of the assassin. He is quoted as saying that facts have transpired which will probably have the effect of prolonging the preliminary inquiry for some weeks more, and he adds that many of the statements made by the murderer have been proved to be false.

Prince Ito's successor, Mr. Ito Hirokuni, who used formerly to be known as Mr. Ito Yukichi, reached Harbin on the 19th inst. *en route* for Vladivostock. He will succeed to Prince Ito's title, the late Prince's second adopted son, Mr. Ito Bunkichi, having received the rank of Baron.

Monday, November 22.

The Russian authorities at Vladivostock seem to have adopted special precautions for the protection of Mr. Ito Hirokuni on his arrival in that city. They caused a guard to be posted and did not allow anyone to approach him, even a Russian subject. The Russian authorities know how to manage these matters in a thorough manner, and it must remain a perennial pity that a perfectly free hand was not left to them on the occasion of Prince Ito's arrival at Harbin. Mr. Ito is quoted as stating that the terrible news reached him for the first time when he landed at Genoa, but as he had known nothing of his father's intention to visit Harbin, he was unable at first to credit the news. It would seem that the precautions taken by the Russian police at Vladivostock were not superfluous, for two Koreans of questionable appearance were observed apparently shadowing Mr. Ito.

Tokyo newspapers publish the names and occupations of the eight men who are under arrest as accomplices of the assassin. We learn that An himself was formerly a hunter at Pyongyando, and that three of his accomplices were in the tobacco trade and two in the drug trade; while as to the remaining two nothing is stated.

It is alleged journalistically in Tokyo that the First Bank undertook, free of all charges, the duty of transmitting to Tokyo the sum of 100,000 *yen* granted by the Korean Government to the family of the late Prince Ito.

DEATH OF MR. ANDO SOKUMEI.

Mr. Ando Sokumei expired on the 23rd inst. at 1 p.m., aged 82. At the time of his death he was an Imperial nominee in the House of Peers, but the great event of his life occurred in 1879 when, as Assistant Chief of the Tokyo Police, he had to undertake the duty of investigating the forgery of bank-notes charged against the Fujita Company. The story current at the time was that the Fujita Firm had imported machinery from Germany for the purpose of manufacturing *kinsatsu*, and Mr. Kawaji, then Chief of the Metropolitan Police, was despatched to Europe to trace the provenance of the machinery, so that the duty of conducting the inquiry devolved solely upon Mr. Ando. The wildest possible rumours found currency at the time. Mr. Kawaji died immediately after leaving Japan, and it was glibly alleged that he had been poisoned. Then, when General Oyama was appointed his successor, and when the prosecution was abandoned, people did not hesitate to say that the Fujita Firm had used bribes in such high places as to render close investigation impossible. They further asserted that Ando's removal from office was due entirely to his obstinacy in pushing the inquiry. In fact, it was a wild time. The commotion caused by the Satsuma Rebellion had not yet fully subsided; the Itagaki political campaign was in full swing, and the Okuma dissension in the Cabinet was beginning to threaten. At such a season, rumour found much material, and for a long period Ando Sokumei and his retirement attracted great attention. All these things now sound like dreams of the past, but they are recalled vividly by the death of Mr. Ando. He was a special protegé of Saigo Takamori, whose confidence he possessed in the fullest measure.

THE CHRYSANTHEMUM GARDEN PARTY.

Beautiful weather favoured the Imperial Chrysanthemum Party on the 19th instant, and the autumnal tints being at their best, the Akasaka Park presented a scene of great loveliness. It would be difficult to say which excited the greater admiration, the landscape or the flowers. The latter were of unsurpassed excellence and immense variety, a veritably Imperial display. Single blossoms of extraordinary size and richness vied with multifloral shrubs bearing hundreds of flowers. The Emperor and Empress arrived at about 3 o'clock, and walked slowly to the refreshment pavilions, bowing to right and left as they passed down the lines of guests. Two thousand invitations had been issued and a rough estimate put the number present at about fifteen hundred. Their Majesties withdrew at a quarter-past four o'clock, and the Party then broke up.

THE LAND TAX.

We stated in a recent issue that an agreement was said to have been come to between the Cabinet and the *Seiyu kai*, in the sense that if the former undertook to reduce the rate of the land tax by 1 per cent. from 1911, the latter would allow the question to stand over until then. But we now read in the columns of the *Asahi* that certain members of the *Seiyu-kai* are inclined to ask for something more definite than a mere verbal promise from the Premier. These politicians are careful not to express the obvious doubt that 1911 may not find the present Cabinet still in office, and that in such an event a new Ministry might ignore the pledges given by its predecessor. What they say is simply that they wish to be guaranteed against financial vicissitudes such as might warrant the Government in turning its back upon its promises when the time comes for implementing them. They therefore ask that a bill for lowering the tax be submitted this session, the date of operation being postponed till 1911.

It seems not impossible that this land-tax problem may assume serious dimensions. The temptation to win popularity by the trite device of advocating reduced taxation offers special temptations to politicians at a time when the people's burdens are decidedly heavy, as they are at present. We are not surprised to find something very like rivalry among the various political parties as to who shall appropriate the prestige of taking the lead in this matter of the land tax.

Meanwhile Viscount Kiyoura, of the Privy Council, is quoted by the Tokyo press as saying that, while he does not disapprove of a reduction of the land tax, he doubts greatly whether the time is ripe for such a measure. An important diminution of revenue must be preceded by some plan for providing a substitute, and the only substitute immediately in sight is the Customs. When revision of the treaties is effected, it may be expected that the tariff will be amended so as to provide a considerable increase of revenue; and after that is effected, it will be a suitable time to talk of land-tax reduction.

VISCOUNT SUYEMATSU.

Viscount Suyematsu is quoted as explaining that he had three reasons for resigning his post as Principal Educational Official in the Household of the Korean Prince Imperial. It has been publicly affirmed that his chief motive was a sense of inability to discharge the duties of his office, now that Prince Ito was no longer present to direct him. But that was not his reason. He would never have accepted the post at all, had he been conscious of such incompetence on his own part. The real reasons were, first, that anticipating a complete reconstruction of the educational officials, he had deemed it more graceful on his own part to step aside and leave the coast clear. In the next case, and perhaps principally, he had certain suggestions to offer, and he felt that they would not come from him with full propriety if he retained his post near the Prince. In short his idea was to leave a free hand to others, and to obtain a free hand for himself. But he emphatically denies that the tragic event has prejudiced him in any way against the Korean nation, or has suggested to him in any degree the propriety of a change of policy on Japan's part.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

Friday, November 19.

On the 18th inst. the Tokyo Railway Company, through its President, Baron Senge, definitely refused to entertain the Municipality's proposal for the purchase of the Railway at a price of 58 million *yen*. The Mayor is said to have inquired what sum then would satisfy the Company, but Baron Senge replied that that point had not yet been considered by the Directors. It now transpires that the Government has abstained throughout from indicating any price, and that the Municipality made their estimate on the basis formerly adopted by the Government for the purpose of nationalizing the private railways. But there is an obviously unfair element in the adoption of such a basis. That element is that the dividends earned by a company are taken as the main factors in framing the estimate, whereas in the case of the Tokyo Railway the dividends during the past two years have been forced down artificially by the Government's refusal to allow the Company to charge a reasonable fare. There is further said to be a divergence of views with regard to the items of the estimate. The Company claims that, in the sequel of experience, it finds a million *yen* a year too large an appropriation on account of maintenance, and that the surplus ought to be counted as profit, whereas the Municipality has included the whole of this sum among operating expenses. It is here that a difference of 7 million *yen* presents itself between the 58 million *yen* arrived at by the Municipality and the 65 million *yen* of the Company, But the Company has not said that it will accept 65 million *yen*. It has merely stated that that is the proper estimate. Meanwhile, public opinion still seems confident that a compromise will be agreed to, and indeed it would be strange if such were not the result of all this time and trouble.

Saturday, November 20.

It may well be supposed that the Directors and shareholders of the Tokyo Railway Company are somewhat irate. After all, it is their property about which this long-continued municipal and official movement has been going on, and yet they are treated as though they were complete outsiders. In fact, the only people who have been seriously considered are the Government officials. The consent of these was sought in the first instance and the price to be offered for the Railway was fixed in accordance with an estimate of the Government's idea, but as for the Company itself no account whatever was taken of it. Finally, in the sequel of weeks of agitation and suspense, the Company is invited to accept a price 20 millions less than the City offered for the same property a year ago; a price far below the quotation now ruling in the open market, and so small that there never could have been the slightest expectation of its acceptance. We do not find it at all unnatural that the Company should be incensed by such treatment. Where the responsibility rests for such a fiasco we can not pretend to say, but we observe that the Tokyo newspapers are disposed to lay the blame upon the head of the Mayor. There is a great deal to be said on the whole subject, for by this time foreign opinion has become pretty clearly defined.

Sunday, November 21.

Negotiations appear to be still going on *sub rosa* between the Tokyo Railway Company and the Municipality. There seems to be just a possibility of each side agreeing on the basis of 63 million *yen*, which would mean about 67 *yen* net per share, assuming the market price of the City's bonds to be 93. Of course, it would be absurd to suppose that one offer on the part of the Municipality and one refusal on the part of the Company will terminate the whole affair. Each side must have a margin of possible concession. Considering that the City last year offered 78 million *yen* payable in 6 per cent. bonds, it should certainly be now able to afford 63 million *yen* paid in 5 per cent. bonds.

It is stated with apparent confidence that the dividend by the Company for the current half year will be 6 or 6½ per cent.

Monday, November 22.

There is nothing definite to report this morning. On the evening of the 21st inst. the *Hochi Shimbun* published a statement that the Company had definitely refused all further negotiations, and that municipalization was at an end. But this was not confirmed by the morning papers on the 22nd. On the contrary, they all agreed in saying that an agreement was pretty sure to be reached within the course of a few days. From the assertions of these journals we gather that Mr. Kondo Rempei, Mr. Fukuhara and Mr. Okura have agreed to act as mediators between the Company and the Municipality, and it is alleged that they have held a meeting with the Mayor to arrange details. Mr. Amenomiya also is said to be interesting himself actively. One factor responsible for the difference in the two estimates is that experience has now showed that to set aside a million *yen* annually for purposes of maintenance is excessive, and that less than one-half of that amount would suffice. If a corresponding addition be made to the basis of estimate, the purchase price is increased immediately by several millions. It must be confessed, however, that in the matter of this maintenance fund the Company's procedure has not been above criticism. Their original appropriation was evidently excessive, and their experts have to be blamed for erroneous calculations.

Tuesday, November 23.

Public opinion seems to be divided this morning as to the probabilities of municipalization. What we gather from sources apparently authentic — as for example a statement made by the Mayor and published by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and a report presented to the council of aldermen by Mr. Nakajima on the 22nd inst.—is that there is no insuperable difficulty so far as the Municipality and the Company are concerned, but everyone seems to doubt whether the Government will allow any departure from the terms already offered by the Municipality. In fact, it seems to be generally believed that the Government has grown cold towards the project of municipalization. We find it very difficult to believe this, however. There may be, and certainly are, objections to municipalization from an academic point of view, but it must be universally recognised that the problem of the Tokyo Railway can only be solved in one of two ways, namely, by municipalization or by sanctioning an increase of fare. The Government must recognise that fact as plainly as anybody else recognises it.

Wednesday, November 24.

The public must be pretty weary by this time of the question of municipalization, but as large issues are concerned, it is well to watch the progress of events. Nothing can be said at present, except that conferences are being held between the principal shareholders and the members of the Aldermen's Council, and that, so far as these two bodies are concerned, an agreement could be come to without delay. The Government is the Sphinx whose utterances are needed to solve the situation, but it seems to be exceedingly difficult to seek, or to obtain, a response from that oracle. Truly the Japanese must be described as official-ridden. It was the Government that took in the first instance the very exceptional step of announcing its willingness to sanction municipalization, and nothing seems to us less likely than that the same Government would insist upon terms such as must render its own permit null and void. If the question be not settled now, it is difficult to see what can be done in the future.

Thursday, November 25.

There is nothing to report about the municipalization problem this morning. What is wanted is evidently a *deux ex machinâ* to bring the two sides together. The newspapers have a good deal to say about what this person is doing or what that person is doing, but we need not devote any space to such details.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE EXHIBITION.

According to a statement made by Baron Oura, Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, the preparations for the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition are proceeding apace. It appears that the number of exhibitors who have thus far qualified for State aid is 1,283, and the number of their exhibits 19,944. Among these the following are catalogued:—

Exhibitors.	Nature of Exhibits.	Number of Exhibits.
43	Educational	3,083
166	Agricultural	1,112
10	Potted Shrubs	2,842
36	Forestry	348
3	Implements of the chase	96
20	Mining	657
64	Marine Products	3,510
260	Sericultural	260
49	Edibles	187

In addition to the above, 40 firms have applied to send exhibits entirely at their own charges, and among these the following have asked for space measuring 160 square yards or upwards, namely:—The Kyoto Kyosan-kai; the Mitsui Bussan; Mr. Kawashima Jimbei; the Tokyo Exhibition Association; the Yusen Kaisha and Mr. Iida Shinshichi.

The well-known Tokyo landscape-gardener whose garden in Shiba is known as the Taiko-en, has just finished the construction of two models of Japanese landscape-gardens. These are to be sent to the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition. They have been made to the order of the Tokyo Municipality at a cost of 6,900 *yen*. The dimensions of each are 12ft. by 7, and while one is a complete composition conforming strictly with all the rules of Japanese landscape gardening, the other is on a somewhat abridged scale, so as to illustrate the style of the tea ceremonial canons. Each model has buildings representing the best types of Japanese architecture, and an inspection of these exhibits will serve to convey to the eyes of foreigners a perfectly clear idea of Japanese taste in this matter. The models were shown to the public for several days ended on the 21st inst.

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DOMESTIC POLITICS.

According to public information an agreement has been come to between the *Seiyu-kai* and the Government with regard to the much talked of reduction of the land tax. The agreement is that the great Party will not raise the question during the pending session of the Diet on condidition that the Cabinet promises to make a reduction of one per cent. in 1911. One per cent. means 15 million *yen* approximately, and of course it is not to be supposed that the Government could readjust its estimates to that extent at a moment's notice. On the other hand, the Progressists and some of the minor Parties are said to insist upon an immediate reduction of ½ per cent., which would mean only 7½ millions. There does not appear to be any likelihood of the latter view obtaining the support of the majority, but at all events it may be said that the question of the land tax is again thrusting itself into the forefront of domestic politics.

Mr. Matsuda Masahisa, who held the portfolio of Finance in the last Cabinet, and who now may be called the Vice-President of the *Seiyu-kai*, is reported to share the opinion assigned anonymously to a leading member of that Party by Tokyo newspapers on the 24th inst. In other words, he considers it necessary to place the reduction of the land tax on a basis firmer than a mere verbal pledge from the Ministry. Referring evidently to Viscount Kiyoura's quoted opinion that such a considerable diminution of revenue ought not to be contemplated until some substitute is in sight, and that the only available substitute is tariff reform, Mr.. Matsuda objects that the income accruing from the revised tariff has already been appropriated in anticipation, according to the Government's financial programme, and he further insists that, if additional funds come into the Treasury, they will surely be appropriated for naval expansion. He thinks, therefore, that a bill should be introduced in the pending session providing that from 1911 the land tax shall be reduced by one per cent.

It looks as though this issue were likely to occupy a prominent place in the next session of the Diet. One can not be at all surprised that people should be looking anxiously for a reduction of taxation. They have shown themselves remarkably patient in consenting to the permanent imposition of taxes which were originally assessed on a war basis. The only question is whether the pruning-knife should be applied in the first place to the land tax. Many voices of complaint have been raised during the past two years against the transit tax, the salt tax and the textile fabrics tax. These have been known as the Three Evil Taxes, whereas, on the other hand, very little has been heard about the land tax. The land tax, however, affects the agricultural classes most closely, and the agricultural classes are conspicuously powerful at the polls. These considerations suggest that a desire to make political capital, rather than to consult the interests of sound finance, has prompted this land tax scheme.

A FACTORY LAW ("KOJO HOAN").

As far back as 1896 the Japanese Government contemplated some legislation for the better regulation of the relations between employers and employed. A draft of law was actually prepared for that purpose, and having received the Cabinet's approval, was submitted for examination by business men in the year 1902. Thereafter nothing more was heard of it. Whether the business men pigeon-holed it or whether it was thrust out of sight by the overwhelmingly grave crisis then beginning to confront the nation, we can not tell, but for fully seven years the matter has been allowed to remain in abeyance. There is of course no very pressing need for such legislation in present-day Japan, but on the principle of taking time by the forelock, it seems unquestionably wise that this country should endeavour to avert any acute development of the problem which is causing so much embarrassment in the Occident. According to the *Kokumin Shimbun*, the number of hands employed in Japanese factories at present is 742,000, of whom 350,000 are men and 392,000 women. Such figures look very insignificant in the context of European and American statistics, but, on the other hand, the growth of factories in Japan has been exceptionally rapid, and the corresponding effect upon the labour market has been acute. Now is the time therefore for Japan to put her house in order instead of waiting until it falls into a state of commotion.

The draft of the proposed labour law was presented to a meeting of employers and journalists on the 24th inst. at the Department of Agriculture and Commerce. The history of the measure and its main objects were explained very fully by Mr. Kanokogi, head of the Manufactures Bureau. He spoke at considerable length, setting forth the reasons which dictate such legislation in the interests of humanity, health and efficiency. All this, however, need not be repeated, as it is merely taken from the experience of foreign countries. The interesting features of the law are that it imposes a general veto on the employment of children under 12 years of age for factory purposes, but there is a saving clause which says that such employment may be permitted in special circumstances. Girls of 14 years of age and upwards, and lads of 16 and upwards, are not to be permitted to work together in the same department. At least 2 holidays per month must be given to all female hands and to male labourers under 16 years of age, and persons falling within either of these categories must not be required to work more than 12 hours daily. Children over 12 and under 14 years of age must not be put upon night labour. All persons working for an interval of from 6 hours to 10 must have at least 45 minutes to rest; and those working for over ten hours must be given at least one full hour of repose. In factories where deleterious materials are handled, no one under 16 years of age may be employed. There is also a provision that in case of injury to life or limb, without any fault on the part of the injured person, due compensation must be made by the factory.

Mr. Wada, Chief Managing Director of the Fuji Spinning Company, is quoted as criticising the draft law on the ground that that it does not go far enough. Its provisions are not as favourable to the labouring class as is the actual practice of employers. Thus, while the bill provides two days' rest per month, the Fuji factory allows four; and the time of recreation during working hours is 30 minutes at noon, and 15 minutes each in the forenoon and the afternoon. Moreover no one under 16 years of age is employed, except by special desire of the parents or other members of the family. Mr. Wada is also disposed to ridicule the 12 hours restriction in the case of males of 16 and females of any age. He declares that that limit is already in operation with regard to persons of all ages. It is a limit prescribed by nature. Neither man nor woman can work longer, and if they do work longer on special occasions, they have to be paid for extra time, which is very bad economy from the employers' point of view.

The great complaint seems to be that instead of attempting to regulate the vital question of the relations between capital and labour, the bill leaves all this to be determined by ordinance and regulation, so that the whole problem may be said to be entrusted to official discretion. It is not expected that such a measure will find favour with the Diet.

JAPANESE EMIGRATION TO BRAZIL.

Some measure of success appears to be attending the emigration of Japanese subjects to Brazil. In 1907 the Imperial Emigration Company concluded a contract for the despatch of 3,000 emigrants, and 700 of them were sent last year without any contretemps. Accordingly the Company—which is one of a few enterprises of the kind that has an entirely fair record—is now said to be preparing for the despatch of the remaining 2,300, and has entrusted the duty of collecting and examining them to Mr. Takemura, of Kochi Prefecture. In connexion with this prospect, the Foreign Office in Tokyo is said to have addressed a telegraphic inquiry to Mr. Uchida, Japanese Representative in Brazil, and to have received from him an assurance that the emigrants might safely be sent. Our readers will remember that in 1907 the Brazilian Government enacted a set of regulations for the better control of immigrants; that these regulations provided a certain measure of State protection for licence agencies, and that this protection was subsequently declared to be non-applicable to Asiatics. In consequence, however, of representations made by the Japanese Government, this discrimination against Asiatics was subsequently declared not to be applicable to Japanese.

THE MARINE PRODUCTS COMPANY.

There has been talk for some time of resuscitating this Company, and it appeared probable that some arrangement would be made. Our readers doubtless remember that, instead of confining itself to the object for which is was formed, the Company invested 300,000 *yen* of its capital in purchasing a forest in southern Japan. This forest has now been sold for a third of the above amount, and the purchaser, who is said to be Prince Shimadzu, has agreed to accept 20,000 *yen* in ready money, leaving the remainder in the Company's hands as operating capital. The idea is to apply this money to purchasing two whaling schooners, which would have their field of operations in the neighbourhood of Yobiko Island, Saga Prefecture. It is pointed out, however, that the operations of the Oriental Fishery Company in Ariake Bay render it improbable that any whales will visit the Yobiko seas; and it is further pointed out that 30 whaling vessels is the maximum allowed by Japanese law, of which number 29 are already in existence, so that a margin of only one remains for the Marine Products Company.

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TUAN FANG.

The removal of Viceroy Tuan naturally gives rise to all sorts of rumours. He is a Manchu and has always been regarded as a special favourite of the Prince Regent. The proximate cause of the extraordinary measure is generally believed to have been connected with the obsequies of the Empress Dowager. The Viceroy either gave unwise permission to photographers, or drove across the line of procession, or allowed some trees in the Mausoleum to be mutilated for telegraphic purposes. The fact that the Throne was memorialized on the subject by Marquis Li indicates clearly that the error was connected with the funeral ceremonies, for otherwise Marquis Li would not be competent to make any such representation: he would have to borrow the pen of a censor, of a viceroy or of a provincial governor. But nobody supposes that a trivial act of that kind is really responsible for the fall from power of such a prominent statesman. It will be remembered that some time ago a commotion of some kind was predicted as likely to occur on the occasion of the obsequies, and that forecast is now adduced to accentuate the excitement about Tuan. But the public seem to be quite at a loss as to the influences really underlying the dismissal. In several quarters it is alleged that a step recently taken by the Viceroy and alluded to in our last issue, namely, the tendering of too frank advice to the Prince Regent, gave mortal offence to the latter. On that occasion Tuan is said to have urged that the Regent should choose his associates and his books better, in view of the great era of reform upon which China is now entering, and he is reported to have added that a much needed element was the presence of men of talent and official experience but not actually holding office, who might move among the people, and prepare them for the duties that will newly devolve upon them in connexion with representative government. The Prince Regent is said to have been much incensed, though he restrained any ebullition of anger and confined himself to remarking sarcastically that his adviser was doubtless a very learned man. One puzzling feature of the incident is that Viceroy Tuan has always been regarded as one of the most prominent figures among the Manchus, whereas his successor, Chen Kuei-lung, is a Chinese of the Chinese, and is universally counted as the man upon whom Chang Chihtung's mantle has fallen.

The *Nichi Nichi's* telegrams indicate that the coup was very sudden. Viceroy Tuan had to discharge some duties in connexion with the obsequies, and when he repaired to the Palace on the 23rd inst. to report the conclusion of his functions and his return to his post in Tientsin, he was met by a decree removing him from office and informing him that, in the circumstances, an audience was not necessary. If this be true, it would seem that no opportunity was given to him to explain his conduct or rebut the charges preferred against him.

In the *Mainichi Dempo's* telegraphic correspondence we read that the grand-daughter of the new Viceroy is betrothed to Yuan Shihkai's son, and that his relations with Prince Ching are of the closest character. The same journal adds that the Court Ladies of the late Empress Dowager have not yet returned to Peking, and are still remaining at the Eastern Mausoleum. This circumstance is giving rise to much surprise.

Rumour has it that the Prince Regent intends to recall to power as a member of the Grand Council Tsen Chunhsuan. This official's name will be remembered by our readers on account of the obstructive and obstinate attitude assumed by him in 1907 on the occasion of his appointment to be Viceroy at Canton. His attitude towards the offices tendered to him by the Central Government has been curiously independent. In September 1906 he was appointed Viceroy of Yun-Kei, but he did not proceed. In March 1907, he was appointed Viceroy of Szchuan, but he did not proceed. In May 1907 he was appointed Viceroy of the Two Kwang, but he did not proceed, and in August of that year he resigned.

A RAILWAY THROUGH MONGOLIA.

Rumour is very persistent in attributing to Russia the fixed purpose of connecting Kiakta with Kulon by railway, and of obtaining mining concessions along the route of the line, as she did formerly in the case of the East China Railway. We can not be at all surprised at this development of Russian enterprise, and the day has happily long gone by when every move made by the great northern Power in Central Asia was regarded as an act of Imperial aggression. The fact is that Russia has done far more than any other Western State for the civilization and progress of Central Asia, and even if her operations in that part of the world tend to the extension of her own Empire, they make much more for the happiness and welfare of the human race. The feet of progress can not be stayed, and from whatever immmediate source the onward impetus comes, it is to be welcomed. On the other hand, the Imperial element naturally perturbs the minds of Chinese statesmen. They have learned a sharp lesson as to the meaning of railway development under foreign auspices, and it would almost appear that they have arrived at the practical conclusion that unless they build lines themselves, others will do it for them. Accordingly they are sensible that mere refusals to permit Russian enterprise in the direction of Kulon will not suffice, and they are therefore said to be now seriously planning the continuation of the Peking-Kalgan line to Kulon, in the first instance, and thence to Kiakta. But where the money is to come from we do not find any suggestion.

THE KATSURAGAWA HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER SCHEME.

A news agency now reports that an agreement has been reached between the projectors of the Katsuragawa scheme and the Yasuda Bank, but we do not find any explanation of the difficulty which was recently said to have arisen. That difficulty was that whereas the Bank did not object to finance the shares to the extent of 10 *yen* against 2½ put up by the shareholders, it did object to repeat the process, thus shouldering a liability of 20 *yen* against 5 actually paid up by the shareholders. In the arrangement today said to have been made, the question of the second financial transaction is not referred to. The account given is that it has been agreed to supplement the enterprise by an electric apparatus manufacturing company with a capital of a million and a half *yen*, one million of which amount is to be put up by the Bank. That seems to complicate rather than solve the situation, but the news agency in question writes as though a happy exit from the recent dilemma had been found.

THE COMMERCIAL CODE.

It appears that the Government proposes to introduce in the pending session of the Diet an important amendment of the commercial code. Hitherto a very questionable method has been pursued by banks and Companies. They have counted as actual profit any appreciation in the market value of their immovable property and negotiable securities, that is to say, their shares, and by including this property in their accounts they have been able to pay high dividends. It sounds a most extraordinary procedure, because to pay a dividend ready money is required, and an appreciation of fixed property and negotiable securities does not represent ready money, unless the property be sold or the securities realized. It will appear therefore that companies adopting this procedure must have had recourse to their working capital to obtain funds for paying high dividends. The proposed amendment of the law will not only veto such doings altogether, but will also provide that every company must maintain its assets at the price under which they were originally entered in the books. In other words, when appreciation takes place, the excess above the book value of the assets will be merely added to the latter, whereas when depreciation occurs, the decline in the book value of the assets will have to be made up by adding a corresponding sum to the reserves. It was the news of this legislation that produced a sharp depreciation in the share market on the 22nd inst. Rumour attributed the debacle to some change of the *gengetsu* system, such as was attempted a few years ago by the then Vice-Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, Mr. Kiuchi. He proposed to virtually reduce transactions on 'Change to immediate transfers, and the result was something like a financial panic. Ultimately the projected legislation was abandoned and Mr. Kiuchi retired from office. We think it highly improbable that the present Government would repeat such a perilous experiment, but nevertheless some outlook of the kind presented itself to the eyes of speculators on the 22nd inst.

FOREIGN TRADE.

Tokyo newspapers express great satisfaction that the balance of trade has been restored. Exports are now actually in excess of imports, and the preponderance on the side of the former is expected to reach 10 million *yen* before the close of the year. It is interesting to note that the great nations of Europe have entirely ceased to trouble themselves about this old-fashioned problem, the balance of trade; but Japan, not unnaturally, is still obsessed by the consciousness of her recent admission to the scramble for gold, and moreover her commercial relations with silver-using States are so large that the question of the standard is kept constantly before her eyes.

The returns of trade for the 10 days ended the 20th instant are as follow:—

	Yen.
Exports	14,471,000
Imports	8,506,000
Excess of exports	5,965,000

The figures for the period January 1st to November 20th are:—

	Yen.
Exports	352,438,000
Imports	349,854,000
Excess of Exports	2,584,000

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THE LATEST NEWS FROM HAWAII.

Among the 70,000 Japanese labourers in Hawaii a very strong feeling against the *Nippu Jiji* writers and the Higher Wage Association began to set in early in September, and gathered strength as time went on and the real situation of affairs began to be realized. The above-named Association seems to have collected somewhere about 60,000 *yen*. The workmen who put up this money found out that most of it was squandered in fruitless law-suits. No accounts of the method of expenditure have been published, but the defence of the four men accused and convicted of conspiracy cost a prodigious sum. And the end is not in sight. These men are out on heavy bail, pending the hearing of the case in the Appeal Court. On Oct. 30th Mori Tomekichi, the man who tried to kill Shiba Sometaro, the editor of the *Hawaii Shimpo*, was sentenced to 5 years penal servitude and a fine of $1,000. He, having appealed, was let out on a $6,000 bond. The money was found by the Higher Wage Association officers, who still seem to be far from coming to the end of their resources. Mori is reported to be as bloodthirsty as ever, and to have remarked that he would as soon hang as serve the long sentence, and that he purposes attacking Shiba again. In consequence of this, Mr. Shiba, at the end of last month, was closely guarded by the police.

Japanese public opinion in Hawaii, as voiced by the leading newspapers, has condemned in strong language the mad policy advocated and carried out by the Higher Wage Association. At an important meeting of newspaper delegates representing all the leading journals published in the Islands, held last month, a series of resolutions were passed, denouncing the *Nippu Jiji* and the Higer Wage Association, and accusing the men who have been running these concerns of dishonesty and self-aggrandizement.

In the meanwhile the Russians who have been sent to the islands as an experiment are settling down in Hawaii, Maui and Kauai, where houses have been specially erected for their accommodation. Many of them have brought wives and children with them; and, after living under despotic rule, they enjoy the freedom granted to them in this corner of Uncle Sam's domain. The Japanese press in Hawaii urges Japanese labourers to be on their best behaviour during the next few years. It says they should endeavour to show that, as employees on sugar-plantations, they can do more satisfactory work for the wages they get than any other class of labourer.

Japanese *sake* is now made in Honolulu out of Hawaiian and Japanese rice. The beverage has a very large sale. It is said to be quite as good as *sake* imported from Japan. "The Honolulu Japanese *sake* Brewery Co." has a capital of $60,000. The President of the Company, Mr. T. Sumida, has recently been studying the latest methods of making beverages followed in the United States.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

It does not appear that much success has hitherto crowned the experiments for establishing wireless telegraphic communication between Japan and Hawaii and between San Francisco and Japan. Six messages were sent from this country on the 19th inst., but they did not elicit any response. Climatic conditions, however, are said to have been distinctly unfavourable and the experiments will have to be continued for six days longer before any definite conclusion can be reached. There are two stations in Japan where the tests are being applied. One is Choshi and the other Ochiishi. The former is 3294 nautical miles distant from Hawaii, and the latter, 3902 miles. In the case of San Francisco, we are perplexed by the distances given in the account of the experiments, but these details do not disturb the broad fact that the experiments have been thus far unsuccessful in spite of the confident predictions uttered originally about their result.

The news from Choshi with regard to the wireless telegraphic experiments now being conducted there continues to be unfavourable. Indications of a response have been obtained from San Francisco, but they convey no intelligible import. Further attempts to establish communications with Hawaii are to be made this evening, but no remarkable results can be anticipated. It would surely have been wiser had the experts engaged in this experiment refrained from taking the world into their confidence until they had something substantial to show. Judging from the statements first published, people were led to believe that we were on the verge of some important developments.

The experiments at Choshi and Ochiishi to determine the possibility of establishing wireless communication with San Francisco and Hawaii have finally failed. The only result achieved is that is has been proved possible to convey sound over a distance of 3000 nautical miles without the use of wire, but to render the sound intelligible has been found impossible. We have not the slightest doubt that the time is not far distant when it will be possible to bring the remotest parts of the world into touch with each other by this instrumentality, and the Japanese are to be congratulated on the activity shown by their experts.

PORT ARTHUR AND DAIREN.

There is an interesting discussion now in progress with regard to Port Arthur and Dairen as rival trade-ports. It is generally admitted by experts that, so far as harbour facilities are concerned, the natural superiority is largely on the side of Port Arthur, and a comparatively trifling outlay would establish that superiority beyond all question. Therefore many people urge the expediency of converting the site of the historic fortress into a commercial mart. Evidently two things have to be decided in this context. One is the opinion of military men as to the advisability of radically changing the character of Port Arthur; and the other is whether, as between the two places, Dairen should be made the auxiliary port and Port Arthur the principal, or *vice versâ*. The former of these questions, we read in the *Aichi Nichi Shimbun*, has been decided in the affirmative, but the latter is still under discussion. The large amount already spent upon Dairen weighs strongly against its relegation to a secondary place, and moreover there is the fact that the space available for building purposes at Port Arthur is very limited, so that the development of the town would involve encroaching upon the hills at heavy cost. The impression seems to be that Port Arthur will be utilized mainly as a junk harbour, and that the premier place will continue to be held by Dairen.

MURDER IN TOKYO.

A shocking crime was perpetrated in Tokyo during the night of the 20th instant. During the absence of Captain Kudo, who commands the Nippon Yusen Kaisha's S.S. *Kamikawa Maru*, now plying between Hakodate and Saghalien, his residence in Yenoki-machi of the Shiba Ward, was entered by a man, or men, armed with swords, and Mrs. Kudo (aged 30), her daughter (aged 11), her two sons (aged respectively 8 and 2), and a maid-servant (aged 20) were slashed and stabbed to death with fanatic vindictiveness. Mrs. Kudo's face was covered with cuts; one of her arms was lopped off; the little daughter's skull was cleft in two; the boys had been stabbed and the weapon twisted in the wounds, and the maid-servant, in addition to a deep gash, was pierced in two places. It seems incredible that such a wholesale murder can have been perpetrated by one assassin, single-handed, without some alarm being given or some part of the sanguinary work left incomplete. But none of the neighbours heard anything. Their suspicions were first aroused on the following morning when they saw that the house had not been opened. The murderers effected an entrance by prising open a rain-door. There is as yet no clue.

There is as yet no clue whatever to the perpetrators of the shocking murder on the night of the 20th inst. It appears that the assassin, or at any rate one of the assassins, left behind him the sword used on the unhappy victims. The blade is said to be 2 ft. 8 in. long, and the weapon shows a degree of curvature exceptional in a Japanese sword. The theory is that the murderer entered from the maid-servant's room, and having killed her as she lay asleep, proceeded to complete his crime in the adjoining chamber. There never has been a whisper against the reputation of Mrs. Kudo: she and her family have always been highly esteemed by their neighbours. Moreover, robbery does not seem to have been the object of the miscreant, for nothing was taken from the house. Possibly the weapon may prove a means of identification, though the clue it affords is somewhat slender.

THE YAMATE ELECTRIC RAILWAY.

It is said to have been finally decided that the new Electric Railway between Shinagawa and Akabane shall be opened for traffic from the 20th of December. The power is to be provided by the Tokyo Railway Company. There is no expectation of making a profit out of the enterprise. So, at least, the *Hochi Shimbun* says. At present this circular line is showing a loss of 250 *yen* a day, and when the arrangements for electrical power have been made, the loss is expected to reach 350 *yen* daily. Nevertheless the Railway authorities seem determined to carry the project through, in fulfilment of the duty which devolves upon them to supply facile means of communication for the public. The question of fares is still under discussion, but it is understood that the sectional system will be adopted, the rate being fixed at from 2 to 3 *sen* per section, and the maximum charge being 20 *sen* for the whole 20 miles. Considering that passengers can travel by the electric trams from Shinagawa to Uyeno for 5 *sen*, including the transit tax, 20 *sen* from Shinagawa to Akabane is not too little.

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THE DIET.

With regard to the composition of the two Houses of the Diet, the next session of which will open in a month, the *Jiji Shimpo* gives the following figures, said to have been compiled by the secretariats of the Chambers:—Out of the total membership (360) of the Upper House there are five vacancies, and out of the 355 actually borne on the roll, 342 represent the active members, the remaining 13 being Princes of the Blood. The above members are distributed into the following groups:—

Kenkyu-kai	75
Chawa-kai	47
Unattached	43
Thursday Party (Mokuyo-kai)	42
Saturday Party (Doyo-kai)	46
Fuso-kai	15
Quasi-Independent	74
Total	342

Turning now to the Lower House we have the following distribution:—

Seiyu-kai	200
Progressists	63
Yushin-kai	45
Boshin Club	35
Daido Club	28
Unattached	8
Total	379

It has to be noted that another group of 7 members headed by Messrs. Ozaki Yukio and Yamakuchi have promised to join the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai* when the next session opens.

THE TOKYO ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY.

The *Mainichi Dempo* offers a somewhat bizarre explanation of the long protracted negotiations started by the Tokyo Electric Light Company three years ago for obtaining a supply of cheap foreign capital. The Company is understood to have been for some time working with Messrs. Sale, Frazar & Co., but the latter declared it hopeless to float a 5 per cent. bond at 90 for such an enterprise. Then the Directors went to Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., and there their proposal met with a more favourable reception, though the terms desired by the Directors could not be promised. It is here that the farcical element of the transaction comes in. Our Tokyo contemporary says that the Tokyo Electric Light Company does not really want the money. What it wants is to make a show of being able to put its hand at any moment upon cheap foreign capital, and its object in making this demonstration is to deter the keen competition which it apprehends at the hands of the Tokyo Railway Company; when the latter applies itself vigorously to carrying out its electric lighting concession. In fact, the whole performance on the part of the Dento Kwaisha is theatrical, and Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. are among the actors. This is certainly a comical story.

THE NIPPON SEIFU KAISHA.

There appears to be unfortunately another cloud on the industrial horizon of Japan. This time the evil atmosphere emanates from the Japan Cloth Company (Nippon Seifu Kaisha), which has its headquarters in Kyoto. We read in the *Nippon* that whereas the Company's capital is 5 million *yen*, of which 3,300,000 has been paid up, it has sunk 3,400,000 in land, buildings and machinery, and instead of making a further call upon the shareholders for working capital, it has issued debentures, floated loans or put its name to bills aggregating in all 6 million *yen*. The Directors themselves have put up a total of 1,400,000 *yen*, and it is owing to an alleged attempt on their part to avoid personal loss that the affairs of the Company have been dragged into notoriety. The method pursued by them has been an attempt to establish a branch of the factory at Fushimi and to declare it entirely independent of the original Company, so that it should represent only the latter's liability to themselves. The steps of the procedure are not very clear, but the obvious fact is that the shares of the Company, which were recently quoted at between 50 and 60 *yen*, have fallen suddenly to 27, and that there is talk of another scandal on the lines of the sugar trouble.

DIRECT EXPORT OF SILK.

Figures are published showing the part taken by Japanese firms in the direct export of silk. The Mitsui Firm is by far the largest operator in this line. From the 1st of last July until the 20th of the present month, the number of boxes sent abroad by that Company aggregated 12,301. Next in order came the Kiito Gomei Kaisha, with 8,823 boxes, and finally the Hara Firm, with 2,375. None of these can yet approach to the 28,521 boxes sent abroad by No. 21(?) in the foreign settlement, but if the export to the United States alone be considered, the Mitsui figure is only some 3,000 boxes inferior to the largest foreign exporter. The *Mainichi Dempo*, from which we take these particulars, adds that the staple now rules at very low prices, and talk is heard of over-production and of the advisability of a reduction in that respect. The Mitsui people, however, are strongly opposed to any such step. They argue that low prices ruling for two years do not by any means constitute a sufficient reason for inferring over-production. Sericulturists must not be discouraged. They have still a fine margin of profit, and they should be thinking of increasing their production, rather than diminishing it.

THE WEAVING INDUSTRY.

We have been hearing a great deal for the past few months about the improvement of the economic situation in Japan, but truly no symptoms of anything of the sort present themselves at present. The agricultural classes, who until the late autumn were rejoicing in the prospect of a splendid crop, are now lamenting that, in spite of their full graneries, the price of rice has fallen so low that their actual losses as compared with last year represent many millions of *yen*. When the farmers are badly off, other bread-earning professions are sure to suffer, for the farmers represent the great consuming class. It is not surprising therefore to learn that the weaving industry has got into very deep water. Hand looms have been obliged in many cases to stop work altogether, and power looms are barely able to make ends meet. In these circumstances there is talk of a combination to limit production by ceasing night work altogether. Prudent men, speaking as far back as the fall of 1908, indicated the spring of 1910 as the probable time for an economic revival. They certainly did not put the date a bit too soon.

On Wednesday morning a ferry-boat carrying 19 persons overturned in mid-stream in the Omono river, Akita prefecture. Nine persons are missing.

TOKYO NOTES.

23rd November, 1909.

I wonder if any one else beside myself, wandering to-day through the streets of Tokyo, has been struck by the comparative absence of bunting? I passed this morning through several long thoroughfares: about one house in ten was flagged. Time was when the flag was a matter of so much importance that the proper designation for a holiday was *hatabi*, a "flag-day." When the Tokyo citizen has a holiday now, he wants something more exciting than a flag to keep it with,—which is a healthy sign. And, possibly, he keeps his flags for occasions of more patriotic importance than a Harvest Festival.

* * *

And yet, what can be of greater importance to a nation than a good Harvest?

* * *

Men of Science in the Capital have to-day been celebrating a Darwin Centenary,—the day having a double significance and propriety for, besides falling on a national holiday when busy men have an hour or two of leisure, it also happens that the 23rd November is the day on which Darwin embarked on the *Beagle* for the voyage which really made his fame. We are in some ways wiser than our fathers. We have learned that Darwin's discoveries have nothing to do with the true inwardness of religion, which is given us to make us better men than we should be without it. To-day we are learning that neither if a man rejects the hypotheses of Darwin (if such there be) is he the worse man, nor if he accept them, is he the better. It is perhaps the latter alternative that to-day wants a little emphasis laid on it. The Japanese men of science could not well have chosen a better name to honour than the intrepid philosopher of whom Cambridge has learned to be proud.

* * *

Five days from to-day will be the anniversary of the death of Shinran, the Founder of Shinshu Buddhism. Those who are interested in such things may go to the Hongwanji Temple, either in Tsukiji or in Asakusa, and see the celebration in full swing. Shinran is a great personage in the body which he founded: it is not so generally known that there are scholars in Japan who say that no such person ever existed, and that the whole Shinshu movement was a leaderless one, a popular agitation, until, a century after its inception, the legend of Shinran came into existence.

* * *

We have had two anniversaries before us. For the sake of proverbial symphony let me mention a third, Capt. Janes of Kumamoto, to whose work fifty years ago the *Tokyo Echo* calls our attention. Capt. Janes, though not exactly a missionary, was a Christian school teacher, and it speaks volumes for the personality of the man, that, in the days when to profess oneself a Christian meant death for a Japanese, a band of Janes' students bound themselves by a written oath which they signed with their blood, to confess and be faithful to the faith of Christ.

* * *

One of the problems agitating the Tokyo mind is the leakage of questions which is said to have taken place before the last Mombushō examination for teacher's licenses. I am not surprised to hear it. Not that I have any sneer or imputation to throw upon any of the examiners, or on any person connected with the Examination. The leakage, if any, took place probably through

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a printing office, or through some domestic servant or attendant. But the teaching profession in Japan is so terribly overstocked, and the competition to gain the coveted licenses is so great, that it is small wonder that the candidates should catch at any straws that seem likely to give them a slight advantage over their competitors. I have known a man try the Examination five times, be in the "final heat" as it were each time, and be rejected in the end on some small tecinicality, not because he was unworthy of the license, but because in the final heat there were some twenty licenses for about fifty men, and somebody had to be rejected. Of course, a man is not debarred from teaching because he has no license. Only he cannot command nearly such a good salary as his licensed competitor.

* * *

Those who had the good fortune to be invited to Mr. Hara's Garden Party this afternoon were favoured with excellent weather for the enjoyment of that hospitality which none know better how to dispense than the Japanese.

* * *

This morning, at 9 a.m., the foundation stone of the new Keiogijuku Library was laid by President Kamada, in the presence of members of the Fukugawa Family and of the Faculty and Students of the Institution. From the design of the building, which appears in to-day's issue of the *Jiji*, the Keiogijuku will eventually have a Library and Reading Rooms worthy of the name, and the students are to be congratulated on the increased and improved facilities for study which they will be able to enjoy.

* * *

Talking of Libraries, the *Nanko Bunko*, founded by the Tokugawa Family in Iigura Katamachi, deserves to be better known among foreigners than it is. It is true that it has not many European books, but for a student of Things Japanese it is an excellent place, clean, comfortable, well-warmed, and with very civil attendants.

* * *

I am sorry to say that I only heard when it was too late of an interesting Exhibition of the Toys of all nations which has recently been given in that Institution. The Exhibition (which was open only by ticket and which closed yesterday) was arranged by Professor Tsuboi, of the Imperial University. It was very highly appreciated. Let us hope that the Exhibition may be given again at some not very remote period.

* * *

Talking about Libraries, the new circulating Library at the Nipposha in Yurakucho, Nichome, is well worthy of a visit. Tokyo can well afford two circulating libraries of foreign books, and a healthy competition is an excellent thing for the souls—of Library Committees.

REUTER AND THE "JAPAN CHRONICLE."

It appears that the editor of the *Japan Chronicle* is not satisfied with the very frank expression of regret published in our issue of the 23rd instant, when we explained that in reproducing an article from the London *Morning Leader* and commenting on it, we relied on a statement made by Reuter's London Agent in his official capacity. Our Kobe contemporary wishes us to publish the following, and we do so very willingly since an injustice has been done to the *Japan Chronicle*:—We regret that in our issue of the 17th inst. we reproduced a letter written by the Secretary of Reuter's Telegram Agency, making a charge of dishonesty against the *Japan Chronicle* which charge we now find to be untrue. We further regret that in inserting the said letter we made certain injurious statements by way of comment, which we now withdraw and for which we apologise.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, November 19.

The market underwent a not unusual access of dulness on the 19th instant, on account of the period of the month. There was virtually no business.

Saturday, November 20.

The downward movement continued on the Tokyo Stock Exchange on Saturday, but was not very marked, except in the case of the Keihin Railway, whose prospects are menaced by keen competition on the part of the Government road when the latter is supplied with additional tracks.

Monday, November 22.

Rumours of an official measure to alter the system of futures had an exceedingly depressing effect on the market yesterday.

Wednesday, November 24.

The forenoon session on the 24th instant witnessed much uncertainty, the tide setting at one moment in favour of buying, and the next, in favour of selling. In the afternoon, however, things settled down, and nearly all quotations entered the upward grade.

Thursday, November 25.

Some activity was witnessed on the Stock Exchange yesterday forenoon, especially in the case of the Yusen Kaisha and the Tanko Kaisha's shares. The afternoon session proved dull, however. We append the quotations for January delivery :—

	Nov. 24th.		Nov. 25th.	
Tokyo Railway	69.15	...	68.75	... — .40
Kei-hin Railway	55.50	...	56.30	... + .80
Yusen Kaisha	79.95	...	82.30	... +2.35
Toyo Kisen	—	...	17.20	... —
Tanko Kisen	32.35	...	34.05	... +1.70
Tokyo Gas	99.20	...	99 50	... + .30
Tokyo Dento	93 20	...	93.80	... + .60
Fuji Gass Spinning	98.25	...	97.95	... — .30
Tokyo Spinning	43.70	...	44.30	... + .60
Kanegafuchi Spinning	103 95	...	104.55	... + .60
Beer	76 80	...	77.10	... + 30
Hoden Oil	72.50	...	73.75	... +1.25
Nippon Oil	80.10	...	81.10	... +1.00
Rice Exchange	107 80	...	109 95	... +2 15
Stock Exchange	162.90	...	163 70	... + .80

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS

We have not heard anything for some time about the Yalu timber industry, although at one period the difficulties of its organization occupied a considerable share of public attention. We now find, however, in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* a telegram saying that great complications have attended the change of Chinese Superintendent, and that although a suitable official was long ago nominated, he has not yet been able to commence the active discharge of his duties. The consequence is that the affairs of the enterprise are in confusion and that no actual progress has been made. Certainly the record of this undertaking does not inspire much confidence in the success of cöoperative enterprises by Chinese and Japanese subjects or by the Governments of the two countries.

The Ikegami Race Club commenced its autumn meeting on the 20th inst. and a veritable fiasco has to be reported. Only 150 persons altogether are said to have been present, and the number of ticket purchasers did not exceed 60. The presence of the Emperor was solicited on the 21st inst., but his Majesty was not pleased to accede. Possibly as the 21st fell on Sunday and as the weather was magnificent, there may have been a slightly improved attendance, but it is evident that horse racing deprived of the pari-mutuel adjunct does not find favour at present in Japan.

A singular telegram comes from Vladivostock. It is to the effect that an American propagandist of Mohammedanism recently collected a number of Koreans resident in that city and was haranguing them when the Russian police interfered and placed him under arrest. The inference is that he was preaching some seditious doctrine at the expense of Korea's relations with Japan, but the telegraph leaves that point in complete obscurity.

The important subject of Treaty Revision is beginning to produce sporadic displays of interest, but it is evident that the Authorities are keeping their counsel wisely. Tokyo journals have not been able to make any substantial discovery. All that they tell us is that the most-favoured-nation clause will be preserved, although there has been talk of expunging it; that in the event of the negotiations not being satisfactorily terminated by July 1911, when the term of the present Treaties expires, some provisional arrangement will be made to bridge the interval; and that, whereas the provisions of the new treaties will necessarily apply to all Japanese settlements in foreign countries, the question whether Kwantung shall be excluded in this category remains to be answered.

The barristers of Tokyo, who have arrayed themselves in opposition to the Judiciary's manner of giving effect to the new Penal Code, have decided to hold a general meeting in Tokyo on the 11th proximo, and have issued to all their confreres in the provinces a very vehemently worded circular. This document alleges that, in the hands of an unwise Judiciary, the object of revising the code has been completely defeated. The rights of the individual are trampled under foot; the prisons throughout the Empire are filled to overflowing; the number of undecided cases far exceeds all precedent, and the discretionary power placed in the hands of judicial officials by the new code has proved a misfortune for the people. This circular can not be treated lightly. It bears the signatures of nearly all the eminent members of the legal profession in Tokyo, as for example, Messrs. Hatoyama Isobe, Okamura, Masujima, Engi, Kikuchi, Suzuki etc.

On the 25th inst. the Treasury has to redeem bonds to the face value of 20,600,000 *yen*. This seems a formidable transaction. But when we come to read the details of manipulation, we find that there is no very large margin of reality. Thus while with one hand redeeming that quantity of bonds, the Treasury will, with the other, issue 2 million of new securities on account of the Wakamatsu Foundry, and 4 millions on account of the sum of 18,600,000 *yen* constituting the capital of the Tobacco Monopoly. This leaves 14,600,000 *yen* to be redeemed, but against that there is to be a new issue of 14 millions on account of general finance. Thus the actual fact is that only 600,000 *yen* will be redeemed immediately. On the other hand,

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the 14-million loan is only a temporary transaction. It will be paid back on the 25th of February, and in the meanwhile the daily rate of interest will be one *sen*, which is $^1/_{10}$ of a *sen* less than the last rate. In spite of this low interest, the full amount is said to have been already applied for by the banks.

The Public Procurator has asked the Local Court in Tokyo to condemn the Directors of the Sugar Company to the following terms of imprisonment :—Isomura 8 years; Akiyama 8 years; Ito 7 years; Takatsu 6 years; Tsunegawa 4 years; Fukugawa 4 years, and Yendo one year.

No light has yet appeared upon the horizon of the Soy Company's affairs. Tokyo newspapers seem to regard its doom as sealed, and of course in that case not only the 3½ million *yen* already paid up will be a dead loss, but also the shareholders will have to put their hands in their pockets for the remaining 6½ millions of the capital, in order to meet the liabilities of the Company. The only banks implicated are the Konoike and the Kitahama, the former to the extent of a million *yen*, but the latter to the extent of 350,000. Thus the incident is not likely to produce any disastrous effect upon the market.

A Tokyo contemporary affirms that, during the year 1908, Japanese fire insurance offices issued new policies abroad to the total amount of 167,778,470 *yen*. The offices in question were the Tokyo Fire, the Meiji Fire, the Nippon Fire, the Kyodo Fire, the Nippon Kaijo, the Yokohama Fire, the Teikoku Kaijo and the Osaka Kasai. At the close of the year, the number of policies remaining was 7,850, representing a total sum of 26,289,590; and the premia aggregated 337,961 *yen*, the expenses being 186,983 *yen*, so that the net profit was 150,978 *yen*. The countries where the policies were issued are given as :—

	Number.	Amount.
Korea	4,873	109,040,010
China	5,750	46,600,000
Hongkong	373	1,660,000
Hawaii	104	10,060
Singapore	28	330,000
Macao	61	120,000

The *Nippon* publishes a statement of the number of the Imperial family; that is to say, of Imperial Princes and Princesses, excluding, of course, the Emperor and the Empress. It appears that there are 18 Princes and 32 Princesses, of whom 20 are married, namely, 6 Princes and 14 Princesses, while the remaining 30 are unmarried. It is worth noting that all these have to be supported out of the Privy Purse, and that the 3 million *yen* received by his Majesty from the State has to undergo considerable diminution on that account.

There seems to be a growing feeling of discontent with regard to the inefficiency of the police. Several most cruel murders have been perpetrated during the past few months in Tokyo and its neighbourhood, but in every case the assassins have succeeded in effecting their escape. This is attributed not so much to want of intelligence on the part of the police, as to their small number and insufficient pay. It appears to be thought also that the great war produced a more or less demoralizing effect upon the people by depreciating the value set upon human life.

Great preparations are evidently being made at Port Arthur for the ceremony of unveiling the monument in memory of the thousands of brave men who sacrificed their lives in their country's cause on the occasion of the never-to-be-forgotten siege. This monument has been a long time in preparation. It stands on the most prominent point in the peninsula, and has been erected at a cost of some 200,000 *yen*. We need scarcely add that many Japanese high officials and officers of the Army and Navy are to proceed to Port Arthur for the unveiling.

There has been a terrible disaster at the Onoura Colliery in Chikuzen. An explosion took place on the 24th inst., and 200 persons are supposed to have perished. This is one of the important mines of Japan. It gives employment to 4,755 people, and turns out monthly 44,400 tons of mineral.

THE KAGOSHIMA RAILWAY.

Considerable enthusiasm is evoked in connexion with the formal opening of the Kagoshima Railway, which took place on the 20th inst. This is the line measuring 94 miles between Yatsushiro and Kagoshima, and it has cost a total of 13 million *yen*. There are no less than 60 tunnels; the Kumagawa has had to be bridged three times and the mountain called Yadake has been negotiated by means of a spiral line. We recently spoke of the fact that most of the difficulties lie in the section of 20 miles between Hitoyoshi and Yoshimatsu, the topographical features of which section of country have exercised a considerable effect upon Japanese politics by serving as an almost impenetrable bulwark of the Satsuma fief. In fact, the opening of the line right through to Kagoshima is regarded as constituting an epoch in Japanese railway enterprise.

The opening ceremony of the Kagoshima Railway line was held on the 20th instant at Kagoshima. At 11 a.m. the celebration commenced, when Mr. Ichiji, Director of the Kagoshima Office of the Railway Board, gave a report as to the construction of the new line between Hitoyoshi and Yoshimatsu. The representative of Premier Marquis Katsura read a congratulatory address, which was followed by addresses given by Dr. Hirai, Vice-President of the Railway Board; Mr. Nomura, Chief of the Construction Department of the Railway Board; Mr. Sakamoto, Governor of Kagoshima prefecture, and several others. Over 1,000 persons attended the function, including some 500 guests from Tokyo and other places. Admirals Ito, Kabayama, and Inouye, General Kawamura, Mr. Kaseba, President of the House of Representatives, and a number of members of the Houses of Peers and Representatives and representatives of the Press, were among them. After the ceremony a garden party was given. There were also a display of fireworks and a lantern procession. In the evening the guests attending the ceremony were banqueted by a special association of the citizens. The warships belonging to the First Squadron which arrived there on the 18th instant to attend the ceremony, displayed their searchlights during the evening. On the afternoon of the next day, the guests were taken for an excursion trip around Sakurajima, the noted island near Kagoshima. They also visited the villa of Prince Shimazu at Iso

Traffic on the new railway line was opened yesterday. The line links the city of Kagoshima with Yashima, one of the termini of the Kyushu line, and forms a part of the trunk railway system in Japan. The total length of the trunk line from Kushiro in Hokkaido to Kagoshima in Kyushu is about 1800 miles, which distance can now be accomplished in about five days and the journey between Tokyo and Kagoshima in 46 hours. As the new line traverses the most mountainous districts in Kyushu, no less than 60 tunnels are found along the line. It is stated that the so-called cog-line system has been adopted on the Yadake Pass. Eleven years have elapsed since the commencement of the work and 13 million *yen* have been appropriated.

LORD KITCHENER.

On Thursday (18th inst.) Lord Kitchener arrived at Nara, where he was welcomed by Governor Aoki, Mayor Kimoto and many others. After a short rest at the Nara Hotel, his Lordship visited the Shosoin, in the compound of which the Nara Museum is situated. Sir Claude and Lady MacDonald accompanied him. After staying there about an hour, he proceeded to the Daibutsu Temple and the Kasuga Shrine, viewing en route the foliage of the maple trees now at their best. His Lordship left for Osaka in the course of the afternoon.

LORD KITCHENER'S LETTER OF THANKS.

On the 16th instant, when Field Marshal Lord Kitchener was leaving Tokyo, his Lordship sent the following letter of thanks to the Minister for War :—

"I have no words to express my gratitude for the kind treatment I have received during my stay in your country. I beg to assure you that I am leaving for home with enthusiastic feelings of friendship towards your country and the friends I have made in this city.

After I had visited the Manchurian battlefields, indestructible for ever, I had the honour, on the occasion of the grand manœuvres, of meeting the military and naval officers who had made Japan famous the world over. This is a great happiness to me. I beg to hope that you will kindly give my thanks to those friends who have entertained me with kindness and courtesy, as a brother-in-arms.

On having the privilege of witnessing the greater part of the grand military manœuvres in your country, my admiration of the dignity and the capacity of your army, which I have harboured for some time since, has been much deepened.

I pray for the future success of your army, and I firmly believe that your loyalty to His Majesty and to the country and your spirit of faithfulness in duty will surely be productive of even greater brilliance should a time of crisis again overtake this country. I beg to thank you with all my heart for the kindness that you have favoured me with, in order to make my stay the more delightful.

It is with infinite regret that I leave your country. The remembrance of the great kindnesses and courtesies accorded me by the people of Japan will never depart from me.

Your sincere friend, KITCHENER.

Arriving at Osaka in the evening of the 18th instant, Lord Kitchener and his suite put up at the Osaka Hotel, where a dinner was given in their honour, Governor Takasaki and Mayor Yamashita being present.

The next morning his Lordship visited the residences of Messrs. Sumitomo and Fujita, where he inspected old China bronze ware and other valuable curios collected by the two families. After lunching at the Osaka Hotel, his Lordship with his suite left for Kobe at 0.21 p.m. being seen off by a large number of officials and citizens. On arriving at Kobe at 1.15 p.m. Lord Kitchener was welcomed by Governor Hattori, Assistant Mayor Kotegawa, Lieut.-Colonel Misawa, Commander of the Kobe Regimental Affairs Office, and Mr. Cunningham, the British Acting Consul General, and Mr. Paton, the Vice-Consul, with many others. Immediately his Lordship, accompanied by Lieut.-General, Misawa, drove in a carriage provided by the Kencho, to the American hatoba, by way of the Recreation Ground and the Bund. Lord Kitchener thereupon left the carriage and walked down the hatoba amidst a general raising of hats by the British and other foreign reside ts present, to which he smilingly responded by repeatedly raising his hat. The Harbour Office launch *Sakura Maru*, decorated with flags, conveyed him and his suite to the P. and O. steamer *Oriental*. His Lordship appeared to be in excellent health, and cordially thanked the Governor and other officials for their courtesy. The steamer left for Shanghai at about 2 in the afternoon.

An official telegram from Formosa reports that a severe shock of earthquake occurred in the districts of Taihoku at 3.30 p.m. on the 21st instant. No great damage seems to have been done.

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SOCIAL DEGRADATION.

SOCIETY—we use the word not in the narrow sense, as applied to a small and self-complacent clique, but in its widest connotation—is once more on its trial before the bar of science and of commonsense. Each grade and rank, from the highest to the lowest (if the record of current literature is to be credited) though their several foibles and vices differ, is equally arraigned. To begin with the topmost branches of the social tree (which, with their display of leaves, are the fairest to look upon), there has just been published a very extraordinary book by the Countess of CARDIGAN entitled "My Recollections." The noble lady who, with an almost appalling frankness, has given the world the somewhat sordid list of her "Indiscretions"—as they have already come to be called—is the wife of that Lord CARDIGAN memorable in history as the commander of the immortal Six Hundred who—"bravely they rode, and well"—charged the Russian guns at Balaclava. This is her own story of how she came to marry that noble Lord. The first Lady CARDIGAN died on the morning of July 12, 1858; and the present Lady CARDIGAN thus relates what happened:

"On the morning of July 12, 1858, I was awakened at seven o'clock by a loud knocking at the front door. It was Lord Cardigan. I had just time to slip on my dressing gown when he came into my room, and said: 'My dearest, she's dead; let's get married at once.'"

"The decent or hypocritical pretences common in this country," says one able reviewer of the book, "and which give such an air of monotonous falsehood to so much of our novels, our plays, and other 'representations' of our social life, find no place under the pen of Lady Cardigan . . . . If any English man or English woman is tempted to indulge in any self-complacent Pharisaism on the superior morality of the dwellers in the West End of London, either in the present or the recent past, Lady Cardigan's book will be a very vigorous, perhaps even an unwelcome, corrective." She recalls with astonishing realism their flirtations, their silly social rivalries, their dissipations, their physical defects; and even drags in the dust the memory of the great Disraeli—"the most dazzling romancer, the most daring and successful adventurer in political history"—by telling us how her principal objection to a proposal of marriage she received from him in 1873 was that he was possessed of "an unfortunate attribute (for which his wife could have secured a divorce in the days of ancient Rome), to wit, an evil-smelling breath—the ill odour of politics, perhaps!" The innumerable stratagems and subterfuges of this cynical aristocrat for the amusement of her friends and the wreaking of her spite upon her enemies constitute a revelation of life in so-called English Society. "All unwittingly," says another review, "the Countess of Cardigan has dealt a shrewd blow at the gaudy fabric of this 'society,' which, in reality, reeks in unpleasantness, indulgence, and extravagance. Thanks to her healthy frankness, we see the difference between the Socialist and Conservative ideals of Free Love. Some Socialists advocate Free Love in the hope of securing a better moral foundation for mankind. This Conservative society practises Free Love for the mere gratification of its morbid desire for sensational and risky amours." It is small wonder, indeed, that people who aspire to do something better in life than dine, wine and dissipate, are being forced reluctantly to recognize the appalling decadence of the age. When the chief instinct of society becomes a craving for excitement, a desire to be "entertained"; when serious work ceases to appeal, and ease and luxury are sought instead, is it a matter for surprise that the mental balance which enables a man or a woman to meet the ills of life philosophically, or at least quietly and calmly, becomes non-existent? The question is, at bottom, a physical one. In the vast majority of cases, the neurotic individual so commonly encountered in these days, to the alarm of the sociologist and the patriot, is the product of social extravagance, visited in his own person. The nervous apparatus of the system is thrown out of gear, and thus is produced a spirit of unrest which is becoming typical of all classes of society. People are trifling with life instead of regarding their period of existence as affording an opportunity for doing a fair share of honest work, for achieving something for the good of the race, that the world might be the better for their sojourn in it. As that distinguished scientist, Dr. ANDREW WILSON, discussing the matter in its sociological aspect, expresses it—"The man wants his luxurious days continually, the woman desires to see the shop-windows and to walk abroad, clad in the height of fashion. Home life goes. The simple friendly dinner-party becomes a thing of the past. Entertainment now means a lavish and expensive feast at a restaurant. . . . The craving for excitement increases day by day—witness the multiplication of theatres and variety-shows. . . . Our youths crowd the music halls, and leave the technical institute severely alone." All this reflects a social development—the product of the neurotic temperament—that is not to the credit of the nation, but makes rather for its social and physical decay. Certain pursuits and practices now in vogue fully bear out this none too strong indictment. There are the crowds which rush to see a score of paid players engage in what was once a game—now a mercenary pastime—the thousands of onlookers taking no part, except perchance to lay odds on the result. Even at times of tradal depression in the North of England, with women and children pining at home for the necessities of life, thousands of working-men have managed to find means to trip it to London for the purpose of looking on at exhibitions of this character. Another form of social degradation has of late been very much to the fore. We refer to the "beauty-shows"—male and female—now in vogue in various watering-places, and similar resorts, in England and America. If the photographic reproductions of the participants in these senseless and invidious competitions can be taken as a guide, nature has not been lavish with her gifts to the winners of the "beauty-prizes" awarded by local committees of selection; but surely it will be agreed that there are few lower depths to which a young man or woman can sink than that of publicly submitting themselves as candidates in such a competition, to be subsequently paraded as a "show" for the none too respectful mob. We are told that an American woman recently made the public announcement that she would voluntarily offer to marry the "prize candidate" in one of these competitions, whoever he might be, provided he had an income of £100 a year! Is it a very far cry from this to buying and selling men and women in the open market to be partners for life? And what is to be said of the dragging of the good name of their sex in the dust by militant suffragists? What is to happen to the sex, what is to happen to the nation, when women of education take to slapping policemen on the face, to breaking of windows, to throwing of stones in public places, and other like actions of violence? Nor, it seems, will they be silent when they suffer the just reward of their deeds, the result of their own deliberate appeal to lawlessness. *A propos* of the suffragettes in a Birmingham prison whom the authorities desire to save by compulsory feeding from the sin of suicide, the redoubtable Mrs. PANKHURST has produced this hysterical effusion in *Votes for Women*:—

"This new brutality on the part of the Government will only fire women throughout the country to a still stronger purpose and more determined action. Little do the men in power realise the spirit they are evoking. In Egypt the body of a woman was given as sacrifice to the Nile to ensure the rising of the tide. Never did myth set forth so irresistible a human fact. We shall see whether the violated bodies of the women in Winson Green Gaol do not raise a flood destined to sweep away many an ancient landmark."

Among the many things which fall short of the ideal in the social condition of humanity is, no doubt, the position of woman. While a great deal of improvement could be shown if the *best* were made of that position, yet we agree with Mrs. FLORA STEEL'S contention that there is one real grievance under which the sex labours, namely "*the absolute lack of any real employment for unmarried middle-class women.*" A serious fact, indeed, because it affects the welfare of that section of the community which is rightly regarded as its mainstay. Idleness is not a vice, but it tends to vice—through the twin portals of *ennui* and busybodiness. Therefore it behoves those who desire the moral improvement of the nation and are in favour of the cultivation of a quieter, a more earnest, and a more purposeful public spirit, to devote attention to this pressing question of sane

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and useful employment for the middle-class woman. But, above all, let us have done with immoderation of every kind—with the sham and the trifler, with the man or the woman whose sole claim to the consideration of their fellows lies in the costliness of their raiment or the ostentation of their manner of life. Nor should the Press pander to the ineffable silliness of such proceedings, or foster folly by giving them publicity. Let us rather set store by the great and the good: so that, in passing through the garden of life, we may gather for ourselves some flowers at least that will not fade.

THE CRICKET GROUND.

THE meeting to be held to-day (22nd inst.) has such an important bearing on the welfare of the community and on the relations between Japanese and foreign residents of Yokohama, that it seems opportune to invite attention to a few points.

It is agreed on all sides that, in consequence of the failure of the foreign community to contribute a share of the cost of the Public Garden's upkeep, the entire control of the land passed into the hands of the Japanese Authorities, provided, however, that they were required to maintain the Garden. It is further agreed on all sides that the object of the Public Garden from the outset was to serve as a place of recreation and exercise for the foreign and Japanese communities of Yokohama, and that every unit of those communities has an equal right to use the Garden for that purpose.

In July 1878, that is to say very shortly, after recovering complete control of the Garden, as stated above, the Japanese Local Authorities granted to a section of the foreign community, called the "Yokohama Cricket Club," a lease of a considerable part of the Garden; which part, having been turfed and fenced in, ceased to be freely accessible to the Japanese and foreign communities at large. Subsequently the lease was twice renewed, once in 1884, when the Cricket Club had amalgamated with the Amateur Athletic Association, and once again in 1899. The former renewal need not be discussed, further than to note that it enlarged the circle of unrestricted admittance to the enclosure of the Cricket Ground; the latter renewal presents one special feature, namely, that it was made subsequently to the operation of the Revised Treaties, and must therefore be assumed to have been in accordance with their provisions.

This last lease was for a period of 10 years, from July 29th, 1899, to July 28th, 1909. In June 1907, the President of the Cricket Club applied to the Governor of Kanagawa for a renewal of the lease, and on the 28th of that month the Governor formally rejected the application on the ground that he considered it "not advisable to renew the lease for another term." A number of the foreign residents now contend that, in spite of the Governor's refusal, they have a right to continue using the enclosed area for cricket and athletics, and in reply to the Governor's notice to quit they have entered a formal protest and remain in possession.

On what is this alleged right based? On the XVIIIth Article of the Revised Treaty between Japan and Great Britain which says:—"All lands which may previously have been granted by the Japanese Government free of rent for the public purposes of the Settlement shall, subject to the right of eminent domain, be permanently reserved free of all taxes and charges for the public purposes for which they were originally set apart." Now the ground in question is not reserved for "public purposes:" it is reserved for private purposes, namely, for cricket and athletics. It is not rent free: on the contrary, an annual rent has been paid by the Cricket Club since 1878. Finally, the period for which it was last leased textually expired on July 28th of the current year.

In answer to these objections it is urged by the framers of the protest that the lease merely gave the right of partial control and did not affect the right of use, which is secured by Treaty. In other words, they contend that, although the lease be not renewed, they are entitled to continue using the ground in its present enclosed condition. Whence do they derive that right? They can derive it only from the fact that they belong to the community of the Settlements; that they are a section of that community. Then does it not plainly follow that all sections of the community have an equal right, and that each is entitled to space for the pursuit of its own special hobby, whether swimming baths, or bowling greens, or archery ranges, or what not.

As for the rent difficulty, the framers of the protest solve it by asserting that the rent referred to in the XVIIIth Article of the Revised Treaty belongs to a category different from that of the rent paid for the Cricket Ground, the former representing commuted taxes, whereas the latter is an ordinary payment as from tenant to landlord. Therefore, they say, the rent disbursed for the cricket ground does not disqualify that ground for the privileges secured by the Revised Treaty. But if the cricket-ground rent be an ordinary payment, as from tenant to landlord, then the ordinary character of the lease is established, and the necessity of subjecting it to the every-day rules governing such documents becomes inevitable, namely, *inter alia*, that the landlord is entitled to refuse renewal on the expiration of the fixed term. But, indeed, the latter proposition may be more definitely demonstrated. For the 4th Article of the lease of 1899 says:—

> The period of renting the said land shall be 10 full years, from the 29th of July, 1891, to the 28th of July, 1909; provided that if the said Governor sees no objection, he may, on the expiration of the above time, renew the period of the lease, increasing or diminishing the rent to a degree that conforms with the price obtaining at the time.

The words "provided that the said Governor sees no objection" plainly reserve to the Governor full discretionary power either to renew or to terminate the lease. It can not be questioned that in any transaction between ordinary individuals, no idea of disputing such discretionary power would be conceived or admitted.

It is strenuously urged that, if the protest be now withdrawn, the community will stultify itself. That appears to be a belated objection. For in 1907, a majority of the foreign residents signed a memorial, one clause of which says:—

> We admit that the public gardens are intended for Japanese and Foreigners, and agree that the Authorities are quite entitled to refuse a renewal of the lease.

Thus the stultification took place when, in the face of the above memorial, a recent meeting of the Cricket and Athletic Clubs adopted a resolution claiming a Treaty right to the permanent use of the present cricket ground.

Again, it has been asserted that the proposal of the Japanese Authorities to move the ground from one part to another of the Public Garden "is one of those topsy-turvy conundrums peculiar to Japan." Turning, however, to the memorial spoken of above, we find that not only did the suggestion as to the moving of the ground emanate from the foreign community itself, but also that the reasons necessitating some change were clearly recognised:—

> When the privilege of exclusively using a part of the Public Garden was first granted to the Y.C. & A.C., and for many years afterwards, the Japanese population of Yokohama was comparatively small and did not appreciate the privilege of a public garden as they have learned to do within the last two years. The Cricket Ground occupied the centre of the oblong area constituting the Public Gardens, so that from whatever point it is entered the visitor soon perceives the fence enclosing a well-kept and tempting square of verdure reserved for the use of "a few foreigners." It is not surprising that a reservation so prominently placed meets with the disapproval of some of the citizens, natives of the land, and such people have no doubt made representations to the Authorities.
>
> We should like to secure a renewal of the present area on similar conditions, but if necessary to meet local objections, the reserved space might be removed to the corner of the Public Gardens nearest the foreign settlement, so as to leave the largest possible unrestricted area for the use of the general public.

Finally, we are constrained to allude to the unfortunate attempt that has been made to construe as an act of necessity the gracious offer of the Local Authorities to assign a new site for the Cricket Ground at one side of the Public Gardens, thus obliterating the offensively conspicuous aspect of the present enclosure, while, at the same time, continuing to provide for the cricketers and athletes a suitable arena. It has been publicly and more than once alleged that this offer is a concession forced from the Authorities by the foreign Clubs' protest, and that if the Clubs stand firm, they will obtain everything they want. Probably the advocates of these views did not reflect that they are in effect charging the Japanese Authorities with an attempt to elude a legal obligation by means of a comparatively petty concession. That, however, is the only construction that can be put upon the attitude of the Clubs, and the tactlessness as well as the injustice of the charge will be apparent when the fact is recalled that on June 29th, 1907, that is to

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say, more than two years before the above protest was formulated, the Governor of Kanagawa wrote officially to Dr. E. WHEELER, in the latter's capacity of President of the Cricket and Athletic Clubs:—

> Mr. Saka has duly conveyed to me the result of his interview as well as your further request in connexion with looking for some other place suitable for the removal of the Club at the expiration of the present lease. It goes without saying that I am anxious to assist you as much as I can in this connection, though I am not in a position to assure or guarantee your securing such a place.

Thus it will be seen that the protest formulated on July 23rd, 1909, is supposed to have produced, for the first time, on the Japanese side a mood of helpfulness and courtesy which, in reality, they had unequivocally exhibited in the Governor's letter of June 28th, 1907.

Every one in the community is keenly anxious that there should be a cricket ground as good and as conveniently located as the one which it pains us so much to surrender. Unless we have the cöoperation of the Japanese Authorities, that object can not be achieved. It is to be hoped that the meeting to-day will take these points into consideration.

THE community is to be congratulated on having finally adopted a business-like and sensible course, and on having averted a situation which must have proved exceedingly awkward. We trust that the Japanese will not draw any unfavourable inference from the vehemence and tenacity with which a section of the foreign residents adhered to the proposition that the Cricket and Atheletic Clubs were entitled to the continued use of the present ground, even though the lease under which they held control of it had lapsed. In this matter the supporters of that view were simply standing up for what they believed to be their rights. That is a way that Britishers have, and their Allies, the Japanese, should be the last to find fault with it. The temporary commotion may now be forgotten.

The one unfortunate element in the situation is that it is too late in the year to move the turf without causing it much injury. If the English method of cutting thick and rolling be adopted, the transfer might still be effected without much loss, but if the Japanese method of wafer-like cutting and petty pieces be pursued, the turf would become absolutely valueless, as the frost has fairly set in. We suggest that, since the Japanese local Authorities have stated their desire to promote the interests of the Clubs as far as possible in this matter, they be now asked to allow that the moving of the turf be postponed until March next. In the meanwhile, the new ground can be prepared, and the fence and pavilion removed from the present site, so that nothing would remain to be done in March except to transfer the turf; and if that was accomplished according to the English method, the ground would be ready for use in June. We have no authority for saying that this course would receive official sanction, but we see no reason why it should not, especially as the Public Garden is not much needed by the Japanese community during the winter months.

THE SHADOW OF A CRISIS.

IT is not infrequently the case that the full truth about a crisis or a *cause célèbre* does not transpire till long after it has passed, and, possibly, forgotten. Such would appear to have been the case with the naval crisis of March last. Considerable interest has been aroused by an article which appeared in the most recent issue of the *Quarterly Review*, entitled "the Needs of the Navy." The contributor conceals his identity, but he writes with knowledge of his subject, and make certain definite assertions with regard to the attitude of the Cabinet at the time of that crisis, which cannot fail to be of great interest to the public, particularly in view of the impending political contest in Great Britain. The writer of the article says:—

> "Unknown to the general public the Cabinet was face to face with the possibility of a disruption which would have had far-reaching consequences. Only a minority of Ministers realized the serious import of the naval movement in Germany, and the definite character of the challenge thrown down to the British people. It was due to the determination of Sir Edward Grey and Mr. McKenna, supported by the Board of Admiralty, that at last the Cabinet discovered that either an adequate programme must be put forward or the party would have to face the resignation of several of its most important members and of the whole Board of Admiralty. It was insisted by the Board that the whole truth must be told, so that the nation might judge for itself."

It was generally believed at the time that there were dissensions in the Cabinet over the ship-building programme necessitated by certain unprecedented developments on the Continent, and the names of Mr. LLOYD GEORGE and Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL were mentioned as the leaders of the "little Navy" faction. These gentlemen being more interested in their costly socialistic projects than in the safety of the country and of the Empire, rumour naturally (and, we believe, correctly) associated them with the movement for a reduction of expenditure on naval armaments at a time when other Powers, on all sides, were increasing their appropriations for warlike purposes. But the writer in the *Quarterly* tells us, for the first time, that the Board of Admiralty,—with Mr. MCKENNA, the First Lord, at its head—and supported by SIR EDWARD GREY, forced the Cabinet into accepting their minimum demands by the threat of resignation. It is common knowledge that, early in the year, the Board had urged that the 1909-10 programme of new construction should consist of *six* Dreadnoughts, besides other complementary vessels, and that the compromise had been effected of laying down, sooner them usual, *four* Dreadnoughts, with the undertaking that four more should be laid down at the beginning of the next financial year, provided the acceleration of the German programme proved to be as rapid as was anticipated. Subsequent events have shown these anticipations to have been correct, and under pressure of the strong feeling manifested throughout the country, orders have already been placed for the guns and machinery of these "contingent" Dreadnoughts. If the statement of the writer in the *Quarterly* is correct—and the story is circumstantially told—the country owes a debt of gratitude to Mr. MCKENNA and Sir EDWARD GREY, as well as to the Sea Lords, for their determined stand in the interests of the navy and of the nation. Furthermore, the incident is illustrative of the effective nature of the pressure that can be brought to bear by a united Board of Admiralty. Had the Government been so foolish as to force the matter to an issue, with the consequent resignation of the First Lord, the Civil Lord, the four Sea Lords and their staffs, there can be little doubt that an outraged country would have swept from power a Ministry so little fitted to be entrusted with the safeguarding of the national and Imperial destinies. On the other hand, of course, no Board would be justified in resigning, or in threatening to resign, unless the construction and manning votes were cut down to an extent which endangered the country; and of this the professional advisers of the Government, assuming them to be above party influences, are admittedly the best judges. Indeed, the moral to be drawn from this crisis of March last is that any Board of Admiralty placing patriotic considerations above those of party should be able to ensure the carrying out of the measures it deems necessary. But in view of the present political situation in England—a general Election fixed for January, with consequent changes in the *personnel* of the Admiralty—the shadow of the crisis of last March insistently projects itself over the future. Admiral Sir John FISHER has already retired with a peerage; in the event of the Liberals being returned to power, some other post will probably be found for Mr. MCKENNA (who has certainly incurred the enmity of the extreme wing of the so-called Liberal party), and a politician will be chosen in his place who will display some anxiety to conciliate the "Little Navy" section by effecting wholesale economies in the naval votes. We may even see Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL or Mr. LLOYD GEORGE placed in charge of that Navy "on which, under God, our safety and that of the Empire depends." And it is more than probable that, in such an event, an attempt would be made to find Sea Lords who would subserve themselves, for a time at least, to a policy of "naval retrenchment." It is here that the danger lies—unless, as Sir GEOFFREY HORNBY did in 1876, a "ring" of Admirals be formed "to prevent the Navy becoming the victim of the mere party politician." The next few years will be for the British Navy a very critical period. In the opinion of those who are in a position to speak with authority, England's naval position, at the present rate of progress, is assured up till the spring of 1912. But if, in the intervening years, her efforts are relaxed, her supremacy upon the seas will pass from her, and with it, the

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security of her whole Empire. It will be seen, therefore, that the fortunes of the political warfare, into which the country is about to be plunged, are attended with very real dangers to the British Fleet, and therefore to the British people.

"HOSPITALITY AND TAXATION."

THIS is an interesting subject, and it has been treated in an interesting manner by the *Japan Chronicle* in an article which the *Japan Gazette* reproduces. The Kobe journal is certainly to be complimented on its ingenuity and on the manner in which it exercises that faculty. The idea of tabulating the comparative payments made by foreign and Japanese residents at the open ports, and twisting the contrast into a warrant for attacking the Japanese, is startlingly novel. It amounts to saying, "we foreigners pay such an amount into your exchequer that, really, we can not afford to be polite to you into the bargain." Possibly there are minds to which such a line of reasoning may sound logical, but the number must be small. A great potency lies in figures, however. To the average reader it sounds a very formidable fact that he and his fellow-residents should be disbursing on account of national taxes a far bigger sum *per capita* than their Japanese fellow-merchants have to disburse. But in reality the so called fact is essentially misleading—so misleading as to be altogether disingenuous. It were equally just to cry out because a man who posts many letters has to spend more on stamps than a man who posts few. Not a scintilla of difference exists between the rates of the national taxes levied from foreigners in Japan and those levied from Japanese subjects. We say nothing of municipal taxes, because in that sphere there is a difference, and a very marked one too, in favour of the foreigner. Municipal taxes, however, do not constitute a count in the *Japan Chronicle's* complaint. It deals with Imperial taxes only, and having adduced statistics to show that the average paid by each foreign unit of the community is much greater than the average paid by each Japanese unit, the Kobe journal writes:—"Now in view of the facts we have adduced, there can be no doubt in the minds of impartial persons that foreigners are paying far more than their fair share, both of imperial and local taxation. The burdens of taxation are either not justly distributed or there is widespread evasion." What is meant by the former alternative—"the burdens of taxation are not fairly distributed"? The two cardinal items of national taxation in Japan are income tax and business tax. In each case the amount to be levied is fixed by the tax-payer himself. He fills in a return showing how much his yearly income is and the sources from which it is derived, and he fills in another return setting forth the details that form the basis for calculating the amount of his business tax. In short, he himself fixes the sums to be collected by the authorities. Each unit of the Japanese population follows exactly the same procedure. How can any publicist honestly formulate such a suggestion as that "the burdens of taxation are not fairly distributed?" If the statement has any value whatever in its context—namely, as bearing upon the larger average *per-capita* payment by foreign residents—, it must be interpreted as a charge that there is unjust discrimination against the foreigner. The *Japan Chronicle* is careful not to attempt any demonstration of a proposition so obviously false. Its discretion is to be commended, but what shall be said of its most disingenuous attempt to stir up baseless discontent?

There remains the second count of the thesis—"hospitality." As to that the Kobe journal has this to say:—The position of the *Japan Mail* would seem to be that in view of the "hospitality" enjoyed by foreigners in this country, criticism should be confined to appreciation. . . . . To demand that as foreigners enjoy the privilege of residing in Japan, they should refrain from all criticism save of the non-committal or laudatory variety, seems to be pushing the obligations due to hospitality pretty far indeed." Undoubtedly such a demand would be "pushing the obligations of hospitality pretty far indeed." But who has ever advanced so extravagant a proposition? If the writer in the *Japan Chronicle* were a reader of the *Japan Mail*, he would know that no such position has ever been taken by us; and if he is not a reader of the *Japan Mail*, he has no right to attribute this or that view to it. An essential characteristic of unfair controversialists is that they invent generalities which are half-truths, and state cases so disingenuously as to damn an opponent by insinuation. We have occasionally reminded the local utterers of very harsh and even malicious accusations against the Japanese that such charges come with little grace from aliens living on Japanese soil, and that they tend merely to create ill will. But to fair criticism, to criticism free from the disfigurement of intent to injure, we have never objected. It is quite vain for the enemies of Japan to imagine that they can hide their true nature under a mask of friendly criticism. No such simulation can survive public scrutiny.

BRITISH MILITARY DEFENCE.

THE question whether an army of two or three hundred thousand men will suffice, in the strenuous years to come, for the defence of the British Islands and of the vast Empire that has sprung from them, constitutes a problem of some magnitude which is exercising the minds of publicists in an ever-inceasing degree. The great self-governing Dominions, it would seem, have already made up their minds on the question. They have answered it in the negative. Consequently we see, in Australia and in Canada, full recognition of the principle that every able-bodied citizen must, by undergoing some kind of military training, fit himself for the defence of his country; and we see in these great countries, as the result of that recognition, armies in the making. If we inquire into the reason why Canada and Australia should have come to such a conclusion, we are forced to suppose that either they do not recognize the influence of sea-power, or, if they do recognize it, they regard the British Navy as inadequate for their protection. Now granting for the moment that the Colonies as a whole may be to some extent ignorant of the efficacy of sea-power as a means of defence—though this has been demonstrated again and again in the teachings of history—we are, nevertheless, unable to believe that they are absolutely blind to its influence. We believe that, were the British Fleet unquestionably supreme against all probable foes, and supreme for all time, the Colonies would gladly rest in contentment, secure in an indisputable defence. We are therefore led to fall back upon the second alternative—namely, that our principal Colonial dependencies hold the opinion that England's sea-power, as at present constituted, is insufficient to ensure them absolutely against external attack. They may, of course, be wrong. They may be misinformed as to Britain's naval strength, compared with that of other Powers; or they may consider that, in the near future, circumstances may give rise to combinations of Powers which would transform their position of safety, under the aegis of the British fleet, into one of real danger. They are therefore taking military measures for defence against invasion, in the unhappy event of a breakdown of British sea-power. In view of this action on the part of the over-sea Dominions, it is pertinent to put the question: How is the matter regarded in the Mother Country—the heart of the Empire, where any blow, to be decisive, must be struck? Do the people of the British Isles recognize the principle of universal service, as it is recognized by their kinsmen across the seas? And, recognized or not, does this principle hold good for the British Isles? It must be admitted that the process of educating an essentially conservative public to a new line of thought is, despite its difficulty, making good headway. The success which has attended Mr. HALDANE'S Territorial system—an excellent system, so far it goes—; the opening of Rifle Clubs in various parts of the country; the remarkable growth of the Boy Scout movement, are all signs which indicate that the crusade led by Lord ROBERTS, Lord MILNER and others, is bearing fruit. For this reason the publication of a new work by Mr. SPENSER WILKINSON—the greatest living authority on Imperial Defence, recently appointed Professor of Military History at Oxford—cannot but be regarded as opportune. The book, which is entitled "Britain at Bay," is written in the lucid and interesting style characteristic of this eminent Imperialist, and will certainly help to crystallize thought

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upon this difficult subject. The trend of Mr. SPENSER WILKINSON'S argument is, broadly speaking, as follows. He views with some concern the threatened consummation of a Teutonic hegemony in Europe, based on the military strength of the Austro-German Alliance, and occupying a great stretch of territory across the heart of the European continent from the Baltic to the Adriatic. To this combination, Europe is not in a position, thinks Mr. SPENSER WILKINSON, to offer any effective counterpoise without the aid of England, who might be called upon at any moment "to renew the services she rendered a fore time," that is to say, in the Napoleonic era. What is necessary therefore is "a British army equal in efficiency to the best that can be found in Europe, and in numbers to that maintained by Italy." If this is not done, a time may come when England will find her present friends compulsorily arrayed against her, and herself compelled to fight for her existence against the combined forces of Europe. As for the British navy, while giving it its rightful place in the scheme of Imperial Defence, the distinguished strategist does not, apparently, place much faith in the preparations and dispositions of the Admiralty, mainly, it would seem, in the not improbable event of their being confronted with a surprise attack. Moreover, as sea-power is now an ambition of nearly every State, and new navies are springing up on all sides, the day must come when Britain's supremacy as against the next two strongest Powers can no longer be maintained, and when "even victory at sea will have more limited results than in the past." Finally, says Mr. SPENSER WILKINSON, "a nation untrained to arms cannot stand before a people completely armed and organized for war." So long as might rules the world, England must beware that she does not go down before the Juggernaut of some more virile nation. For these several reasons, an army on the Continental scale is held to be necessary, and the author of "Britain at Bay" advocates universal service for every able-bodied youth over the age of 20. The system he proposes is, in brief, the training of infantry and field artillery for one year, and of cavalry for two years, which, with an "estimated annual contingent" of 200,000 men would, in the course of six years, give England a million trained men, at a cost not exceeding that of her present military system. Such a plan has much to commend it. If it were put into operation, while the colonial forces, (as agreed at the recent Imperial Conference), were placed on a similar and a uniform basis, the result would be to free the Empire for ever from the fear of external attack, and leave it to carry out what would prove a peaceful and, we have no doubt, a glorious development.

JUST before his death on the 23rd inst. Mr. Ando Sokumei had conferred on him by order of His Majesty, the Second Grade of the Third-class rank with the Second Order of Merit and the Order of the Sacred Treasure.

AOYAMA JO GAKUIN.

This well-known institution, situated in a spacious compound in one of Tokyo's most beautiful suburbs, has just completed a week of special exercises in commemoration of its thirty-fifth anniversary.

On Saturday, November 13th, Field Day sports and pastimes were witnessed by guests who filled the allotted space. On Sunday, Bishop Honda preached the anniversary sermon. On Monday, addresses were delivered by eminent Japanese educationists. On Tuesday, the Historical Celebration was held. On Wednesday, the attendance at the Literary Exercises exceeded the seating capacity of floor and galleries of Aoyama Gakuin Chapel.

At the Historical Celebration, addresses were delivered by Miss A. G. Lewis, the President; Miss M. A. Spencer, a former President; Mrs. Chiyo Rosaki, a former pupil; Dr. Chappell, of Aoyama Gakuin; and Soroku Ebara, M P. The historical sketch was read by Captain Okada. Greetings from the Minister of Education were presented by his representative. The American Ambassador was to have spoken, but was prevented by illness. He, however, sent a most sympathetic letter, in which he gave the substance of what he would have said if he could have been present. In the absence of the Ambassador, the only address in English was by Dr. Chappell. It was, in part, as follows:—

A preacher usually takes a text. If I should do so to day, it would be this: Whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

Your school has, from the beginning, been inbreathed by a spirit (*tamashii*). That spirit is elusive, as all that is highest is, yet it may, perhaps, be recognised in the names of some other Methodist schools.

At Hakodate is *Iai Jo Gakko*, not only, if I discern the meaning rightly, a school where love is given to the pupils, nor where in mutual affection love reigns, but a school indwelt by such a spirit that, when the pupil has gone out from its halls, whatever else she may not have learned, she will have failed if she has not learned to *give love*, the essence of nobility, the finest fruit of life, the highest education.

"If I have all knowledge and have not love,
I am nothing,
And life, with all it yields,
Is just one chance of the prize of learning love."

This same spirit may be discerned in names at Nagoya and Nagasaki, the *Seiyu* and *Kuwassui*, each a rill flowing into, and in its measure increasing, the pure river of water of life, bright as crystal, that makes glad the City of God.

Though your name, as our own, is more prosaic, simply the name of the section of Tokyo where the school is situated, yet the dream, the vision, the ideal of Hakodate and Nagoya and Nagasaki have been yours also; and what an ideal it is! That in all its life and all its influence, Aoyama Jo Gakuin shall be enriching, beautifying, purifying, only and always a blessing. "Every thing shall live whither the river cometh."

No apology is needed for making that which is deepest in the human heart deepest in the life of the school. Matthew Arnold said, "As all roads lead to Rome so all questions lead to religion." Carlyle said, "A man's religion is the chief fact with regard to him." John Stuart Mill said, "Even the most sceptical have an inner altar to the Unseen Perfection." Herbert Spencer said, "Religion, everywhere present as a weft running through the warp of human history, expresses some eternal fact." And they all are but echoes of Augustine: "O God, Thou hast made us for Thyself, and the soul is restless till it finds rest in Thee."

When one has truly become a follower of the Lord Jesus, when not only she has said,

"To be the best that I can be,
For truth, and righteousness, and Thee,
Lord of my life, I come!"

but when the Master has himself entered her being's deepest depth to abide there as a holy presence, that life must be richer, beyond the power of words to express, than one into which he has not come. "Give me a great thought," said dying Herder, "that I may refresh myself with it." Here is, not only a great thought, but a great life to be received. Here is wisdom, the summit of education, the animating spirit of all such schools as this.

Lilavati Singh, consummate flower of Hindustani womanhood, one day was reading Drummond's "The Greatest Thing in the World." "As I sat reading it," she said, "the beauty of the thought so filled my soul that I could not finish the book, and I went into my room and I knelt down beside my bed, and I thanked God for having taught me the English language, so that I could read books like that." It was something to have such a knowledge of English that the book could be read, but Lucknow Woman's College did much more for Miss Singh than that. It gave her "the vision and the faculty divine" to appreciate what she had been reading. It educated that in her which was the highest.

When your daughters return to show unchanging love for the school of their girlhood, as they do this afternoon, they may, perhaps, have to regret that much of their English has been slipping away, but they do, we trust, thank God that the most precious has not slipped away, and that, amid the light of common day, they follow the gleam.

Aoyama Gakuin, your big brother, yet your younger brother, cherishes the same spirit as your own. It is very sure that the only, yet the more than sufficient reason for its existence is that Aoyama may be, in some measure, for Japan what Oxford, through the centuries, has aimed to be for England, "the home of true religion and sound learning."

May God's benediction rest upon his handmaid as she takes up another thirty-five years of loving service. Though that will complete three score years and ten, she will then be but in the bloom and blush of early maidenhood, still going "through the days with eyes uplifted as if life were one long and sweet susprise," still

"Listening what the Spirit saith;
Catching gleams of temple spires,
Hearing notes of angel choirs,
Where, as yet unseen of them,
Comes the New Jerusalem.

"Like the seer of Patmos, gazing
On the glory downward blazing;
Till, upon earth's grateful sod,
Rests the City of our God."

What shall be our closing word? It might be, Aoyama Jo Gakuin, *Banzai*! But I know no other so suitable as this: "The beauty of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish thou the work of our hands upon us, yea, the work of our hands *establish* thou it."

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION IN AMERICA.

The members of the Japanese Commercial Mission arrived on the morning of the 17th inst. at Salt Lake City, where they had an interview with Mr. Smith, the head of the Mormon sect, and inspected the barracks and other places in the city. On the 19th the party arrived at Los Angeles *via* Delmont. They are expected to return to Japan on the 18th proximo, leaving San Francisco on the 30th instant.

On the morning of the 20th instant, the members of the Japanese Commercial Mission attended a reception given by the members of the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, and afterwards were entertained at a luncheon at the California Club. In the afternoon they visited the asylum for disabled soldiers at Oilfield, and were banqueted in the evening at the Alexandria Hotel. At the meeting, the President of the Chamber of Commerce gave an address of welcome, to which Baron Kanda replied. Baron Shibusawa was not present, being indisposed. The next day (Sunday), the party attended a welcome meeting in the building of the Young Men's Christian Association. A memorial service for the late Prince Ito was conducted. In the evening, Messrs. Nokano, Nishimura, Otani, Kadono and Watarase delivered speeches at a meeting of the Japanese Society.

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THE CRICKET GROUND QUESTION.

EXTRAORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF THE Y. C. & A. C.

THE PROTEST WITHDRAWN.

An extraordinary general meeting of the Y.C. & A.C. was held Monday evening at No. 75 Main Street, to consider the advisability of withdrawing the Club's protest in connection with the lease of the present Cricket Ground, the said protest having been lodged on the 22nd July last with Governor Sufu on the initiative of the Advisory Committee. The great interest evinced in this question was shown by the large attendance of members which surpassed that at the meeting held on the 1st inst. Dr. Wheeler, the President, was in the Chair, and was supported by Mr. D. H. Blake, Vice-President, Mr. B.C. Foster, Hon Secretary, and Mr. M. B. Lendrum, Hon. Treasurer. Among those present were Messrs. J. P. Mollison, J. Williamson Jones, and N. F. Smith (the Members of the Advisory Committee in connection with the negotiations regarding the lease) Messrs. J. H. Abbey, F. J. Abbott, H. M. Arnould, A. W. S. Austen, G. G. Brady, F. H. Bugbird, H. Cabeldu, A. E. Cooper, A J. Cornes, E. F. Crowe, K. Davis, C. Murray Duff, E. Eddison, F. L. Elliot, E. W. Frazar, W. E. Gooch, H. C. Gregory, K. Hardman, E. J. Harrington, W. Harris, H. E. Hayward, H. V. Henson, G. Hood, S. Isaacs, E. C. Jeffery, W. H. Lewis, A. J. McClure, Johnston MacClure, C. F. McWilliams, D. Marshall, S. H. Mitchell, E. K. Morgan, G. A. Neville, Captain Owston, A. L. Pollard, A. C. Hutton Potts, A. L. Robinson, A. W. Read, F. G. Sale, J. H. Shaw, Spencer Smith, W. M. Squire, C. E. Stanton, O. Strome, H. A. Stewart, F. O. Stuart, C. Thwaites, Captain Tipple, L. Watson, Dr. Worden, &c., &c.

On the conclusion of the reading of the notice convening the meeting, Dr. WHEELER, the President, said: Gentlemen,—Three weeks ago an extraordinary general meeting of the Club was held to ascertain the views of the members regarding the position created by the termination of the Club's lease of the Cricket Ground and the question of the withdrawal of the Committee's protest of July 22 last against the order to give up that ground. On that occasion the majority of the votes of the members present was in favour of upholding the protest. At the same time there was a very influential party in favour of withdrawing the protest and during the period which has elapsed since then I believe that much discussion and reconsidering of opinions in the light of available evidence has taken place, with the result that this further meeting has been called by a number of the members according to the Rules. I think most of the evidence bearing on the case has in one way or another been before you and received discussion, so that I do not think that there is any great use in our going over the old ground again, though naturally any member having new information will be welcome to speak. The Club is in a difficult position: we know that Sir Claude MacDonald, to whom the Club's views had been communicated, has on more than one occasion stated definitely that existing evidence does not sustain the claim that the ground should be continued in its present condition. We are thus in a kind of deadlock, with this unfortunate addition that we are actually breaking the letter of our contract of lease by not vacating the ground with our belongings, the pavilion, turf and palings on receiving due notice to do so. You must remember in this context that as far back as 1907 Baron Sufu notified us that the Club lease would not be renewed. If in fact our claim ultimately fail, we shall be in a very invidious position. Hitherto we have been acting in good faith, endeavouring to secure what we thought were our rights in the matter. I do not think there is anything to gain by clinging to a protest which is creating considerable ill-feeling, and may prejudice the Club in more ways than one, simply to hold on to a chance which seems so remote as to be almost lost. Morever, I do not think we lose materially by withdrawal. If by some unexpected chance further evidence were discovered bearing on the retention of the ground, our withdrawal would not naturally prevent our Representative from taking up the case on its own merits. We have had our notice to quit. The Japanese Authorities have more than once courteously acceded to our request for more time, and now whether or not this meeting shall decide for or against the withdrawal of the protest, the time has come for us to fulfil the terms of our lease by removing our properties. Will one of the gentlemen instrumental in calling this meeting bring forward a motion?

Mr. A. J. CORNES, who was received with applause, moved:—

> "That this meeting desires the Committee of the Y.C. & A.C. to withdraw its protest of 23rd July last."

He trusted that in discussing the matter that evening they would be able to avoid personalities and deal with the question on its merits, as they wished to show to all men, and especially to the Japanese among whom they lived, that although they differed, and differed very strongly, it was possible to discuss the matter as friends, or at any rate as gentlemen. ("Hear, hear.") The question before the meeting was the withdrawal of the protest, and at the outset he wished to remind the members of its terms. The operative part of the protest was: "We must respectfully protest against your order to remove the wooden railings and other things on the ground." He would remind the members that even if Mr. Mollison was right in his contention that the Club had a right to the joint use of the ground, he did not contend that the club had control; and if the Japanese had control, he (Mr. Cornes) maintained that they were within their right in ordering the removal of the palings and property from the ground, and that the Club had no right whatever to keep them there in defiance of that control. And even if, as Mr. Mollison contended, the Club had a right to joint use with the Japanese of this particular patch, was it politic and wise on the part of the Club to insist upon the point, when the Japanese had control of the ground? It was obvious that those who had control could make the position so unpleasant to those having the joint use, that it would really be of very little advantage to the Club to share in the use of the ground if there was likely to be continual friction.

The legal aspect of the case had been dealt with at the previous meeting, and it was therefore of little use going over the ground again, especially as the arguments adduced by Mr. Harrington had not been properly answered. It appeared to him quite obvious—and the opinion was strengthened by Mr. Mollison's letter in the *Japan Mail* of that morning—that the matter was decided on the authority of Mr. Consul-General Hall. But against the opinion of Mr. Hall, they had the opinions of Sir Claude MacDonald, Mr. Rumbold, Mr. Harrington, Mr. Crowe, Mr. Bonar—who was also a trained lawyer,—all members of the Diplomatic Service; while, outside, they had the legal opinions of Mr. McIvor and Mr. de Becker, both of whom agreed that as a Cricket Club they did not possess the rights for which Mr. Mollison contended. If, then, they were going to act on legal authority, they could not help agreeing with him that the protest must be withdrawn.

Turning from the legal aspect to the practical side of the case, Mr. Mollison had quoted the *Japan Chronicle* in favour of his position. But the Editor of the *Chronicle*, in reviewing the position, came to the conclusion that the protest should be withdrawn, even though he admitted there were arguments in favour of the position taken up by Mr. Mollison and his supporters. Therefore, whether they viewed the matter in the same light as Mr. Mollison, and contended that the Club had a right to joint use of the ground, though no right to its exclusive control; whether they agreed with the legal aspect of the case put forward by Mr Young; or whether they agreed with him (the speaker) that the arguments were all one-sided, and that the Cricket Club as a Club had no right to the joint use of the ground,—whether they regarded the matter from a legal or a practical standpoint, they must come to the conclusion that the protest must be withdrawn. (Applause.)

Mr. Cornes next turned to some of the points brought forward on the other side. In some quarters a good deal of emphasis had been laid on a policy of "masterly activity," advocated by Mr. Williamson Jones at the last meeting. He did not think such a policy had been successful hitherto, and he failed to see what good it would achieve in the future. The policy had received some impetus from the fact that the case had been reported to Sir Edward Grey (the British Secretary for Foreign Affairs). He (Mr. Cornes) had taken the trouble to make inquiries at the British Embassy, and he was informed that the case had been reported home in the ordinary course of business, and not sent home as a case for counsel to advise. The Embassy might get an answer from Sir Edward Grey and it might not, and even if an answer was ultimately given, it was quite impossible to say when it would be received. In view of the coming dissolution, he imagined that other matters of more importance were engaging the attention of Sir Edward, and that it was probable no answer would be forthcoming for some time. In the meantime, if the protest is allowed to that remain, the Japanese would certainly remove the fences and other property of the Club, and the bad feeling already existing would be accentuated. They, the members of the Club, would also alienate the sympathy of those Japanese who were inclined to meet the Club on the question, and they would also alienate the sympathy of the British and other Embassies. (Cries of "Oh!" and laughter.)

It had been said that the ground suggested by the Japanese as an alternative to the present Cricket Ground was a "shadowy" kind of ground. He did not think there was anything very "shadowy" about it, The size had been mentioned—two thirds the area of the present ground—and the Governor had stated that in all probability this could be extended. As for the conditions upon which the Club were to have the use of the ground, the Governor had stated that he saw no objection to the proposals made by the Club Committee. There was nothing very "shadowy" about that: it was as definite as could be.

A voice: Is it in writing?

Mr Cornes: No Sir; but in the meantime nothing can be done until the protest is withdrawn. Continuing, Mr. Cornes said the protest was standing in the way of business, and if it was maintained he was very much afraid that the young men of Yokohama, to whom the question meant much more than to him and other old members whose cricketing days were almost over, would find themselves deprived of a place where they could go and enjoy a game of cricket, tennis and other sports.

As regards the question of showing discourtesy to Sir Edward Grey in withdrawing the protest at this point, he had made inquiries of Mr. Rumbold, who assured him that there would be nothing discourteous in such action from a diplomatic point of view. The case had merely been reported home, and until something came back in a contrary sense, it would be quite correct, in a diplomatic sense, to follow the advice of the British Ambassador.

It was also urged in certain quarters that it was the duty of the Club members to "stand to their guns" and not give way. That position was all very well if they had a good case, but what if they had a bad one? Surely it was the best policy to acknowledge their position, and by so doing he was sure they would not lose anything in the estimation of the Japanese or of anyone else. By some it had been said that the Club must back up Consul-General Hall, who had taken up the matter and done so much for the Club. The speaker failed to see what benefit the protest was to Mr. Hall. The protest had placed him in a very awkward position *vis-a-vis* the Japanese and his Ambassador, and therefore for his sake it was better it should be withdrawn. The question was not a personal one at all, and did not change the legal aspect, though Consul-General Hall had been made the Prophet of the Protestors Another argument put forward in favour of retaining the protest was that the Japanese Authorities had not treated the Club well, and that it mattered little what was done at this stage. This did not affect the position in the least. As

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a Club they had to do what was right, independently of the treatment they received from the Japanese.

The speaker expressed his thanks to those members who had signed the list in favour of withdrawing the protest. In four days he secured 157 signatures, and since that time he had added another twenty names. This support showed a strong feeling among the members in favour of withdrawal, and he hoped those present would endorse that opinion by their votes. (Applause.)

In answer to a question, Mr. HARRINGTON said that something in writing had been received from the authorities as to the new ground, which would be set apart in a corner of the Park and would be 480 ft. long and some 270 ft. wide. The site would be turfed and the ground available for use both by Japanese and foreigners Definite rules and regulations were being drawn up. Since that time proposals for the use of the ground by the Y.C. & A.C. had been laid before Governor Sufu, and although he naturally could not agree to them definitely, because the protest stood in the way, he was willing to consider the matter favourably and had stated that it was his wish that the Y.C. & A.C. should be provided with a new ground, where he hoped they would find suitable accommodation.

Mr. BLAKE: When was that statement made?

Mr. HARRINGTON said the written statement was made on August 30th, and the conversation had taken place recently.

Mr. BLAKE: We knew nothing of the signed statement at the last meeting.

Mr. S. ISAACS formally seconded the proposal of Mr Cornes.

Dr. WHEELER then read the following letter which had been received from Mr. Hori, the Secretary to the Governor:—

Sir,—I am instructed by H. E. Governor Baron Sufu to communicate to you as follows:

You and the members of your Club are no doubt well aware that on the 14th July last the Governor of this Prefecture informed you that as the lease of the cricket and athletic ground within the Yokohama Park would expire on July 28th, and that, as he considered it necessary to throw the site open for the enjoyment of the general public, he could not grant a continuation of the use of the ground, and moreover he gave an extension of three months for the removal of the wooden palings and buildings and other things on the ground.

This extended period expired on the 28th October last, but nevertheless these things have not yet been removed, an attitude which he considers most unbecoming

As the things now on the ground would interfere very much when the said plot is thrown open as a park for the general public, he hopes that you will carry out the removal of these things as soon as possible. If, however, you continue to leave things as they are, he may unavoidably be compelled to take whatever action is necessary.—I have the honour to be yours, etc.,

HORI SHINJI,
Secretary, Kanagawa-kencho.

November 15. 1909.

In answer to this the President and Vice-President replied in the following terms:—

Dear Sir,—We beg to acknowledge receipt of your favour of the 15th inst., written under instructions from H.E Governor Baron Sufu.

We regret that up to the present time owing to differences of opinion existing among the members of the Club, no definite action has been taken to give effect to the Governor's request regarding the removal of the palings and buildings of the Club.

An Extraordinary General Meeting has been called for Monday next, the 22nd inst., at which time it is expected that a definite decision will be arrived at and we therefore beg to request that the Governor will be good enough to withhold any action in the matter until the result of the above meeting is known. We shall hope to have the honour of communicating with you again on this subject, not later than the 23rd inst.

Mr. MOLLISON, who on rising to speak was greeted with loud applause, said:—It is once more my privilege to endeavour to uphold what I honestly believe to be the rights to the use of the present cricket ground acquired by the early pioneers of the Settlement and which have been preserved to the present generation, represented by the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, whether for themselves or in trust for the community being apart from and which does not concern the present meeting. But as the arguments for and against these rights have been discussed *ad nauseam* in the public Press, I don't propose again to enter upon them now, especially because the question has been narrowed down to one issue, namely, whether the protest against the removal of the properties of the Y.C. & A.C. addressed to H.E. Governor Baron Sufu by the advice of, and supported by, the British Consul-General Mr. J. C. Hall, shall or shall not be withdrawn.

The position as I now find it is as follows: At the last extraordinary general meeting held on 1st November a resolution proposed by Mr. Henson and seconded by Mr. Lendrum, that the protest be withdrawn, was negatived by a counted vote of 67 to 30, and another resolution proposed by myself, and seconded by Mr. Blake, was carried practically unanimously, that Sir Claude MacDonald be respectfully requested to refer the whole question to Sir Edward Grey for his opinion. Another resolution previous to mine, proposed by Mr. Cornes and seconded by Mr. Gordon Bowden, was carried by a small majority, to the effect that Sir Claude MacDonald be asked to furnish the Club with the terms and conditions under which Baron Sufu proposed to allot a corner of the Public Garden for sports in lieu of the present Cricket Ground when the latter had become a thing of the past. This resolution of Mr. Cornes, as Sir Claude rightly pointed out in his reply, asked for information that had, as far as was possible, been already supplied, and also conflicted with mine, so could not be considered. Realizing this beforehand, I suggested to Mr. Blake that as my resolution was the last one carried at the meeting and overshadowed the other, being, in fact, an amendment to it, and inasmuch as mine had been carried almost unanimously, it would be well only to trouble Sir Claude with mine. The Committee of the Y.C. & A.C. decided, however, that both must go forward to the Embassy, with the result already stated, namely, that Mr. Cornes' motion could not be considered. Replying to the letter from the Y.C. & A.C. embodying my resolution, Sir Claude stated that the question had already been submitted to Sir Edward Grey, the first batch of papers going forward by the "Empress" mail, which left on 28th October, and further papers by a subsequent Siberian mail, which it was expected would be in Sir Edward Grey's hands, along with those despatched *viâ* Vancouver, about the same date, say the 23rd or 24th November. Please take note of these dates, gentlemen, because I shall have more to say about them presently.

Under the circumstances as described, any ordinary individual, say "the man in the street," would have thought that the question was to be left to Sir Edward Grey's decision after he had been given time to study the papers. But not so the opinion of a certain section of the members of the Y.C. and A.C. headed by Mr. Cornes. Although he had minimized the value of the protest, and stated at the meeting on 1st November that too much time had been wasted over its discussion, he at once started a house-to-house visitation with a view to obtaining signatures to a list having for its object the nullifying by stultification of the majority vote of members against the withdrawal of the protest. My opinion of this action has been freely stated in the public Press, and I shall adhere to it. I think it a most unbecoming proceeding, and if any member who voted with the majority on the 1st November signed Mr. Cornes' list I leave him to deal with his own conscience. But I do not believe there is such a man in Yokohama. On the contrary, I feel that Mr. Cornes' unworthy action is appreciated at its true value, and that not only all who voted with the majority on 1st November are present to-day to vote the same way, but that Mr. Cornes' action has influenced many others, hitherto indifferent, to join the same majority, if only from their love of fairplay and straightforward dealing.

As the result of Mr. Cornes' action, we are to-day confronted with Mr. Cornes' resolution that the protest shall be immediately withdrawn. What shall we do with it, gentlemen? Throw it out, of course, and consign the list of adherents to the wastepaper basket, to which it rightly belongs, rather than have it handed down to posterity as evidence of one of the blackest incidents in the history of Yokohama—an incident representing a party of Britishers banded together, Britishers I repeat, against a combined band of their fellow-countrymen and Americans—and for what purpose? To try to nullify the efforts of the latter to preserve for the present generation of young men, and for generations yet to come ground on which to play England's national game of cricket, *the* Cricket Ground of Japan, that has, taken forty years and cost thousands and thousands and thousands of *yen* to bring to its present pitch of perfection. One might have thought that these Britishers, even if they could not share the views of those who wish to see the present cricket ground preserved, would have stood aloof and enabled their fellow residents to present a united front to the Japanese officials, instead of a house divided against itself. Why do Mr. Henson and his adherents wish the protest withdrawn? The answer is seen in the letter to the *Japan Gazette* of last Monday. Not that thereby the use of the present cricket ground shall be secured to us, but because it has given umbrage in Japanese official circles. What else could be expected? Nothing! But the same phenomenon attached to the House Tax Question and to the still unsettled Municipal Tax Question, on which Mr. Henson has absorbed very different ideas from a study of the Treaties to those he has formed on the Cricket Ground Question, though I maintain that our position in regard to the latter is as strong, if not stronger, than it is in the other. Certainly stronger than our case on the House Tax Question, which was fought and won at The Hague, thanks in very great measure, as everybody knows, to the laborious study and able arguments and advocacy of Consul-General Hall.

If Sir Edward Grey takes up the question at all, I feel convinced that we have a great chance of the same success as in the House Tax Question, and, therefore, it behoves every member of the Club, who loves the old, historical Cricket Ground,—and who does not?—to see to it that Sir Edward Grey gets an opportunity of giving his opinion.

If Mr. Henson and his friends are so sure of their position and contention that we have no right whatever to the present Cricket Ground, why are they afraid to let it go before Sir Edward Grey? I mean, why their excessive anxiety to get the protest withdrawn before the papers can possibly reach Sir Edward Grey's hands? That is a question I would like answered to the satisfaction of the meeting. To my mind there is only one answer, viz., that they fear Sir Edward Grey may take up the question, and not improbably endorse the views held by Consul-General Hall. It would make things easier and pleasanter for Mr. Henson and his adherents to be able to telegraph Sir Edward Grey to-morrow that he need not bother about the Cricket Ground question as it has been settled by the withdrawal of the protest; but having at the last general meeting voted almost unanimously that the matter should be referred to Sir Edward Grey for his opinion, and Sir Claude MacDonald having so referred it, I sincerely trust all members present will show their appreciation of Sir Claude MacDonald's courtesy in acceding to their wishes, and their respect for Sir Edward Grey's decision, which they have asked for, by waiting patiently until it reaches them, rejecting Mr. Henson's resolution and adopting, unanimously, if possible, the following amendment:—

"That having regard to Sir Claude MacDonald's courtesy in acceding to the request of the members of the Y.C. & A.C. that the Cricket Ground Question be referred to Sir Edward Grey's decision, and by way of showing their respect for Sir Edward Grey's solicited opinion, that decision be deferentially waited for before any definite action is taken, and that in the meantime the protest be maintained."

I propose that as an amendment to Mr. Cornes' resolution, and would ask the Chairman to call for a division on the question (not merely a show of hands) by way of making it clear to all present who is for, and who against, us on this momentous question. (Applause.)

The following letters were then read by the Secretary:—

British Embassy, Tokyo, November 7.

Gentlemen,—On the evening of the 5th I received

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your communication of November 2nd through H.M. Consul-General at Yokohama, stating that at a meeting held in Yokohama on the 1st instant it had been practically unanimously resolved to desire me to submit the whole question of the Cricket Ground to H.M's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs for his decision.

In reply I beg to state that I have already sent the greater part of the papers in this case to the Foreign Office by the Canadian Mail of the 28th ultimo, and the rest, including a brief account of the meeting of the 1st, by the Siberian Mail of last week. Sir Edward Grey will therefore be in possession of all the facts of the case by the 23rd or 24th instant.

I would take this opportunity of stating that I trust the Committee and members of the Y.C. and A.C. are appreciative of the tolerant courtesy of H. E. the Governor of Kanagawa-ken in continuing to refrain from putting into force the undoubted rights he possesses in the matter of removing the fixtures of the Club from the present ground, rights vested in him by the law of Japan and specifically accorded to him by the terms of the lease made between His Excellency's predecessor and the Y.C. & A.C.—I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient Servant,

CLAUDE M. MACDONALD,
H.B.M.'s Ambassador.

British Embassy, November 7.

Gentlemen,—On the 5th instant I received your communication of the 2nd inst. through H.B.M.'s Consul-General at Yokohama stating that it had been resolved at a meeting of the Y.C. & A.C. held in Yokohama on the 1st to request me "to ascertain from the Japanese Government full particulars of the ground which it has been suggested might under certain conditions be reserved for the use of Japanese and foreigners alike within the Yokohama Park, together with any conditions upon which the said ground will be rendered available for foreigners.

The terms of this resolution have come somewhat as a surprise to me and I think, on reflection, you will allow that I have reason to be surprised, if nothing else. You will remember that at the meeting of Oct. 22 held at the Consulate General, at which you were present, and which was also attended by the Committee of the Advisory Committee and several prominent members of the Club, I was asked by the members present to ascertain from the Japanese authorities the information now asked for by your present resolution and I expressed my willingness to do so. Further, in order to expedite matters it was proposed that I should be furnished with a list of suggestions as to their use of the proposed new ground which would be satisfactory to the Club and which I might put before the Japanese authorities and endeavour to obtain. To this I agreed, and having received the said list of suggestions from the Club, I lost no time in placing these conditions before the highest Japanese authority concerned, namely His Excellency Governor Sufu, who after some discussion practically approved as far as he could all the Club's suggestions, provided a protest made by the committee in July last against His Excellency's order to remove the fixtures of the Club from the present ground under the terms of the Club lease itself, was withdrawn.

I told his Excellency that as he had approved the Club's suggestion, I did not think there would be any difficulty as to the withdrawal of the protest, which indeed I understood the committee had expressed their willingness to do at their meeting on the previous evening. On the following day I was informed that the signatories of the protest declined to withdraw it without the mandate of a general meeting.

Having ascertained that a general meeting had been called for the 1st instant, and thinking that the steps I had taken by desire of the Club might not be known to all its members, I wrote you a letter, Mr. President, setting forth the above facts. In it I clearly stated that the members' suggestions had been put before His Excellency the Governor, who had practically approved them, provided the protest was withdrawn. As you are aware, the general meeting adopted a resolution, by a considerable majority declining to allow the protest to be withdrawn.

The two resolutions are therefore contradictory, and I cannot again take action in accordance with your first, so long as your second holds good.—I am, Gentlemen, your most obedient Servant,

CLAUDE M. MACDONALD.

Mr. BLAKE, in seconding Mr. Mollison's amendment, said he had little to say on the subject. The pros and cons had been discussed in the public press, and everyone could form his own opinion. Personally, he thought that if it were to the best interests of the Club to withdraw the protest he would be the first to do so, but he believed it would not be wise to do anything until Sir Edward Grey's reply had been received. In his opinion too much had been made of the protest. It was stated that the authorities had said nothing could be done until the protest was withdrawn. That might, or might not be, the case. He himself thought that the Japanese would pay no attention to the protest if it were valueless. If it were of value the Club should adhere to it.

Mr. B. C. FOSTER said he had been informed by a Japanese that the leading people of Tokyo and Yokohama were in favour of the ground remaining as it is, but were annoyed at the action of the Club. If the protest were withdrawn, many leading Japanese citizens would use their influence to secure the present ground for the foreign community.

MR. SHARMAN said that ten years ago the Club signed a lease of the present ground, which had now expired. It seemed to him very unlikely that Sir Edward Grey would advise the Club to break the contract. If the home authorities took up the question and finally submitted it to arbitration they might have to wait three years for a decision. In the meantime, what would they do for a ground? This question affected the younger members more than the gentlemen seated at the table. (Laughter). What was wanted was a ground to play on. The protest therefore must be withdrawn. This would put the Japanese authorities in a better frame of mind, and would make things easier for all parties.

Mr. K. HARDMAN said that supposing, for the sake of argument, Mr. Mollison was correct in his position regarding the right of the Club to the joint use of the ground with the Japanese, could he guarantee this right in perpetuity?

Mr. MOLLISON thought that if the rights claimed were confirmed, there would be no difficulty.

Mr. HARDMAN asked on what ground Mr. Mollison based this conclusion. Was it on the Treaty revision?

Mr. MOLLISON said that such was the case.

Mr. HARDMAN asked when the Treaties expired.

Mr. MOLLISON pointed out that the revision of the Treaties takes place in 1911, but he did not think such revision would affect the right to the ground. The last revision of the Treaties took place in 1899, and the control of the ground from that time remained in the hands of the Club.

Mr. HARDMAN asked whether there was any guarantee that the position would be unaltered in 1911, when the Treaties are revised?

Mr. BLAKE thought that seeing the position regarding the ground was maintained at the time of the last Treaty Revision, the Treaty Powers would make doubly sure, on the next occasion, that the right which it was held belonged to foreigners would be maintained under the new Treaties.

Mr. HARDMAN said there was no guarantee. The Club were simply pursuing a shadow, but here they had the substance, in the shape of a very reasonable offer by the Japanese. (Applause).

Mr. MOLLISON, in answer, said that the Club had no guarantee of what the Japanese authorities were going to do for them in the matter.

The CHAIRMAN thought it was of little use wasting time in hair-splitting over this matter.

Mr. HENSON asked that the original proposition and amendment be read.

Mr. MCCLURE said the Club was now awaiting Sir Edward Grey's decision, so that the protest could not affect the matter one way or the other.

Mr. SPENCER SMITH was of the opinion that Mr. Mollison's motion was not an amendment. The question was whether the protest be withdrawn or not. Mr. Mollison's motion dealt with something altogether different, and if it was carried, the members would be no farther ahead on the main proposal they were called to discuss.

MR. EDDISON said there was only one subject to be discussed that evening—the withdrawal of the protest, or not.

In order to simplify matters Mr. MOLLISON said he would add to his amendment: "and that in the meantime the protest be maintained."

Mr. BLAKE, the seconder of the original amendment, agreed to this addition.

A division then took place, the result being as follows:—

For withdrawal of the protest 104
Against 47

A suggestion by Mr. WILLIAMSON JONES to make the withdrawal unanimous was not listened to.

Mr. BLAKE asked what was to be done with the fences, turf, etc. Were they to be handed over to the authorities? The question of the disposal of the Pavilion could be considered later.

Mr. HARRINGTON moved that the disposal of the Club's property be left to the discretion of the Committee.

This having been duly seconded and passed, the meeting was brought to a conclusion.

ENGLAND IN JAPANESE EYES.

V.—THE LAST PERFORMANCE OF THE "MIKADO"

(A)

The Special Correspondent of the *Asahi* at St. Petersburg had given me a letter of introduction to Mr. Watney, head of the Foreign Department of the *Daily Mail*. When I made my call Mr. Watney was unfortunately out of town, but one of the secretaries, Mr. Mallow, received me in his stead. As good luck would have it, Lord Northcliffe, the Director of the *Mail*, happened to be in the building when I called, and on Mr. Mallow asking me if I should not like to meet his Lordship, I gave a most willing consent, and off we started for the Director's office.

I found Lord Northcliffe to be a short, stout pleasant-looking man, who, as soon as he set eyes on me jumped off his chair to greet me, grasped me by the hand, and gave me a most profuse welcome. It was quite a contrast to some welcomes that I received elsewhere;—a stiff "delighted I'm sure" to take the place of our equally formal *hajimemashite*.

* * *

When his Lordship found that I was a journalist, his heart warmed towards me, and he became effusive and insisted on my staying to talk with him. We touched on many topics, he and I; at last he told me of the great interest which had been aroused in London by a series of articles giving a Frenchman's impressions of London which had recently appeared. "We have never yet had anything of the kind from a Japanese," he added; "don't you think you might manage to write something?"

I answered point blank, that I had no desire to write anything of the kind. It would be extremely difficult for me to do so whilst Prince Fushimi was in England.

"Why no," he replied; "the fact of the Prince being here will make your articles all the more interesting"

"Perhaps so," was my next plea, "but so long as he is here I shall have no time at all for writing."

"Oh, nonsense, however busy the Prince's presence may make you, you won't be so busy that you can't give 30 minutes or even an hour to it"

"If it were in Japanese, now," I pleaded, "I'd do it like a shot; but in English, well, really."

But he would take no refusal.

"If that's all," he said, "we'll do the writing for you, here in the office. All we shall ask of you will be to come here and give us the facts."

This was worse and worse. Here I was, a traveller, with no books or notes by me, what was I to write? "But we don't want anything taken out of books of reference; what we want is just your impressions on coming to London for the first time, just a simple statement, the simpler and more straightforward the better."

"But I haven't seen London yet. I have been scarcely ten days. I went straight from the Station to the Hotel, from the Hotel to the Japanese Embassy, and I have seen nothing at all." I have received no impressions."

Alas! all my wriggling was in vain!

"If you have seen nothing," said his Lordship, "we'll see that you see something." And as he would take no refusal I was obliged, almost with tears in my eyes, to give my consent.

And thereupon his Lordship rang his bell, and sent for Mr. MacKenzie, who had been in Manchuria as a war-correspondent, and was now engaged as special correspondent to the *Mail*, with general instructions to keep himself in readiness for any sudden call, whether in Asia or South Africa.

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"Mr. MacKenzie," he said, "you will please take this gentleman, and show him London."

And so I was taken in tow, very much against my will.

(B.)

And now let me make an honest confession. I am such a reprobate that, even now, I had no real intention of writing anything.

I thought that sight-seeing in London would take at least four or five days. Then I should plead the multiplicity of my engagements and find some pretext or other for putting the thing off until they got tired of asking me for it. I thought I was dealing with my fellow-countrymen, but I was mistaken. The *Mail* was not going to let me off like that.

Mr. Mackenzie and I went out of the Director's room together. As we got into the elevator, Mr. Mackenzie explained to me that he was now in charge, and that I must tell him frankly what I wanted to see and do in London. Before we left the elevator I was irrevocably doomed. I had told him that I wanted to see the Houses of Parliament first of all, then the Schools, the Law Courts, the Churches, the best Hotels, Clubs, Theatres, and Music Halls, that I wanted a day's excursion to the country in a motor-car, and that above all I wanted to witness a performance of the *Mikado* which had just been prohibited in London. Mr. Mackenzie smiled a wicked smile, assented to everything I said, and took me to the photographic studio in the *Mail* building to have my portrait taken.

The next morning he came to call for me according to promise. He had a carriage waiting for me.

"To day," he said, "we will first go to the Criminal Court, then lunch at the Savoy, and then go the rounds of some other Courts of law. Afterwards we will take the three o'clock train from Pancras and run down to Sheffield."

I grasped the idea of the Courts of Law, and the lunch at the Savoy.

"But why go to Sheffield?" I asked.

His answer was that the last performance of the Mikado was to be given that evening at Sheffield, and that he had already telegraphed to engage a box. The performance began at eight, so we must take the three p.m. train.

I answered that it seemed to me that three o'clock was rather early. I imagined Sheffield to be somewhere in the suburbs of London, and could not understand how it should take us all that time to get there. Then I was told that Sheffield was not very far from Manchester, that it was 185 miles from London, and that even the three o'clock train, which was an express, would not get us to Sheffield until ten minutes to eight. We should have to stay the night, he added with a smile, but he had already telegraphed for rooms at a hotel.

After that my pride gave way. I was thoroughly humbled (and yet delighted) at the thought of all the trouble they were taking for me, and I resolved that I must requite it by writing something, I really must. But I still thought I might take four or five days in sightseeing, and then settle down leisurely to a piece of composition.

* * *

As soon as the train reached Sheffield we hastily deposited our luggage at the Hotel, called a cab, and rushed off to the Lyceum Theatre. We found a crowded house, for the report that this would probably be the last performance of the *Mikado* had brought together many spectators from the whole countryside. The first act was just beginning as M. and I entered our box, and some thirty maidens in flowery cotton *kimono* were disporting themselves on the stage with fans and singing the chorus of "Our Great Mikado." They had not the slightest idea that a real yellow-skinned native of the country had travelled between 150 and 160 miles to see them performing. At the end of the first act the lights were all turned up. It had been noised about that a Japanese was present, and all eyes were fixed on me, the more intently because of the stir there had been about the prohibition of the Mikado. One of the Sheffield papers announced the next day that I was an official of the Japanese Household Department, and that I was coming down on special business in connection with the play.

The interval lasted about fifteen minutes, and we were just discussing whether we would not go and have a cup of tea or something, when a messenger came inviting us to the Manager's Room. We at once accepted the invitation, and following our guide were taken through all sorts of winding corridors and dusty passages to the manager's room, which was a litter of paper and empty bottles with a few tables and chairs standing about in the most hopeless confusion. In the middle of the room was sitting a stout active little old man, who came forward to meet us. We were told that he was the manager of the Savoy Theatre and held the sole rights of performance for the Mikado. Next came the youthful manager of the Lyceum. Mackenzie, as usual, did the business of introductions. I saw him with his head in my direction and caught the word "distinguished." The Manager said he would like to offer us something to drink, and in a trice, tea, tansan, whiskey, and tumblers. The old gentleman from the Savoy solemnly raised his glass. "The Anglo-Japanese Alliance." Was there ever such an "excuse for a glass" as this same Anglo-Japanese Alliance?

When the second Act had come safely to an end, we were thinking of going home, when the old gentleman came in to fetch us He said we must have a parting drink, and sure enough when we reached the office we found the glasses all arrayed before us and ready for emptying. It was a case of "no heel-taps," and it was a case of drinking one health after another; the Emperor of Japan, Prince Fushimi, King Edward VII, without pause or respite. As the wine warmed us up our tongues became loosened, and the old gentleman began a discourse on telescopes and the methods of computing stars. He had once lectured on Astronomy at the Naval College, before taking up the theatrical business. It may have been a come-down in the world; still it was far more profitable, he said, to compute how many visitors, at so much a head, would visit his theatre in a given number of days, than it was to make similar calculations as to the number of stars that would make their appearance in a given area during a given space of time.

And then, in my excitement, I let slip the candid remark that the way in which the leading actress held her *samisen* reminded me of a tea-house girl ladling out the rice!

Instantly the old man pounced upon me. "How ought she to hold it?"

I was by this time a good deal under the influence of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance.

"I cannot explain it," I said: "bring me a *samisen* and I will show you."

And the old gentleman, who must been under the foreign rule of King Edward VII. as well as under the influence of the Anglo Japanese Alliance, sent for not only a *samisen*, but for the lady actress herself in all the finery of her Yum-yum costumes.

I was nicely caught; but I assumed the face and airs of a music master, and gave a lucid and interesting lecture on the holding and handling of the festive *samisen*. My audience listened enraptured. Presently they looked as though they would ask me to sing, and Mackenzie and I thought it prudent to beat a hasty but dignified retreat.

The doors of the Theatre were all shut, but we managed to get an emergency door close to the manager's office opened for us, and so slipped out into the street. It was raining in torrents, and the wind howled drearily.

We had carried out the whole of our programme. We had seen the Law Courts, we had lunched, we had run down to Sheffield, we had been to the Theatre, we had slept at the Hotel. The next morning we left for London by the second train.

As we were taking our seats, M. remarked that we should have three hours before reaching London, and that I might as well write my manuscript in the train.

That was a terrible blow for me.

"I have no pen," I faltered.

"Never mind: pencil will do. And here is some paper if you want it."

"I can't write," I said, "without a dictionary."

"You just go on writing," he said, "and when you are stumped for a word I'll help you out."

Do what I would, I could not wriggle out of my promise. At last I gave way with a pretty poor grace, and set myself to writing.

Mackenzie sat by my side. I wrote a page or two.

"A little more," said my stern mentor. And so it went on, "little more," and "little more," until, by the time we had reached London, I had finished my article.

When I thus realized how much trouble and expense English journals are willing to incur, I ceased to wonder at the fact that they get such an excellent supply of readable matter.

THE PRESENT CONDITION OF THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT.

A Seoul correspondent, says the *Asahi*, reports that on the occasion of an interview between Premier Katsura and Mr. Chhyo, the Korean Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, the Minister asked the Premier to dissolve the allied three political parties existing in Korea. Marquis Katsura rejected the request, replying that the Resident-General is the right person to whom such an application should properly be made, and that, in his opinion, there is no need to dissolve those parties. The details were telegraphed to the Residency-General and the matter having reached the ears of the members of the said parties, an antagonistic feeling of those not satisfied with the present Korean Cabinet appears to have been kindled. It is currently rumoured that an association calling themselves the Koantung party is planning to organize a new political party, being backed by the Christian Missions and with funds obtained from the land attached to the Confucian shrines in various provinces. The party's object is to overthrow the Il Chin Hoi and the Tai Han Hyon Hoi. This is, of course, a matter of impossibility and has no connection whatever with the present Ministry, but the situation is not to be slighted. Whether it is owing to these circumstances or not, the fact remains that the State Ministers have held several conferences to consider the proper measures to be taken. The predominant opinion among the ministers seems to be that in view of the unaltered policy of the Japanese Government and of the Japanese people in general towards Korea, the Korean Emperor should carry out his intention of visiting Japan, in order to secure the good-will of this country, and to solidify the foundations of Korea. It seems probable that the matter will be settled after a few more conferences of the Cabinet Council have been held.

MR. HULBERT AND THE ASSASSINATION OF PRINCE ITO.

THREATENED LIBEL ACTION AGAINST THE "ASAHI."

A Peking telegram of yesterday's date to the *Asahi* states, says the *Kobe Herald*, that a statement concerning Mr. Hulbert and Mr. Underwood, which was published in the *Asahi* of the 8th inst. under the heading "Two Dangerous Americans," was cabled to the Peking correspondent of the *New York Herald* on the 11th. The correspondent appears to have wired it to Mr. Hulbert and Mr. Underwood, for, on the 16th, Mr. Hulbert telegraphed to the correspondent from Mukden that if the *Asahi* accused himself and Mr. Underwood of being accomplices of the assassin of the late Prince Ito they would bring an action against that paper for defamation of character. He added that the American Government would not remain silent, if they were excluded from Korea. The message adds that Mr. Hulbert's telegram was published in yesterday's *Peking Daily News*.

A Seoul telegram of yesterday's date to the *Mainichi* states that a younger brother of the assassin of the late Prince Ito has been dismissed from his position as a teacher in the French School at Chinnampo on account of his relationship to the culprit.

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THE JAPANESE COMMERCIAL MISSION.

The visit of the Honorary Commercial Commissioners of Japan to the United States has proved to be a happy thought finely carried out. To-day we read of their visit to Newport, R.I., long the seat of the Perry family, from which so many officers entered the United States Navy and where stand to-day, in honour, the bronze statues of Oliver Hazard Perry, the hero of Lake Erie, and Matthew Calbraith Perry, who led the great peaceful armada to Japan. So far as my researches have enabled me to say, Captain M. C. Perry received his orders from the Navy Department to proceed to Japan on the very day that the present Emperor Mutsushito was born. Recent study of the private and official papers of the late William A. Graham, then Secretary of the United States Navy, put beyond doubt the fact, that he first grasped the whole situation and put in operation the line of activities which is known in history as "the American Expedition to Japan." It is none the less equally true that, from first to last, Millard Fillmore, the President, gave to the subject his keenest interest and backed his Secretary Graham in all that led to the success of the movement, which was essentially peaceful. It is also true, as I shall show in my forthcoming "Life and Times of Millard Fillmore," that the President of the United States ordered Perry to submit to no indignities, such, for instance, as Commodore Biddle had, acting under peremptory orders, suffered personally in Yedo Bay.

It was Baron Eiichi Shibusawa who led the delegation from Boston. By special train they arrived in Newport and stood with reverent posture and uncovered head before the Commodore's grave. Taking from a box a large laurel wreath, with a base of white roses, and tied with long ribbon streamers of white and red, the national colours of Japan, he led his countrymen in the ritual of remembrance in which all joined. He then placed the floral piece at the base of the Perry monument. This is, of course, in the cemetery and is different from the bronze statue in Truro Park. The pedestal of this monument in the public square has on it bronze bas-reliefs showing scenes from the landing ceremonies and treaty negotiations, both at Kurihama and at Yokohama. This artistic work was executed, some years ago, by our veteran sculptor John Quincy Adams Ward.

In Boston the remainder of the Japanese party spent a quiet Sunday, for the inclement weather caused the postponement of many automobile and sight-seeing trips, while incidentally enabling the hosts, in a city, traditionally at least, Puritan, and once famous for keeping the Sabbath and ignoring Christmas, to observe something like a day of rest. However, the Japanese were given an inspection of the new Boston Museum of Fine Arts (associated with the honoured name of Fenollosa) and of the Public Library "Built by the People and Endowed by the Munificence of Citizens;" on the granite walls of which are chiselled deep the names of Michizane and Rai Sanyo. A large collection of Japanese pictures had been arranged in the photograph room for the benefit of the commission. In the evening a reception was tendered by the Japanese Society and the Naniwa Club, the ladies from Nippon being entertained at an informal tea in another room of the Hotel Vendome.

Personally I had enjoyed hearing of this Commission, which contains several old friends, being entertained in those four cities in which most of my life after my return from Japan in 1874, has been spent, Schenectady, New York, Boston, and Ithaca. At Ithaca, which has a classic name four thousand years old, though as a city it can boast of a century of age from the time of its settlement, the visitors found not only Japanese students, who were bi- or tri-lingual, but they also received two pretty booklets, one in their own script and tongue and the other in English, daintily printed. Our little city of fifteen thousand people prepared, long before the event, to give the visitors a hearty reception. On the committee appeared the names of most of the prominent citizens, while at the railway station they were met by a delegation consisting of the former mayors, village presidents, representatives of Cornell University and the Japanese Club. Traversing the flats of the lower town and ascending the hill in automobiles, they reached the campus of the University. There the Japanese "grand old man" was received by our own venerable first citizen, Hon. Andrew D. White, ex-Ambassador to Germany, whose name is known in most civilized countries and whose decorations and honours are many indeed. Being both of about the same height and figure, with the avoirdupois rather predominating on the side of Japan, they with the others made an interesting group. After looking at some of the manifold departments of a University which, though but forty years old, has over four thousand students and ranks hardly second to any in the land, they inspected the local gun and bicycle chain works and then rested until dinner time.

At the Ithaca Hotel there was probably little of novelty in the dinner or the general tone of the speeches, but it came as a genuine surprise, in this little city, to hear an American lady sing in pure Japanese a stirring ode, entitled Banzai O Nippon! The English words, written by Mr. E. Burdette Smith, managing editor of the Ithaca *Daily Journal*, were translated into Japanese by Mr. Gakuichi Kan of Boston, while Herr Karl Schmidt, of Louisville, Kentucky, the eminent violincello virtuoso, supplied to the Japanese lines the rhythm, and music in military spirit appropriate. Tremendous applause by the Japanese followed the rendering of the song. Both in the dining hall and in the city the Japanese national standard was in evidence and one American flag, the first to be unfurled in the interior of Japan as early as 1872, at Fukui in Echizen, was used. With a sun-banner of regulation size, it adorned the side of a great card on which were inscribed the Chinese characters for Welcome.

A lecture engagement having prevented my meeting my Japanese friends in Ithaca, I had this honour and pleasure at Manlius, N.Y. This is one of the hundred or so places in the Empire State named from classic precedents cited from Lampriere's Dictionary by the land commissioners, though Simeon DeWitt, the founder of our city of Ithaca, received the odium of being so unoriginal and was saluted by the wits as "god-father of the newly-christened West" over a century ago. At Manlius, a dozen miles or so from Syracuse, is the military school of St. Johns, one of the six commended by army officers of the United States Government, at the head of which is Major William Verbeck. He is a son of the great missionary to Japan, who, as early as 1859, began to make the New Testament, the Constitution of the United States, modern science and European languages thoroughly known to select pupils at Nagasaki, among whom were Count Okuma and the late Count Soyeshima.

Nowhere was the Commission more at home than at Manlius, for Major Verbeck remembers his childhood's speech and has always enough Japanese pupils in his school to keep his tongue well used to the idioms of Nippon. Furthermore, with the aid of the Mikado's subjects, he put in order and refurbished the Japanese garden and house which adorn one corner of his grounds. Then, after meeting all the ladies and many of the gentlemen on the porch of his dwelling house, which has in it several happy features borrowed from Japan, he brought his guests into the main building, where they saw within the hall confronting them two large Chinese characters meaning "Welcome." These were made of brown grains of coffee set against a background of yellow corn meal, with a wide border of grains of puffed rice. In the big dining hall, after the cadet band had ceased the playing of music, there was the usual sufficing American fare and cookery, but there was also a Japanese menu consisting of three or four delicacies, which I remember well of old, though the technical names have long since slipped my memory.

Your humble servant was the only speaker in English at this function, though many greater and more honourable men from West Point, Syracuse and other places were present. Naturally, he recalled the past, especially that day in Tokyo in 1873, when Shibusawa's financial manifesto was made public. A reference to Ronin and a certain state of mind cherished, when the speaker landed on the soil in 1870, by many men now high in the Government, but who have since changed their opinions, and actions excited Japanese attention. The speaker in English also denounced the use of the vulgar and degrading term "Jap," and exposed the abominable slander that the natives of Nippon could not be trusted to count their own money.

These and various other points made, when translated into Japanese, most felicitously, fluently and without neglect of a detail, by Consul-General Midzuno, and delivered to the Japanese part of the audience, had an effect utterly unexpected, by the speaker at least and certainly not looked for by the host, when every minute was precious, for the Japanese had arrived late. Baron Shibusawa had already made his one and the only expected Japanese speech and it had been duly translated. Yet scarcely had Mr. Midzuno ceased than, rapping with the butt of his knife upon the table for quiet, Baron Shibusawa rose and spoke for twenty minutes. He delivered with deep feeling what Baron Kanda declared was the most polished, eloquent, and forcible speech he had ever heard from the Baron's lips and heart. The main point of the orator's impassioned plea was, that, in his early career and especially in opposing foreigners and intercourse with them, he was none the less patriotic, but he was very ignorant as to the real motives of the merchants and missionaries. Because of that chapter in the history of Japan which the Spaniards and Portuguese had opened in the sixteenth century, he feared for his country and people. His conclusion was for a mutually better understanding by more profound and exact knowledge on both sides.

Space fails me to tell about the ladies who everywhere made the finest impression. By their ease and grace, they quickly make friends with the American women. Yet pleasing as it was for an old resident in Japan to meet them and inflict a little of his broken commonplaces upon them, which they patiently bore, it is a pleasure to confess that on the occasion of the Emperor's birthday in New York on November 3rd, where we usually meet from fifteen to thirty women from Japan the variety in age, figure, accomplishments, and dainty dress of Nippon's fair daughters, and smaller assemblage of Japanese ladies is utterly eclipsed.

W.E.G.

Ithaca N.Y., Oct. 26, 1909.

CHINESE NOTES.

A remarkable growth in the demand for Chinese tea in England has taken place during the past three years, the imports having increased from 13½ million odd pounds in 1906 to 22 million in 1909. Of course the bulk of the tea consumed in Great Britain comes from British India and Ceylon, but the imports from the former during the above period show a falling off of no less than nearly 11 million pounds (in round figures, 183½ million in 1906 and 173 million in 1905), while those from the latter place show but a slight increase of 2 million (106 million in 1906 and 108 million in 1908). As is well known, most of the Chinese tea exported to England has hitherto been used for blending purposes, but the above returns would seem to indicate that the virtues of the tea are becoming better appreciated by the mass of the people, who in the past have been content with a beverage noted for its astringency and intensity of colour.

Referring to the late season's teas, the *Lancet*, in a recent number said:—We have received a sample of the new season's China teas and we quite agree that the growth is of remarkably good quality. It seems to us that the flavour is more marked than usual, a point which many tea-drinkers will appreciate who regard China tea as producing at best a thin featureless beverage. In spite of this increased flavour the tea produces a smooth non-astringent liquor. From the point of view of the palate, the difference between good China tea and Indian tea may be compared with the difference between a fine elegant claret and a full and perhaps rough Burgundy.

* * *

In common with the rest of the Far Eastern

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Press, the *N.-C. Daily News* pays a splendid tribute to the memory of the late Prince, by whose death Japan has lost her foremost statesman, and Korea, her truest friend, one who strove his hardest to secure by pacific means the regeneration of the unhappy peninsula. Our contemporary does not think that a policy of repression in Korea is likely to be inaugurated in consequence of the assassination, and proceeds to say :—

A political crime is always liable to rouse the worst passions of a nation, and it is, therefore, gratifying to note the studiously moderate attitude of the Japanese Press. There have, it is true, been some who have complained that the crime justifies their contention that a stronger policy should be inaugurated in Korea; but speaking generally, the Japanese nation has recognized the futility of making the crime of a small band of conspirators the pretext for punishing a subject country. Japan has established herself so strongly in Korea, and, it may fairly be added, with so much promise for the ultimate advantage of that country, that she can afford to be generous. Viscount Sone, the Resident-General, is maintaining a passive attitude, and so long as the assassination does not lead to fresh disturbances in Korea, Japan is not likely to alter her policy in that country. Up to the present there are no indications that Prince Ito's death has given fresh heart to the anti-Japanese party; indeed it is not improbable that the opposite effect will be produced inasmuch as those who most detest the Japanese *régime* will be the first to realize the folly of open rebellion at a time when the entire Japanese nation would demand stern and summary measures. Korea will not gain the sympathy of the civilized world by useless crimes of this kind. She must work out her salvation by different methods. Even in his last moments Prince Ito was far-sighted enough to realize that his murder was the work of a madman, not of a patriot, and that the country which he had devoted his life to building up, would not be turned aside from its reasoned policy by the hand of an assassin.

* * *

Despite the Imperial Decree of 1905 abolishing the historical system of education, confined to the study of Chinese classical literature, it would appear that the old order of things still pertains in some of the remote portions of the huge empire, the people of whom have not yet fallen into line with the spirit of reform that permeates the remainder of the country. In this connection the Kweichow correspondent of the *N.-C. Daily News* sends an amusing account of a rather sensational incident which occurred during the recent examinations—the last to be held under the old régime—at Kweiyang, the provincial capital. He says:—The first batch of students was safely shut up in the examination hall, after delays and bungling which in Western lands would be insufferable outside Chancery Courts. Then from his high seat of state the Chancellor announced a theme, a selection from the Classics. He had it wrong. Every man at the desks knew that two characters were replaced with others of like meaning. But they were already in a bad humour and gave it plainly to be known that they would not write on the theme. At last the Chancellor agreed to give another theme. He chose a text—of course familiar to all, for they had memorized it before eight years of age—which occurs only once in the Classics. But the men were on the war path. "That text occurs in two places," some one cried. "Please explain which chapter you are quoting from." And in his perplexity the poor old man named the wrong chapter. "A fine Chancellor this, indeed; away with this," they cried and began tearing up their papers, smashing up writing materials and wrecking furniture. Then they burst open the sealed doors of the hall and rushed out on the street. After storming about a while they made a demonstration at the Governor's yamên, loudly denouncing the Chancellor. Meanwhile the Chancellor seeing what a storm was loose, left the hall and went to see the Governor, but was refused a meeting. This further increased the students' hostility to the Chancellor and they demanded the appointment of someone else to hold the examinations. The matter was finally adjusted by the Governor sitting with the Chancellor in the examinations. And now it is all over. The disappointed examinees will be returning home with the last hope of improving their Pachelor degree quenched; and the successful ones have to face the heavy task of raising funds for the journey to Peking where they may compete in one last grand trial with the chosen spirits of the whole Empire. And then comes the end of China's old academic glories.

* * *

A Reuter telegram published in our last issue tells of the safe arrival in Europe of the Chinese Naval mission, to whom has been derogated the task of inspecting the arsenals, dockyards, and shipbuilding yards of the Occident, with a view to the organization of a new navy and the erection of similar establishments in China. On their arrival at Genoa, they were met by high British, German and Italian officials and in London were heartily welcomed by the populace. In addition, King Edward, with his unfailing urbanity, was to receive them on Saturday at Windsor. The telegram also states that Admiral Grant and a leading official from the Foreign Office will be attached to the Commissioners during their stay in England. The head of the mission is Prince Hsun, a brother of the Prince-Regent and uncle to the present Emperor. It need hardly be said that the dispatch of a Prince of the Blood on a mission of this description is unprecedented in the history of China, and whatever the results of the mission be, it is to be hoped that the Prince, who is spoken of as a young man of great attainments and quick perception, will on his return home use the knowledge he has acquired abroad for the good of his own country. With the Prince are associated as Commissioners Admiral Sa and Sir Chentung Liang-cheng and a suite of several persons.

The Chinese fleet at the present time consists of three cruisers of 2,950 tons, built at Stettin in 1895, and two sloops of the same tonnage, built at Elswick in 1899. The four German built destroyers which she possessed were captured at Taku in 1900 and subsequently "appropriated" by the Powers. Six t.b. destroyers have since been built for her in Japanese yards and four river gun-boats in Hongkong yards. With an enormous line of sea coast to protect from piracy and smuggling, it will be readily seen that her present fleet is totally inadequate for that purpose.

It may not be generally known that Sir Robert Hart formulated a naval scheme in 1904, in which he recommended the creation of three formidable fleets, the Northern, the Southern, and the Central, each to consist of 19 battleships and first-class cruisers, 10 second-class cruisers, 10 torpedo-boat destroyers and 50 torpedo-boats, with a crew of 10,500 men. Owing presumably to lack of funds, this scheme was pigeon-holed, and possibly it is too ambitious and costly for China's immediate needs.

L'ALLIANCE FRANCAISE.

DRESS REHEARSAL OF "DISPARU" AT THE GAIETY.

The Dress Rehearsal of Bisson and Sylvestre's Comedy "Disparu" to be presented by members of L'Alliance Francaise at the Gaiety on the 22nd instant—took place on Saturday evening (20th instant), with conspicuous success. The full house which is certain to assemble to witness this charming production will be delighted with the appearance presented by the artist's studio, which with slight modifications forms the scene for the whole action of the play. No small amount of the pleasure to be derived from the witnessing of productions of this character depends upon the setting of the piece, and in this respect those responsible for the arrangement of the stage merit, and will (it may safely be predicted) receive, the unstinted congratulations of the audience.

The very artistic furniture, we understand, was lent for the occasion, free of charge, by Messrs. Lane, Crawford and Co., and the elegant electric fittings were similarly supplied by Messrs. L. J. Healing and Co.

In order that those not familiar with this interesting and amusing comedy may the more intelligently follow the performance Monday evening, we append the Cast and Synopsis of the play.

DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

Frédéric Montgirault, A Rich Artist Painter... .....Mons. Mignon.
Rabuté (His Cousin), A Bailiff .....Mons. Bastin.
Gaston Boisanfray, Friend to Montgirault... .....Mons. Hachette.
Lord Barlington, A Rich Englishman.....Mr. Brady.
Sosthènes, Valet to Montgirault ...Mons. Palmaroli.
Mévrel, A Planter from Tonking.....Mons. Baron.
A Police Magistrate .....Mons. Bonvillain.
Dominique, A Clerk of the Court.....Mons. Gerin.
A Restaurant Waiter .....Mons. Bertazoil.
Colette, Wife of Rabuté .....Mme. Barmont.
Lucienne, Sister of Mévrel ....Mme. Bastin.
Laurence, Wife of Boisanfray .....Mme. Paron.
Catherine (Wife of Sosthènes), Cook in Montgirault's household...Miss Kathleen Strome.

SYNOPSIS OF THE PLAY.

The central idea of the 3-act Comedy *Disparu* lies in the disappearance and subsequent return of M. Montgirault, a well-to-do (and somewhat amorous) artist. Montgirault, disappointed in his love passages with Mesdames Boisanfray and Rabuté—to gain whose favour he draws up bogus wills, to no purpose—suddenly resolves to set out for Tonkin with his friend Mevrel. Assuming the artist's death, his cousin Rabuté hastens to enter into possession of his estate, while making a show of mourning, and goes so far as to lease the house to a rich English milord in order to enable him, Rabuté, to carry out certain not very creditable monetary transactions. In the midst of a legal examination held in the studio by the Commissary of Police, Montgirault returns and, taking the place of a lay figure in a corner of the room, listens to the whole strange story. Some very laughable practical jokes are played that night upon the wretched Rabuté by the artist and his friends, and Montgirault presents himself to his grasping cousin the following day in a manner both dramatic and amusing. The artist, in fact, is fully informed of all that has happened by his former valet, Sosthenes, who is consumed with enmity against Rabuté on account of the amorous advances made by the latter towards the cook of the household, who is the valet's wife. Thus the unhappy Rabuté, exposed and despised, is ignominiously cast forth from the family circle.

"DISPARU" AT THE GAIETY.

A large and expectant audience assembled to witness the peformance of MM. Alexandre Bisson and Sylvestre's vivacious comedy "Disparu" at the Gaiety on Monday evening. Those who anticipated a dramatic and musical treat (for the Bijou orchestra was present in full force) were not disappointed.

A *résume* of the play, with the cast, appeared in our columns on Monday morning. There is therefore no need to repeat these particulars. Every one of the players did justice to their rôles, and the play as a whole went excellently. The bulk of the acting, which fell to *Montgirault* (M. Charles Mignon) *Rabuté* (Mons. Bastin), and the valet *Sosthènes* (M. Palmaroli), was done with especial skill and finish. The parts allotted to the ladies (Mesdames Barmont, Paron, Bastin, and Miss K. Strome) were not strenuous, but were nevertheless performed with elegance and commendable taste. The part of the English "milord," played by Mr. Brady, was not convincing, and, indeed, seemed scarcely in keeping with the rest of the play. M. Bonvillain, on the other hand, made an excellent M. le Commissaire. The humorous scenes in the play were much appreciated by the audience, and we may express the conviction that the play will score as distinct a success in Tokyo on Monday next as it has done here.

A VIOLENT explosion by which eight men were injured, three of them seriously, occurred on board the cruiser *Hogue* at Devonport on the 15th inst. The disaster occurred in No. 7 bunker, which suddenly flashed into a sheet of blue flame, filling the engine room. It is officially stated that firedamp caused spontaneous combustion, and that the possibility of a blasting cartridge being in the coal is negatived by the character of the flare-back.

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A SIX MONTHS' FIGHT.

THE GREAT BUDGET CONTEST.

The Parliamentary correspondent of the *Daily Mail* sends that journal the following interesting review of the prolonged Budget dispute, in the course of which, he avers, some new parliamentary reputations have been made :—

The furious fight in the House of Commons on the Budget, which has lasted for six months almost without a break, came to an end yesterday (4th inst.). The theatre of war is now removed to another place.

It was on April 29 that Mr. Lloyd George introduced his financial proposal to the House ; it was on November 4 that the House of Commons passed the third reading of the Finance Bill embodying these proposals. In the six months that have passed between those two dates there has been a parliamentary campaign rarely equalled in intensity.

The parliamentary arena has had an interest which it had not possessed for years. Brilliant debate has been varied by fierce personal exchanges, and while some reputations have been increased others have been diminished : prominent men have sunk from notice and unknown men have achieved distinction. Passionate fervour has flavoured the discussions.

After Mr. Lloyd George's four hours' speche at the end of April it became apparent to all political parties that a great parliamentary contest was at hand. Battle was at once joined. Mr. Austen Chamberlain on the motion for the second reading of the Finance Bill moved the rejection in a speech which was a trumpet call to Unionists. From that time onward day by day, and often night by night, there have been stirring denunciation of the Government's proposals and impassioned advocacy on their behalf. The Committee stage of the Bill, the stage in which the measure can be examined line by line with a view to alteration, has been the occasion for the most persistent and prolonged parliamentary struggle of modern times. The Unionists, comparatively small in numbers, have been at a great disadvantage, but they have stuck to their work with a gallantry which has been freely acknowledged by their opponents.

THE VIGOUR OF THE UNIONISTS.

With untiring energy Mr. Balfour has led the Unionists. On the other side Mr. Lloyd George has been unsparing of himself in this efforts to get the Budget through. "Budget strain" laid many members low. The elderly men on both sides naturally felt the tension most. One of the tragedies of the Budget was the death of Dr. Cooper, Liberal member for Bermondsey. A diligent parliamentarian, although an infrequent speaker, he was always to be found through the long nights in a corner seat below the gangway. The strain told on him greatly, his heavy work as a medical man having to be attended to as well as his parliamentary duties. On October 7 the Committee stage of the Bill finished at two in the morning. Dr. Cooper went home to Bermondsey tired out. "The Budget is through," he said to his wife before going to bed. Within twenty-four hours he was dead.

There are pleasanter human phases of the Budget contest. Lord Robert Cecil, known before as a politician of ability, has raised himself to something like the unofficial leader of the back-bench Unionists. He sits at the corner of the last bench, a gaunt, pallied man, with his hawk-like face for ever thrust forward in an attitude of unrclenting vigilance. Throughout the all-night sittings it was Lord Robert Cecil who was always pouncing on the weak points in the Government case. He let broad principles alone, and he seized the actual Government contentions as they were put forward in debate. Scorning personalties he devoted his great energy and ability to dealing with the details of the Budget proposals. I do not remember an all-night sitting through which he has not fought tenaciously from beginning to end. This Budget has established Lord Robert as a force in Parliament to be reckoned with by friends and foes.

Then there is Mr. Harold Cox, the individualist Liberal who represents Preston. He is a Free Trader, but his attack on the land clauses has had greater effect than any attack save that of Mr. Balfour. In his soft and cultivated way of speaking there is some similarity between Mr. Cox and Mr. Balfour. In his lucidity, however, he more resembles Mr. Asquith. His biting, epigrammatic speeches are always delivered with the gentle air of bestowing a benediction. During the passage of this Budget Mr. Cox has established himself as one of the orators of the House of Commons. One of those most interested in his speeches is Mr. Balfour himself.

SUCCESSFUL FIGHTERS.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain has added vastly to his reputation. Afternoon, evening, and early morning has seen him in his place on the Opposition front bench, ably supporting Mr. Balfour or taking his place in effective fashion if he were absent. As an ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer Mr. Chamberlain naturally has national finance at his fingers' ends. But throughout the long sittings he has sprung to his feet a hundred times with vigorous blows on a hundred different topics. His directness, his thoroughness, his persistence, his qualities as a fighter have enormously increased the estimation in which he is held by his own party, and indeed by the House as a whole, irrespective of party.

Mr. Pretyman, the Unionist member for Chelmsford, has done extremely well. As a country gentleman his knowledge of matters pertaining to big estates and to agriculture in general has made him a most effective critic of the Government proposals, and by well-reasoned argument he has secured more than one concession from the Chancellor.

The brilliant debating ability of Mr. F. E. Smith, K.C., has more than once been demonstrated. Mr. Clavell Salter, K.C., is another new member of the House who has come very much to the front. His analyses of what may be called the legal propositions in the Bill have been of extreme value on the Unionist side. So have those of Mr. Cave, K.C. The latter is one of the clear-headed, cold mannered men whose great abilities are recognised on both sides, by Mr. Asquith as much as by Mr. Balfour. There is a fascinating human interest in being present when some fervent Liberal proposal is being dissected by the leisured, merciless hand of Mr. Cave.

On the Liberal side Mr. Simon, K.C., a quiet-mannered but extremely clever supporter of the Budget, has been present continuously and by his thoughtful speeches has always brought in members from the Lobby and the smoking-room. A tribute to his ability is the attention which Mr. Balfour always pays to his speeches, and another tribute is the fact that the Leader of the Opposition has frequently risen immediately afterwards to reply to them.

Down below the gangway on the Opposition side there has been seen almost continuously the cold, pointed face of Mr. Snowden, the militant Socialist. He is a delicate man with a burning spirit, which finds vent in speeches of cold virulence. He, too, has increased the hold he has over the House. He speaks without haste. You can always feel the intense sincerity behind that obviously restrained delivery.

Mr. Balfour with that supreme gift of leadership which he possesses has by his brilliant speeches and his tactful management of the campaign knit his party together in a way in which they have never been united before. He stands before them at the end of the Budget fight the supremer and trusted chief of a party which is confident of the fact that he will lead them to victory.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

Thanksgiving Day was duly observed yesterday by the American community both here and in Tokyo. In the latter place a reception was held in the afternoon at the U.S. Embassy.

Services were held both at Christ Church and at Union Church in the morning, the Rev. Mr. Welbourn, of Tokyo, preaching at the former and the Rev. Mr. Good at the latter.

YOKOHAMA.

Mr. Leonard Bourseaux has been appointed Belgian Vice-Consul in this city.

A Chinese employee belonging to a Chinese restaurant at No. 148, Yamashita-cho, was arrested on the 17th instant on a charge of attempted murder. It is alleged that the accused attempted in September last to kill a Japanese maid-servant employed in the same house by mixing poison in drinking water. The matter was discovered by the Kaga-cho Police a few days ago.

At 11.04 p.m. on the 19th inst., a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. The oscillation lasted laterally for 25 seconds and perpendicularly 13 seconds. Another very slight vibration occurred at 8.01 a.m. the next day, which continued for 31 seconds.

Early on Sunday (21st), a Japanese lady's coat and *geta* being discovered on the pontoon bridge near Sakuragi-cho, Itchome, the police made a search and the dead body of a young woman apparently of the middle-class was found in the water near by. The body is not yet identified.

A *sendo* named Obata Fusakichi belonging to Mes rs. Helm Bros. Ltd's cargo-boat *Daito Maru No. 5*, was arrested on Saturday (20th). It is alleged that he has stolen about a picul of crystallised sugar valued at some 15 *yen* from the boat in question.

On the 20th instant a coolie named Ida Torazo, intervened in a quarrel between two other coolies at Nakamura-cho, when another coolie, popularly known as Dokata, who was looking on, got angry at seeing the quarrel stopped by Torazo, and severely stabbed the mediator in the side with a sharp knife. He then ran away from the spot. Search is being made for the offender.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended November 18th are as follows :—

	Small Pox.	Dysenterf.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	2	2	3	—	—
Died	—	—	1	1	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	—	13	9	—	—
Died	—	1	2	5	—	—

On Sunday afternoon, Baron Sufu, Governor of this prefecture, called together those friends who had been born in his native prefecture (Yamaguchi-Ken), and gave a dinner in honour of his having been created a peer.

Mr Chang Yu-tang, the Chinese Minister to Washington, arrived here on Monday (22nd) *en route* to America by the steamer *Mongolia*. Mr. Lu, the Chinese Acting Consul-General, and several other officials welcomed him on board, and after landing at the Western Hatoba, His Excellency with his family proceeded to the Chinese Consulate, where they partook of luncheon with the Chinese Minister in Tokyo, who had come to meet him. In the afternoon, Mr. and Mrs. Chang, with their daughter, went round the city in a carriage.

It is reported that the Yokohama Meteorological Office has obtained the sanction of the local Government for the firing of a rocket on and after December 1 at noon every day off the Bund.

On Tuesday a rikisha-man named Asai Yujiro of Tobe-cho was arrested for swindling. It is alleged that he had obtained about 100 *yen* from an owner of rikisha in this city, on the pretence of establishing a rikisha ticket booking, office near the Custom House.

On the night of November 23 the wife of a laundryman of Ishikawa-naka-machi, San-chome, attempted suicide by throwing herself, with a baby on her back, into the canal near her house, but a passer-by hearing the screams of the baby, ran to the rescue, and both the mother and child were saved. It is said that the action of the woman was due to her husband's misconduct.

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE CRICKET GROUND AND THE QUESTION OF THE PROTEST.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—When at Nagasaki yesterday my attention was called to a letter in the *Japan Gazette* of Monday last under the signature of H. V. Henson to which I would like to reply in full, but travelling as I am at present, lack of time and opportunity prevents me. If, however, he will obtain Sir Claude MacDonald's permission for Consul-General Hall to speak and will take the trouble to call on that gentleman, I am quite sure he will find what he is pleased to call my five unsupported statements confirmed right up to the hilt, and I venture to think after such conversation will hold very different opinions on the Cricket Ground question to what he does at present.

Speaking generally, Mr. Henson's letter is a lengthy but wholly unsubstantial and therefore unconvincing attempt to obscure the main issue by dragging a red herring over the trail, especially his continuous harping on the subject of landlord and tenant, than which a more misleading expression with regard to the question under discussion it would be difficult to imagine. Its constant iteration and reiteration merely adds proof to my contention that the Lease is still the strong plank of the Japanese Authorities, although a plank I maintain that has been destroyed by Mr. Rumbold's uncontroverted despatch to the Japanese Foreign Office effectually disposing of the rent question. If this despatch convinced the Japanese Foreign Office, as I understand it did, that the rent paid was in consideration of the exclusive *control* thereby secured, and not rent for the exclusive *use* of the ground, the whole fabric of argument based on the Lease falls to pieces like a pack of cards, and the chief ground for the eviction of the Y.C. & A.C. disappears. Mr. Henson next attempts to alienate the sympathies of the Community and obtain them for himself and party, by suggesting that it is the Community's affair, not the Y.C. & A.C.'s and that the Community is quite able to take care of itself. So they are, but in this instance they left their interests in the hands of the Y.C. & A.C. and right well have they been safeguarded—not the interests of the Foreign Community only, but also those of the Japanese Community as well—, by maintaining for their joint use free of all expense to any individual but the members, that magnificent sheet of turf known as the Cricket Ground, the pride of Yokohama and the envy of every other City in Japan. Speaking from recollection, I think Mr. Henson in his plea for the Community admits that the latter have rights which he denies to the Y. C. and A. C., and suggests that after the withdrawal of the protest a joint memorial of influential Japanese and foreign gentlemen should be addressed to the Authorities petitioning for the preservation of the present Cricket Ground. What does this mean? It sounds hopeful if Mr. Henson is speaking with authority, and provided H.E. Governor Sufu will undertake to preserve the continued use of the present Cricket Ground to the Y. C. and A. C. jointly with Japanese Baseball Clubs, leaving the Pavilion, gear room and all conveniences just as they are, I have no doubt whatever the protest would be at once withdrawn.

Mr. Henson goes on to say that in the immediate withdrawal of the protest lies our only hope of salvation! Whose salvation may I ask—the Community's or the Y.C. and A.C.'s, and what is meant by salvation? I presume it means the gain likely to be secured by the withdrawal of the protest. And what does that gain amount to? An indefinite promise of a small corner of the Public Garden with a matshed to cover us from the rain and a wash basin; that and nothing more; and for such a gain we are asked to surrender what we believe to be our just rights to one of the most valuable adjuncts a growing city like Yokohama could possess, in the shape of a large open space not only available for sports, but for celebrations and ceremonials of all kinds. Summing up, we are confronted with the extraordinary and unheard of spectacle of a party of Britishers, headed by Mr. Henson and his friends, combined together to render inoperative the efforts of another party of Britishers, supported by almost the entire American Community, to preserve our historical Cricket Ground, and for what reason? Simply because our protest against being deprived of the Cricket Ground gives umbrage in Japanese official quarters. We could not be expected to do otherwise, inasmuch as it thwarts their wishes and orders, but why this should constitute a "brief" in favour of Mr. Henson and his friends to support and defend the action of the Japanese Authorities, whilst doing their best to belittle the efforts of those who are standing up for the preservation of the Cricket Ground, is best known to themselves. Certainly they have adopted, as I said before, most unworthy and unbecoming methods (I might with justice use stronger adjectives) to attain their ends, and even if they succeed will have little to be proud of. On the contrary, they will have committed themselves to a record of disregard of the essential elements of British ideas of fairplay with which their names will be indissolubly connected in the annals of the Foreign Community of Yokohama for all time. We might have thought that even if they could not entirely share in the views held by so many of their fellow residents, they would at least have recognised the admirable object for which we are contending, and held aloof, so as to have allowed us to present a combined front to the Japanese Authorities, instead of the sorry spectacle of "a house divided against itself." The key to the object of Mr. Henson's letter is given in the closing paragraph, and I thank him for placing an argument in my hands that although constantly in my mind I should have hesitated to make use of had he not done so in the mistaken belief that he was thereby strengthening his position. He says there can be no illusion as to the fact that once the papers detailing the case are in the hands of Sir Edward Grey, it will be too late to withdraw the protest. Why too late? If Sir Edward Grey says the Y. C. & A. C. have no case, the protest lapses and becomes of no effect, whether it is withdrawn or not being of no consequence. But if Sir Edward Grey decides that the Y. C. & A. C. have a case, then those who framed and those who signed the protest will alike have cause for congratulation, because victory will loom ahead.

What we must wait for therefore is Sir Edward Grey's decision. It would of course be much easier and pleasanter for Mr. Henson and his party to have the protest withdrawn, and thus leave Sir Edward Grey nothing to decide. Hence Mr. Henson's cry of urgency, and the rush to hold the General Meeting before even the first batch of papers can reach Sir Edward Grey's hands. This undue haste would seem to indicate fear in the minds of Mr. Henson and party that these papers may not meet with the reception they hope for, and hence it behoves every member of the Y.C. & A.C. to vote against the withdrawal of the protest, recognising that they have everything to gain and nothing to lose by waiting for Sir Edward Grey's decision.

Yours, &c., J. P. MOLLISON.

November 19th, 1909.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—You seem to be an adept at discovering mares' nests or assisting thereat. In your columns of the 17th instant you reproduce a letter from the Secretary of Reuter's Telegram Agency which appeared in a London journal in reply to certain comments which I had made on the partisanship shown by Reuter's service, and you support the letter by some characteristic remarks of your own. Now the amount of "honesty" in the reply made by the Secretary of Reuter's Agency was indicated in a rejoinder thereto which appeared in the *Japan Chronicle* on the 7th instant, as follows:—

"The *Morning Leader* and the *Manchester Guardian* having quoted some remarks of ours on the partisanship shown by Reuter in the transmission of English political news, the Secretary of Reuter's Agency has written a letter of reply to these journals. In the summarised version given of the remarks made by the *Chronicle* it was stated among other things that, 'whereas Reuter cabled a report of Lord Rosebery's Glasgow speech, it wired no particulars of the enthusiastic meetings addressed by Mr. Asquith.' The Secretary's reply, 'as an illustration of the honesty of this allegation,' is to send to the *Morning Leader* a copy of the telegraphic report sent to Japan of Mr. Asquith's speech at Birmingham. Unfortunately for Reuter, however, our remarks were not, as the Secretary of the company avers, made on September 19th, two days after Mr. Asquith's speech, but on September 14th, four days previously. We then commented on the fact that while Reuter had given a summary of Lord Rosebery's speech at Glasgow, no particulars had been wired of the meetings previously addressed by Mr. Asquith, where great enthusiasm was shown in favour of the Finance Bill, nor of the Budget protest meetings at which hostile amendments were passed, nor of the great demonstration in favour of the Budget in Hyde Park. It is scarcely any reply to this, or to the many other evidences of partisanship that might be adduced, to say that a report of Mr. Asquith's Birmingham speech was forwarded to Japan. Nor does it exactly convict us of dishonesty that we made no reference on September 14th to the wiring out of particulars regarding a speech that was not made until September 17th."

As I have said, the above rejoinder showing that the Secretary of Reuter's Agency was accusing me of dishonesty for not referring in my remarks on the 14th September to a telegram sent by Reuter on the 17th, appeared in the *Japan Chronicle* on the 7th of this month. Yet ten days later you reproduce the letter of the Secretary of Reuter's Agency, and speak of a "serious" and "reckless" blunder on my part. You further add that it seems evident that the *Japan Chronicle* is not a subscriber to Reuter's telegraphic service, whereas, at the moment the criticism referred to was written, the *Japan Chronicle* was a subscriber to the service, and had been so for many years. Now what am I to understand by this serious and reckless attack on your part? Is it that, despite the references to the *Japan Chronicle* which constantly appear in the *Japan Mail*, you are not the diligent reader which your remarks would imply, and that your knowledge of what appears in the *Chronicle* is acquired at second or third hand? Or is it that in your anxiety to injure an opponent you are entirely indifferent to considerations of accuracy?

ROBERT YOUNG,
Editor *Japan Chronicle*.

Kobe, November 18th, 1909.

[Of course, as must be quite apparent to any one reading our article, we relied wholly on the statement made to the *Morning Leader* by Reuter's Agent in his official capacity. The subsequent correction by the *Japan Chronicle* we did not see, as we do not receive that journal and are consequently familiar with only such of its contents as are reproduced by other newspapers. Nevertheless a distinct injustice seems to have been done to the *Japan Chronicle* in this instance, and we frankly apologise for our share in giving publicity to it.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE CRICKET GROUND QUESTION.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In reply to the letter signed "An Old Y.C. & A.C. Member" in the *Japan Advertiser* of to-day's date, I beg to say:

(1) There appears to me to be a great preponderance of foreign expert opinion in favour of the withdrawal of the protest.

(2) The question surely is one which must be decided on its merits without reference to any personal issue.

(3) The members favouring the maintenance of the protest have no monopoly of caring for the best interests of the Club.

Yours faithfully, A. J. CORNES.

Yokohama, 21st November, 1909.

THE NAKAMURA DISTRICT.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Those persons who live in the suburbs of Yokohama, notably Negishi and Nakamura, are often exposed to the visitations of the light (or rough) fingered gentry, and many persons, Japanese and foreign, have preferred to again live in the crowded districts of Yokohama than to have to face the visits of these undesirable people.

The Nakamura district has for years past had the reputation of being the rendezvous of many questionable people, but why this should be is not for me to say.

Many householders, Japanese and foreign, have been unable to keep a servant for any time, owing to the terror inspired by these destestable marauders of the day and night. Some householders are supposed to possess swords and revolvers to welcome these visitors, others believe in canine force, while others make no preparations, either with weapons or dogs (the latter cannot distinguish between friend and foe!) so that matters, at present, seem to be in a somewhat parlous condition.

This delectable district (Nakamura) was recently the scene of the outrage and murder of a young woman, and now within the last week a Japanese lady has been brutally assaulted and robbed by three ruffians, two of whom were armed with revolvers and the other with a sword.

The husband being in hospital sick, the lady was aroused by hearing a knock at the door and a voice saying there was a message to deliver, and on the door being opened she was roughly handled by these men, and money and articles demanded under threats. The house is situated on the main road and has neighbours *on all sides*, and yet such things are possible, although within a distance of a few feet of other houses, Japanese and foreign.

It is to be hoped these miscreants will be captured and severely dealt with—a dose of "cat" periodically administered should serve the required purpose.

To sum up, a state of terrorism exists throughout the district, and there are many cases of persons looking for houses elsewhere. It is not within the writer's province to say why such a state of affairs exists, but it is undoubtedly the case that it does exist.

Yours truly, "HOUSEHOLDER."

His Highness the Crown Prince who has recently been indisposed, is reported to have regained his health.

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CHESS.

All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor, Japan Mail Office.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week at the Hotel de Paris, No. 80 Main Street, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 32.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Q to B 8	1. Q takes Q
2. R takes P (dbl ch.)	2. K takes Kt
3. B to Q 5 mate	
	1. B takes Q
2. R to B 7 (dis. ch.)	2. R takes B
3. P to K 4 mate	
	1. K takes Kt
2. R to Kt 4 ch	2. B takes R
3. Q takes B mate	
	1. R takes B
2. Q takes Q ch	2. K to B 3
3. Q takes P mate	

* * *

Correct solutions received from H.B.W. and Omega.

* * *

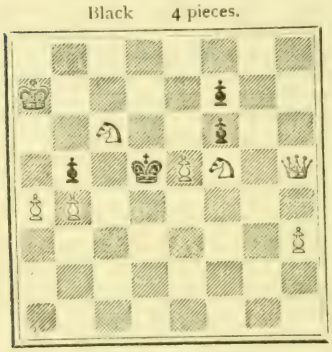
J. S.—Thanks for your letter, and the two problems enclosed. We are glad to hear from you at all times. You are credited with solution to Problem 31; and we apologise for the omission.

* * *

PROBLEM No. 34.

By G. CHOCHOLOUS.

Black 4 pieces.



White 8 pieces.

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN THREE MOVES.

* * *

Apropos Blackburne and our remarks of last week, we now give two recent specimens of the veteran's play which show decidedly that 'there is life in the old dog yet." These games demonstrate the fact that Homer does not always nod :—

GAME No. 32.—Irregular Opening.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Mr. Blackburne.	Mr. J. H. Blake.
1. P—K 3	P—Q 4
2. P—K B4	P—K 3
3. P—Q Kt 3	Kt—K B3
4. B—Kt 2	B—K 2
5. Kt—K B3	P—Q Kt 3
6. P—K 2	B—Kt 2
7. Castles	Castles
8. Q—K sq	P—B 4
9. Q—Kt 3	Kt—B 3
10. Kt—R 3	P—Q 5
11. Q—R 3	Kt—Q 4
12. QR—K sq	P—B4
13. B—Kt 5	R—B 3
14. B x Kt	B x B
15. Kt—K 5	P—Kt 2
16. P x P	P x P
17. Kt—Kt 5	Kt—Kt 5
18. Kt x QP	R—R 3
19. Q—Kt 3	B—R 5
20. Q—Q B3	B x R
21. K x B	Kt—Q 4
22. Q—Kt 3	Q—B 3
23. Kt (Q4)—B 3	Q—K 2
24. P—B 4	Kt—B 3
25. P—Q 3	R—K B sq
26. Kt—Kt 5	Kt—Q 2
27. Kt (Kt5)—B 3	Kt— 4
28. Kt—Q 4	R—Kt 3
29. Q—R 3	R—R 3
30. Q—K 3	R—K sq
31. Kt x BP	Q—Q B2
32. Kt x R ch	P x Kt
33. Kt—B 3	R—Q sq
34. Kt—K 5	Q—Kt 2
35. P—Kt 3	P—K R4
36. P—Q Kt 4	Kt—R 3
37. B—B 3	R—K B sq
38. P—Q 4	P—R 5
39. P—Q 5	P x Kt P
40. P x Kt P	P x P
41. Kt—B 5	Q—R 3
42. Kt—K 7 ch	K—B 2
43. P x P	R—K sq
44. Kt—B 5	R x Q
45. Kt x Q ch	K—Kt 3
46. R x R	K x Kt
47. R—K 6 ch	K—R 4
48. R—K 7	B x P
49. R—K Kt7	P—R 3
50. P—Kt 4 ch	K—R 5
51. K—R 2	Resigns.

GAME No. 33.—Irregular Opening.

WHITE.	BLACK.
Mr. Blackburne.	Mr. H. Jacobs.
1. Kt—K B3	P—Q 4
2. P—K 3	Kt—K B3
3. P—Q Kt3	P—B 4
4. B—Kt 2	P—K 3
5. Kt—K 5	QKt—Q 2
6. Q—B 3	Kt x Kt
7. B x Kt	B—Q 2
8. B—K 2	B—B 3
9. Q—R 3	B—Q 3
10. B—Kt 2	P—K 4
11. Castles	Q—Q 2
12. Q x Q ch	Kt x Q
13. P—Q 4	Castles KR
14. Kt—Q 2	KR—K sq
15. KR—K sq	QR—B sq
16. B—R 3	B—B sq
17. P x B P	Kt x P
18. P—Q B4	Kt x Kt P
19. P x Kt	P x P
20. B x B	K x B
21. Kt x P	R—K 3
22. B—Kt 4	R—Kt 3
23. Kt x P	R x B
24. Kt x R	P—B 3
25. P—B 3	B—Q 4
26. R x P	Resigns.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

BRITISH POLITICS.

STRONG LINE BY LIBERAL LEADERS.

London, November 18.

The Right Hon. Walter Runciman, President of the Board of Education, speaking at Hull, said that the Government refused all dealings with the Lords on questions of finance and absolutely refused compromise on any tax or clause.

Dr. Macnamara, Parliamentary Secretary to the Admiralty, addressing his own constituents at Camberwell, said the Lords were going to have the surprise of their lives.

Mr. Balfour, leader of the Opposition in the Commons, addressing a meeting at Manchester, strongly advocated Tariff Reform and colonial preference as the only alternative to the Budget, which would be all to disastrous industries.

Mr. Balfour's speech was largely devoted to allaying the fears that tariff reform would be detrimental to the cotton industry by increasing the cost of living. It was pointed out that the industry was threatened by Japanese and American competition in the East.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE AND THE SITUATION.

Later.

The Liberal papers assert that the Stock Exchange views are of the most gloomy character with reference to the Budget situation, while the Conservative papers state that the market is undisturbed, with the prospects of only temporary inconvenience.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

Lord Charles Beresford has been chosen Unionist candidate for Portsmouth in succession to the late Sir John Baker. Lord Charles has opened the campaign at Portsmouth by an address which dwelt on the inefficiency of the Navy.

THE IRISH LAND BILL.

The House of Lords has passed as a compromise the amendments to the Irish Land Bill as accepted by the Government.

NO QUARTER TO BE GIVEN.

Mr. Haldane, speaking at a luncheon at the Eighty Club, said Lord Lansdowne had given the signal and Mr. Balfour had trumpeted a frontal attack. "We," said Mr. Haldane, "accept the challenge and no quarter will be asked and none be given."

ADMIRAL FISHER'S SUCCESSOR.

It is reported that Admiral Wilson succeeds Admiral Fisher at the Admiralty. The latter receives the title of Baron Fisher of Kilverston.

SNOWSTORM IN GERMANY.

Germany has been practically isolated for 24 hours, owing to a snowstorm. Communications are interrupted and traffic is paralyzed.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

London, November 19.

The Chinese Ministers at London and Rome met the Chinese Naval Commissioners at Genoa. Italy and Germany sent special representatives to meet them. The Commissioners have started for London and are everywhere being treated with the greatest courtesy. Admiral Grant and Mr. Alston, of the Foreign Office, will be attached to them during their stay in England. The Commissioners will visit all the dockyards, naval stations and shipbuilding yards in Britain.

THE CAPE-TO-CAIRO RAILWAY.

London, November 19.

The Cape-to-Cairo Railway has reached the Congo frontier.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

The Chinese Naval Commissioners landed at Dover, and salutes were fired in their honour.

Representatives of the Admiralty and of the Foreign Office met the party at Charing Cross Station, London, and military honours were accorded them.

FRAUDS IN THE U S CUSTOMS.

London, November 20

Owing to frauds in the New York Customs service 104 officials have been dismissed since the 4th March, including the deputy surveyor, and 123 have been degraded.

INCREASE IN GERMAN NAVY ESTIMATES.

The German naval estimates show an increase for the year of 1¼ million sterling while in the case of the army there is a decrease of 1½ million.

THE KING OF PORTUGAL.

An official statement from Windsor Castle is to the effect that there have not been any negotiations for a marriage between King Manuel and an English princess.

AN AEROPLANE RECORD.

Mr. Hubert Latham in his aeroplane attained a height of 1,350 feet, which is a record.

U.S. CRUISERS ORDERED TO NICARAGUA.

President Zelaya of Nicaragua has executed two Americans, and in consequence the U.S. cruisers have been ordered to the country.

EXPLOSION ON A BRITISH SUBMARINE.

London, November 21.

There has been an explosion on a su

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marine in Portsmouth Harbour. The interior of the vessel was damaged. Two of the crew were injured.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION AT WINDSOR.

King Edward has entertained at luncheon at Windsor Castle the members of the Chinese Naval Mission.

THE RUSSIAN FINANCE MINITSER.

M. Kokovtsoff, the Russian Finance Minister, has returned to St. Petersburg from the Far East.

A NOTABLE MARRIAGE.

The marriage between Mr. Brodie, Liberal M.P. for Reigate, Sussex, and Miss Mabel, the daughter of Sir Robert Hart, took place yesterday.

THE STANDARD OIL CO.

London, November 22.

The Missouri Supreme Court has ordered the Standard Oil Company to be dissolved, the Court having decided that it is an illegal corporation. An appeal has been lodged.

NEW GERMAN CONSULATES.

The German Estimates provide for the establishment of Consulates at Adana and Trebizond.

POISONING ARMY OFFICERS.

Later.

Vienna.—Ten officers of the General Staff have all received cachets purporting to be samples of a remedy for nervous debility, but in reality containing prussic acid. A captain and two lieutenants died immediately upon taking the alleged remedy.

VOLCANIC OUTBREAK AT TENERIFFE.

The volcano at Teneriffe is in eruption. There are four craters, the largest of which is emitting a stream of lava 1,300 ft. wide. The lava has already covered 3½ miles and has filled and crossed a ravine 80 ft. deep. Two villages which are threatened have been abandoned.

THE BUDGET AND THE LORDS.

HISTORIC DEBATE.

London, November 23.

The debate on the Budget on the House of Lords called forth a record attendance. The galleries were packed.

The Earl of Crewe formally moved the second reading of the Finance Bill in a speech of 13 words.

Lord Lansdowne, remarking thereon, said that Lord Crewe's silence meant that the Lords had no concern in this important matter; but the Bill was, in fact, an unprecedented one. The Lords therefore should not take the responsibility for it, until the people had intimated their desire that the Bill should become law. The Lords had considered the consequences of rejection, and were ready to face them.

Later.

The debate in the Lords has been adjourned. It may be prolonged on Friday.

Lord Loreburn (the Lord Chancellor) said: "We are invited, in effect, to overthrow the Constitution. If we fail in the election, it will only be the beginning of the conflict, which can be ended only in one way. If we succeed, we shall not flinch from what has to follow."

"BASED ON A SOCIALISTIC FALLACY."

Later.

In the House of Lords, the Marquis of Lansdowne deprecated the introduction of the licensing and land clauses into a Finance Bill, and asked what there was to prevent Home Rule being introduced into the Budget. The land clauses were based on a Socialistic fallacy on which the Government were acting but which they had not the courage to avoid.

The Budget, added Lord Lansdowne, was a confession that the possibilities of a financial system based on free imports were virtually exhausted.

London, November 24.

The debate in the Lords is being followed with unabated interest.

Lord Cromer declares himself unable to vote for Lord Lansdowne's resolution, and yet he disapproves of the Budget. He will therefore abstain from voting.

Later.

In the House of Lords, the Earl of Lytton announced that he would abstain from voting on the Budget, which appeared to be more popular than he had thought.

[The last part of this telegram has been mutilated in transmission.—ED. *J.M.*]

THE CHINESE COMMISSIONERS.

London, November 23.

A reception was held at Windsor Castle in honour of the Chinese Commissioners, the leading members, including Admiral Sah, being presented to the Queen. The subsequent luncheon was attended by the Queens of England and Norway, and other royalties.

The Commissioners subsequently visited Greenwich Naval College and Hospital.

CHINA'S CONSTITUTIONAL PROGRAMME.

"THE TIMES" SCEPTICAL.

London, November 24.

The Times in a leading article discusses somewhat sceptically the practical prospects of China's constitutional programme. The loud resistance (says the London journal) to be heard from the provincial assemblies may be the first notes of a coming storm.

THE CHINESE COMMISSIONERS.

The Chinese Commissioners lunched at the Foreign Office and visited Portsmouth.

ELECTION AT PORTSMOUTH.

Later.

Portsmouth.—The bye-election has resulted in the return of Lyons. The speakers at the dockyard gates were mobbed. Their cart was stormed and they were driven off.

THE CONGO.

Mr. E D. Morel, of the Congo Reform Association, speaking at Hull, said that he believed Great Britain and Germany had arrived at an understanding on the subject of the Congo being opened, and that an international conference would shortly be summoned on the subject.

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

Paris.—In the Chamber, during the debate on Morocco, M. Pichon paid a tribute to the loyalty of Germany, and said that, thanks to her attitude, an improvement in Franco-German relations and in the general situation in Europe was noticeable.

GENERAL FRENCH COMING EAST.

General Sir John French, Commander-in-Chief at Aldershot, embarks on the P. & O. S.S. *Mooltan* at Marseilles on the 26th inst., to inspect the garrisons in China.

THE LORDS AND THE BUDGET.

BISHOPS WILL NOT VOTE.

London, November 25.

The House of Lords has resumed the debate on the Budget.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has announced that the Bishops will abstain from voting.

Lord Rosebery has denounced the Budget in the strongest terms, but states that he is unable to support Lord Lansdowne.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

The Chinese Commissioners have begun their tour of the naval establishments. At Portsmouth the flagship fired a salute of 21 guns in their honour.

(BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE "TOKYO ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

MINISTERIAL CRISIS IN ITALY.

London, November 18.

A telegram from Rome states that a Cabinet crisis is imminent. Several of the Ministers are unpopular and the Shipping Subsidy Bill arouses hostility.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND.

A Helsingfors telegram says that the Finnish Diet has rejected the proposals voting contributions for military purposes and restricting the power over military legislation.

MILITARISM IN BELGIUM.

A Brussels despatch states that the Chamber has adopted the principle of the Government Bill, that one son in every family shall be liable to military service.

CANADA'S NAVY.

London, November 19.

An Ottawa telegram states that the Dominion estimates include £600,000 sterling for the purchase of warships.

AMERICA AND NICARAGUA.

London, November 19.

New York.—The patience of the U.S. Government having long been tried by the misconduct of General Zelaya, the President of Nicaragua, it is expected that the former will take drastic measures to put an end to the disorders there.

THE BURDEN OF ARMAMENTS.

Paris.—M. Jaures, the Socialist leader, speaking in the Chamber of Deputies, declared that the financial difficulties are due to the burden of armaments and particularly to the latent hostility existing between Britain and Germany.

THE FINNISH DIET DISSOLVED.

Helsingfors.—The Tsar has dissolved the Finnish Diet, in consequence of the latter's rejection of the proposed military contribution.

BRITISH POLITICS.

THE FATE OF THE BUDGET.

Mr. Haldane, the British War Minister, describes Lord Lansdowne's anti-Budget resolution as violent and revolutionary. The Liberals, he said, accepted the challenge and no quarter would be asked and none given. The Cabinet were united on this question.

The *Times* points out that the Government is employing two sets of orators to recommend its policy,—one adopting a violent tone, and the other trying to allay the fears of the Moderates.

JAPANESE STOCKS ON LONDON MARKET.

London, November 20.

On the London Stock Exchange, Japanese Nagoya bonds are being supported.

RUSSIA AND FINLAND.

St. Petersburg.—It is generally thought that the Finns desire complete independence. The Russian Government is taking further precautions.

THE FRENCH PRESS LAW.

London, November 23.

Paris.—It has been decided to amend the Press law so as to enable the authorities to punish wanton insult to the national flag.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

Tangier.—If the Sultan refuses the French

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loan terms, France will shortly take steps, without military operations, to guarantee the payment of creditors by collecting the Moroccan revenue.

THE VIENNA POISONING.

Vienna.—The police are investigating the attempt to poison a number of Austrian officers by means of an alleged harmless nerve stimulant which was in reality a deadly poison. Another of the officers has succumbed.

THE U. S. AND NICARAGUA.

New York.—The Government is dissatisfied with Nicaraguan explanations as to the execution of two Americans. The ships are ready to transport troops.

TOLSTOY AND ANTI-MILITARISM.

London, November 23.

Geneva.—At an anti-militarist meeting, Tolstoy's appeal that the people should not serve as soldiers was read and received enthusiastically.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

London, November 23.

In the debate on the Finance Bill in the House of Lords, Lord Lansdowne moved that the House was not justified in assenting thereto until the Bill had been submitted to the judgment of the nation. He vindicated the proposal in a reasoned speech.

The Lord Chancellor replied that the power of the purse belonged to the Commons (?). There was no desire to the invade the prerogative of the Crown or the privileges of the Commons. The Government desired to remedy the unemployment and pauperism in the country, and must therefore tax the wealthy classes.

THE GRECIAN MILITARY LEAGUE.

A PROCESS OF "REMOVAL."

London, November 24.

Athens.—The organ of the Military League is about to publish a list of persons whose removal from public appointments is deemed necessary for the regeneration of the country. It has already denounced four notable persons.

THE TSARINA SUFFERING FROM NERVOUS SHOCK.

St. Petersburg.—The Empress is stated to be suffering from nervous shock, caused by a boyish prank of the Tsarevitch.

THE AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

Sydney.—No remedy seems possible against the colliery strike. It is impossible to imprison all, and the imprisonment of the leaders mean a general strike, as the trade unions control labour.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

OPPOSITION LORDS TO STUMP THE COUNTRY.

London, November 24.

After the Budget debate is concluded, numerous opposition Lords will undertake a campaign throughout the country, with the object of setting out the motives for appealing to the nation's judgment.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

Paris.—After an important speech by M. Clemenceau, the Premier, defending the Government's policy in Morocco and declaring that France intended to obtain justice for her citizens, the Socialist motion to terminate the military occupation was rejected by a large majority.

(RECEIVED BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

A HUNGHUTSZ RAID.

On the 22nd instant 50 Hunghutsz made their appearance in the neighbourhood of Saintaitsz, on the Mukden-Antung line. They set fire to the houses and attached the premises of the Narisawa firm, killing or wounding more than 10 persons. A body of 30 railway-guards from Fengkwang-cheng and a force of police from Antung hastened to the scene, and are now conducting inquiries.

PRATAS ISLAND.

On the 19th instant the handing over of Pratas Island was concluded, and on the 21st the Commissioners of both Powers returned to Hongkong. Within 15 days from that time—21st instant—Viceroy Yuan is to hand to Mr. Nishizawa at Canton a sum of 130,000 *yen*.

THE DISMISSED VICEROY.

The Viceroy of Pehchili, Mr. Tuan Fang, who is so much esteemed at home and abroad, has been relieved of his post. The cause appears to be very complicated, and Chinese and foreigners are watching the matter closely.

LEGATION FOR CHILI IN TOKYO.

The Republic of Chili is to have a legation in Japan, and the newly appointed Minister is to arrive during January. The First Secretary, starting ahead of the Minister, reached Tokyo on the 23rd instant.

THE AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

Mr. Consul Uyeno telegraphs from Sidney:—"On the 6th instant the colliers in all the region around Newcastle went on strike. But as the labourers on the wharves and those connected with shipping were not concerned, no trouble arose in the loading and unloading of goods. The Government is now mediating. It is not thought that the strike will become general. Probably in two or three weeks things will be settled. No special effect has been produced on our trade.

("DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST" SERVICE TO THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

DENMARK.

Berlin, November 18.

Prince Waldemar of Denmark has left for Siam, where he will pay a visit to the King.

GREAT BRITAIN.

Berlin, November 18.

Mr. Balfour, speaking at the annual conference of the Conservative Associations at Manchester, strongly demanded tariff reform and preferential duties for the British Colonies.

GERMANY.

Berlin, November 19.

The new Budget of the German Foreign Office provides the means for the institution of the post of a Secretary at the German Consulate at Tientsin.

Chen Gi fu, Attaché to the Chinese Legation at Berlin, is dead.

TENERIFFE.

The eruption of a new volcano at Teneriffe is reported.

SUEZ CANAL.

It is reported from London that it is planned to deepen the Suez Canal to allow of the passage of warships of the largest type.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The reinstalment of the former British Channel Fleet, at present not in the union of the active Home Fleet, is probable, by which the number of battleships of the Home Fleet would be increased to twenty-eight.

ANGLO GERMAN AMENITIES.

Berlin, November 20.

Hon. F. Bryce, the British Ambassador to the United States of America, speaking at a banquet of the New York Chamber of Commerce, declared his full agreement with the friendly expressions of Count Bernstorff, the German Ambassador, and characterised as absurd the idea of a war between Germany and Great Britain.

FRANCE.

M. Klobukowski, Governor-General of French Indo China, has been ordered to Paris.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Berlin, November 21.

Siberian mails, with dates up to November 3rd, arrived at Berlin on November 19th; up to November 5th on November 21st.

GERMANY.

Herr von Holleben, retired Ambassador, formerly German Minister to Japan (1885-1891), has left for East Asia, viâ Suez, where he will pay visits to China, especially to Tsingtau, and to Japan.

TAXATION OF FOREIGNERS AT KHARBIN.

It is reported from St. Petersburg that the administrative corporation at Kharbin has been ordered to collect communal taxes from the foreigners even by taking strong measures.

RUSSIA.

M. Kokowtzow, the Russian Minister of Finance, has returned to St. Petersburg.

THE SUEZ CANAL CONCESSION.

Berlin, November 22.

The final decision concerning the prolongation of the Suez Canal concession will not be given until after the return of the Khedive from his trip to Mecca.

PORTUGAL AND BRITISH COLONIES.

Marquis de Several, the Portugese Minister to Great Britain, speaking at Windsor on the occasion of the visit of King Manuel, said that Portugal was endeavouring to obtain the same advantages for the import of port wine into the British Colonies as were provided in the Commercial Treaty between Germany and herself.

The rumour of the betrothal of King Manoel to a British Princess is contradicted.

AUSTRIA.

Count von Luetzow, the Austrian Ambassador at Rome, will resign his post next March.

An attempt to kill by poisoning has been made on several officers of the Austrian General Staff, one captain and two lieutenants having died.

Berlin, November 23.

Emperor Francis Joseph will not carry out his projected trip to Rome; moreover, he will not make any tour abroad during this winter.

HOLLAND.

Berlin, November 22.

The Dutch Government has introduced into the Chamber a new Bill providing for an increase of Customs duties.

FRANCE.

M. Klobukowski, the Governor-General of French Indo China, has been recalled to Paris only for instructions; all rumours as to his resignation being imminent are not based on facts.

DOUBLING THE SIBERIAN R.R.

Berlin, November 23.

The Berlin *Lokal-Anzeiger* report from St. Petersburg that the Russian Government has decided to build the second line of the Trans Siberian Railway with the help of an American Syndicate, and that the Tsar is personally interested in this project. It also says that this project has been the principal object of the tour of the Minister of Finance to East Asia.

The *Novoye Vremya* of St. Petersburg

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demands the concession to Russia of a steamship line on Lake Urumiyeh in Persia.

BRAZIL.

The Government of Brazil has founded a Japanese model colony at Macahé, in the State of Rio de Janeiro.

GERMANY.

Berlin, November 24.

The Kaiser has paid a visit to Prince-Bishop Dr. Ropp at Breslau.

Admiral Freiherr von Senden-Bibrau (born 1847), Chief of the Cabinet of the Navy and Adjutant-General to the Kaiser, is dead.

Privy Councillor Wahnschaffe, until now Councillor in the Imperial Chancellery, has been appointed Under Secretary of State in the same office as successor to Herr von Loebell.

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

M. Pichon, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, has made a speech in the Chamber, which was received very favourably. He stated that Germany had carried out the Morocco Convention with great loyalty, by which the relations between Germany and France were much improved and European peace was secured. The Government received a vote of confidence with a very great majority of votes.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

PRINCE ITO'S HEIR.

Vladivostock, November 18.

Mr. Ito Hirokuni, heir of the late Prince Ito, arrived here to-night, and is to leave for Tsuruga on the 20th instant.

IMPERIAL CHINESE GUARDS.

Peking, November 18.

The Imperial Guards consisting of one regiment of infantry and one company of cavalry have been completely organized. The troops are under the command of an officer who was educated in the Military Academy in Japan. A great improvement has been made in the arms and uniform of the men.

AN IMPORTANT MISSION.

Chemulpo, November 18.

Mr. Samei, Police Superintendent of the Korean Police Board, went to-day to Dairen on an important mission.

UNRULY SOUTH AMERICAN REPUBLIC.

San Francisco, November 19.

The State Department has despatched a cruiser and a gun-boat to Carinto and Leon, Nicaragua, demanding an explanation from the Nicaraguan Government concerning the execution of two Americans who had been enlisted for the revolution. The proposed interview of the Nicaraguan Minister in Washington with President Taft has been indefinitely postponed. It is reported that the U.S. Government will officially announce before long whom it regards as the legitimate President, General Zelaya or General Estrada. In the meantime the State Department declines to answer any criticism in connection with the relations between the two countries, until an explanation has been received from Nicaragua.

THE BANK OF KOREA.

Antung, November 19.

The branch office here of the First Bank will transfer the whole business to-morrow to the Bank of Korea, which is expected to commence business on the 24th instant.

ARREST OF AN AMERICAN.

Vladivostock, November 19.

An American who calls himself a Mohammedan priest, has been discovered by the Russian Police authorities to be in league with the leading Korean residents here. The Police dispersed a meeting that was to be held, and arrested the said priest.

SURVEILLANCE OF AN AMERICAN.

Seoul, November 20.

An American resident at Dairen named Wyne (?) came here on the 18th instant. As he is an intimate friend of Mr. Hulbert, he is being carefully watched.

VISCOUNT SONE.

Resident-General Viscount Sone is reported to have become so weak that he may not be able to keep his post. It is rumoured that he will return to Japan during the winter vacation.

THE KOREAN CROWN PRINCE.

The Korean Emperor sent a cordial telegram yesterday to the Emperor of Japan, thanking the latter for appointing a new tutor to the Korean Crown Prince. On the same day, the little prince and Prince Iwakura also received a telegram from the Korean Emperor.

PREMIER SUMMONED TO APPEAL COURT.

Premier Yi was summoned to the Appeal Court yesterday and examined for some two hours as a witness in connection with a civil suit for 100,000 *yen*. It is said that the matter is very complicated.

PRINCE ITO'S HEIR.

Vladivostock, November 21.

Mr. Ito Hirokuni arrived here last night on his way home to Japan. When he arrived at the station, two suspicious-looking Koreans were found stealthily watching his movements, but fortunately nothing unusual occurred.

BRITISH COLONIAL APPOINTMENT.

London, November 20.

Mr. Gladstone, Secretary of State for the Home Department, has been appointed Governor-General of Cape Colony.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION IN WESTERN SIBERIA.

Vladivostock, November 22.

A railway conference has been held in the Department of Finance in connection with the construction of railway lines in West Siberia. The representatives of the different cities, commercial bodies and banks in that part of Siberia were present.

THE LATE EMPRESS-DOWAGER'S OBSEQUIES.

Peking, November 22.

Though the funeral ceremony of the late Empress Dowager was apparently conducted without any hitch, it seems that there were some disorders on the occasion. It is said that one of the Princesses of the Blood attempted suicide in front of the Mausoleum, and a plot to burn down the latter was discovered. Another rumour is to the effect that the Prince Regent's mother desires to conduct the affairs of the State.

RAILWAYS IN MANCHURIA.

Shanghai, November 22.

It is reported that the Waiwupu has decided to decline the request of Great Britain and America to furnish capital for the construction of the Kinchow-Tsitsihar railway.

THE TSINGTAO MONEY MARKET.

Tsingtao, November 22.

As the result of the opium market being cornered, the circulation of money here has become very tight, so that the local government has ordered the Tokkwa Bank to make a credit loan of 300,000 marks. The Chinese Chamber of Commerce has applied to the Government for an accommodation of funds, offering real estate as security.

A QUESTION OF *LIKIN*.

Tsingtao, November 22.

The German Chamber of Commerce has approved an increase in the Customs duties, which in the opinion of the Chamber is preferable to imposing *likin* duty on the Shantung railway.

DISMISSAL OF VICEROY TUAN.

Peking, November 23.

Mr. Tuan, Viceroy of the Metropolitan province, having been impeached by the grandson of the late Marquis Li Han-chang, on the ground that he had been remiss on the occasion of the obsequies of the late Empress-Dowager, was dismissed from his post to-day. Mr. Chen, Viceroy of Hu-Kwang province, was appointed his successor. According to rumour, Mr. Tuan has incurred the wrath of the Prince Regent by having admonished him with regard to his private conduct. Moreover the high reputation enjoyed by the Viceroy has aroused the jealousy of others.

AMERICA AND NICARAGUA.

San Francisco, November 23.

The U.S. Government will demand an apology and indemnity from Nicaragua for the execution of the two Americans. It is, however, believed that President Zelaya will refuse the demand.

The U.S. cruiser *Desmoines* has arrived at Greytown and has commenced to make enquiries into the matter of the execution of the Americans.

The Secretary of State has refused an interview with the Nicaraguan Acting Minister in Washington. It is believed that diplomatic relations between the two countries will be severed.

In Nicaragua the public are incensed at the action of the United States, which they regard as ambitious. The leading U.S. residents in Nicaragua are gradually decreasing in number. It is believed they have been imprisoned by the Nicaraguan Government.

LORD KITCHENER.

Shanghai, November 24.

Lord Kitchener, who arrived here on the 21st instant, left for Australia yesterday.

RAILWAY CONSTRUCTION.

Hankow, November 23.

The general public here agree in the rejection of foreign loans for the construction of the Hupeh railway. Even students and private soldiers are offering subscriptions.

ADMIRAL TOGO.

Mukden, November 24.

Admiral Togo arrived here this morning and immediately proceeded to the office of the South Manchuria Railway Company. He was invited by Viceroy Hsi to a banquet in the evening, which, however, he declined. He is expected to leave for Port Arthur to-morrow, inspecting Fushun on his way.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION OF JAPAN.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The annual general meeting of the British Association of Japan was held on Wednesday evening at the offices of the Yokohama Foreign Board of Trade, under the presidency of the Chairman, Mr. F. G. Sale. After the transaction of the usual business, the election of the officers for the ensuing year took place. The results were as follow:—Chairman, Mr. L. J. Healing; Vice-Chairman, Mr. A. J. Cornes; Committee—Messrs. P. S. Bent, A. Cumming, H. D. C. Jones, J. Williamson Jones, C. K. Marshall Martin, F. G. Sale, and F. O. Stuart.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

The question of the abolition or retention of the Chinese ideographs seems to be no nearer solution to-day than it was thirty years ago. The fact is, as is pointed out by Dr. Ueda Mannen in the pages of the *Kyōikukai*, the number of persons in Japan who take any real interest in the subject is very few. The majority of Japanese readers are quite satisfied with the written language as it stands to-day. The influence of the small band of would-be reformers is infinitesimally small and likely to be so for many years to come. In an article on this subject Dr. Ueda points out that a time will certainly come when Japan will have to make up her mind as to the course to be permanently followed in this matter. He is of opinion that eventually China will be the supreme power in the East, and Japan will either have to make a close alliance with her and to a certain extent to follow her lead, or she will have to unite with other countries against her. Dr. Ueda thinks that the use made of Chinese characters for centuries will then prove very embarrassing to Japan and will make it difficult for her to establish her independence. But this argument certainly will not hold water, as the use of English by Americans does not interfere with their political independence any more than the use of French by the Belgians interferes with theirs. When Dr. Ueda proceeds to show that there is a very strong probability that eventually China will be convinced of the necessity of abandoning her complicated symbolic signs in favour of some simpler method of writing, and when he goes on to observe that if that ever happens Japan would feel ashamed of the slavishness she has shown in following China's lead in this matter, he is on solid ground. The Chinese are a very practical-minded people and when once they begin to compete with the Western world for pre-eminence in commerce and industry, it is not at all unlikely that they will be willing to sacrifice their ideographs on account of the time they take to acquire and on account of the hindrance to close intercourse with Western nations that they constitute. The situation that will certainly be created half a century hence will probably demand radical orthographic reform in China. Whatever drawbacks China suffers from the use of the characters, we also suffer, says Dr. Ueda, and it does seem shortsighted on our part not to move a finger towards the removal of a recognized obstacle to progress. Dr. Ueda concludes his article by observing that the tone of Japanese society since the war has been one of supreme self-satisfaction and that the spirit to undertake far-reaching reforms is entirely wanting in the nation as a whole.

In an article entitled *Yoroshiku chihō kanjō wo sarubeshi*, published in the *Kyōikukai*, Dr. M. Sawamura, an agricultural expert, says that petty local feeling has seriously interfered with the establishment of good industrial and commercial schools in various provinces. When a prefecture decides to establish such schools, there is usually a warm dispute among the residents in certain districts and villages as to their location, often ending in the opening of a school in an unsuitable place or in establishing two or three ill-equipped and weakly financed schools instead of one efficient institution. It is very difficult to induce properly trained teachers to settle down in isolated country places and bring up their families there. Then, attendance at badly-located schools is invariably poor. I know of one case, says Dr. Sawamura, where the contention between two towns for the establishment of a business school was so keen that the Prefectural authorities decided that the only thing to do was to erect the school half way between the two places. This they did, to the great inconvenience of teachers and students alike. In some Prefectures they have followed the plan of allowing each district to establish one business school. This has often resulted in the starting of two very inefficient schools within less than a mile of each other. In many provinces the business schools established are far too numerous for local requirements, and some schools have actually been closed for want of pupils. The amount of petty feeling displayed among the villagers in various parts of the country is very large. There are people who, to show their resentment for the refusal of the authorities to establish a business school in their villages, have forbidden their children to attend the schools opened in places near. A large number of such instances have come to my notice. It is not only in the case of schools established by the Prefectural Assemblies that the evil of petty local feeling displays itself, it is equally conspicuous in the case of schools established by the Central Government. The fact is that there is a great lack of public spirit and large-mindedness throughout the country. The village cares nothing for the district, the district for the Prefecture, and sometimes even the Prefecture cares nothing for the whole country. Personal profits at the expense of the village, village profits at the expense of the district, district profits at the expense of the Prefecture should all be regarded as *akutoku*, ungodly gains, but they are by no means so regarded, and therefore it is that industrial and commercial education suffers much loss in every part of Japan. The spirit of co-operation and readiness to sacrifice the small to the great stand in need of fuller development than they have hitherto received in this country.

In the pages of the *Kyōikukai* Mr. Terada Yūkichi, the Director of the *Seikwa Gakkō*, gives an account of his attempts to introduce the German *Ferien Colonie** here. For two years Mr. Terada has gone off to the country with a number of students and teachers of the School for some weeks in the summer. Last year his party went to Nikkō and remained there four weeks at a cost of 35 *yen* per pupil or teacher for the whole period. This included railway fares and the salary of a doctor and a nurse to accompany the party of 50 on their expeditions.

* * *

It says much for the enterprise of the Hakubunkan that on the 10th of this month they issued a Special Number of the *Taiyō* consisting of no less than 255 pages, all dealing with the life of the late Prince Itō. The volume constitutes a carefully compiled and fairly exhaustive biography of the eminent statesman. There are some 17 pictures of the late Prince taken in various costumes and with different surroundings. The first nine pages of the number contain a brief account of his life. The headings of the following chapters are as follows:—Itō before the Revolution of 1868; Itō in the days of Kido and Iwakura; Itō in Okuma's most prosperous days; Itō the Compiler of the Constitution; Itō as Minister-President; Itō and the House of Peers; Itō the unsuccessful Party Leader; Itō on the Stage of Diplomacy; the Achievements of his last days; the ordinary life Prince Shunpo† lived in the Sōrōkaku, Oiso. The next part of the volume we are reviewing (from pp. 129—160) is devoted to translations from foreign books, newspapers and magazines. The comments of the Encyclopædia Britannica, of Alfred Stead, Professor Ladd, Mr. Morris, Captain Brinkley, and others, and those of the Yokohama and Kobe Foreign Press, are also given. Then follow no less than 33 articles on the late Prince, the material for which, with two exceptions, was all obtained by interviewers sent by the Hakubunkan to the houses of the eminent men quoted. Each speaker adds some new touches to the picture of the deceased statesman. Though it may seem invidious to quote some portions of the 85 closely printed pages and leave other parts equally good and interesting unquoted, space compels us to adopt this method. We will begin with Count Okuma. Among his remarks the following statements are made. It is perhaps too early to try and form a correct estimate of the place Prince Itō occupied in the State. I can do no more just now than dwell on a few salient points in his character. As a politician Prince Itō was certainly a very great man and to me it always appeared that his greatness was attributable to two mental qualities that he possessed. One was the most remarkable versatility, the other was a conciliatory spirit. Now in politics, if he is going to succeed, a man must be capable of giving earnest attention to a great variety of things at the same time. Successful statesmanship depends on a minute knowledge of all that affects the people governed, of all that might render any proposed policy a success or a failure—armaments, diplomacy, finance, education, religion, popular feeling, customs, a statesman should study them all. And this the late Prince did. His minute acquaintance with the details of so many different subjects rendered him in most cases a safe guide. Statesmen like Prince Itō are very rare in this country to-day. We have a good many brilliant politicians in our midst, but their range of vision is very limited; they do not take in the whole field; they are mere specialists and they lack common sense. (*Shikashi dōmo gankai semaku, zentai ni yuki-watarazu*; *iwayuru semmon ni washitte, jōshiki ga hattatsu shite oranai.*) Prince Itō's conciliatory spirit was one of the most useful as well as the most beautiful traits of his character. Numerous indeed are the conflicting elements in politics. The men out of power are always attempting to pick holes in the policy of those who hold the reins of government. Those in power are too often anxious to escape responsibility and to put the blame of their mal-administration on others. Then there is the element of personal ambition which is never absent from politics and which often helps on good government, because in order to shine men have to avoid making mistakes. With all the influences that tend to divide politicians, the presence of a man like the late Prince Itō to smooth over differences, to pour oil on the troubled waters, contributed greatly to that peaceful co-operation for the attainment of great ends which has so often been witnessed in this country during the past few decades. Though Prince Itō when in power had sufficient personal ambition to make him try his best to make a success of his administration, his devotion to the State was such that he was always ready to give place to others when circumstances seemed to indicate that this was the wisest course to follow.

As to the Prince's visit to Manchuria, Marquis Katsura informed the assembled journalists that it had no political significance whatever. He made that remark as a politician. It is no doubt proper that politicians should adopt courses of that kind. The journalists present of course put their own interpretation on the Marquis' speech, and I do the same. I must confess that I expected great things from Prince Itō's visit.

Count Hayashi's acquaintance with the late Prince began 40 years ago. He testifies to the loyalty and warm-heartedness of Prince Itō as a friend and to his high principles as a politician. He says that the Prince was entirely without avarice, rather did he glory in his poverty. When in London at the time of the formation of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, a rumour was circulated to the effect that the Prince had realized a large sum of money. In reference to this he observed to Count Hayashi:—"I am always poor. Poverty seems to be a part of my nature." Count Hayashi makes the following observations. The Prince was a voracious reader. He was very much at home when reading English, and he spent many hours over magazines and newspapers when he had leisure to do so. As a politician he had a certain moral superiority with him which one could not help admiring.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio for 16 or 17 years had always been a political opponent of the late Prince. He sided with Count Okuma at that time in thinking that Prince Itō was the one great obstacle to the establishment of that party government which is an essential part of constitutionalism. But in 1897 Prince Itō astonished the country and the political parties by handing over the reins of government to Itagaki and Okuma, the leaders of the two largest parties of that time. This act displayed no ordinary magnanimity, says Mr. Ozaki. In retiring from office Prince Itō was by no means under an obligation to place the men in power who for a series of years had acted the part of his bitterest political enemies. He could have chosen as his successor a statesman who would carry on the government on lines which met with his approval. Whether our opposition had convinced him that party government must be pushed in thst country I don't know, but he himself set about

* This is rendered 轉地修養 *Tenchi-shiyōkai.*

† The Prince's posthumous name.

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organizing a party, with what success the world knows. . . . . Prince Itō had many great qualities. He was a very high minded statesman who spurned mean actions and underhand tricks in politics. However hardly he was hit by his political foes, he resorted to no unworthy methods of outdoing them. (*Ware ware ga donna ni hageshiku kōgeki sh ta baiai demo, Itō Kō wa kesshite hiretsu na shudan de motte ōsen shinakatta*). Prince Itō was a very open-minded politician. Whether he was what we call a sage I can't tell, as I don't quite know what a sage is like but there is a saying: *Seijin wa mono ni gyōtai sezu*: "The sage is never too much attached to anything." This was strikingly exemplified in the life of the Prince. He was always ready to change his course entirely when convinced that he was on the wrong tack. His readiness to co-operate with anybody who agreed with him on one point, though he might disagree with him on a hundred other things was wonderful. (*Mata teki de atta mono demo iken sae aeba tadachi ni hōyū tomo naru shi*). . . . The Prince's greatest weakness is said to be attachment to women, but he was never wholly addicted to them. They amused him for a while and then were dismissed from his thoughts. He never became their slave as some are wont to do. . . . Throughout his whole life the Prince retained the beautiful simplicity, candour and straightforward honesty of his younger days. He was incapable of guile or deceit. Prosperous circumstances helped him much in the development of his powers, but this very prosperity was the product of his own strenuous efforts. To sum up his life in a few words. "He was a favourite of Heaven and a child of fortune (*sokwa no chōji, unmei no chōji.*)

Mr. Takekoshi Yosaburō says that certain people are of opinion that, though extremely intelligent, Prince Itō was lacking in courage, but to this estimate of his character he, Mr. Takekoshi, demurs. He says that the Prince was more courageous than talented. The practical sagacity which so often stood him in good stead was frequently mistaken for intellectual powers which he did not possess. As to his courage it was displayed in a most striking way when, despite the opposition of almost the whole official world, he undertook and carried out the formati n of the Seiyūkai. Some have asserted, observes Mr. Takekoshi, that the late Prince's attitude to foreigners displayed cowardice. But in this they were quite wrong. The Prince once said to me that the favour with which he regarded foreigners was part of his very nature. His minute acquaintance with foreign affairs frequently led him to adopt views that were directly opposed to those held by the majority of his fellow-statesmen. The last years of his life were all passed in the midst of danger. That he risked his life while representing his country as Resident-General in Korea nobody knew better than he did. But he did not turn aside from his course on that account. So that lack of courage is the last charge that can be brought against him. . . . . In our political world to day there are two classes of statesmen, namely, those who have a political creed and who shape their course according to it, and those who are mere opportunists. Speaking generally the Chōshū men belong to the former class and the Satsuma men to the latter. Prince Itō throughout his whole political career was constantly influenced by his creed. He was filled with devotion to his country. He once said "He who can read the *Nihon Seiki* (Rai Sanyo's History of Japan) without shedding tears is not a Japanese." The book which was used as a Bible by the late Prince was the 名臣言行錄 *Meishin Genkōroku*. From that he drew inspiration for the many great acts of his life. As for the Prince's relations with His Majesty the Emperor they exceeded in intimacy those of any statesman now living. The Prince was always encouraged to speak his mind unreservedly to the Emperor and to act the part of a loyal servant even in administering reproof if he felt called on to do so.

In Dr. Katō Hiroyuki's article we are told that on a certain important occasion he succeeded in convincing the late Prince Itō of the importance of a study of philosophy to certain graduates of the University, when he had tried in vain to make a Minister of Education see this, and that as a result of Prince Itō's interest in the question. Dr. Katō, then President of the University succeeded in inducing the Department of Education to send certain University graduates to Western countries to study philosophy there, Dr. Inoue Tetsujirō being the first student to benefit by the new regulations.

Mr. Kamada Eikichi says that the Prince had formulated a definite policy for Japan to follow in case of big disturbances arising in China according to the part of the country affected, the northern, the southern or the central provinces. Mr. Kamada highly appreciated the beautiful artlessness and straightforwardness of the Prince's character. He says that in all his intercourse with men the Prince never pretended to like people whom in his heart he despised. When he was not in the mood for meeting people he never forced himself to do so. He occasionally turned visitors away from his doors when he felt no inclination to see them. This may have been self-will, but it showed his aversion to pretences of all kinds.

Dr. Miyake Setsurei, whose articles on any subject that he may discuss are always worth reading, deals with Prince Itō's relations to his great rival Count Okuma. At first it seemed as if Kuroda and Yamagata would constitute the most formidable rivals Prince Itō had to encounter, but the talents and mental resources of Count Okuma rendered him a more formidable political foe to the late Prince than either Kuroda or Yamagata. Kuroda's political influence declined some little time before he died. The rivalry between Yamagata and Itō was always softened by certain leanings that they had towards each other. Neither of them wished to drive things to extremities, to quarrel right out. If one got into difficulty, the other was always ready to help him out of it. (*Ne ga shinyū no aidagara de, tatoi hageshiku arasoute mo, ippō ga kyūkyo ni ochiireba ippō ga, te wo dashite, kore wo sukū no de atta*) Then their relations with the Emperor rendered open hostility to each other impossible. The rivalry of Itō and Yamagata was confined to a comparatively small area, the inner precincts of officialdom. But the rivalry of Prince Itō and Count Okuma extended over a wide range. They ran a close race, because in so many things they resembled each other in character and were endowed with the same kind of talents. Though they belonged to the different clans, the way in which they entered political life was the same. At the beginning of the Meiji era the two things that required most careful handling in order to enable the country to get along were foreign diplomacy and finance. Both Itō and Okuma possessed a good deal of knowledge on these two subjects. For some time Count Okuma was in Government circles and the country regarded as a greater authority on the burning questions of the day than Prince Itō. But after the opening of the Diet, the Sat-Chō statesmen took umbrage at Count Okuma's actions and attitude and combined against him. He was banished from officialdom. He formed the Kaishintō and as leader of the Opposition politicians made his influence felt throughout the country. But his party did not command a majority in the Diet and so his rivalry to Prince Itō was not over formidable. It existed, however, and the country was surprised when Prince Itō entrusted to Count Okuma the task of forming a Party Cabinet. When the Okuma-Itagaki Ministry fell, Prince Itō had the ambition to try and succeed where Okuma had failed, and with this in view, he formed the Seiyūkai. Okuma, in addition to founding a party, established a school which has proved a nursery-garden for politicians of the Okuma type. Thus, both these statesmen have laboured hard to plant constitutional government in the country. Which of the principles for which they contended and which are confronting each other to-day will win it is perhaps too early to determine. But a comparison of the two men may prove of interest. In physical strength and health they were about the same. They often drank *sake* together, and Count Okuma on these occasions was able to stand more liquor than the Prince. In activity and in spirit they were alike. They both possessed an enormous amount of practical wisdom and the capacity of each for imbibing new knowledge was about equal. The Prince often went abroad, but Count Okuma has remained at home. The Prince was a great reader of Chinese and English original works, but the Count's clear ideas on numbers of subjects have all been acquired by studying translations. At the age of 70 the Prince was a match in argument for men in their prime and the Count is still this, though over 70. Their minds taken as a whole were much alike, and which was the stronger of the two it is difficult to determine. In the practical uses to which he put his knowledge, the Count went beyond the Prince, but the Prince was more wary and laid his plans in such a way that his opponents could not take him at a disadvantage. (*Hito ni age-ashi wo toranu yō ni suru no wa, Kō no hō go katte oru yō de aru.*) They both understood learned subjects as well as men who are known as scholars, but neither of them had the ways of academicians. In analytic power the minds of both were deficient, it was in perceptive power that they so excelled. In moral character they resembled each other more than most people suppose. In money matters the Count has been considered to be a hoarder, a man who likes money for its own sake, and the Prince's indifference to money has been paraded before the public as though it were a virtue. This kind of criticism is all very shallow. The Count has undoubtedly accumulated money from time to time, but it has been with the object of spending it on good causes. Want of sufficient means has been and probably is to day the one cause of his inactivity in certain directions. Additions to his income have always meant the development of new enterprises with Count Okuma. If he saves, he saves to spend. Turning to Prince Itō, if he was, as people represent, indifferent to money, it was because he could afford to be indifferent to it, knowing where to go for as much as he required. In any enterprises that he wished to carry out he never wanted for money. To say that he was not avaricious simply means that he had no desire to lay up large sums of money for himself or even for his family. But the same thing can be said of Count Okuma. As regards the conduct of the two statesmen, one has to remember the characteristics of the age in which they were brought up and the habits of the men with whom they associated throughout their lives. In whatever dissipation the late Prince indulged, it never interfered with the arduous duties he performed. The hours he spent in sleep were few, and though constantly in the company of women, he never allowed them to occupy time that was not his own to give.

There is of course much repetition to be found in the volume we are reviewing. Some of the writers content themselves with supplying reminiscences only. Marquis Inoue is one of these. In religion we are told the Prince's attitude was one of general respect for all creeds, though he showed no special interest in religious belief himself. He held that Shintoism, being Japan's native cult, should be encouraged. He kept away from religious services whenever possible. Three times in his life, he told somebody shortly before his death, he prayed to the Gods. The first time was when the Crown Prince was very ill some years ago, the second time was when the war against Russia began, and the third time was the year before last when the Crown Prince paid a visit to Korea. He carried about a Buddhist image with him wherever he went, and he had it attached to his person when he was assassinated, report says.

The *Taiyō* Special number, though evidently compiled very hastily, has furnished a large amount of material which will hereafter doubtless be utilized by the writer or writers of an exhaustive life of the late Prince.

* * *

In a recent issue of the *Tōkyō Nichi Nichi Shimbun* we find a very timely article on the urgent necessity of the abandonment by the Mombushō of the regulations which insist on the study of two foreign languages in all the High Schools of the country. The present lengthy courses of study which a Japanese youth has to go through before entering life could be shortened by several years if the Professors of the Imperial Uni-

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versities were satisfied with a knowledge of one foreign language by most of the students who enter their colleges. The results of the present system, the *Nichi Nichi* says, are too pitiable for words. Very few of the students who yearly pass out of the High Schools have anything more than a smattering knowledge of German and English. Most of the graduates of the Imperial Universities have a very limited use for any foreign language after graduation. The knowledge of English and German they possess is not sufficient to enable them to read foreign newspapers, magazines and books, and from what the graduates themselves say, most of them drop both German and English after leaving the universities. That such study of foreign languages as these men have made raises them to a higher level than that reached by Japanese who have kept to their own tongue is not true. There is no reason whatever for making a knowledge of foreign languages the chief standard of learning in this country. The University professors are fond of boasting of their knowledge of foreign tongues, but how many of them are there that know thoroughly well more than two foreign tongues? The method of teaching foreign languages and of carrying on examinations in the Imperial Universities at present is fatal to the acquirement of even one foreign tongue. The present system of note-taking should be abolished and the examinations of students should be so conducted that ability to read and understand text-books should be indispensable for passing. During the three or four years spent at the University, students should be required to read for themselves and master the meaning of text-books. This would open up their minds and give them a taste for reading on their own account in after-years. As things are now, a large number of them so dislike foreign books that they drop them like hot coals when leaving the University. The best foreign text-books procurable should be placed in the hands of the students and a thorough knowledge of these should be demanded of them. For University students what better teachers can there be than the Europeans and Americans who are recognized all over the world as the greatest authorities on the subjects they treat? *

* Our information is that this question is not likely to be satisfactorily solved in the near future, as the University professors insist on English being dropped if only one foreign language is to be required; and that would be objectionable for many reasons.—(Writer of Summary.

EXPLOSION AT A COAL-MINE.

GREAT LOSS OF LIFE.

A Fukuoka telegram reports that an explosion occurred on Wednesday in the Ohnoura coal-mine in that prefecture and that some 200 miners are believed to have perished. The Ohnoura colliery is situated in Kurate-gun, in the centre of the coal-mining industry of North-western Kyushu, and is one of several mines owned by Mr. T. Kaijima.

A later message states that 60 have been rescued, 15 killed, 25 severely and 20 slightly injured, but 228 are still missing. It is impossible to reach the imprisoned miners, owing to the poisonous fumes. Attempts have been made, but had to be abandoned.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

The graduation ceremony of the Military Artillery School is to be held to-day. His Majesty the Emperor will attend the function.

Her Majesty the Empress, accompanied by her usual retinue, visited Lacquer Work Exhibition at Uyeno, Tokyo on the 20th inst.

Baron Uchida, the new Ambassador to Washington, and Mr. Arakawa, Minister to Madrid, were to be received in audience by the Emperor on the 20th inst.

The torpedo-destroyer *Umikaze*, which is being built in the Maizuru Dockyard, and her sister ship *Yamakaze*, to be constructed in the Mitsubishi Dockyard at Nagasaki, are over 1,000 tons each. They are to be armed with three 4-inch guns, six 3-inch and several machine guns. Their speed is to be 38 or 39 knots an hour.

The Japanese warships *Azuma*, *Akitsushima* and *Mogami* left Saseho on the 18th instant to attend the unveiling ceremony of the monument erected at Port Arthur.

General Prince Fushimi, Sr, left Tokyo at 6.30 p.m. on the 18th inst. to attend the unveiling ceremony of the monument at Port Arthur, to be held on the 28th instant.

The Department of Education has appointed the Weaving School of Gumma prefecture to exhibit textiles in the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition, as representing the technical schools of this country.

As the weather on the 21st, was magnificent, there were over 1,500 persons attending the Ikegami horse-races. Prince Kanin was present from the beginning of the races until the meeting closed.

The total receipts of the South Manchuria Railway for the first half of the present business year were 5,850,000 *yen*, an increase of 1,600,000 *yen* on the amount taken during the corresponding period of last year.

It is reported that Messrs. Isomura, Ito and Takatsu, the accused ex-directors of the Japan Sugra Refining Company, were released on bail on the 20th inst. Saturday, by lodging a security of 100 *yen* each.

An engine driver named Hosoe Kizo, who had been charged with causing the recent collision of goods trains at Kisogawa on the Tokkaido line, has been sentenced in the Nagoya Local Court to one year's imprisonment.

A serious outbreak of fire occurred at Tashirohama, Ojika-gori, Miyagi prefecture, early on Sunday (21st inst.) The village contains some 80 houses, of which 66 were burnt down. A number of fishing boats were also destroyed.

We learn from a Boston paper that Mr. John Henry Wigmore formerly of Tokyo, and author of a treatise on the Law of Evidence, has had conferred on him by Harvard University the degree of Doctor of Laws, *honoris causâ*.

The five large banks in Tokyo (the Mitsui, the Mitsubishi, the First, the One-Hundredth and the Fifteenth) have decided that no interest shall be paid on current deposits below 500 *yen*. The above is to come into effect on the 1st proximo.

Mr. Ishibashi Kosuke, who has for many years been the managing treasurer of the Japan Shipowners' Union, passed away on the 23rd instant. He was one of the organizers of the Kyodo Kisen Kaisha, the original body of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

In Nagoya where several fires have recently occurred in various public buildings, the building for patented articles in the compound of the Competitive Exhibition, to be opened in the near future, caught fire, and a portion of the roof was destroyed.

In Nagasaki prefecture a mail-bag containing several registered letters, in which there were cheques and money orders amounting to some 7,000 *yen*, was stolen on the way from the Kamishiro office to the Aitsu office. The thief has not yet been arrested.

The Crown Prince attended the graduation ceremony of the Gunnery School and the Torpedo School at Yokosuka on the 24th inst. After the ceremony His Highness proceeded in the afternoon to the Hayama Detached Palace, where he is to stay a few days.

The two depressions that appeared off the Loochoos, proceeded on the morning of the 24th instant towards Shiomisaki in Kii province and the north-east of Tsushima respectively. Afterwards the former passed to the east of Kinkasan and the latter to the northern part of Hokkaido. The heavy rain that visited Yokohama on that night was due to the depression from Shiomisaki to Kinkasan. The wind, however, was not very strong and lasted but a short while. The two depressions eventually passed away, holding the Main Island between them.

The twentieth anniversary of the opening of Moji to foreign trade was celebrated there on the 16th inst. A garden party and a lantern parade were the chief features of the celebration.

Mr. Dumphreys, the new M.P. for Bermondsey, has been elected an honorary life member of the Junior Conservative Club "in consideration of his valuable service to the Unionist cause in winning the seat at Bermondsey at a critical time in the history of the party."

On Thursday night a fire broke out in the compound of the Imperial Garden at Shinjuku, Tokyo. Owing to the strong wind blowing on the occasion, two buildings were destroyed. There was great anxiety on account of the palace. The cause of the accident is not yet known.

Yesterday was the day on which Treasury bills amounting to 20,600,000 *yen* were to be redeemed. Of this sum. 600,000 *yen* was to be repaid in cash and the balance converted into new bills, the term of redemption being three months and daily interest one *sen*.

A youth aged 15, one of the employees belonging to the Naval Arsenal at Uraga, Kanagawa prefecture, suddenly died on the 23rd inst. whilst running a race with his comrades in the compound of the arsenal. It is stated that death was due to the bursting of a blood-vessel.

An obstruction took place on the newly opened Kagoshima line near Kokubu, owing to an accident to the engine of an up-train which had left Kagoshima on the opening day (21st instant) In consequence, the through train from Kagoshima to Moji could not proceed farther than Hitoyoshi.

On November 21 a number of workmen were engaged in road repairs on the borders of Gifu and Fukui prefectures, when a portion of a tunnel collapsed, and three men were buried beneath the debris. They were afterwards brought up, but one of the unfortunate men was found to be dead.

The agents of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha advise us that they received the following "wireless" message from the G.N.S.S. Co.'s *Minnesota* yesterday morning:

"*Minnesota* one thousand miles from Yokohama brisk easterly warms (warm?) all well.—Garlick."

It is stated that the result of Monday night's meeting has been communicated to Baron Sufu, the Governor of this prefecture, and an appointment asked for in order to make arrangements concerning the disposal of the Club's property, the removal of the palings, &c. No reply, however, has yet been received.

It has been discovered that the recent fire which occurred in the storehouse belonging to the Transport battalion stationed at Nippori, Tokyo-fu, was due to incendiarism committed by one of the employees of the purveyor of the battalion. The incendiary and the receiver of the stolen goods were both arrested on the 23rd inst.

A telegram to a Manila contemporary states that the bubonic plague has broken out in several places outside of San Francisco in the rural districts. Considerable alarm is felt over the appearance of the scourge in several counties at the same time. The health authorities of the State have taken prompt action to stay the spread of the disease.

Dick Whittington, the pioneer in the work of suppressing African rats by European cats, has a follower in the Governor of the German Colony of Togo. In a recent decree, says a Reuter message, he orders cats to be "officially" kept in all the schools, hospitals, prisons, and other public buildings where natives congregate. The order is contained in a decree dealing with the danger of the introduction of plague into Togo from the British Gold Coast. The Governor says

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that Dr. Koch, the bacteriologist, had reported the successful experiments made with cats for the eradication of rats in plague-infected and plague-menaced harbours of China. In Hongkong orders had already been issued providing for the maintenance of one cat in every house, and three cats in the larger houses.

THE Korean Crown Prince who has confined himself to the palace at Toriizaka, Tokyo, since the death of Prince Ito, visited the Shiba Detached Palace on the 21st instant for the purpose of wild-duck hunting. His Highness is reported to have shot ten birds himself. Prince Iwakura, Viscount Suyematsu and several others were present.

IT is reported that a few days ago ten sheets of counterfeited shares of the Ujikawa Hydro-Electric Company were discovered at Okayama, and on the 17th instant another ten sheets were found at Himeji. It is stated that the counterfeits can easily be distinguished from the genuine ones on account of the rough quality of paper used and of several other differences.

A NAGASAKI despatch reports that a man named Iwamo Usaburo and two others of that city have attempted to sell several hundred counterfeited Russian bank-notes for 100 *yen*. A Russian hotel proprietress of the place is said to have been induced to buy them with the intention of sending them to Vladivostock. The crime, however, was discovered by the police and the offenders have been arrested.

ACCORDING to a Moji telegram received by the *Asahi*, Baron Oshima, Governor-General of Kwantung, when he called at the port on the 23rd, *en route* to Tokyo, received a telegram to the effect that, on the evening of the 22nd instant, a group of the Chunchuses attacked Sandaishi, on the Antung-Mukden line. There were ten casualties among the Japanese who were engaged in the reconstruction works.

MR. ITO HIROKUNI, heir of the late Prince Ito, returned home from Europe on the 23rd inst. He is quoted as saying that on September 26, when he first received at Genoa the news of his father's death, he doubted the truth of the report, for he had not been aware of the Prince's tour in Manchuria; but the later telegram from the Imperial Household Department confirmed the sad news. He thereupon immediately started on his return journey by the Siberian route.

ON the night of the 17th instant two policemen of the Shinagawa Police Station, Tokyo, observed a suspicious looking fellow carrying on his shoulder a large package near Kamata Railway Station. The man was taken to the Shinagawa Police Station and examined. He was found to have a revolver in his pocket. According to his confession, he has recently broken into many houses in Tokyo and Yokohama, among them the residence of the Mayor of this city.

AT the meeting held on the 23rd inst. inconnection with the formation of a Canadian Club, the Commissioner of Trade for Canada, Mr. J. Harris, presided, and it was decided that a Club should be to all Canadians over 18 years of age. A committee formed, open consisting of Mr. J. Harris, Mr. J. R. Shaw and Dr. L. B. Street was formed to draw up a constitution. There are believed to be about 25 Canadians in the Tokyo-Yokohama district and in Kobe, who could be counted upon to join the Club.

AT about 7.20 p.m. on 19th inst., says the Kobe *Herald*, a fire broke out in a two-storeyed godown owned by Mr Morimoto at No. 5, Isobe-dori, 3-chome, Kobe. The godown is leased to the Kobe Packing Company, which has been using it for the storage of cotton waste and rags. The flames had got a strong hold when the outbreak was discovered, but more than a dozen hoses were brought to play upon the flames, and, as the godown was of brick, the fire was prevented from spreading. The godown, however, which was full of inflammable material, was entirely destroyed. It covered an area of 130 *tsubo*. The fire is supposed to have been caused by tobacco ash dropped by some one who had been working in the building during the day, but this seems to be no more than a conjecture. The total damages are estimated at about *yen* 25,000. A policeman was slightly injured in the right hand while helping to extinguish the flames.

FORTY "nightriders"—members of the band whose reign of terror the Kentucky authorities seem unable to suppress—were put to flight on the night of the 28th ult. by a young girl armed with a shot-gun. They battered down with axes the front door of the residence of George Kreitz, a tobacco grower who insists on selling his produce to independent concerns, and declared that they had come to horsewhip him. Kreitz's daughter immediately emptied both barrels of a shot-gun among them and they fled.

ONE of the new "Super-Dreadnoughts" to be laid down at Portsmouth this month is to be named the *Orion*. Her length will be 600ft., her beam 86ft., and her speed 21 or 22 knots. Her armament will consist of ten 13.5in guns and an auxiliary battery of 4in. or 6in. guns. It is also announced that the new battleship-cruiser, to take the place of the *Indefatigable* at Devonport, will have engines of no less than 70 000 horse power, which is 10,000 h.p. greater than that of the *Mauretania*.

IN the House of Commons on the 1st instant, Mr. Gladstone, the Home Secretary, explained why the prison committee of Strangeways Gaol in Manchester sanctioned the playing of a hose on one of the imprisoned suffragettes. He said the officials were afraid to break in the door of her cell because they feared that the walls might fall and injure the prisoner, whose enforced bath lasted only two or three minutes. The Home Secretary said he was satisfied that the committee meant well, but it had committed a grave error. The prisoner has since been released.

MR. CHANG YIN-TANG, the new Chinese Minister to Washington, arrived at Nagasaki on the 18th inst. by the steamer *Mongolia en route* to his destination. Being interviewed there, he said that China adheres to the principle of the open door in Manchuria, in accordance to the wishes of the different Powers. The Railway agreement with Japan is also based on this principle and will not call forth any objection from other countries. America, he said, is friendly to China. In connection with the immigration and other questions, America will likely show profound goodwill.

INJURED during the second half of a football match at Harvard yesterday, says a New York despatch of the 30th ult., Mr. E. A. Byrne, a cadet at West Point, was carried off the field unconscious and died this morning. His neck had been broken. The young man's father had been watching the game, which was broken off withthe score: Harvard, 9; Army, 0. A similar accident happened to a midshipman named Wilson at Annapolis a fortnight ago, and a meeting of military and naval authorities will take place at West Point to-morrow to discuss the advisability of prohibiting football at the Army and Navy colleges.

LIEUT. JAMES H. STEWART, of the U. S. Army, met with a terrible experience while out swimming off Polinao Point, near Manila, where he encountered a large shark. He tried to frighten it away, but the shark after a momentary disappearance rose under him and seized him by the calf of the leg and carried the victim below. The report adds:—With the water strangling him he struggled for life ag inst the big brute, striking it in the head with his other foot and with his fists. In this way he finally, with a supreme effort, tore himself loose, leaving the muscles of his leg in the maw of the shark. Striking out with all his might he swam to the surface and headed for the shore. The shark, satisfied with its "pound of flesh" did not follow him. On reaching shore he was in an exhausted condition. He tore up some of his clothes and bound up his injured leg as best he could to stay the flow of blood, and then made for town to seek such surgical assistance as might be at hand. All that could be done was done for him, and he was brought to the Civil Hospital at Manila, where when the last mail left he was reported to be lying in a dangerous condition.

ACCORDING to current rumours some of the questions to be set at the Educational Department's examination for teachers' licences have leaked out. At first the Authorities concerned were bent on the disavowal of the fact, but finding their efforts unavailing they have at length frankly admitted that one of the examiners might have been guilty of letting out the secret, and promised that they would lose no time in enquiring into the matter. It is desirable that no extenuation should be shown in punishing the unscrupulous examiner, so that scandals of so reprehensible a nature might be put an end to once and for all.

AN Osaka telegram reports that as a result of the recent strike in the collieries near Sydney, Australia, a number of large orders for lump coal have been placed in Kobe and Osaka. Simultaneously the coal market at Moji has become active, and freights to Hongkong and Singapore have so far risen that the *Shinkoku Maru* of Messrs. Kishimoto Shoten charged $1.09 per ton for Hongkong, an advance of 30 *sen* per ton, and the freight from Moji to Singapore which had stood at some $2.80, advanced to $3.50. On the 18th instant the Kishimoto Shoten received an order for lump coal at 12 *yen* per ton for delivery at Sydney.

THE Rev. Timothy Richard, D.D., Litt. D., General Secretary of the Christian Literature Society of China, has just completed forty years' work in the Chinese Empire and it was a happy thought, writes the *N.-C. Daily News*, that prompted the members of the English Baptist Missionary Society to make use of this anniversary to show Dr. Richard the love and esteem in which he is held by them. On the evening of Nov. 15 Dr. Richard was entertained to dinner by the Rev. and Mrs. Evan Morgan at their residence in Range Road, and a number of the past and present members of the Baptist Missionary Society were also there. A presentation of a handsome silver rose bowl, a reading chair and reading couch, was made by Mrs. Evan Morgan and came as a great surprise to the recipient. The bowl bore the following inscription:—"Presented to Dr. Timothy Richard at the close of forty years' work in China (1869-1909) by members of the Baptist and Zenana Missionary Societies as a token of love and esteem."

A MEMORIAL service for the policemen o Kanagawa prefecture who have died in the service of their country, was held on Saturday 20th instant. in the compound of the Daijingu Shrine at Iseyama, Yokohama. At 1.30 p.m. the religious service was conducted by two Shinto priests reading the Shinto rituals. After dedicating the offerings consisting of *sake*, rice, fish, etc., the presiding priest read an address of condolence. Mr. Hashimoto, Chief of the Police Department of Kanagawa prefecture; Mr. Otaguro, Chief Public Procurator of the Yokohama Local Court; Mr. Mitsuhashi, Mayor of Yokohama, the chiefs of the police stations in the prefecture, the families of the deceased, the invited guests and a large number of police-inspectors and policemen, took part in the ceremony. A little before three o'clock the religious function was brought to a conclusion. There were entertainments of *jujitsu* and fencing in a separate place in the compound of the shrine. Baron Sufu, Governor of Kanagawa prefecture, visited the shrine in the morning to offer his prayers.

THE STEINHEIL MURDER CASE.

In the sensational murder trial recently concluded at Paris, Mme. Steinheil, the accused person, gave the following account of what happened on the night of the crime:—

"I was abruptly awakened at midnight. Men were holding me by the throat, and in my daughter's room, where there are several looking-glasses, which reflected the light of their lanterns, I saw

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these men dressed, as I have said so often, in black gaberdines and wearing large felt hats. There was also a red-haired woman standing on my right. All had revolvers. One of the men, who had a black beard, said, 'Tell us where the money is and we won't hurt you.' They then bound me to the bed, and I heard my mother cry, 'Meg, Meg.' They murdered her and I fainted. This horrible scene is photographed in my mind, and is ever haunting me."

She then turns towards the jury and shouts, "Gentlemen, my statements have varied, for I have been frantic at times, but I am telling you the truth. There is one thing which proves my veracity. It is the card of invitation to an exhibition of my husband's paintings—the card which was found in the Underground Railway, and on the back of which were written words referring to the hiring of black gaberdines. Thus my husband, who was unable to protect me during his life, is now, thank God, providentially saving me with that card."

The president mercilessly argues with the widow about her different statements; so much so that anger burns in her eyes and she suddenly exclaims while frantically hammering the dock with her fist, "I forbid you to torture me."

Once more she turns towards the jury, "Gentlemen," she cries, and perspiration streams from her livid forehead, "gentlemen, I beseech you, don't attach any importance to those variations in my statements. Remember I have been miserable and tormented. I have had to stand long, long days of examination. I have been the prey of the police, of journalists, of hundreds of people. I have contradicted myself—that is possible But I did not know what I was doing. I am a woman. Pity me; believe me."

And as the judge, says the Paris correspondent of the *Daily Mail*, expresses bitter scepticism about the story of the gaberdines Mme Steinheil becomes infuriated and exclaims, "Black gaberdines disappeared from a Jewish theatre at the time of the murder. If the police had done their duty they would have found the murderers."

PRISONER AND JUDGE.

The spectacle would be comical if the issues at stake were not so tragic; both M. de Valles and Mme. Steinheil excitedly talk at the same time and make gestures. One shouts "M. le Président!" the other shouts "Madame!"

Time after time both sink back in their seats and, jumping up as if moved by one spring, the red sleeves of the president and the black sleeves of the prisoner wildly cleave the air in unison.

And the most curious point about this fierce passage of arms is that the two do not look at one another but watch the jury and the jury only!

After a while the interrogatory proceeds. The judge makes various hypotheses as to the causes of the double murder.

"Let us suppose," he says, "that they were burglars. They were strange burglars indeed, those men, who, after committing the crime, put everything in order and, having come without arms, knew the house so well that they found and took everything they required for the murders!"

Mme. Steinheil remarks ironically: "Did these men tell you all this, M. le President?'

M. de Valles speaks of the murder of Mme. Japy and suggests that it was committed in order to form, as it were, an alibi. In other words, Mme. Steinheil, having killed her husband, killed her mother because she thought it would seem inadmissible that a daughter could murder her own mother, and thus the double murder would be ascribed to the other person.

This insinuation enrages Mme. Steinheil beyond description. She fears that the jury may get this terrible notion into their minds, and she fights now as she never fought before.

Everyone in the court is breathless as she declares her innocence in heartrending tones. "How could I have killed my mother? She was my best friend. I adored her. I did not kill my mother. It is not true. I was kind to her. I was devoted to her. No, no. I am not the murderess of my own mother!"

As she speaks, with agony written on her haggard face, the twelve members of the jury bend silently forward and watch her with staring eyes. It seems that death is hovering in the gloom of this tragic hall, the walls of which have so often echoed to the grim pronouncement of capital sentences.

FRENCH VIEWS OF THE BUDGET.

"A FISCAL DEMAGOGY."

Paris, November 3.

M. Jean Herbette, in the Radical Socialist *Siècle*, discusses the English Budget, and remarks that France cannot watch "this work of social dislocation" as a disinterested spectator. All that is worst in it may very likely acclimatise itself in France.

"Speakers in the Chamber," he says, "will invoke the example of England—the tax of 25 per cent. on successions, of 20 per cent. on the increment of land values, the crushing taxes on the liquor trade, the supplementary income tax—in fine, all the measures of levelling and expropriation. Such measures, harmful enough in England, would mean in France a kind of fiscal demagogy such as that of which Athens has given us an ever-memorable example. In the interest of our country as much as in the interest of our friends across the Channel we hope that the Budget voted yesterday may be the last of its kind."

M. Herbette remarks that the numerous amendments incorporated in the Budget say less for Mr. Lloyd George's anxiety to please than for the inadequacy of his original work. "In principle," he adds, "the Budget which has just been voted is bad—bad for the example it gives abroad, as well as for its results in England. Mr. Lloyd George turns taxes into a party weapon and uses them to satisfy political rancour or to correct differences of fortune at his own sweet will. It marks no evolution towards more modern ideas, but is a return to the proceedings of primitive Government."

"A DEMAGOGIC CAMPAIGN."

M. Raymond Recouly, well known in London for his work in connection with the *Temps* newspaper, contributes to yesterday's *Figaro* an article on the approaching electoral contest in England. He remarks that "the Conservative Party has now regained the confidence with for some months past they have lacked. At the outset of the campaign against the Budget they committed one or two grave errors in tactics. The confined their objections almost exclusively to the taxes on land. Now 'the man in the street' was wholly indifferent to the additional burdens thrown upon landlords, and Mr. Lloyd George saw how to profit by the mistake of his opponents. Pouncing on the landlords, he showered sarcasm and invective upon them."

'But the Conservatives," says M. Recouly, "perceived their error in time. To the demagogic campaign of the Radicals and Socialists they responded by invoking the interests of the people and of the workers by depicting their misery and idleness, and by confronting the Government with the numberless hordes of the unemployed The British elector is influenced by simple and direct arguments. The argument drawn from unemployment is one of these: will it oust the mistrust which the people still feel of Protection and the jealously which is being excited against the rich?

"It is that," concludes M. Recouly, "which the approaching electoral contest will tell us; it will be very violent and demagogic. As in the case of a desperate battle, the two opponents will yield nothing. The Liberals have perforce been driven into an alliance with the Socialists. But when one makes such an alliance as this one, one never knows where it may lead."

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Saturday, November 27.

The American Raw Cotton market reports a decline in quotations, owing to unfavourable condition of the Stock Exchange. As to Cotton yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece goods is quiet. In Woollens and Woollen Mixtures, the market appears to be more healthy.

FEARFUL ECZEMA: SKIN IN RIBBONS

Arms were Perfectly Raw—Desperate with Terrible Irritation and Almost Crazed by Lack of Sleep—All Efforts at Cure Failed Until

MATRON OF HOSPITAL RECOMMENDED CUTICURA

"Four years ago eczema broke out on my hands and arms and I became so bad that I was unable even to dress myself and I dared not put my hands in water. Of course I went to see a doctor, but he held out very slight hope of recovery. I persevered with the treatment he recommended, but without any good result. At last I called on another doctor, but he failed also to bring me any benefit. I was suffering terribly then, and I thought I should go out of my mind, as I could neither sleep nor rest, night or day. The skin was all hanging in ribbons, and the arms looked just like raw beefsteak, while the irritation was so terrible that I got desperate sometimes and felt I would like to scratch my arms to pieces. I went to three other doctors, and then I attended the —— Hospital, but no one seemed to be able to conquer the disease, and I was on the very brink of despair when I was advised by the matron of another hospital to give Cuticura Remedies a trial. I put some Cuticura Ointment on the sores, and then I had the best night's rest I had had for many a long day. I continued the applications and also used Cuticura Soap and Cuticura Resolvent Pills. I seemed to improve all the time, and before I had used up one box of Cuticura Ointment I could do things in the house which I had not been able to do for four years. By the time two boxes of Cuticura Ointment had been used I was completely cured and my arms and hands, which had been all laceration and blood, were covered by a beautiful new skin. Now they are in as sound condition as ever. I have paid pounds upon pounds for doctoring all for nothing, and now I can say the Cuticura Remedies are worth their weight in gold. Mrs. Jane Lee, Roma Villa, Blackpool, Eng., Oct. 31, 1907."

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

Cuticura Remedies are sold throughout the world. Principal depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 6, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

RAW COTTON.	PER PICUL.
American Middling... ... —	43.50 to 44.70
Egyptian	50.00 to 55.00
Indian Broach...	33.00 to 34.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	30.25 to 31.00
COTTON YARN	**PER BALE**
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	340.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed...	420.00 to 460.00
COTTON PIECE GOODS.	
White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 41-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb. 21-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb. 21-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches ...	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere...	0.80 to 0.90
WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.	
Flannels	V. 0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium..	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36

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Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

The market is quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y.3.80 to 3.85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4.30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.55
Sheet Mild Steel	6.15 to 6.30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9.60 to 9.80
" Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	6 80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y.3.88 to 3.98
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

Demand continues light, and no sales are reported.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14 40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15 50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change in the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200 00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. There is practically nothing doing.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	10.80
Flag	"	10.60
Royal	"	10.60
Trophy	"	10 60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.70
Lion	"	11.80
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00
Japanese :—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 "	2.78
Fuji	6 "	2.85
Pine	6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

There has been no business done. Prices in America have considerably advanced on account of an active demand having arisen from Europe and the Eastern States.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5,60 to 5.70
Red " "	5.50 to 5 60
Blue Stem	5.75 to 5 85

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market has continued very weak with rapidly declining prices, the general feeling being most depressed.

On November 25th stocks were: filatures 34,309 bales; Re-reels, 6,123 bales; Kakeda, 1,425 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	V. 970
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	910
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	920
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	850
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	910
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den	880
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	820
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	870
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	810
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	850
Re-reels—No. 1½	820
Re-reels—No. 2	790
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	810
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	790
Kakedas—No. 2	770

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

November	Present delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.	January delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
19th	842	822	831	843
20th	860	835	844	855
21st	860	835	844	850
22nd	841	820	831	840
23rd	841	820	831	840
24th	830	817	—	831
25th	827	816	820	828

WASTE SILK.

The market is getting slightly active.

On November 25th stocks were: Noshi, 12,389 bales, Kibiso, 13,239 bales; and Sundry, 1,726 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	137½ to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	95 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	70 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	120 to 127½
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	90 to 100
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—There has been a weakening in prices in general, but principally in the lighter weights. The production has shown no signs of increasing.

Kanazawa:—Prices have declined slightly in accord with the Raw Silk market. There has been no appreciable revival in the demand and the production continues small.

Kawamata:—The demand has been comparatively active, and there have been some fluctations in prices.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.35	8.15	8.05	8.05	7 95
27"	8.35	8.25	8.05	8.10	8.05
36"	8.35	8.20	8.15	8.05	8 05

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.00	7.90	7.80	7.65
27"	8.05	7.85	7.90	7 60
36"	8.00	7.75	7.75	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.90	11.00	12.00	13.20
36	12.50	14.10	15.90	16.40

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of November 25th the quotation was £60.5.0.

Home markets have improved to some extent.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47 00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report, large stocks being still held, with poor demand.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	786,193
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	153,845

Delivery.	Closing Price
November	11.25
December	11 36
January	11.59

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
November	11.59	November	11.63
December	11.67	December	11 62
January	11.83	January	11.81

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*
Superior	Yen 12.30
Medium	11.30
Common	10.30
Average	11.30

TEA.

There has been no change in quotations. Total settlements at Yokohama from May 1st to November 13th amount to 87,020 piculs, against 82,241 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	36 — 37
Good Medium	34 — 36
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
November	126.30
December	127.25
January	128.25

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Nov. 26.

London silver unchanged, China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates all unaltered, closing as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T.T.	2/1 1/16@1/8
— — Bills on demand	2/0 3/8@5/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 3/4
— Private 4 months' sight	2 0 5/16
— — 6 months' sight	2/1 1/16
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	257½
— Private 4 months' sight	262@1½
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	85*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83*
Shanghai—Bank sight	88*
— Private 10 days' sight	89½*
India—Bank sight	152½
— Private 30 days' sight	154⅜
America—Bank sight	49 5/8@3/4
— Private 30 days' sight	50⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅜
Germany—Bank sight	209
— Private 4 months' sight	214
Bar Silver (London)	23⅜

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE.

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date
America	P. M.	Siberia 1	F. Nov. 26
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru 2	Su Nov. 28
Europe	N. D. L.	Prinz Ludwig	Su. Nov. 28
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Sa. Nov. 27
Portland	P. & A.	Henrik Ibsen	Sa. Nov. 27
Hongkong	B. L.	Kumeric	Tu Nov. 30
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Monteagle 3	W Dec. 1
Europe	M. M.	Tonkin 4	W. Dec. 1
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan 5	Th Dec. 2
Tacoma	B. L.	Suveric	Tu. Dec. 7
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Tosa Maru	W. Dec. 8
Hongkong	P. M.	Korea	Th Dec. 9
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Aki Maru	F. Dec. 10
America	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	Sa. Dec. 18
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	F Dec. 31
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	W. Jan. 5

1 Left San Francisco on the 9th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 19th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 21st inst.
4 Left Hongkong on the 24th inst.
5 Left Vancouver on the 18th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES.

For	Line	Steamer.	Date.
Hongkong	P. M.	Siberia	Sa. Nov. 27
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Su. Nov. 28
Europe	M. M.	Ernest Simons	Su Nov. 28
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Chikugo Maru	Su Nov. 28
Hongkong	P. & A.	Henrik Ibsen	Su. Nov. 28
Hongkong	N. Y. K.	Tango Maru	M Nov. 29
America	T. K. K.	Tenyo Maru	Tu Nov. 30
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Monteagle	W Dec. 1
Tacoma	B. L.	Kumeric	W Dec. 1
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	Th. Dec. 2
Portland	P. & A.	Helcules	— —
Europe	N. D. L.	Prinz Ludwig	Sa Dec. 4
Hongkong	B. L.	Suveric	W. Dec. 8
Europe	N. Y. K.	Hirano Maru	W. Dec. 8
America	P. M.	Korea	Sa. Dec. 11
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kumano Maru	Sa Dec. 11
Tacoma	B. & S.	Ningchow	Sa. Dec. 11
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	Su Dec. 19
America	C. R.	Amiral Orly	M Dec. 20
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	W Dec. 22
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Sa. Jan. 1
Hongkong	G. N.	Minnesota	Sa. Jan. 8

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LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Koshun Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,657, I. Ichiki, 19th Nov.,—Takao via ports, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, A. G. Stephens, 19th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Nore, British steamer, 4,180, G. Philipps, 29th Nov.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Silesia, German steamer, 3,138, V. Hoff, 19th Nov.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 19th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Fitzpatrick, British steamer, 2,838, R. A. Hutchinson, 20th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails & General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., (Agents American Line of Osaka Shosen Kaisha).

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, K. Asakawa, 20th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 20th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Keemun, British steamer, 5,865, R. Conradi, 21st Nov.,—Tacoma and Victoria, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire

Taito Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,246, J. Den, 21st Nov.,—Formosan ports, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 21st Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Deucalion, British steamer, 4,476, J. Riepenhansen, 22nd Nov.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8,700, Henry E. Morton, 22nd Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 22nd Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,907, M. Hagino, 22nd Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316 S. L. Saxby, 23rd Nov.,—Barry via Nagasaki, Coal.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Aymeric, British steamer, 2,789, Boyd, 23rd Nov.,—Tacoma and Vancouver, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Hyogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Sudzuki, 23rd Nov.,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,284, Nishi Shiroji, 23rd Nov.,—Iquique and Callao via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 23rd Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, H. Peterson, 25th Nov.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

DEPARTURES.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 19th Nov.,—Kobe, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fook Sang, British steamer, 1,987, T. A. Mitchell, 19th Nov.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Lowther Castle, British steamer, 2,961, Howe, 19th Nov.,—Boston and New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Kleist, German steamer, 5,123, G. Pahnke, 20th Nov.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 20th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaiserin Elizabeth, Austrian cruiser, 4,200, Capt. O. Hansa, 20th Nov.,—Bangkok.

Keemun, British steamer, 5,865, R. Conradi, 21st Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, A. G. Stevens, 21st Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 21st Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fitzpatrick British steamer, 2,838, R. A. Hutchinson, 21st Nov.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., (Agents American Line O.S.K.)

Ching Wo, British steamer, 2,517, T. W. Cullum, 22nd Nov.,—Java, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm Wade, 22nd Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Koshun Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,657, I. Ichihi, 22nd Nov.,—Katsuura, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Kokura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,610, T. Terada, 23rd Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, Asakawa, 23rd Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sado Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,860, Geo. C. Hurry, 24th Nov.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kaga Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,907, M Hagino, 24th Nov.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mongolia, American steamer, 8,700, Henry E. Morton, 24th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Silesia, German steamer, 3,138, V. Hoff, 24th Nov.,—Havre, Rotterdam and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Inizawa, 25th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,284, Nishi Shiroji, 25th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Hyogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Sudzuki, 25th Nov.,—Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Mongolia*, from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. Sydney L. Cohan, Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Hasson, Mr. H. Ashmead, Mr. F. P. Solomon, Miss Kirby, Mr. W. A. Hirst, Mr. and Mrs. T. Held, Mr. and Mrs. R. Riddell. For Honolulu:—Mrs. Yee Shee, Mr. Sek Son Ming, Mr Liang Koh Yin and 2 sons. For San Francisco:—Mr. F. H. Allen, Miss S. A. Alloway, Mr. A. C. Bryer, Miss Ottilie Bryer, Mr. D. C. Chapin, Mr. C. D. Clark, Mrs. H. Corbett, Mr. and Mrs. F. K. Eckley, Rev. and Mrs. R. J. Elliot and 2 sons, Mr. H. C. Fassett, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Guyett and child, Mr. J. D. Hoffman, Mr. F. K. Lawless, Mr. Karl Mayer, Mr. E. Meyer, Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Stephens, Dr. Armstrong Smith, Mr. and Mrs. W. Stebbins, Mrs. E. H. Trowbridge, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Thayer, Mr. F. W. Zimmermann, Mr. Ah Hack Ming, Mr. Chas Chung Fan, Mr. Chu Han Nien, Mr. Chow Tse Chi, Mr. Chin Shao Quan, Mr. Chun Koo Kan, Mr. Ching Yung Wah, Dr. Chung Wen Pang, Mr. Chang Yen Nih, Mr. Chun Ting Chi, H.E. Chang Yin Tang and 2 servants, Mrs. Chang Yin Tang and maid, Mr. Henry Chang, Miss Maimai Chang, Miss Alice Chang, Miss Lilly Chang, Mr. Chun Chuk, Mr. Fang Kwang Fang, Mr. Fan Tsun Maw, Mr. Ho Hung Kwan, Mr. Ho San Ling, Mr. Ho Hung Kivei, Mr. Ho Chin Fei, Mr. Hong Liang Ting, Mr. Hsu Chuen Yuen, Mr. Lao Kwok Chi, Mr. Loo Ping Tien, Mr. Lau Wei Man, Mr. Liang Shun Yen, Mr. Pan Pas Chi, Mr. Shun Yuen Pit, Mr. Tang Shik Wan, Mr Tang Tsie Yee, Mr. Tsang Yik Ping, Miss Isabel Tang, Miss Emily Tang, Miss May Tang, Mr. Tan Shao Shu, Mr. Tsang Oong Hyuen, Mr. Tan Bo Shin, Mr Wong Kong Yet, Mr. Yoa Fung, Mr. Yung Chu Yen, Mr. Yen Tse May and Mr. Yang Gu Ying in cabin.

EXPECTED.

Per British steamer *Pembrokeshire* from London:—Mrs. A. King, Mr. H. D. Brake, Countess of Shannon and daughter, Mrs. Longworthy Baker, Mr. F. G. Coupland Smith, Mrs. Smith, Mr. F. Wickham, Mr. Melbourne Cause and Mr. H. Holt in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—F. M. Viscount Kitchener, Capt. Fitzgerald, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wilcox, Mr. and Mrs. H. N. Benjamin, Miss Benjamin and maid, Mr. L. Frusewitz, Miss Reynell, Mr. and Mrs. Newton, Mr. T. Neta, Mr. Itchiya Tanaka and Mr. Ng Hen in cabin.

Per German steamer *Kleist* for Bremen and Hamburg via ports:—Mr. A. Gerdts, Mr. H. Heinze, Mr. G. Boden, Mr. F. Popert, Mr. Spencer Smith, Mr. H. P. Scott, Mr. W. H. Talbot, Mr. and Mrs. McQuesten and maid, Dr. Alfred Muscate, Mr. Moellmann, Mr. H. A. Moran, Mr. H. Montgomery, Major and Mrs. H. K. Adair, Col. and Mrs. F. M. Knox, Mrs. F. E. Broson, Mr. and Mrs. H. P. MacFarlane, Mrs. Chas Adams, Miss Gaylord, Mr. Gaylord, Mr. and Mrs. J. de Graff Berkey, Mrs. W. H. Stevens, Miss Mary Stevens, Mr. H. G. Stevens, Mrs. W. C. Colburn, Miss E. H. Colburn, Mr. and Mrs. B. F. Smith, Miss M. Feet, Miss B. M. Kelley, Mr. E. S. Loeiz, Mr. Hermann Canel, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Wilcox, Mr. A. C. Berghoff, Mr. and Mrs. W. Schmaedecke, children and amah, Mr. and Mrs. F. Bernhard, Mr. Leonard Holgate, Mr. Chuch Knapp, Miss Alice C. Foster, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. C. Foster, Rev. and Mrs. J. Tongue, Mr. N. N. Hatheramani, Mr. Dunneman, Mrs. Lucy M. Leathermann, Mr. R. Choy and child, Mr. D. Dayaram, Mr. and Mrs. Tsiropinas, Mr. K. Kondo, Mr. G. A. Scott and Mr. M. Russell in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru* for Hongkong via ports:—Mrs. Waldo Evans, Mrs. H. J. Ziegemeir, Mrs. S. J. Evans, Mrs. C. Adams, Miss L. Gaylord, Mr. H. Gaylord, Miss H. Röth, Mr. Geo. Gerdes, Mrs. Geo. Gerdes, Mrs. M. J. Turner and Mr. C. F. Heinlein in cabin.

Per American steamer *Mongolia* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. F. A. Allen, Miss S. A. Alloway, Mr. Au Hack Ming, Count Alfred d'Auseñbourg, Mrs. W. H. Avery, Mr. A. C. Bryer, Miss O. Bryer, Mr. Henry Chang, Miss Alice Chang Miss Lilly Chang, Miss Maimai Chang, Mr. Chang Yen Nih, Mr. D. C. Chapin, Mr. Chas Chung Fan, Mr. Chin Shao Quan, Mr. Ching Yung Wah, Mr. Chow Tse Chi, Mr. Chu Han Nien, Mr. Chun Chuck, Mr. Chun Kee Kan, Mr. Chun Ting Chi, Dr. Ching Wen Pang, Mr. C. D. Clark, Mr. S. L. Cohan, Mrs. H. Corbett, Mr F. K. Eckley, Mrs. F. K. Eckley, Mrs. W. E. Eckert, Miss K. Eckert, Rev. R. J. Elliot, Mrs. R. J. Elliot and 2 sons, Mr. Fah Tsun Maw, Mr. Fang Kwang Fang, Mr. H. C. Fassett, Mr. L. Fleutiaux, Mrs. L. Fleutiaux, Mr. C. L. Freer, Mr. W. A. Gifford, Mr. W. W. Guyett, Mrs. W. W. Guyett and child, Mr. Grahame Hamilton, Mrs. W. F. Hamilton, Mr. Curt Herzer, Mr. Geo. Hellar, Master Geo. Hellar, Mrs. H. V. Henson, Mr. J. D. Hoffman, Mr. Ho Hung Kivei, Mr. Ho Hung Kwan, Mr. Ho San Ling, Mr. Hon Ching Fei, Mr. Hong Liang Ting, Mr. Hsu Chuen Yuen, Mr. Lau Wei Man, Mr. Lao Kwok Chi, Mr. F. K. Lawless, Mr. Liang Koh Yin and 2 sons, Mr. Liang Shun Yen, Mr. F. P. Lilley, Mrs. F. P. Lilley, Mr. Leo Ping Tien, Mr. E. Meyer, Mr. Karl Mayer, Mr. Pan Pas Chi, Miss E. Putman, Mr. R. Riddle, Mrs. R. Riddle, Mr. Seh Son Ming, Miss H. Sharman, Mr. Shun Yuen Fit, Dr. Armstrong Smith, Miss B. H. Smith, Mr. W. Stebbins, Mrs. W. Stebbins, Mr. C. A. Stephens, Mrs. C. A. Stephens, Mr. Keith Spalding, Mrs. Keith Spalding and maid, H.E. Chang Yin Tang and 2 servants, Mrs. Chang Yin Tang and maid, Miss Isabel Tang, Miss Emily Tang, Miss May Tang, Mr. Tang Shik Wan, Mr. Tang Tsie Yee, Mr. Tan Shao Shu, Mr. Tang Shao Shin, Mr. R. C. Thayer, Mrs. R. C. Thayer, Mrs. E. H. Trowbridge, Mr. Tsang Oong Hyuen, Baron de Vinck, Mrs. L. E. Wells and maid, Miss C. Wells, Mr. J. S. Wells, Mr. K. J. Weisall, Mrs. K. J. Weisall, Mrs. E. Withers, Mr. Wong Kong Yet, Mr. Yung Gu Ying, Mrs. Yee Shee, Mr. Yen Tse May, Mr. Yoa Fung, Mr. Yung Chu Yen and Mr. F. W. Zimmermann in cabin.

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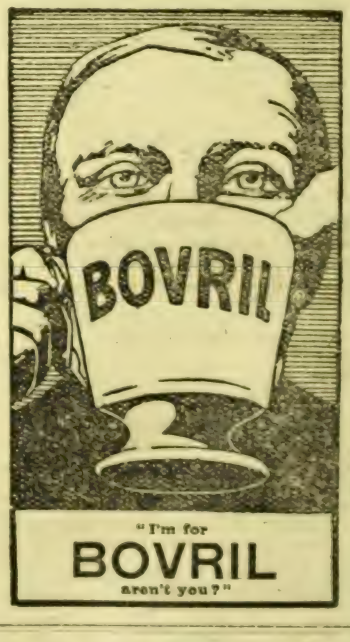

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 4TH, 1909.

BIRTH

VON ERCKERT.—On Sunday, November 7th, at Berlin, the wife of Mr. VON ERCKERT, lately Councillor of the German Embassy at Tokyo, now of the Foreign Office, Berlin, of a Son.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

SIR CLAUDE and LADY MACDONALD, who had been touring in the Kansai districts in company with Lord Kitchener, returned to Tokyo on the 26th ult.

EARLY on the morning of the 29th ult. a watchman's house near the principal gate of the Monmonji Temple at Ikegami, near Kawasaki, caught fire, threatening the noted Sanmon with destruction. Fortunately the fire was put out before taking hold of the gate.

MR. AKIZUKI, Japanese Minister at Brussels, has been transferred to Vienna, being at the same time promoted Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.

A SAN FRANCISCO message of the 18th ult. says it is reported from Honolulu that the steamship *Korea*, of the Pacific Mail line, picked up wireless messages on its present trip to the Orient from this port at 4305 miles, breaking all previous world-records.

A MIYADA (Chikuzen) telegram reports that at 6 a.m. on November 29, 205 of the miners entombed in the Onoura Colliery had been brought to the surface, including both killed and injured. It is expected that the remaining 50 will all be taken out by this evening.

IT is reported that Mr. Min, Minister of the Korean Imperial Household Department, tendered his resignation soon after his return to Seoul from Japan. It is believed that his resignation will be accepted and that Prince Li-Shing-Yan will be appointed his successor.

A KYOTO dispatch says that the Imperial Messenger Hojo repaired on Tuesday to the palace of Prince Kayo to enquire after the latter's health, carrying Imperial presents with him. The condition of the Prince is reported to have slightly improved compared with the preceding day.

THE N.Y.K. steamer *Kumano Maru*, which has arrived at Nagasaki from Australia, brings news that as the result of the strike of coal miners, coal has advanced to beyond 60 shillings a ton. The *Yawata Maru* had to abandon her voyage from Sydney to Melbourne and return to Thursday Island, to obtain a supply of coal from the *Nikko Maru*.

AN Osaka telegram says that some leading members of Osaka and Kobe business circles contemplate the construction of a new electric railway between these two cities. According to the proposed plan, passengers will be able to go direct in 35 minutes from one terminus to the other, without having to stop at any intermediate places. The cost is said to be 5,000,000 *yen*.

ON the 29th ultimo a passenger train on the Kyushu railway which left Kurume at 5.20 p.m., was running on the Hiake coast-line near Kokura, when some 20 yards of the line were destroyed by heavy waves caused by the stormy weather. Six carriages and seven wagons were derailed and badly damaged. Three passengers were more or less seriously injured. The line was restored at 2 p.m. the following day.

ON Monday evening, during the severe thunderstorm in Tokyo, a public bath-house at Hamacho, Nichome, was struck by lightning, which caused a fire resulting in the complete destruction of the building. Several casualties are reported. About the same time another house was struck in Imado cho, Asakusa and one of the inmates was injured. On the same night more or less damage was done to buildings, fences, etc. in various parts of Yokohama.

ON the 29th ultimo various districts in Kwansei, Shikoku and other parts of Japan were visited by a heavy gale. In Takamatsu, Sakuki province, several fishermen are missing, and at Shimonoseki, the railway connection with Moji was interrupted for several hours on account of the pier at Moji having been damaged. The famous "torii" of the Itsukushima Shrine off Hiroshima was at one time in danger of being blown down, but its safety was finally secured by the efforts of a large number of the townspeople. In Osaka, Sakai and Kyoto, the police authorities called out the fire-brigades to guard against fire which it was feared might break out unexpectedly. A lad was killed in a street in Sakai, being struck by an electric wire which had been severed by the force of the wind. The damage to buildings, &c., in these different districts is not exactly known.

ANOTHER accident is reported from Nagoya to have occurred on the Tokkaido line at a place situated between Yasu and Hachiman, Omi province. A down goods train stopped there owing to its engine being damaged, when a passenger train coming from Kobe, dashed into it. Three waggons of the goods train were seriously damaged, whilst, on the passenger train, a woman in one of the third class carriages was slightly injured. Traffic was interrupted for several hours.

THE construction of a Decauville railway between Hamamatsu and Kashima, Shizuoka prefecture, having been finished, an expert and a police-inspector both belonging to the local government, left Hamatsu for Kashima on Tuesday morning to inspect the line. On arriving at a place called Ikkenya at Hamana-gori, the train collided with another coming from Nakano-machi. The engine-driver of the former and two passengers in the latter were seriously and seven more were slightly injured.

THE steamer *Daini Kisakata Maru* (3,500 tons) belonging to Messrs. Yamashita Unsoten of Motohama-cho of this city, was wrecked on Monday night, when approaching Matsurejima, near the Strait of Bakan, the vessel having left Yingkow on the 26th ultimo with a full cargo of bean-cake. On Tuesday morning 28 dead bodies of her crew were washed ashore at Toyonishishimo-mura, Toyoro-gori, Yamaguchi prefecture. The crew consisting of 32 in all, including the captain and officers, it is believed that all on board have been drowned.

AT the final meeting of the Central Council of the Tea Guild held on Sunday, the election of the president and other officials resulted as follows :—

President	Mr. Otani Kahei (Yokohama).
Vice-President ...	Mr. Aizawa Kihei (Tokyo).
Director	Mr. Unno Kozaburo (Shizuoka).
Councillor.....	Mr. Ohara Juyemon (Shiga).
,, ...	Mr. Ito Kumao (Kyoto).
,, ...	Mr. Hayashi Yajuro (Miye).
,, ...	Mr. Kinoshita Hichiro (Shizuoka).
,, ...	Mr. Ozaki Ihei (Shizuoka).

BARON MOTONO, Japanese Ambassador at St. Petersburg, arrived at Tsuruga on Monday by the steamer *Hozan Maru*. The Minister is reported as saying that when the news of the assassination of Prince Ito reached the Tsar's ear, His Majesty was greatly grieved and ordered enquiries to be made as to whether the tragedy had been due to the neglect of duties on the part of the Russian police at Harbin. Baron Motono could see that all Russians, from the Emperor downward, showed great sympathy with the Japanese over this misfortune. Major-General Hongo, who was a passenger on the same steamer with Ambassador Motono, is quoted as saying that he had met with the most cordial welcome everywhere in Europe during his tour of military inspection. As the result of his investigation, he said that a remarkable progress in tactics had been made in the different European countries, whilst it was the general opinion that Europe had much to learn from *Bushido*, to which they believed Japan's victory in the late war was solely due.

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CHINA.

Friday, November 26.

Accounts reaching Tokyo of the trouble in Peking are most complicated. So far as we can discover, the principal question in dispute is one of precedence. The present child Emperor, Hsuan Tung, happens to be a successor of both the Emperor Tung Chih, who died in 1875 and of the late Emperor Kuang Hsu, who died in 1908. Thus the widows of these two deceased Emperors claim the position of Empress Dowager and neither is disposed to yield to the other. This struggle for precedence attained violent dimensions on the occasion of the recent obsequies, when it appears that the adherents of the two Imperial ladies actually came to blows. The principal figure in the dispute is Lady Yu, relict of the Emperor Tung Chih, who seems to be a person of great intellect and to have wielded much influence during the life of the late Empress Dowager. This lady appears to have come off second best in the struggle for precedence, and the proximate cause of her discomfiture was a commotion caused in connexion with the operations of photographers who had received official permission from Viceroy Tuan Fang. While this diversion was going on, the Consort of the late Emperor Kuang Hsu adroitly ordered her cortege to move forward, and thus took the lead. Viceroy Tuan would probably not have been involved in any trouble had not this struggle for precedence happen to synchronize with the doings of the men to whom he had granted a permit. It is alleged that three of Lady Yu's principal female attendants were so irate at the indignity put upon their mistress that they refrained from food and announced their intention of committing suicide. This quarrel is responsible for the fact that the suite of Lady Yu remained at the Mausoleum, refusing to return to Peking. Telegrams received in Tokyo indicate that the trouble is by no means at an end, and indeed suggest that its dimensions will become serious. But of course many alarmist rumours must be looked for when any commotion occurs in the Chinese Court with regard to a question of etiquette affecting the highest personages in the land.

We are disposed to think from some of the telegrams reaching Tokyo, that this question of precedence is only a secondary issue, and that the real crux of the situation is to be sought in a project contemplated by the Prince Regent at the instance of Viceroy Tuan. Our readers will remember that Tuan's removal from office was attributed at the outset to umbrage conceived by the Prince Regent on account of Tuan's very plain spoken advice as to the expediency of sifting out the old figure heads in the administration and replacing them by competent young men of the modern school of thought. But it is now affirmed that so far from taking offence at these counsels, the Prince Regent approved of them, and had made preparations for carrying them into effect after the conclusion of the obsequies of the Empress Dowager. It happens, however, that Tuan is a man without a party. He stands practically alone, and although his great abilities and his upright character have won for him high favour in the eyes of the Prince Regent, his want of a following has always constituted a weakness. Moreover it fell out that his programme of reform was misconstrued. He himself is a Manchu, but being a perfectly fair-minded man, actuated above all things by a desire to promote the interests of his country, the changes of personnel suggested by him were not prompted by any scheme for advancing Manchu interests over the head of Chinese. That they were so prompted, however, came to be widely believed, statements to that effect having been busily bruited abroad by his political rivals and by the officials whom his reforms would have removed from power. Prince Ching is said to have credited this version of Yuan's purposes and to have brought strong pressure to bear upon the Prince Regent, which pressure was supported by Lady Yu, of whom we have spoken above. Thus in the end Viceroy Yuan may be said to have been overthrown by the shadow of coming events and by the force of misconstruction. This version of the affair finds some support in the fact that, as our readers doubtless remember, confident predictions were heard some time ago about large administrative changes which were anticipated immediately after the Imperial obsequies. If the story be credible, it would indicate that Prince Ching's power has been more or less restored, and that a light is visible on the horizon of Yuan Shihkai's fortunes. It is necessary to note, however, that the *Asahi Shimbun* publishes information said to have been received from the Japanese Representative in Peking at the Foreign Office in Tokyo. This information is to the effect that not only Prince Ching but also the Prince Regent himself are hostile to Tuan.

There is a possibility, if not a probability, that the interference of the new Local Assembly at Tientsin in the Empire's foreign policy may have been an indirect cause of Tuan's downfall. The Assembly, as our readers are aware, has arrogated to itself the right of meddling with matters which have never in any country been supposed to fall properly within the purview of a parochial body. The only official whose position qualifies him for curbing these incongruous ebullitions of patriotism is the Viceroy of the Metropolitan Province, and it does not appear that Tuan has exercised, or even attempted to exercise, any restraining influence upon the Assembly. It is also very conceivable that the Peking Government's first experience of the working of provincial assemblies may have discredited that system, and brought the wrath of the Central Authorities upon the head of one of the principal advocates of the new system. From whatever point of view the incident be regarded, it undoubtedly represents a set-back to the cause of progress in China.

Some particulars are to hand of the raid made by the Hunghutsz on the 22nd inst. at the premises of the sub-contractor, Narisawa, near Santaitsz, along the line of the Mukden-Antung Railway. There were 50 bandits in all, and they were armed with rifles, pistols, swords and clubs. Only 15 of them, however, engaged actually in the work of breaking into and looting the office; the rest remained outside. Among the office staff of Japanese, three possessed sword canes, which they wielded vigorously, but of course such weapons could not hold out long against firearms. Two of the defenders were killed and one was severely wounded. Further, two other Japanese were severely wounded and five of the remaining members of the staff, including one Korean, were slightly hurt. It is alleged that small bands of Hunghutsz have been seen at various points along the line, and that a feeling of much uneasiness prevails.

Saturday, November 27.

The removal of Tuan Fang from office is said to have elicited no special comment from the vernacular newspapers in Shanghai. It is not improbable that these journals regard as a very grave offence the breach of etiquette charged against the ex-Viceroy.

Telegrams from Peking say that the new Viceroy of Chili, Chen Kueilun, is regarded with eyes of much disfavour by both foreigners and liberal-minded Chinese. The facts are recalled that he assisted materially in bringing about the downfall of Kang Yu-Wei and that, during the Boxer trouble, he was generally supposed to have thrown his influence into the anti-foreign scale. All this makes him exceedingly unpopular with foreigners, and among liberal Chinese it is said to be generally believed that he is in favour of restoring the old system of competitive examinations based on a knowledge of the Classics. In fact, it is currently believed that the downfall of Tuan is a signal blow to the cause of progress. But, on the other hand, rumour speaks of the probable restoration of Yuan Shihkai to power, and in some quarters it is believed that Tuan Fang's disgrace is only temporary. We note that, according to a telegram to the *Jiji Shimpo*, it is explained from Chinese circles that Viceroy Chen's elevation should not be regarded as a change of policy on the part of the Central Government: he has been promoted simply because there was a difficulty in finding any suitable person to replace Tuan Fang. But this explanation does not extend to the dismissal of Tuan, whatever validity it may have as to the choice of his successor.

There has appeared in Peking an Imperial Rescript which declares that the first stages of representative government are characterized by time-serving methods, and instructs the board concerned to investigate the matter thoroughly. It is probable that this Rescript is not as nebulous in reality as the telegraphic summary suggests.

Sunday, November 28.

Further details from Peking show that the Rescript just issued with reference to the Constitution admits that the reports of the Local Authorities with regard to the working of the new Provincial Assemblies contain some reassuring features, but on the whole are perfunctory and incredible. Noticeable above all is the fact that the Assemblies have taken no steps for the organisation of an efficient body of police, though it is obvious that proper police are essential to the preservation of peace and good order, and may therefore be counted guardians of the national rights. The Rescript accordingly orders the formation of a committee to inquire minutely into the action of the Provincial Assemblies.

It is reported that a large number of the officials of the Metropolitan Provinces have determined to tender their resignations as a means of signifying their disapproval of the dismissal of Tuan Fang from office. Tuan himself is said to have stated that his enemies have triumphed for the moment.

Mr. Chen Kueilun, the new Viceroy of the Metropolitan Province, showed some disposition at first to decline the office. In fact, he is said to have memorialized the Throne in that sense, but of course his objection, being founded solely on an avowed conviction of his own incompetence, was not entertained.

The great work compiled under the auspices of Count Okuma, "Fifty years of Open Japan," having been translated into Chinese, a copy was recently sent to Peking for presentation to the Emperor of China. It is now said to have been received by the Waiwupu and handed on to the Household Department.

A scarcely credible incident is reported

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from Mukden. The American Consul is said to have been travelling on the Mukden-Antung Railway in a car reserved for his sole use when the Chinese District Magistrate (Chihsien) at Penhsihu, failing to note that the carriage was reserved, attempted to take his place in it. His mistake having been made clear to him, he is said to have apologised, bnt the Consul not being satisfied, addressed a formal complaint to the Waiwupu in Peking, where his meticular action is reported to have provoked some amusement. It may be taken for granted that a good deal of this story remains to be told.

The bandits have again made their presence felt in the zone of the Mukden-Antung Railway. On the night of the 26th inst. a band of these marauders broke into the office of the Kajima Contracting Company at a pleace 7½ miles south of Nanfeng. One Japanese was killed.

We find in the *Jiji Shimpo's* Washington telegrams a curious piece of intelligence. It is to the effect that on the 4th of last September the United States Vice-Consul at Mukden addressed to the State Department a long report, declaring that Japanese goods are allowed to enter Manchuria without paying customs duties, and pointing out that American goods are thus injuriously handicapped. The telegram adds that the State Department has hitherto refrained from publishing the despatch, lest it should put a weapon into the hands of the anti-Japanese party. We reproduce this story for what it may be worth.

Very discouraging telegrams come from Kilin *viâ* Changchun. They allege that a most depressed condition of trade exists there, mainly owing to excessive issues of banknotes, and to damage wrought by floods last summer. In the midst of their own distress, the Chinese are said to be vigorously prosecuting their anti-Japanese boycott campaign, so that the Japanese in the town have fallen into a very evil plight.

Monday, November 29.

Mr. Tuan Fang is reported to have taken his removal from office without the slightest evidence of perturbation. He quietly wound up his official business and attended a farewell banquet given in his honour. Subsequently he and his family repaired to Peking, and it is expected that they will take up their residence permanently in Tungchow, which, as many of our readers doubtless know, is a town on the Peiho River about 16 miles from the capital.

Lady Yu and her attendants are said to be still obstinately adhering to their resolution of remaining at the Mausoleum instead of returning to Peking. The Princes and other high dignitaries who were sent to induce these ladies to come back, have been obliged to turn their faces homeward without achieving the object of their mission. Nobody ventures to predict how this complication will end. For our own part, we anticipate that the finale will be official recognition of the position claimed by Lady Yu; that is to say, she will receive the rank of senior Empress-Dowager.

Tuesday, November 30.

There is no change in the situation in Peking. The Imperial lady who has announced her intention of not returning to the capital unless her claims of precedence be recognised, still adheres to her resolve, in spite of all efforts to influence her. Newspaper correspondents begin to depict events in an alarmist light, probably because the crisis is lasting so long that its solution by ordinary methods becomes unlikely. As to the leanings of political partisans, the latest analysis points to Prince Ching as the origin of Tuan Fang's removal from office. Now Prince Ching has always been supposed to be a staunch supporter of Yuan Shihkai, and it would be comprehensible enough that the Prince should have contrived Tuan's fall by way of preparation to Yuan's restoration. But against that simple explanation we have to set the fact that half a year's leave has been granted Hsi Liang, Viceroy of Manchuria. Half a year's leave sounds ominously like a euphemism for loss of office. Yet Viceroy Hsi is among the pillars of the Yuan clique. It will be seen, therefore, that the situation presents some perplexing features.

Naturally, the recent activity shown by the Hunghutsz in the zones of the Mukden-Antung Railway has caused the Chinese authorities much concern, as it evidently tends to vitiate their claim of competence to police these districts effectually without any recourse to Japanese assistance. Accordingly strong measures have been adopted for the maintenance of better order. An office of general supervision has been established in Mukden; 39 additional police-stations have been opened in the zones; 80 mounted constables have been told off for special duty, and steps are being taken to add 300 men to the present force of police.

Wednesday, December 1.

Mr. Sun Chia-nai died in Peking on the 29th ultimo. This distinguished official held during his lifetime many important offices. He was particularly well known as the first Principal of the New Imperial University, from which post he retired at the close of 1899. He was nominated Chancellor of the Hanlin in 1901, and he became Grand Tutor of the Heir Apparent in 1908. A man of eminently progressive views he took a prominent part in organizing the representative institutions which have begun to be adopted in China, and his death is almost as great a calamity as was that of Chang Chihtung. We have no record of the date of his birth, but as he became a Metropolitan graduate 50 years ago, he must have attained a ripe old age.

The news is confirmed that the Chinese Government is adopting extraordinary measures for dealing with the Hunghutsz along the Mukden-Antung line of railway. Of course we have no right to conclude that the Chinese Government is less solicitous than any other civilized administration about the preservation of law and order, but the comparative insouciance hitherto shown by Peking in the presence of constant disturbance of the peace by these mounted banditti can not fail to suggest that the vigour now shown in the Mukden-Antung region is prompted chiefly by political considerations. Evidently it must be very inconvenient for Peking to have these practical proofs furnished of the existence of a lawless state of affairs in Manchuria, just as the superfluity of Japanese railway guards is officially insisted on. Some confirmed evidence of China's resolution to exterminate the Hunghutsz will be needed before foreign life and property can be entrusted to her charge.

Meanwhile, reports received from the region in question show that the mischievous activity of the Hunghutsz is increasing rather than diminishing, and that workmen engaged on the railway are constantly in fear of armed outrage.

It seems probable that the granting of sick leave to the Viceroy of Manchuria does not bear the political significance originally attributed to it. His Excellency is said to be really indisposed, and the period of rest granted to him is alleged to be not six months, as originally stated, but only three.

THE PORT ARTHUR MONUMENT.

Saturday, November 27.

To-morrow the ceremony of unveiling the monument of Port Arthur is to take place. The principal persons present will be his Imperial Highness General Prince Fushimi, H. I. H. Prince Kitashirakawa, Admiral Count Togo and General Count Nogi. These high personages arrived on the 26th inst. escorted by the ships of the Second Squadron. The mounment stands on the celebrated promontory of Pehyushan. It has a height of 218 ft., and its summit is thus 626 ft. above the level of the sea. It is called Hyochu-to, or the tower commemorating loyalty, and it has been erected at the cost of 215,000 *yen*. Judging by the preparations made for the unveiling ceremony, the demonstration is to be on a very grand scale.

In connexion with Port Arthur we note a statement that two German subjects were arrested on the 25th inst., having been detected, it is said, in the act of making topographical drawings in the neighbourhood of the Antsushan fort.

Sunday, November 28.

Tokyo newspapers contained long accounts yesterday morning of the preparations for unveiling the monument at Port Arthur in memory of the loyal dead. Photographs of the monument were given. The monument is circular in section and is surmounted by a structure of cannon balls. Inside it are deposited documents written by General Count Nogi and Admiral Count Togo, showing that the number of military officers and men killed in the siege was 20,861, and the number of the Navy, 1858. The ceremony of unveiling is to take place to-day, and doubtless full details will be forwarded. The accounts add that the tower can be ascended by a circular staircase, and that it is pierced at intervals with windows which are provided with apparatus for artificial lighting. A great number of the relatives of the deceased are said to be assembled in Port Arthur for the purpose of attending the ceremony.

Monday, November 29.

Tokyo papers publish long telegrams about the ceremony at Port Arthur in connexion with the unveiling of the Hyochu-to on the 28th inst. The weather is said to have been beautiful and the arrangements were on an extensive and brilliant scale. Addresses were read by General Count Nogi and Admiral Count Togo. The text of these addresses is not telegraphed, but it is related that the two great captains showed much emotion when they referred to the sacrifices made by the noble dead in the cause of the fatherland. An Austrian frigate was in Port Arthur and took part in the ceremony, but her presence there appears to have been a mere coincidence. Had an invitation to the squadrons of other Powers been issued, it would doubtless have been universally responded to, but the Japanese wisely decided that the honours paid to their own dead should be of a purely domestic character. A telegram of sympathy was received from Lord Kitchener. After the religious ceremony there was a garden party, and the proceedings terminated with a ball given by General Viscount Oshima in the evening at the Army Club.

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KOREA.

Friday, November 26.

The task of compiling next year's estimates appears to be causing much trouble in Seoul. The appropriations asked for by the various Departments of State aggregate a sum which is 5 millions of *yen* in excess of last year's expenditures, whereas the increase on the revenue side is only one million. The supposition is that the Japanese Vice-Ministers of Departments have been planning works of development in excess of the actual needs of the situation. This is an experience which Japanese budgets have rendered very familiar.

There is said to be talk of pensioning the Korean nobles, as was done in the case of the Japanese nobility at the beginning of the Meiji era. We do not understand what claim these persons have to such consideration, unless it be that they monopolize the administrative posts, and thus burden the country with a mob of inefficient officials.

Saturday, November 27.

The union of the three parties in Korea does not appear to be accomplishing much. In fact the so-called Confederation presents the aspect of a house divided against itself. The original purpose of the combination is reputed to have been the overthrow of the present Cabinet, and in the prosecution of that special purpose the three parties were sufficiently unanimous. But finding achievement impossible, for the present at all events, their fundamental differences of opinion are said to be declaring themselves. Thus, the Il Ching-hoi members are urging that a petition should be presented to the Emperor of Japan, asking in effect for the incorporation of Korea into the Japanese Empire. Of course the offensive term "absorption" is carefully avoided, but it is frankly admitted that unless Japan assumes and exercises larger powers in the Peninsula while accepting a fuller measure of responsibility, the nation can not be restored to a condition of tranquillity and peace of mind. In short, the leaders of the Il Chinghoi agree with what has frequently been said by certain foreign critics, namely, that if Japan grasped the nettle more resolutely, it would be better for the nettle and better for herself also. The other principal component of the Federation, namely, the Great Korea Association, regards this plan of the Il Ching-hoi with unmitigated dislike; and it appears to be thought that the disruption of the union will soon follow. We have often taken occasion to observe that, were England in Japan's place, Korea's present status would be much less equivocal than it is. Japan's hands are tied by considerations which would not be effectual in the case of a great Western Power.

Our readers will remember that there were projects on foot in Korea for holding a national Buddhist service in memory of Prince Ito, and for sending a party of popular delegates to Tokyo for the purpose of evincing Korea's sorrow. It would seem from the latest news that these undertakings have been definitely postponed.

Sunday, November 28.

The people of Taiku are still agitating for the despatch of a committee to Japan with the object of expressing the regret of the Korean nation for the assassination of Prince Ito. A number of them have held a meeting, and have resolved to put up one *yen* each to meet initial expenses.

With regard to the project of the Il Chinghoi that a memorial should be addressed to Japan by the Three-Party Union, a curious story reaches Tokyo. The object of the memorial, as our readers are aware, is to urge that Japan should immediately put an end to the state of suspense under which the Korean nation labours, and should at once declare the annexation of the Peninsula, The story is that this idea emanated from Mr. Sung Pyongchun, ex-leader of the Il Chinghoi. He informed his followers in Korea that Japan had already made up her mind to take this step, and that the wisest course for the Party was to anticipate her wishes. A meeting of the three Parties to consider the question is a said to have been held in Seoul on the 27th inst., but as no telegrams reached Tokyo that day describing the result of the meeting, we are disposed to think that it must have been postponed.

The Korean Minister of Finnance, Mr. Ko Yonghwi, is said to have left Seoul on the 27th inst. for Japan. The ostensible objects of his visit are to consult with Marquis Katsura about financial affairs, and then to inspect the Mint in Osaka, but rumour is of course unwilling to accept this common-place explanation.

At the instance of the Resident-General, the idea of erecting a monument to the wisdom of the two reigning Emperors of Japan and Korea has been abandoned. We are not aware that this project ever obtained any measure of Japanese support, but for a moment it seems to have been warmly advocated in Seoul. The notion was suggested in the first place by the benevolent message addressed from the Japanese Throne to the Korean Prince Imperial in Tokyo, and by the Rescript which the Korean Emperor issued, reminding his subjects that Korea's only hope of safety lay in Japan's protection.

Monday, November 29.

In default of any more credible supposition, the hypothesis now advanced to account for the pending visit of the Korean Minister of Finance, Mr. Ko Yong-hwi, to Japan is that he desires to ascertain what are the real intentions of this country towards Korea in the sequel of the assassination of Prince Ito It is alleged that the Koreans still entertain grave apprehensions upon that subject, and that the Minister of Finance hopes to obtain definite statements from the Premier.

A strange rumour is said to be current in Seoul to the effect that flagrant deception is practised in the matter of school readers, especially at institutions conducted under missionary auspices. The deception consists in the fact that, while ostensibly using only such readers as have received official sanction, the students are in reality furnished with books which preach violent anti-Japanese doctrines. It is expected that stringent measures will be adopted to check this evil practice. A telegram from Seoul says that the Reverend Mr. Gale and the Rev. Mr. Underwood have had a long interview with Mr. Tawara, Vice-Minister of Education, and that these spurious readers were the subject of discussion. We may be quite sure that the deception practised at the schools, if indeed it be practised, is entirely contrary to the wishes of the foreign missionaries.

The leaders of the Il Ching-hoi are reported to be still vigorously pursuing their campaign in favour of a memorial to Japan urging the latter's assumption of supreme control in Korea. As to the reception which this campaign is receiving in other quarters, there is no further news.

Wednesday, December 1.

The combination of the three parties in Korea does not appear likely to accomplish anything except renewed political complications. Each section of the union is charging the others with selfish motives. Thus, the section which advocates the absorption of the Peninsula into the Japanese Empire is accused of utilizing the Harbin catastrophe as an instrument for making political capital, and the section which denounces such doings is charged with endeavouring to compass a change of Ministry. The fact seems to be that the members of this union never had any thing really in common. The three elements of it professed to be animated by a sincere desire to promote the country's progress; but in consideration of their methods of accomplishing that desirable end, nothing in the shape of practical coöperation could have been anticipated. The best thing that could happen in the circumstances is the speedy dissolution of such an incongruous coalition.

Telegrams from Seoul announce that, on the 29th ultimo, the Resident-General proceeded to the Palace and transmitted to the Throne an autograph letter from the Emperor of Japan replying to the condolences offered by the Korean Sovereign with reference to the Harbin catastrophe. The contents of his Majesty's letter are not stated, but it is said to have been eminently satisfactory to its recipient.

Various rumours are circulated about the purpose of Ko Yonghwi's visit to Japan. The most probable explanation, in our opinion, is that he has two purposes in view. One concerns his duties as Finance Minister. The Korean Government has given to the Osaka Mint a large order for nickel coins, and the Minister probably wishes to observe at first hand the processes of the manufacture. Of course, that would not sufficiently account for his visit. The other reason seems more potent, namely, that he is commissioned to inquire into the methods pursued by the *entourage* of the Prince Imperial. It seems that Mr. Ko's son holds an important position in the Prince's household, and this fact naturally facilitates inquiries. The *Asahi Shimbun* alleges that the staff of the Prince's household contains several mischievous elements which were held in rigid check by Prince Ito during the latter's period of Grand-tutorship. But since Prince Iwakura assumed charge, this surveillance has been somewhat relaxed, and the consequence is that strange tidings are finding their way from Toriizaka to Seoul. The Finance Minister's business is believed to be connected with this state of affairs.

Thursday, December 2.

The *Mainichi Dempo's* Seoul correspondent takes a very pessimistic view of the mood of the Koreans towards Japan. It is true that delegates were sent in some number to attend the funeral of the late Prince Ito, but there the matter ended, and all the projects subsequently conceived have proved abortive. There is the project of erecting a monument to the virtues of the Emperors of Japan and Korea; there is the project of setting up a statue of Prince Ito; and there is the project of despatching a national commission to express condolences with Japan. But none of these programmes have emerged from the realm of empty talk. Not a *sou* has been put up for giving effect to any one of them, and so little importance is attached to them by the Residency-General, that permission will be refused to any persons seeking permission to start a subscription. The correspondent concludes that in all these things

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the Koreans show their true appreciation of Japan's weak-kneed policy, but really we do not see what justification there is for such a deduction. If the Koreans adopted any extreme course in connexion with the death of Prince Ito, they would lay themselves open to a charge of insincerity, and journalists would be found just as ready to prefer that accusation as they are now quick to condemn Korea for want of zeal.

A very curious piece of intelligence is published by the *Jiji Shimpo* from Shanghai. It is to the effect that the well-known Korean politician, Mr. Min Yongik, who is now in that settlement, has instituted legal proceedings against the Imperial Court in Seoul on behalf of the ex-Emperor. A very large sum of money is said to be involved, and it is alleged that Mr. Min is about to entrust the conduct of the case to a Japanese barrister. He is said to be now inquiring what barrister would be best adapted for the purpose.

News comes from Seoul that the gale which commenced on the 30th ultimo has proved disastrous to the fishermen on the coast of Hamyongdo. No less than 254 fishing boats are missing and 56 are known to have been wrecked. Twenty lives are reported lost, but it is not stated whether the boats are Japanese or Korean.

As might have been anticipated, the Korean Minister of Finance, Mr. Ko Yonghwi, who reached Tokyo on the 30th ultimo, is quoted as strenuously denying the newspaper report that the chief object of his visit to this country is to investigate the state of affairs existing in the household of the Prince Imperial in Tokyo. He declares that there is not the smallest grain of truth in such a story. He visited the Prince Imperial's residence merely because his own son is among the officials employed there, and it was perfectly natural that he should desire to see the lad, but that he has no special mission of inquiry is proved by the fact that he spent only one day in Tokyo, and proceeded on the next to the Mint at Osaka, at which place his real business lies. Incidentally he mentions that he found the Prince Imperial in excellent health and making good progress with his studies.

From returns published by the *Seoul Press* we learn that the number of Japanese subjects employed in agriculture in Korea is 2,613, occupying 806 houses; whereas the number of Koreans similarly employed is 7,510,503, inhabiting 1,442,690 houses.

THE LATEST SENSATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

With regard to the report sent to Washington by the United States Consul in Mukden, and the comments of the *New York Times*, the *Jiji Shimpo* has made direct inquiries at the Foreign Office in Tokyo. The report has two main counts. One is that Japanese goods are imported at Dairen free of duty, and are thus enabled to defy the competition of foreign goods; the other is that, owing to the possession of cheap money received from the Treasury in Tokyo, Japanese banks in South Manchuria are able to supply their countrymen in that region with money at exceedingly low rates, so that, here again, discrimination takes place against the foreigner. In reply to these charges, our Tokyo contemporary quotes the Foreign Office as saying that in all probability the United States Consul was betrayed into error by the fact that the volume of imports reaching Dairen is very much larger than the duty-paying total. Thus, during the past twelve months the value of imports aggregated 18,470,000 *yen*, whereas import duty was levied on only 4,670,000 *yen* worth. But the explanation of this apparent discrepancy is very simple, and might easily have been obtained by the Consul, had he sought information in official quarters. The fact is, that all machinery and stores required for the use of the South Manchuria Railway are imported at Dairen free of duty, under the terms of Japan's treaty with China. The South Manchuria Railway Company is now engaged in developing a salt-manufacturing enterprise, gas works, electrical undertakings and various other projects, all demanding large recourse to supplies from abroad. These supplies it is which, passing in duty free, make the apparent discrepancy between the volume of imports and the receipts of the customs. As for supplies of cheap money, upon which the United States Consul lays much stress, it is inconceivable from what source he obtained his information. The truth is, that the Japanese in Manchuria are complaining bitterly of the cripplingly high rates of interest they are obliged to pay in South Manchuria. Thus the Specie Bank has hitherto been charging 4 *sen* per diem, and the First Bank, 3 *sen*. It is in consequence of these excessive charges that, for some months back, an agitation has been steadily growing stronger in favour of devising some means for the relief of the Japanese tradesman and manufacturer in Manchuria, since the price he is obliged to pay for accommodation practically paralyses him. In these circumstances, it is difficult to see how the United States Consul in Mukden can have been betrayed into sending such a report. One would suppose, too, that in view of the still smouldering embers of anti-Japanese feeling in parts of the United States, American officials would exercise more than common caution before adding fuel to the fire. This particular Consul was originally nominated to Antung, but did not proceed thither, having been called to Mukden in the sequel of Mr. Straight's resignation. He is said to be a moderate and thoughtful official, and the only conceivable explanation of the errors into which he has now been betrayed is that he interpreted the customs returns superficially, and believed the rumour that the South Manchuria Railway Company is acting as banker for its nationals in that region.

THE SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY.

We read in the *Yamato Shimbun* that the South Manchuria Railway authorities are interesting themselves very actively in the cause of education. They established, some time ago, in Kaiping a school for Chinese children. Forty pupils are now studying there and the Institution is said to be very successful. Recent investigations have shown that the Chinese population within the railway zones includes 16,400 boys and 1,300 girls of school age, and it has been decided to establish educational institutions for their benefit at Supinchieh and Kaiwan, as well as at two or three other convenient locations.

One of the difficulties experienced by Japanese subjects emigrating to Manchuria is that they are perplexed to know what line of business they may apply their hands to with most advantage. In view of this impediment to immigration, the railway authorities are said to have resolved that experimental stations must be established at Fushimi-dai in Dairen.

THE NIPPON SUGAR REFINING COMPANY.

The Company held its first general meeting since its reorganization on the 30th ultimo. The President, Mr. Toyama Raita, presented an optimistic report. He alleged that trustworthy calculations showed a reasonable prospect of profits aggregating 1,160,000 *yen* during the next twelve months, and that, if all worked unanimously and diligently, the future of the enterprise would be highly satisfactory.

If the above forecast be correct, and if it be true, as several Tokyo journals allege, that the Company's debts do not exceed 2 million *yen*, the horizon is much brighter than was supposed.

Mr. Toyama added that the only liability now hanging over the Company's head was its indebtedness to the Custom House, and urgent petitions had been addressed to the Government for lenient treatment in that matter.

With reference to the above statement of the Company's total liabilities, the report presented on the 30th ultimo put the figure at 2,503,684 *yen*. Hence, if the President's anticipations are verified, the Company will have paid off its entire debts in the course of the next 2½ years, and will then begin to earn dividends. This is a very much better state of affairs than any one had anticipated. It means, in short, that the Company finds itself in the position of a newly started enterprise, which has to wait a reasonable period before earning a dividend.

In answer to a question preferred by one of the shareholders the President intimated that no grace whatever would be given to the defaulting Directors. They would be proceeded against to the utmost limit of the law.

THE TANKO S.S. COMPANY.

It will have been observed that on the 25th ult. the shares of the Tanko S.S. Company showed signs of emerging from the continuously depressed condition of the past few months. The reasons assigned for this improvement are two. One is that at a meeting of Directors, held on the 25th ult., it was decided to recommence smelting operations at the Company's Iron Works, and the recent cessation of those operations was explained to be due to a desire to work with ore obtained in Hokkaido alone. The second reason is the appointment of Vice-Admiral Baron Yamanouchi to be Manager in Chief at the Seikosho. In reality, the Seikosho and the Seitetsujo are entirely distinct, but since the idea of the projectors of the latter is to supply the former with iron, the public naturally brackets the two together.

JAPAN'S FOREIGN TRADE.

The returns of Japan's foreign trade for the 10 days ended November 30th are as follow:—

	Yen.
Exports	12,986,000
Imports	8,676,000
Excess of Exports	4,310,000

The figures for the period from January 1st to November 30th are:—

Exports	365,424,000
Imports	358,530,000
Excess of Imports	6,824,000

It is thus seen that the balance has now swung definitely in favour of exports. Probably by the close of the year the excess of exports will aggregate as much as 20 millions.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

Friday, November 26.

The general idea appears to be that Mr. Kondo Rempei will undertake the office of mediator between the Tokyo Railway Company and the Municipality, but prevalent as this notion is, we are inclined to regard it as erroneous, our own conviction being that Mr. Kondo will not take any prominent part in the business. There can no longer be any serious doubt that the Company and the Municipality could speedily come to terms were not the Government in the background. But, strange as it may seem, the Government is credited with a desire to beat the Company down to an exceedingly low figure; in other words, to take full advantage of the difficult position in which the Company is placed by not being allowed to charge a reasonable fare. We can not ourselves believe for a moment that responsible Japanese statesmen would lend themselves to such a manœuvre, but evidently the public thinks that they are doing so.

One curious point is worthy of notice. A few months ago, the municipality and the Government alike agreed that the maintenance fund of one million *yen* set apart yearly by the Company should be regarded as net profit for purposes of taxation. The Company, however, objected to this view, and the matter was allowed to drop, on discovering that even though the fund were counted as profit, the Company would not be able to pay a dividend of more than 7 per cent, and the City would consequently receive no royalty. Now, however, the same Municipality, in assessing the value of the Company's property, altogether excludes this maintenance fund from the column of profits, whereas the Company claims that, judging by the experience of the past year and a half, a maintenance fund of one million annually is excessive, and that therefore a considerable part of that figure should be shown as profit. This, however, is a minor point. The real difficulty rests apparently with the Government, and to add to the strangeness of the situation, there does not appear to be any immediately available means of ascertaining the Government's views.

Saturday, November 27.

Accounts continue to be still most conflicting as to the possibilities of municipalization, but there is a complete consensus as to the difficulty resting solely with the Government. It is now openly affirmed that the Mayor's offer of 58 million *yen* was made with the cognisance of the Cabinet, and represented a figure even larger than that deemed expedient by the Ministry. Moreover, it is alleged that from the moment when the Company refused the City's offer, the Government considered itself absolved from all further connexion with the affair, and will not now listen to any compromise even though one be arrived at by the Company and Municipality. We ourselves decline to believe that the present Cabinet is assuming such an arbitrary and unpractical position, and we are disposed rather to conclude that negotiations are still in progress.

Sunday, November 28.

Very few newspapers have anything to say this morning about the question of municipalization. Although Mr. Kondo Rempei is not taking an active part in the negotiations, it would seem that a conference was held on the 27th inst. at the office of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha to discuss the possibility of bringing buyers and sellers together. The idea was that as the difference between the two sides is 7 million *yen*—the Company asking 65 millions and the City offering 58—the situation could be solved by taking the middle point, namely, 61½ millions. But to induce the Company to agree to this would be very difficult. The lowest figure it is likely to take is 63 millions, to which figure the City would make no difficulty in rising; but then remains the question of getting the consent of the Government, and until steps have been taken for ascertaining the latter point, nothing definite can be known. In fact, everthing goes to show that the Government alone now stands in the way of a settlement.

Tuesday, November 30.

The Mayor of Tokyo is quoted by the *Mainichi Dempo* as saying, in effect, that no steps are now being taken to bring the Municipality and the Tokyo Railway Company together. His Honour adds, however, that when the City made its offer of 58 million *yen*, the figure was not unalterable. So far as the Municipality is concerned, it is quite prepared to raise its offer by 2 or 3 millions, if only the Government could be brought to consent. But there lies the difficulty, and Mr. Ozaki apparently does not see any way out.

Interviews on this subject have been so often published and so often contradicted, that the words attributed to the Mayor by the *Mainichi Dempo* must be received with great caution. For our own part, we can not persuade ourselves to believe that the Government holds the attitude attributed to it. The sum of 58 million *yen* offered by the City is understood to have been calculated on the basis of the nationalized railways; that is to say, the amount was obtained by taking the average dividend paid by the Company during the past three years and multiplying it by a fixed figure. But the dividends paid by the Company during the past three years have been abnormally small, owing to the Government's arbitrary refusal to sanction the levy of a reasonable fare. Are we now to suppose that the Government insists on assessing the market value of the Company's property by taking for basis this artificial depreciation? The thing is quite incredible. The Tokyo Railway in its existing condition is little short of a disgrace to the City. Its cars are dirty, and their crowded state is at once unsanitary and dangerous; while the extensions of the lines to the suburbs are effectually checked by the smallness of the revenue derived from the roads already in operation. Is this condition of affairs to be perpetuated? Either the Railway must be transferred to the City, or the Company must be allowed to charge a paying fare. There is no other way; yet, if the Mayor of Tokyo be rightly reported, he represents the Government as creating a complete *impasse* by insisting that the purchase price of the line shall be lower than the Company can possibly accept, and lower than the City is prepared to pay. We repeat our conviction that Japanese officialdom is not altogether so unpractical.

Wednesday, December 1.

There appears to be no longer any doubt that the project for the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway has failed, owing to the Government's reluctance to sanction any figure acceptable to the Company. That the latter and the City could at once come to terms, if only the Government consented to the necessary price, is not doubted by anyone. But the Government will not consent, and there the matter ends. We do not pretend to understand the Cabinet's reasons for assuming such an attitude. The wisest plan, one can not but think, would have been either to refrain from encouraging the Municipality and the Company to negotiate, or to indicate from the outset the approximate figure to which the Government could consent. The result, as it stands, is a veritable fiasco, and the main problem, namely, the future of the Railway, remains involved. Meanwhile, the Directors of the Company are the only persons who emerge unscathed from the complication. It now remains to be seen what the city will do.

Thursday, December 2.

It may well be supposed that all sorts of conjectures and explanations are offered with regard to the failure of the negotiations for municipalization of the Tokyo Railway, but as nobody seems to speak with any marked confidence, we need hardly take the trouble to translate the various comments. Quaintest among them all is a statement attributed by the *Nichi Nichi Shumbun* to an official of the Home Department. This gentleman is quoted as denying that when the Government handed to the Mayor of Tokyo a memorandum sanctioning municipalization under certain conditions, the Authorities committed themselves in any way to expressing consent. It goes without saying, of course, that the Government reserved the right of disapproving in the end, but that it announced its willingness to see municipalization effected there can not be the least doubt. The Mayor of Tokyo is the person to be chiefly commiserated. He has worked honestly and zealously in the interests of the City, as they present themselves to him, and his labours are all brought to naught by sudden obstructiveness in official quarters.

THE CHINESE NAVY.

A news agency supplies the Tokyo press with information about a scheme for resuscitating the Chinese navy. It must be confessed that the Middle Kingdom is not showing any precipitancy in this matter. Nearly 15 years have elapsed since the annihilation of the fine squadron wherewith China equipped herself in the days of Li Hung Chang, and probably many of her people are now disposed to think that, as she has gone on very well during such a long period without wasting her substance on building engines of destruction, she may safely continue to spare herself that extravagance. However, the news agency in question declares that she has now definitely decided to spend 18 million *taels* upon the establishment of the navy, and a sum of 2 million *taels* annually upon current expenses. With regard to the details of this expenditure, 1½ millions are to be devoted to naval ports, naval schools and naval workshops. This sum is to be paid out during the next two fiscal years. The remaining 16½ millions will be devoted to a four-year programme of shipbuilding, comprising three cruisers of the second or third class; two training ships; two torpedo-boat destroyers and one gunboat. The money is to be furnished by the various provinces, but as such procedure will apparently involve obtaining the consent of the new local assemblies, some difficulties may perhaps be encountered. On the whole, however, as the Assemblies are evidently imbued with the rights-recovery mania, they ought not to show much reluctance in voting money for the instruments best calculated to achieve their ambition.

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THE "UNAGI-KAI."

The Unagi-kai held its second meeting at the Bankers' Club in Tokyo on the evening of the 29th ultimo. There were present the Prime Minister, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Minister for Home Affairs, the Minister of Communications and a number of the leading business men of the capital. It will be remembered that at the last meeting the question of chartered accountants (*kokyo kansa*) was briefly discussed, and a committee under the presidency of Mr. Hadono Shogoro was appointed to investigate and report upon this problem. The committee presented the results of its inquiries on the 29th ultimo. It recommended that the procedure adopted some years ago in forming the *koshin-jo* (inquiry association) should be followed in this instance also. In other words, each of the principal banks should put up a suitable sum of money for the remunerating of a number of chartered officials for examining the accounts of the banks themselves, and when these officials had given practical proof of confidence, they should be nominated as chartered accountants. The committee further recommended that Japanese law should be amended on the lines of the English. In other words, it should be made lawful to appoint as auditors men holding no shares in a company. The English theory is that a company's auditors are intended to protect the shareholders, and therefore they ought not to have any pecuniary interest in the company or a seat on the board of directors. What steps would be taken with reference to this report of the committee we have as yet no information.

The Prime Minister, in his capacity of Minister of Finance, then propounded six questions, which he desired to have answered by the highly experienced men of business present at the meeting. His Excellency observed that whereas the latest returns of the Clearing House showed an increase of 42 million *yen* in the vaults of the banks, as compared with the corresponding period of 1908, the loans effected were only 10 millions greater than the figure for last year, and it was evident that the balance must be lying idle. In short, the country was suffering from sharp tradal depression, and it became a matter of great importance to determine the causes of that unsatisfactory state of affairs, and to consider whether some remedy could not be applied. To elicit the opinions of the leading bankers and merchants, Marquis Katsura presented six questions as to the causes underlying the depression, their probable continuance or removal, and the propriety of adopting measures of alleviation.

Of course a problem of such importance could not be solved on the spur of the moment. It was decided to defer until the next meeting any formal replies to the Premier's questions. Several cursory opinions were expressed, however, at the meeting. Some opined that the country was merely suffering from the reaction of the post-bellum boom, and that things would soon return to their normal groove; others thought that Japan was merely participating in the depression which prevails all over the world at present; others, again, pointed to the customs returns and to the movement of merchandise as showing that the depression was not so severe as many people supposed; others finally insisted that things must be left to right themselves, and that no artificial remedies could be of any service.

It was decided to hold another meeting before the end of the year, and after the return of Baron Shibusawa.

The speech delivered by the Prime Minister in the Bankers Club on the 29th ultimo is provoking some criticism. The *Jiji Shimpo*, for example, recalls the fact that speaking in the same Club last September, Marquis Katsura adopted a highly optimistic tone, spoke of the business depression as virtually at an end, and recommended a renewal of manufacturing enterprise. But now, within two and a half months of the delivery of that speech, the Minister is found uttering in the same place distinctly pessimistic sentiments. Of course it is not to be denied that many things pointed last September to a sensible improvement in the state of affairs, and that several leading financiers shared the views then expressed by the Prime Minister. But nevertheless, the contrast between the two speeches is decidedly marked. The *Jiji* further asks why Marquis Katsura's theories failed to elicit any conclusive reply. His Excellency inquired what his hearers had to suggest about the persistent state of depression, and although everybody listening to him must have been fully cognisant of the genuine cause, nobody gave expression to it. That cause is the burden of taxation. The people were willing enough to dip their hands deeply into their pockets for the purpose of conducting the War, but they fully expected that the extraordinary burdens then imposed upon them would be materially lightened when peace was restored. It is owing to disappointment of that expectation that depression proved so obstinate.

Mr. Okura Kihachiro is quoted by the *Asahi Shimbun* as holding practically the same views as those published simultaneously by the *Jiji Shimpo*. He declares that the weight of taxation is what keeps men's heads bowed. One effect of the War was to raise the scale of living very materially throughout the country, and another effect was to reduce the purchasing power of the people by imposing on them heavy burdens of taxation. The operation of these two factors is responsible for the present depressed state of affairs, and the only practical remedy lies in applying the pruning knife to the people's fiscal burdens.

On the other hand, Mr. Ikeda Kenzo, President of the Hundredth Bank, takes a distinctly optimistic view. He points out that the low rate of interest now ruling may be inconvenient to bankers and other small sections of the community, but it is precisely the condition which people were longing for a year or two ago. The abnormally large sums of money scattered abroad by the Treasury during the War, and the numerous enterprises born of the situation created a fictitious atmosphere of prosperity and plenty. But when peace was restored, the pactolean stream ceased to flow; many undertakings which the war had called into existence came to an end, and at the same time the people find themselves required to continue the payment of heavy taxes. The present state of affairs is a natural outcome of these conditions, and there is nothing to surprise or discourage anyone. In short, Mr. Ikeda's opinion is that now is essentially the time to be up and doing.

THE BANK RATE OF INTEREST.

There has long been talk of a reduction of interest on the part of the banks, and it was naturally supposed that this would take the form of a lowering of rate all round, beginning with fixed deposits and ending with current accounts. These expectations have, however, been falsified. The banks have left their fixed deposits untouched, and have announced their determination of dealing with current accounts only. Hitherto the custom has been to allow daily interest on amounts standing in current accounts provided that the figure was not less than 100 *yen*. Hereafter this inferior limit is to be raised to 500 *yen*, and interest will be reckoned monthly instead of daily, the rate being 20 *sen* per 100 *yen* per mensem, or 2.40 per annum.

It appears that the people who will be hardest hit by this change are the brokers, who have large sums standing in their current accounts on one day and very small sums on another. These men complain bitterly of the course contemplated by the banks, and insist that the proper method would be to set out by reducing the rate of interest on fixed deposits to 4 or even 3½ per cent., and to make a corresponding reduction in the rate on current accounts without altering the system of daily interest or minimum amount. It seems probable that there will be some agitation about this question.

On the 25th ult. a meeting of the principal bankers in Tokyo was held at the Bankers Club to discuss the advisability of reducing the rate of interest on fixed deposits. There appears to have been unanimity as to the necessity of making a reduction, but opinions differ about the proper time. Some held that as money is always needed at the close of the year, it would be inexpedient to make any reduction of rate immediately; but others were persuaded that the usual needs of the season would be much too small to produce any tightness in the market. The meeting is said to have broken up without actually formulating any definite determination, but it is generally understood that a sensible reduction will be made from next spring. Inasmuch as the interest on fixed deposits at present is only 5 per cent., we presume that the new rate will be 4 or 4½, a figure which has not been reached in Japan for many years.

THE JAPAN TRADE ASSOCIATION.

The Nippon Boyeki Kyokai held a meeting on the 25th ult., that day being the 24th anniversary of the founding of the Association. The Prime Minister was present and made an interesting speech. He set out by calling attention to the fact that whereas the country's foreign trade had aggregated only 81 million *yen* 24 years ago, when this Association was organized, it now totalled 810 millions. In other words, the volume of the trade had grown exactly tenfold. With regard, however, to the conditions under which the trade is carried on, his Excellency did not find everything equally satisfactory. He considered that there was a manifest want of useful cooperation between producers, banks, distributors and consumers. Marquis Katsura entered into this subject in some detail, but his remarks seem to have been imperfectly reported, for they leave much to be desired in point of intelligibility. There was no obscurity, however, in his concluding utterances about commercial morality. He dwelt with much insistence upon the fact that the ethics of trade are at least as important as any other factor, and that no commerce could be successful unless it was conducted on the principle that all those engaged in it are entitled to a due share of the profits.

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THE CRICKET GROUND.

Monday, November 29.

The *Asahi Shimbun* states that the President and Vice-President of the Cricket Club, Dr. Wheeler and Mr. Blake, repaired to the office of the Governor of Kanagawa on the 26th inst., and informed the Governor in their official capacity that the Club had recognised the error of protesting against the action of the Local Authorities with regard to the cricket ground. They now begged, however, that a suitable area should be granted in some convenient part of the Public Garden for purposes of cricket and other athletic sports, the ground to be opened to the general public for such uses. If this application were complied with, the Club was prepared to give its buildings and accessories gratis for the purposes of the new ground. The Governor is said to have intimated that he would make a reply after consultation with the Muncipal Authorities.

We may refer to an idea which seems to prevail in certain quarters, namely, that if the ground be moved, it will not be available for purposes of cricket until two years have passed. We believe that to be a very exaggerated estimate, unless the turf be moved in Japanese fashion. If it be cut thick and formed into rolls for moving according to the English fashion, and if it be not moved until March, there is no reason why the ground should not be ready for use in June or July, 1910.

Tuesday, November 30.

We find in the *Asahi Shimbun* an article quoting one of the leading foreign residents of Yokohama, whose name is suppressed, as saying that the community was at first disposed to accept without cavil the ruling of the Governor of Kanagawa as to the non-renewal of the cricket ground lease, and that the Governor's offer of an alternative site elsewhere was regarded as an act of great courtesy. But at this point the British Consul-General expressed the opinion that careful examination of all the documents disclosed a right on the foreign side to the retention of the old ground, and of course this view was heartily welcomed by all the foreigners interested. Ultimately, however, the British Embassy declined to endorse the Consul-General's view, and the community then appreciated that the case for the retention of the ground could not established.

We quote the above for the purpose of showing what version of the recent incident is receiving currency in Japan. There is no trace of prejudice or hostile comment in the *Asahi's* account; it adheres strictly to facts, and indeed we may now say that although the cricket-ground problem would undoubtedly have engendered considerable ill-feeling had the protest been maintained, the withdrawal of the latter has brought things to a satisfactory conclusion.

Thursday, December 2.

It appears that, after all, there is a chance of the cricket ground being preserved for its original purpose, though freer access be given to its precincts. Nothing has yet been decided, and we speak only on the authority of the *Asahi Shimbun*. That journal alleges that the Mayor of Yokohama, having been requested by the Governor to ascertain the wishes of the Urban Assembly, invited the principal members of the latter to the Shako Club on the 30th ultimo, and submitted the matter for their consideration. A majority are alleged to have been in favour, not of making a new ground in the southern corner of the Public Garden, as was suggested, but of maintaining the old ground as a relic of extraterritorial days. A commitee was appointed to consider and report upon the question, and it was to meet yesterday afternoon with that object.

DECISION AS TO THE GROUND.

Later.

At the Committee meeting of the Municipal Assembly held on the 1st inst. at the Municipal Hall, it was decided that the present Cricket Ground, on being transferred to the possession of the City, should be maintained as it is for a further term of three years, permitting the use of the ground to both foreigners and Japanese in general.

Friday, December 3.

We read in Tokyo journals that the conference held at the Municipal Office in Yokohama on the 1st inst. with reference to the cricket ground resulted in divergent views. One party opposed the construction of the projected ground for the reason that funds are not forthcoming. The foreign residents stand for 82,000 *yen* of unpaid taxes in the Municipal accounts, and this fact evidently weighed with the opponents of the reconstruction scheme, especially as the Municipality has no funds on hand at present to devote to embellishing the Public Garden. Another party, however, while not denying the force of these objections, urged that in the circumstances it would be wise to postpone meddling with the present ground until 1912, when financial affairs would be on a more settled basis. There are as yet no solid reasons for thinking that the latter view will prevail, but it certainly sounds reasonable. Its upshot would be to leave the cricket ground as it is for some time to come, with greater freedom of access for the public in general.

In addition to what is stated elsewhere, we may mention that Governor Sufu and Mayor Mitsuhashi held a conference on Saturday evening at the Yokohama Social Club, Assistant Mayor Mr. Saito and several other members of the Yokohama Municipal Assembly being present. The Governor was of the opinion that the Ground should be demolished, that on the site of the Pavilion a bandstand should be constructed, and that a number of trees and shrubs should be planted, to make the place more of a public garden for the general public. But the Mayor and the other Municipal Councillors proposed that the Ground should be taken over by the City, and that a new cricket ground should be made at the southern end of the Park, covering some 4,500 *tsubo*, which would be for the use of both foreigners and Japanese. After some discussion on the subject, while no decision was arrived at, it was arranged that all the members of the Municipal Assembly should assemble at 4 p.m. on the 1st inst. to discuss the question of the cost of preparing the new cricket ground. The expenditure is estimated at about 20,000 *yen*, including cost of changing the cricket ground into a public garden. The question is expected to reach a final settlement after a further and formal meeting of the Municipal Assembly.

With reference to the Cricket Ground question the *Boyeki Shimpo* says that it is rather difficult to understand why the present Cricket Ground, so well-arranged due to the great pains taken over it for more than twenty years, should be demolished, especially as it is considered one of the best grounds in the Far East. Our contemporary also enquires why, in view of the straitened condition of the finances of the Municipality, it should be found necessary to make a new ground in a corner of the Park. Those who advocate the demolition of the present Cricket Ground may argue that it is very inconvenient to have such a ground in the centre of the Park, but those who talk like this do not understand the real meaning of a park. In almost every country of the world, a park is established for the recreation of the general public. It would have been better to demolish the whole park, if the question is to be treated as one of facilitating communications. If a new cricket ground is to be laid out in another portion of the Park, it would be far better to allow the present ground to remain as it is, thereby saving much expense.

THE INFANTRY DRILL BOOK.

Some time ago it was stated in these columns that a new Infantry Drill Book (*soten*) had been compiled and that it would soon be issued to the Army. We now read in Tokyo journals that the manual is to go into operation from the 1st of January next. A high army officer is quoted by the *Jiji Shimpo* as explaining that the drill book hitherto in use was in fact a compilation from German sources, and that Japan has now decided to utilize her own experiences in preparing a book based on the idiosyncrasies of her people and on the lessons she has learned in actual warfare. This officer repeats the statement previously published to the effect that the movements contemplated by the new book are for the most part of an offensive character, defensive tactics being relegated to an altogether secondary place. Some details are given, but they are too technical to interest our readers. Our own information about this new manual is that its chief point of difference from its predecessor consists in simplification. Japanese troops are no longer to be taught a number of exercises which are practically useless except on the parade ground. Of course, the manuals of artillery, cavalry and land transport have still to be compiled. It appears that an extraordinary amount of care and consultation was brought to bear on the preparation of the infantry manual. The final draft was submitted to lengthy and minute examination by a council of officers under the presidency of the Emperor himself.

PELAGIC SEALING.

It is stated that the Japanese Government has announced its consent to the principle of the United States Government's proposal for a conference of delegates from Russia, England, Japan and America, in order to devise measures for preserving the rookeries in northern seas. This news, of course, has created some alarm in Japan. Apart from the *Miye Maru*, which became unseaworthy during her detention by the Russians, and the *Kinsei Maru*, which has been confiscated, there are 35 Japanese schooners engaged in the industry of pelagic sealing, and the principal scenes of their operations are the seas in the neighbourhood of the Comandrofsky and Pribyloff Islands. If the protected zones in these waters be extended as is proposed, and as the conference of the four Powers concerned would doubtless agree, the *métier* of these 35 schooners would at once become a thing of the past. But, after all, comparatively petty private interests can not be given a paramount place in great public problems.

We may mention in this context that the vigorous steps taken by the Japanese Authorities to preserve the rookery on Robbin Island are said to be meeting with comparatively little success. The difficulty is that the track followed by the seals *en route* for the Island has been located, and the animals are killed in the open sea.

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THE KINUGAWA HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER SCHEME.

According to the *Asahi Shimbun*, a contract has been definitely signed by the Tokyo Railway Company, on the one hand, and the projectors of the Kinu River Hydro-Electric scheme, on the other. Speaking broadly, the hydro-electric projectors pledge themselves to establish their company by next October; to commence work by October 1911, and to be in a position to supply the railway by October 1913. The power to be supplied is 25,000 kilowatts, for which the Railway Company will pay 1 *sen* 7 *rin* per kilowatt, and the projectors pledge themselves to pay a fine of 300,000 *yen* to the Railway Company in the event of failure to implement this contract. Such are said to be the broad outlines of the agreement between the projectors and the Railway Company. At the back of this agreement there is alleged to be a contract between the projectors and a body calling itself a British Syndicate, which is represented in Japan by Mr. Jackson. According to this arrangement, the British Syndicate is to find 17 million *yen* out of the 20 millions constituting the capital of the enterprise, and the remaining 3 millions will be put up in Japan. Our contemporary goes on to say that Mr. Jackson, on behalf of the British Syndicate, agrees to complete the above financial arrangement by March next, so far as the Syndicate is concerned. A meeting of the projectors was held in Tokyo on the 28th ult. to arrange for the distribution of the Japanese shares, and in connexion with this we read that the American Trading Company was to receive 6,000 shares gratis, as guerdon for the assistance it has rendered in floating the scheme. For the rest, each Japanese subscriber of four shares was to receive one share-right. The *Asahi* adds that an expert engineer sent out by the British Syndicate arrived in Tokyo on the 27th ult., and that an expert representing the contractors, Messrs. A. W. Clayton and Company, is to follow soon. From the language of this account it is to be inferred that the British Syndicate has already put up, or at any rate has definite means of procuring, the 17 million *yen* representing the English share of the capital.

Tokyo journals publish some further particulars as to the organisation of the above Company, and certainly the projectors and shareholders have nothing to complain of if the arrangements are such as are now represented. So far as we can make out, no capital whatever will be put up in Japan. All the required funds will be obtained in England by issuing debentures; ten million *yen* in the first place and a corresponding amount in the second. These debentures are to bear 5 per cent. interest, and will be issued by the British Syndicate at 90 *yen*. But at what price they are to pass into the Syndicate's hands we do not find stated. Inasmuch, however, as the amount which will be actually available out of the first ten millions is entered at only 850,000 *yen*, we presume that the Syndicate will receive the debentures at 85. There are some other details relating to the distribution of shares in connexion with the amalgamation of the Tokyo Hydro-Electric Company, but these particulars need not be entered into. The establishment expenses are assessed at 200,000 *yen*, the whole of which will be put up by the English capitalists. Finally, the shareholders have been promised a minimum dividend of 13 per cent. and it is predicted that the toatl indebtedness will be cleared off in 20 years. In fact, the whole project is one of the rosiest ever yet placed before the public.

OPIUM.

The United States Government is taking the lead in what may be called the second stage of the Opium Question. The first stage was the meeting held in Shanghai last January, when delegates from all the Powers concerned in the matter assembled to discuss a programme. Nothing of a practically definite character was agreed to, however. The meeting limited itself to an *exposé* of the views entertained by the various States, and no methods of enforcing the prohibition of the use of the drug were elaborated, nor was any special authority given to the Chinese Government to facilitate the prosecution of its campaign. Not much more had been expected from the meeting, it being generally understood that practical details would be discussed at a subsequent conference. The Washington Government has now taken the lead in suggesting that no time should be lost about convening a second conference, and it is understood that the Japanese Government has announced its intention of cooperating heartily. The question of place has, however, to be settled. Washington suggests the Hague, but Japan seems to think that as the matter has such deep concern for the Chinese nation, it would be better to hold the meeting at some place where it would come immediately within the vision and hearing of the Chinese. It is probable that the latter view will be adopted.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The following statement of accounts was presented and passed at the 24th general semi-annual meeting on the 26th ult.: —

Gross Receipts	14,223,625
Gross Expenditures	10,736,456
Net Profit	3,487,169

The Net Profit is disposed of as follows: —

Reserves (according to Company's Articles)	209,352
Depreciation of Buildings	26,209
Remaining Profit	1,441,608
Brought over from Previous Accounts	190,648
Total available for Distribution	1,632,256
To Legal Reserve	72,080
To Directors and Auditors	59,465
To Dividend (10 per cent. per annum)	1,100,000
Carried forward	409,711

At the half-yearly general meeting of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha held on the 26th ult., the President, Mr. Kondo Rempei, offered a very full explanation of the vital question whether the Company should continue its present subvention under the old law, or adhere to the system prescribed by the new. Both courses have their advantages and disadvantages. The two principal lines concerned, which may also be regarded as the basic business of the Company, are the European and the American services. The close of this year terminates the present subvention, but it can be renewed for five years at the option of the Company. On the other hand, it would terminate finally in 1914, and although during that interval the actual amount of subsidy received would be larger than the sum accruing under the new law, the ships would find themselves entirely without State aid at the end of the five years. By adhering to the new law there would be a small decrease of subvention, but it would continue for 15 years, though from the end of the fifth year the scale would be gradually reduced. Moreover the age of a ship is an important factor under the new law, and in the case of the American line this provision would entail the building of three new steamers at a cost of 3 million *yen* in the near future. That difficulty does not exist, however, in the case of the European line. The Company has six new steamers of 8,500 tons each plying upon that route, and these would be eligible for State aid throughout the entire term of 15 years. On the whole, the President and the Directors recommended that the Company should adhere to the new law, and the recommendation was unanimously approved by the meeting.

TO THE SHAREHOLDERS.

GENTLEMEN:—The Directors submit to you the annexed Statement of the Liabilities and Assets of the Company, and the Profit and Loss Account for the Half-Year, ended September 30th, 1909.

The Gross Profits of the Company for the past Half-Year amount to *yen* 3,487,169,381, out of which there has been paid:

Depreciation of the Company's fleet and property	957,182,590
Insurance Fund	477,451,240
Ships' Structural Repair Fund	610,927,090
	2,045,560,920

leaving a balance of *yen* 1,632,256,484, including *yen* 190,648,023 brought forward from the last Account.

The Directors now propose that *yen* 72,080,423 be added to the Reserve Fund, raising it to *yen* 2,778,331,789; and that *yen* 59,465,090 be allowed as Directors' and Auditors' fees. From the remainder the Directors recommend a Dividend at the rate of Ten per cent., per annum, which will absorb *yen* 1,100,000,000.

The Balance, *yen* 400,710,971, will be carried forward to the next Account.

REMPEI KONDO, Chairman.

Head Office, Tokyo, 26th November, 1909.

BALANCE SHEET, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1909.

LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Share Capital	22,000,000,000
Insurance Fund	5,359,743,169
Ships' Structural Repair Fund	6,551,076,937
Reserve Fund	2,706,251,366
Dividend Equalization Fund	3,300,000,000
Fund for the Extension of Service and Improvement of the Fleet	3,500,000,000
Pension Fund for Employees	2,067,340,090
Sundry Creditors	4,186,359,959
Amount brought forward from last account	190,648,023
Net Profit for the Half-year	1,441,608,461
	51,303,028,005

ASSETS.	Yen.
Reduced Book Value of Fleet	30,831,633,730
Reduced Book Value of Launches, Barges, &c.	214,463,691
Buildings and Land	5,300,039,393
Public Loans and other Securities	5,966,636,430
Cash at Bankers and in hand	5,347,474,305
Sundry Debtors	2,824,014,094
	51,303,028,005

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.	Yen.
To Depreciation of fleet and property	957,182,590
To Insurance Fund	477,451,240
To Ships' Structural Repair Fund	610,927,090
To Reserve Fund	72,080,423
To Directors' and Auditors' fees	59,465,090
To Dividend (10 per cent.)	1,100,000,000
To Balance carried forward to next account	400,710,971
	3,677,817,404
By Balance brought forward 31st March, 1909	190,648,023
By Amount of Gross Profits for the Half-year, ended 30th September, 1909	3,487,169,381
	3,677,817,404

We have examined the above Accounts, with the Books and Vouchers of the Company, and find them to be correct.

TAKESHI ARISHIMA, TATSUMI IIDA } Auditors.

Tokyo, 26th November, 1909.

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THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE IN OSAKA.

Baron Oura, Minister of State for Agriculture and Commerce, delivered an interesting speech at the Osaka Chamber of Commerce on the afternoon of the 1st inst. He noted that the volume of the country's foreign trade during the year now drawing to a close would undoubtedly be much smaller than the figure for 1907, but as a set-off they had to congratulate themselves upon an effectual redress of the adverse balance. Already exports showed a material excess over imports, and by the end of the year that excess would doubtless be much larger. Two features of the trade called for special notice. One was that the import of raw or semi-manufactured materials and the export of products manufactured from these materials showed a yearly increase. This was matter for sincere congratulation. The other point was less satisfactory; namely, that Japan steadily imports from Western countries more than she exports to them, and consequently she stands towards them in the character of a debtor nation. Fortunately her trade with China and the United States shows a different result. There the excess is on the side of exports, and thus the balance is largely redressed. Nothing can be more important for Japan than to develop her markets with America and China, not only for the special reason just given, but also because China is evidently destined to be the arena of the world's competition. His Excellency invited his hearers to consider whether Japan had adopted the wisest and best means of developing her trade with her neighbour. Could it be truly said that her products and manufactures exported to China were free from the faults of adulteration and crudeness? If Japan wanted to keep and to extend her vitally important custom with the great Empire lying on her west, she must take commercial morality for her motto, and must remember that the permanent reputation acquired by her articles was far more important than any temporary gain.

THE BUSINESS MEN OF JAPAN.

The visit of the Japanese business men to the United States came to an end on the 30th ultimo, when they embarked on the *Chiyo Maru*, after three months devoted to sight-seeing and speech-making. During the whole time there was not one case of sickness among the members of the party. The strain on Baron Shibusawa must have been immense, for wherever he went he was expected to deliver a speech, and although he has always been celebrated for saying the right thing in appropriate words, his resources of oratory, and indeed his physical endurance, must have been severely tried by such a feat. He had an exceptionally good interpreter in Baron Kondo, who was assisted in the latter part of the tour by the not less able Mr. Zumoto. The last days spent in San Francisco were a worthy finale, for every moment was occupied receiving demonstrations of hospitality. It is satisfactory to learn that the tour is to bear practical fruit and not to end in a mere interchange of courtesies. The representatives of the American Chambers of Commerce who accompanied the tourists suggested that the occasion should be utilized for promoting the tradal relations between the two countries by the aid of some permanent machinery. That suggestion seems to have been translated into an agreement that a committee should be formed in each country from the members of the United Chambers of Commerce, and that the committees thus organized shall closely watch the course of trade, with the object of keeping each other posted about any features which militate against commercial development or which might be turned to useful objects. In short, the business men of the two nations will be brought into constant correspondence for the mutual benefit of their trade.

NAVAL APPOINTMENTS.

We take from the *Japan Times* the following list of changes in the personnel of the Navy:—

Admiral Count Togo, Chief of the Naval Board of Command, appointed a Councillor of the Supreme War Council;

Vice-Admiral Baron Kamimura, Commander-in-Chief of the Yokosuka Naval Station, appointed Commander-in-Chief of the First Squadron;

Vice-Admiral Baron Ijuin, Commander-in-Chief of the First Squadron, appointed Chief of the Naval Board of Command;

Vice-Admiral Baron Uruyu, a member of the Admirals' Council, appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Yokosuka Naval Station;

Vice-Admiral Baron Dewa, Commander-in-Chief of the Second Squadron, appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Sasebo Naval Station.

Vice-Admiral Shimamura, President of the Naval Staff Officers' College, appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Second Squadron.

Vice-Admiral Kato, Vice-Minister of the Navy, appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Kure Naval Station;

Captain Fujii, Chief of the Staff of the Kure Naval Station, appointed Vice-Chief of the Naval Board of Command;

Rear-Admiral Kawashima appointed President of the Naval Staff Officer's College;

Vice-Admiral Baron Yamada, Commander of the First Squadron, appointed Commander of the Takeshiki Naval Port.

Captain Takarabe, Chief of the Staff of the First Squadron, was promoted to Rear-Admiral and appointed Vice-Minister of the Navy, while holding additional posts of Chief of the Naval Construction Department and a member of the Admirals' Council.

The following promotion was also gazetted:—

Promoted to Vice-Admirals—Rear-Admirals Teragaki, Tamari, Yoshimatsu, Matsumoto, Fujii and Kitakoga;

Promoted to Rear-Admirals—Captains Arima, Yamaya, Kuroi, Prince Higashi Fushimi, Nomaguchi, Tochinai, Kimura, Nagai, Oshino, and Kamizumi;

Engineer Captains Takeda, Ito and Mizutani were promoted to Engineer Rear-Admirals.

It will be observed that Admiral Count Togo is not yet raised to the rank of Admiral of the Fleet, though that promotion is expected soon to follow. Further, Vice-Admiral Baron Yamanouchi is placed on the seconded list, and it is asserted that he will accept the appointment of Chief Manager of the Seikosho. Japanese newspapers direct much attention to this temporary removal of Baron Yamanouchi's name from the active list, but are satisfied with the wisdom of the measure, in view of the important duties that will devolve on him at Muroran. Four other Vice-Admirals are also placed on the seconded list, namely, Vice-Admiral Mukoyama, Vice-Admiral Shikawa, Vice-Admiral Nakamizo and Vice-Admiral Kitakoma. On the other hand, six Rear-Admirals are raised to the rank of Vice-Admiral, and 14 Captains become Rear Admirals. Rear-Admiral Takarabe's appointment to be Vice-Minister of Marine attracts much attention. The promotion is very signal, but that it is well deserved seems to be the general consensus.

"DISPARU" IN TOKYO.

In spite of exceptionally inclement weather a large audience assembled at the Yurakuza in Tokyo on the 29th ultimo to witness the performance of "Disparu" by the Amateurs of L'Alliance Francaise. It may well be doubted whether such a *tour de force* had ever been witnessed previously on the amateur stage in Tokyo. The French have unquestionably the highest endowment of histrionic ability among the nations of Europe, and their beautiful language is capable of delicacies of intonation and finesse of diction quite beyond the compass of other tongues. We do not propose to attempt any detailed analysis of the acting. It would indeed be difficult to decide which of the leading roles deserved the palm, for if Mons. Bastin as "Rabuté" astonished his audience, at one moment by displays of power far above the usual standard of amateur acting, Mons. Mignon as "Montgirault" delighted them, the next, by his uniformly admirable rendering of a character seldom achieved successfully even by professional experts—a character which has no saliences of passion or sensation. Even the role of a valet ("Sosthènes") became in the hands of Mons. Palmaroli a study delightfully original. If there is one thing to be regretted it is that the comparatively petty part of "Lord Barlington" fell to Mr. Brady. One need scarcely say that his conception of the French idea of an English lord on tour was profoundly accurate and mirth-provoking, but Messrs. Bisson and Sylvestre certainly never contemplated an actor of Mr. Brady's calibre in a role so *minime*. We must be permitted also to offer our compliments to the gentleman who personified "Mons. Bonvillain," a police magistrate. His accurate adaptation of demeanour to changes of circumstance and of vis à vis indicated careful study. Probably the most irksome part was that of "Boisanfray," taken by Mons. Hachette. It moved throughout on a dead level of uneventful sameness, and that it never became wearisome in M. Hachette's hands speaks much for his skill. There is finally one feature of the performance that demands special mention—the ladies' costumes. Paris must have contributed its latest and most chic confections, and so engrossing were the gowns and hats that the acting of their fair wearers became a subordinate consideration.

DOMESTIC POLITICS.

According to the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, the various sections of *Seiyu kai* are beginning to concert measures for an attack upon the Cabinet at the close of 1910. The Katsura Ministry, they say, has pursued uniquely the policy of pleasing the people. That kind of procedure works very well for a time, but is bound to come to grief in the end, and the close of next year seems to these politicians to be about the proper limit of the present Ministry's life. There are plenty of questions about which issues may be joined. There is the land tax; there is the increase of official salaries; there is the problem of the lumber industry in Formosa; there is the old question of the Judiciary in that island, and there is finally the operation of the new criminal code, which is giving so much dissatisfaction. The truth is that if the *Seiyu-kai* want to be recalcitrant, they can manufacture weapons at any moment. Nobody attributes any element of permanency to the present situation.

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TOKYO NOTES.

Friday, November 26.

Work has been begun this week on the erection of a new Charity Hospital for Tokyo. The hospital is being built in Tsukiji, in the compound belonging to the Naval Department, between the Naval Academy and the Naval Medical College. The costs are being defrayed partly by the Municipality of Tokyo, who will be the gainers by having access to a new charitable institution, and partly by the Medical Bureau of the Naval Department, who will thus gain a Hospital for the practical training of their medical students, who have hitherto been obliged to go to the Charity Hospital in Shiba Park for all their clinical instruction.

* * *

The Shiba Charity Hospital also owes its inception to the Surgeons of the Navy, having been founded by Baron Takaki when Head of the Naval Medical Bureau. In those days, the Naval Medical College was in Shiba Park, and the Shiba Charity Hospital formed a convenient place for clinical training. The removal of the Medical School to Tsukiji, and the growth of Dr. Takaki's private Medical School in Shiba have made a second Hospital most desirable. There will never be any want of candidates for admission to the beds, and the fact that the new institution is to be under the control and management of the very effective Medical Service of the Japanese Navy will be a sufficient guarantee for efficiency. Surgeon-Admiral Honda, Head of the Naval Medical College, is to be congratulated on the successful inception of his long-cherished plan.

* * *

The Kaigunsho compound in Tsukiji, formerly the Yashiki of the Date Family, is being rapidly filled up with serviceable buildings. Besides the Naval Club which occupies one corner of the *yashiki*, it contains four schools—the Academy, the Medical and Accountants' Colleges, and the Band Training Schools. These, with dependent laboratories, storehouses, &c., fill the middle portion of the compound. The Hospital is in process of erection, so are also the buildings required for the Naval Arsenal, it being the intention of the Department to close the large works at Akabane and to have one large Naval Arsenal in Tsukiji. The sale of the land at Akabane will, it is believed, furnish all that is necessary in the way of funds for the installations in Tsukiji.

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The Naval Paymasters' or Accountants' College has recently been entirely reorganized. For some years it has been the practice to take men trained at other institutions, by examination, and to draft them into the Navy after a six months' course in the College, which was merely for the purpose of instructing them in the business routine of the Service. An older plan has now been reverted to: lads are taken from the Chūgakkō, of the same age as those that enter the Naval College at Etajima, and they receive a long three years' course, on exactly the same lines as those of the other Naval educational institutions. This will certainly tend to greater efficiency.

* * *

December 1, 1909.

We have been having all sorts of queer and unseasonable (but by no means unpleasant) weather lately, and a thunderstorm in November such as we experienced on Monday evening is indeed a rare experience for Tokyo. Fortunately the storm seems to have done no damage in particular.

* * *

But there are in Tokyo electric disturbances of another kind of which it is well to speak. The storm centre is generally in the neighbourhood of Suda-cho, the time, between 7.30 and 8 a.m., though disturbances at a later hour are not unknown. Half-past seven a.m. is the hour when the Tokyo student male and female, the Tokyo clerk, and the belated Tokyo artisan all rush simultaneously into the form of athleticism known as a ride in the *waribiki* car. As the hour of eight approaches, the prospect of the extra sen and the rapidly diminishing moments of grace make the rush on the *waribiki* fierce and intense, and for a few moments the conductor's life is not a happy one. Then the electric disturbance bursts on a doomed city, and Suda-cho is blocked. Now there are five lines of electric railway that converge on Suda-chō, and in the course of about two minutes five streets, leading from Suda-chō to Uyeno, Asakusa, Hongo, Nihombashi, and Kanda are filled with lines of waiting cars.

O isogi no kata, says the conductor, as you approach Ogawa-machi, with the consciousness that your place of work is some way off, and that you are due there in ten minutes—"*O isogi no kata*, you had better *norikae*."

Out go the active, the intelligent, the travellers who have got all their wits about them. But the lazy, the inactive, the duffers in fact, waste their precious time sitting in the motionless car and waiting for a change in the wind and tide. But the same fate comes to all alike. Presently the last occupant goes with a sheepish face to the conductor, gets a transfer ticket and walks off to join the patiently grumbling crowds that stand at the cross-roads in Suda-cho, and make periodical rushes at the cars, as they slowly disentangle themselves from the chaos. He will be fortunate if, after standing about in the cold for several dreary minutes, he does not go on finally in the same car which he left in despair some moments before. He will be happy if he has bravely taken the bull by the horns and walked to his destination.

When a man stands waiting at Suda-cho for the electric disturbance to be finished, he finds that there are questions connected with tramcar travelling which are of more importance to him than the municipalization of the Tokyo Street Railway.

* * *

Yet life is not without its compensations, even in Tokyo. We had *Disparu*, and very excellent it was, we have had another of the always attractive, skilfully rendered concerts given by the Tokyo Academy of Music, as well as one on Saturday by Professor Reuter. The Bondman (in Japanese) is being given at the Hongo-za, and there has been a first representation of Ibsen japanned at Yuraku-za. The enterprising Kojunsha has had a theatrical performance for its members, at which all the parts were taken by the students of the Theatrical Training School connected with the new Teikokuza now in process of erection.

* * *

By the way, I wonder if any reader of the *Mail* can tell me what has happened to the statue of Danjūrō, the great actor. Some months ago it was erected and unveiled in front of the Kabukiza Theatre. A few days later a kind of screen erection of saké tubs appeared, which veiled the statue from the vulgar eye. I peered behind the veil and found that though the pedestal remained the statue had been renewed. Now the veil of saké tub has gone, and so has the pedestal. And where is the statue? Is it deemed wrong or contrary to public morals to have the statue of an actor in the open street?

* * *

Among the passengers by the French mail, the other day, I noticed the name of Monseigneur Mongabure. His Grace is slowly recovering from a very severe attack of pneumonia and pleurisy, and all residents in Tokyo will unite in the hope that his well-earned sojourn in warmer and softer climes may do much to restore him to his former health and genial vigour.

* * *

Meanwhile, in London, episcopal honours in another Communion have fallen upon another well-known Tokyo resident. The Rev. Arthur Lea was yesterday consecrated Bishop of Kyushu. Mr. Lea, his charming wife, and his excellent children, are well known to all English-speaking foreigners in Tokyo and none will grudge him and his the best of wishes for their future life. The same may be said of Dr. Andrews, who was consecrated to the Anglican Diocese of Hokkaido, together with Bishop Lea. Dr. Andrews is an old resident in Japan, but he is not so well known in Tokyo, having spent a very great portion of his missionary life in Hokkaido.

* * *

And many Tokyo residents will rejoice at the honour recently conferred on Dr. Batchelor, whose linguistic work among the Ainus has only been equalled by his influence among them as a Christian pastor. Dr. Batchelor receives a "Lambeth" Degree. The Archbishop of Canterbury inherits in England from the pre-Reformation Popes the right to confer degrees. The right is but seldom exercised, but it is quite fitting that there should be such a right to meet certain cases of special merit. It could not have been better exercised than in rewarding Mr. Batchelor with a Doctorate.

MAJOR-GENERAL HUNGO.

This officer, who during the War was a military attaché of the Japanese Legation in Berlin, and who subsequently proceeded to Russia on business connected with the exchange of prisoners, has just returned to Tokyo from a tour which included visits to France, England, Germany, Austria and Russia. He is quoted as saying that the recent war has furnished object lessons by which all the great military Powers have benefited. In Italy the principles of Bushido have been embodied in the school-readers, and even in Germany, which is universally regarded as the leading military State in the world, the tactics pursued in field exercises are obviously informed with greater attention to the doctrine of attack, and devote increased attention to the methods of overcoming obstacles in the field. The Major-General has nothing but praise for the great efficiency shown by the German Army, but he remarks that, as the custom of billetting troops on private houses in times of peace is not pursued in Germany, the periodical manoeuvres lack something in the matter of warlike reality.

On Wednesday morning a woman named Kosui Sai killed with a kitchen knife the two grandchildren of a woman named Tsuchiya Jitsu, living at Matsumoto-cho, Shiba, Tokyo. The murderess is said to be mentally deranged.

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THE QUESTION OF A CENTRAL BANK IN MANCHURIA.

Our readers are aware that a discussion has been going on for some time as to whether an independent Central Bank should be established in Manchuria; or whether financial business should be undertaken by the South Manchuria Railway Company in addition to its other functions; or whether the Specie Bank should not be invited to extend its sphere of working in the Three Eastern Provinces. We now read that the last of these three plans was definitely approved at the Cabinet meeting on the 26th ult., and that the Specie Bank is a consenting party. This means that the Specie Bank will go outside the route of ordinary banking, and will lend money for long periods on the security of fixed property, as well as for industrial purposes. The President of the Bank, Mr. Takahashi, is quoted as saying that the Bank's operations of this nature will be limited at first to about a million *yen* each half-yearly term.

THE PENHSIHU DISCUSSION.

This troublesome negotiation is said to have come to a standstill owing to the determination of both sides not to yield any further. The difficulty, it will be remembered, is to bring about an agreement between the sum which the Okura Company claims to have invested and the sum which the Chinese Commissioners are willing to recognise. There is now a difference of 400,000 *yen*. The Okura Company stated its claim originally at 1,600,000 *yen*, but came down 200,000 by way of concession. The Chinese, however, refused to go beyond one million, and there the matter rests. In the absence of any definite information as to the details of the negotiation, it is impossible for the public to judge on which side right lies, but it must appear to impartial observers that the Okura Company is in the best position to know exactly what sums it has hitherto defrayed.

DEATH OF A FORMER FOREIGN RESIDENT.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. R. D. Robison at his home, Cap d'Antibes, in the French Riviera, on Nov. 7th, after a long illness.

Mr. Robison, who was born in the year 1843, came to Japan in the very early days. He was a leading figure in the foreign community until his retirement from business a few years ago, and had received the distinction of a decoration from the Emperor.

The deceased gentleman leaves a widow (formerly Mrs. Dunlop, of this port), to whom the sincere sympathy of the community will be extended.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, November 26.

The market was tolerably firm on the 26th instant. A feature was the continued appreciation of the Tanko shares.

Saturday, November 27.

The forenoon session on the 27th inst. showed considerable activity, but prices fell away materially in the afternoon.

Wednesday, December 1.

The failure of the Tokyo Railway municipalization scheme demoralized the share market on the 1st instant. Nearly all quotations fell, but four cases were conspicuous, namely, the Tokyo Railway, the Tanko Railway, the Hoden Oil and the Nippon Oil. The Exchange itself remained tolerably steady, however.

Thursday, December 2.

The market showed some activity on the 2nd instant, especially in the afternoon. But there was nothing like a radical recovery. We append the quotations for February delivery :—

	Dec. 1st.	Dec. 2nd.	
Tokyo Railway	66.00	66.50	+ .50
Kei-hin Railway	56.60	57.00	+ .40
Yusen Kaisha	82.50	82.30	— .20
Toyo Kisen	—	—	.—
Tanko Kisen	33.95	35.10	+1.15
Tokyo Gas	99.50	99.55	+ .05
Tokyo Dento	91.95	93.80	+1.85
Fuji Gass Spinning	98.50	98.50	.—
Tokyo Spinning	—	42.95	.—
Kanegafuchi Spinning	107.70	108.30	+ .60
Beer	77.00	—	.—
Hoden Oil	67.00	67.40	+ .40
Nippon Oil	74.50	75.80	+1.30
Rice Exchange	—	—	.—
Stock Exchange	160 95	161.00	— .05

Some bears appear to be still busying themselves to obtain credence for a rumour that the Government contemplates renewing the step taken some years ago when the Department of Agriculture and Commerce issued a regulation virtually abolishing time transactions on the Stock Exchange. On that occasion the working of the supposed reform proved disastrous, and the regulation had to be repeated. About a fortnight ago rumours that similar legislation was again contemplated produced a marked disturbance in the share market, but a semi-official contradiction speedily eased men's minds. On the 1st inst., however, the story was again set afloat, and the shares of the Osaka Stock Exchange tumbled down 5 points. We find it impossible to believe that there is any intention on the part of the Government—especially a Government presided over by Marquis Katsura—to repeat an experiment which has already been proved so injurious.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

On the 25th ult., the Directors of the Yokohama Electric Railway Company held a meeting and decided to increase the capital by 2 million *yen* for the purpose of extending the lines to the suburbs and to new districts in the town. The projected extensions are from the Yokohama Railway station to Hiranuma; from Hodogaya to Minami-ota *viâ* Kuboyama; from Onoye-cho to Yawata-bashi *viâ* Negishi; from Ei Ichiban past the Grand Hotel to Honmoku, and from Kameno-hashi to the railway station. Other projects are on the tapis, as, for example, a line to Kamakura, but they are still in the lap of the future. It is stated that the two millions have been obtained from a certain bank at 7 per cent. interest, redemption to commence in the third year and to be completed in ten years.

Paragraphs continue to appear in leading Tokyo papers about the plight to which the banks are reduced by the difficulty of finding employment for their deposits. The First Bank is said to have 8,600,000 *yen* lying idle, and the Mitsui Bank 7,200,000, the other great banks being proportionately loaded up. At present there are no signs that material relief will be afforded by the usual demand at the fall of the year, and people are now beginning to talk not only of the 27 million *yen* which the Government will pay out next month as interest on the national debt, and of the 37 millions of exchequer bills to be redeemed at the same time, but also of the 70 million *yen* worth of State bonds which are to be recalled next year.

It is stated that the authorities have decided to postpone using Roman letters in compiling the text books for next year. The reason assigned for this decision is one which we have long foreseen, namely, that no uniformity exists as yet in the manner of using *romaji*. Gentlemen who invented a bizarre system of their own, founded on reasons quite unintelligible to Englishmen, have now the chagrin of reflecting that their action has postponed the reform which they so earnestly desire and have so zealously laboured to promote.

His Excellency Baron Uchida, Ambassador to Washington, and Baroness Uchida, left Shimbashi on the 30th instant at 1 p.m, embarking at Yokohama the same day on board the *Tenyo Maru* for America.

The eclipse of the moon which took place on the 27th ult. did not become visible in Tokyo until 11 minutes after complete obscuration, inasmuch as the latter took place at 14 minutes past 5, whereas the moon did not rise in Tokyo until 25 minutes past 5. Still the sight was very interesting. So far as weather was concerned the conditions in Tokyo for viewing the eclipse were ideal. Not a cloud obscured the sky anywhere, nor a breath of mist or fog. Thousands of eager sightseers thronged the streets or stood on the housetops.

Terrible accounts are published by Japanese newspapers of the disaster at the Onoura Coal Mine in Kyushu. It has now been definitely ascertained that, out of the 290 men entombed, only 35 escaped death. The corpses of many of the remainder have been recovered, and, as may well be supposed, their condition is said to be shocking.

The weavers of Japan are said to be suffering severely from the stagnation caused by the low price of rice. It had been anticipated that the exceptionally fine harvest of this year would enrich the agricultural classes and create a corresponding demand for textile fabrics. But that forecast has been rudely falsified. The price of the cereal has fallen so greatly that the farmers are driven to exercise extreme economy, and the weavers are left with large stocks of manufactured goods on their hands. The Ashikaga district is suffering most conspicuously. There have been several bankruptcies, and some weavers have been driven to suspend manufacture. Of course, the nation is spending less on its great staple of food than it had to spend a few months ago, and consequently if the agriculturists and weavers are suffering, the consumers must be correspondingly benefited. But, unhappily, what is fortunate for the consuming classes often spells something like ruin for the producing.

On the 27th ult., from 5 to 6 p.m., the city of Tokyo was plunged into darkness, except where the lights of the tramway shone. For a whole hour the citizens were obliged to make shift with such candles and kerosene lamps as could be procured at a moment's notice. Nothing of the kind had occurred since the great snowstorm in the spring of 1908, when a child's kite becoming entangled in the wires caused a lodgment of snow which interrupted the transit of the current. On the 27th, however, the climatic conditions

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were perfect and there was no excuse whatever for the incident.

We regret to learn that Prince Kaya, second son of the late Prince Kuni, is lying dangerously ill in Kyoto. His disease is cancer of the stomach, and there appears to be very little hope of recovery.

His Imperial Highness Prince Kanin attended the performance of "Disparu" given at the Yuraku-za in Tokyo on the 29th ult. at 2 p.m.

The Tokyo Local Court held its 10th session on the 26th ult. in the case of the auditors and Directors of the Sugar Refining Company. The proceedings have hitherto been very animated, not only on account of the drastic address delivered by the Public Procurator at the outset, but also because of the eloquent and lengthy pleadings of counsel for the defence. The strain of the painful scene proved too much on the 26th instant for the mental equilibrium of Mr. Ito Moshichi, one of the managing directors. His demeanour had been somewhat distraught from the morning of that day, and the eminent barrister, Mr. Hanai Takuzo, had scarcely finished his speech, when Mr. Ito sprang to his feet and began to address the court in a most agitated manner. He had finally to be removed by force, and the proceedings were brought to an abrupt termination for the day.

The 29th ultimo and the succeeding night brought very curious climatic conditions to Tokyo. Throughout the day the temperature was at times almost sultry, and between 6 and 7 in the evening the sky was suddenly illuminated by a flood of electric light, followed at a long interval by a peal of thunder. About 15 minutes passed without any repetition of these phenomena, and then a violent thunderstorm burst over the city, the rain falling in veritable sheets. This state of affairs lasted between two and three hours, when the stars again made their appearance. But the respite was only brief, for the return of clear skies was accompanied by a fierce gale developing almost hurricane force, and the series of abnormal phenomena concluded with a sharp shock of earthquake at 14 minutes to 9 a.m. on the 30th ultimo. This storm seems to have been very widespread. Its track extended from Port Arthur, on the 28th ultimo, to Karafuto, *viâ* Dairen and Korea. In the north it took the form of a heavy snowfall,—so heavy, that 7 ft. of snow is said to have fallen in Saghalien.

Baron Motono, who has just returned to Japan from St. Petersburg, in consequence of the illness of his father, is quoted by the *Kokumin Shimbun* as saying that the great bulk of the Russian people are sincerely desirous of cultivating the most friendly relations with Japan. Nothing could have afforded a stronger proof of this disposition than the expressions of profound regret universally elicited by the news of Prince Ito's assassination. The Czar himself, who happened to be at Frankfort when the intelligence arrived, is said to have expressed great solicitude lest the catastrophe should have been in any degree facilitated by negligence on the part of the Russian police.

The 29th ultimo proved an exceptionally busy day on the Tokyo Stock Exchange. The number of shares settled reached 118,240, and their total price was 7,433,520 *yen*, the average being 62.87 *yen*. These figures showed an increase of 37,800 in the number of shares; 2,695,590 *yen* in the aggregate price, and 3.97 *yen* in the average price. There was, however, one serious trouble. Mr. Nakamura, a broker doing business under the name of Mitsuwa, was unable to settle his account immediately. He took over his purchases of Spinnings without difficulty, but his purchases of Stock Exchanges could not be arranged, and he was obliged to ask for an extension of time up to the morning of the 30th ultimo. Happily, arrangements were made in the interval. The sum involved was 1,084,500 *yen*; and had Mr. Nakamura failed to implement such large contracts, a panic must have resulted. As it was, the removal of this incubus produced some buoyancy in the market.

A most extraordinary rumour is reported to have been put into circulation by a Russian newspaper in Vladivostock, and the story has been telegraphed to our German local contemporary. It is to the effect that a convention has been signed by which China permanently cedes the Liaotung Peninsula and Dairen to Japan, on condition that the latter Power restores to the former administrative control in the railway zones. The obviously contradictory character of these two stipulations ought to have prevented their telegraphic conveyance throughout the world.

There appears to be some discontent among the Chinese in the Dairen district. A body of farmers numbering about 30, who are described as residents of Chesuitun, repaired to Port Arthur on the 28th ult., and attempted to gain access to the house where Prince Fushimi was sojourning. The attempt was frustrated by the activity of the police, and no clue is furnished as to the cause of the demonstration.

Mr. Akizuki Satsuo, who has for some time held the rank of Minister-Plenipotentiary unattached, is gazetted to be an Ambassador, and will succeed Baron Uchida at the Court of Vienna.

Tokyo newspapers announce that, on the 30th ultimo., Mr. Ito Hirokuni, eldest adopted son of the late Prince Ito, was duly invested with the title of his illustrious father.

It is stated that the draft of amended commercial law to be submitted to the Diet this session has been completed and carefully examined by legal experts at a meeting in the residence of the Minister of Justice. The principal changes refer to the punishment of company directors against whom a charge of fraud has been established. The present law provides nothing more than a fine of 1,000 *yen* for such an offence, but the amended law raises the superior limit of the fine to 3,000 *yen* and adds 7 years imprisonment. This is 2 years more than even the maximum penalty provided in ordinary cases of fraud. It is confidently hoped that this greatly increased punishment will have the effect of driving out of existence all bogus companies, and of checking the abuses which the past year has brought to light in such lamentable numbers.

We observe that nearly all the Japanese newspapers of Tokyo allege that Dr. Morrison has ceased to be *The Times'* correspondent in Peking, and that his place is to be taken by Mr. J. O. P. Bland. We believe this statement to be misleading. It is true that Mr. Bland—whose brilliant contributions to the correspondence columns of *The Times* used to be quite a feature of the great journal when he wrote from Shanghai—is to replace Dr. Morrison at Peking in the immediate future, but the change is only temporary. Its purpose is to give Dr. Morrison an opportunity of travelling through China and Manchuria.

The final match in the contest for the championship of the Tokyo Lawn Tennis Club will be played on Saturday the 4th instant, from 2 p.m., between Mr. Rice and Mr. Condict on the Club's ground in Nagatacho.

THE ST. ANDREW'S BALL.

When "brither Scots" celebrate the Day of their Patron Saint, their hospitality, not only to their own nationals but to many others besides, is indeed proverbial. The bawbee, for the nonce, loses its wonted value, and "bang goes many a saxpence" in unstinted entertainment of friends and fellow-countrymen. The lavish good cheer which has thus come to be associated with the name of St. Andrew all over the world was proved once more in Yokohama on Tuesday evening last. A very large assembly—many of its units adorned with bright-hued kilts and tartan plaids—filled the Gaiety from 9 o'clock till far on into the night and, indeed, into "the sma' hours." The whole building was decorated in a manner befitting the occasion, with Scottish emblems and mottoes to give distinction,—the Cross of St. Andrew and the armorial bearings of the leading clans being prominently displayed. The dancing went with verve and vigour, to the strains of a good band, aided at times with the stringed instruments of the Bijou Orchestra; while the reels and other national dances gave evidence of the careful practice devoted to them by those who took part. The excellent repast—distinguished, of course, by such specially characteristic dishes as "haggis" and short-cake—was heartily appreciated by the Society's numerous guests from Tokyo as well as from this port. Altogether, it might be said, the Ball was a huge success and will be long remembered as such.

The Committee of the Society (in whose hands were the arrangements of the evening) are as follows:—Messrs. F. O. Stuart (President), A. B. Lowson (Vice-President), A. Cumming, C. Murray Duff, Johnstone McClure, N. S. Marshall, J. Thom, M. D. Currie (Hon. Secretary) and J. Reid (Hon. Treasurer).

GARDEN PARTY OF THE SHIMOTSUKE SPINNING MILL CO., AT OJI.

On Saturday last, the Shimotsuke Spinning Mill Co., which has recently established a branch factory at Oji near Tokyo, celebrated the event with a garden party, inviting several hundred shareholders and other guests. At 1 p.m. the celebration commenced with various kinds of entertainments, and at 3 o'clock Mr. Kakimura, President of the Company, gave a congratulatory address, which was followed by a speech from Mr. Tamura, one of the Directors, who, in the course of his remarks, stated that the factory had been fitted up with a 750 horse-power gas engine, manufactured by Messrs. Crossley Bros., Ltd., of Manchester. According to the speaker, this kind of engine has never yet been used in Japan. One of the advantages the said engine affords is economy in coal, only 1 1/3 lbs. being required per hour, which is one-third of what is required by other engines. After this speech, Mr. Hogaku-Hakushi Sakatani, ex-Minister of Finance, appeared on the rostrum, and said that the achievement of the Company was a matter of congratulution not only for the Company itself, but for business circles in Japan generally. He hoped the Directors would spare no efforts in the further development of the factory.

The number of spindles working in the factory is 20,000, and about 1,700 factory girls and 300 men are employed. The output averages 25,000lbs. a day.

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THE LIE AS A POLITICAL WEAPON.

IT is common enough, alas, and especially in small communities, to find the lie used a social weapon. Passing from mouth to mouth, usually under a farcical seal of secrecy (farcical, because the precise opposite is desired by the circulator), the lie has acquired among certain types of people some vogue as a comparatively safe, if somewhat contemptible, means of injuring a neighbour. Such practices, of course, do not commend themselves to men (or women) of honour, because of the treachery and underhandedness with which they reek, and all the less, because of the difficulty of definitely confronting the circulator with his (or her) lie. But it is rarely that a public man—speaking in public and, through the press, to the country at large—deliberately resorts to falsehood as a means of influencing the public mind. Yet such appears to have been the case with the now notorious Mr. URE. This able lawyer recently acquired some prominence when, in his capacity as Lord Advocate, he sat in judgment upon the Stirling divorce case at Edinburgh, and in delivering decision made sundry remarks which seemed hardly in keeping with the dignity of his high office. But the publicity gained on this occasion is not to be compared with that which has arisen out of a speech which this learned member for Linlithgow made at Newbury, Berkshire, on the 18th ult., with a very obvious political purpose :—

I know as well as the gentlemen at the back of the hall know that eight days ago Mr. Balfour said that it (the payment of old-age pensions) was a national obligation, which if his party were in office they would fulfil. But the aged poor are nervous and apprehensive lest they lose their pensions if there is a change of Government. I think their fears are justified, and I don't speak without a full knowledge of what I am saying.

This was followed up by speeches at various places on four successive days, in each of which the same general statement was repeated :—

They could understand how it was that the poor folks were in a state of alarm lest a change of Government might cause them to lose their pensions. He thought that alarm was well founded.

* * *

He was told he was guilty of some great wrong because he said the other night what he was going to repeat that night—that the nervous apprehension which the old folks laboured under as to losing their pensions if there was a change in the Government was in his deliberate judgment a well-founded terror.

* * *

He had heard it said that many of the present pensioners had been apprehensive of losing their pensions.....He shared that apprehension with those people. A tax upon manufactured articles coming from abroad would not raise half the money which the country needed at the present time, and, therefore, he thought the poor old people had justification for their terror.

* * *

The aged poor of the country were, it was said, in a state of apprehension and terror lest this Budget should be thrown out—this Budget by which alone they could secure their modest pensions. He would therefore repeat what he had previously said, knowing full well the meaning of his words—he shared the apprehensions and terror of the aged poor.

It was not to be supposed that Unionists in general would allow a falsehood so damaging to be circulated unchallenged on the eve of a general election. Mr. BALFOUR, the leader of the Opposition, took occasion to describe the insinuatory statement of Mr. URE as "a frigid and calculated lie, a lie carefully thought out, deliberately coined and then put into illegitimate circulation." Nevertheless, the lie has gone on its way, the false seed sown has fallen into receptive soil in countless cases, where its denial has never reached. An election handbill, for example, was shortly afterwards circulated by Mr. A. W. SOAMES, M.P., in his constituency (South Norfolk), concluding with the words :

YOUR CHOICE.
FREE TRADE AND OLD AGE PENSIONS,
OR
TARIFF REFORM AND DEARER FOOD.

The *Morning Post* having called attention to the misleading character of this circular, its author wrote to that journal denying that this was intended to suggest that with a Unionist victory at the General Election there would be a cancellation of Old Age Pensions. Nevertheless, the circulation of this injurious pamphlet has not been stopped. In accordance, therefore, with a suggestion from Mr. WALTER LONG, that wherever Mr. URE's statement has reached the people, a leaflet of contradiction should be circulated by way of a corrective, the Liverpool and Cheshire branch of the Budget Protest League has placarded its district with a poster of warning which reads :—

OLD AGE PENSIONS.

Never believe the Last Radical Lie.
Radicals are saying that Tariff Reformers would stop Old Age Pensions.
Mr. Balfour has shown that

THIS IS A LIE.

The *Daily Chronicle* (the leading Radical paper) on September 30, 1909, said :

"There is no truth in the statement that if the Unionists were returned to office they would discontinue the payment of Old Age Pensions."

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain (a Unionist) first advocated Old Age Pensions. Unionist votes helped to carry the Old Age Pensions Bill in the House of Commons. Unionist Peers passed the Old Age Pensions Bill in the House of Lords; and *Tariff Reformers* will make the *Foreigners help* to pay for them.

But despite these official disclaimers, it will probably be found that, in many a aged voter's breast, the lie will die hard—to the extreme satisfaction, no doubt, of its propagators. Old electioneering hands recall a similar fabrication which was successfully disseminated at the time of the last General Election, but is now clearly labelled "The Chinese Slavery Lie." Mr. CHAPLIN, in a letter to one of the leading Conservative papers, makes the following trenchant reference to that scandalous episode :—

"Has Mr. Asquith already forgotten how statements with regard to Chinese labour—now admitted to be false—were disseminated from high quarters in the Liberal Party to the prejudice of their opponents before the last election? Let me remind him of a notorious cartoon—the most infamous of all, perhaps, that were published at that time. What it did was to depict a gang of Chinese labourers, chained together by the neck, with their hands fastened behind them, guarded by a warder, with a rifle and a belt of cartridges, with two ghosts of "the British dead" in uniform looking on, and one saying to the other: "Look there; that's what you and I and twenty thousand others died for."

I always thought myself that this was the most cowardly, the worst of all the lies on Chinese labour, by which the Liberal Party so largely won the last General Election. Firstly, because its authors painted a lie which they dared not tell in words, and secondly, because they used these despicable means to gain support from the highest and the noblest instincts of the British people."

The URE incident has not unnaturally given rise to angry speeches and recriminations in the House of Commons, where several Unionist speakers have strongly resented the implication to which the Lord Advocate so persistently adheres, namely, that his political opponents, if returned to power, intend to repudiate a national obligation. Mr. ASQUITH made an eloquent defence of his too zealous lieutenant, but was nevertheless obliged to give this virtual contradiction of Mr. URE's statement :—

It is an insult to their (the Unionist Party's) honour and conscience to suggest that they could possibly bring to a conclusion a system of non-contributory old-age pensions. . . . I think the old-age pensioner may sleep peacefully in his bed. (Cheers and laughter.)

And this contradiction is supported by one of the principal Liberal organs, the *Westminster Gazette*, which, in the course of a leading article, declared :—

We agree with Mr. Asquith that the old-age pensioner may sleep peacefully in his bed. In one way or another the money will be found to pay his pension, whichever party is in power.

The whole incident is suggestive of the high feeling aroused by the present political situation in England. It is to be hoped that, thus early in the contest, the unwarrantability of such procedure will become apparent to the opposing parties, and that Mr. BALFOUR's dignified protest will have both an admonitory and a sobering effect—"If you are going to carry on political controversy by lies and calumnies, you destroy the root of freedom, you poison the wells of public life."

THE LATEST COMPLAINT ABOUT MANCHURIA.

WE referred in our last issue to a report said to have been sent by the United States Consul at Mukden with reference to alleged discrimination in favour of Japanese imports. It is now stated that the report emanated from the Consul in Dairen, but was forwarded via Mukden for some reason which is not explained. The date of its despatch from Manchuria was the 4th of September, and on the 27th of the current month the *New York Times* published a strong article with reference to the Consul's report. It said that this discrimination had been a subject of complaint on the part of foreign merchants ever since Japan established herself in the Liaotung Peninsula, and it went on to allege that not only do Japanese imports escape the payment of customs dues, but that also Japanese industries started in Manchuria are assisted with cheap money provided by the Bank of Japan and the Specie Bank. In fact, Japan borrowed from foreign countries with one hand and lent out this money with the other to her own subjects for the purpose of enabling them to compete injuriously with the subjects and citizens of her creditors. The article concluded by urging that a Chinese custom house should be established at Dairen.

Is there any foundation for this hydra-headed complaint which crops up again and again from time to time in spite of all the evidence adduced to prove its shadowy character? So far as can be ascertained by

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the most minute inquiry, the only basis that ever existed for a charge of discrimination in Manchuria was that, at the outset of her occupation of Southern Manchuria, Japan continued to charge the same rates of railway transport as those which had been levied by Russia in the interests of Dalny as against Newchwang. That scale of rates was long ago altered, and inasmuch as all goods now passing *viâ* Kinchow into the interior of Manchuria have to run the gauntlet of a Chinese customs station, whatever be the country of their origin, it appears untrue to say that there is discrimination in favour of Japanese imports so far as duties are concerned. As to the allegation that exceptionally cheap money is officially placed at the disposal of Japanese enterprise in Manchuria, the complaint is not novel, neither is the complete absence of proof that has always distinguished its formulation. Doubtless when publicists like the editor of the *New York Times* learn that the Specie Bank is hereafter to be empowered to give accommodation to Japanese subjects in Manchuria on the security of fixed property, we shall hear a renewal of the outcry. But that up to the present there has been practically nothing of the kind may be confidently affirmed. A curious thing is that as long as the practices now so vehemently charged against Japan were indulged in by Russia without any concealment or denial, the *New York Times* and its congenors maintained silence. We are not concerned to explain this difference, but we would remind our New York contemporary of two things. One is that America herself is pressing vehemently for a share in the business of lending cheap money to China in the interests of United States finance and industry; the other is, that unfortunately for herself Japan has no monetary strength sufficient to constitute her a formidable rival of Western countries in this matter. Finally, we invite the attention of the *New York Times* to the fact that the Japanese Government has definitely denied the existence of any discrimination in the matter of duties and rates of transport. So long as that denial stands unchallenged by any production of conclusive evidence to the contrary, we must be pardoned if we place faith in the official utterance.

NO MANDATE.

A FEATURE of the present political situation in England which is apt to be overlooked by the casual observer, is the fact that "a good deal of water has flowed under London bridge" since the last General Election. In other words, the issues before the electors at the present time are very different from those upon which they formerly pronounced so emphatically in favour of the party now in power. Four years ago, it might be said with little injustice, the Liberals came into power on Chinese pigtails and a skilful manipulation of the "big loaf." They are now, under cover of a measure adroitly named a Budget, endeavouring to effect a social and political upheaval, the ultimate consequences of which must be the overthrow of the Constitution and the dismemberment of the Empire. The issues now before the country are not merely distinct from those of the past: they are vastly greater, vastly graver. The feature which calls for special emphasis is this. When the electorate gave the power of government into the hands of the then Liberal party, did they contemplate changes so profound as the abolition of one of the Estates of the Realm, or the introduction of Socialism by means of "a number of thin wedge-ends"? We venture to say that, had questions of so far-reaching a character been placed before the country in 1905, its verdict would have been far other than it was. Be that as it may, however, we are now confronted with this extraordinary situation, namely, that some five hundred Radical-Labour-Socialist-Irish members of the Lower Chamber of the Legislature—elected to give effect to the views of their constituents on Chinese "slavery," religious education and, possibly, Home Rule—are proposing to impose upon the country a new, an untried and an admittedly dangerous social system. Moreover, with amazing effrontery, they are demanding that this tremendous change shall be carried out without so much as a word of protest from that branch of the Legislature, the *raison d'être* of whose existence is to prevent the enactment of hasty and ill-considered measures. We submit that this is clearly a case of "no mandate." Such issues as these have never yet been put before the British public. The heterogeneous majority in the House of Commons is exceeding its powers and—worst of all—is doing so with the aid of a political stratagem which constitutes the grossest abuse of the privileges of that House yet recorded in the pages of History. We refer to the inclusion of contentious legal measures in the body of a Finance Bill. If the device were not transparent to every person of ordinary perception, Lord LANSDOWNE's neat *exposé* should render it so. In the course of the memorable debate on this Bill, which opened on the 23rd ult. in the House of Lords, the Leader of the Opposition in the Upper Chamber, as telegraphically reported, "deprecated the introduction of licensing and land clauses into a Finance Bill, and asked what there was to prevent Home Rule being introduced into the Budget?" If the drafting and execution of a Finance Bill is the exclusive prerogative of the House of Commons, does it not follow that such a Bill must be rigidly defined and its scope as rigidly prescribed? Otherwise, if it be capable of "indefinite enlargement," as one of the London reviews expresses it, all the safeguards provided by the Constitution are, *ipso facto*, swept away. "It would be possible to disendow and even disestablish the Church of England to-morrow by means of a Finance Bill. . . . . The House of Lords, the King himself, might be swept away by taxation." All private rights might be destroyed, all individual ownership be made impossible, by means of a skilful adjustment of taxes. The army could be disbanded, the navy sent to the scrap-heap, the Empire scattered to the winds, through the instrumentality of a Budget. So monstrous a distortion of the Commoners' rights, so farcical and yet so fateful in outcome, we venture to say, was never contemplated by the most far-seeing elector four years ago. How then will the Lords face this great crisis in the country's career and their own? They will not accept this first instalment of Socialism, for if they passed a measure "so revolutionary in principle and intention," they would forfeit for ever their right to deal with any Bill. Nor will they reject it, and so play into the hands of their enemies. Their attitude towards the Bill was clearly defined by Lord LANSDOWNE as long ago as August last, when he said:—

> "We recognise that the will of the people of this country must prevail in the end. But what we demand is that the people of this country should be given full and sufficient opportunity of expressing that will with a full and sufficient knowledge of the subject."

In other words, the Lords do not themselves intend to pronounce upon the Bill. As their leader declared, a week ago, "they will not take responsibility for it, until the people have intimated their desire that the Bill should become law." They do not propose to use the much-talked of "veto"—as their Radical opponents would doubtless desire; they will simply refer the whole matter to the country. The result of that *referendum* will certainly be a tremendous and unprecedented struggle, but what ever the outcome of the campaign, the Lords will come out of it unscathed. For they have done the right thing. They have not presumed upon their powers, foisted a revolution upon the country, or "flouted the will of the people." They have simply said—*Let the people judge*!

GULLIBILITY.

AMONG THOMAS CARLYLE'S characteristic *obiter dicta*, it will be remembered, was one which reflected somewhat severely on the credulity and general unwisdom of his countrymen. "The population of England," the distinguished historian is reputed to have said, "consists of thirty million people, mostly fools." A hard saying, many have labelled it, but is it not in large measure true, not of England only, but of mankind at large? At any rate, from time to time there comes to light a case which seems to give ample justification for the cynical dictum to which we have alluded. Such a case is that of "Dr." Walford BODIE, "hypnotist, mesmerist, bloodless surgeon and medical electrician," against whom, on the 4th ult., damages to the amount of £1,000 were awarded by a jury, for fraudulent misrepresentations and breach of contract. This

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ingenious person, for twenty-three years, has battened on the gullibility of the public, and has succeeded in making a number of his dupes believe that they have been cured by his more or less miraculous interventions, and, in particular, by the exertion of a unique hypnotic influence of which he is the sole possessor and dispenser, to wit, "Bodic" force.

To enable him the more easily to impose upon the ignorant, Mr. BODIE appended to his name the letters "M.D.," which, he subsequently declared in Court, did not mean what is usually understood by them, but stood for "Merry Devil," a familiar appellation by which he was known behind the scenes of music halls and variety shows. The other qualifications affected by this remarkable person were thus elicited in cross-examination by Counsel and the presiding Judge, Mr. JUSTICE DARLING :—

Mr. Mellor: You say you have a diploma from Barrett College, Carolina, U.S.A. You never went there?—Certainl. not.

How did you get it?—By writing a thesis.

Mr. Justice Darling: On what subject was the thesis?—The science of life.

Mr. Mellor: You have also described yourself as Ph.D. and D.Sc.?—Yes.

Mr. Justice Darling: What does Ph.D. mean?—Doctor of philosophy.

Mr. Mellor: Were you a doctor of philosophy?—I had the honorary degree; it was an American degree; it was from Barrett College.

The Judge: What did you do to get it?

The Witness: I wrote an article on some scientific subject.

Mr. Mellor: Where is the diploma which shows that you are a Ph. D. and D. Sc.?

The Witness: Lost. I lost it with my Masonic diploma.

Did you pass any examination?—Yes, by correspondence. The diplomas are worthless. It is a little help sometimes to have a handle to your name.

Some idea of the methods employed by this impostor may be gathered from the statements of witnesses who gave evidence in Court. Two of his victims thus related their experiences:—

John Bowden, stick-mount chaser, of Whiston-street, Haggerston, gave evidence that he had suffered from a withered leg since infancy. At Easter 1904 he saw Dr. Bodie at the Britannia Music-hall, and went on to the stage with his two sticks. Immediately he arrived on the stage, Dr. Bodie took his sticks and broke them across his knee, informing the audience that the witness would not require them any more, and that he would be cured in a few minutes. Dr. Bodie passed the toe of his boot up and down the witness's legs, and sparks came out of the toe and gave him considerable pain. If it had not been for the orchestra playing a lively tune at the moment the audience would have heard him yelling. (Laughter.)

Did he ask you anything?—No; but I asked him how I was to get home without my sticks. (Laughter.) He gave me a shilling to get a cab.

Did you feel any better from his treatment?—No.

Did you speak to the audience?—On the second occasion I went, Dr. Bodie prompted me to say that he had done me more good in a few minutes than all the hospitals in eighteen years. He had previously promised me a pair of boots, because he said it was my boots which prevented me walking home on the first occasion.

Did you get the boots?—No. (Laughter.)

Mr. Justice Darling: Why did you not say to the audience that he had done you no good?

The Witness: The boots would not have been forthcoming then. (Laughter.)

* * *

George Cooper, butcher, living at Hoxton, stated that he had suffered from paralysis, and saw Dr. Bodie at the Britannia Music hall. He went on to the stage, and was there asked to pretend he was hypnotised. When it was supposed he was hypnotised Dr. Bodie applied the electric battery to the wrong leg. (Laughter.) He told Dr. Bodie that he had made a mistake, and the battery was then applied to the afflicted leg. Afterwards he heard his name was given as one who had been cured. He went to the music-hall and said Dr. Bodie was a fraud, and he was turned out.

One of Mr. BODIE'S many wonder-working medicines, it appears, was described as "Electric Life Pills,"—a specific for paralysis; and doubtless the people who devoured them believed they were vivified, and benefited generally, thereby. Indeed, with the aid of a non-dangerous high-frequency current, he seems to have specialized in Magic Rings, Death Chairs and the like, to the great mystification of many audiences. This genius among quacks appears to have hitherto kept himself, with no little discretion, outside the pale of the law, until he persuaded a young Cumberland farmer to sit at his feet and learn of him—with a view to eventual partnership—for the modest sum of one thousand pounds. It was not long, apparently, before the disciple because dissatisfied with his hypnotic lord—hence the action at law. The venerable depositary of "Bodic" force did not pretend, in court, to have taught his victim the various sciences of hypnotism, mesmerism, bloodless surgery and medical electricity, because (as he said) "it would not have done to cram Mr. IRVING'S head with such a lot of knowledge at once." On hearing the evidence, however, the jury had no hesitation in giving a verdict for the plaintiff, with damages, and thus putting a period to the defendant's career as charlatan and deceiver of the public. "Dr." BODIE'S subsequent appearances on music-hall stages, at Glasgow and other places, we read, have been signalized by showers of rotten eggs and like missiles from unimaginative medical students and their confrères.

This community, it is to be feared, is not altogether without reproach in the matter of gullibility. Whether in its ability to absorb idle gossip of the detractive order, or in its readiness to support fortune-tellers and other unprincipled adventurers, Yokohama occupies a high and honoured place among Far-eastern communities. A case in point, we believe, occurred recently. There came to this hospitable port a charlatan who found that it was quite sufficient to describe himself as a "mental scientist," to have a considerable number of people repose humble faith in his prophetic powers. Or is it the mere fact that so-called "palmists" are frequently sentenced in the law-courts of other countries for making money by false pretences, which serves to attract a curious *clientèle*, especially from among the fair sex? Be that as it may, there are not a few persons in this district, tradesmen and otherwise, who are the poorer in pocket—though, let us hope, the wiser in heart—for having fallen victims, less to an unscrupulous quack, than to their own gullibility. *Experientia docet!*

THE Department of Communications announced on the 1st instant the regulations relating to the ocean navigation subsidies. The lines to obtain subsidies on and after the 1st of January next year will be those to Antwerp, Seattle, San Francisco and to South America. Applications for subsidies must be sent to the Government two weeks prior to the above date.

OUR RUSSIAN NEWSLETTER.

(*From Our St. Petersburg Correspondent.*)

St. Petersburg, November 9.

The members of the Japanese Special Embassy at present in St. Petersburg studying Russian theories of the military art, were entertained at dinner yesterday at the Spanish Embassy, together with many of the Russian Ministers, including the Minister for Foreign Affairs, M. Izvolsky, and the Minister for War, General Sukhomlinov. As the representative of the only Power for the moment engaged in active warfare, the Spanish Ambassador seems peculiarly fitted to play the host to this military commission. To-day the Japanese will be the guests of Russia's premier Regiment of Footguards, the historic Preobrajensky Guards, whose uniform is the customary wear of the Emperor of Russia on public occasions. The band of the regiment has been busily engaged studying a rendering of the Japanese national hymn, which the regiment has not before had occasion to play.

Russian indignation at the "forward policy" of the German Consul at Kharbin has by no means abated. It is noted that the official pointedly absented himself from the reception given to the Russian Ambassador at Peking on his arrival at Kharbin, though the representatives of all the other Powers were among those who met the Ambassador. It is further alleged that this German Consul, alone among all the consular body at Kharbin, has now secured the services of two Chinese soldiers, who are constantly on duty as sentries at his doors. An attempt has been made at Khabarovsk to boycott German shops, and it is said that the largest emporium there, belonging to a Hamburg firm, is already suffering loss of trade to the benefit of smaller concerns belonging to Russians.

The well-known writer on naval matters in the *Novoe Vremya*, who signs himself "Brutus," has begun a series of articles on the "Needs of Siberia." In the first of these he ridicules the proposals of the Russian Naval Department to open up a passage to the Far East along the northern coasts of Russian territory, the North-East Passage, in fact. "What kind of ice-ships or ice-breakers shall we be likely to get from the designs of Admiralty engineers who have absolutely no knowledge or experience of any kind to guide them? Is it to be credited that the Admiralty, which has not yet discovered all the rocks on which our ships yearly come to grief in our own home waters, will have any success in an attempt to chart a passage along some eight thousand miles of our Arctic coast-line?" The expedition is to start in the spring of next year—if the ships being specially built for it are ready by that time, which is, as things go in Russia, very problematical indeed. The more serious portions of this first article are devoted to proving that Siberia, so far from being, as is generally supposed, a land of mines and mineral wealth, is at present almost wholly agricultural, no less than ninety per cent. of the population of Siberia being engaged in cultivating the land, while only eight per cent. of the population resides in townships. Under such circumstances the primal need of Siberia is better conditions for agriculture. As it is, a considerable proportion of the hundreds of thousands of "emigrants" shipped out to Siberia annually by the Government Committee, return penniless, owing to unsatisfactory arrangements for

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their existence in a new and inadequately explored country.

The Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, *apropos* of a recent article in the *Fortnightly Review*, publishes a *démenti*, not for the first time, denying that M. Izvolsky at Buchlau or previously ever invited Austria to annex Bosnia and Herzegovina. The official *démenti* suggests that statements to this effect are based upon nothing more than either a misunderstanding or a wilful juggling with such documents as have been allowed by Austria, to become public property. A reference to the entire range of documents that have passed between Russia and Austria on this question would show that nothing said or written by M. Izvolsky at any time ever in any way impaired his public utterance and the principle on which he has all along acted, namely, that the status of Bosnia and Herzegovina was a European question to be dealt with only by common agreement of the Powers concerned, and not by any single Power or group of Powers acting independently.

One of the unpleasant consequences of the revolutionary period in Russia is the extreme readiness with which the Russian Army officer uses upon all and sundry the weapons given him for the defence of his country. Yet another case is reported today from Pskov and the victim is the officer's own wife. Being of a jealous disposition, the officer Prokhorov frequently provoked distressing scenes in his own home. A couple of days ago he came home, and found his young wife seated in an arm-chair engaged in suckling her child, a sight which in no wise softened his feelings. The usual storm of reproaches began, followed by his flinging at the poor woman a heavy candlestick, which struck the child. He then drew his revolver and fired, killing his wife on the spot with the baby in her arms.

An army doctor, alleged to be a Jew, has been arrested at Rjazan on a charge of systematically releasing soldiers from the hated military service in return for money bribes. Pistermann, head doctor of the Hospital of the 35th Infantry Division, will be tried on this serious charge. Meanwhile his methods are said to have been these. Through the intermediary of a subordinate, he provided drugs to those who could pay for them which produced various rashes on the skin. As the final authority upon the fitness for service of the men suffering from these complaints, Pistermann then, for a bribe, signed the documents releasing his clients from further service.

The Duma has finished, in almost record time, with the Agrarian Bill, which, as a matter of fact, has been in operation for some years without the sanction of the nation's representatives, whose platonic activity in the question will not make much difference outside the walls of the Palace of the Tauris.

The question now before the Duma is the Russian equivalent for our "First Offenders' Act," by which it is proposed to place in the hands of judge and jury the discretion of postponing execution of sentence where they believe there is a hope of reformation. Among the arguments for the Bill were the usual references to Holy Writ, one speaker citing the case of the woman of Samaria as the first instance of the application of the principle.

Circumstances have produced yet another combination of parties in the Duma. Yesterday the "Moderate Rights" and the "Nationalists" united to form a new party calling itself the "Pan-Russian National Union." If the new body acts up to its declared intentions, the result will be a much-needed strengthening of the Centre and consequent increased stability of the Duma. The Octobrists, who are the brains of the Duma, will be able to work harmoniously with the new "Union" on most national questions, thereby ensuring themselves a majority, in fact an absolute majority over all the rest of the Duma together. On points where the narrow-mindedness of the new party prevents agreement with the Octobrists, the latter will doubtless in the future, as in the past, find sufficient support in isolated cases among the more ardent reforming parties to still maintain their hegemony. The other day the Octobrist leader, M. Guchkov, in the lobby, approached Count Uvarov, the author of an "interview" with M. Stolypin, in which the latter was alleged to have said that the Government had never attached much importance to the Octobrists and would continue to go its own way in the future as in the past, and, in the name of the Premier, before witnesses, characterised this "interview" as a "foul lie," a statement which M. Guchkov then repeated on his own account, afterwards, at Count Uvarov's request, reiterating it in a letter. There are rumours of a duel pending, but meanwhile Count Uvarov has written to M. Stolypin, who is at Livadia.

The winter has at last begun to appear in Northern Russia, but not before, even in the neighbourhood of St. Petersburg, many trees and flowers have for the second time this year put forth new leaves and blossoms. Apple-blossoms in November, with yellow acacia and the blue corn-flowers and other wild flowers are phenomenal. Limes have likewise put forth new leaves imperfectly formed.

ENGLAND IN JAPANESE EYES.

VI.—How I heard the Nightingale.

It was always one of my great hopes to hear the nightingale sing. People in Japan translate the word *uguisu* as nightingale, but that is a great mistake. The *uguisu* differs from the true nightingale in size, which is that of a small pigeon, in the time of singing which is only after nightfall, but especially in the melodies which it pours forth; for the nightingale belongs to quite a different sect from the *uguisu*, whose one cry is a monotonous *Hō Hokkekyō*. I had therefore fully resolved that, once at least during my stay, I must manage to hear the nightingale, and the old man Davies, whom I frequently prodded up on this matter, had promised me that it should be that night.

It so happened that for that evening we had received an invitation to supper from Mr. Johns, the chief engineer of the Leamington Electric Light Company, and so after having first visited the Company's Works we walked straight across to our host's residence. There were just the three of us to supper, and we had a good time of it, talking and drinking to one another freely and without ceremony. Our host, some years before, had been troubled with his head, and the malady had left him hard of hearing,—I might indeed say, as deaf as a post. Mr Davies was extremely short-sighted, and generally wore No. 3 or No, 4 spectacles. Thus I sat between, on the one side, a deaf man who always laughed at unseasonable moments, and, on the other, a blind one who was constantly putting the most improper things into his month.

"What's the best place to hear the nightinga'e sing?" asked Mr. Davies.

"You are quite right," replied Mr, Johns, "I am told there has not been such a rainy summer these six y years."

Davies would be groping for his spoon: Johns would push it gently towards him. And then Davis would go on groping worse than ever until he knocked against his wine glass with his head. I tried to control myself, but failed, and burst into a loud guffaw. And then the two of them, the blind and the deaf, put their faces close to mine and asked me what I was laughing at! What an absurd question!

The summer days in these parts are long drawn out; after ten o'clock we could still see one another's faces, and when supper was over it was still a long time before it would be dark. The three of us, therefore, adjourned to the house of a watchmaker, named Chandler, who lived just over the way, our host having arranged that we should go there after supper for a little music. Mr. and Mrs. Chandler welcomed us very kindly. Mrs. C. was a typical Englishwoman, austere, but good looking—and played the piano accompaniments for her daughter, a girl of eleven, who played on the violin. There was a younger sister, quite a little girl, who sat on the knee of a young lady of about twenty,—a relation of some sort—and listened to the music. The mother and daughter played three or four pieces, then the old man Davies' heart waxed warm within him, and in a loud but quavering voice struck up "Home, Sweet Home," whereupon, up jumped the sober Mr. Johns and began to sing with his head moving solemnly to and fro. Ah! shall I ever in the course of long years be able to forget the pleasure of that evening, as we lolled back, cigar in hand, in our easy chairs, by the side of a fire which was grateful though out of season, surrounded by vases full of fragrant flowers, under the bright light of the electric lamps, and listened to this household music?

Presently, Mrs. Chandler and the young ladies retired and we four men were left together. Then came the whiskey, and the inevitable toast of the Anglo-Japanese Alliance, after which Mr. Davies plunged into one of his interminable harangues. Mr. Chandler was by way of being a wag. He compelled Mr. Davies, in spite of many protestations, to have a drink. Then he offered him a cigar, well knowing that Mr. Davies, who was a Christian Scientist, had sworn off tobacco. Of course, Mr. Davies declined the offer: all the same Mr. Chandler laid a cigar on the table, just within reach of Mr. Davies' hand. Mr. Davies was lecturing us on Tariff Reform or some such subject: presently, in a moment of forgetfulness, out went his fingers and grasped the cigar, "D'you see? He's got it," whispered Chandler with eyes as keen as a hunter's. Still Davies refused to smoke his cigar, but Chandler gave him no peace until he had made him light up, and then he was happy.

After this we settled down to poker. It is a game in which I have had some experience, and I did not come off so badly. But poor Mr. Davies with his short sight fared far from well. He lost, but the more he lost the more he wanted to go on. "You know," said the wicked Chandler, encouraging him in gambling desires, "the nightingale won't sing on such a cold night as this"

It was past twelve before we turned out. It was a balmy night, the air full of the fragrant scent of the lilac, and a gentle breeze blowing softly in our faces. But it was, as Chandler had said, too cold for the nightingale to come out.

THE REV. A. R. FULLER.

Information has been received here, says Saturday's *Nagasaki Press*, that the Rev. A. R. Fuller has been appointed an Organizing Secretary in England of the Church Missionary Society. The news has been received with sincere regret in Nagasaki, Mr. Fuller having been stationed here for more than twenty years, only leaving for home on furlough in April last.

During his long period of service as C.M.S. Missionary in Nagasaki he was Honorary Chaplain of the English Church, and as such won the respect and esteem of all the foreign residents of the port. In addition to the Church work, he closely identified himself with all projects for the general welfare of the foreign community. We understand that family reasons have led to the resignation of his position here.

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ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

A General Meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held in the Society's Rooms at No. 1, Shichome, Ginza, Tokyo, at 4 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 24. In the absence of the President, H. E. Sir Claude Macdonald, Prof. E. H. Vickers, Vice-President for Tokyo, occupied the chair. The minutes of the last meeting, having been printed, were taken as read. The Recording Secretary announced that the following persons had been elected members of the Society: Rev. R. D. McCoy, Tokyo; Prof. Frederick Stair, University of Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.; Miss Flora E. Strout, Tokyo; and Lieut. A. Voskressensky, Tokyo. He also announced that, at the next meeting, which is the Annual General Meeting, the Annual Reports will be presented, the officers elected for the ensuing year, and, in accordance with vote of Council of June 24, 1903, the Council of the Asiatic Society of Japan suggests the following persons for Officers and Councillors of the Society for the ensuing year:

President,—H. E. Sir Claude MacDonald, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., G.C.V.O.

Vice-Presidents—

For Tokyo, Professor E. H. Vickers,

For Yokohama, J. C. Hall, Esq.,

Corresponding Secretary—Rev. Clay MacCauley,

Recording Secretaries—

For Tokyo, Rev. C. F. Sweet,

For Yokohama, W. B. Mason, Esq.,

Treasurer—Prof. J. T. Swift,

Librarian—Prof Arthur Lloyd, M. A.

Members of Council (ten from among the following):—

Prof. M. Anesaki, Galen M. Fisher, Esq., J.M. D. Gardiner, Esq., Rev. D. C. Greene, D.D., Rev. A. F. King, R. J. Kirby, Esq., Rev. E. R. Miller, Rev. H. St. Geo. Tucker, Rev. E. S. Booth, Rev. J. Dahlmann, S. J. Prof. U. Motora, Prof. F. P. Purvis, J. Struthers, Esq., Prof. W. E. L. Sweet, Rev. H. B. Walton.

The Annual General Meeting is to be held, not as announced at the meeting that day, but at 4 p.m., Thursday, December 9, in the British Embassy, Kojimachi-Ku, Tokyo, when John Carey Hall, Esq., British Consul-General in Yokohama, will read a paper on "Dazai on Buddhism."

The Chairman then introduced Prof. Arthur Lloyd, who delivered a lecture on "A Japanese Funeral," of which a summary is here appended:—

I hope I have not brought any one here to-day on false pretences, under the delusion that I am going to give a complete account of Japanese funerals in general. To do so would be completely beyond my power, and beyond our limited time. A complete account of Japanese funerals would take us very far a-field indeed. We should have to discuss funerals Shinto and Buddhist. Buddhism recognizes four manners of disposing of the dead, by burial, which is a form of giving alms to worms, by casting into water, which is a bestowal of alms to the fish, by cremation, which leaves the ashes and bones as a precious gift to relations and friends, and lastly, by exposure to the air, to the beasts and the fowls, which is the most charitable of all methods. It is true that only two of these methods are practised in Japan, but the different rites and varying customs of interment and cremation,—with the ceremonies observed by each of the sects—would fill a largish volume.

My title is *A* Japanese Funeral. I am going to select one of the many rituals in use among Buddhists, and describe it, or at least a portion of it.

I have selected a *Shingon* funeral. It is the most complex, and at the same time, for the student, the most interesting. My treatment of it is necessarily most sketchy.

The Shingon ritual is a most elaborate one. It consists very largely of manual acts, or gesticulations, of a very elaborate character, and of the recitation, in a debased Sanskrit, of certain charms, or invocations. The manual acts (*in*) are Sanskrit *mudra*, the *signacula manus* which St. Augustine describes in his anti Manichaean treatises, the charms and invocations are known as *darani*, and are partly accessible to outsiders, and partly kept as secret formulæ handed down orally from teacher to his disciple. They are the *signacula oris* of which St. Augustine speaks. It is to these *darani*, as far as they are accessible, that I intend to draw your attention.

We will suppose, then, that a Shingon believer is dead, that the preparations for the funeral have been made, and that the officiating priest has arrived. The first part of the ceremony takes place in the house. There is a low table, decorated like an Altar, before it another table, a desk for the officiating priest, and one or two accessories of worship.

On the altar stand *thirteen images*, the Jūsan Butsu or thirteen Buddhas to whom the Shingon (perhaps some of the other sects) assign the care of the spirits of the dead. The thirteen Buddhas are 1 Fudō (Skt. *Acala*), 2 Sākyamuni, 3 Monju (Skt. *Manjusri*), 4 Fugen (Skt. *Samantabhadra*), 5 Jizō (*Kshitigarbha*), 6 Miroku (*Maitreya*), 7 Yakushi (*Bhaishajyaguru*), 8 Kwannon (*Avalokites'vara*), 9 Seishi (*Mahasthamaprapta*), 10 Amida (*Amitabha*), 11 Ashuku (*Akshobya*), 12 Beroshana (*Vairocana*), and 13 Kokūzō. Of these, three, Amida, Ashuku, Beroshana, are looked upon as celestial Buddhas, beings truly divine. The other ten form an inferior class. They are either earthly Buddhas, such as Sākyamuni and Yakushi; Bodhisattvas, such as Miroku, Kwannon, Seishi, and Monju, or Myō, mysterious Kings, as Fudō. The thirteen take charge of the dead in turns. The first week after death it is Fudō, the 2nd Sākyamuni, the 3rd Monju, the 4th Fugen, the 5th Jizō, the 6th Miroku, the 7th Yakushi, the "master of medicines." The conclusion of seven weeks marks a crisis in the soul's history. It passes then into the control of what may be called higher powers, of Kwannon for 100 days, of Seishi for one year, of Amida for three years, of Ashuku for seven. Supposing the soul to have entered a new body at the conclusion of the 49 days, it will now be in the 12th year of its new existence. When Ashuku's patronage comes to an end, it passes under the tutelage of Beroshana and Kokūzō, who remain as its perpetual guardians.

It is possible that some light on the origin of the "thirteen Buddhas," Indian though they are, may be found in the speculations of the Jewish Cabbalah. Let me say a few words here as to what the Cabbalah meant.

The Cabbalah is a system of Jewish mysticism, which protested against the orthodox interpretation of the Jewish faith, and which claimed to be the representative of a system of traditional teaching that had continued to exist in Palestine and elsewhere, side by side with, and in antagonism to, the orthodox system of the priests, scribes, and doctors of the law. It was a very liberal system, it did not wall itself around with a fence of intellectual exclusiveness, but freely admitted foreign religious elements into its system. It was to Judaism what Gnosticism (with which it was closely allied) was to Christianity, a blending, conscious and of intention, of Oriental cults and Greek philosophy, with the Jewish revelation, and these free-thinking Jews constantly made common cause with Gnostics against Christians as well as against their orthodox brethren. There is much dispute amongst scholars as to the dates at which the principal Cabbalist books were published. Many modern scholars assign them to the Middle Ages, and denounce them as forgeries. Others again, such as, *e.g.* the writers in the Jewish Encyclopædia, accept them as the genuine products of the age in which they claim to have been written, and the Cabbalists themselves will tell you that the mystics definitely parted company with the orthodox about the time of the Restoration from Babylon, and that they differ from the orthodox in their interpretation of Ezekiel's great vision (Ez. chap. iv.), which is one of the great features of their teaching. They will assert that the Cabbalah was especially powerful among the Jews of the Dispersion (*e.g.* in Alexandria), and especially among those Israelites who were not of the tribes of Judah or Levi. They will claim as their great men Aristobulus (B.C. 184) and Philo (A.D. 15) of Alexandria, the great Hillel (B.C. 37), and the authors of the books of Ecclesiasticus and Wisdom, and they will maintain that their great books, the *Sepher Yetzirah* and the *Zohar*, were written in A.D. 25, and A.D. 76 respectively.

I will, at the present moment, say no more on this point than this. In this Cabbalistic system, which claims to have been flourishing among the Jews of the Dispersion, about the time when both Christianity and the Mahāyana were coming into existence, there was one God, *En Soph*, the Boundless in Light and Life, the Ancient of Days of whose thought and mind, the Visible Universe was a manifestation. This *En Soph* had 13 Forms of Manifestation. 1. 2. 3, *En Soph* in His Essence,—Will, Wisdom, Intelligence, and below these, *En Soph* in His Ten Attributes, Mercy, Greatness, Justice, Might, Beauty, Victory, Glory, Majesty, Stability. The thirteen together made up the Personal God whom they called Adam Kadmon. I should not wish to make myself responsible for identifying the Shingon with the Cabbalah. There is not sufficient evidence for this. It will suffice for the present merely to point out that there is an analogy between the Thirteen Buddhas of the *Shingon*, and the Thirteen Manifestations of God in the Jewish Cabbalah.

Seated, then, before the Altar with its Thirteen Buddhas, the priest commences the ritual of the dead.

My informant, a Buddhist priest, was not able to explain to me the meaning of all the manual acts and their *darani*; but judging from what comes after I conclude them to be a kind of commemoration of, or a lifting up of the heart to, that unknown God, whom we can feel, nor describe, and whom, whatever our creed or non-creed may be, we feel somehow to be "at the back of things."

Om bojishitta bodahadayani: "I raise up my heart towards Enlightenment."

Om sammaya satoban (?)

The third *darani* is *Om A-vi ra-ka kia. A-vira-ka-kia*, is, in a treatise on the Shingon philosophy which I have in my possession, spelled *Abarakakia*, and is nothing else than *Abraxas*, the name which the Gnostics of Alexandria applied to God. The teacher especially connected with the use of the word Abraxas was *Basilides*, who lived and taught in Alexandria from A.D. 100 to A.D. 133. He called himself a Christian, but the claim was not allowed by the orthodox, especially not by the Hebrew Christians of the following of St. Peter. He believed in two eternal principles, the Light and the Dark, just as the Shingon teaches the two eternal worlds, the Kongo-kai "Diamond World" (*Vajra-Dhatu*), where all is light, eternal and unmoved, and the *Taizōkai* or "Womb-World" *Garbha-Dhatu*) where there is movement, the turning from the light, the darkness of sin, the conversion. In common with much of the philosophy, of his day, he conceived of the world as a complex of atoms, of various elements combined,—atoms of earth, air, fire, water, and particles of space, and the combination of all these he called *Abraxas*, "God," a word which may be Egyptian but which is more probably Indian." In the Japanese Shingon philosophy *A-ba-ra-ka-kia* is also a combination of atoms of earth, air, fire, water and space; in the ritual, it is the first step in the process of transition from the unknown and unknowable God to the God as manifested in the Five Dhyani Buddhas. Basilides' system was later absorbed by Manichaeism, which swept up all previous forms of Gnosticism; but it is interesting to find the system which the term *Abraxas* represents actually living amongst us *to-day* here in Japan. It is a significant link with the past, which should not be without its due recognition. There is much to be gained, even in this country, by a careful study of the first century of the Christian era.

From the invocation of Abraxas, the priest passes on to the Invocation of the Five Dhyani Buddhas, who are several times invoked under different names.

With your permission, I will now give you a tentative explanation of these Beings. It is not my own; I got the idea from an article by Carus Wilson on the Vision of the Divine Glory in the last number of the *Interpreter*. The article deals with Ezekiel's Vision (in Ez. iv.), the vision which plays so important a part in the Cabbalah: if it is a true explanation, it will apply to other visions

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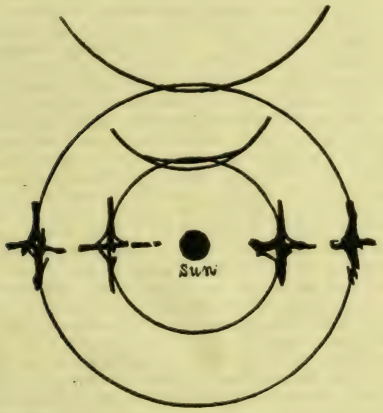
as well, and would, if accepted, explain the Manichaean conception of God and his five fingers, as well as the five Dhyani Buddhas of Japan.

The explanation depends on a natural phenomenon known as the *parhelia* or mock suns, a phenomenon which I myself saw at Ota in Ibaraki Ken about two years ago. "The Parhelia may be seen when, under certain conditions, in clear, frosty weather, the atmosphere is charged with myriads of minute crystals of ice. These crystals take the form of prisms, plates and needles, sometimes plain, but often grouped together and producing the most intricate and complicated shapes." The writer of the article tells of one display which he witnessed himself, of another which a friend of his, an English medical man, had witnessed, in 1903, strangely enough, on the very banks of the river Khebar, and he makes the suggestion "that the circumstantial character of the description given by Ezekiel, suggests that the vision was not entirely supernatural, but that it was based in some degree upon a natural object which Ezekiel actually saw with his eyes, and that the natural object became the medium of a revelation of God to the seeing eye, the hearing ear, and the understanding heart of a prophet and priest."

To Ezekiel it spoke of one God, surrounded by the four Cherubim: to the mystical Jew, somewhat in antagonism with the priest, it had a somewhat different aspect,—a five-fold manifestation of the One God. I would venture to suggest that the same natural phenomenon to the eyes of a Buddhist would speak of the five Buddhas, as five manifestations of the invisible, with a central seat for Vairocana, the brightest of them all. To him the thought is natural that there are many modes of the Divine Manifestation: to Mani, Zoroaster, Moses, Sakyamuni, Jesus and himself, were but so many fingers in the hand of God. I commend this explanation of the origin of the Five Dhyani Buddhas to students.



I cannot, I fear, undertake in this place to follow the priest step by step through the whole of the ritual. Suffice it to say, that after the five Dhyani Buddhas come the following invocations in order, Amitabha alone, Amitabha with his two companions Kwannon and Seishi, Jizō, Fudō, &c., &c. until at last there comes an invitation to Miroku, which closes the list. The 13 Buddhas being now all present, prayers for the dead are recited, in order that, being fully enlightened as to the Way, he may not lose himself in the Unknown World, but go to his rightful home. Then follows a kind of creed, and some more prayers, and the ceremony at the house is finished.

On the way to the grave the priest meditates on *Fudō*: at the gate of the Shingon cemetery stand the images of the six Jizō, the Protector of the Helpless Souls. The ceremony in the Temple consists once more of the repetition of manual acts and incantations, the central act of the whole is the Baptism of the deceased by a threefold affusion of water; the *indō*, or guiding words, are spoken over the corpse, and likewise an *ekō*, or act of transference, whereby the merits of Buddha, as well as those acquired by the pious acts of the congregation, are transferred to the soul of the deceased.

There are some points to be observed with regard to the Shingon Baptism, which are of great significance when taken in connection with *Abraxas*, and the evident relations to Alexandrian Gnosticism of the 1st century A.D.:

a.—The Shingon *Kwanjō*, like Christian Baptism, is a rite of initiation. It was in former times one of the ceremonies connected with the crowning of the Sovereign, no Sovereign, in the days of the Buddhist supremacy in this country, being esteemed a lawfully installed Sovereign until he had received it.

b.—It is, however, capable of repetition. For this I have the authority of a tract for sale at the Dainichi dō, which recommends it as a means of divine healing.

c.—It is administered to the dead. We may note that the Gnoistics, or some of them, practised necro baptism, which was condemned in the Christian Church by the Council of Carthage in A.D. 411.

d.—I have asked the opinion of several scholars as to the possibility of "baptism for the dead." They have all expressed themselves cautiously, but they have all been inclined to think that it would be quite legitimate, according to Shingon principles, for a man, standing as a representative of the deceased, to receive Baptism and to transfer the merit thus accruing to the benefit of the dead. The transference of the merit acquired by religious rites to the person deceased lies at the basis of the Shingon Funeral rites, especially of a long prayer named as Kōmyō Shingon. One friend, formerly a Shingon priest, now an educationalist, but still a Buddhist, wrote me that it certainly was so. There is an article in a book called *Bukkyo Mondo Shu* on *Dan-matsu-ma*, "the rigors of death," which is said to discuss the question. I have not yet had time to read it. I only heard of it yesterday.

I believe that what I have to-day brought forward will be found to throw some light on a much-debated passage in the Pauline Epistles. What I say must not be looked upon as conclusive: but only as indicating lines of future study.

At the close of the lecture, when the Chairman invited a general discussion, Mr. Edalji spoke as follows:

Mr. Lloyd has, in his admirable and instructive address, chiefly dealt with the philosophical aspect of a Japanese funeral, and I hope you will permit me to say a few words on certain customs connected with a Japanese funeral which bear a marked resemblance to those of the ancient Persians. The Japanese wear white dress and abstain from animal food when they are in mourning. This custom prevailed in Persia in ancient times, and is even now observed by the Parsis. The ancient Persians adopted white as the colour of mourning, for the reason that it was regarded as a symbol of purity, which was strictly enjoined by their religion. Some of the primitive races, however, believe that the change of dress in mourning is merely meant to prevent their being recognised and harassed by the ghost. White is the mourning colour not only in Japan and Persia, but also in India, China, and Korea. In China the colour of mourning is white as well as blue, and it is significant that although the Hindus follow the ancient Aryan custom in their adoption of white as the mourning colour, some of their deities that were looked upon as demons by the ancient Persians are painted blue. In Japan Buddhist coffin bearers put on blue coats, whereas Shinto coffin bearers, like Parsi coffin bearers, wear white garments. Again, Buddhist priests, like Hindu priests, have shaven heads; whereas Shinto priests, like Parsi priests, have unshaven heads. The intonation of some of the Japanese priests reciting their prayers curiously resembles that of Parsi priests. The Japanese, like the Parsis and unlike the Chinese, prohibit music on funeral occasions. The North is supposed to be the abode of evil spirits by both the Japanese and the Parsis, and for this reason the corpses of the former are laid so as to face south, and never north. The Japanese give the dog dainty food to eat on a funeral occasion; the Parsis give it milk. The Japanese feed the horse also with dainty food on a funeral occasion; the horse was a very favourite animal with the ancient Persians, who treated it with special consideration on all occasions. Japanese priests, as well as Parsi priests, regard their breath as impure, and consequently tie a piece of white cloth above the mouth when they perform religious ceremonies. A corpse is looked upon as unclean by both the Japanese and the Parsis, who have to undergo purification ceremonies if they touch it. The Japanese as well as the Parsis are given water to wash their hands on their return home from a funeral. The Japanese, like the Parsis, believe that the souls of the dead have to cross a bridge before entering the other world. The Japanese, especially Japanese Buddhists, bury six coins or six pieces of iron or paper with the remains of the dead, in the belief that if they are presented to the six Buddhist deities, Rokujizo, that are supposed to be next in rank to the Buddha only, the dead will be happy in the next world; the Parsis believe there are six Archangels in Heaven next in rank to God only.

As it is getting late, I should like to make a very brief reference to the way in which the sitting posture of a Japanese corpse is generally explained. One of the explanations is that it indicates religious meditation. It is also supposed to represent the position of the unborn child in the womb, which probably means that the so-called death at any stage of one's existence is merely a preparation for the life to come. There are two other explanations which seem to be not less probable than those I have already given. The sitting posture is considered honorific, especially in India, where a tribal chief is buried in the posture he assumes at the tribal fire, and an ascetic teacher is interred in the posture in which he addresses his pupils. The other explanation, which goes to the very root of the matter, is that it is merely a survival of the ancient custom of binding a corpse to prevent the ghost from walking.

The Chairman, after expressing the thanks of the Society to Prof. Lloyd for his lecture, declared the meeting adjourned.

ADDITIONS TO LIBRARY.

24, November 1909.

The Perfect Way. 2 vols. (presented by the writers.)
Société Finno-Agrienne. Helsingfors. 4 vols.
École Francaise de l'Extrême Orient. vol ix pt. 3.
Geological Survey of India. xxxviii. pt. 1.
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Lisbon Geog. Society, June, July 1909.

The following were presented by F. V. Dickins, Esq., Seend, Wilts, England.

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" 10 vols. " " (plates)
Kaempfer. Gesandschaften &c. German ed. 1 vol.
" History of Japan, Eng. Ed. 2 vols.
Thunberg. Genera Nova Japonica.
Treaties and Conventions. 1854-1874

A CUSTOMS APPEAL.

The Minister for Finance gave a decision on November 29 on an appeal lodged by the American Trading Co., No. 99, Kita-machi, Kobe. The firm imported Decauville's portable rails and portable crossing rails. The Kobe Customs imposed 25 per cent. *ad val.* duty on the former, in accordance with No. 389 of the statutory tariff, and 15 per cent *ad val* duty on the latter, in accordance with No. 456 of the statutory tariff. The contention of the importers was that during the year 1907, the same articles had several times been imported, and each time had been dealt with under the Conventional tariff (No. 12 of No. 367), which provides for 12.9 *sen* duty per 100 *kin*, but on the present occasion the same articles had been dealt with under the statutory tariff as above mentioned. The appeal was dismissed on the ground that the articles were not regarded as those rails mentioned under the Conventional tariff. In addition it was decided that 25 per cent. *ad val.* duty should also be imposed on the portable crossing rails, in accordance with No. 389 of the Statutory tariff.

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THE GUILDHALL BANQUET.

THE PRIME MINISTER'S SPEECH.

The text of Mr. Asquith's speech at the Guildhall on the King's Birthday was as follows :—

My Lord Mayor, your Excellencies, my Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen, I thank you in the name of my colleagues, and for myself, for the kindness and cordiality with which this toast has been drunk. By an ancient and gracious custom, which now goes back to a remote past, the newly elected Chief Magistrate of the Capital of the Empire invites to his inaugural banquet the Head and the other members of his Majesty's Government. We accept your hospitality with a gratitude which is not the less sincere because we know that it is a tribute paid by the City of London not to this or that individual, not to this or that political party, but to the offices which we for the time being hold—(hear, hear)—to the heavy and ever-growing responsibilities which their incumbents are called upon to discharge; and to the great tradition of continuity in spirit and in purpose which is the historic note of British policy. It seems, moreover, to follow that it is the duty, as it has been the habit, of the spokesmen of the Government on these occasions to turn aside for a few moments from the complications—it may be from the excitements—of our domestic affairs, and to attempt at least a partial survey of a somewhat wider field.

THE EMPIRE: SOUTH AFRICAN UNION.

If to-night we confine our view in the first instance within the boundaries of our own Empire—a world itself—the past year will always be memorable for two striking and eventful steps in its development. The first is the Union, now happily accomplished in law, and shortly to come into active operation, of the States of South Africa. (Cheers). Ten years ago to-day—it seems difficult to realise it—we were still in the early stages of the war. It was a war which, by the heroism and endurance it called forth both upon the one side and the other, could only end in mutual admiration and respect. But it was also a war which, from the antecedents and the nature of the quarrel, might well have been expected to leave behind it smouldering memories and secular estrangements. It would almost seem to-day as though not only its wounds had been healed, but its very scars were being obliterated. I doubt whether there is a more remarkable spectacle recorded in history than that which is unfolding itself before our eyes in South Africa, the spectacle of men of two races who so short a time ago were engaged in bitter and internecine combat, burying the animosities of the past, uniting in loyal and affectionate allegiance to one Sovereign, and joining hands in building up upon wide and just and liberal foundations the fabric of a common national life. (Cheers.) Great is the magic, as all our history at home and in our Colonies teaches us, of free institutions, and if we do not forget, as we cannot, that besides Briton and Boer South Africa contains a vast population of the coloured subjects of the King we may, I believe, feel the strongest confidence that the same width of outlook, the same liberality of temper which has made the Union possible, will be exercised to extend, as widely and as promptly as prudence and policy allow, the rights and privileges of citizenship. I am certain that I may say, in your name and in that of our whole people, that the new Union starts on its voyage with our warmest prayers and our most sanguine hopes.

IMPERIAL DEFENCE CONFERENCE

The other step in the development of our Empire which has to be put down to the credit of the past year is the assembly and the work of the Conference of Imperial Defence. That Conference, in which all our self-governing Dominions and Colonies were represented, immediately followed the inspiriting manifestations of loyalty and offers of naval assistance which proceeded in the spring of this year from New Zealand, Canada, and Australia. The Conference was fully representative; it was animated throughout by a deep sense of the unity and interdependence of the Empire; it had at its disposal the best expert advice; and it came to practical conclusions which, for the first time, lay down upon definite principles, and with a due regard to the variety of local conditions, the respective parts which by free agreement the Mother Country and the Dominions Over the Seas are to play in the defence against any possible aggression of their territory, their commerce, their trade routes, and the common interests of the Empire as a whole. I pass now to a still wider point of view—our relations to other Powers, and to the international interests which in these days are the common concern, I might say the common property, of the whole world. Let me in passing recall two recent incidents—one of a wholly pleasing, one of a more sombre character, each of which in its own way has, I hope, helped both to illustrate and to confirm our international friendships. The first was the Hudson celebrations the other day in the United States, in which the gallant Admiral who has already responded to the toast of the Navy, and whom we congratulate to-day on a well-earned mark of his Majesty's gracious favour—(cheers)—so worthily represented the Flag and interpreted the sentiments of the people of this country to our kinsmen across the Atlantic.

REFERENCE TO PRINCE ITO.

The other—to which I am glad to be able to refer in the presence of his Excellency the Japanese Ambassador—was the spontaneous association of the Government and people of the United Kingdom in the national mourning of our Allies in Japan on the untimely and tragic death of one of their most illustrious statesmen. To few men has it been given in so large a measure as to Prince Ito to witness the visible and permanent results of prescient patriotism and tireless self-sacrifice, and I make a prediction which runs no risk of being falsified when I assert that he will always find a place among those rare men whom history honours as the architects of great nations. (Hear, hear.)

THE EUROPEAN SITUATION: THE NEAR EAST.

My Lord Mayor, when I addressed your predecessor from this place last year the international sky here in Europe was somewhat clouded, and there were signs on the horizon which might well seem to portend a spell of stormy weather. I am happy to be able to speak to you to-day without any of the lurking apprehensions which it was then impossible wholly to lay aside. This country had not then, and has not now, any selfish or separate interest of her own in the Near East. Our objects—our sole objects—were, as they have continued to be, to maintain peace; to secure that changes, which may in the course of time and events become inevitable in Treaty made arrangements, should be the subject of general assent; and to claim every facility for the free development of the new era which had opened, with a sudden and hopeful dawn, in the Turkish Empire. Those objects, I am glad to say, have been substantially attained. I am far from saying that all possible sources of disquietude in the Balkans and in the East of Europe have been removed. But there is nothing, so far as I know, that under existing conditions should not yield to time and tact. When Great Powers, with almost infinite resources of destruction and disturbance, set the example of self-restraint, it ought not to be beyond the concerted efforts of pacific diplomacy to localise and to satisfy such elements of unrest as still remain unappeased. For ourselves I repeat what I said last year—for our policy has not changed—that the *ententes* and friendships with other Powers which of late years we have happily attained, and which the strain and stress of the last twelve months have at once tested and confirmed, are in no sense either aggressive in their purpose or exclusive in their scope. If I speak of Germany, it is to say again that I know of nothing which need stand in the way of the full and friendly understanding which it is, I believe, a cherished object of the wisest statesmanship, and of the best moral and social forces, in both countries, to promote.

THE CONGO.

There is, indeed, one aspect of the international situation which if I had been speaking a month ago I should have been obliged to approach not only without optimism but in a tone and with language very different from any that I have so far found it necessary to employ. I refer to the state of things in the territory which until recently went by the name of the Congo Free State. Before I come to the present position, let me briefly and as temperately as I can recapitulate the salient and familiar facts in a melancholy past. We originally recognised the formation of the Congo State, as appears by the solemn instrument to which we and other Powers were parties, in the expectation that it would civilise the natives, promote their welfare, and open to freedom of commerce the whole of that vast area. The conditions on which the Congo State was formed have never yet been fulfilled; they have been continuously and habitually violated.

FROM BAD TO WORSE.

The country has been closed to trade, the inhabitants have been deprived of customary rights and subjected to a system of forced labour; and their condition, going steadily from bad to worse, has become that truly appalling condition which is described, not by sensational reporters, nor by hysterical missionaries, as some people call them, but in a long series of Parliamentary Papers, in reports from our own Consuls, and in the investigation in Belgium itself by a Commission appointed a few years ago. It is some time since his Majesty's Government came to the conclusion that we could not continue to recognise the Congo Government, which had violated all the conditions on the strength of which, and subject to which, its original recognition was obtained. We were not ourselves prepared to interfere in the internal affairs of the Congo, but had there been no change—no material and fundamental change—in the situation, the attitude which we should have felt ourselves bound to take up and to maintain would have been that it was impossible for us any longer to admit any jurisdiction but our own over any British subjects who might travel or reside in that territory. (Cheers.) Last year Belgium decided to take over the Congo State, and we have clung to the belief that a European nation with a free Parliament and a Constitutional Government responsible to that Parliament would inevitably do what was right. We accordingly felt it right to hold our hands while the Belgian Government were inquiring into the state of affairs, and in the meantime we withheld our recognition of the annexation.

DECLARATION OF POLICY.

They have now as the result of their inquiries made a declaration of policy which appears to be of a very far-reaching character. We have not yet had time to consider the full effect of what is proposed, and I cannot pronounce a final or complete opinion. But I, on behalf of his Majesty's Government, welcome the declaration of the Belgian Government, for it has opened a prospect more hopeful than any other which has hitherto been offered us. (Cheers.) The final solution of the Congo question which we earnestly desire is that we should be able to recognise the annexation by Belgium on the ground that this annexation may be trusted to lead to the vital reforms which alone can satisfy Treaty rights and the common obligations of humanity. The agitation in this country with regard to Congo reform has been subjected to much criticism abroad on the assumption that it had some political motive. The agitation never had any such motive.

A DISINTERESTED AGITATION.

It is disinterested, it is sincere, it has no ulterior or selfish aims; it is in no sense impertinent, for it has regard to a territory and a population towards which we have undertaken solemn responsibilities. As a nation we shall be only too ready to demonstrate beyond the question of even the most captious the entire good faith of our attitude in this matter. Our recognition of the Belgian annexation has been, as I have said, kept back because we could not, by the positive act of recognition, countersign those conditions which have prevailed under the old régime, and which we have so frequently denounced. But we should welcome the end of this period of suspense and the solution which we desire not only for the sake of the Congo region itself, but also because we cherish the cordial relations of friendship with Belgium which have so long existed, and which it is our earnest wish to maintain. Should the pronouncement already made by the Belgian Government prove to be that complete change which will secure the welfare of the inhabitants of the Congo, and the freedom of commerce to all nations in that district, and thus be a substantial fulfilment of Treaty rights and obligations, we shall be ready and eager not only to recognise the Belgian annexation but also to encourage and support the Belgian administration of the country in any way which may be open to us as a Treaty Power. (Cheers) I have touched on topics which are to a large extent outside the ordinary range of our polemical party politics—but topics which are so far germane to the toast which you have been good enough to propose. At any rate they may help to illustrate the largeness and the gravity of the problems altogether outside party controversy which occupy the time, labour, anxiety, and responsibilities of those who for the time being happen to be his Majesty's Ministers. It is to them, to whatever party they may belong, and in whatever situation they may find themselves, a great inspiration and encouragement to know that they have in their labours the sympathy and support of the citizens of London, and, on their behalf, I once more tender to you our most grateful thanks for your kind and gracious hospitality. (Loud cheers)

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION DINNER.

MR. V LENTINE CHIROL ON THE FUTURE OF CHINA

The annual dinner of the China Association was held on the 3rd ultimo at the Whitehall Rooms, London. Mr. J. H. Scott presided, and the company, numbering about 200, included Lord Redesdale, Sir Robert Hart, Sir Cecil C. Smith, General Sir Alfred Gaselee, Major-General Sir William J Gascoigne, Admiral Sir Arthur Moore, Sir Charles Lucas, Sir Thomas Jackson, Sir Frank Swettenham, Sir Hiram Wilkinson, Mr. Valentine Chirol, Mr. F. S. A. Bourne, Sir Alexander Hosie, Mr. J Henniker Heaton, M.P., the Bishop of Korea, Mr. Byron Brenan, C.M.G., Sir J. McLeavy Brown, Mr. Carl Meyer, Sir Charles Dudgeon, Sir William Mathews, Mr. George Cawston, Mr. George Jamieson, and Mr. H. C. Wilcox.

The Chairman, in proposing "Prosperity to

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the China Association," said they could not, he thought, view Chinese finance without serious anxiety. The potential revenue of China was great, but the potentiality depended on financial reform, and of such reform there was, to the ordinary observer, no sign. Not only was there no sign of administrative reform or economy, but we saw offices being mutiplied while the prospect loomed of the loss of the large revenue—large relatively to China—yielded by opium. That Association had held aloof from any discussion of the opium question as a moral proposition, but their advices tended to justify the apprehension which had long been expressed that prevention of opium smoking would lead to indulgence, in its stead, in morphia and other drugs more harmful in their effects than opium-smoking. Referring to the "boycott" as practised by the Chinese, he said that the central and provincial Governments must be brought to recognize the necessity of adopting strong measures to eradicate this growing canker that had been so much in evidence of late. In Japan they had had few burning questions to engage their attention during the year. As regarded trade-marks, there appeared to be a fair likelihood that piracy would not in the future be allowed the licence it had in the past. The question of taxation of perpetual-leaseholders in the old treaty ports, which had again cropped up, was, he understood, receiving the attention of His Majesty's Government.

Mr. T. H. Whitehead proposed "Our Guests," coupled with the name of Mr. Chirol. He said that Mr. Chirol possessed personal knowledge of questions in the Near and Far East which was quite unsurpassed.

Mr. Chirol, in returning thanks on behalf of the guests, could not conceal his opinion that the position of Britain in China was not what it was when he first went out to the Far East, just after the war between China and Japan in 1895. Their position was still a great one, but it was no longer the position of unchallenged and, apparently, unassailable pre-eminence which it then held. He explained the present position of the railway question, and admitted that, under present conditions, international co-operation might be more advantageous than cut-throat competition, but it should be co-operation based upon complete equality and reciprocity of treatment, and not, as in a recent case, imposed under the compulsion of accomplished facts savouring not a little of sharp practice.

It had been something of a shock to him to know that so powerful a British institution as the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, which had rendered immense services to British interests in the past, now included in its court of directors no small proportion of German names, representing the most important German firms in the Far East, which were also the most relentless, and often the most successful, rivals of British trade and industry. Possibly he had not made sufficient allowance for the growing cosmopolitanism of modern finance, but he would have liked to see in these matters also a little more reciprocity, and he could not imagine representative Englishmen being admitted, in the same generous fashion, to the board of the Deutsch-Asiatische Bank or other equally enterprising German firms in China.

Few questions were of greater importance for British trade, as well as for the financial credit of which the Customs revenues were the sheet anchor, than the future of the Imperial Maritime Customs Service. It was a great satisfaction to learn that Sir Robert Hart, one of his most distinguished fellow-guests that evening, had made up his mind to return once more to China. He would not do violence to Sir Robert Hart's modesty by praising his life's work, but he might be allowed to give a word of praise to the splendid body of men whose loyal and zealous service to China under their great chief were apt, perhaps, to be overshadowed by the unique prestige attached to his name. The maintenance of the high standard officiency and integrity to which the Customs Service had attained should be one of the main objects of British policy. No question was at the present time more keenly discussed, or with greater apprehension, amongst Englishmen in China than the question of Sir Robert Hart's successor when the time came—and it could not but come too soon—for him to lay down the reins. Few doubted that the Chinese Government would fulfil the letter of their solemn engagement towards Great Britain by appointing a British subject, but it was feared that British influence might not avail to secure the appointment of a strong man whom the great majority of the Service would welcome as a worthy successor to Sir Robert Hart, and might be brought reluctantly to acquiesce in the appointment of some one less fitted, by experience or by character, to maintain the legitimate independence of the Customs Service at a time when, amongst the Chinese themselves, there was a certain tendency to restrict that independence and to favour those who were prepared to show greater subservicency to the Chinese bureaucracy. For, if on the one hand competition with other countries, often State-directed and State aided, was growing every day more fierce, there was also a new spirit amongst the Chinese themselves which manifested itself too frequently in a resentment of foreign influence and a boisterous assertion of Chinese sovereign rights against the foreigner within their gates.

Nothing had struck him more during his recent visit to China than the sudden and overwhelming inrush of new ideas within the last decade. Into what shape they would ultimately crystallize he would not attempt to prophesy, but certainly within 20 years' time, or sooner, we should have a very different China to deal with than the China of 20 years ago. With many of the aspirations of Young China we were bound to sympathize, but we should remember also the claim which our busy settlements in the Treaty Ports had upon the protection of the British Government for the rights of administrative self government, which were the charter of their prosperity. If we analysed the present situation in China, it would be found that, where individual energy and individual enterprise could still achieve success, Englishmen still held their own, though success was less marked and less assured. The failures or the weakening which he had indicated seemed to him to proceed chiefly from the fact that we had not yet learnt the lesson of the necessity of the co-ordination of national forces, based upon perfected methods of national education, which Germany, above all, had learnt, which Japan had learnt, and which the United States, though more tardily, were now showing that they also had learnt. Organization and co-operation should be our watchwords. After alluding to the excellent work done by the China Association in endowing a chair for the study of Chinese in London, and by Sir Frederick Lugard in the creation of a new University at Hongkong, he exhorted our rulers, including the Labour members, to remember that our commercial interests, which included those of our manufacturing classes at home, could not be divorced from our political influence or even from our prestige—odious as that word apparently sounded in some democratic ears. If, at the same time, the Englishmen in China were determined to work hard and to pull together, and to consider themselves, each in his own sphere of activity, to some extent a trustee for British national interests, he felt confident that Great Britain would retain in the 20th century, though probably in a modified form suited to a new order of things, a position not unworthy of that which the British of the 19th century created for us in that unknown empire.

The Chairman, replying to the toast of his health, said they all recognized that in Mr. Chirol and Dr. Morrison Great Britain and those connected with China had an asset which no other country possessed. (Cheers.)

THE AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

Sydney, Nov. 8.

The strike declared by the coalminers in the Newcastle and Maitland (New South Wales) districts commenced to-day. Altogether 12,000 miners have come out, rendering idle all the Newcastle and Maitland collieries. The Southern and Western coalminers and the waterside workers will meet immediately to decide whether they shall join the strike. Up to last night, of the 42 Northern Lodges 32 had voted in favour of the strike and one had decided against it. The causes of the movement practically resolve themselves into the question of supremacy between the miners and the mineowners.

Sydney, November 9.

The miners employed in the Mount Pleasant and Coledale Collieries in the Southern district went on strike to day, and all the other Southern mines are expected to join them. The management have shut down the Pacific Colliery at Newcastle and turned out the pit horses.

The trade of Newcastle is at a standstill owing to the strike. The miners have appointed a Committee to formulate their reasons for the strike. The Western men are expected to join the movement if they are pressed to do so, but only as a matter of principle. The same is the case with the Bricklayers' and Draymen's Unions. A hundred daily coal trains have been discontinued.

The Chinese engaged as merchants in the industry have cabled the news of the strike to the Chinese coalfields. The Northern proprietors hold £20,000 in wages due to the strikers, but the immediate payment of the amount is doubtful. Finance is the crux of the position.

Replying to a question in the New South Wales Legislative Assembly to-day, the Premier said it would be futile for the State to purchase collieries for the supply of the Government services, because in the event of a strike at Newcastle, all the miners being Unionists, it was inevitable that they would become idle with the rest.

Melbourne, November 10.

A dozen colliery vessels are being laid up here owing to the coal strike, and more are expected to follow. The Wallaroo Mines are closing down, thus throwing four hundred men out of employment.

The Newcastle strikers purpose to work on the colliery in the mutual interests of their Unions and the proprietor, the Unions' share being £6,000 weekly.

A SERIOUS SITUATION.

Since the first cause of the trouble, writes an Australian in London, arose in a Southern colliery it is, unfortunately, likely that the Southern coalminers will throw in their lot with the Northern men. Even if they do not do so the stoppage of the Newcastle and Maitland mines represents a cessation of three-fourths of the coal production of Australia. The fact that the New South Wales Railway Commissioners have commandeered all coal supplies on their lines suggests that they fear a shortage of fuel. The Commissioners have to provide not only for the railways but for the power-houses of the electric tramways which are a State monopoly in New South Wales.

If the wharf labourers and other waterside workers join in the strike movement it will mean practically a repetition of the position of some eighteen years ago, when the great Maritime Strike inflicted a paralysing blow on Australian development, leading indirectly to the banking crisis which followed soon after. There is in Australia a Federal Arbitration Court which has power to intervene in trade disputes affecting more than one State, and since this strike will profoundly affect the whole Commonwealth, intervention by the Federal Authority is likely.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

HAYATOMO-SETO TIDAL OBSERVATION LIGHTBUOY ALTERED.

Notice is hereby given by the Department of Communications that Hayatomo-seto Tidal Observation Lightbuoy on the north side of Hayatomo-seto, Shimonoseki Strait, has been altered as follows:—

Painting:—The half, white and the other half, red.

Colour of light:—The half, white, and the other half, red,

This buoy being turned round and round by the current, the red and white colours do not always remain in the definite positions.

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YOKOHAMA CHARITY ORGANIZATON.

At the annual general meeting of the Charity Organization held at the Board of Trade Rooms on Wednesday evening, the following Report and Financial Statement for the year ending 30th September, 1909, was presented :—

The Committee beg to lay before the Subscribers the following Report and Statement of Finance. During the period under review the total number of persons who have received assistance either directly from the funds of the Organization or through the Salvation Army House, whose deficit is made good by the Organization, has been :—

Americans	26
Austrians	3
British	29
French	4
Germans	12
Norwegians	5
Portuguese	3
Russians	8
	90

Eighteen persons have had their passages paid wholly or in part to various ports, while apart from the above, 10 persons have received assistance and support directly from the funds of the Organization.

It was arranged at the Subscribers' Meeting last year to guarantee up to *yen* 2,000 the deficit on the working of the Salvation Army Home in order to prevent its closing for lack of funds. This guarantee has involved a payment of *yen* 1,133.78 during the year. The Committee feel themselves under considerable obligation to the energy and experience of Adjutant Carter, Superintendent of the Home, whose knowledge of the local conditions of the port has been of great use in avoiding impositions and who has been in a position to do much good work independent of that on behalf of the Organization.

The Committee desire to record their thanks for gifts of clothing, to the proprietors of local journals for inserting without charge advertisements calling attention to the needs of the Organization, and to Messrs. Pearson, Mackie and Dempster for auditing the accounts gratuitously.

The Committee earnestly appeal to the generosity of the Community for support to enable them to continue their work during the current year.

H B. MILLER, Chairman.
Rev. W. P. G. FIELD.
B. C. HOWARD.
J. A. HARMSSEN.
L. MOTTET.
T. HARRINGTON, Hon. Treasurer.
G. G. BRADY, Hon. Secretary.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND DISBURSEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDING 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1909.

RECEIPTS.	Yen.
To Subscriptions as per List	3,646.03
„ Interest on Current Account	18.18
Total	3,664.21

DISBURSEMENTS.

By Overdraft at Bank paid off	144.07
„ Deficit on working of Salvation Army Home	1,133.78
„ Support of destitute Seamen and others	1,234.35
„ Passages (net)	527.98
„ Assistance towards rent	98.00
„ Hospital expenses	81.75
„ Printing expenses	19.50
„ Various items of assistance	188.00
„ Balance in hand	236.78
Total	3,664.21

THOMAS HARRINGTON,
Hon. Treasurer.

The following gentlemen were then elected to serve on the Committee for the ensuing year :—Rev. W. P. G. Field, Messrs. Harmssen, Harrington, Howard, Isaacs, Mottet and Brady.

A vote of thanks to the retiring Committee, proposed by Mr. E. C. Davis, was carried unanimously.

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION AT SAN FRANCISCO.

On the 28th instant, the members of the Japanese Commercial Mission toured the city of San Francisco, visiting Golden Gate Park and other places. They proceeded to Berlingham, where they partook of luncheon at the Country Club, and in the afternoon, Baron Shibusawa unveiled a monument, commemorative of the Russo-Japanese war, which has lately been erected in the gounds of Mr. Bowie's house. In the evening, the party attended a reception at the Bohemia Club, San Francisco. All the members of the Mission, excepting Messrs. Iwamoto and Matsumura, who had left for Europe, have reassembled at San Francisco.

A San Francisco telegram says that on the morning of November 30, a farewell banquet was given by the members of the Japanese Commercial Mission, on board the steamer *Chiyo Maru*, to the representatives of the Chambers of Commerce in different parts of America and some 30 leading businessmen of San Francisco. Baron Shibusawa delivered an address of thanks and farewell, which was followed by speeches from Mr. James McNab, President of the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. Lowan, President of the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. At 1 p.m. the steamer weighed anchor in the presence of an immense number of Americans and Japanese, to the strains of music from a band. It is reported that on Monday night the party adopted the following resolutions :—

1. The Chambers of Commerce of both countries shall coöperate to improve the trade between Japan and America.

2. In order to attain the above object, a special committee shall be appointed on each side.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The usual fortnightly meeting of members of the Yokohama Literary and Musical Society was held on Friday evening at the Van Schaick Hall. There was a good attendance, and the programme was of more than usual interest. The President, Mr. J. P. Mollison, introduced to the members Miss Ruth Thompson, who delivered a very interesting lecture on "Edgar Allan Poe," which was greatly appreciated by the audience. The musical portion of the programme, which followed the lecture, included songs by Mrs. J. P. Mollison, rendered with all her usual charm and skill. These, with a Pianoforte selection from "Maritana" by Mrs. R. J. Ward, won the plaudits of the audience in a special degree.

PROGRAMME.

Pianoforte Duet ..."Polonaise".....Glinka
Miss Blundell and Mr. W. K. Vincent.
Vocal Solo...(*a*). "Heatherbud".....C. Brawn
(*b*). "Ever so far away"..... ———
Mr. G. G. Franklin.
Vocal Duet ....."Still as the Night"..... ———
Mrs. Mollison and Mr. W. M. Stewart.
Pianoforte Solo.."Maritana"...Arr. by Sydney Smith
Mrs. R. J. Ward.
Vocal Solo....."I hid my love"...Guy D'Hardelot
Mrs. J. P. Mollison.
Violin Solo ....."Sarabande".....C. Bohm
Mr. W. Blundell.
Vocal Solo .....Werner's "Farewell".....Nessler
(Trumpeter of Säkkingen.)
Mr. W. M. Stewart.

LORD KITCHENER.

REFUSES TO RESIDE AT MALTA.

The London *Daily Express* stated recently that there was a deadlock between the Colonial Office and the War Office on the question of finances connected with Lord Kitchener's new post as Commander-in-Chief in the Mediterranean at Malta. This difficulty has now been further complicated, says our contemporary, by Lord Kitchener's flat refusal to go to Malta at all. Lord Kitchener, who could never have clearly understood the reasons that prompted the War Office to place him in an isolated and unworkable position so far away from headquarters, has apparently now seen the position in its true perspective, and is naturally desirous of performing his duties where they will be most effective and useful.

As President of the Selection Board Lord Kitchener could not possibly be of service to his country if he were kept at Malta. The Selection Board meets at the Wer Office in London, and that is where its president should be quartered.

Lord Kitchener's decision not to go to Malta may, of course, be altered if his requirements of the situation are met by the War Office and the Colonial Office.

THE KING'S BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS.

TRAGEDY AT SANDRINGHAM.

Sandringham, November 9.

The festivities in connection with the King's sixty-eighth birthday were saddened to-day by the sudden death at Sandringham of one of his Majesty's guests, Mr. Montague Guest, who died of heart failure while walking behind the royal shooting party.

Mr. Guest was not one of the guns, but had followed the line after lunch. The shooting party were working over a ridge towards Shernborne, and had finished a beat. A second had just commenced, and Mr. Guest walked behind the positions appointed for the several guns. He passed on his way the King and the Prince of Wales, and had talked for a moment or two to Lord Savile, commenting on the birds and remarking that they were, if few, good sporting birds. A minute or two later he dropped to the ground. The party were on heavy plough land, and it was thought at first that he had merely tripped up. Loaders and beaters hurried to assist him, but it was found that he was dead.

His Majesty was informed at once. He instantly ordered that the shooting should stop, and hastened to render any assistance he could, as did the Prince of Wales. The various festivities, including a theatrical performance which had been arranged for the evening, were countermanded.

THE GUILDHALL BANQUET.

The Lord Mayor's Banquet, held on the evening of the 9th, at the Guildhall, was as usual a brilliant affair. The Prince Minister's speech, though not as remarkable as some which have been delivered on this occasion, contained an interesting review of the results of the Imperial Conference, and the following reference to Anglo-German relations :—

"The ententes with other Powers, which of late years we have happily attained, are in no sense either aggressive in their purpose or exclusive in their scope. (Hear, hear.) If I speak for one moment of Germany it is to say again that I know of nothing which will stand in the way of the full and friendly understanding which it is, I believe, the cherished object of the wisest statesmanship and of the best moral and social forces in both countries to promote." (Cheers.)

SUFFRAGETTE OUTRAGE.

Early in the proceedings there was the kind of interruption which is coming to be associated with the militant suffragists. Two of these females, disguised as charwomen, effected an entry into the building earlier in the day, and when the Lord Mayor rose to propose the toast of "The King," broke one of the stained glass windows from the outside, following up this feat with the familiar cry of "Votes for women." The perpetrators of the outrage were taken in charge by the police.

ALLEGED FRAUD BY LANDING AGENTS.

On the 24th ultimo, Ono Yakichi, Manager of the Dai Nippon Kyodo Unyu Kaisha, of this city, and four others were arrested on a charge of theft. As its name implies, the Company is engaged as landing and forwarding agents at this port, and it is alleged that the officials of the Company have from time to time stolen various kinds of goods. It is said that on one occasion Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. of this city paid a claim of 3,500 *yen* on account of short delivery of goods. On the 21st ultimo, the detectives belonging to the Water Police, being told that two bales of paper had been sold by the Company to a man named Inagaki Kumajiro of Minato-cho Ni-chome, thought it strange, and after close investigation, the detectives at length traced the stuff to the said Company. It is stated that the officials of the landing company stole a number of bales of paper from the British steamer *Glenavon*, which stranded some time ago, and reported to Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., that the goods had been delivered short. On that occasion Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. paid 840 *yen* to the consignees for the cost of the stolen goods.

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ORATORIO AT THE UNION CHURCH.

A large number of persons, including members and non-members of the congregation, attended the Union Church on Monday evening to listen to Shinn's Oratorio, "The Captives of Baoylon," rendered by the choir of the Church, who were assisted by a few outside friends. Mr. John T. Griffin made an able conductor and Mr. Karl E. Vincent presided at the organ in his usual capable manner. An excellent interpretation of the Oratorio was given and all who particip ted in it are to be congratulated on their success. During the evening a collection was made on behalf of the building fund of the Church.

The soloists on the occasion were Mrs. J. Thom (contralto), Miss Mendelson (soprano), Mr. A. E. Cooper (tenor), and Mr. W. M. Stewart (bass).

The chorus was composed of the following ladies and gentlemen:—

SOPRANI:—Mesdames Borthwick, Caldwell, Fellowes-Lukis, W. Graham, Helm, Kenderdine, Macbeth, F. Pollard, Spielman, and Unite; Misses Booth, Bunting, E. Bunting, Cain, Favre-Brandt (2), and Moulton.

CONTRALTI.—Mesdames Bennett and Cabeldu, and Misses Clausen, Hill and Strain.

TENORI.—Messrs. C. Griffin, C. Ellis, W. Graham, F. Pollard, and S. E Unite

BASSI.—Messrs. Butler, Caldwell, Fellowes-Lukis, J. Macbeth, J. H. Phelps, S. H. Somerton, and W. K. Wilson.

YOKOHAMA.

Owing to the heavy rain on the 24th ultimo, a number of houses in the Chinese quarter of Yamashita-cho were submerged. The Sakura and the Honmoku streams overflowed their banks and some 500 houses in the vicinity were inundated.

In connection with the theft of raw silk, mentioned in these columns the other day, four examiners named Isota, Nomoto, Yabata, and Murano, of the Yokohama Raw Silk Exchange, were taken into custody on the 25th ult.

In reply to an enquiry of the Governor of this prefecture in comection with the suspension of business of the Japan-America Bank in San Francisco, Mr. Ichikawa Koren, the representative of the Yokohama Branch Office of the Bank, has reported that the suspension was not due to the bank's inability to meet a run on the bank, but in accordance with the advice tendered by the U. S. supervisor of Banks. The bank wished to accomplish an internal readiustment in order to cope with a run due to the failure of other banks.

At the prefectural assembly council held on the 27th ult., several members of the assembly blamed the experts concerned in the construction of the temporary buildings of the local Government office, pointing out that despite the recent construction of the buildings, rain leaks through in many places. It was stated that the experts are not the only persons who are culpable, and there is a suspicion of neglect in supervision. Secretary Mr. Hotta gave some explanations to this effect, and added that only the best qualified experts will be engaged in the construction of the new *Kencho*, and furthermore, that due attention will be paid to the supervision of the work.

Mr. Handa Jonu, a provision dealer of Ginza, Tokyo, has applied to the Yokohama Local Court for an adjudication of bankruptcy against the Yokohama branch office of the Japan-America Bank in San Francisco.

In the Yokohama District Court two Chinese named Ah Chang and Tsu Ching, who had been accused of smuggling opium from Kobe to Yokohama, were on the 29th ult. sentenced to imprisonment to one year and six months, respectively.

The construction of the Yokohama Josetsukwan (a permanent building for entertainments) built on the site of the former Aioi-za at Matsugaye-cho, has been completely finished. The building is three-storeyed, covering some 250 *tsubo*. It is reported that Governor Sufu and other high officials of the local government, the members of the Prefectural and the Municipal Assemblies, and many others, will attend the opening celebration on the 4th instant. Wrestling performances will be held on that occasion and on the following day. Count Itagaki is expected to attend the function.

On Saturday night, two men committed suicide by throwing themselves in front of passing trains near Hiranuma Station and at Sakuragi-cho, respectively. The bodies have not yet been identified.

At 3 50 p.m on the 28th ult. a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. The oscillations lasted for one minute and five seconds.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended November 25th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	—	4	1	—	—
Died	—	—	3	—	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	—	8	3	—	—
Died	—	—	4	2	—	—

At 8.46 a m. on the 30th ult. a slight shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. The oscillation lasted 1 minute 31 seconds.

KING'S BIRTHDAY INCIDENT AT SHANGHAI.

"CUR HARDIE" BURNT IN EFFIGY.

It was announced in Shanghai papers that on the evening of the day fixed for the official celebration of the King's birthday, Nov. 25, there would be a bonfire on the Recreation Ground, in which "The Condemned" would be burnt after being escorted to the Ground by a procession. The *North China Daily News* gives the following account of what occurred: At 9 p m, the hour appointed for the forming up of the procession to escort the "condemned" to execution, the only sign that there was anything unusual afoot in the Recreation Ground was the presence of a small knot of foreigners, a donkey and a big drum. A few minutes later, with much toot-tooting, up drove a motor car, the most conspicuous passenger in which was a figure who bore placards on his breast and back inscribed "'Cur' Hardie." He wore a cap of the style common among labourers, of the lowest class at home, and round his neck was a thick hempen cord. Without more ado he was lifted from the car and seated backwards, astride the long-suffering donkey. Crowds seemed to spring up from nowhere, a band put in an appearance, and a minute or two afterwards an escort armed with flaring torches was waiting to start for the place of execution. The procession was led by the band, which endeavoured to play a funeral march in slow time, but was hustled along so rapidly by the torch-bearers and the crowd of spectators behind that at times the air might have been mistaken for a two-step. The "Cur" was supported by stalwart guardians on either side of his mount. He had a stupid leer upon his features which might have been mistaken for fear or contempt. The procession across the grass to the Grand Stand was a weird spectacle. First went the band, flanked on either side by curious spectators. Then followed a dozen torch-bearers, and immediately behind them, surrounded by more torch-bearers, came the donkey and his rider. A long train of spectators followed in the rear. Entering the Race Club enclosure the procession encircled the Grand Stand, which was filled with eye-witnesses, and then, marching across the course again, made for the scene of the bonfire. A bell now began to toll, and the crowd taking part in the procession was augmented by more spectators who were waiting in the enclosure. Above the bonfire tall gallows had been erected, and the original intention was first to hang the effigy, and then to burn it. Rumours of an attempt to rescue the victim were current during the day, but the opposition adopted the more insidious course of lighting the bonfire before the arrival of the funeral procession, thus destroying the rope and pulley which had been put into position for the execution. A large circle of humanity, the circumference of which was determined by the heat of the flaming barrels, had assembled round the place of execution, and through it passed the torch-bearers, the victim and his executioner. Coming to a halt near the flames the executioner lifted "'Cur' Hardie" from his seat and cast the effigy into the flames, amidst loud cheers. "God Save the King" was then sung enthusiastically by the assembled crowd, the bell referred to before was tolled vigorously, and three hearty cheers for King Edward were given. The spectators waited awhile to see the bonfire burn down and to watch a display of coloured lights and fireworks.

DEATH OF MR. J. LEE THOMPSON.

We regret to say that telegraphic advice was received here this morning, says the *Kobe Herald*, from Auckland, N.Z., of the death there, yesterday, of Mr J. Lee Thompson, whose name has been for many years identified with at least two prominent and, happily, successful local industries. Mr. Thompson left here for New Zealand a few months ago, in pursuance, we believe, of an intention to settle there with his family. He came to this country, if our memory serves us rightly, about thirty years ago, to join his father, who at that time was established in business as a pharmaceutical chemist in Tsukiji, Tokyo, having some time previously retired from the old established firm of North and Thompson, No. 61, Main Street, Yokohama. Subsequently he accepted the stewardship of the International Hospital at the northern port. Later, he came to Kobe, having bought out the druggist's business long carried on at this port by the late Mr. Tabor, on what was then known as the Native Bund. He then established the well-known firm of J. L. Thompson & Co, and for many years carried it on most successfully. This he eventually sold out to the pre ent proprietor, and joined Mr. Geo. H. Whymark in his business as auctioneer, valuer, estate agent, etc. On the dissolution of the firm of Whymark and Thompson last year, Mr. Thompson decided to seek a new field in New Zealand, but fate has denied him his wish and his many friends here now regret that he should have been tempted to try his fortune so far afield. Mr. Thompson leaves a wife and several children, for whom deep sympathy is felt in their sudden bereavement.

DEATH OF A FORMER KOBE RESIDENT.

The sad announcement in our obituary column this evening, says the *Kobe Herald* of the 29th ult., will be read with deep regret by all here who knew Mr. P. Mackenzie Skinner during the term of his editorship of the *Hiogo News*. After being called to the Bar of the Middle Temple on April 22nd, 1891—his original and most cherished intention was to follow the legal profession—Mr. Skinner accepted an engagement to conduct the *Hiogo News*, at that time backed by several of the most influential residents of the port, in succession to the late Mr. H. Tennant, whose services had been secured by Mr. Lowder for the *Japan Gazette* in Yokohama. When Mr. Skinner arrived here he entered upon an obviously uphill task with the keenest interest and enthusiasm, bringing to bear in the discharge of his duties a wide knowledge of men and affairs. That his interpretation of events was always guided by a sympathetic insight, all who were associated with him, either as assistants or as fellow-workers in the same field, will readily grant. On leaving Japan Mr. Skinner proceeded to Bangkok to join a firm of barristers there, and soon won a position of much influence. Unfortunately, after some years' residence in the Siamese capital, he contracted tuberculosis, which eventually compelled him to relinquish his practice. Since then Mr. Skinner has been an invalid, a large part of the intervening time having to be spent in a Convalescents' Home. Mr. Skinner leaves a widow, but no children. We believe he was about forty-five years of age.

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INTERPORT CRICKET.

HONGKONG SEVERELY DEFEATS SHANGHAI.

The Hongkong correspondent of the *North-China Daily News* telegraphed as follows on Nov. 23:—Shanghai continued its innings to-day and the team was dismissed for a total of 153 runs. Anderson carried out his bat for a score of 46 runs and W. E. Wilson (29) and Capt. Barret were next in order of merit. For Hongkong, Capt. Baird took three wickets for 31 runs. R. E. O. Bird four for 56, and R. E. H. Oliver two for 18. In the second venture the Shanghai representatives fared badly and were all out for 78 runs, Hawkings being highest scorer with 27, while of the remainder of the team only Lanning (15) and Anderson (14) reached double figures. Hongkong thus won the first leg of the triangular rubber by an innings and 224 runs. In Shanghai's second innings Bird obtained five wickets for 25 runs and Oliver four for 38. Scores and analyses:—

HONGKONG.

T. E. Pearce	64
A. C. Elborough	58
Capt. Garnett	16
Lieut. Anderson	4
Capt. Baird	22
W. C. D. Turner	76
W. N. Edwards	119
R. E. H. Oliver	9
Lieut. Green	16
Lieut. Bagnall, not out	37
R. E. O. Bird, not out	2
Extras	32
Total	455

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Wickets.	Runs.
T. Main	1	77
N. L. Sparke	1	15
W. E. Wilson	0	34
R. N. Anderson	4	143
D. E. Donnelly	4	63
Capt. E. I. M. Barrett	0	12

SHANGHAI.

	First Innings.	Second Innings.
W. J. Hawkings	7	27
C. F. Shackleton	2	0
P. Lambe	10	0
A. E. Lanning	12	15
Capt. E. I. M. Barrett	22	3
R. N. Anderson, not out	46	14
N. L. Sparke	0	0
W. E. Wilson	29	3
D. Brand	5	0
D. E. Donnelly	0	8
T. Main	0	not out 0
Extras	20	3
Total	153	78

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Wickets.	Runs.
Capt. Baird	3	31
Capt. Garnett	3	28
R. E. O. Bird	4	56
R. E. H. Oliver	2	18
	Wickets.	Runs.
Capt. Baird	0	12
R. E. O. Bird	5	25
R. E. H. Oliver	4	38

A message of the 24th reads:—The match between Singapore and Hongkong was begun this morning. Singapore batted first, and compiled 179 runs in their first innings. Hongkong replied with 211.

A message of the 25th instant reads:—The cricket match between the Singapore and Hongkong teams was resumed this morning. In their second innings the Singapore players only made 100. Hongkong compiled the requisite 69 runs under an hour for the loss of one wicket, and thus won the match by nine wickets.

The scores by innings were as follows:—Singapore: first innings, 179; second innings, 100. Hongkong: first innings, 211; second, one wicket for 69 runs.

THE KIEL DOCKYARD SCANDALS.

INDIGNATION IN BERLIN.

Berlin, Nov. 8.

Astonishment and indignation are manifested here, says Reuter's correspondent, at the revelations of incompetence and dishonesty among the officials at Kiel Dockyard brought to light in the Kiel embezzlement trial. The Conservative and Centre Parties intend to introduce interpellations in the Reichstag on the subject. The Government is seeking to disarm these attacks already. It has reorganised the Accountant's Department of the Wilhelmshaven Yard on a commercial basis, and to-night publishes a summary of a report made by the Imperial Commission appointed at the beginning of the year to investigate various questions connected with the organisation and administration of the Imperial Dockyards. The Commission has inspected a large number of Government and private undertakings, while the organisations of foreign Navies have also been examined. Vice-Admiral Wodrig, ex-Director-General of the Wilhelmshaven Yard, is now studying the organisation of the British and American Navies.

The Commission has arrived at the conclusion that all Navies have a dockyard organisation similar to the German, but suggests various reforms, notably the introduction of commercial bookkeeping and the appointment of a revisory official in every dockyard. The Commission finds that abuses exist in the system of purchasing stores, and makes suggestions tending to remedy this and to accelerate the transaction of business. The Secretary of State for the Navy has accepted the findings of the Commission and ordered that the necessary steps for the introduction of the proposed reforms shall be taken as soon as possible.

Vice-Admiral von Usedom, Director-General of the Kiel Dockyard, has been summoned to Berlin to a conference with the Admiralty on the subject of the scandals.

The *Vossische Zeitung* and *Berliner Tageblatt* publish vehement articles in which they compare the state of things at Kiel with the conditions of Russian officialdom. The *Vossische Zeitung* says: "The Naval bureaucracy has suffered its Jena. The Kiel trial is a cold douche for the advocates of the nationalisation of private undertakings."

The *Tageblatt* protests against the action of the Kiel Dockyard administration in imposing official secrecy on the Government witnesses, and demands a Parliamentary Commission of investigation.

FRAUDULENT TRANSACTIONS.

Nov. 9.

Before the court of enquiry to-day Vice-Admiral von Usedom made a long statement chiefly dealing with the history of a certain steel mast sold for 74 marks, which ultimately changed hands at 1,094 marks. The Admiral showed that the officials correctly estimated the value of the mast, despite the price at which it was sold later. He knew for certain that in other instances cited by the accused it could be shown that the officials were well acquainted with the values of material. He added that the Yard handled 61,000,000 marks worth of material in 1908.

In the course of the sitting the Judge complained that not only had documents been abstracted from the dossier of the case, but others had been inserted which had been carefully treated to make them look as if they had been placed on the official file in the regular way at the given date. These documents were apparently intended to nullify the effect of the genuine papers by lending to their contents a fictitious meaning.

A CHARGE OF PHOTOGRAPHING WITHIN FORBIDDEN LIMITS.

FOREIGNER FINED AT KOBE.

In the Kobe Ku Saibansho on the 26th ult. a charge was heard against Mr. Alfred Pahl, of Messrs. Carl Rhode and Co., Kobe, of violating the Fortress Area Law.

Procurator Fujioka stated that the accused on Nov. 2 last took two photographs, without obtaining the permission of the Commander of the Maizuru Fortress, in the neighbourhood of Genjibatayama, between the 2nd and 3rd sections of the Maizuru fortified zone, and two others in the 1st section of the zone. On the following day he took a photograph of Okikuzu island, which is in the 3rd section of the zone.

In reply to the Court, Mr. Pahl stated that he did not know the limits of the fortified zone, within which it was prohibited to take photographs. He was on a holiday excursion with two friends at the time, and took photographs at points where interesting views could be obtained. He saw notice boards prohibiting the taking of photographs but considered that it only applied to the area between the boards. As the places which he photographed were at a distance beyond them he considered that it was quite safe. After further minute questions as to the localities where the photographs were taken, the Court set forth the evidence in support of the charge, which consisted of statements made by the rikishamen engaged by Mr. Pahl and his companions, the reports made by local gendarmes, the account of an investigation made by a Procurator of the Maizuru Court, etc.

Procurator Fujioka said that the accused, who had admitted having made the photographs, should have taken more care not to violate the law. As, however, he was not a person of suspicious character and was known to be very fond of taking photographs, there was no occasion to inflict the personal punishment which could be given under the law, the imposing of a small fine being sufficient penalty. The camera and pictures taken in the forbidden zone should be confiscated, but the other pictures could be returned to the accused.

Eventually, the Court announced that a fine of *yen* 20 would be imposed, and that the camera and the five pictures would be confiscated. If the fine was not paid, the accused would be detained in custody for five days. The remaining pictures and other articles temporarily taken possession of were ordered to be returned to their owners.—*Kobe Herald.*

THE FUKUOKA COLLIERY DISASTER.

The colliery disaster briefly reported in our last issue, says the *Nagasaki Press* of the 27th ult., appears to have been much more serious than the particulars then given indicated, only 35 out of 290 men below at the time of the explosion having been rescued.

The *Moji Shimpo* states that the mine in which the accident occurred is known as Kirino No. 2, and is owned by the Kaishima Mining Company. The explosion occurred at 9.30 a.m on Wednesday; the noise was distinctly heard above ground and a great volume of smoke issued from the pit-mouth. The force of the explosion was so severe that eight-inch steam pipes were broken and a wooden staging was smashed to pieces, men and tools being blown off it. Fortunately no fire occurred, and it was possible to operate the electric fans half-an-hour after the explosion.

Eighteen officials and 272 miners were below when the accident happened and of these only five officials and 30 miners were rescued. Eighty-three bodies had been recovered up to Thursday afternoon. It is stated that the number of men below was larger than usual, owing to the expectation that there would be no work on the three next days on account of a local festival.

The work of clearing the pit is expected to be finished in three or four days, and work will be resumed by the end of the month.

A great deal of distress has been occasioned by the disaster; the poorest of the bereaved families are being quartered in an elementary school attached to the colliery, and the owners of the latter are supplying meals to 1,500 persons. Some of the rescued men were injured, and medical treatment is being given them.

When all the bodies have been recovered, a memorial service will be arranged by the colliery owners.

The mine is one of four in the district, known generally as the Ohnoura coal-field, the total output being 45,000 tons a month, of which 9,000 tons is from the Kirino No. 2. The financial loss, including allowances to families, etc., is estimated at *yen* 90,000.

On the 1st instant a passenger train, which had arrived at Hodogaya from Numazu, was aboat to proceed towards Yokohama, when one of the carriage windows was struck by a bullet. Fortunately no one was injured.

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GREAT HURRICANE IN THE WEST INDIES.

JAMAICA ISOLATED.

New York, November 11.

Jamaica has since Saturday been almost completely isolated from the rest of the world, says the correspondent of a London journal. Most of the cable lines ceased to work, and there were reports, which nothing at present tends to confirm, that there had been another great earthquake in the island. A violent hurricane, however, is known to have swept the island, and the interruption of the cables may have been due to the destruction of the land wires.

"What has happened in Jamaica?" is the question on everyone's lips to-day (Thursday, the 11th ultimo). The shipping and cable offices are besieged by inquirers, whom vague reports of a hurricane followed by an earthquake have rendered anxious about the safety of their friends. The cable officials are without any information, though they cannot imagine that anything short of seismic disturbance could disturb the submarine cables from Kingston to Trinidad.

From Holland Bay shore station, Jamaica, alone have meagre messages been received to the effect that all land telegraphs are down as the result of a terrific storm, accompanied by rain, which broke out on Saturday evening. "Heavy rains, high winds, and an enormous sea," Holland Bay states, "still prevail, and Kingston is flooded."

The Meteorological Bureau is convinced that the rupture of communications is due to a submarine earthquake, though the seismographs at Washington do not record any considerable disturbance.

Anxiety exists here about the safety of Mr. J. J. Astor, the defendant in Monday's three-minute anonymous divorce, who is known to be cruising in West Indian waters.

The Halifax and Bermudas Cable Company and the direct West India Cable Company, which also have lines to Jamaica, can get messages as far as Turk's Island, which is about 400 miles north-east of Jamaica. Thence the cable runs direct into Kingston (the capital of Jamaica), but this portion of the line is not working,

"We are sending messages from Turk's Island to Kingston by steamship," said an official yesterday. "We know that the gunboat *Scylla* is still at Kingston, and we feel that if anything serious had happened in Jamaica this ship could have gone to Cuba, which is only thirty-six hours away, whence news would have been telegraphed.

NEWS AT LAST BY WIRELESS.

November 12.

The mysterious silence which has enwrapped Jamaica for six anxious days was broken this afternoon by a brief wireless message telling of hurricane, shipwrecks, unprecedented rainfall, and vast damage.

Of earthquakes no authentic intelligence has been received, but most experts agree that the occurrence of a vast upheaval of the sea bottom furnishes the only reasonable explanation of the breaking of all the cables at points not yet determined.

Torrential rains causing serious floods have fallen here since Friday, says a telegraphic despatch from Kingston. The downpour continues, the rainfall averaging 10 in. daily and amounting on one day to 13 in.

Many cases of drowning are reported, while the damage to property is incalculable. Communication along the coast is possible only by boat.

According to the meagre facts obtainable from the interior, it is known that there have been landslides throughout the north of the island.

Enormous damage has also been done to the banana and other plantations. The generating station of the Electric Power Company is under water, and a length of 600ft. of piping belonging to the Company has been washed out of the ground. The damage to property in Kingston alone is estimated at £50,000. There was a big washout on the railway track last night, eight miles to the west of this town. The surrounding roads are impassable. Kingston remains cut off from the rest of the island except by sea.

Numerous sloops have been lost off the coast. The barque Avalon, previously reported ashore, has gone to pieces.

THE BUDGET IN THE LORDS.

THE FIRST READING: "A ONE-MINUTE DRAMA."

Westminster, Monday, November 8.

The House of Lords this evening passed the first reading of the Finance Bill in less than a minute, without comment of any kind, says the parliamentary correspondent of the *Daily Mail*. Just before the sitting began, Sir Courtenay Ilbert, Clerk of the House of Commons, passed through the Lords' Lobby carrying the Finance Bill and other measures, which he formally handed over at the bar of the Upper House.

At half-past four, when business was timed to commence, the Clerk of Parliaments (Sir Henry Graham), a tall figure in wig and gown, rose from his seat at the table of the House with a bunch of papers in his hand and read out a list of Bills which had been passed by the House of Commons. The first was "The Finance Bill."

The ordinary buzz of whispered conversation which accompanies the opening of the sitting was going on. Lord Lansdowne, on the front Opposition bench, was by the side of Lord Salisbury; Lord Crewe, the Liberal Leader, with his arms folded, sat on the Government bench, a few feet away from Lord Beauchamp. As soon as the Clerk of Parliaments had finished reading the list of Bills, Lord Crewe took his hat from his head, rose to the table, and said: "I beg to move the first reading of the Finance Bill." No kind of demonstration followed. Lord Crewe dropped to his seat.

The Lord Chanceller rose from the woolsack. "The question is that the Finance Bill be read a first time. As many as are of that opinion say 'Content'; contrary, 'Not Content.'"

There was a moment's pause. Not a Peer spoke.

"I think the 'Contents' have it," said the Lord Chancellor. His decision was not challenged, and the House went on to other business. The first reading of the Finance Bill was passed.

The second reading, which provides the opportunity for discussing the Bill, will take place two weeks hence.

"THE WOMAN WITH THE SERPENT'S TONGUE."

SENSATIONAL POEM BY MR. WILLIAM WATSON.

In William Watson's new book of poems, published at the end of October by John Lane, is one entitled "The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue," which has set all England talking. No name is mentioned in the poem, but the name of a very well-known woman is on every tongue.

THE WOMAN WITH THE SERPENT'S TONGUE.

She is not old, she is not young,
The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue;
The haggard cheek, the hungering eye,
The poisoned words that wildly fly,
The famished face, the fevered hand—
Who slights the worthiest in the land,
Sneers at the just, condemns the brave,
And blackens goodness in its grave.

In truthful numbers be she sung,
The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue;
Concerning whom fame hints at things
Told but in shrugs and whisperings;
Ambitious from her natal hour,
And scheming all her life for power;
With little left of seemly pride
With venomed fangs she can not hide;
Who half makes love to you to-day,
To-morrow gives her guest away.
Burnt up within by that strange soul
She can not slake, or yet control;
Malignant-lipped, unkind, unsweet;
Past all example indiscreet;
Hectic and always overstrung—
The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue.

To think that such as she can mar
Names that among the noblest are,
That hands like hers can touch the springs
That move who knows what men and things?
That on her with their fates have hung—
The Woman with the Serpent's Tongue!

To everybody conversant with gossip behind the scenes in London, the picture is a speaking likeness of a woman who, perhaps more than any other in England below royalty, has occupied public attention from the days before her marriage, when she was the leader in the now disbanded coterie known as "The Souls," to these later times when her reported indiscretions have been near to precipitating a political crisis.

THE ILLINOIS LYNCHING OUTRAGE.

WOMEN PARTICIPATE IN GHASTLY PROCEEDINGS.

New York, November 12.

Amazing riots have broken out at Cairo, Illinois, where a mob of 10,000 people, led by women, last evening lynched a negro named Will James, the murderer of a white girl, and also a white man, Henry Salzner, a photographer by trade, who was accused of murdering his wife with an axe.

Salzner was found in the prison when the mob was seeking for another negro, and was hanged as a protest against the delays of justice.

James was riddled with 500 bullets and his body was burned in the principal street in the city. A woman's hand set light to the pile.

Before the burning, the heart of the negro was cut up and the pieces distributed among the mob as souvenirs, while the ropes with which the murderer had been bound were dipped in his blood, torn in strips, and pocketed by men and women.

Eight hundred troops are now guarding the city, which is under martial law.

Later.

After James' body was burnt the mob, including the women, scoured the town for Alexander, his alleged accomplice. They set out for the gaol to seize him, but being unable to find him, they started to batter down a steel cage in which Salzner was confined.

For an hour the mob tore and hammered at the cage, Salzner meanwhile pleading piteously for mercy, protesting his innocence. At last the stout bars gave way, and the prisoner was dragged to one of the main streets, where he was hanged on a telegraph pole. A volley was then poured into his body. Salzner's body was left in the street and claimed by his father early in the day. Before hanging Salzner, the mob at first refused to allow him to pray, but the cooler heads prevailed and allowed him a few moments' respite.

Fifteen hundred men subsequently were searching the river front and breaking in the freight cars in the hope of finding Alexander.

Alexander was spirited out of the town in policemen's clothes and safely lodged in the country goal by the sheriff's officers, after having been hidden for several hours.

FIRES.

A fire occurred at Nishitagawa-gori in Yamagata prefecture on the 24th ultimo, resulting in the destruction of 84 buildings. The damage is estimated at 100,000 *yen*.

An Otsu telegram reports that a fire occurred on the 25th ult. in a forest near Asai district, Shiga prefecture. The flames spread over 70 acres. The amount of damage is as yet unknown.

Early on Tuesday (30th ult.) a fire occurred at Shinichi-machi, Takata, Kochi prefecture. Owing to the gale blowing at the time, the flames spread so fast that some 300 buildings were burnt down in less than three hours. The cause is as yet unknown.

On Monday (29th ult.) a fire took place in the village of Hodaki, Nagano prefecture, whilst the storm was raging. The village contains some 30 houses, eleven of which were destroyed. It is believed that the fire was due to incendiarism.

Another fire occurred on Tuesday (30th ult.) in the city of Shizuoka during the gale. Ten houses were completely and six partly destroyed. The damage is estimated at over 50,000 *yen*.

It is reported from Kinosaki, in this prefecture, that at 10 a.m. on Monday, the 29th ult., a fire broke out at the house of Otsuka Tetsuzo, Itani village, Kinosaki district. Owing to a strong wind, the flames spread with great rapidity, with the result that thirty-one houses were entirely destroyed. An old woman and three children were burned to death.—*Kobe Herald*.

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THE SINKING OF "LA SEYNE."

PARTICULARS OF THE DISASTER IN THE STRAITS.

In spite of the intricacies of these Eastern seas, says the *Straits Times*, it is seldom our duty to have to record anything very serious in the way of a shipping disaster involving great loss of life. But to-day we regret to have to announce that in the early hours of Sunday, 14th Nov., there occurred in the Straits of Rhio, at a spot approximately twenty-eight miles from Singapore, a disastrous collision involving the loss of the Messageries Maritimes steamer *La Seyne*, which keeps up a regular fortnightly connection between the outward and homeward French mail steamers calling here and at Batavia. The *La Seyne* was run into by, or ran into, the British India Steam Navigation Co.'s steamer *Onda* and sank almost instantaneously, carrying to their death 93 persons out of a total of about 145 souls aboard.

SCENE OF THE DISASTER.

The Rhio Straits, it should be explained, form the main shipping highway for ships sailing between this port and Java. They are well-lighted, but navigation is difficult owing to the strong sets of the current, and great care has always to be exercised in negotiating the channel, especially when other ships are in the neighbourhood. The *La Seyne* was travelling northward to Singapore. The *Onda* had sailed from this port on Saturday night, and was bound for Tegal, in Java. The two vessels approached each other at a spot where the straits is about two miles wide, near the lighthouse on Pulau Sau. What actually caused the disaster is a matter which will be investigated at a court of enquiry to be held later. It is natural that the officers on both sides should be reticent on this point. They will make their statements at the proper time. But the two ships collided, and the French steamer went to the bottom in less than five minutes, and she now rests on the Pulau Sau side of the channel, with some twenty-five feet of her main mast as the only visible sign of where she lies. She went down by the head, and the survivors were left in the water with only the clothes they happened to be wearing at the moment. The commander of the *La Seyne*, Capt. Conailhœ, lost his life. So suddenly did the catastrophe happen that there was apparently no time for orders to be given on the French ship, or for boats to be lowered. The vessel went down like a stone, and it is quite evident that the majority of those lost must have been drowned like rats in a trap, a good many of the few who managed to scramble on deck being in little better case, for they must have been imprisoned under the ship's awnings. And it is also clear, from what follows, that of those who get clear of the ship, a good many were the victims of the sharks in which those waters abound. All of those rescued were picked up by three boats which were promptly put out by the *Onda*, but it is unhappily clear that if any remained alive who were not picked up at the moment, they must have met their death later from the sharks or from drowning.

A SAILOR'S ACCOUNT.

Among the European passengers on the *La Seyne* bound for this port, were six sailors who had been paid off from their vessel, the *Daylight*, at Batavia. Of these D. Driscoll, G. Driscoll and G. Craig have not been heard of, and there is no doubt that they have been drowned. The other four, P. Bolton, H. Muller, C. Glendinning and another, are now at the Sailors' Home. They have lost everything they possessed. Mr. Glendinning was good enough to-day to tell a representative of this paper what he heard and saw, and his account being that of a sea-faring man is likely to be more substantially correct than that of a passenger. Mr. Glendinning says that just after four o'clock on Sunday morning the *La Seyne* was steaming close to the Pulau Sau light. There had been a heavy thunderstorm the previous afternoon, with plenty of rain, and the weather was hazy, though it was not actually raining. He and his mates had retired, but Mr. Glendinning, hearing the ship's whistle give one blast, proceeded to make his way up on deck, the six men being quartered a little forward of, and below, the bridge. He had not reached the deck, when the *La Seyne* gave a couple more blasts, and almost simultaneously the two ships went into each other with a crash.

WENT DOWN LIKE A STONE.

The appalling suddenness with which the French ship foundered may be gathered from the fact that Mr. Glendinning says that he at once noticed she was sinking by the head. He immediately rushed to his mates and called them up and on reaching deck again shouted to the *Onda* people to throw out some lines. But, added Mr. Glendinning with seafaring phlegm, there was no time for lines. She just sank in about three minutes from the time she struck. Directly the cold water got to her boilers, they exploded and burst out her sides, and she went down like a stone. In another moment we were all in the water. It appeared to be still water where we went in, but a couple hundred yards or so off, we got into a rip and began to travel away. There were all kinds of wreckage in the water round me, including rats, one of which jumped on my shoulder. There was a good deal of shouting, but it did not last long. It was no use swimming against the tide, it was too strong. I kept on heading for the other steamer, and, after I had been in the water some time, I was picked up by the boat in charge of the second engineer of the *Onda*.

Mr. Glendinning confirms the statement that a good many of the people who were thrown into the water must have been pulled down by sharks. There were many of these about. Just as a Malay seaman was being dragged into the boat which rescued Mr. Glendinning, a shark seized the man's foot; the second engineer beat the brute off with a boathook, and the Malay was saved, but he was so badly bitten that he was obliged to go into hospital. In fact, Mr. Glendinning believes it was the sharks that got most of those who got free of the ship but were not picked up. There were many dead bodies floating about afterwards, but after the *Onda* had done all the work it was possible for her to do, the survivors were brought on to Singapore.

Mr. Glendinning also bears out the theory that a good many must have been drowned under the awnings.

He is certain that a number of the natives lost their lives through paying too much attention to saving their belongings, but one Chinaman got his box into the water and clung on to it, and fortunately saved both his life and his box.

LOST AND SAVED.

The list of lost and saved, as compiled by the M. M. officials here, is probably not complete in every detail, but it is as nearly accurate as the dislocation of work which the disaster has involved will allow for the moment. It is as follows:—

LOST.

European passengers; Mademoiselle Barthy, Baron and Baroness de Beniczky, Madame Saint Ange, Mademoiselle Desiris, M. Delacroix and Mr. Habib. Officers and crew: Captain Conailhœ, Purser Bruneau, Dr. Gonet, chief cook Boeuf, steward Faure, with 38 native crew and between forty and fifty native passengers

SAVED.

European passengers: Francis Maxwell. Henry Muller, Percy Bolton, Joseph Saliba, Charles Glendinning, Talsin, F. Dreyfus. Officers and crew: Second captain E. Grundenji, first officer Mage, second officer Fournier, Aulome, chief engineer D. Rasul, first engineer Joseph Jacques, second engineer M. Chalaeyat, chief steward, Joseph Sersuillet, first fireman, O. Doummiugue, storekeeper Victor Cavenne, first gunner Vincent Ferrero, boatswain Laurent Hugo, and second cook Charras. Beside these, 28 native crew and 14 native passengers were rescued.

THE GORSE-HALL MURDER-MYSTERY.

Shortly before 10 o'clock on the night of the 1st ult., Mr. George Harry Storrs, of Gorse Hall, Dukinfield, Cheshire, was murdered there by an unknown man. At the hour stated, all the family and maidservants were in the house. One of the maids went into the kitchen and there saw a man hiding behind the door, who pointed a revolver and said, "Speak, and I will shoot." The maid ran into the hall, screaming. Mrs. Storrs first appeared, and after struggling with the man managed to wrench the revolver from him. Mr. Storrs tried to seize the man, and a struggle between the two followed. The stranger drew a dagger or large knife and plunged it into Mr Storrs's body. Before assistance arrived the murderer got away, leaving Mr. Storrs in the hall, dead.

The house is situated on the borders of Stalybridge and Dukinfield, and though surrounded by a large population is removed from any residence, and is a mile from the main road. Captain Bates, chief constable of Stalybridge, and a large posse of police scoured the grounds and adjacent districts for the assailant, but without result up to midnight.

On Tuesday bloodhounds were employed to find a trail, but they were withdrawn after working for an hour or so, the rain having cleared the ground. It is believed that the murderer is a person who had a grudge against Mr. Storrs, and the theory of robbery as a motive is discounted by the police. One evening not long ago Mr. Storrs and his family were in the dining room when the report of a revolver shot, followed by the breaking of glass, was heard. Simultaneously a face was seen at the window, and a man who was standing there, with a revolver in his hand, exclaimed, "Hands up, or I fire!" Mr. Storrs ran to the door, only to find that the man had vanished. Since this incident the police have kept a close watch on Gorse Hall, but their efforts to trace the man have failed. Although a revolver was undoubtedly fired on that occasion, no pellets or wad could be found, and the police concluded that only blank shot was used.

Mr. Storrs was one of the largest builders and contractors in England; in addition he owned, in partnership, the Aqueduct Mills at Dukinfield, and was a well known figure on the Liverpool and Manchester exchanges.

A NEW DEVELOPMENT.

November 13.

The dark cloud of mystery which for twelve days has encompassed the lonely moorland mansion where Mr. Storrs was brutally murdered has taken on a new and startling phase, for it became known that Mr. Storrs's coachman, a man named Worrall, had hanged himself. Thus the story of the tragedy dramatically flings off on a tangent along a new road leading to a maze of fresh problems, doubts and suspicions which may or may not end in clear ground.

John Worrall, who was fifty-three years of age, had lived with his wife in a house attached to the stables, a few hundred yards from Gorse Hall. He left home at about 10.30 yesterday morning, avowedly to go into Stalybridge to do some shopping. He was not seen alive again, and later in the day the police were informed that he was missing. At about 6.30 last evening Detective-Sergeant Lee and other officers went to Gorse Hall and searched the stables. In an upper room they found Worral hanging from a beam. He had evidently been dead some hours. Worrall had never been known to threaten suicide.

THEORY OF A DISGUISE.

As to the murderer of Mr. Storrs, the victim's wife, his adopted daughter, and the cook, who saw him, describe him as a superior working-man with a refined voice. The theory has been advanced that the man was disguised, wearing a red wig.

According to the evidence at the inquest, the four women who saw the grim struggle begin in the hall were not on the scene when Mr. Storrs was receiving his death-blows and when the murderer fled. Before the victim expired he was asked if he knew his assassin, and is understood to have said "No"

AN ARREST IN WALES.

The police at Port Talbot, Glamorgan, last night arrested a man on suspicion of being connected with the Gorse Hall murder. The suspect is being detained pending the arrival of representatives of the Cheshire police

The man, a seaman, admits that on the night of the murder he booked from Stalybridge to South Wales, but he declares that at the time of the committal of the murder he was in the company

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of a man and woman who can be easily traced, and who can confirm his statement.

The man's description differs from that of the man wanted by the Cheshire police, who was said to have very light hair. The man detained has black hair. He belongs to the Dukinfield district.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

SIR PERCY SCOTT'S DEFENCE OF THE ADMIRALTY.

Vice-Admiral Sir Percy Scott, speaking at the dinner of the Scottish Clans Association held in London on the 8th ult., contradicted the idea "that the Navy is not all that it ought to be," and spoke with some passion of recent "abominable charges" against individuals.

"I am certain, he said, "that I shall be voicing the opinion of all those officers who know the real truth when I tell you that the Navy has never been in such an efficient state as regards organisation, training, and preparation for war as it is at the present moment. (Cheers) During the last few years enormous progress has been made in every department. Necessary reforms, which have been proposed for many years, have been effected, and as a consequence a high state of efficiency has been arrived at.

"These beneficial reforms, however, have not been introduced without a certain amount of obstruction, friction, and jealousy being manifested. The naval officers serving on the Board of Admiralty have had to endure an existence very analogous to that of the early Christians. They have not been torn to pieces by wild beasts, but the attacks on them have been directed with singular ferocity.

"Their public and private life has been attacked; odious, outrageous, abominable, and cruel charges, entirely unsupported by evidence, have been made against them. Books have been written and pamphlets circulated broadcast endeavouring to undermine their authority, and scandalous imputations have been made both against their honesty and their capability as administrators.

"Happily this procedure, so contrary to the custom of the Navy, so adverse to its traditions, and so contrary to good comradeship, has not interfered with the carrying out of the necessary reforms. Neither has it shaken the loyalty due from all naval officers to properly constituted authority." (Applause.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE RELIGIOUS PRESS SUMMARIES.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The "Monthly Summary of the Japanese Religious Press" as published in the *Japan Mail* is a much more interesting study of human nature than it is of religion. In fact I have to always put on my best glasses to see any real religion in it. I suggest that the heading of these summaries be changed so as to read:—"Personal Views of Some Erratic and Rational Religious Teachers in Japan." The reviewer may simply be unfortunate in his selections, but his translations make out a pretty bad case for those so-called liberals. They call themselves "liberals," but if their writings are any criterion for forming judgments, they are about as dogmatic, as full of illiberal conceit and prejudice, as one could find in a month's journey. Here is a sample of the cock-sure statements of one of them—Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki:—"The nineteenth century will be remembered for the extent to which imported Christianity failed all over the world. It failed in Hawaii, it failed in Africa and in India, in China and in Korea." Now it seems to me and to a great many other people that the facts of history go to prove the contrary to this view, that of all the centuries since the time of Christ, the nineteenth showed the greatest renewed life and activity in preaching the Gospel and in planting new churches in all non-Christian countries. But as I am only one of those old conservative fogies, my views of the case cannot, of course, be counted "scientific" or historically accurate. It is not quite clear just what Mr. Matsumura means by "imported Christianity." Technically it would mean that brought over in ships through missionaries and their books. If the imported kind is a failure, perhaps the successful kind will be evolved out of somebody's inner consciousness on native soil, or else come down direct from heaven in the white snow.

Again the same "liberal" writer says:—"The motives of missionaries in working have often been the sending home of good reports, the triumphs over other sects, the extension of the influence of the nation to which they belong. None of these are Christian."

Those missionaries seem to be awfully silly folks to leave their native home and people and go far across the sea, learn a new language, and spend their lives and money for such a vague object. But however simple-minded they may be, we must at least give them credit for being tremendously patriotic fellows, doing all this just to extend the influence of their country. Mr. Matsumura might do well to take a lesson in patriotism from these out-of-date missionaries, and organize a band of his "liberal" friends to go to Korea or China and with money given as free-will offerings in Japan, there organize churches, schools, hospitals, orphanages, etc. for the sole benefit of the people of those countries, not the Japanese over there. And when they do this we want reports to be sent back home, to be sure.

But really to call these writers "liberal," and "advanced" and "scientific" makes my head swim, and I want to revise the definition of these terms in my dictionary. For destructive criticism, bald conceit, dogmatic assertions, and imputing low motives to others, some of them can out-Herod Herod.

Yours truly, WILL PATTILLO.

THE NEW FACTORY CODE.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The new factory code of law as published in your paper is quite inadequate to meet the needs of the case—*i.e.* to mitigate suffering girlhood in the factories.

As long as night work is permitted, a great drain is being made on the health of the nation. The digestive system is generally upset; the extreme fatigue caused uses up all reserve vitality. The nation ought to take the side of the workers and abolish girl operative night-work *completely*.

I dare to predict that such a course would eventually bring increased prosperity to the factory companies.

Comparatively few girls can bear more than three years of the present system of work. Few trouble to take up the business of being weavers or spinners as a life vocation. Consequently there are very few skilled hands and the amount of work done covers unnecessary time. The companies have continually to begin with raw recruits—at a total loss. The factory work will never be really popular until the dread of the night work is removed. If only the workers after their spell of three years' labour return in good health to their homes, and with happy remembrances, doubtless many will gladly go back to take up the work as a profession, and consequently there will be a great increase of skilled hands. Some of the weaving companies have only day work, but even this work is not popular, as the operatives have often to work two or three hours above the 12 prescribed. The long hours of standing work in the heat of summer is also dreaded.

Regarding the hours of work permitted for girl operatives, an exception ought to be made, restricting to 10 hours for the two hot months, and to allow of one consecutive hour of rest at midday.

Yours truly, OBSERVER.

A WARNING TO HOUSEKEEPERS.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Now that the Paris fashions are demanding the breast-plumage only of pheasants, the carcases of birds which have been deprived of the breast-skin are being sold in Yokohama for food at twenty-five *sen* each. As arsenic is used in the preparation of the skin there is a danger of it also getting on to the carcase through carelessness.

Yours truly, ASIO.

THE ROYAL ALFRED AGED MERCHANT SEAMEN'S INSTITUTION.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—

For over forty years our aim
Has been to help poor Jack.
When the snows of age have crowned him
And he's on the homeward tack.

We give a pension to the Tar,
Who isn't quite alone,
And a cabin snug at Belvedere
To Darby minus Joan.

The British Merchant Sailor is an indispensible link in binding together that great family, which, scattered throughout the world, goes to make the British Empire. It cannot therefore be to them a matter of indifference what becomes of the sailor when "Too feeble for another cruise;" when the last wave has cast him high and dry on the shores of the old country—too often, alas! a wreck!!

The nature of his calling has largely prevented him making any organized provision for old age and his condition is often complete destitution. The Royal Alfred Aged Merchant Seamen's Institution has come to his assistance at this crisis of his life and over 2,500 such human derelicts have either found a home in the Institution's beautiful Park at Belvedere, Kent, where

"Their anchors are cast, their sails are all furled,
They have weathered the ocean's deep chiding,
And safe from the buffeting waves of the world,
Here, in "Belvedere" haven, are riding,"

or have been granted the out pension at their own homes throughout the United Kingdom.

No longer can it be said of the British Sailor that

"Where he goes and how he fares
Nobody knows and nobody cares."

The Committee are assured that many Britons beyond the seas would be glad to assist in this noble patriotic work, and they would be greatly cheered and encouraged by such assistance.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,

J. BAILEY WALKER,
November, 1909. Secretary.

CHESS.

All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor, Japan Mail Office.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week at the Hotel de Paris, No. 80 Main Street, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 33.

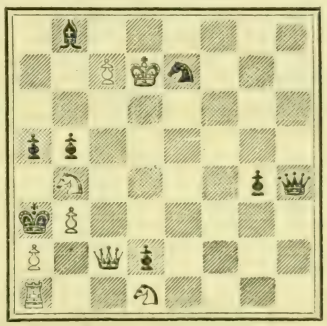
Key move:—Kt to Q 5. Variations obvious.

* * *

Correct solution received from J. S. (who is credited also with No. 32), W.A. de H., W.H.S. and Omega.

* * *

PROBLEM NO. 35.
By H. WILLIAMS.
Black, 8 pieces.



White, 8 pieces.

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN TWO MOVES.

* * *

We give this week a good specimen of a Correspondence game recently played in England. It introduces a new idea in the Queen's Gambit declined, viz. a second gambit.—3. P to K4—which has been invariably successful for White until, in the present game, Black found a potent answer. It led to a noble contest, White finally emerging victorious in the after-play with a pretty mating position by the two Bishops A careful study of this game will amply justify the time spent thereupon. (Score and notes from the British Chess Magazine for Oct. 1909).

* * *

GAME NO. 34.—Queen's Gambit declined (3. P to K4 Gambit accepted.)

	WHITE.	BLACK.
	E. Griffiths.	G. L. Brooks.
1.	P—Q 4	P—Q 4
2.	P—Q B4	P—K 3
3.	P—K 4	

This second gambit was suggested in the British Chess Magazine, May 1908; but Mr. Brooks appears to have found the true reply. After Black's 23rd move, White plays under a severe handicap: and his final success is not the result of the opening but of hard work, patience and perseverance.

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		3.	P x K P
4.	Kt—Q B3		B—Kt 5
5.	P—B 3		Kt—Q B3 !
6.	B—K 3		Kt—B 3
7.	Q—K 3		P x P
8.	Castles (Q R)		

Tempting Black to take another small gift, but he is wary !

		8.	B x Kt
9.	Q x B		Q—K 2
10.	Kt x P		Kt—K Kt5

White's gambit has apparently gone against him : now he has to preserve his Bishops, and fight for a draw.

11.	B—Kt sq		Castles
12.	P—K R3		Kt—B 3
13.	B—Q 3		Kt—Q Kt5
14.	B—Kt sq		P—Q Kt3
15.	P—Q R3		Kt—R 3
16.	B—K 3		B—Kt 2
17.	B—Kt 5		Q—Q 3
18.	Q—K sq		Kt—R 4 !

The right move : the only good one apparently, in view of the threats consequent on White's next move.

19.	Q—R 4		P to Kt3
20.	B—R 6		Q—Kt 6
21.	B x R		B x Kt

The fight is now fast and furious, in marked contrast with the long ending to which it leads.

22.	Q x Q		Kt x Q
23.	P x B		Kt x R
24.	B—R 6 !		Kt—Kt 6
25.	B—Kt 5		K—Kt 2
26.	B—Q 3		P—Q B3 !
27.	P to Q Kt4		

White here changes front again and plans to force a passed Pawn on the Queen side, which policy ultimately succeeded in scoring the games. White's game on the King side is hopeless : and unless this demonstration prospers, his resignation would soon be due.

		27.	P—B 3
28.	B—R 4		Kt—B 4
29.	B—K B2		R—Q sq
30.	B—K2		Kt—B 2
31.	K—Kt 2		P—Q Kt4
32.	K—B 3		P—Q R3
33.	P—Q R4		

All in a row. White forces a passed Pawn eventually. Black dare not play P x RP ; it would let the White Rook in.

		33.	P x B P
34.	K x P		Kt—Q 4
35.	R—Q B sq		K—B 2
36.	K—Kt 3		

A deliberate challenge to a second fight, which Black promptly accepts. The game contains about three times the strenuousness of an ordinary game both sides are keen as mustard !

		36	R—Q Kt sq
37.	R x P		R x P ch
38.	K—R 3		P—Q R4
39.	R—B 5		Kt (B4)—K 6
40.	B—K sq		R x Q P
41.	B x P		K—K 2
42.	R—B 8		P—R 4
43.	B—Kt 5		Kt—B 4 !
44.	R—B sq		

Black has defeated White's present scheme and the Rook has to retire.

		44.	Kt—Q 3
45.	B—K 2		K—Q 2
46.	K—Kt 3		P—K 4
47.	B—B sq		P—K 5
48.	P x P		R x P
49.	B—Q 2		R—K sq
50.	P—R 5		

At last White can advance his pawn. Black has made a magnificent defence so far.

		50.	R—Q B sq
51.	R x R		K x R

Black here offered a draw : but White elected to go on with his faint hope of victory.

52.	B—Kt 2		Kt—Q B2
53.	K—B 3		P—Kt 4
54.	K—Q 4		K—Q 2
55.	B—K sq		P—R 5

Both sides putting their houses in order for the final tactics. White getting clear of as many fun e checks as possible : Black preparing to sacrifice his Knight for the passed Pawn.

56.	K—B 5		Kt—K 3 ch
57.	K—Kt 4		Kt—Q B2
58.	B—B sq		K—B 3
59.	P—R 6		Kt x P ch
60.	B x Kt		K—Q 4
61.	P—B 3		P—B 4
62.	B—B 6		P—Kt 5
63.	B x P		P x P
64.	B—B sq		K—K 5
65.	B x P		P—B 5
66.	P—K 7		Kt—B 4
67.	B—B 5		Kt—Kt 6
68.	K—B 3		K—B 6
69.	K—Q 4 !		K—K 7
70.	P—K Kt 4 ch		P—B 6
71.	K—K 5		Kt—B 8
72.	K—B 4		Kt—Q 7
73.	B—Q Kt4 !		K—Q 6 !
74.	K—Kt 3		K—K 7 ?

The ending has been all along of supreme difficulty : and here Black at last seems to trip. A better move is.....74 K—K 6. The next move makes the capture of the pawn a certainty : the other would, at least, have deferred it.

75.	B—Q 7 !		Kt—B 8 ch
76.	K—R 3		K—B 7
77.	B—Q K5 !		K—Kt 8
78	B—Q B5 ch		P—B 7
79	B—Q B6		Kt—R 7 ?

This seems to settle it : White has now a demonstrable win. Black might have had still a fighting chance for at least a draw by.....79. Kt—Q 7.

80.	K—Kt 3		Kt—B 8 ch
81.	K—B 3		Kt—R 7 ch
82.	K—K 2		Kt—Kt 5
83.	B—K B3 !		Kt—K 4
84.	B x P ch		K—R 7
85.	B—Q Kt7		Kt—Kt 5
86.	B—K sq		Kt—Kt 8
87.	B—Q B8		Kt—K 4
88.	B—Q B3		Kt—Kt 3
89.	K—B 3		K—R 7
90.	K—B 2		K—R 8
91.	K—Kt 3		Kt—K 2
92.	B—K R3		

White now announces mate in four : and well deserves his victory. Black has put up a glorious fight, and has no call to feel ashamed of the result.

		92.	Kt—B 4 ch
93.	B x Kt		K moves
94.	B—K R3		K moves
95.	B—Kt 2 ch		K moves
96.	B—Q 4 mate		

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

THE DEBATE ON THE FINANCE BILL.

London, November 25.

Owing to the large number of speakers, the debate in the House of Lords will be prolonged till Tuesday. The delay affects the winding-up of the session.

Though the Government plans are secret, there is a general belief that Parliament will be prorogued on the 2nd prox.

"THE TIMES" ON THE BUDGET.

CONSEQUENCES OF REJECTION

November 26.

The Times, sketching the intentions of the Government, says that the deficit arising out of the rejection of the Budget is reckoned at fifty millions. An effort will be made to save the tea duty, if a course satisfactory to the Government and to the Commons can be devised.

According to the *Daily Mail*, instructions have been given to the Treasury that the full tea-duty must be continued to be levied under a resolution of the Commons, leaving payers to contest the legality of the tax afterwards, if they choose.

Later.

The Times says that in no circumstances will the Government accept an altered Budget, nor will it agree to pass a new Budget. Resolutions will be passed to facilitate the continued collection of taxes.

The interest in the Budget debate in the House of Lords was most keen yesternight. The Lords have adjourned until Monday.

GREAT BRITAIN, GERMANY AND THE CONGO.

November 25.

It is officially announced that it is incorrect that an Anglo German agreement with reference to the Congo has been reached. The British Government hopes, however, that such an understanding will be attained.

A GREAT RAILWAY SCHEME.

Mr. Williamson, Political Officer at Sadiya, Upper Assam, addressing the Royal Geographical Society, advocated the construction of a railway from India to China, *via* the Lobit Valley to Szechuan, as a means of procuring an enormous expansion of Indo-Chinese trade.

BRITISH POST OFFICES IN CHINA.

Later.

Mr. Buxton, British Postmaster-General, replying to a question from Mr. A. C. Morton, Liberal member for Sutherlandshire, said that the number of British residents in Peking did not justify the establishment of a British Post-office there. The Government would, however, reconsider the question, if circumstances became altered.

THE GERMAN NAVAL ESTIMATES.

The official details of the German naval estimates for 1910 show a total expenditure of £21,704,412 sterling, including £17,177,500 on new construction and armaments.

The colonial estimates are chiefly interesting as showing decreases in the subsidies to the colonies. The subsidy for Kiaochow has been decreased by £38,203.

[The figures for new construction and armaments, if correctly transmitted, show a phenomenal increase. The amount for the same items in last year's estimates did not exceed £11,000,000, while the figures for Great Britain were under £16,000,000. —ED. *J.M.*]

AMERICA AND THE SEAL FISHERY.

A Washington telegram says that the U. S. Government is considering a proposal to summon an international conference to regulate the killing of seals.

It is suggested that Great Britain, America, Japan and Russia should agree to cease pelagic sealing in Alaskan waters.

THE CHINESE COMMISSIONERS.

November 26.

The Chinese Commisioners witnessed evolutions by destroyers, torpedo-boats and submarines at Spithead. They everywhere received the fullest honours.

ELECTIONEERING AT PORTSMOUTH.

Later.

Though electioneering is of the most active description at Portsmouth, the writs are not yet issued. There will probably be no bye elections at either Portsmouth or Uxbridge, owing to the imminence of the General Election.

[It is clear from the above that a previous telegram purporting to announce the *result* of the Portsmouth election was incorrect. It had probably suffered in transmission.—ED. *J.M.*]

KING FERDINAND AND KING PETER.

RUMOURS OF A BALKAN CONFERDATION.

King Ferdinand, *en route* to Sofia, broke his journey at Belgrade. King Peter of Servia, and the Foreign Minister, met him at the station. The monarchs drove to the Palace. The cordiality of their reception has increased public interest in the rumours of a Balkan *rapprochement* or confederation, which rumours are attracting much attention at Constantinople.

THE CANADIAN NAVY.

ADVERSE RESOLUTION PASSED.

London, November 26.

The Dominion Grangers' Association, comprising the leading farmers of Canada, have passed a resolution fearing that a Canadian navy would provoke war and urging that a plebiscite be taken.

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P. & O. LINER ASHORE.

The P. & O. *Nubia* went ashore in the Suez Canal and obstructed the passage, but was subsequently towed off.

CHINESE COMMISSIONERS DECORATED.

Prince Tsai Sun, head of the Chinese Naval Commission, has been decorated with the Grand Cross of the Order of the Bath; Admiral Sah has been created a Knight Commander of the Order of St. Michael and St. George; Lord Li Ching Fong has received the Grand Cross of the same Order; and Sir Chen Tungli has been made a Commander of the Victorian Order.

PRINCE ARTHUR OF CONNAUGHT.

SHOOTING EXPEDITION TO EAST AFRICA.

Later.

Princess Patricia and Prince Arthur of Connaught sail for East Africa in January on a shooting expedition. They will return in May.

ANTI-LORDS DEMONSTRATION.

HOOLIGIANS IN PARLIAMENT SQUARE.

A demonstration against the Lords took place to-day in Parliament Square. The crowd numbered six thousand, and included a number of hooligans, who made an attempt to rush the police. This led to the clearing of the square, and subsequent collisions, with the police in the Haymarket and Piccadilly. Several arrests were made.

RUSSIA AND THE BALKANS.

November 27.

The interview between King Ferdinand and King Peter is regarded in Sofia as the beginning of a durable understanding. The result is attributed to the efforts of Russian diplomacy.

"EDWARD, THE PEACEMAKER."

November 28.

King Edward has been appointed arbitrator in a dispute which threatened to embroil the United States and Chile, owing to the former's demand for compensation to the extent of £200,000 in connection with a mining concession granted to an American firm named Alsop.

TURKEY GIVES VALUABLE CONTRACT.

Constantinople.—As a sign of the new *régime*, the Government has given an Anglo-Franco-American group the contract for establishing a complete telephone service in Constantinople.

THE EFFECT OF ENGLAND'S CRISIS.

Fears that the political crisis in England will affect the monetary situation is depressing the Berlin Bourse.

NEW GERMAN DREADNOUGHT.

PRIVATELY LAUNCHED.

London, November 28.

A new and improved German Dreadnought called the *Thuringen* has been privately launched at Bremen.

No details of measurement or armament are published.

MOVEMENTS OF THE BALKAN SOVEREIGNS.

Belgrade.—It is understood that their Bulgarian Majesties will shortly visit Belgrade officially, after which King Peter will shortly visit St. Petersburg and other Courts.

KING MANUEL.

King Manuel is now at Paris. Visits between his Majesty and President Fallières have been exchanged.

THE AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

London, November 29.

As a result of unofficial mediation the prospects of a settlement of the coal strike in Australia are brightening.

THE ANDES TUNNELLED.

The trans-Andean tunnel, 3,280 yards in length, joining the Chilean and Argentine railway systems, has been completed.

THE POISONING IN AUSTRIA.

A lieutenant has been arrested at Linz (?) on a charge of sending (on the 22nd inst.) cachets containing prussic acid to ten Austrian staff officers, with fatal results in three cases.

THE POLITICAL CONTEST IN BRITAIN.

The Labour party has withdrawn its candidate for the Midlothian Division (Edinburghshire), and is relieving the Master of Elibank (Liberal) from a triangular contest in the Peebles and Selkirk Division.

Unionist-Labour candidates will oppose Mr. D. J. Shackleton, Labour Member for Clitheroe, Lancs., and Mr. Ramsay Macdonald, Labour Member for Leicester.

A TAX ON FOOD.

MR. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN ON COLONIAL PREFERENCE.

Later.

Mr. Austen Chamberlain, speaking at Hackney, admitted he was in favour of a tax on food. He believed a two-shilling corn tax, with colonial preference, would not affect the price of bread.

NEW ANGLO-GERMAN AGREEMENT.

London, November 30.

Reuter's correspondent at Berlin telegraphs that an Anglo-German Agreement has been signed, settling the boundaries of Uganda and of German East Africa and the question of the Congo. The details are, however, kept secret pending the negotiations concerning the Congo.

MORE BRITISH LEVIATHANS.

An improved Dreadnought—the *Orion*—of 23,000 tons and 21 knots, and a "super"-*Invincible* cruiser—the *Lion*—of 26,000 tons, 28 knots, and having an armament equal to a Dreadnought, have been laid down.

BRITISH POLITICS.

PREMIER'S RESOLUTION OF REMONSTRANCE.

The House of Commons reassembles on Wednesday, the 1st prox.

Mr. Asquith, the Premier, will on Thursday move his resolution of remonstrance, reaffirming that the Commons have absolute control of the finances.

THE BUDGET IN THE LORDS.

ARGUMENTS PRO AND CON.

London, November 30.

The House of Lords has resumed the debate on the Finance Bill.

Lord Morley said that Lord Lansdowne's amendment assumed the power of forcing a penal dissolution and was equivalent to a repeal of the Septennial Act. It deranged the whole financial machinery of the year. It was not suggested that the Budget would bring the millennium, but it was certain that it would not bring pandemonium.

Lord Rothschild said the Budget would undermine credit, destroy confidence, and thus impair the resources upon which every Chancellor of the Exchequer relied.

Lords Middleton and Ampthill denounced the Budget; Lord Reay, Baron Swaythling, the banker, and Lord James of Hereford defended it.

REFORM OF THE LORDS.

A TASK FOR UNIONISTS, SUGGESTS "THE TIMES."

Later.

The Times in an article discussing the many merits of the Lords as a Second Chamber, concludes that the Unionists will do a wise and politic thing, which will be appreciated by the country, if they will take up the reform of the House of Lords in earnest. The country has no intention of entrusting its destiny to a single chamber.

TIBETAN MISSION TO RUSSIA.

The *Novoe Vremya* states that a deputation of native clergy, headed by a representative of the Dalai Lama, has arrived at St. Petersburg from Mongolia.

THE BUDGET REJECTED BY A LARGE MAJORITY.

London, December 1.

Lord Lansdowne's motion rejecting the Finance Bill has been adopted by the House of Lords by 350 votes to 75.

The Archbishop of York announced that he would vote against the motion, as he failed to see that the Budget was bad enough to justify such an unprecedented course.

Lord Curzon declared that the Budget tended not to social regeneration but to social demoralization.

The political associations have agreed to abandon all bye-elections.

A MEMORABLE SCENE.

Later.

The result of the division in the House of Lords was received with applause, but there was some hissing in the public galleries.

An enormous force of police was stationed outside the House in anticipation of a demonstration, but the crowd was most orderly.

Lord Lansdowne's house was specially protected, and the whole of Mayfair was patrolled by police.

CABINET MEETING.

A Cabinet meeting will be held to-day, after which Mr. Asquith, the Premier, goes to Sandringhan to see the King.

A Privy Council to prorogue Parliament will be held at Sandringham to-morrow.

THE END OF THE DEBATE.

Later.

Lord Curzon declared that it was the inherent right of a Second Chamber, as a last resort, to compel a reference to the people. He hoped that one of the consequences of the struggle would be a reformed House of Lords,—fearless, independent, and strong.

Lord Crewe, in winding up the debate, warned the Lords that they were steering their ship to collision with the Commons, which, they would find, would be bigger and stronger than theirs. The Opposition, he said, was committing a most tragical blunder. The Government did not welcome the crisis, but was prepared to face it, because the interests of the country and the empire were dependent on the maintenance of a reasonable balance of the governing powers of the State. Whether the Government were re-elected or not, they would henceforth work to obtain guarantees to prevent the indiscriminate destruction of legislation, whereon to-night's work would put the climax and crown.

MR. ASQUITH CHEERED.

Mr. Asquith has postponed his visit to Sandringham.

When the Prime Minister entered the House of Commons the Ministerialists rose and cheered enthusiastically. He announced that he will move that the action of the Lords in refusing to pass the financial provisions

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for the year is a breach of the Constitution' and an usurpation of the rights of the Commons.

A LABOURITE RESOLUTION.

At a meeting of the labour party a resolution was passed that the liberties of the people can only be secured by the total abolition of the House of Lords.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

December 2.

The Chinese Naval Commissioners are now visiting Devonport dockyard.

BISHOPS FOR THE FAR EAST.

The Archbishop of Canterbury has consecrated at Westminister Abbey the Rev. Andrew Bannister (?) and the Rev. Arthur Lea as Bishops of Hokkaido and Kyushû, respectively.

OPENING OF GERMAN PARLIAMENT.

The Reichstag has been opened by a speech from The Throne. The speeech refers to the prolongation of the Anglo-German commercial arrangement, and expresses satisfaction at the spirit in which Franco-German Convention regarding Morocco was being maintained.

THE DUTY ON TEA.

Later.

A deputation from the tea trade waited on Mr. Lloyd George yesterday. Referring to this deputation the *Daily Chronicle* says :—"It is expected in some quarters that tea can be imported free of duty. So it can, but there is nothing to prevent the new Parliament passing a retrospective Act, thus enabling the State to recover the guty on all tea imported since the prorogation."

FRENCH NAVAL ESTIMATES.

The French Naval Estimates are 371 million francs, showing an increase of 38 millions, chiefly in guns, personnel, and new construction.

NEW BISHOP OF HONAN.

London, December 2.

Toronto.—A Canadian clergyman, Mr. White, has been consecrated Bishop of Honan, in China.

ADMIRAL WILSON, FIRST SEA LORD.

It is officially announced that Admiral Sir A. K. Wilson replaces Admiral Fisher as First Sea Lord at the Admiralty on the 25th prox.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

PROPOSED INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF FISHERIES.

London, November 25.

Washington.—The Bureau of Fisheries recommends the Government to invite Britain Japan, Russia to a conference for the formulation of an international law to prevent the extinction of all marine mammals, with special reference to the seals at the Pribyloff Islands.

RUSSIAN CONSUL ATTACKED BY BRIGANDS.

Teheran.—The Russian Consul-General at Bushire has been attacked by brigands. His caravan was looted and a Cossack killed.

PREMIER AND MILITARY LEAGUE.

Athens.—The Premier has conferred with the Military Leaguers and insisted on the necessity of maintaining tranquillity. He promised that the Government would duly and legally remove incompetent or criminal officers.

GRATEFUL MAHOMEDANS.

Lucknow.—A meeting of Mahomedans has thanked the Government for the special privileges accorded to their community in the reform scheme.

RUSSIA'S DORMANT WEALTH.

BRITAIN TO HELP IN ITS DEVELOPMENT.

London, November 26.

St. Petersburg.—M. Timasheff, the new Minister of Commerce, favours the introduction of British capital, as necessary and beneficial. Russia is unable to develop her dormant wealth unaided. The Minister steadfastly advocates protection.

GREEK NAVAL OFFICERS AND THE LEAGUE.

London, November 26.

Athens.—The naval officers of Greece have addressed a memorandum to the Military League, demanding their recognition in matters concerning the fleet.

THE ATTACK ON A RUSSIAN CONSUL.

Teheran.—The brigands attacking the Russian Consul-General at Bushire numbered 250. Twelve persons were killed and many wounded.

JAPANESE STOCKS ON LONDON MARKET.

On the London Stock Exchange, Japanese bonds are higher.

INDISCIPLINE IN THE GREEK CHURCH.

Athens.—There are signs of indiscipline in the Greek Church. The Bishop of Larissa refuses to obey the Archibishop of Athens, and appeals to the nation to purify the Church.

GERMAN SOCIALISTS AND THE BRITISH BUDGET.

Berlin.—The Socialist organs combine in denunciation of the British House of Lords, as only experts in racing and ballets, advising the Labour Party not to be deceived as to the motives and character of the Liberals.

CIVIL SERVANTS COMBINE.

A DANGEROUS FEDERATION.

London, November 27.

Paris. — An association representing 1,001,000 Civil servants has decided to form a "national federation." Conservative and Republican newspapers declare that the Government ought to repress the movement as insolent and defiant to the State.

ANOTHER GERMAN DREADNOUGHT.

London, November 29.

Berlin.—The seventh German Dreadnought, and the third of the improved type, has been launched at Bremen.

THE OUTRAGE BY BRIGANDS IN PERSIA.

Teheran.—The Russians will probably remain at Ardebil, pending substantial assurances of good conduct on the part of the marauders, restoration of the loot and compensation for losses.

THE MOROCCAN CAMPAIGN.

London, November 29.

Madrid.—In view of the numerous surrenders owing to the successful forward movement of the troops, the Spanish Government considers that a further advance from Melilla is unnecessary, and a commission is starting for Morocco to determine the points to be fortified.

THE FRENCH JUDICIARY.

The Commission appointed to reform the French judicial procedure recommends the abolition of the examination of a prisoner by the President of an Assize Court.

"THE TIMES" AND THE LORDS.

While strongly defending the Lords against charges of incompetency, the *Times* recommends reforms in the direction of the electoral principle and wider representation of the national elements.

THE U.S. AND NICARAGUA.

New York.—The U.S. State Department does not desire to intervene in Nicaragua. All talk of measures being taken against the latter has subsided, possibly because the execution of the two Americans does not furnish a sufficient reason.

JAPANESE KILLED ON RAILWAY.

London, November 30.

Ottawa.—Twenty Japanese working on the Great Northern Railway at Westminster, British Columbia, have been killed, owing to a part of the line having been destroyed by a rainstorm.

U.S. NAVAL REPORT.

Washington.—The officers appointed to make improvements in the U.S. naval organization report that there is a lack of responsible advisers to secure economy and efficiency. There is no co-ordination in the various branches and no system in the independent inspection of ships and stations.

Mr. Meyer, the Secretary of the Navy, proposes to appoint a number of responsible naval officers as his advisers; to separate the yards, hull, and machinery departments, and to adopt the modern system of accounts.

THE BUDGET DEBATE.

"LORDS DISCHARGED THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL DUTY."

London, December 1.

A brilliant debate in the Lords ended in the adoption by 350 votes to 75 of Lord Lansdowne's motion declining to consent to the Budget until it has been submitted the judgment of the country.

The Times considers that the Lords have faithfully discharged their constitutional duty. The Liberals are thinking more of their party prospects than of the interests of the people.

"EXCESSIVE ZEAL."

St. Petersburg.—The action of the Japanese gunboat *Aiya* in surveying the Kamchatka coast is attributed to excessive zeal on the part of the commander, which Tokyo will certainly disown.

PERSIA.

Teheran.—The roads from Shiraz to Bushire are blocked by brigands. The Finance Minister desires foreign loans for keeping up an army of 35,000 to maintain order. All the Russian troops are leaving Kazvin.

FRANCE AND GERMANY.

London, December 2.

Paris.—The Kaiser's friendly reference to the Franco-German understanding with regard to Morocco is approved, as an appropriate response to M. Pichon's recognition in the Chamber of a new attitude on the part of Germany.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

THE CHANGCHOW-AMOY RAILWAY.

TO BE CONSTRUCTED WITH GOVERNMENT FUNDS.

The Board of Posts and Telegraphs in China learns that all hope of capital being found for the Changchow-Amoy Railway has been abandoned, and that in the absence of any zeal on the part of

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those concerned, there is nothing to be done but to suspend the construction. The line can not be abandoned, however, as it has a very close connexion with transport operations for the Navy. Therefore Mr. Chen, who enjoys great popularity in those districts, has been consulted, and the work will be carried speedily to completion under his inspection with funds supplied by the Government.

RAILWAY ACCIDENT AT VANCOUVER.

(From the Japanese Consul at Vancouver, 1st December.)

At a place 15 miles from Vancouver, on the morning of the 30th of November, a train on the Great Northern Railway carrying Japanese navvies was upset. Twenty-two of the navvies were killed on the spot, and 15 were wounded more or less severely.

RAILWAYS IN CHINA.

The Department of Communications in China had formed a programme under which a sum of 25 million *taels* was to be allotted for building 800 *li* (3 *li*=1 mile) between Suiyuancheng and Changkiakou in 8 years. But in view of the important bearing which this road has upon China's new policy in Mongolia, the Department has decided to make another survey with a view to shortening the period of construction.

THE HAWAIIAN LABOUR QUESTION.

On the 29th of November the employers of labour in Hawaii held a meeting and adopted the following resolutions, to take effect from December 1st:—

(1) Labourers employed on the sugar plantations shall have their wages raised to $22 or upwards per-mensem, when they work 26 days in the month. (The average hitherto has been $22.)

(2) Ordinary labourers (hitherto generally receiving $15 a month) shall be paid $20 or less. But those who work for 20 days a month or more throughout the year, shall receive encouragement money at the close of the year—namely, $24 to such as have worked 26 days on the average, and a proportionate sum to those that have worked 20 days or upwards.

(3) In the case of men who through illness or some other cause recognised by their employers have been unable to work, encouragement money shall be given in proportion to the days they have actually worked.

(4) To all classes of workmen, houses, drinking water, fuel, medical attendance and medicine shall be given gratis.

[The intention of the above is to increase the remuneration of Japanese workmen.]

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

EXPORTS TO CHINA.

Berlin, November 25.

The statistical commercial report of the year 1908 states that German exports to China during the last year amounted to 50 million marks, imports from China, however, being only 10 million marks.

ANGLO-GERMAN AMENITIES.

At a great banquet of the Chamber of Commerce in London, very sympathetic declarations of friendship between Great Britain and Germany were made by its President Mr. Charlton; also by Dr. Kaempf, the Vice-President of the German Reichstag; Dr. Heinekem the President of the board of directors of the Nordd. Lloyd, and by Count Wolff-Metternich, the German Ambassador to Great Britain.

IMMIGRATION OF KOREANS.

It is reported from Russia that many Koreans are moving over the frontier into Russian districts, which is not welcomed in any way by the Russian Government.

The Tsar has confirmed the election of the Committee for the colonisation of the Amur district with Russian colonists.

THE POISONING OF OFFICERS.

Berlin, November 26.

The writer of the letters, containing the poisoned medicine, by which Austrian officers of the General Staff have been killed or endangered, has been discovered. He is an officer, holding the rank of Sub-Lieutenant in the Army.

SERVIA.

King Ferdinand of Bulgaria has paid a visit to King Peter of Servia at Belgrade and was received very cordially by him.

PERSIA.

The caravan of a Russian Consul has been robbed by nomadic brigands in Southern Persia. The Russian Minister at Teheran has demanded from the Government punishment of the brigands and repayment of the loss sustained by the Consul.

RUSSIA.

Berlin, November 27.

It is semi-officially denied at St. Petersburg that a project exists for the formation of an American syndicate for building a railway in Siberia.

AUSTRIA.

Two passengers of a German airship-balloon have been accidentally killed on a long-distance trip at Fiume.

OBJECT OF KING MANUEL'S TRIP.

It is semi-officially reported from Portugal, that the round-trip of King Manuel to Madrid, Paris and London has for its object the preparation of new commercial treaties of Portugal with those countries, and that it is the wish of Portugal to conclude Treaties uniform with those of Spain.

AUSTRALIA.

All attempts at perfecting an agreement between the employers and workmen in the Australian coal industry have failed.

GERMANY.

A conference of the Committee of the Bundesrat will be held at the request of the Chancellor, in which he will make public some information concerning the copper trust.

Berlin, November 28.

The Kaiser will read a speech from the Throne on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Reichstag on Nov. 30th. The speech, however, will not contain any very important communications.

A CONGO CONFERENCE.

In the Congo question a first conference will be held between the Governments of Germany, Great Britain and Belgium.

ITALY.

A new committee has been formed in Italy for the extension of Italian trade in the Orient.

TURKEY.

The discussion in the Turkish Chamber on an eventual Balkan alliance between Bulgaria, Servia and Montenegro has passed quietly.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to November 12th *ex* Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on November 28th.

A PERPETUAL LEASE OF LIAOTUNG.

The *Ruskoe Slovo*, a Russian newspaper at Kharbin, reports that in a special Convention with Japan, China has leased in perpetuity the Liaotung Peninsula, with Port Arthur and Dalny, to Japan, and that the latter has conceded to China the civil administration of the South Manchurian Railway zone.

FRANCE.

Berlin, November 29.

General Verand has been injured by a lunatic, who, armed with a revolver, mistook him for the Minister of War, General Picquart.

King Manoel, speaking at a banquet, given in his honour on the occasion of his visit to Paris, toasted President Fallières and the prosperity of France, the friend of Portugal.

THE KAISER'S SPEECH.

Berlin, November 30.

The Kaiser, on the occasion of the opening ceremony of the Reichstag, read a speech from the throne, which is expressed in very simple language. It says that the interior policy of Germany requires the continuation of positive work with regard to the development of the social and financial policy of the Empire according to the financial reform plan of last winter. It is further emphasized that the German Colonies are progressing steadily and that the construction of the colonial railways will be continued. A reform of the judicial system of the Colonies and a reform of the system of salaries of the Colonial officials is promised. The speech concludes by emphasizing the favourable working of the Franco-German - Morocco Convention and with mentioning the celebration of the thirtieth anniversary of the foundation of the alliance between Austria - Hungary and Germany. The Triple Alliance will be certainly maintained for the preservation of the peace of Europe.

DEATH OF A ROYAL PHILANTHROPIST.

Duke Karl Theodor in Bayern, born 1839, the well-known specialist for eye-troubles and benefactor of many poor people suffering from eye-troubles, is dead.

THE ANDES TUNNELLED.

The digging of the trans-Andean tunnel between Chili and Argentina has been successfully completed.

TURKEY.

An interpellation is being prepared in the Turkish Chamber as to the British shipping monopoly in Mesopotamia.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The construction of a new Briisth "Dreadnought" and of a "Super"—cruiser has been begun in British dockyards.

PERSIA.

The Russian Foreign Office will take the strongest measures as to the attack of the South Persian nomadic bandits on the caravan of the Russian Consul, which was reported some time ago.

THE KAISER'S SPEECH.

Berlin, December 1.

The views embodied in the speech from the Throne, as reported yesterday, are received by the Press of the political parties with acclamation. The British Press also expresses itself very satisfactorily. The passage concerning Morocco has created a good impression in Paris.

Count Stolberg, of the Conservative Party, has been elected President of the Reichstag, and Mr. Spahn, of the Centre, Vice-President. The election of the second Vice-sident will take place on Friday.

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HOLLAND.

The Dutch Minister for Foreign Affairs, speaking in the Chamber, declared that the North Sea Convention does not impose any military obligations on the Signatory Powers, but only aims at the maintenance of the *status quo* of the North Sea.

UNITED STATES.

The U. S. Congress will be summoned on December 6th.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

VLADIVOSTOCK.

Vladivostock, November 25.

The Russian Vice-Minister of the Navy is expected to arrive here on the 8th proximo to inspect the naval station.

AMBASSADOR MOTONO RETURNS.

Harbin, November 25.

Ambassador and Mrs. Motono arrived here last night from St. Petersburg on their way home to Japan. When they arrived at the station, the public were not allowed to enter the platform. The Ambassador said that Russia heartily sympathises with Japan's loss by the death of Prince Ito. His Excellency is expected to return to his post after a brief stay in Japan. Major-General Hongo was in company with them.

FLOUR-MILLS DESTROYED BY FIRE.

The Manchuria Flour-Mill Company, the oldest and largest factory of the kind in this place, was destroyed by fire last night. It is as yet unknown whether the Company will rebuild the mills.

KOREAN ESTIMATES.

Seoul, November 19.

It is reported that the expenditures for the coming financial year will show an increase of over 5,000,000 *yen* as compared with the preceding year, whilst only about 1,000,000 *yen* increase is expected in the revenue.

THE RAILWAY LOANS AGREEMENT.

Shanghai, November 23.

According to a Peking despatch, the agreement in connection with the loans of the Hankow-Szchuan railways has been concluded.

GERMANS ARRESTED AT PORT ARTHUR.

Port Arthur, November 26.

On Friday night, two Germans who with the aid of the moonlight were making a sketch of the fortifications, were arrested by the gendarmerie. They were immediately committed for trial by court-martial.

THE HUNGHUTSZ.

Mukden, November 27.

A number of the Hunghutsz made their appearance last night at the premises of the sub-contractors, Kajima-gumi, near Nanfun, along the line of the Mukden-Antung Railway. One Japanese was killed.

THE RESIDENT-GENERAL.

Seoul, November 26.

It is reported that Resident-General Viscount Sone is to attend the office every day from to-day, to himself administer the Government affairs.

THE OPEN DOOR IN MANCHURIA.

New York, November 27.

The *New York Times* reports that the U.S. Government has received from the U.S. Consul at Dairen or Mukden a despatch dated September 4, to the effect that the Japanese Government is planning to give preferential treatment to the goods of its nationals against those of foreigners. In view of the fact that the Japanese Government allows Japanese goods to be imported into Manchuria without imposing the correct duties, the Chinese Government has paid due attention to this matter and has warned the different Powers. It is further alleged that the Japanese Government is also assisting its countrymen in Manchuria by furnishing them with funds at a low rate of interest. To put a stop to this preferential treatment it is announced that China will establish Custom houses in Southern Manchuria. The *Times* adds that the report is reliable, though the U.S. Government keeps it secret.

UNITED STATES AND NICARAGUA.

San Francisco, November 28.

In accordance with secret instructions from the Central Government, the three government transports lying in this port are preparing to proceed to Nicaragua, taking in various articles for war purposes. The American press, in reporting the imprisonment of the U.S. Consul in Nicaragua, takes an exaggerrated view of the matter, as though war would soon break out. It is, however, certain that the military transports have been ordered not to proceed to the Philippines at present.

TUAN'S DOWNFALL.

Peking, November 28.

Mr. Tuan, having finished his official business at Tientsin, arrived here yesterday with his family. It is reported that he showed no perturbation when informed of his dismissal. It is said he will live for the present in retirement in the country.

THE FINNISH STATE COUNCIL.

Vladivostock, November 28.

The election of the members of the State Council of Finland will take place on February 14, 1910. The new Council will meet on May 14.

EDUCATION IN RUSSIA.

The Russian Minister of Education has introduced into the Duma an estimate for seven million roubles for elementary education.

RUSSIAN POLITICS.

It is rumoured that M. Timiryazeff, the Russian Minister of Commerce and Industry will remain at his post until the debate on the agrarian question finishes, and that he will be succeeded by the present President of the National Bank.

THE MONUMENT AT PORT ARTHUR.

Port Arthur, November 29.

General Nogi entertained this evening the committee who had been entrusted with the construction of the monument here, at a dinner at the Kaikosha. The General delivered a cordial address of thanks.

THE HUNGHUTSZ.

Mukden, November 29.

Owing to the frequency of the raids of the Hunghutsz along the Mukden-Antung railway line, the Chinese Government intends to increase the garrisons, establishing the principal station here and 39 branch ones at different places along the line.

A NEW VICEROY.

Hankow, November 30.

Mr. Chen, who has lately been promoted Viceroy of the Metropolitan province, is expected to leave here for his post on December 10.

THE U.S. AND NICARAGUA.

San Francisco, November 29.

The Nicaraguan Congress will meet on December 1, when it is expected that President Zelaya will resign. The execution of the two Americans who joined the rebels appears to be regarded as lawful.

THE COMMERCIAL MISSION.

The members of the Japanese Commercial Mission were banqueted at the St. Francis Hotel this evening by the members of the Chamber of Commerce here. Being the last meeting to be held in honour of the party, it was a great success. The Japanese visitors, previous to their departure on December 1, will invite those leading Americans who have rendered assistance to the mission, to a farewell dinner which is to be held on board the steamer *Tenyo Maru*. It is reported that a cordial telegram of thanks will be despatched to the U. S. President, the Japanese Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Japanese Consuls at the different places in America.

SEVERE SNOWSTORM IN NORTH MANCHURIA.

Harbin, November 30.

A severe snowstorm has taken place here during the last two days. In consequence a part of the Chinese Eastern railway is blocked, and some irregularities have occurred on the European line. Telegraphic and telephonic communications are interrupted.

N.R.C. GOLFING ASSOCIATION.

The following is the result of the play last month in the competition for the Club's Monthly Medal:—

Class I.

A. B. Lowson	80—	o=80
G. G. Brady.....	88—	7=81
E. C. Jeffery	89—	5=84
F. E. Colchester	86—	o=86

Class II.

O. M. Poole	92—	18=74
C. A. Boyd	96—	18=78
J. H. C. Goodban	95—	14=81
G. G. Franklin	106—	18=88

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

Mr. Yamamoto Tatsuo was appointed President of the Japan Hypothec Bank on Monday last.

Marquis Katsura, the Premier, has been granted by his Majesty a week's furlough in order to visit the Ise shrines.

The first snow of the season fell in Seoul and Fusan on the 29th ultimo. In Fusan this was a month earlier than usual.

Mr. Randall Hargreaves' Concert will take place on Monday evening, Dec. 13th, at 9 o'clock, and not on Friday, the 10th Dec., as previously announced.

Mr. Rajkitch, Siamese Minister in Tokyo, who will shortly return home on furlough, was received in farewell audience by H.M. the Emperor on Monday.

Mr. Hu, Chinese Minister in Tokyo, was received in audience by H.M. the Emperor on Tuesday. The Minister presented to His Majesty a letter from the Chinese Emperor.

Marquis Katusra, the Premier, left Tokyo by train at 8 a.m. on Wednesday. He is to visit Nogoya, Ise and Osaka, and is expected to return to Tokyo on the 7th instant.

On the afternoon of the 24th ult., a heavy hailstorm occurred at Nakano-machi and neighbourhood, Tsukui-gori, Kanagawa prefecture. No serious damage is reported.

A labourer named Shiba Yonejiro, of Motoizumi, Kodama, Saitama prefecture, killed with a hatchet his wife and four relatives on the 30th ultimo. Moreover, when he had finished his tragic deed, he set fire to the two houses in which his victims

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dwelt. It is said that the man was led to commit this horrible crime because his victims would not consent to transfer to him a certain lot of property belonging to the wife's dead father. The assailant was arrested.

It is reported that the Government has decided to increase the salary of the Prime Minister from 9,000 to 12,000 *yen* and the salaries of other Cabinet Ministers from 6,000 to 8,000 *yen*.

On November 23, an engine collided with some trucks in the compound of Aomori Station, owing to the carelessness of a pointsman. One truck was smashed and two were slightly damaged.

On November 24 a hurricane suddenly swept over the district of Nakatsu, Gifu prefecture. Four buildings were completely destroyed and many others were more or less damaged. Some casualties are reported.

Mr. Ko, Korean Minister of Finance, accompanied by Mr. Pak, his secretary, arrived in Tokyo on Tuesday. He will have an interview with Premier Katsura, and will then proceed to Osaka in order to inspect the Mint there.

It is reported from Hakodate that on the 24th ult. the steamer *Siberia Maru*, under the management of the Hidaka Kisen Kaisha, collided with a fishing boat off the coast of Shiokubi, and sank it. Two fishermen in the boat were saved by the steamer.

A Seoul despatch received by the *Kokumin Shimbun* says that the proposed national memorial service for the late Prince Ito, fixed for Friday, has been abandoned, owing to a disagreement between Premier Yi and the popular party. Some disquietude is felt in political circles.

A New York dispatch of the 21st ult. says it is reported from New Orleans that the Nicaraguan revolutionists met and defeated President Zelaya's army on the 18th inst. and captured Las Lagas, opening the way to the Nicaraguan capital. Hundreds of lives were lost on both sides.

On the night of the 24th ult. 48 lighters with full cargoes of coal were lying in the port of Taketoyo, Owari province. During the night a strong wind sprang up, and thirty-three of the lighters quickly sank. Fortunately there were no casualties, all the *sendo* being on shore at the time.

It is announced that the rocket which is to be fired on and after December 1st at noon every day in this city, will be discharged from a mortar of 8 inches calibre, on board a lighter anchored about 300 yards from the Water Police Station. The sound, it is said, will be louder than that of the ordinary noon gun.

The marriage arranged between Mr. F. S. G. Piggott, Royal Engineers, elder son of Sir Francis Piggott, Chief Justice of Hongkong, and of Little Woolpits, Ewhurst, Surrey, and Juanita, daughter of Mr. W. James Smith, of Gibraltar and Villa Vieja Algeciras, will take place at the Cathedral, Gibraltar, on December 11th.

While travelling in a sleeping car of the Wirballen-St. Petersburg express, between Belaia and Gatchima, Prince Wittgenstein, Attaché of the German Legation in Peking; was robbed of a gold watch and chain, and a medallion set with diamonds. The vest in which the stolen objects had been was found lying in the corridor.

Mr. Kurachi, Director of the Political Bureau, who is now touring in Manchuria, is reported to have arrived at Mukden a few days ago, and proceeded thence to Fushun to investigate the collieries there. It is also said that he will closely examine the relations between the South Manchuria and the proposed Kinchow-Tsitsihar railways.

On the 29th and 30th ultimo, says a Fukuoka telegram, different parts of the coast of Chikuzen province were washed by high waves, resulting in the destruction of various embankments, houses, etc. It is said that such a high tide has not been experienced for fifty years. The wharf at Fukuoka was much damaged, and over 40 fishing-boats washed away. Another telegram from the same place reports that on the 30th ultimo nine coal-miners were killed in the Uru Colliery, while they were coming up the shaft by means of a cage. When half-way up, the rope suddenly snapped, and the men were dashed to the bottom of the pit, some 850ft. deep.

On October 28 the Right Rev. Walter Andrews, Bishop of Hokkaido, had conferred on him the degree of D.D. in the University of Cambridge. The Bishop will leave England in February next year and will come to Japan *viâ* Canada. A similar degree has been conferred upon the Rev. J. Bachelor, who has devoted himself to the amelioration of the Ainus.

A Fukushima telegram reports that, owing to the heavy rain on the 24th instant, the railway embankment between Hisanohama and Kido was damaged in various parts, and several portions in the tunnels have fallen in on the lines between Yumoto and Tsuzura, and Izumi and Uyeda. These lines are at present blocked and the repairs will take two or three days.

On November 30 various districts in Tochigi prefecture were visited by a severe storm, which blew down a building being constructed in the compound of a preliminary school at Miye-mura, Ashikaga-gori, injuring one of the carpenters at work. On the same day two fires occurred at Mibu-cho, Tsuga-gori, and Tomita-mura, Ashikaga-gori, resulting in the destruction of 22 and 15 houses in each district. No casualties are reported.

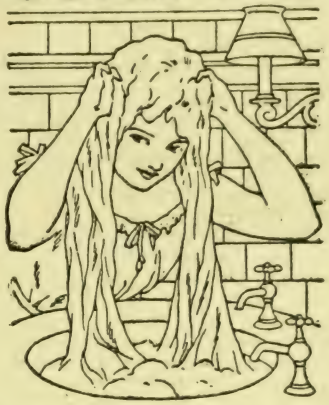
In Ibaraki prefecture there was a thunderstorm on Monday night, when hail fell for a few minutes. No injury was done to the crops.

The *N.-C. Daily News* states that in the Mixed Court at Shanghai on Nov. 19 Van Oug-si, editor, was charged with having caused to be printed and published in the Ming Hsu Pao newspaper, certain articles calculated to disturb the good relations existing between the countries of Japan and China. No evidence was taken, but the Court, in adjourning the hearing of the case until the 20th, ordered that the premises be sealed up in the meantime. Mr. Springfield stated that the sealing order issued twenty-four hours previously could not be carried into effect until the case had been formally before the Court. The case was to be heard on the 20th, before a British, a Japanese and a German Assessor, and a Magistrate.

A Paris dispatch of the 21st ult. says: Senator Edmond Piot, well known for the interest he had taken in all questions tending to improve the lot of the working classes, is dead. Edmond Piot, known throughout France as the apostle of repopulation, because of his advocacy of big families, was born at Montbard on July 6, 1828. He was a public works contractor, but for many years he had been in the front rank of politics. He was the first French politician to raise an outcry against the gradual falling off of the birth-rate of the country, and he was the author of numerous measures destined to help those who had big families. As a public works contractor, he built many of the railroads of France, including the girdle railways around Paris.

The *N.-C. Daily News* states that the erection of new buildings for the Japanese Consulate-General at Shanghai was begun on August 1st, and the ceremony of laying the foundation stone was performed on Nov. 17 by Mr. Y. Matsuoka, Acting Consul General for Japan. The Japanese Government this year voted *yen* 200,000 for the expenses of erecting and furnishing the required buildings on the old site of the Consulate-General. The latter building was therefore demolished, and the Consular staff provided with accommodation next door to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha offices. The architect for the new buildings is Mr. Y. Hirano, whose work in Shanghai is already well known, and Mr. Yang Ching is the contractor. Judging by the plan, the buildings will have an imposing appearance. They are to be completed in March, 1911.

CUTICURA COMFORT



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Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; China, Hong Kong Drug Co.; Japan, Maruya, Ltd., Tokio; Russia, Ferrein, Moscow; So Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc.; U.S.A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

The American Raw Cotton market reports a decline in quotations. As to Cotton yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece goods is quiet. In Woollens and Woollen Mixtures, the market appears to be more healthy.

RAW COTTON.	PER PICUL.
American Middling... ... —	43.50 to 44.50
Egyptian	50.00 to 55.00
Indian Broach...	33.00 to 34.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	30.25 to 31.00
COTTON YARN	PER BALE.
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed...	420.00 to 460.00
COTTON PIECE GOODS.	
White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in.... ...	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints— 24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, 30 inch.	PER PIECE. 1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Reds—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches ...	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches ...	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere...	0.80 to 0.90

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WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y. 0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mousseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium	0.28 to 0.32
Mousselines de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.36
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All other	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " 2 " "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 " "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 " "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 " "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

The market is quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round at square	Y. 3 80 to 3.85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4.30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.55
Sheet Mild Steel	6.15 to 6.30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9.60 to 9.80
d. Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10lbs. I.C.W.	6 80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 " Redcar "	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is firm, with prospect of advance.

Chester	Y. 3.88 to 3.98
Victory	3.43 to 3.77
Nonpareil	— to 4.00
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3 54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Todai	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

Demand continues light, and no sales are reported.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y. 10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14 40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15 50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change in the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y. 240.00
" second	200 00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2 00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. There is practically nothing doing.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	10.80
Flag	"	10.60
Royal	"	10.60
Trophy	"	10 60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.70
Lion	"	11.80
Portland	"	11.20
Premier	"	11.00
Japanese :—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 "	2.78
Fuji	6 "	2.85
Pine	6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

There has been no business done. Prices in America have considerably advanced on account of an active demand having arisen from Europe and the Eastern States.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.60 to 5.70
Red " "	5.50 to 5.60
Blue Stem	5.75 to 5.85

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market has continued very weak with rapidly declining prices, the general feeling being most depressed.

On December 2nd stocks were: filatures 32,934 bales; Re-reels, 4 936 bales; Kakeda, 1,328 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	Y. 970
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	910
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	920
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	850
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	910
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den	880
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	820
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	870
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	810
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	850
Re-reels—No. 1½	820
Re-reels—No. 2	790
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	810
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	790
Kakedas—No. 2	770

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

November	Present delivery.	November delivery.	December delivery.	January delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
26th	829	814	820	829
27th	823	814	817	822
28th	—	—	—	—
29th	834	—	817	829
30th	—	—	—	—

December	Present delivery.	December delivery.	January delivery.	February delivery.
1st	841	823	832	844
2nd	837	820	—	837

WASTE SILK.

The market is getting slightly active.

On November 30th stocks were: Noshi, 10,003 bales, Kibiso, 18,655 bales; and Sundry, 10,812 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	160 to 165
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	137½ to 145
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	120 to 125
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	95 to 105
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	85 to 95
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	85 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	80 to 95
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	70 to 80
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	120 to 127½
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	110 to 120
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	90 to 100
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—There has been a weakening in prices in general, but principally in the lighter weights. The production has shown no signs of increasing.

Kanazawa:—Prices have declined slightly in accord with the Raw Silk market. There has been no appreciable revival in the demand and the production continues small.

Kawamata:—The demand has been comparatively active, and there have been some fluctations in prices.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.35	8.15	8.05	8.05	7 95
27″	8.35	8.25	8.05	8.10	8.05
36″	8.35	8.20	8.15	8.05	8 05

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.00	7.90	7.80	7.65
27″	8.05	7.85	7.90	7 60
36″	8.00	7.75	7.75	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9 40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.90	11.00	12.00	13 20
36	12.50	14.10	15.90	16 40

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of December 2nd the quotation was £59.7.6.

Home markets have improved to some extent.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47 00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report, large stocks being still held, with poor demand.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	760,027
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	151,261

Delivery.	Closing Price
December	11 40
January	11.59
February	11.92

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
December	11.85	December	11.78
January	11.99	January	11.95
February	12.24	February	12.20

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*
Superior	Yen 12.30
Medium	11.30
Common	10.30
Average	11.30

TEA.

There has been no change in quotations. Totar settlements at Yokohama from May 1st to Novembes 13th amount to 87,020 piculs, against 82,241 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y.	— —
Choice	—	—
Finest	—	—
Fine	36	— 37
Good Medium	34	— 36
Medium	32	— 33
Good Common	30	— 31
Common	28	— 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
December	128.70
January	129.75
February	130.25

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Dec. 2.

London silver ⅛ lower and China sterling quotations ⅛ lower have caused local rates on China to rule firmer accordingly.

London—Bank T.T.	*/32⅞
— — Bills on demand	*/32⅞@½
— — 4 months' sight	*/32¾
— Private 4 months' sight	*/32¾@7/8
— — 6 months' sight	*/32@7/8
Paris & Lyons —Bank sight	257
— Private 4 months' sight	261½@2
Hongkong —Bank sight per $100	85¾*
— Private 10 days, sight do	83¾*
Shanghai—Bank sight	87¼*
— Private 10 days' sight	88¼*
India —Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	154
America—Bank sight	49⅜@¾
— Private 30 days' sight	50⅜
— Private 4 months' sight	51⅜
Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	213
Bar Silver (London)	23 9/16

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.	
America	P. M.	China 1	F.	Dec. 3
Tacoma	B. L.	Suveric	Tu	Dec. 7
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Tosa Maru	W.	Dec. 8
Hongkong	P. M.	Korea	Th	Dec. 9
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Aki Maru 2	F.	Dec. 10
Europe	N. D.L.	Goeben	Su.	Dec. 12
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of India	Su	Dec. 12
Europe	M. M.	Polynesien 3	Tu.	Dec. 14
America	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru 4	Sa	Dec. 18
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su	Dec. 19
Hongkong	B. L.	Aymeric	Tu	Dec. 28
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of China	W	Dec. 29
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	F.	Dec. 31
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	W.	Jan. 5

1 Left San Francisco on the 16th ult.
2 Left Seattle on the 23rd ult
3 Left Singapore on the 29th ult.
4 Left San Francisco on the 30th ult.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date	
Portland	P. & A.	Helcules	—	—
Europe	N. D. L.	Prinz Ludwig	Sa	Dec. 4
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Kasuga Maru	Su	Dec. 5
Hongkong	P. M.	China	Su	Dec. 5
Hongkong	B. L.	Suveric	W.	Dec. 8
Europe	N. Y. K.	Hirano Maru	W.	Dec. 8
Europe	M. M.	Tonkin	Sa	Dec. 11
America	P. M.	Korea	Sa.	Dec. 11
Australia	N.Y.K.	Kumano Maru	Sa	Dec. 11
Tacoma	B. & S.	Ningchow	Sa.	Dec. 11
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of Japan	Su	Dec. 12
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Aki Maru	M	Dec. 13
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	Su	Dec. 19
America	C. R.	Amiral Orly	M.	Dec. 20
Tacoma	B. L.	Aymeric	W	Dec 29
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of China	W.	Dec. 29
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu	Dec. 21
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	W	Dec 22
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Sa.	Jan. 1
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	Su.	Jan. 2
Hongkong	G. N.	Minnesota	Sa.	Jan. 8

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LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,162, Girard, 26th Nov.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Cie.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, S. Ishikawa, 26th Nov.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, T. Noguchi, 26th Nov.,—Newchwang via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salter, 26th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,830, H. Yamamoto, 26th Nov.,—Tacoma, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co. (Agents American Line O.S.K.)

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 26th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian steamer, 2,960, C. Smith, 27th Nov.,—Portland, Or., Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Y. Nomura, 27th Nov.,—Takao via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 27th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Ernest Bent, 28th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 28th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1 804, I. Goto, 29th Nov.,—Takao. General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Japan, British steamer, 3,806, Olifant, 30th Nov.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 30th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Hands, 30th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumeric, British steamer, 4,006, James Mathie, 1st Dec.,—Manila and Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3,953, S. Robinson, 1st Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C.P.R. Co.

Bedford, British Cruiser, 9,800, Capt. Seymour E. Erskine, 1st Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 1st Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S N. Co.

Nord Brabant, Dutch cruiser, 4,000, van Voss, 1st Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu.

E. F. Ferdinand, Austrian steamer, 3,843, E. Nitsche, 1st Dec.,—Fiume and Trieste via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Prinz Ludwig, German steamer, 5.704, F. von Binzer, 2nd Dec.,—Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,752, Henderson, 2nd Dec.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Peleus, British steamer, 4,800, T. Hannah, 2nd Dec.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 2nd Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kumano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,147, M. Winckler, 2nd Dec.,—Melbourne and Sydney via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 2nd Dec.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C.P.R. Co.

Tonkin, French steamer, 2,327, Charbonnel, 2nd Dec.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 26th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Taito Maru, Japanese steamer, 1.246, J Den, 26th Nov.,—Nagoya, General. Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Aymeric, British steamer, 2,789, Boyd, 26th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salter, 27th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, S. C. Hiortdahl, 28th Nov.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, H. Petersen, 28th Nov.,—Muroran.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Siberia, American steamer, 5,655, A. Zeeder, 27th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Ernest Simons, French steamer, 2,162. Girard, 28th Nov,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Cie.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, S. Ishikawa, 29th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tacoma Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,830, H. Yamamoto, 28th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Samuel Samuel & Co. (Agents American Line Osaka Shosen Kaisha.)

Matsuyama Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,959, Y. Nomura, 29th Nov.,—Takao, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Henrik Ibsen, Norwegian steamer, 2,960, C. Smith, 29th Nov.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1.369, T. Noguchi, 29th Nov.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 30th Nov.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Deucalion, British steamer, 4.476, J. Riepenhansen, 30th Nov.,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Tenyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, Ernest Bent, 30th Nov.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Nore, British steamer, 4,180, G. Philipps, 1st Dec.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—P. & O. S N. Co.

Japan, British steamer, 3,806, Dlifant, 1st Dec.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Kumeric, British steamer, 4,006, James Mathie, 1st Dec.,—Vancouver and Tacoma, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Taichu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,804, I. Goto, 1st Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Monteagle, British steamer, 3,953, S. Robinson, 1st Dec.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 2nd Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Hands, 2nd Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Empress of Japan, British steamer, 3,003, H. Pybus, 2nd Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 2nd Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Siberia* from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. A. L. C. Atkinson, Miss C. M. Avery, Mr. and Mrs. G. P. Bent, Miss D. A. Bent, Miss Muriel Bent, Mr. and Mrs. L. Blasquez, Mr. P. J. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. H. Blum, Master P. Blum, Father John E. Cottle, Miss Mary S. Kerr, Mr. and Mrs. A. B. de Haan, Mrs. W. W. Guthrie, Mr W. W. Guthrie, Mr. J. W. Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. A. Perelstrans, Rev. and Mrs. H. Loomis, Dr. H. Nolte, Lieut.-Col. G. A. Pagan, Mrs. J. W. Saunders, Miss Elsa Stern, Mrs. J. Stern, Mr. T. Tokonami, Dr. B. Tomatsuri, Mr. I. Yamaguchi, Mr. L. Bohlen, Mrs. K. S. Ealand, Miss M. Ealand, Mr. and Mrs. H. Flechsig, Mrs. L. Griffiths, Miss D. S. Saunders, Miss H. R. Smither, Mrs. S. P. Stow and Miss Stow. For Kobe:—Mr. W. A. Aldridge, Mr. H. P. Civretto, Mr. M. T. Baird. For Shanghai:—Mrs. E. G. Adams, Mr. and Mrs. A. Q. Adamson, Mrs. J. S. Fearon, Rev. and Mrs. C. F. McRae, Miss J. Nelson, Miss H. Rodberg, Mrs. G. C. Thorpe, Rev. and Mrs. F. J. White and infant, Miss F. White, Miss R. White, Mr. A. P. Wilder, Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Gains, Miss B. Sharpe. For Hongkong:—Miss E. L. Adams, Mr. S. M. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Borden and infant and nurse, Dr. and Mrs. R. A. Brown and infant, Mr. J. M. Bury, Rev. J. Carrington, Mr. and Mrs. R. Coltman, Miss A. Coltman, Miss M. Cusuca, Mrs. H. W. Dawson, Mr. J. E. Enright, Dr. and Mrs. P. C. Freer, Lieut. I. Furlong, Mr. A. Garcia, Dr. and Mrs. H. D. Gibbs, Mr. M. M. Zorab, Mr. A. J. Gibson and son, Mr. E. R. Harty, Mr. and Mrs. B. Ingersoll, Mrs. J. E. Jenkins, infant and nurse, Rev. O. S. Johnson, Mrs. J. C. Kerr, Mrs. N. A. Leas, Mrs N. Leysbeth, Master L. Leysbeth, Mrs. H. Long, Miss D. Long, Dr. and Mrs. H. K. Marshall, Mr. B. Mayer, Miss I. Meyer, Miss E. Mayer. Miss J. McBurney, Mr. and Mrs. R. A. McGrath, Mr W. J. G. Whiley, Mr. B. K. Miller, Mr. T. J. Nihill, Dr. Mary W. Niles, Mr. A. Poulet, Mr. C. B. Rayner, Hon and Mrs. W. A. Rublee, infant and governess, Miss A. F. Rublee, Miss Sheldon, Mr. H. Skatt, Mr. E. S. Smith, Rev. and Mrs. A. J. Tuttle, Miss L. B. Tuttle, Master S. Tuttle, Mr. S. A. V. Uldall Mr. G. J. Wagner, Mr. and Mrs. S. G. Warden, Dr. D. J. Willets and Mrs. W. J. G. Whiley, infant and servant in cabin.

Per British steamer *Monteagle* from Hongkong via ports:—Mr. W. T. Payne and Prof. Clay McAuley. For Vancouver:—Mrs. U. E. Black, Miss B. Robinson, Mr. T. Panaini, Mr. and Mrs. Chai Chuck, Mr. L. F. Campbell, Miss Swelt, Miss E. M. Bradley, Mr. and Mrs. R. D. T. Sayle, Mr. Jas. Sangstar, Mr. T. G. Turnball, Mr. S. T. Kendall, Mr. W. S. Weeks and child, Mr. T. J. Spsigel, Mr. E. E. Tait, Mr. B. Falmer, Miss R. Jamieson, Mr. and Mrs. G. D. Jamieson, Mr. B. Kuhn, Miss L. Kuhn, Mrs. H. Staggs, Miss E. A. Stags, Mr. and Mrs. A. Atter and child, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Clark and child, Miss S. C. Tomlinson, Mr. and Mrs. C. C, A. Warn and child and Mrs. Sakajima in cabin; 20 Chinese in Asiatic second class; 20 Chinese in Asiatic steerage.

Per British steamer *Empress of Japan* from Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr. James Bain, Miss Bain, Mr. S. Bellinger, Lieut. Col. F. W. Bromley, Mr. A. J. H. Carlill, Dr. J. R. Cox, Mrs. J. R. Cox, Mrs. J. F. Eddy, Rev. A. J. Elson, Mrs. A. J. Elson, Lieut. Col. G. L. Forster, Mrs. R. S. Greene, Mrs. C. E. Hamelin, Mr. L. Larue, Miss E. Lennox, Miss B. J. McNaughton, Miss R. Myland, Miss M. E. Ogren, Miss M. Peterson, Mr. G. Sakate, Mr. H. Thomas, Mr. B. Tong, Miss Agnes Watts, Miss Edith Watts, Miss Helen Watts, Miss M. B. Wood, Miss M. Young and Mr. Christ in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per R. V. F.'s steamer *Mongolia* for Vladivostock from Tsuruga:—Mr. and Mrs. Wilenkin, child, nurse and governess. Mr. Kostenko, Mr. G. F. Barr, Mr. J. G. Denbigh, Miss O. R. Gemmelman, Mr. Ch. J. Stein and Mr. R. F. E. Oberg in cabin.

Per R. V. F.'s steamer *Gouverneur Jaeschke* for Vladivostock from Tsuruga:—Mr. O. Busholz, Mr. Yasugoro Inui, Mr. Yosuke Yamamoto, Mr. G. Hartshorn, Mr. Tompkins, Mr. Naoto Hanawa and Mr. Yasukichi Matsui in cabin.

Per French steamer *Ernest Simons* for Marseilles via ports:—Mr. le Capt. Halle, Perè Francois Bertrand and Mouseigneur Magadure in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Tenyo Maru* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. F. H. Allen, Mr. H. Baitson, Mr. J. Becker, Mr. A. A. Biegen, Mr. M. Borges, Miss C. Brown, Mr. S. Cahn, Mr. C. Walter Clifton, Mr. Severino Concepcion, Mr. Jack Costa, Mrs. C. Curtis, Miss E. Curtis, Miss F. Curtis, Mr. J. C. Debour, Mr. E. M. Elam, Mr. W. R. Flatow, Mr. J. Fujihira and 2 servants, Mrs. J. Fujihira and infant, Miss I. Fujihira, Miss Y. Fujihira, Miss T. Fujita, Mr. Ray Furness, Mr. Clarence Grange, Mr. E. J. Hazen, Miss C. Holt, Dr. K. Ikeuchi, Mrs. K. Ikeuchi, Dr. I. Katsuki, Mr. W. Y. King, Mrs. W. Y. King, Mr. W. B Knight, Mrs. W. B. Knight, Mr. Gregerion Lavares, Hon. Benito Legarda, Mrs. W. R. Linn, Miss Linn, Mr. E. Lyons, Mrs. M. L. Macomber, Mr. I. Douglas Malcolm, Mr. John H. Martin, Dr. N. S. Mercer, Miss C. Mercer, Miss M. Mercer, Mrs. J. G. Minor, Miss A. M. Mulholland. Mr. E. W. Newell, Mr. T. S. Nishimura, Mrs. R. Obata, Miss H. F. Parmelee, Miss E. H. Payne, Mr. G. W. Peavey, Mrs. G. W. Peavey and maid, Mr. D. Pecorini, Mrs. D. Pecorini and son, Mr. T. W. S. Phillips, Mrs. N. Pine, Mr. Hon. M. Quezon, Mr. Marcos Roces, Mr. J. H. Rosenthal, Mrs. J. H. Rosenthal, infant and amah, Mr. J. D. C. Rogers. Mrs. Alex. Rogers, Mr. E. E. Rogers, Miss E. Rogers, Miss D. Shultz, Mr. A. Schroeter, Miss B. Scott, Mr. H. F. Scudamore, Judge Corwin S. Shank. Miss Edith C. Sweet, Mr. Frank M. Swift, Mrs. T. B. Tolman, 2 children and maid, Baron K. Uchida, Baroness K. Uchida, Mr. H. F. Ulrichs, Mr. J. E. Valdes, Mr. Mr. E. T. P. Waterhouse, Judge, D. R. Williams, Mr. S. Wolff, Miss Salome Woodman, Mr. F. C. Woodruff and Mr. K. Yamamura in cabin.

Per British steamer *Monteagle*, for Vancouver, B.C.:—Mr A. Atter, Mrs. Atter and child, Mrs. A. E. Black, Miss E. M. Bradley, Mr. L. F. Campbell, Mr. F. L. Chatfield, Mr. Choy Chuck, Mrs. Choy Chuck, Mr. G. W. Clark, Mrs. Clark and child, Mr. R. F. Cooke, Mrs. Gibbons, Mr. H. J. Hemperly, Mrs. Hemperly, Mr G. D. Jamieson, Mrs. Jameison, Miss R. Jameison, Mr S. T. Kendall, Mrs. B. Kuhn, Miss E. Kuhn, Miss M. H. Cornwall Legh, Mr. B. Palmer, Mr. F. Panoini, Miss B. Robinson, Mr. J. Sangster, Mr. R. T. Sayle, Mrs. Sayle, Mr. T. Shindo, Mr. T. J. Speiget, Mrs. H. R. Staggs, Miss E. A. Staggs, Miss S. Sweet, Mr. E. E. Tait, Dr. I. Tanimura, Revd C. D. Thompson, Miss S. C. Tomlinson, Mr. T. G. Turnbull, Mr. C. C. A. Warn, Mrs. Warn and child, Mrs. M. S. Weeks and child and Mr. L. W. Winton in cabin.

CARGOES.

Per British steamer *Kumeric* for Vancouver and Tacoma:—

From.	TEA. Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total. Packages.
Hongkong ...	—	—	—	45	—	45
Keelung	—	889	—	—	—	889
Shanghai ...	1,666	3,876	—	153	—	5,695
Yokohama ...	—	35	—	—	—	35
Total ...	1,666	4,800	—	198	—	6,646

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Per British steamer *Monteagle* for Vancouver, B.C.:—

TEA.

From	Canada.	Chicago & West.	New York & East.	Pacific Coast.	Other Cities.	Total.
Hongkong ...	746	—	—	1,110	—	1,856
Keelung	550	3,474	1,784	--	—	5,808
Shanghai.....	1,872	—	412	75	—	2,359
Kobe	11	—	—	—	—	11
Shimidzu.....	1,319	97	151	150	—	1,717
Yokohama ...	1,036	559	—	—	—	1,595
Total	5,534	4,130	2,347	1,335	—	13,346

SILK.

From.	New York.	Easton.	South Manchester.	Montreal.	Holyoke.	Total Bales
H'kong & Canton	90	—	—	—	—	90
Shanghai	404	—	—	—	—	404
Yokohama	601	—	60	—	146	807
Total	1,095	—	60	—	146	1,301

SILK SHIPPERS.

Raw & Waste Silk shipped per steamer *Ernest Simons*:—

	Raw. Marseilles Option.	Raw. Lyon.	Raw. Moscow.	Raw. Milan.	Waste. France.	Waste. Switland	Waste. Trieste.	Waste. Peignes.
Sulzer Rudolph & Co.	537	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nabholz & Co.....	250	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Siber Wolff & Co...	190	20	30	—	—	—	—	—
Hara Yushutsuten .	140	—	20	—	—	—	—	—
do ..	—	—	10	London	—	—	—	—
Sieber & Co.....	98	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Otto Streuli & Co ..	94	80	—	—	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard & Co.	25	—	—	—	81	—	—	—
do	10	Tamaito	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pila & Co.....	25	100	—	—	—	—	—	—
Jardine, Matheson & Co.....	17	—	—	—	25	—	—	—
L. Mottet	10	—	21	—	—	—	—	—
Jewett and Bent ...	—	120	—	—	17	—	—	—
P. Dourille	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.....	—	—	—	91	—	—	—	—
Comptoirs Soies ...	—	—	20	St. Chamond	—	—	—	—
Vivanti Bros.....	—	—	15	Genes—	—	—	—	—
Bavier & Co.	—	—	—	10	187	—	—	—
KiitoGomei Kaisha		—	—	5	—	—	—	—
Dell'Oro & Co.....	—	—	—	—	—	70	—	—
Total	1,396	323	116	106	311	70	—	—

Silk shippers by *Tenyo Mara*, for San Francisco on the 30th Nov.:—

	Bales.
F. Strahler & Co.....	40
Pila & Co.	40
Jewett & Bent	36
Bavier & Co.....	5
Mitsui Bussan Kaisha.....	575
Kiito Gomei Kaisha	279
Hara Yushutsu Ten.....	95
Total.....	1,070

VESSELS TO ARRIVE.

STEAMERS.

NAME.	FROM.	REPORTED	
Ajax	Liverpool	Left H'kong	Nov. 24
Aki Maru	Seattle	Left	Nov. 23
Amiral Olry	Port Said	Left H'kong	Nov. 27
Atsuta Maru	London	Leaves	Dec. 4
Australien	Marseilles	Passed Canal	Oct. 30
Awa Maru	London	At S'pore	Dec. 2
Benlarig	Middlesbro	Left	Nov. 22
Benledi	London	Passed Canal	Nov. 8
Benmohr	London	Left H'kong	Nov. 27
Brasilia	Hamburg	Left	Nov. 12
Buelow	Hamburg	Passed Canal	Nov. 22
Cardiganshire	Middlesbro	Passed Canal	Nov. 1
C'marthenshire	Hamburg	Left	Oct. 28
Carnarvonshire	Leith	Left	Oct. 26
Ceylon Maru	Bombay	Left	Nov. 28
China	San F'cisco	Left	Nov. 16
Chiyo Maru	San F'cisco	Left	Nov. 30
Denbighshire	Middlesbro	Left N'saki	Nov. 23
Empire	Sydney	At Kobe	Nov. 27
Glenavon	London	Passed Canal	Nov. 8
Glenlochy	London	At Kobe	Nov. 28
Glenturret	London	Passed Canal	Nov. 1
Goeben	Hamburg	Left Colombo	Nov. 21
Hitachi Maru	London	Leaves	Dec. 11
Idomeneus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Nov. 11
Inaba Maru	London	Left	Nov. 27
Indramayo	New York	At S'hai	Nov. 21
Kamo Maru	London	At Kobe	Nov. 27
Kanagawa M.	London	Leaves	Dec. 25
Karonga	New York	Leaves	Dec. 30
Kasama	New York	Left	Oct. 20
Katuna	New York	Passed Canal	Nov. 15
Kazembe	New York	Left	Oct. 23
Kintuck	Liverpool	Left S'hai	Sept. 15
Laertes	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Nov. 18
Manchuria	San F'cisco	Left H'lulu	Nov. 29
Matoppo	New York	Leaves	Dec. 20
Mishima Maru	London	Passed Canal	Nov. 20
Oceanien	Marseilles	Left	Nov. 21
Orestes	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Nov. 8
Pakling	Liverpool	Left S'hai	Nov. 15
Palawan	Liverpool	Left H'kong	Nov. 23
Patroclus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Nov. 4
Pembrokeshire	Middlesbro	Left London	Oct. 30
Polynesien	Marseilles	Left S'pore	Nov. 29
Poona	London	At Kobe	Nov. 27
P. Waldemar	Sydney	At H'kong	Nov. 13
Prometheus	Liverpool	Passed Canal	Nov. 8
Sanuki Maru	London	At Kobe	Dec. 2
Scandia	Hamburg	Passed Canal	Nov. 13
Senegambia	Hamburg	Left H'kong	Nov. 24
Shimosa	New York	Left S'hai	Nov. 19
Sicilia	Antwerp	At Colombo	Nov. 18
Sithonia	Hamburg	Left S'pore	Nov. 23
Suevia	Hamburg	At Kobe	Nov. 29
Suveric	Seattle	Left	Nov. 24
Takasaki Maru	Bombay	Left H'kong	Nov. 26
Tamba Maru	London	Passed Canal	Nov. 26
Vandalia	New York	Left H'kong	Nov. 24
Wray Castle	Boston	Left	Aug. 22
Yeboshi Maru	Bombay	At Kobe	Nov. 20
Yetorofu Maru	Bombay	Left	Nov. 17
SAILING VESSELS.			
Daylight	New York	Left	July 24

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The Japan Weekly Mail:

每土曜日 A REVIEW OF JAPANESE COMMERCE, POLITICS, LITERATURE, AND ART. 一回刊行

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 11TH, 1909.

DEATHS.

KNAPP.—At Yokohama, Dec. 5th, FANNY F., wife of ARTHUR MAY KNAPP.

CAZALY.—On 4th inst., at her residence, "Inglefield," Manly, Sydney, Australia, CLARISSA, relict of the late JAMES WILLIAM CAZALY, and mother of Mrs. V. R. BOWDEN: aged 88 years.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE Torii-toge tunnel in Shinano province, on the Central Railway line, was completed on the 6th instant. Its length is 5,428 feet.

MR. KURACHI, Director of the Political Bureau, who is now on a tour in Manchuria, will proceed to Korea *via* Antung on his way home.

A MAIZURU despatch reports that the sailing vessel *Koyei Maru* (1,120 *koku*) with her captain and five sailors and another boat with three men, which left Maizuru on the 28th ultimo for Mairi, Tango province, are missing. It is believed that both the vessels were wrecked and the crews drowned.

THEIR Majesties the Emperor and the Empress have bestowed a sum of 200 *yen* upon the sufferers by the recent fire at Oginohama, Miyagi prefecture.

A MITO telegram says that a sudden collapse occurred on Thursday in the Hitachi colliery, Taga district. One miner was killed and three others were injured.

A NAGASAKI despatch says that the steamer *Umegaka Maru*, lying there, has undergone her trial trip satisfactorily. It is said she will be able to run from Shimonoseki to Fusan in eight hours, on which service she is shortly to be used.

PRINCE FUSHIMI, who has been to Port Arthur to attend the unveiling ceremony of the war monument, returned to Tokyo on the 6th inst. His Highness, on his way back to the capital, stopped at Kyoto to visit Prince Kayo, who is lying ill there.

A HONGKONG telegram to the *Kokumin* says that the Chinese commissioner for the delimitation of the Macaonese settlement has hastened to Peking The Viceroy of Canton has asked a Portuguese warship to leave, in order to appease Chinese sentiment.

A NAGASAKI despatch reports that a Russian who is alleged to have circulated many thousand *yen* in counterfeited Russian notes, is at present in confinement. It is suspected that a number of his accomplices are among the Koreans at Chefoo and Shanghai.

EARLY on the 4th in t. a goods train coming from the east dashed into the hind part of a passenger train stopping at Nishinomiya Station on the Tokaido line. Five wagons of the latter were seriously damaged, but fortunately no casualties are reported.

A KANAGAWA despatch reports that in the districts of Enma and Momi several hundreds of houses have been submerged, owing to the overflow of the river running through these districts. The police and the district authorities are busily engaged in relieving the sufferers.

THE steamer *Yoto Maru*, which arrived at Yokohama on the 6th inst. from Yingkow, with a full cargo of wheat, bean and bean-cake, met with with a furious storm during her voyage on the 27th and 28th ultimo. The bows of the vessel were much damaged, as was also the cargo.

THE members of the Japanese Commercial Mission, who are returning from America, arrived at Honolulu on the morning of the 6th instant. After seeing the sights there, they embarked for home at 5 p.m. The party is expected to arrive at Yokohama early on the morning of the 17th instant.

THE N. Y. K. steamer *Yamaguchi Maru* (3 221 tons) which left Moji for Nagasaki at 4 30 p.m. on the 5th instant, ran ashore at Komoriye, one hour's distance from Moji. She was re floated at about 3 a.m. the following day. No damage was done and the steamer left for her destination at 3 p.m.

WITH reference to the railway strike in America, the local branch of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha courteously informs us that they have just received telegraphic advice from the Great Northern Railway Co., St Paul, to the effect that everything is moving as usual. This, we (*Japan Mail*) presume, means that the strike has come to an end, an amicable arrangement having, in all probability, been arrived at between the parties concerned.

A NORWEGIAN steamer which arrived on the 5th at Moji, had on board nine Koreans who had been rescued on the 3rd instant from a derelict boat by the steamer whilst on her way to Moji from Vladivostock *en route* to Hongkong. It is stated that the Koreans had drifted for five days at the mercy of the waves.

THE *Seoul Press* of the 4th inst. says:—Lieut.-Colonel Boger, a member of Lord Kitchener's suite who was taken ill during the Field Marshal's recent flying visit here, and has since been under treatment in the Tai-han hospital, has, we are glad to learn, completely recovered and will be able to leave for Japan in a few days.

THE Pacific Mail steamer *Korea*, scheduled to leave Yokohama about January 25th, 1910, will make a special call at Manila in order to provide a direct service for passengers who desire to visit Manila during the Philippine Carnival, which will take place on February 5th to the 14th, inclusive.

The ports of call will be Kobe, Nagasaki, Shanghai, Manila and Hongkong.

THE organization of the Japanese active squadrons has been changed as follow:—The first squadron:—The *Mikasa* (flagship), *Shikishima*, *Suwo* (*Pobieda*), *Hizên* (*Retvizan*), *Sagami* (*Peresviet*), and *Iwami* (*Orel*). The second squadron:—The *Yakumo* (flagship), *Yodo*, *Minoshima* (*Seniavine*) and *Okinoshima* (*Apraxine*). The third squadron:—The *Uji* (flagship), *Akashi*, *Sumida*, *Fushimi* and *Suma*.

ON the 5th instant a fire broke out in a silkworm rearing factory at Sasabe, Matsumoto, Nagano prefecture. Fanned by the strong wind then prevailing, the flames spread to such an extent that 23 buildings were quickly burnt down. The damage incurred by the destruction of the silkworm rearing rooms is said to be serious. Infantry companies under the command of Major Suganuma rendered great assistance to the fire brigade.

MESSRS. MCKAY & Co. inform the *Kobe Herald* that they have received telegraphic information from Hongkong that the sailing vessel *King George*, which left Hongkong on the 23rd October, bound for Baltimore and New York, has been wrecked and will in all probability become a total loss. The whereabouts of the disaster was not stated in the telegram. This vessel is one of the Standard Oil Co.'s fleet.

THE Agents, Messrs. C. Illies & Co., notify us that with regard to the stranding of the steamer *Brisgavia* near Woosung, they on Thursday received the following telegram from their Head Office, Shanghai:—

"*Brisgavia* has gone ashore near Woosung. Nearly all cargo will be discharged; every prospect of refloating during week after next Our intention is to ship *Brisgavia's* Havre-Hamburg cargo per *Silesia* (now in Shanghai)."

ACCORDING to a Moji journal, says the *Nagasaki Press*, Iwagi Seiji, aged 32, a native of Kagoshima, who has been employed by Messrs. Raspe & Co., of Kobe and Shimonoseki, was recently arrested at Shimonoseki. It is alleged that while entrusted with the conduct of the firm's transactions with the Customs at Shimonoseki he embezzled over 1,000 *yen* by altering receipts. He was in Messrs. Raspe & Co.'s Kobe office for some years; while at Shimonoseki he received a good salary, but is said to have led a dissolute life.

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KOREA.

Friday, December 3.

There is talk of establishing a new office —a branch of the Residency-General—in northern Korea, to facilitate the development of that part of the Peninsula.

The agitation of the Il Ching-hoi for the final absorption of Korea into the Japanese Empire is evidently not meeting with success. It is telegraphically reported that semi-official information on the subject has been conveyed to the leaders of the party by a delegate from the well-known Mr. Sugiyama, and it is further stated that the whole movement is viewed with ridicule by the Residency-General.

As for the proposal to send a deputation of apology and commiseration to Japan, public opinion seems to be beginning to regard it as mainly a device for collecting subscriptions which would go to enrich a few designing persons. It is also remarked that the promoters of the scheme are, in many cases, natives of the districts where the insurrection is most vigorous.

Saturday, December 4.

Representatives of the coalition of three parties met in Seoul on the 2nd inst. Considerable interest attached to the meeting, for whereas one section of the coalition had proposed a manifesto virtually advocating the absorption of Korea into the Empire of Japan, another section was understood to be opposed to any such extreme measure. The latter section, however, had not yet openly declared itself. Its declaration was not made until the meeting of the 2nd inst., when a duly attested document was put forward. This document set out by saying that nobody suspected Japan of a desire to swallow up Korea. Therefore the proper course for Korea was to abide by the Convention between the two countries, and to frankly accept Japan's progressive guidance, with a view to developing strength for asserting her independence at a future date.

The above manifesto is obviously in direct opposition to the absorption project of the Il Ching-hoi, and thus a split between the two sections of the coalition may be said to have been definitely announced.

It would seem that whereas the Korean Cabinet is doing everything in its power to break up this coalition, and with that object to sow the seeds of dissension among its units, the Residency-General is treating the whole matter with something like indifference. In truth, Japan's policy towards Korea can not be supposed to be largely influenced by the doings of such bodies as this coalition. Whether the absorption doctrine or the independence doctrine obtains vogue, Japan must follow the path which her statesmen have already decided to take.

The movement in favour of despatching a national delegation to Japan to express public regret for the death of Prince Ito is still being pushed by its partisans, and seems to have developed some little force. The latest idea is said to be that a sum of 30,000 *yen* to meet the expenses of the mission should be borrowed from a bank, on the security of the projectors' property. One would imagine that the simplest and most demonstrative method of obtaining money would be by resort to a public subscription, but whether the projectors have not sufficient faith in the popularity of their cause to employ that plain expedient, or whether some other objection to it exists, they are evidently casting about for other ways to get money. We observe a disposition on the part of Japanese journals to ridicule this movement as a mere device for making money or political capital. Surely, that is not a very gracious demeanour to adopt? The Koreans may be frankly in earnest, and so long as they are not convicted of trickery, they ought not to be treated as common intriguers.

Sunday, December 5.

The friction between the three parties which, for a time, came into combination, seems to be producing no little commotion in Seoul. The parties are the Il Chin-hoi, the Tai-han Hyop-hoi and the Sok-pok Hak-hoi. We have already laid before our readers a summary of the memorial which the second of these parties proposed to submit to the Throne. Its gist was the preservation of the *status quo*. In other words, these politicians think that the relations between their country and Japan are at present quite satisfactory; that the protectorate arrangement suffices to meet the requirements of the situation and that it can be safely continued until circumstances or the will of the nation indicates a closer union between the two countries. On the other hand, the Il Chin-hoi maintain that although Japan is spending large sums every year on the development of Korea's resources, no commensurate results are obtained, in consequence of the uncertain relation existing between the two countries. They contend that real progress is impossible in Korea unless the relation of Japan be made very much more intimate, and they insist that such a course need not interfere with the Imperial family, which Japan would doubtless agree to maintain with all dignity. As for the third party, namely, the Sok-pok Hak-hoi, it has not declared any definite opinion of its own, but many of its members are said to be gravitating towards the Il Chin-hoi's platform. On the evening of the 3rd inst. a meeting of the three parties was held to consider the manifesto of the Tai-han Hyop-hoi, namely, the document in favour of preserving the *status quo*. This proposal was immediately rejected, and the disruption of the tripartite union followed at once. The leaders of the Il Chin-hoi appear to have been quite prepared for this contingency. They had already assembled a large number of their partisans at another place, and no sooner had the first meeting broken up than the manifesto for absorption was read at the other meeting and adopted unanimously. A copy of the manifesto was then entrusted to a delegation, who carried it to the Residency-General, where it is said to have been received by Viscount Sone with a brief announcement that he would duly consider its contents. Another copy was sent to the Palace, but this second document is said to have been accompanied by a somewhat strongly worded letter.

The above facts seem to be tolerably well authenticated. As for the leader of the Il Chin-hoi, namely, Mr. Yi Yong kyu, he is said to have declared himself ready to stake his life on the issue, and there can be no doubt that he is a very courageous man to thrust himself publicly into the forefront of such a movement. Meanwhile the partisans of the Sok-pok Hak-hoi are said to be strongly inclined to support the annexation movement. But the Cabinet is strongly opposed to it, and it was officially decided that on the 5th inst. a mass meeting should be held for the purpose of listening to speeches by the Elder statesmen in support of preserving the *status quo*. Lecturers are also to be sent round the provinces in the same interest.

It would appear from the above as though the Tai-han Hyop-hoi were supporting the Cabinet, but they are said to vehemently deny any such intention. Indeed, it is thought that their animosity to the Cabinet may end in driving them into the camp of the Il Chin-hoi. The Residency-General evidently has a difficult problem to deal with, for he can not support the Cabinet without antagonizing all three parties.

It seems to us that the real object of the coalition of the three parties was to overthrow the present Cabinet, and that the Il Chin-hoi had sought to utilize the coalition for their own ends. It is certain that unless some extraordinary change has taken place in their sentiments, the Tai-han Hyop-hoi and the Sok-pok Hak-hoi are both strongly anti-Japanese. In fact, the latter has already furnished some prominent leaders of the insurrection, and is said to have at one time numbered among its adherents the assassin of Prince Ito. It is scarcely possible to conceive a union of these three sections with the object of bringing about the annexation of Korea by Japan. At all events there is no denying that the elements of a considerable commotion are brewing in Korea.

It is stated that Mr. Michelovitch (?), editor of the notoriously anti-Japanese newspaper, the *Tatung Kung-pao*, which is published in Vladivostock, has just arrived at Chemulpo from Dairen, and rumour attributes to him the design of making arrangements in behalf of the murderer An.

We take the following from the *Seoul Press*:—

According to the latest investigation made by the Residency-General the number of Japanese households and of the population in Korea is as follows:—

	Household.	Population.
Seoul	12,734	41,297
Chemulpo	3,355	12,788
Kunsan	2,308	7,261
Mokpo	1,956	6,673
Masan	2,265	8,141
Fusan	6,926	26,302
Taiku	2,322	7,304
Wonsan	2,604	7,326
Songjin	179	502
Chongjin	2,193	6,863
Pyongyang	3,292	11,650
Chinnampo	1,036	4,003
New Wiju	1,718	4,860
Total	41,349	143,706

The above list shows an increase of 7,289 in households and 23,414 in population, compared with the end of August last year.

Monday, December 6.

The situation in Seoul has not developed any new feature, and the news reaching Tokyo on the 5th inst. is of a most inconclusive kind. It is stated that the sympathies of the Sok-pok Hak-hoi are with the Il Chin-hoi, but members of the former party hesitate to show their hand too freely. Meanwhile there are varying rumours about the fate of the Manifesto voted so rapidly by the Il Chin-hoi. Some allege that it has been submitted to the Throne, accompanied by a suggestion that to maintain the *status quo* is the wisest course in existing circumstances; but others allege that the Manifesto has been quietly pigeon-holed by the Ministry.

As for the lecture-meeting convened at the instigation of the Cabinet as a popular protest against the policy advocated by the Il Chin-hoi, it took place on the 5th inst. at noon, and was largely attended, but those present seemed to have consisted mostly of the student class, no men of any political importance or social eminence being among the audience. Several speeches were de-

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livered, and they are described in very brief telegrams as having been of a somewhat incendiary character. The speakers accused the Il Chin-hoi of promoting a policy which involved the downfall of Korea, and denounced Mr. Sun Pyongchun as a traitor to his country.

The Residency-General appears to be treating the whole business with nonchalance, real or assumed, and has carefully abstained hitherto from any pronouncement of purpose. This invests the situation with special difficulty both for the Cabinet and the politicians; since, when all is said and done, the last word must rest with Japan. On the whole the general impression seems to be that the agitation will flicker out without producing any considerable results. It seems to us, however, that there will be at least one not unimportant consequence, namely, the formation of a party distinctly favourable to annexation.

It should be explained that the Il Chin-hoi have not limited themselves to memorializing the Throne of Korea alone. They have also addressed a petition to the Emperor of Japan through the Residency-General.

We gather from the latest accounts that the Tai-han Hyop-hoi have not ranged themselves openly against the policy of the Il Chin-hoi. They are taking a less radical line, and are confining themselves to a declaration that the time for annexation has not yet come.

The opinion of the Japanese press seems to be that there is no real patriotism at the back of this movement. The motive that really animates it is political intrigue. Some months ago, the three parties agreed to join hands for the purpose of overthrowing the Cabinet, and in prosecuting that aim they lost sight altogether of the true interests of their country and their countrymen. The Harbin assassination interrupted their project, owing to doubts as to the attitude which Japan might assume in the sequel of that crime; and this check is said to have been utilized by the Prime Minister who planned a coup d'état against the Il Chin-hoi. The latter then appreciated that the time had come to choose between a really strong declaration and complete effacement. They chose the former, and they have now shot their bolt. But it is not a very hurtful missile, and the probability is that they whole incident will presently have to be added to the catalogue of futile intrigues which form such a bulky portion of Korea's archives.

We take the following from the Seoul Press:—

We are indebted to the *Keijo Nippo* for a summary of the estimated revenue of the Korean Government for the next fiscal year which is now in the course of investigation at the Finance Department. The paper states that there is no increase in the revenue from taxes except the tax on fishing, which is expected to show an increase of some 20,000 *yen*. In recent years the receipts from stamps have been increasing year after year and it was the general expectation that is would bec me one of the most promising sources of revenue. But, on account of the transference of the judicial administration of Korea to Japan the revenue from this source will not show any marked increase. The revenue from the *Yoktun* (State-owned lands) for next year is estimated at 1,800,000, which shows an increase of some 500,00 *yen* as compared with this year. The ginseng-crop of next year being very unfavourable it is expected that the yield will amount to less than 1,300 pounds. As to the revenue from various other sources some natural increase is expected. It is believed that the total amount of revenue for the next fiscal year will show an increase of some 700,000 *yen* after all. It seems that some 1,400,000 *yen* has hith-rto been disbursed by the government of Japan for the expenses of courts of justice in Korea but the fund being insufficient to meet the expenses the Korean Government has had to make good the shortage amounting to some 400,000 *yen*. It is said that as the result of the transference of judicial administration to Japan the amount hitherto disbursed for the purpose will be used in other ways.

Tuesday, December 7.

There is nothing special to report about the situation in Korea this morning, except that the Cabinet have refused to forward the memorial addressed by the Il Chin-hoi to the Throne on the subject of the complete absorption of Korea into the Japanese Empire. Correspondents of Tokyo newspapers allege that the lecture meeting on the 5th inst. was almost entirely contrived by the Cabinet, which may therefore take to itself in some part a stringent injunction issued by the Residency-General to the effect that all persons acting or speaking in a manner calculated to disturb the public mind will be severely punished.

As for the Tai-han Hyop-hoi, its leaders seem to be somewhat perplexed. So far as the overthrow of the Cabinet is concerned, they would willingly associate themselves with the Il Chin-hoi, but when it comes to a memorial for the annexation of Korea by Japan, they hesitate. Nevertheless, the indications are that the Tai-han Hyop-hoi are not disinclined to associate themselves even with the radical programme of the Il Chin-hoi. According to present appearances, the various political sections are coming to see that the whole matter must be left to the manipulation of the Residency-General. Mr. Yi Yong kyu, leader of the Il Chin-hoi, has been interviewed by a representative of the *Asahi Shimbun* and is quoted as strenuously denying that the action of himself or his party has been taken in any sense at the instance of the Japanese Government. He affirms that even the shallowest thinker must recognise that, whatever might be the sentiments of the Japanese Government, the leaders of the Il Chin-hoi could not possibly take action of such a nature without the whole-hearted consent and cöoperation of the million men forming their following. Mr. Yi points out, however, that no one can possibly pronounce the present state of affairs satisfactory. In the disaffected regions, security of life and property does not exist, and the people are unable to go about their bread-earning occupations with any degree of confident diligence. Everything is in a state of more or less disorder, and it is patent to the meanest intelligence that the only way of securing the happiness and prosperity of the Korean people is to place the Peninsula frankly under Japan's complete control. As for the details of the annexation, they may safely be left to the statesmen of the two nations, but Mr. Yi speaks in the stoutest possible terms about the resolution that inspires himself and his comrades. They are determined to achieve their purpose whatever obstacles have to be overcome, and they will not be deterred by either the menaces or the devices of the Cabinet.

The Il Chin-hoi have found a counterpart in Tokyo. It is a society called the Taikan Doshi kai, which was formed immediately after Prince Ito's assassination, and which has now taken upon itself to pronounce vehemently in favour of the Il Chin-hoi's programme. It would be a mistake to suppose that this Tokyo association represents Japanese public opinion, but its organization is certainly a sign of the times, and it will find many to agree with its declaration that strength must go hand in hand with mercy in the government of States, and that Japan's policy towards Korea is not best calculated to effect a satisfactory solution of the problem.

The most disquieting telegram of all appears in the *Chuo Shimbun*. It represents the Prime Minister as scattering money broadcast to purchase adherents, among others the principal Christian associations and the *Tai Han Mai-Il Shimpo*; and it further alleges that as Bishop Harris is using his influence in favour of Japan, plots are on foot to assassinate him.

It is very significant that the leading Japanese newspapers are unanimous in condemning the idea of amalgamation. They interpret the object of the Il Chin-hoi to be not annexation, in the sense that France has absorbed Madagascar, or Germany Samoa, but in the sense of the union between England and Ireland and between Austria and Hungary. They ask, justly, whether the Koreans imagine that they are sufficiently advanced to justify such a union. Are they prepared to come into line with Japanese institutions? Are they ready to serve as conscripts and to pay the same taxes as those levied upon Japanese subjects? The mere statement of the case suffices to expose its fallacy. The only important journal which seems disposed to lend an ear to the Il Chin-hoi's programme is the *Nippon*, and even its arguments do not go beyond recommending a more thorough system of Japanese rule in the Peninsula. It attaches some importance to the fact that such views are obtaining support and prominence in the Peninsula, but it thinks that they must be allowed to ripen for a considerable time before any attempt is made to gather their fruit.

Count Okuma and Viscount Terauchi are quoted as expressing very strong opinions about the unpractical character of the Il Chin-hoi's project. The Count points out that when all is said and done, Korea has her treaties with foreign Powers, and no scheme for amalgamating her with Japan, even were it otherwise feasible, which at present is more than doubtful, could possibly be successful, unless the consent of all the treaty Powers was previously obtained. That would be, indeed, a diplomatic *coup*. As for Viscount Terauchi, he ridicules the whole movement as premature, unpractical and unreflecting. Japan has her own policy towards Korea. It is a policy carefully thought out and hitherto steadily pursued, and it can not be swayed by the shallow views of a group of Korean politicians. The Viscount expects that the Residency-General will not even take the trouble to forward to Tokyo the Il Chin-hoi's petition.

A curious feature of this affair is that the *Seoul Press* treats it as though it did not deserve more than the briefest attention. Up to the 4th inst. our Seoul contemporary had not devoted more than a few inches of space to the whole affair.

Wednesday, December 8.

Things do not seem to be quieting down in Korea by any means. The accounts from Seoul are somewhat confused and conflicting, but so far as we can decipher them, they seem to show that the Cabinet have succeeded in enlisting a very strong party to oppose the Il Chin-hoi's programme of amalgamation with Japan. Some accounts attribute very questionable measures to the Ministry, but there does not appear to be any occasion to drag such elements into the contest. After all, the situation was quite certain to develop violent phases, since on the one side stand the partisans of a movement easily lending itself to unpatriotic interpretations, and on the other side are range l politicians equally easy to persuade that they are fighting for their country's independence. A dispute following such lines could scarcely

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fail to develop violent views and strong antipathies. It is not necessary therefore to attribute to the Cabinet any recourse to incendiary weapons. The inflammable material exists already in such abundance that a small spark may suffice to set it ablaze. No one can be surprised therefore to find that the so-called patriots are ranging themselves in vehement opposition to the Il Chin-hoi, and that fears are beginning to be entertained of a commotion not limited to the press and the platform. The leader of the Il Chin-hoi, Mr. Yi Yongkyu, is represented as saying that he and his followers have merely given expression to a feeling latent in the minds of nearly all Koreans, namely, that amalgamation with Japan must come sooner or later. He professes to regard the situation with perfect calm. The policy advocated by his followers and himself is one which must be kept constantly before the minds of the people in order that they may become accustomed to its aspect, and that is a result which can not be accomplished in a short night and morning. Therefore, whatever we may think as to the timeliness of Mr. Yi's project, it is impossible to deny the quality of his courage. In a country where the assassin's knife is always unsheathed, and where interested and disinterested men are perpetually catering for the growth of an unreasoning spirit of independence, bravery almost amounting to fanaticism is needed to support a political leader and a political party who adopt such a propaganda as that now preached by Mr. Yi and the Il Chin-hoi. The most disquieting feature of the affair is that the agitators are busily spreading a rumour to the effect that the Il Chin-hoi are moving at the instigation and with the backing of the Japanese. In so far as Mr. Uchida Ryohei acts as Adviser to the Il Chin-hoi, and Mr. Ogaki as Adviser of the Tai-han Hyop-hoi, it can not be denied that Japanese subjects are more or less associated with the affair, and, indeed, considering the relations between the two neighbouring peoples, one must be prepared to find a Japanese finger in every Korean pie. But neither Mr. Uchida nor Mr. Ogaki can be said to have the least shred of representative capacity. They are acting solely for their own hand, yet it is not at all impossible that their association with the two rival parties may involve their country in the disgrace of any catastrophe resulting from the present commotion, just as the fact that one or two Japanese *soshi* were connected with the assassins of the Queen many years ago, has been recorded in the pages of history as an evidence that Japanese officialdom connived at that foul crime. Already the telegrams speak of wild and vehement charges preferred against the Japanese as the supposed prompters of the Il Chin-hoi's doings, and a fresh impetus has thus been given to anti-Japanese sentiment. The strange point is that the present Prime Minister is accused of secretly fomenting this sentiment, and if that be the case, a new cause for uneasiness is introduced. Certainly all accounts agree in stating that the Cabinet have spared no means of exciting popular feeling against the Il Chin-hoi, and have not hesitated to extend their influence even to religious bodies.

The *Jiji Shimpo* speaks of two Japanese advisers to the Il Chin-hoi, namely, Messrs. Uchida and Kikuchi, and says that these advisers, recognising the evil plight into which the Il Chin-hoi has fallen, are conferring with Mr. Ogaki of the Tai han Hyop-hoi as to the feasibility of bringing the two parties into line once more. Our contemporary's correspondent represents the Tai-han Hyop-hoi as halting between two opinions, namely, whether to work for the total discomfiture of the Il Chin-hoi, or to utilize the situation for less drastic purposes. At all events, the *Jiji's* view is that the Il Chin-hoi has made a conspicuous failure. It is an old proverb that profit never accrues to pioneers.

The Residency-General seems to be adopting what is obviously the wisest course in the circumstances. It is treating the whole agitation as a matter of wholly secondary importance. Acting upon Viscount Sone's instructions, the Prime Minister, Mr. Yi Wany-on, has decided not to submit to the Throne the memorial presented by the Il Chin-hoi, while the Residency-General, on its side, has resolved not to make any reply to the Il Chin-hoi's representations. That is certainly the most efficacious method of completely dissociating the Japanese Government from the Il Chin-hoi's propaganda.

We observe with pleasure that the *Jiji Shimpo*, in a leading article, reminds its countrymen of the services rendered to Japan in the past by the Il Chin-hoi. That party worked frankly and loyally to assist Japan throughout the War, and during the four years that have elapsed since then, its members have staunchly adhered to the same line, although their steadfastness has brought upon them no little suffering, especially at the hands of the insurgents. If on this occasion their judgment has been somewhat defective, their previous record must not be obliterated, nor must it be forgotten that their present line is the logical sequence of their past conduct.

Thursday, December 9.

Things seems to be tending strongly to the discomfiture of the Il Chin-hoi. That party itself is said to be not so unpopular as its former leader, Mr. Sun Pyong-chun, who is now in Japan, where he has resided for several months. The idea is that the Il Chin-hoi's agitation in favour of amalgamation was prompted by Mr. Sun, who used it as a weapon for overthrowing the Cabinet and thus opening a route for his own return to power. Meanwhile there have been several secessions from the ranks of the Il Chin-hoi, and among the seceders is the Vice-President of that Party. It is broadly hinted that these men have been bought out by the Prime Minister and his supporters, but the failure of their programme and the unpopularity attending it seem to be sufficient causes without recourse to the suspicion of bribery and corruption. As for the Representation submitted by the Il Chin-hoi, it has been returned to that Society by the Prime Minister, with a curt intimation that, in accordance with a decision adopted by a Cabinet Council held at the Residency-General, the document can not be submitted to the Emperor. This cavalier treatment has not unnaturally incensed the Il Chin-hoi, and they have decided to re-submit the Representation. Fears seem to be now entertained that the agitation may result in acts of violence, and there is talk of organizing a force of special constables to preserve the peace.

It has been decided by the anti-Il Chin-hoi party to hold another lecture meeting for the purpose of denouncing the amalgamation scheme, and the Chamber of Commerce is being utilized as the headquarters of a body of men pledged to oppose the Il Chin-hoi.

The leader of the Il Chin-hoi, Mr. Yi Yong kyu, is quoted by the *Jiji's* correspondent as saying that amalgamation is no new idea. It has been entertained for some years, and Prince Ito himself was not averse to it, though he doubtless deemed its consummation premature. That the preaching of such a propaganda should cause some excitement is not to be wondered at. Mr. Yi and his supporters were prepared for that, but they were not prepared to be classed as mere political schemers, and they vehemently repudiate the idea that their motive has been lust of power. They will continue to circulate their doctrine throughout the provinces as well as in the capital, for their firm conviction is that the only way to secure a peaceful and prospersons future for their country is to amalgamate it with the Japanese Empire.

JAPAN'S POSITION.

The *Advocate of Peace* asks "is there any way to bring pressure to bear upon the seven or eight great Powers on whose action the solution of the situation confessedly depends?;" and it suggests as answer that "a direct appeal to them made by the secondary Powers acting in a body might accomplish what is so urgent." That seems a rather futile proposal. It is true that many of these secondary Powers are vitally interested and have an enormous stake in the maintenance of general peace. But what then? Does not the suggestion made by the *Advocate of Peace* recall the scene of Mr. Pickwick's skating accident when Mr. Snodgrass conjures him to keep himself up "for my sake," and Dickens justly observes that "if Mr. Pickwick would not keep himself up for his own sake he was not likely to do it for the sake of any one else"? A round robin signed by the secondary Powers would almost assume the character of an impertinence. More interesting, we venture to think, is the Boston journal's classification of the "seven or eight great Powers upon which it is so desirable to bring pressure." They are, Great Britain, Germany, France, Russia, Austria, Italy, Japan, and the United States. Five or six of those, adds our contemporary, would certainly welcome the proposed action of the Secondary Powers, and "the other two would not long hold out against such an appeal." Who are "the other two?" There can not be any hesitation in replying. Unpleasant as the admission is, England and Germany must be named. They and they alone constitute the great menace to the world's peace in this twentieth century. It is an unhappy and humiliating fact.

THE SUGAR COMPANY CASE.

The Tokyo Local Court has finally passed sentence on the directors and auditors of the Japan Sugar Refining Company. The following are the sentences:—Isomura Otosuke, 4 years major confinement; Akiyama Ichiyu, 3½ years; Ito Moshichi, 2 years, the execution to be postponed for five years in consideration of his mental condition; Takatsu Kyuemon, 1½ years, the execution postponed for four years; Fukugawa Chuhei, 10 months, postponed four years; Tsunegawa Shinsuke, 10 months, postponed three years; and Endo Shozo, 6 months, postponed three years.

It will be observed that out of the seven men, two only will actually undergo imprisonment at once. If the rest lead an orderly life hereafter, their sentences will be remitted.

The lunacy of Mr. Ito Moshichi, who is now in the hospital at Osaka, is reported to have become very acute. He has bitten off one of his fingers and has otherwise mutilated himself.

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AN APPRECIATION.

Mr. Akatsuka, Secretary of the Foreign Office in Tokyo, has just completed an extensive tour of inquiry in China. He reports, according to the *Jiji Shimpo*, that the rights-recovery cry is now supplemented by a demand for the development of native industries, so as to dispense with foreign products and manufactures. But although admitting that the clamour is loud, Mr. Akatsuka evidently has great doubts as to its sincerity. He divides the partisans of the agitation into five classes. In the first are to be placed those who are influenced by really patriotic motives. Their number is exceedingly small. The second consists of persons who utilize the excitement as a lever for prising themselves into good positions. They are incomparably the most numerous. In the third group are promoters of companies and other enterprises who, by exciting the popular mind, hope to obtain subscribers for shares in enterprises which would not otherwise command support. In the fourth category are to be placed men who, being envious of the successful combinations formed by foreigners and Chinese for business purposes, are anxious to oust the foreigner and succeed to the position his capital and energy have built up. Finally, there are the local officials who are genuinely solicitous on behalf of native industries and who would fain see the country developed so as to be independent of supplies from abroad. Undoubtedly the outcry is serving to inspire industrial progress. Companies are springing up for the prosecution of electric works and railways, but it is noticeable that these are, for the most part, undertaken partly by officialdom and partly by private persons. This combination is not unnatural, for by the aid of officials alone can land be cheaply acquired for building factories and can other facilities be secured. Since the year before last, the Authorities have taken steps to discriminate between foreign manufacturers and native in the matter of domestic taxation, and great strength for competitive purposes is thus imparted to paper, woven goods, candles, needles, flour, woollens and cotton yarns. The system of exemptions is extended to goods produced at factories within the foreign settlements. Most noteworthy is the effect in Kwangtung province, where factories have been established for making lemonade, woollens, school utensils, uniforms, matches, cement, woven fabrics and leather. In the case of matches, the materials are procured from Japan, and Chinese cheap labour is employed to work them up. There are no less than 120 of the Toyoda weaving machines at one factory, and Japanese experts are employed to run them. These Toyoda looms, we may mention, are a Japanese invention or adaptation, and their great advantage is that they can be worked without any expensive recourse to motor power. It is noteworthy that on the labels attached to the fabrics produced at this factory there are imprinted the words *toka shinko*, which signify, "development of local industry." Of course the province of Kwangtung has always been noted for enterprise and sentiment, so that its progress may not be regarded as an accurate criterion of the things to be expected elsewhere. Still, there can not be much doubt that the movement will spread with greater or less rapidity, and that its result will be to materially lessen the demand for imported goods. Mr. Akatsuka nevertheless seems to think that the people of China are not very well fitted by disposition for joint stock enterprises. They do not trust each other sufficiently, and it therefore becomes necessary that official coöperation should be sought, and that a certain rate of return—say 6 or 8 per cent.—should be guaranteed. Only under those conditions will the average Chinaman subscribe for shares. The guaranteed amount is looked on merely as normal interest, and not until it has been paid does the question of profit, in the ordinary sense of the term, present itself to the Chinaman's mind. Even when all these circumstances are favourable, a considerable amount of official pressure is requisite before private individaals can be induced to put up their money. Nevertheless it is not to be denied that the semi-political outcry has given a large impulse to native industry.

THE CURRENCY OF MANCHURIA.

Mr. Iida is quoted by the *Asahi Shimbun* as expressing great doubts about the success of the Government's intention with regard to establishing the double standard in Manchuria. He says that the confusion existing in currency matters throughout the Three Eastern Provinces passes description. The revenue of the Railway is collected in gold, but the taxes are paid in silver, and in different localities different kinds of *cash* circulate at varying values. It was expected that the convertible notes of the Specie Bank would be received with open hands by the people, but the expectation was completely disappointed, owing to the Viceroy's decision that taxes must not be paid with these notes. Mr. Iida evidently thinks that radical measures are essential, and that the introduction of the double standard will tend only to make confusion worse confounded.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has an article on this subject, the gist of which is that the Government's proposal to establish the double standard is simply a method of covering up its own failure in dealing with the war-notes. The latter have been redeemed for the most part with convertible notes of the Specie Bank, but owing to the machinations of Chinese bankers, these notes have gone into only very partial circulation, and there are now several varieties of bank paper in use. Our contemporary holds that the Government's policy was mistaken from the outset, and that the only sound plan would have been to suppress the circulation of all notes except those authorized by the Japanese authorities during the War. There would then have been a clean slate to work on after the War. This presents itself to us very much in the light of the wisdom that succeeds the event.

THE ASSASSIN OF PRINCE ITO.

The preliminary examination of the assassin himself is said to have been concluded at Port Arthur, but the present expectation is that the inquiry will be continued for a considerable time longer before the assassin and his accomplices are remanded for public trial. Evidence is said to have been obtained that the conspiracy embraced some Koreans now residing in Vladivostock, and negotiations have been commenced for obtaining the coöperation of the Russian police authorities. Naturally it is the desire of the Japanese to thoroughly follow up every clue, however small, that may be obtained, and, to accomplish that completely, much time will be needed. Any perfunctoriness in this case might become the direct cause of future crimes.

THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

Our readers will have observed that China has utilized the reappearance of the Hunghutsz in the Mukden-Antung Railway zone to effect a practical solution of the problem outstanding between herself and Japan with regard to the protection of life and property within that zone. She has organized a new body of police numbering about 500, and she has attached it, not to the Home Affairs Bureau of the Viceroyalty, but to the Foreign Affairs Bureau. These constables, including a mounted force, are to be established at four principal, and thirty, outlying stations along the Mukden-Antung road, and are manifestly to be charged with duties hitherto delegated to the Japanese railway-guards. In fact, China has taken the law into her own hands, and instead of waiting until some arrangement had been come to with Japan on the subject of this railway zone, has proceeded to act as though Japan need not be consulted any further. It is not to be supposed that this high-handed policy will be endured by Japan without a protest. The Chinese Government may possibly plead that it is only following in this matter the course adopted by the Japanese Government itself with regard to the Mukden-Antung line. But the cases do not seem to be identical. With regard to the construction of the railway, a complete deadlock had been created in the negotiations by China's obstructive attitude, whereas with regard to the railway-guards, the two Powers are understood to have agreed that they would postpone the discussion to a more suitable occasion, and there was already talk of an amicable compromise when China suddenly took the recent step. We frankly admit that it is a clever move and that it will command a large share of public sympathy, inasmuch as it seems to be based on the principle of preserving life and property. Manifestly, the railway zone is inadequately guarded at present, and China will doubtless insist that her sovereign dignity is impaired when outrages such as those perpetrated by the Hunghutsz are taking place within her borders. In short, she will represent the occasion as one of emergency.

THE YOKOHAMA-HACHIOJI RAILWAY.

Our readers probably remember that the 27-mile-long railway between Hachioji and Yokohama was opened to traffic in September 1908. This railway when projected was regarded as a splendid enterprise. The expectation was that the stream of goods and passengers which then flowed from the silk districts to Yokohama *viâ* Tokyo, would follow the direct route from Hachioji, and the new line would thus vie with the Kobu Railway as a profit-earning enterprise. Experience, however, has proved that all these forecasts were fallacious. People tumbled over each other to purchase shares in the new Company, and the whole capital was subscribed without any appeal to the public. But the results have been most disappointing. Owing to the cheap rates charged over the Government's lines, almost no returns have been available for dividend on the new railway, and it has now been decided to lease the whole property as it stands to the Government, the latter undertaking to pay to the shareholders interest at the minimum rate of 3½ per cent. A general meeting is to be held on the 28th inst. for the purpose of discussing this arrangement.

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CHINA.

Friday, December 3.

The ceremony of turning the first sod on the Kilin-Changchun Railway took place on the 2nd instant, but of course there is no idea of actually commencing work at this season. That will not be done until next spring. It appears that there will be a difficulty about the location of the Changchun Station. The site at present fixed is at the East gate of the city, but if that programme be followed, there will be great inconvenience in utilizing the South-Manchuria Railway for the transport of goods carried from the Kilin region. It seems a strange idea that the two roads should not be linked up direct, but apparently some obstacle offers to that evidently rational course.

One of the difficult problems which the Japanese found confronting them in Manchuria was the question of currency. During the war, about 140 million *yen* worth of war-notes were issued. Subsequently these were all redeemed, either with silver or with duly secured silver notes. But thereafter the great debâcle in the gold price of silver commenced, and business demanding the use of silver currency was reduced almost to the level of a gambling transaction. Early in 1907, the Japanese Authorities in the leased territory announced that thenceforth taxes would be received in gold only, and salaries would be paid in similar coin. But that discrimination did not greatly alleviate the general situation, as may well be supposed. Of course Manchuria is not singular in this matter; the inconvenience felt there is experienced all over China. But doubtless the situation in the Three Eastern Provinces is aggravated by the presence of numerous Japanese firms and traders who, in their transactions with the home country, necessarily use gold. This problem is said to be occupying the serious attention of the officials of the Specie Bank, who are now preparing to extend that institution's transactions in Manchuria. There was some idea of adopting the gold standard throughout the region, but evidently that would be almost impossible, so long as the Chinese Empire remains silver monometallic.

Sunday, December 5.

A telegram from Peking says that in response to the second despatch of an Envoy from the Throne to summon her, Lady Yu and her attendants have agreed to return to the capital on the 8th inst. under certain conditions. What the conditions are, however, the telegram does not state.

It is alleged that the Chinese Government has decided to propose that the Macao boundary dispute shall be submitted for the arbitration of the Hague Tribunal.

That notoriously unquiet region of China, namely, the Lienchow and Kaochow district is again in a disturbed condition. Rebels are said to have taken the field in some force.

The competition in the Manchurian been trade seems to have developed large dimensions. At one time the Mitsui Company had the field practically to itself, but soon the great firms, Messrs. Jardine, Matheson, Samuel Samuel and Otto Reimers entered the arena, and of course prices ran up smartly at the place of production. A great crop of beans was expected this year, but it turns out that the excess over last year's yield is only 100,000 tons, and, of course, this additional supply does not suffice for the greatly enlarged demand. Prices have risen 80 to 90 *sen* a ton and freight is 4 or 5 shillings dearer than it was last year. Altogether, if the *Asahi's* figures be correct, the prospect is not very rosy for the exporting firms, but we suspect that they knew very well what was before them when they entered the contest.

A telegram from Dairen says that the borings at the hill called Oyama, which forms part of the Fushun mining district, have been carried down to a depth of 1600 ft., and a rich vein of coal has been struck, as had been anticipated from the first. This news is a little perplexing. Hitherto the general impression has been that a practically unlimited supply of excellent mineral was accessible at easy depths, and that no profound boring of the nature here described was called for.

A *Jiji Shimpo's* London telegram, which is believed to have emanated from St. Petersburg, speaks of negotiations now in progress between the Governments of Russia and Japan, pointing to the acquisition by the latter of a small portion of the East China Railway with the object of facilitating communication between that road and the South Manchuria line. It is a mysterious piece of intelligence, but there is just a possibility that the present system of linking up may have been proved by experience to be more or less defective, and some remedy may be under consideration. But we fail to see how the acquisition of a part of the East China Railway could meet the difficulty, if one really exists.

The mounted bandits have again made their appearance along the Mukden-Antung line. At 2 a.m. on the 4th inst. they raided the store of the Tanaka Guild at Menkiapow, criminally assaulted and wounded two Japanese women and got away with a considerable quantity of coin and goods.

Monday, December 6.

The formidable quarrel among the great ladies of the Chinese Court seems likely to be composed by means of one ideograph. The Lady Yu will henceforth have the pleasure of seeing her title enhanced by the addition of a single square character, and it is to be presumed that this device has proved sufficiently satisfactory to induce her to return to Peking. Telegrams from the Chinese capital suggest, however, that the incident is not altogether ended, and that some points of etiquette may still constitute a bone of contention in the Imperial Court.

The bandits have again made their presence felt along the Mukden-Antung line. On the 4th inst.—the date is not quite clear—they raided a store belonging to a contractor named Matsumoto, wounded 11 Japanese and carried off a considerable sum. The place where this occurred was Fukenlien.

Rumour continues to busy itself with the probable retirement of the Viceroy of Manchuria. His Excellency is now resting from the discharge of his official duties, having obtained a fortnight's leave for the ostensible purpose of recruiting his health. The impression is that he will not resume his vice-regal function, as he finds it impossible to solve the various problems of finance and foreign policy confronting him in the Three Eastern Provinces. Tang Shaoi is now spoken of as his probable successor.

Wednesday, December 8.

It is stated that a Chinese merchant in Yingkow, or at least a supposed Chinese merchant, has addressed threatening letters to General Viscount Oshima, Governor-General of Kwantung, and to Mr. Shirani, Head of the Civil Government in the Leased Territory. This is supposed to be an outcome of the Harbin assassination.

A section of the Chinese seems to be somewhat disturbed with reference to Japan. It is said that on the occasion of the autumn manœuvres at Paoting-fu, the Principal of the Normal School in Fakumen delivered a public address, in which he alleged that 20,000 Japanese troops and some British were encamped in Tiehling with the object of presently overrunning Manchuria, and that the Paoting manœuvres were connected with this scheme.

In fact, Fakumen appears to be a seed-plot of agitating rumours. From it emanate reports that Russia is concentrating her entire attention upon an effort to stretch her tentacles from Mongolia to Peking, and that her attention being thus completely diverted from Manchuria, the Three Eastern Provinces may be said to have fallen into Japan's lap. It is a great pity that the perpetrators of these canards can not be definitely traced.

Trouble seems to have fallen upon the bean trade in Manchuria. Large contracts for future delivery were made some time ago at prices which are now so much below the present market value that to press for the implementing of the contracts would spell ruin for the sellers. Already there has been one failure at Mukden, though not on a large scale, the amount involved being only 100,000 *taels*.

A telegram to the *Asahi Shimbun* from Peking alleges that an arrangement has been effected for borrowing a sum of 7 million *taels* to meet the financial difficulties in Manchuria. The Hongkong and Shanghai Bank is to furnish 4½ millions of the amount, the German East Asia Bank 1½ millions, and the remaining one million will be put up by the Bank of Indo-China. It is thought that Viceroy Hsu's health will now recover.

It is evident that the action of the Chinese Government in organizing a special police force for guarding the zone of the Mukden-Antung Railway is awakening some resentment in Japan. The *Chuo Shimbun* has a strong article on the subject this morning. It insists emphatically that in taking such a step without giving any notice whatever to Japan, although friendly negotiations were going on between the two Powers, China has been guilty of an act of great international discourtesy, to use no stronger expression. As for the problem of policing the line, it is idle to discuss the possibility of entrusting this duty solely to the Chinese. However liberal may be Japan's sentiments towards her neighbour, she can not forget that the Mukden-Antung Railway will presently be a section of a world route, and that the responsibility of protecting the life and property of travellers will be incurred not towards any one nation but towards all nations. To leave such a function wholly in China's hands can not be contemplated for a moment. The fact is that the Chinese have allowed themselves to be transported out of the region of practicality by their rights-recovery delirium. Rights-recovery is a very fine thing, but it becomes a mere bauble unless it be accompanied by competence to exercise the rights when recovered.

In this context we notice a telegram from Mukden to the *Asahi Shimbun* saying that the Chinese have recalled a body of 400 cavalry and infantry recently despatched against the mounted bandits in the Amur region, the purpose of the recall being to distribute these troops through the zone of the Mukden-Antung line, Hailungchen being their headquarters.

It is alleged that the Chinese Government is making strenuous efforts to induce Sir Robert Hart to return to Peking at the earliest possible date. The immediate cause

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of this urgency is said to be a desire to recover complete control of the postal service, which is now in the hands of the Imperial Maritime Customs. Apparently Sir Robert Bredon, the Acting Inspector, General of Customs, does not appear to be altogether well disposed towards this project, his idea being that the Chinese have not yet garnered sufficient experience to manage the postal business in a thoroughly satisfactory manner, and it is thought that Sir Robert Hart would be likely to show a more favourable disposition. The telegram adds that Sir Robert is expected to return, possibly about April next.

Thursday, December 9.

It is rumoured in Peking that Prince Chin, President of the Waiwupu, and Mr. Liang, Vice-President, have decided to submit their resignations owing to the difficulty of dealing with the present condition of the country's foreign affairs. This would indeed be an extreme measure, and that such a step should be taken for such a cause is scarcely credible.

There is some talk of a radical change of organisation in Mongolia. It would involve the abolition of the office of King, and the introduction of the system of provincial government which prevails throughout the rest of China. This step is attributed to the Central Government's consciousness of the dangerous growth of Russian influence in Mongolia.

A Peking contemporary writes:—"The social standing of actors in China is very low. In the 18 grades of China's social caste, they are placed at the 12th, which is lower than the position immoral women or thieves occupy. This is the natural outcome of their being ignorant and leading a questionable life. But there is a class of actors called Yu Hsi Tzu (Imperial actors). These are kept on salaries like ordinary officials, and act in the presence of His Majesty on the 4th of every month. They have great influence, and often defy even the command of the highest mandarins. At present, there are about 10 of them in Peking, the oldest among them being 65 years old, and the youngest 30." It is a curious fact that, so far as we know, no satisfactory reason has ever been assigned for the exceedingly low place to which actors and actresses are condemned in Chinese society. In Japan much the same state of affairs used to exist, but the cause has always been tolerably well known. Another interesting feature is that, in both countries alike, the drama had its origin in a kind of operatic performance with music and song. The Chinese histrionic art has been much more conservative than the Japanese, for the former has remained always a singing representation whereas the latter, even before it was reached by foreign influence, developed all the characteristics of the theatre proper.

A Chinese, writing in the *China Tribune*, has this to say about the women of his country:—

A few girls are taught to read and write just before their marriage, by their parents or private teachers. Some are educated in female schools that came into existence in recent years, but the majority of them is devoid of education. The ignorance, combined with certain liberities the man gives them through the idea that a woman is inferior to man, and therefore, her action should not be judged according to the man's ethical standard, lead them often to selfishness and arrogance. It is not a very rare thing to see a lady of good standing, when something does not suit her, upbraid her husband in the most vile language imaginable, at the top of her voice, so that all the neighbours can hear her, and on some occasions, when the husband tries to remonstrate with her, to rush out into the street, shrieking and gesticulating, to advertise her family grievance publicly. When this extreme measure is used, the husband generally gives in, as you may think he would, in order to save his "face." So, this is the weapon with which the women thinks she can tame the man, and win from him whatever demand she may have against him. However selfish and arrogant toward her husband, she is quite meek and obedient to the father and mother-in-law, their command being duly respected.

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES IN CHINA.

We had hoped, not unreasonably, that some of the Chinese Journals would be able to offer convincing proof that the action of the provincial assemblies in Pehchili and Kwantung was due to a special cause, and need not be construed as suggesting a pessimistic view of this first step towards representative Government in China. But we must reluctantly confess that the remarks made by the *Peking Daily News* have little re-assuring value. That journal, after alluding in sarcastic terms to the Foreign Editor of *The Times*, concerning whom it says that "ever since his visit to Japan," *The Times* has been "sceptical about everything Chinese," proceeds to rebut the apprehensions inspired by the action of those two assemblies; but has nothing more consoling to allege than the fact that the other provincial assemblies have discharged their functions quietly and soberly. That is true, and China's friends—among whom the Foreign Editor of *The Times* is to be confidently counted, the *Peking Daily News non obstante*—are unfeignedly glad to think that it is true. But does it constitute anything like an adequate set-off for the conduct of the assemblies in the two metropolitan provinces, Pehchili and Kwangtung? We are sorry to have to answer in the negative. Among the eighteen provinces of China proper, the only two where clear ideas about constitutional government and international relations can be said to be entertained are precisely the provinces where the first assemblies have exhibited such a disquieting mood and such a disposition to meddle with matters lying quite beyond their legitimate purview. It is our sincere hope, and it is the sincere hope of the Foreign Editor of *The Times*, that China will make a success of this great experiment, but the first steps do not strengthen that hope. And what does the Peking journal mean by suggesting, as it very plainly suggests, that the visit of the Foreign Editor of *The Times* to Japan has inspired the great journal with scepticism about things Chinese? In the first place, *The Times* is not sceptical. The admirable series of letters entitled "The Far East revisited" show a genuinely friendly disposition towards China and much faith in her future. In the second place, Japan is the last place to come to in search of such scepticism. Japan, as the contents of her journals testify, and as any one at all familiar with her mood can testify, has much confidence in China, and is frankly anxious that her great neighbour should make a signal success of the important experiment upon which she has now embarked. If the *Peking Daily News* had a more intimate knowledge of Japan, it would at once recognise the injustice of the innuendo referred to above.

THIBET.

There comes from Shanghai to the *Hochi Shimbun* a message which suggests the recrudescence of diplomatic doings cognate with those responsible in former days for much disturbance of public opinion. It affirms that the Dalai Lama has concluded a secret treaty with the Emperor of Russia, and that the Government at St. Petersburg has declined to communicate the contents of the Treaty to the Thibetan Representative in that city. This sounds like a very apocryphal story, and we are not at all sure that it does not do justice to its place of origin, Shanghai.

The affairs of Thibet seem to be again thrusting themselves into the field of the political lens. A late telegram represented the Dalai Lama as having concluded with St. Petersburg an agreement, the contents of which he refused to disclose to the Chinese Resident in Lassa, Mr. Chao Erh-feng. It would seem that the Resident had suspected something of this kind before its actual consummation, but had failed to obtain any satisfaction from the Dalai Lama. Mr. Chao had accordingly applied to Peking for authority to take any exceptional measure which the circumstances might seem to demand, and while Peking was hesitating to issue the necessary authorization, the Resident discovered that the Dalai Lama had sent an Envoy to both London and St. Petersburg, all the while that in Lhassa he was showing an unconscious face. Chao accordingly reiterated his application to Peking, and the Chinese Government, appreciating the urgency of the situation, is said to have issued the necessary commission.

A strong complaint is said to have been urged against the Dalai Lama from another quarter, namely, the inhabitants of Shensi and Shansi, who allege that they were mercilessly plundered by the entourage of his Holiness during his recent journey from Peking to Lhassa.

THE TOYO KISEN KAISHA.

The *Hochi Shimbun* publishes a vehement attack upon the Directors of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha. It recalls the fact that in March last, when this Company's affairs were attracting much attention, the President, Mr. Asano, alleged that with a subsidy of 600,000 *yen* which would accrue under the new Navigation Encouragement Act, the Company could run its ships on the South American service with profitable results, even though neither cargo nor passengers were obtained. The *Hochi* now inquires how such a statement is to be reconciled with the fact that the Company is charging 10 *yen* per ton for the nitrates of Chili, which are of such vital importance to Japanese agriculturists. There is not the slightest doubt that this fertilizer would be largely used by the farmers if it could be obtained at cheaper rates, and it must therefore be regarded as an essential element of the country's prosperity. Yet this is precisely the article upon which a steamship company enjoying an extraordinary amount of State aid elects to impose an almost prohibitive rate of freight. Great enterprise has been shown by the agents of these nitrates. They have organized a society called the *Shoseki Fukkyu-kai*, which as its name implies has for object the popularization of nitrate fertilizers. The Society spares no labour and expense to compile and circulate among the agricultural classes pamphlets describing the advantages of the fertilizer and explaining the methods of its use. But all this labour and enterprise is now nullified by the exorbitant charges of the steamship company, and the President of the Society is said to have addressed a strong memorial to the Government on the subject.

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THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

Friday, December 3.

The failure to settle the interminable problem of the Tokyo Railway is, not unnaturally, giving rise to strange rumours; but the strangest is circulated by the *Niroku Shimbun*. It is to the effect that municipalization was from the outset a scheme on the part of the bureaucracy to put the Railway ultimately into the hands of a special clique of merchants, who, in return, would show their gratitude by subscribing some millions of *yen* to organize a great political party. The order of procedure would have been, first, municipalization; secondly, failure of the municipality to carry on the enterprise in a satisfactory manner; and finally, the transfer of the whole property to the favoured clique. To account for the fact that the opening step in their programme, namely, municipalization, was not allowed, our fertile-brained contemporary suggests that the final idea was to make things impossible for the Company in every direction, and thus to obtain the reversion of the property at a low figure. We mention this extravagantly absurd theory merely for the purpose of illustrating the state of perplexity into which men's minds have evidently been plunged by the Government's strange attitude. It will appear to most persons that the sooner this problem is treated as a matter of ordinary business, the better will it be for Japan's reputation.

Saturday, December 4.

According to the *Nippon*, the political parties both of the Upper and the Lower Houses are disposed to attack the Government vehemently for having issued a memorandum conditionally sanctioning the municipalization of the Tokyo Railway. We gather that municipalization itself is not what these politicians object to: their claim is that the Government exceeded its legitimate powers in issuing such a memorandum, and that it thereby caused considerable disturbance in the share market. We find it difficult to credit the accuracy of this rumour. It is understood that the Government acted in response to applications made by the Municipal authorities of Tokyo, and if the Departments of State specially concerned in the matter of the Railway have not power to take such a step, it would seem to follow that they have no authority to formulate an injunction of any kind. At all events, it will be seen that this question of the Railway is becoming a perpetual crux, and that to settle it definitely is a pressing necessity of the hour.

Tuesday, December 7.

On the 6th inst. a meeting of the principal shareholders of the Tokyo Railway Company was held at the Imperial Hotel. We need not enter into minute details. It will suffice to say that the shareholders urged the advisability of refraining for the present from all agitation in favour of either increased fares or municipalization. They held that when the suburban lines are finished, the injustice of the present system of a uniform fare will be recognised by the public, and sectional charges will come into vogue. In the meantime, while fully acknowledging the diligence and competence of the present board of Directors and of the Company's staff, they considered that to set aside the sum of a million *yen* annually on account of maintenance was somewhat excessive. It was to be observed that while, on the one hand, the authorities insisted on regarding this money as profit and levied an income tax on it, the Municipality, on the other hand, when estimating the price of the Railway, excluded the maintenance fund from the basis of calculation. This could not be called just treatment. At the same time, experience showed that the sum set apart was too large, and the shareholders suggested that it should be reduced to 400,000 *yen* annually. If that were done, a dividend of 6.6 could be declared, and this should be counted the minimum. The Directors who were present at the meeting did not immediately declare their consent to this arrangement, but promised to give it due consideration.

Another point emphasized by the principal shareholders was that thousands of people who are neither labourers nor students, take advantage of the discount rates granted in the morning and the evening, and the Company is thus robbed of a considerable income. How to prevent this is a difficult problem, but there ought to be some way of at least correcting it in part.

Wednesday, December 8.

The Tokyo newspapers expect that the dividend paid by the Tokyo Railway Company for the current half year will be 6 per cent., instead of 5.40, the present figure. One of the Managing Directors, Mr. Inouye, is quoted as saying that the Board will certainly approve of the recommendations made by the principal shareholders. As to carrying on its work without reference to municipalization or increased fares, that has always been the Board's desire, and it will pursue that aim more diligently than ever. With regard to the maintenance fund, it was calculated originally on a somewhat lower basis than that adopted by similar concerns in foreign countries, but as experience has shown that a smaller sum thus far suffices, it will be possible to comply with the wishes of the shareholders, especially as a considerable amount has accumulated under this heading, so that there is plenty of money available for the next few years, by which time the Company will have extended its lines and developed its electric-light enterprise. Referring to the fact that the citizens at large take free advantage of the discount granted in the morning and the evening to labourers and students, Mr. Inouye said that the public would certainly support the Company in its endeavours to correct this abuse.

We wonder how the Municipality regards all this. The Municipality is practically a partner of the Railway Company, but it is a wholly profitless partnership so far as the City is concerned.

Thursday, December 9.

The Directors of the Tokyo Railway Company held a meeting on the 8th inst. at the offices of the Company and decided that no further account should be taken of such contingencies as an increase of fare or municipalization. One Director went so far as to suggest that any future proposal for municipalization should be at once rejected. It was further stated that, in the sequel of private inquiries, the present Cabinet is not at all likely to sanction an increase of fares. In short, the meeting showed that a strong feeling of umbrage exists against the present Ministry, and we can not be at all surpised that such is the case, for certainly the Company, as things stand at present, is the victim of a flagrant injustice. It was further decided by the Directors that the proposal of the principal shareholders to reduce the maintenance fund from one million *yen* annually to 400,000 *yen* should be adopted, and that a dividend should be paid at the rate of 6.6 per cent. annually. The following accounts were adopted for presentation at the general meeting:—

	Yen.
Net profits	1,840,000
Brought forward	19,981
Total	1,859,981

To be distributed as follows:—

Reserves	170,000
Rewards to officials	35,000
Maintenance Fund	200,000
Dividend (6.6 per cent.)	1,435,500
Brought forward	19,481

It will be interesting to see what action the Municipality takes in these circumstances. The City does not begin to derive any revenue from the Railway until the latter pays a dividend of over 7 per cent., and therefore in existing circumstances the City would get no return at all.

ASAMA-YAMA.

At about 7.45 p.m. on the 7th inst. Tokyo had a most unusual experience. All the windows and doors shook violently for nearly a minute, yet the earth was quite tranquil and nothing like a shock of earthquake was experienced. It was presently learned that this curious phenomenon was due to an atmospheric disturbance caused by a violent eruption of Asama-yama. Reports from all the regions surrounding the mountain speak of a heavy fall of ashes which were belched forth with incredible violence. In ordinary circumstances such a sudden outburst of activity would have been accompanied by a destructive earthquake, but although houses were considerably shaken, no damage was done beyond the breaking of a few utensils, nor does it appear that there was any injury to life or limb. The most serious feature seems to be a forest fire of very large dimensions, which was still raging at the time of despatching the latest advices. It is 120 years since Asama-yama behaved in this manner, and on that occasion 35,000 lives were said to have been lost. People are naturally nervous at the thought that this eruption may prelude others.

The forest fire in the woods of Asama-yama was extinguished at noon on the 8th instant, but not before it had wrought much injury to the forests, which are public property. As for the volcano itself, it continues to emit thick volumes of smoke and large quantities of ashes. It is related by passengers who were in the train at Yokogawa that at 7.40 p.m. a concussion so severe took place that the windows of the carriages were broken. The train was able to proceed on its way, but it travelled through darkness so intense that it seemed to be passing through a tunnel. Of course no implicit reliance can be placed upon the above statement of time. The precise moment when the shock was felt in Tokyo is alleged by the officials of the Observatory to have been 7h. 43m. 32s., which would imply that the distance between the mountain and Tokyo was traversed by the force of the concussion in 3m. 32s. It seems that an expert of the Imperial University, Prof. Yamagaki, visited the mountain several times during September, and observed symptoms which led him to conclude that a volent cruption was imminent. Asama-yama has been active ever since 1335. Its eruptions are recorded on 28 occasions since then. The worst was in 1783, when great destruction of life and property took place.

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TER OF FINANCE AT OSAKA.

Marquis Katsura was entertained on the evening of the 4th inst. at the Osaka Bankers' Club. His Excellency made a long speech. He began by recounting the steps that had been adopted to reduce the volume of the national debt, and he then passed on to point out that the desired lowering of the rate of interest had taken place, and that consequently the time had come for utilizing the capital which seeks investment. As for the import of foreign capital, it had come in to the extent of about 60 million *yen*, which proved that the country's credit abroad was good. That was matter for congratulation, but, on the other hand, it had always to be remembered that every loan involved a corresponding amount of responsibility. Therefore the Government's policy was to discourage transactions of this nature, except in cases where full ability to meet the resulting responsibility was in evident existence. The Marquis then alluded to the disasters which had overtaken companies during the past 12 months, but while admitting that much loss had thus been caused to the shareholders and a severe shock given to the spirit of enterprise, he held that there had been some gain, inasmuch as greater circumspection was now exercised, and men had learned the necessity of distinguishing between stones and jewels. Referring to the question of the rice harvest, the Minister explained that if the richness of the yield had produced a fall in price, thus inflicting loss on the agricultural class, the consumers of the staple, on the other hand, found the expense of living materially reduced and their purchasing power was correspondingly developed. Moreover, there were evidences that a spirit of thrift prevailed among the people, and that considerable sums were being saved throughout the provinces. The Marquis thought that Japan might be compared to a patient who had contracted a fit of dropsy after the war, and who had undergone an operation which left him in a more or less debilitated condition. The period of convalescence and of recruiting his health had now begun, and if its processes were slow, there was no valid reason to be discouraged.

The Prime Minister delivered an interesting speech on the 5th inst. in the Osaka Hotel at a meeting of the Economic Association of that city. He declared that the Government was determined to adhere steadily to its original programme, the cardinal features of which were five, namely, to preserve equilibrium between outgoings and incomings; to suspend the issue of all uncompleted loans; to abstain from issuing any new loans; to redeem the national debt by rapid steps, and to keep the accounts of the Railway Board independent of the general accounts. Passing then to the Budget for next fiscal year, his Excellency said that the total income was estimated approximately at 536 millions, of which amount 486 millions represented ordinary revenue, and 50 millions, extraordinary. Further, included in these 50 millions there is a sum of 21,800,000 *yen* remaining over from last year. In the matter of expenditures, the total is estimated at 536 millions, whereof the ordinary expenditure represents 422 millions and the extraordinary, 114 millions. It is thus seen that while the totals balance on each side of the account, the ordinary revenue exceeds the ordinary expenditure by 64 millions. The Marquis then went on to say that the Government fully recognised the inequalities in the incidence of taxation resulting from the burdens which it had been necessary to impose hurriedly on the nation at the time of the war. It was unquestionably essential that these defects should be remedied, but to apply a remedy involving heavy diminutions of income is not immediately possible, in view of the many works pressing for prosecution and in view of the expanding needs of the State. The Government's present forecast was that in 1910 a reduction of 9,115,000 *yen* would be effected, and in 1911 a reduction of 10,106,000 *yen*. With regard to the increases of expenditure, the main item was the augmentation of official salaries by 30 per cent. For this purpose a total sum of 12,420,000 *yen* will be required, but as economies totalling 3,720,000 *yen* will be effected by administrative reforms, the amount actually needed for increasing salaries is only 8,700,000 *yen*. This question of official salaries has been on the tapis for many years. There can be no doubt that the measure is essential. Official salaries stand to-day just where they stood 25 years ago, when the price of commodities was very much less than it is at present, and when the gold price of the *yen*, in other words its purchasing power, was 30 or 40 per cent. greater. It is an obvious injustice to make no alteration to-day in salaries which were held to be barely sufficient three decades ago, and this is especially true in the case of officers in the Army. Passing to the question of the national debt, the Marquis explained that a sum of 7½ millions remained over from the Budget of 1907-8, namely, the 41st fiscal year, after all necessary disbursements had been made. The Government proposes that this sum should be added to the amount appropriated for the service of the national debt, thus bringing that figure to 193 million *yen*, of which 61 millions will be devoted to redemption. It is not pretended that this last amount is sufficient, but it is at all events considerable, and such appropriations have had the effect of increasing confidence in the State's finances. Some people contend that, instead of redeeming large blocks of the national debt, a wiser policy would be to reduce the land tax. But the Marquis pointed out that a reduction of the land tax would mean a permanent loss of revenue, whereas the sums which it is proposed to employ for redemption purposes are only temporary surpluses of budgetary accounts. The Marquis concluded by repeating and emphasizing his determination to avoid heroic measures of finance and to proceed steadily and surely.

VICE-ADMIRAL ARAI.

The death has just taken place in Tokyo of Vice-Admiral Arai, at the comparatively early age of 60. The deceased officer had gained great distinction in his profession. He already occupied a high position at the time, 1872, of the arrival of the first naval mission under the command of Captain (now Admiral) Sir Archibald Douglas, by which competent authority he was pronounced to be endowed by nature with qualities exceptionally suitable for the profession he had adopted. His latest work was in connexion with the refloating of the Russian warships at Port Arthur and Chemulpo, and in ordinary circumstances several years of usefulness ought still to have lain before him. But he had been a generous liver, especially in the matter of *saké*, and the result was gastric trouble which defied all medical treatment.

THE ANGLO-JAPANESE HYDRO-ELECTRIC COMPANY.

Tokyo newspapers have been comparatively silent about the above subject for some time back, but two of them, namely, the *Jiji Shimpo* and the Tokyo *Asahi*, now devote some space once more to the matter. The former journal takes a most optimistic tone. It represents Sir Edward Stracey as having reported that the Oigawa project is one of the most promising in the world, and it further represents Mr. Kondo Rempei as having associated himself with the enterprise, which fact contributes materially to the prospects of success. The *Asahi Shimbun*, on the contrary, virtually declares the scheme to be at an end. It attributes this disaster mainly to the fact that the charter contains a clause empowering the Government to take over the enterprise at any moment, should public interest dictate such a step. Mr. Mitchell, who came out in company with Sir Edward Stracey, and who remained in Japan after the latter's departure, put his finger upon this clause and pointed out that no English capitalist would invest money in an enterprise liable to such a fate. Consequently, the programme has been abandoned at the eleventh hour, and a fraction of the money put up by the shareholders will be returned to them. The *Asahi* adds that no such provision disfigures the charter granted to the Kinugawa Company, and consequently Mr. Jackson saw no difficulty in placing the latter upon the English money market.

We believe that both the above newspapers are materially in error, but the affairs of the Company chiefly concerned are not public property to be openly discussed. Three facts, however, may be stated. One is, that the Oigawa Company has not been dissolved and is not in danger of immediate dissolution; another, that the alleged difference between the conditions of the two charters is incredible; and the third that Mr. Kondo Rempei has not associated himself with the project.

THE RECALL OF MR CLOUD.

Much stress has been laid upon the fact that Mr. Cloud, the United States Consul at Mukden, has been called to America. The fact that news of his departure from Mukden was received after the publication of the report in which he attributed unfair methods to the Japanese in Manchuria, has, by a section of the press, been construed into a desire on the part of the State Department at Washington to discuss this report in person with Mr. Cloud and to hear his views. It can be stated, however, in the most positive manner that there is absolutely no ground for such a supposition.

Mr. T. J. O'Brien, the American Ambassador, authorizes an unqualified denial of the statement that the return of Mr. Cloud to America has any connection whatsoever with the publication or receipt of his report.

There is reason to believe that the statement by the American Ambassador is prompted by a telegram intimating that the State Department has received information indicating some credence being attached to the report of connection between Mr. Cloud's return and his attitude on the conduct of the Customs in Manchuria. The Ambassador's denial may therefore be considered as official, and indicative of a desire in the State Department at Washington to dissociate itself from any connection with the recent disturbance over Consul Cloud's report.

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MUNICIPAL CORRUPTION IN TOKYO.

No less than nineteen members of the Tokyo City Improvement Committee have been placed under detention ou a charge of corrupt practices in connexion with the works superintended by them. The counts of the accusation are simply giving information privately to contractors, and further conniving with the latter to manufacture a margin of dishonest profit. Rumour is busy with the incident. It alleges that the next arrests will be among members of the City Assembly, if not the Aldermen's Council, and that a wide-spread system of corruption will be exposed. Our readers know that Tokyo's reputation has not been above suspicion for some time. It has shared the fate of other great cities in that respect, and has frequently been the target of wholesale accusations at the hands of journalists who were unable to offer any item of solid evidence. It will be well if conclusive testimony has now been procured.

When all reasonable reductions have been made on account of newspaper exaggerations, there remains enough to show that the 19 employees of the Municipality engaged on the works of City Improvement have been guilty of considerable corruption. There is nothing in the smallest degree novel about their procedure. It has been perfectly simple and old fashioned. For example, operations calling for the use of 1500 bags of cement have been scamped by putting in only eight or nine hundred and pocketing the difference; and similar frauds have been perpetrated in the matter of gravel, bricks and timber. Of course, the connivance of the contractors has been an essential feature. It is alleged that these corrupt dealings have involved a total sum of from five hundred to six hundred thousand *yen*, but if that represents the aggregate loss, the City may congratulate itself. Mr. Tsunoda Shimpei, the well-known Progressist politician, who is now Chairman of the City Improvements Committee, has been cautioned by the Council of Aldermen, and Mr. Kusakabe, the Chief Engineer, has been reprimanded. We do not gather that these gentlemen are suspected of having been directly concerned in the frauds, but of course they must bear the responsibility of events which, theoretically at all events, might have been prevented by greater diligence on their part. Mr. Yamaoka, head of the Business Bureau of the Committee, has also been reprimanded, and the resignation of these three men may be looked for. Meanwhile the 19 suspects who are under detention are undergoing police examination.

Another arrest has been made in connexion with the charges of official corruption in Tokyo. This time the alleged culprit is an assistant engineer, and of course people are beginning to wonder whether many others may not be implicated.

DOMESTIC POLITICS.

The question of land tax reduction appears to have entered the phase common to all such problems in Japan. That is to say, it has been taken up by politicians who have no seats in the Diet. Several meetings have been held in various places, and they have all agreed that the tax must be reduced and that steps to that end should be taken in the approaching session of the Diet.

Another problem which is not unlikely to cause some dissension is that of the Ari-san forestry in Formosa. It will be remembered that the Government pressed this matter very earnestly in last year's Diet, but the *Seiyu-kai* and the other political parties united to oppose the enterprise. It involved the buying out of the Fujita Company and the allotment of a considerable sum every year for purposes of exploitation. In the face of this opposition, the Government withdrew the bill, but nobody imagined that the matter had thus been finally disposed of. It was fully foreseen that the Government would bring forward the matter again.

We read in the *Hochi Shimbun* which, however, is not to be throughly trusted in such matters, that what is called the Eleven Section of the *Yushin-kai* is likely to secede and throw in its lot with the Progressists. The reason assigned for this step is that these 11 politicians are very keen about reducing the land tax, whereas the other members of the *Yushin-kai* attach cardinal importance to reductions of the Three Bad Taxes, and relegate the land tax to a secondary position. Mr. Kono Hironaka is said to be among the seceders.

As the days pass, it becomes more and more evident that the Diet and the Cabinet will join issue on the question of the land tax. The Progressists are, as usual, in favour of a drastic step. They advocate a reduction of 1 per cent. from next year, and in order to effect that sweeping measure, which would involve a loss of revenue to the extent of 15 million *yen*, they contemplate excising the proposed increase of official salaries, and obtaining the further amount required by additional reductions of expenditure. Even the *Seiyu-kai* seem to have made up their minds that the situation can not be evaded altogether. Their ambition, however, is much more moderate. They propose to cut down the land tax by one-half per cent., and to find the required funds by rejecting the proposal for increased salaries. It is thought that the *Seiyu-kai's* programme will secure a large majority of votes in the Lower House.

PRESIDENT TAFT'S MESSAGE.

The President's message dealing with the Far East states:—

The United States Government preserves unchanged the policy supporting the principle of equality of opportunity and scrupulous respect for the integrity of the Chinese Empire, to which policy are pledged interested Powers both East and West. After dealing with the question of the abolition of likin, Chinese loans and American participation in the opium question, the message reiterates the statement of the State Department about the Japanese-Chinese convention of September 4th last. Regarding the relations with Japan, it says, "our traditional relations with the Japanese Empire continue cordial as usual." As representative of Japan, His Imperial Highness Prince Kuni visited the Hudson-Fulton Celebration. The recent visit of the delegation of prominent business-men as guests of the Chambers of Commerce of the Pacific slope, whose representatives had been agreeably received in Japan, will doubtless contribute to the growing trade across the Pacific, as well as to that mutual understanding which leads to mutual appreciation. The arrangement of 1908 for the co-operative control of laborers coming to the United States has proved to work satisfactorily. The matter of revision of the existing treaty between the United States and Japan which is terminable in 1912, is already receiving study in both countries.

THE MINING AND GUARDS QUESTION IN MANCHURIA.

There has been apparently a break in the negotiations with regard to the Fushun and Penhsihu coal mines, and we gather from the latest reports that the delay has been due to each Power waiting for the other to take the initiative in formulating proposals. The Chinese Government is now said to have instructed its officials in the sense that so long as the sovereign rights of the Middle Kingdom are not disturbed, the mining problem may be solved on a basis of equal advantage to each side. It is now expected that the Representatives of the two countries will probably soon get down to practical details.

As for the question of guards along the Mukden-Antung Railway, things seem to be remaining in *statu quo*. Recent events have not fortified China's claim to be entrusted with the sole discharge of this important duty. Nevertheless, it seems to be thought that Japan, being sincerely desirous of meeting China's views as far as possible, will be disposed to agree to some kind of compromise on the lines that, while Japanese guards would be placed at all specially important points, the duty of protecting the rest of the road would be entrusted to the Chinese. This certainly appears to be the most liberal compromise possible in the circumstances. Experiments can not be tried in matters where the security of life and property is concerned. Even though the lines in Manchuria are under Russian and Japanese protection, they have not enjoyed entire immunity from outrage, and to trust their entire protection to the Chinese would be exceedingly rash, and could scarcely fail to greatly affect the stream of traffic. Some *via media* of the nature suggested above seems to be the only exit from the dilemma.

It may here be mentioned that, according to the latest telegrams from Peking, the Chinese Government has decided to appoint Mr. Hsu, former Viceroy of Manchuria, to be Chief Commissioner for the purposes of all negotiations concerning foreign Powers in Manchuria.

TOKYO NOTES.

December, 6, 1909.

Two numbers of periodicals likely to interest some of our readers have recently appeared. In the last number of the "Mitteilungen" of the German Asiatic Society there is an interesting little article by Dr. Haas. It gives two documents in Japanese with German translations—a formula of abjuration of Christianity of the eighteenth century, and a similar document signed by representative men in a Japanese village declaring that there is no trace of Christianity to be found within their borders. There is also an article by Dr. Friedländer on Japanese Volcanoes. Dr. Friedländer is, I believe, a resident of Naples. He was in Japan last winter for purposes of study.

* * *

In the October number of the *Mélanges Japonais*, which appears a little behind its time, we have the conclusion of a series of articles on the *Tenrikyō* from the pen of Père Balet. One of the interesting features of the article is a series of hymns with Japanese translations, which are very good indeed. Père Deffrennes continues his collection of Japanese proverbs and figurative expressions from *Ja* to *Juzu*. Père Duthu's series on Hayashi Razan, and that of Père Cesselin on Fortune-telling in Japan are likewise brought to a close. Most interesting are Père

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Lemoine's extracts from the Religious Press, and the gentleman who writes under the pseudonym of Yves de Kar Caradec is, as usual, sagacious and trenchant. If any one wishes to learn about the thoughts of Japan to-day, I can commend them to the work of these painstaking and scrupulously honest French Fathers.

I may also perhaps mention a very useful French Japanese Conversation Book by Père Lemoine which has just been published by the Sansaisha.

* * *

An important Japanese work is, I am told, approaching completion—a history of the Russo-Japanese war, compiled by the General Staff Office. Its appearance will be looked forward to with interest. But, of course, if it is meant for general circulation, and if permission is given for its translation into European languages, it cannot be expected that it should be absolutely exhaustive.

* * *

Two or three questions seem to be coming into prominence in the sphere of domestic politics.

The Shimpoto are taking up with renewed vigour the question of amending the land-tax, a point that closely touches the farmer. The educational world is agitating the reform of the School system. And the manufacturers are turning their thoughts to the Factory Bill which is to be presented at the next session of the Diet.

* * *

They say that the result of the Educational reforms will be the abolition or mending of the present Kōtō Gakkō, which are at present the only legitimate avenues of entrance to the Universities, and the encouragement of the Chū Gakkō to prepare students for University Matriculation by means of advanced classes, the retention of students for a year or so longer than is now the case. Certainly the present system of education is lengthy, cumbrous, and clumsy, and it will be a great advantage and boon, both to students and to the country, to have the course shortened. I believe, too, that it will result in greater efficiency. It has been maintained in England that the Eight-Hours Act has been conducive to sobriety. In the old days, when the men worked ten hours or more, they would frequently come home overtired. When a man is over-tired he does not want to eat: he wants to drink. But eight hours are not thought to produce over fatigue. The men are consequently more in the humour for eating. They drink less, and they do better work.

* * *

When the Japanese student has done four years at an Elementary School, another five at a Chugakkō, another four at a Kotogakkō, and another three or four at the University, he is like the old-fashioned workman,—too tired to eat. He will, if there is anything at all in the analogy I have attempted to draw, be able to work much better in after life, if he has spent twelve years over his education instead of sixteen. As it is now, there are some studies of which he will often know more in the beginning of his Koto-Gakko course than he does when he takes his degree at the University.

* * *

And every one who has the Japanese people near his heart will rejoice to think that Factory Legislation is being contemplated. It was perhaps inevitable, when Japan was first embarking on an industrial career, that the manufacturers should be left quite unfettered in their dealings with their workpeople. Otherwise they might not have been willing to embark at all on industrial enterprises. But the present absence of all restrictions is working badly. The living wage-earning material, which is so important an asset in Japan's favour, is being worked up and exhausted. And the greatest encouragement is being given to Socialism. There is no need to have any Socialism in Japan. She can profit by the warning example of European nations and stave off the evil by means of wise legislation.

* * *

But what is the value of the wisest legislation without a band of level-headed idealists to administer it?

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Japanese engineers are by no means discouraged by the comparative failure of their recent attempts to establish wireless telegraphic communication between Japan and Hawaii, in the first place, and Japan and the United States, in the second. They are about to repeat the experiments on the 15th inst., and will prosecute them until the 20th. They are now quoted as pointing out the conspicuous differences between the conditions under which they worked and those existing in the system of wireless telegraphy between England and America. In the latter case the power employed is 500 kilowatts, whereas at Choshi and Ochiishi the power is only 5 kilowatts, being thus only a hundredth part of the force generated by the Marconi apparatus in the Anglo-American system. Moreover, the distance in the latter case is only 2,800 miles, whereas Japan and Hawaii are separated by seas 3000 miles broad and Japan and America by an interval of 5000 miles. Nevertheless, in the recent experiments it was distinctly proved that the instruments on opposite sides showed sensibility, and in consideration of that fact there is reason to hope that success may yet be achieved.

THE CRICKET GROUND.

A settlement of this question does not seem to be yet in sight. The evident feeling of the people of Yokohama, as expressed through their representatives, the committee of the City Assembly, is against the employment of a large sum of money merely for the purpose of changing the position of the cricket ground. The committee is unwilling, however, to take upon itself the task of rejecting the Governor's programme, and it seems to have adopted the only alternative, which is to resign and to leave the question for decision by a wider circle. Seeing that the whole *raison d'être* of the Governor's action has been the hypothesis that in its present position the ground constitutes a serious obstacle to the free use of the Public Garden, it is difficult to see how his Excellency can endorse the objections now raised. The whole question is evidently one of money, and to us it certainly seems that the simplest solution of the problem would be to let the ground remain as it is, with perhaps a little more liberty of access, until after 1911, when the present breach between the foreign and the Japanese communities as to the question of taxation will have been bridged over.

The Yokohama Cricket Ground question, says the *Asahi*, has recently advanced one stage towards conclusion by the withdrawal of the foreigners' protest. In the meantime complications have arisen between the Governor and the Yokohama Municipal Assembly, so that the Mayor and the members of the Council have held several conferences to find a way out of the *impasse*. The Assembly is of opinion that it would be preferable to leave the ground as it is rather than to have a new ground made at an expense of 27,000 or 28,000 *yen*, while the Governor, who wishes to demolish the present ground and make another elsewhere, threatens to deprive the City authorities of the power of administering the Park, in the event of the Assembly rejecting the order of the Government that the present ground should not be left as it is.

The committee of the Yokohama City Assembly held a private meeting on the 8th inst. at the City Office to endeavour to arrive at a final solution concerning the Cricket Ground Question. It appears that the meeting proved abortive, no understanding being arrived at between the committee and the city councillors. Another meeting will therefore be hold this evening at the Social Club. In the meanwhile all sorts of rumours are afloat.

The committee and other members of the Yokohama City Assembly held a meeting on the 9th inst. evening at the Social Club, to arrive at a final solution concerning the Cricket Ground question. After discussing the subject for more than an hour and a half, a new Committee consisting of 17 members (the former committee was 11) was elected, to whom full powers to settle the question were entrusted. It appears most probable that the new committee will approve the suggestion of the Governor, that the present ground be demolished and a new one made in another portion of the park.

THE EXAMINATION IN JAPANESE.

The four candidates who presented themselves at the recent examinations held under the auspices of the British Association of Japan were Mr. E. G. Fradgely (6th Stage), Mr. J. H. Lind (5th Stage), Mr. C. E. Kirby (3rd Stage) and Mr. H. MacDougal (2nd Stage). On the whole, the knowledge shown by the candidates was of an emphatically high order, one of them scoring as much as 393 marks out of a possible 400. The papers set required considerable study, and there can be no question that candidates who pass such a test successfully must be credited with proficiency. The conversational part of the examination appears to have presented the main difficulty, which is very natural, for a good acquaintance with colloquial Japanese can not be acquired in any way except by associating with fully qualified speakers, and that is an educational advantage not easy for businessmen to obtain. Nevertheless, the results so far have been very satisfactory, and the Association is to be congratulated.

DEATH OF VICE-ADMIRAL BARON ARIMA.

We greatly regret to announce the death of Vice-Admiral Baron Arima, which took place a little after midnight on the 5th inst. at Saseho. The deceased officer was only in his 60th year, and the cause of death is said to have been gastric trouble produced by eating persimmons. He was the oldest Vice Admiral in the Navy and his career had been marked by unwavering attention to duty and by general freedom from mistakes. He is best remembered perhaps as the officer who brought the battleship *Yashima* through the Suez canal, a feat which had hitherto been considered impossible for a war vessel of such dimensions.

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THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, December 3.

The market was dull on the 3rd instant, but no special reason is assignable.

Saturday, December 4.

The tone of the market was tolerably firm on the 4th inst., but there were no noteworthy rises or falls.

Monday, December 6.

There is no particular feature calling for notice in the state of Monday's market. Some slight activity was evinced in the forenoon session, but little or no business took place in the afternoon and prices declined. The approach of the year's end deters buyers.

Tuesday, December 7.

The 7th was an inactive day on the Stock Exchange. In view of the close of the year, there were scarcely any transactions, and nearly all fell, notably those of the Tokyo Railway, where sellers had the field to themselves.

Wednesday, December 8.

Considering the time of year, the market was tolerably steady on the 8th instant, with the exception of the Oils, which have fallen completely out of public favour.

Thursday, December 9.

The forenoon session saw some activity on the Stock Exchange, but things drifted back into a listless groove in the afternoon. There is nothing special to report. The Oils continue to tumble down, but the Spinnings are firm. We append the quotations for February delivery :—

	Dec. 8th.	Dec. 9th.	
Tokyo Railway	66.60	66.70	+ .10
Kei-hin Railway	56 55	57.80	+1.25
Yusen Kaisha	82.75	83.40	+ .65
Toyo Kisen	—	—	.—
Tanko Kisen	34.70	34.95	+ .25
Tokyo Gas	98.95	99.55	+ .60
Tokyo Dento	—	93.95	.—
Fuji Gass Spinning	99 10	100.95	+1.85
Tokyo Spinning	44.20	44.50	+ .30
Kanegafuchi Spinning	105.75	107.80	+2.05
Beer	—	—	.—
Hoden Oil	65.60	65.10	— .50
Nippon Oil	75.00	73.30	—1.70
Rice Exchange	—	—	.—
Stock Exchange	162.60	163 95	+1.35

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

There is trouble in Kobe about the import of raw cotton by Chinese merchants to Japanese order. If the accounts published by Tokyo journals be correct, the foresight of the Japanese merchant has proved sounder than that of his Chinese colleague. In view of a plentiful crop of the staple this season, the Chinese importers offered to supply to the Japanese large stocks at low rates. The Japanese consumers, however, basing their calculation on reports from the United States, concluded that there would be a heavy rise in the price of the staple, and accordingly they willingly placed large orders with the Chinese. Thereafter sharp appreciation ensued, and, in order to fill their contracts, the Chinese had to buy up all available local supplies. This source soon failed, and then the situation became grave. Proposals made by the Chinese express a desire to settle by paying forfeit to the extent of 1500 *yen* for every 3,300 bales, but the Japanese are not willing to accept these terms. A Chinese firm called Tung-tai is said to be chiefly involved.

It appears that there is a good prospect of the Government introducing in the next session of the Diet a draft of law to establish a system of chartered accountants. The *Hochi* quotes Mr. Okada, an expert employed by the Department of Agriculture and Commerce for this special purpose, as saying that the proposed law would render it compulsory for all public companies to have their half-yearly accounts examined by these officials (*Kokyo Kaikeisha*), but nothing is yet explained as to the training of the officials or the manner of determining their qualifications.

Bad times always bring an increase of larceny and burglary. Tokyo's record during the current year has illustrated this, especially in the Oji and Shibuya suburbs, where houses have been entered by thieves so frequently as to be quite remarkable. It has therefore been decided to add 577 constables to the number, 3,256, now on duty in the City, and to apportion 78 of the new men to the above two suburbs. Five additional fire-extinguishing stations will also be organized in places where the supply of water is defective. In connexion with the above subject, some interesting statistics are published. It appears that in the period from 1903 to 1908 inclusive, the value of the property stolen of all kinds in Tokyo totalled 1,102,279 *yen*, and of this 775,366 *yen* worth was recovered. Further, the value of property destroyed by conflagrations was 832,952 *yen*, a considerable fraction of which must doubtless be attributed to incendiarism.

The affairs of the Otaru Lumber Company are again upon the tapis. Some time ago rumour stated that the losses incurred by the Company did not exceed 600,000 *yen*, but the figure is now put somewhere in the neighbourhood of a million and a half, and the President, Mr. Hayakawa, is quoted as saying that the only sound course is to cut down the capital of the Company by a moiety, and write off that amount as total loss. He does not appear, however, to be without hope for the future of the enterprise.

San Francisco is entertaining itself with a new canard to the effect that President Zelaya's obdurate attitude towards the United States is due to having come to a secret understanding with Japan and Germany. We can not but marvel at the gullibility of a section of the public. It is evident that any story, however inherently improbable, finds credence in some circle or other of the Pacific coast inhabitants.

It is stated that the Tokyo Stock Exchange will declare a dividend of 15.2 per cent. for the half year ended 30th of November and that the Electric Light Company's dividend for the same term will be 12 per cent.

We take the following from the *Japan Times* :—

The project of Messrs. Frank C. Clarke & Co., of New York, to organize a grand tourist party to visit Japan is reported to have met with a fair success. According to the plan, the party consisting of some 1,3 o eminent merchants and other gentlemen will visit Japan in two separate groups ; the first of them, which consists of 640 persons, is expected to come over to these shores early in January next, leaving America about the middle of this month. A report to that effect having recently reached the Railway Board, the authorities are making preparations with the view to meet the coming party with all possible hospitality. The visit to this country of such a large party of foreign tourists is quite unprecedented in the matter of members The itinerary of the party in Japan it is said will be as follows :—

January 2 (1910).—The party arrives and lands at Kobe at 6 a.m., divides itself in two groups, the one proceeding at once to Kyoto and the other visiting Kobe, Suma, Maiko and neighbourhood ;

January 3—The party that visited Kyoto on the day previous returns to Kobe while the other party visits Kyoto ;

January 4—The party that went to Kyoto returns to Kobe while the other party visits Kobe and its neighbourhood, as well as Suma and Maiko ;

January 5—Leaves Kobe at noon ;

January 6—Arrives and lands at Yokohama at noon ;

January 7 to 11—Visits Tokyo, Nikko, Kamakura, Hakone and other places, in separate groups, each of 50 :

January 13—Starts for home, leaving Yokohama at 5 p.m.

It is stated by Tokyo papers that the amalgamation of the Shibaura Electric Works with the General Electric Company of America was consummated on the 30th of November, so as to allow of the winding up of the Shibaura Company's accounts for the half-year ended on that day. The financial arrangement is said to be that the sum of one million *yen* hitherto invested by the Shibaura Company will be regarded as 1,300,000 for the purposes of the amalgamation, and that the American Company will put up another half-million and the Mitsui Company 200,000, thus bringing the total capital to two million *yen*. The amalgamated concern will retain the name of the Shibaura Company ; the organization will be under Japanese law, and the only change of personnel will be the addition of one United States citizen to the Board of Managing Directors.

Snow and frost seem to have arrived unusually early in Korea and Manchuria. Seoul was robed in white on the night of the 4th inst. ; the Yalu is already impassable, and service on the Mukden-Antung line is suspended owing to a heavy snowfall, which in addition to blocking the road, caused the upsetting of a train. There does not appear to have been any loss of life or limb.

The time is now rapidly approaching when Japan will have either to convert or redeem a portion of her foreign debts. The first sum pressing for settlement is the 30 millions sterling raised in March 1905 at 4½ per cent. interest and redeemable on and after the 14th of next February. After that comes a similar amount raised in July of the same year, at the same rate of interest, and falling due for redemption next July. The London market being eminently favourable at present, it is thought that the Government will take advantage of the situation early next year, and will convert the former of these loans on a 4 per cent. basis.

The half-yearly reports of the South Manchuria Company have just been published. Its business is evidently progressing very favourably. The following figures are given :—

	Yen.
Gross earnings	9.892.575
Gross expenditure	8,206,709
Net profit	1,685,866

The above shows that the profit for the half year exceeded that for the preceding half year by 344,079 *yen*, and that for the corresponding period of 1908 by 914,073 *yen*.

A somewhat serious accident is reported to have occurred on the afternoon of the 8th inst. in the neighbourhood of Ohito, on the southern slopes of Fujiyama. The party consisted of a number of noblemen and gentlemen, and their object was to shoot wild boar in the Imperial preserves. These expeditions take place every year, and are looked forward to with much pleasure by the participants. The sportsmen were riding in two carriages, when, in passing along a very bad road at the top of a steep slope, one of the horses

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slipped, and the leading carriage with its four occupants rolled down a bank 30 ft. in height. All were more or less injured. Viscount Yabu was picked up insensible, and did not recover consciousness for a considerable time. Viscount Okazaki received a fracture of the skull and a contused wound on the face. Baron Hosokawa had his shoulder put out of joint, and Baron Oseko escaped with a trifling hurt. General Count Kuroki was among those riding in the second carriage. Happily, it is not expected that any of the injuries will prove fatal.

Lord Kitchener was entertained by the British Society at a Japanese dinner on the 14th of November, and his Lordship addressed to the President of the Society the following letter of thanks:—

Shiba Palace, November 15, 1909.

DEAR SIR CLAUDE,—I write to thank you and the members of the British Society for the very enjoyable entertainment they gave me last night.

I feel sure the Society is doing excellent work in bringing Japanese and British residents into close touch with one another and thus ensuring the continuance of that warm and enduring friendship which already exists between the two nations.

Yours very sincerely,
KITCHENER,
Field Marshal.

We are glad to learn that Mr. Consul-General Kawakami has recovered completely from the serious wound he received at the time of Prince Ito's assassination and that he has left the hospital at Harbin *en route* for Tokyo.

Tokyo will soon be provided with another product of modern science, namely, pneumatic postal tubes, and the Japanese language will have a new word added to its vocabulary, namely, *kuki denso kan*. Two of these pipes have thus far been laid, both originating from the general post-office at Nihonbashi, and extending thence, one to Kanda and the other to the Rice Exchange in Kakegaracho. The distance traversed by the former is 18 *cho* and the time taken to transmit mail matter by the tube is 3 min. 25 sec.; the distance in the case of the latter is two *cho* and the time is 13 sec.

At this somewhat late hour the Department of Agriculture and Commerce has issued an official statement of the yield of the barley crop for this year. The figure is 21,523,128 *koku*, which is 88,162 *koku*, or 0.4 per cent., greater than the yield of 1908, and is 1,802,336 *koku*, namely, 9.1 per cent. greater than the yield of an average year.

Since January 1900 Chili has not had a representative in Tokyo, but this deficiency was corrected from the 25th of last month, and she is now represented by Mr. Victor M. Priéto, in the capacity of Chargé d'Affaires. The *Official Gazette* says that M. Priéto will have his office in the Imperial Hotel, pending the establishment of a Legation.

A very remarkable charge is preferred by the *Chuo Shumbun* against the Continental Emigration Company (*Dairiku Imin-kai*). The story is that this Company has made a regular business of encouraging emigrants to abandon the work for which they were originally employed, and to pass to the United States. Thereafter the Directors of the Company have come down upon the men's sureties and exacted from them the payment of a heavy fine on the plea that the emigrants had broken their contracts. This fraudulent device is said to have been revealed by a telegram sent from the office of the Company in Japan to its agents in Mexico, whither no less than 3,800 immigrants have been sent from time to time. The telegram directed the agents to assist the emigrants, if the latter desired to transfer themselves to the United States. It is a scarcely credible tale, but it may possibly constitute some explanation of the complications caused in the past by immigrants crossing the frontier of Mexico into the States.

The *Yamato Shimbun* goes through all the schemes for supplying Tokyo with hydro-electric power and pronounces unfavourably on one and all of them. We do not propose to follow our contemporary into details, but we must really enter a protest against its repetition of the old canard that the Oigawa project has been abandoned because Japanese experts judge the engineering difficulties to be insuperable. Surely it might occur to the *Yamato Shimbun* that, however high may be the competence of Japanese engineers, their experience of Hydro-electric works can not begin to compare with the experience possessed by Occidental experts, and that where the most eminent of the latter have said "yes," it is just a little bit over confident to allege that the "no" of Japanese experts is conclusive. We admire the *Yamato's* faith in its own folks, but in this case the thing savours somewhat of swelled head.

The long talked of reduction of interest by the banks is expected to be put into operation from the 11th inst. The new rates will be 4½ per cent. on fixed desposits for a year; 4 per cent. on fixed deposits for six months, and 5 *rin* daily on the balance of current accounts. The market rate for loans is now 5 per cent., and altogether the rates of interest prevailing are much the same as those recorded in the year 1893, when the spirit of enterprise was just beginning to revive. Meanwhile there are no symptoms of a demand for money in connexion with the close of the year. Absolute quiescence may be described as the condition of affairs.

The armoured cruiser *Ibuki* made her first appearance in Yokohama on the 8th inst. She was built at Kure, and her trial trips took place at Yokosuka between the 4th and the 8th inst. She is a vessel of 14,620 tons displacement; her engines are of 27,000 h.p., and her speed is 23 knots. She has an armament of four 12-in. guns and eight 8-in. guns. It is claimed that she embodies all the latest improvements in naval architecture, one feature which is specially mentioned being excellence of ventilation.

We regret to have to announce that H. H. Prince Kaya expired at 1 p.m. on the 8th inst. in his Kyoto residence at the early age of 43. There had been a temporary turn for the better on the preceding day, and the patient felt well enough to witness a performance of *No* dancing, but this respite from so terrible a disease, cancer of the stomach, proved very brief, and on the morning of the 8th at 10 o'clock symptoms supervened which ended in death three hours later.

DIVORCE.

Mr. W. Dike, writing in the *Independent*, gives the following interesting results of divorce statistics:—

A few countries give figures for forty years or more. Taking first those for forty years only we have the following for Europe: Belgium in the forty years increased her divorces from 130 to 618 in a year, England and Wales from 130 to 670, Scotland from 32 to 202, Ireland from 1 to 6, France from 2,181 to 13,098, Baden in Germany from 19 to 270, Bavaria from 270 to 746, Hesse from 28 to 183, Saxony from 396 to 1,470, Würtemburg from 94 to 259. The Netherlands increased from 133 to 995, and Sweden from 1867 to 1905 increased from 128 to 448. For shorter periods other figures are now given. Austria increased divorces and separations from 748 in 1882 to 2,309 in 1906. Hungary increased from 910 in 1876 to 3,638 in 1905—that is, in twenty years. In Bulgaria the increase from 1887 to 1900 was small, being from 204 to 292. In Denmark, which next to Switzerland, has the highest divorce rate in Europe, the increase was also relatively small, being from 479 in 1891 to 589 in 1906. In the German Empire as a whole there were 3,942 divorces in 1881 and 12,180 in 1906. Italy, which has no divorce, granted 723 separations in 1867 and 1800 in 1904. Rumania increased her divorces from 276 in 1871 to 1,800 in 1904. Finland in thirty years from 1875 to 1905 increased from 55 to 153 in 1905. Poland from 163 in 1867 to 345 in 1886. Russia outside of these two last granted 1,096 in 1867 and 1,385 in 1886. Russia has not furnished statistics for the last twenty years. Servia granted 297 in 1887 and 426 in 1904. Switzerland, having the highest divorce rate in Europe, about 1 divorce to 20 marriages in 1906, granted 1,102 in 1876 and 1,343 in 1906. Norway has made the greatest increase in proportion to numbers of any country in Europe, having gone from 33 in 1870 to 366, or eleven times as many, in 1906.

In foreign countries outside of Europe we now have statistics for a few. Canada granted 4 divorces in 1868 and 42 in 1906. The Commonwealth of Australia and New Zealand granted 74 in 1887 and 469 in 1905. From the Far East we have the statistics of Japan and Formosa. Japan had 110,859 divorces in 1887 and 60,179 in 1905. The ratio of divorces to marriages was to 3 in 1887 and 1 to 5 in 1905. The remarkabie decrease is explained largely, if not wholly, by the fact that divorce in Japan, which formerly was entirely within the control of the families concerned, except in case of disagreement, became the subject of the regulation of public law in 1898, since which time the number has been a little over half what it had been. In Formosa, now under Japan, there were 8·0 divorces in 1898 and 4,939 in 1906. But the figures for the earlier date are probably wide of the mark, evidently being those reported from the imperfect returns of the first year of collection. In the later years there was 1 divorce to 6 marriages. From Africa we have data only from Algeria, since it has been under French rule, which leaves the Mussulmans and Jews to their own systems of marriage and divorce. There were among all classes 12,405 divorces in 1881 and 14,735 in 1905. Among the Jews in Algeria there was 1 divorce to 18 marriages, among Europeans 1 to 29, and among the Mussulmans 1 to 3. It is noticeable that the ratio for the years reported among the Jews of Poland was 1 to 4.

As a whole, divorces have nearly doubled in Europe in the last twenty years. In the United States, notwithstanding the high rate already attained they have increased well toward three fold or from 25,535 in 1886 to 72,062 in 1906. There were 9,937 in 1867 in the United States. It is clear that there is a world-wide social movement that for good or for evil is affecting the most fundamental of social institutions.

FOOTBALL AND TENNIS.

CLUB *v.* "BEDFORD."

Owing to the courtesy of Governor Sufu, the football team of the Y.C. & A.C. were enabled on Saturday (4th inst.) to play a match on the Cricket Ground with a team from the British cruiser *Bedford*, now in port. Prior to the match, a practice game was indulged in by two Club teams, captained by Messrs. Sharman and Tibbs. The fine weather attracted a large number of spectators, among whom were several ladies. A good match was witnessed, the local team at half-time having secured one goal, to which when the whistle finally blew, they had added another. The *Bedford* men failed to score. Hayward, Deveson and Drummond played well for the winners and the *Bedford's* backs for the losers. Mr. J. E. Moss acted as referee and the duties of linesmen were taken by Messrs. Horton and Tresize.

The final contest of the Tokyo Tennis Club Challenge Cup was played on the 4th on the ground of the Club at Nagato-cho, and resulted in a win for Mr. P. Condict, who defeated his opponent, Mr. H. T. Rice.

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GOVERNMENTAL INTERFERENCE.

WE have received much private correspondence on the subject of Governmental interference with business concerns, in general, and with the Tokyo Railway's concerns, in particular. It is pointed out by more than one correspondent that nearly all charters officially granted in Japan for the prosecution of enterprises reserve to the Authorities powers which, if exercised in a manner at all arbitrary, would create an intolerable situation, but which are nevertheless not regarded as deterrent because confidence prevails that they will not be so exercised. Nevertheless, if foreign capital is ever to be usefully employed in coöperation with Japanese, it is essential that this confidence must not be shaken by any abuse of power, and from that postulate our correspondents pass to the special case of the Tokyo Railway where they consider that there has been a distinct abuse of legitimate official intervention.

As to the general question of Governmental interference, we do not think that, from an English point of view, the practice in Japan is by any means above criticism. There is official interference, and though exercised justly in the main, the limits of its exercise far exceed anything that would be tolerated in an Anglo-Saxon country. On the other hand, it is undeniable that business conditions in Japan have not yet emerged fully from the embryonic stage. Still within the memory of many of us is a time when the Japanese Government was compelled to choose between two courses—either to step down into the industrial field and become itself a manufacturer by way of example; or to abandon business enterprise to the comparatively slow development which evidently awaited it. The former course was adopted, wisely as events have proved; but it necessarily gave birth to one objectionable feature, namely, a too extensive estimate of official functions. We use the words "too extensive" with reference to Occidental standards. But we do not by any means claim that the term is strictly accurate from the standpoint of Japanese conditions. No outsider is so favourably situated as are the Japanese themselves for arriving at a just estimate in this matter. They may make mistakes, but they know themselves much better than we know them; and being fully aware of the advantages of complete commercial and industrial freedom, they must be credited with intelligence in their choice of methods. The sooner, however, they can abandon, or greatly reduce their present interference in business affairs, the greater will be the confidence of foreign investors in Japanese securities. In fact, it is not too much to say that the full coöperation of foreign capital in several important fields of Japan's material development is impossible, so long as the powers reserved to officialdom are on their present scale. The Tokyo Railway is an illustration. Its charter explicitly reserves to the Governor of the City, to the Municipality and to the Department of Home Affairs certain powers which each has the responsibility of exercising in the interests of the public. But in practice the Governor and the Municipality wield no power at all. Thus, whereas the Governor and the Municipality last year decided, first, that the Railway should be municipalized; and, secondly, that the fare should be raised; the Government curtly vetoed both proposals, treating the views of the City and the Governor as undeserving of serious consideration. This year, again, the City, which is the party primarily concerned, has been "turned down" at the eleventh hour, the Government taking the whole law into its own hands. We can not doubt that good reasons exist for this seemingly arbitrary course, but the practical results are difficult to reconcile with any theory of superior wisdom. For, in the first place, the City derives no revenue whatever from the Railway, though the streets are traversed in all directions by the latter's cars. In the second place, the shareholders of the Railway are condemned to be content with dividends much below the minimum clearly contemplated by their charter. In the third place, though the cars are so crowded as to be dangerous, unsanitary and immoral, no restrictions can be imposed in view of the greatly inadequate fare. And in the fourth place, the suburban lines can not be built, so that the wholesome expansion of the city is checked. All these consequences seem to flow inevitably from the Government's interference. That a problem calling so loudly for solution will be solved sooner or later there need not be any doubt, but in the meanwhile it reflects a disfiguring light on the habit of official interference.

THE KEEPING OF AN EMPIRE.

THE statesmen of England occupy a unique position among the rulers of the world, in that they bear upon their shoulders a greater weight of responsibility than has ever yet fallen to the lot of mortal men. We make this statement in no vainglorious mood: it is simply a case of facts and figures. No empire the world has yet known—not even those of Assyria and Rome in their palmiest days—can be compared for extent, population or resources with that which owns the sway of the Emperor-King of England. The responsibility, then, which is incumbent upon the elected statesmen of the island-realm—and, in some measure also, upon each citizen of that realm—namely, the maintenance and defence of their vast and valuable possessions, is, we repeat, quite without precedent since the dawn of History. Therefore the measures taken for the fulfilment of this great, and glorious, duty (by whatever men happen to be entrusted with power at the time) is a matter of the profoundest interest and concern to every *civis Britannicus*. It is a question upon which any Briton who speaks with knowledge of the subject has a right to make his voice heard. For this reason, in all probability, no single subject has allotted to it so much space in the periodical literature of the country, thus permitting the Englishman to acclaim the measures taken, or exercise his traditional right of grumbling, if in his opinion the occasion calls therefor. The year which is now drawing to a close has witnessed a vast amount of discussion, *pro* and *con*, of the question of the Empire's needs in the matter of defence; and there was a time when the fate of the present Cabinet trembled in the balance before a very unequivocal expression of opinion on the part of the nation that due provision was not being made for its safety. However, the Government bowed to the storm, and the crisis passed. The fullest demands of the nation in the matter of naval construction were met, and the eight "capital" ships which the best informed opinion of the country, and its professional advisers at the Admiralty, deemed necessary, were duly ordered. The fruits of this prudence—albeit the Government were somewhat unwillingly driven thereto—are already apparent in the attitude of those Powers which, by their extraordinary efforts in warship building, had rendered imperative corresponding measures on the part of Britain. Inasmuch as the guardians of the British Empire can never permit—so long as they remain faithful to their trust—the loss of that naval predominance which has been not only England's heritage, but the prime condition of her existence, since 1588, it is essential to convince her would-be rivals that all efforts on the part of any single Power to compromise that supremacy are foredoomed to failure. They have to be convinced, in short, that "the game is not worth the candle," and only a persistent and practical demonstration of this fact, on the lines indicated above, can produce this very necessary effect. It is therefore a matter of regret that certain Liberal organs, such as *The Nation*, should attempt to stultify the work of their own Ministers and of all true lovers of peace, by saying, in so many words, that England should relax her efforts; that it would not really matter if another Power, or Powers, were to build up a fleet equal, or nearly equal, to that of England. "What if this country were thus reduced to a state of continual peril?" cry these wrong-headed guides. "*A war is never inevitable till it has actually broken out.* England has passed through many crises within the past half-century which threatened to culminate in war, but did not actually do so. The mere fact that war should threaten, is nothing. It will be time enough to think about it, when it has really broken out." And so on, and so forth. These people do not pause to consider the consequences which must inevitably overtake a nation suddenly confronted with a war for which it is unprepared; but to give colour to their insensate arguments, proceed

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to distort facts—understating the forces of rival Powers, and overstating those of its own country—in a foolish attempt to show that the measures which even their own Little England Party has been reluctantly compelled to adopt as affording the minimum guarantee of safety, are superfluous and provocative. Germany, says that organ of Little Englandism which has the effrontery to name itself "*The Nation*," will not have 20 or 25 Dreadnoughts by 1912, but *only* 11 or 12. Observe the double misrepresentation. In the first place, no writer of authority has ever advanced the proposition that Germany will have 20 or 25 Dreadnoughts by 1912. Secondly, according to Germany's own accepted programme, she will have, in the spring of 1912, *thirteen* Dreadnoughts. The following table shows the number of Dreadnought units complete, or to be completed, by March 31st, in the indicated years:—

NUMBER OF DREADNOUGHT-ERA UNITS COMPLETE BY MARCH 31ST IN:—

Nation.	1909.	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
Great Britan	5	10	12	20	20 + ?
Germany	Nil	4	9	13	17
United States	Nil	2	4	6	8
Japan	Nil	1	2	6	7
France	Nil	Nil	Nil	6	6
Russia	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4
Austria.....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
Italy	Nil	Nil	Nil	1	2
Brazil	Nil	1	2	3	3
Argentine	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	2
	—	—	—	—	—
Germany + United States	Nil	6	12	19	25
Germany + Italy + Austria	Nil	3	9	14	22

This of course does not take into consideration the possibilities of "acceleration" on the part of rival Powers, like that which became known in March last. So that "while there is no need for fear or panic at the moment"—we quote a service journal distinguished for its moderation—"it behoves the people of England to watch the situation gravely, and see to it that their security as a nation is not again made a hostage to luck." But, as there is no reason to suppose that the world is coming to an end in 1912, or that that year will be signalized by the inauguration of the millenium, it behoves us to look farther ahead. What does the *Quarterly Review*—an authority at least comparable with the *Nation*—say of the situation in 1913? It urges that eight more Dreadnoughts should be provided for in the coming Estimates (1910-11), as "the lowest number compatible with our vital interests." The fact is that England is indissolubly wedded to the Two-Power Standard, and British statesmen of all political creeds have assisted in the ceremony. Even that curiously contradictory and fatuous egotist, Mr. W. T. STEAD—who would have signed away an Empire for the sake of his "brother Boer," and whom our local German contemporary embraces as a reasonable-headed peacemaker—has pinned his faith not only to the Two-Power Standard, but to the Two-Keels-to-One policy—an even more "jingoistic and fire-eating" policy than hat of the *Quarterly Review*. No one welcomes more than ourselves the tendency now observable in the Fatherland to slacken pace in the ruinous competition in armaments. We desire this tendency to become more than a vague and ill-defined symptom, more than a passing phase; we desire it to grow into a recognized sign of the times, embodied in Germany's naval policy. This it can become in one and only one way, as we have indicated; thus recognized and embodied, it will effect more for the peace of the world and the higher interests of civilization than all the inane babblings of a peace-at-any-price review.

THE LORDS AND THEIR CRITICS.

IT is the fate of many a participant in a perfectly honourable quarrel to have both his actions and his motives misunderstood, and even misrepresented, by outsiders who do not trouble, or do not wish, to make themselves acquainted with all the facts of the situation. If there is one thing more certain than another, it is that, in the forthcoming political contest, the line taken by the House of Lords in the great crisis which has overtaken themselves and country will be (we fear) deliberately distorted for purposes of party gain. There will surely be a lot of clap-trap talk of the prerogatives of the Commons, of the "usurpation" of their rights by the Lords, of the "rejection" of the Budget, of bloated Dukes and tyrannical, if noble, landlords. But the frenzied appeals that are certain to be made to mob rule and class hatred will, in the minds of all thinking people, defeat themselves by their own transparency. Doubtless the electors of England fully expect plenty of this sort of thing in the course of the next month or two; while tub-thumpers and mob-orators will certainly make the most of the weapons they have been wont to use from time immemorial. Nevertheless, it somewhat surprises us to see in the columns of the *Japan Times* an editorial which, for misconception and confusing of the issue, might have proceeded from the pen of a socialistic demagogue. We do not say that the writer wishes deliberately to mislead; we are inclined rather to believe that he is not in possession of full knowledge of the subject, and that he does not appreciate the precise part played by the House of Lords as an essential and time-honoured factor in the British Constitution. In the first place, it is an utter begging of the whole question to say that the Lords are objecting to a Finance Bill, pure and simple. The Budget of 1909-10 will ever be memorable as an attempt to introduce Socialistic principles into the Government of Britain—not openly, indeed, but insidiously, and under cover of a Money Bill. This point cannot be too strongly insisted upon. The Lords have no quarrel with the Budget, as such; they object to the legislation which is mixed up with it. By their action on the 1st inst., they said in effect: "The principles underlying the new provisions of this Budget have not received the sanction of the people. It is our duty to see that no new principles of taxation are adopted without the sanction of the people. We therefore refer the Budget, with the new principles, to their consideration." Lord LANSDOWNE's motion, passed by a majority of 275 votes, contained no more than this in its astutely-worded phraseology:

"I move that this House is not justified in giving its consent to this Bill until it has been submitted to the judgment of the country."

This motion our Tokyo contemporary describes as a cowardly subterfuge and as "one of the most clumsy pieces of makeshift ever resorted to under similar circumstances." The Lords, it avers, should have taken a more "manly" course and met the Bill with "a frontal attack . . . instead of trying to put off a little longer the inevitable struggle which they must needs face sooner or later." These charges of cowardice and of temporizing are very unjust. The great controversy of the Budget has merely been referred to the proper quarter—namely, the people,—for their final decision. The Lords, of course, were fully aware that their motion would lead at once to a dissolution of Parliament, as the Liberal leaders had openly declared that they would listen to no suggestion of compromise. Since there was, therefore, no question of gaining time, the action taken by the Lords could not have been prompted by any such consideration. Further, if the Lords, fearful of their position *vis à vis* the Lower House, had desired to seek refuge in cowardice, they would have followed one of two alternative courses. They would have passed the Budget *in toto* without a word, or they would have passed it with the exception of those clauses which, as the writer in the *Japan Times* somewhat injudiciously observes, were "objectionable to the class they represent." It would be more to the point, in fact, if the charge of cowardice were to be brought against that Socialist-ridden Ministry which, instead of presenting its revolutionary schemes before the country in an open and straightforward manner, when they could be considered on their merits, endeavoured to smuggle them into the Statute Book as part of a Budget. The Lords, by their studied and moderate motion, have asked the electorate to look well at this piece of political jugglery, and pronounce upon it finally. In view of the large majority which the Radicals at present command, and of the certain fact that, if they were again returned to power, they would take the fullest revenge upon the Upper Chamber, the Lords have shown a courage which even their bitterest political opponents must acknowledge, even if they do not approve. But this eventuality, of course, is still on the knees of the gods, though our Tokyo contemporary so far assumes the mantle of prophecy as to announce that a Liberal-Labour-Socialist victory at the polls is "a foregone conclusion." If this really represents its belief, our contemporary should have been all the less disposed to describe the readiness

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of the Lords to risk their political existence for a matter of principle, as a piece of makeshift and cowardice. On the contrary, the Lords, as their leader has said, recognize that the will of the people must prevail in the end. All they desire is to give the people an opportunity of expressing that will, upon a question which intimately concerns the welfare of the country and, indeed, of the Empire. In the meanwhile, in delaying the passage of contentious and revolutionary measures, so as to afford the nation an opportunity of fully considering them, the House of Lords has once more fulfilled, without fear or favour, its specific duty as an integral part of the Constitution. Who knows but what Japan, in the days to come, may need a similar safeguard, and call for it in vain?

THE STUDY OF THE JAPANESE LANGUAGE IN YOKOHAMA.

ONLY some eighteen months have passed since the British Association of Japan inaugurated a system of examinations in the Japanese language, and already twenty-two candidates have passed. There are, of course, differences of proficiency; not in the ordinary acceptation of the term; that is to say, in the sense that men submitted to the same test have acquitted themselves with varying competence, but in the sense that the Board of Examiners have devised six stages representing different degrees of proficiency and based on the supposition that students applying for examination have spent periods of from 3 months to 3 years in Japan. Up to the present only one candidate seems to have applied for examination in the 6th stage. Yet the list of requirements is not so very formidable. One is only called on "to read and write to dictation in the *katakana* and *hiragana*; to show a thorough knowledge of Chamberlain's Handbook; to show a knowledge of Japan's principal products, with the districts where they are chiefly produced; to give the localities of the different *ken* and of the ten largest cities in the Empire; to show a fair knowledge of the legal terms in the Civil and Commercial Codes, and to converse on different subjects with two or three people in the presence of the examiners." That is not a catalogue calculated to deter any earnest student, and no doubt plenty will be found by-and-by to satisfy even a higher test. For the moment, however, only two have passed the 5th stage and only one seems to have attempted the 6th. It is observable that the examiners have wisely refrained from limiting the curriculum to linguistic attainments: they have added to the list certain useful branches of geographical and commercial study. There can be no question, we think, that the inauguration of this system will soon have the effect of removing from Yokohama the reproach under which it has laboured for many years—the reproach of being conspicuously indifferent as to acquiring the language of the country in which the lot of the community is cast. Of course, every allowance must be made for the immense difficulty of the Japanese tongue and for the fact that merchants, as a rule, are too hard-worked to find leisure for linguistic studies which do not appear at all indispensible. But it would now seem that the main deterrent was failure to perceive the utility of making the effort. If one could get on very well without all this additional toil, what was the good of packing one's head with superfluous lumber. But some of the leading men in the Settlement have now shown that they view the matter in a very different light. Mr. C. V. SALE has contributed a thousand *yen* to be spent on prizes, and the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation recently showed their appreciation of the value of the acquisition by awarding a handsome bonus to a member of their staff who had received a certificate in the Third Stage. If all heads of houses followed these examples, the good work would be much promoted. At any rate, it is eminently satisfactory that such an excellent beginning has been made. We do not desire to suggest for a moment that Yokohama is entirely without competent students of Japanese. On the contrary, there are several brilliant exceptions to the general rule of ignorance. And these men of exceptional attainments will bear us out, we are convinced, when we say that to those who can speak Japanese, the people of this country present themselves under a radically different aspect from that shown to a stranger ignorant of their tongue. To break down that barrier, to get at the real sentiments of the people of the land, to understand them and be understood by them—surely that should be sufficient inducement to study even without the substantial and concrete reasons that now present themselves. The British Association has done admirable work in many ways since it came into existence, but, in our opinion, the best entry in its record is the step it has taken for encouraging the study of the Japanese language.

THE FIVE PICTURES OF CONGO HISTORY.

(CONTRIBUTED.)

SOME months ago there appeared in these columns a series of articles which dealt in an unequivocal manner with the question of the evils attendant upon the administration of the so-called Congo Free State. Since that time—September last—much has happened to show that a disinterested public, in England especially, takes quite as strong a view of the evils of Congo misrule as that expressed by the writer of those articles. The "noble and persevering work" of the Congo Reform Association—to quote the appreciation bestowed upon it by a distinguished publicist—has been ably seconded by the efforts of such well-known men as Sir A. CONAN DOYLE, and has received what may be termed official recognition from the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and from the Prime Minister himself, so that the agitation for a cessation of the horrors with which the name of the Congo has come to be associated may be said to be identified virtually with the people of England as a whole. In his speech at the Guildhall Banquet,—an occasion British Prime Ministers are wont to choose for pronouncements of international importance—Mr. ASQUITH made the following statement, which despite its measured terms constitutes the gravest possible condemnation of the conditions which have gone to make the Congo's "melancholy past":—

> "We originally recognised the formation of the Congo State, as appears by the solemn instrument to which we and other Powers were parties, in the expectation that it would civilise the natives, promote their welfare, and open to freedom of commerce the whole of that vast area. The conditions on which the Congo State was formed have never yet been fulfilled; they have been continuously and habitually violated. The country has been closed to trade, the inhabitants have been deprived of customary rights and subjected to a system of forced labour; and their condition, going steadily from bad to worse, has become that truly appalling condition which is described, not by sensational reporters, nor by hysterical missionaries, as some people call them, but in a long series of Parliamentary Papers, in reports from our own Consuls, and in the investigation in Belgium itself by a Commission appointed a few years ago. It is some time since his Majesty's Government came to the conclusion that we could not continue to recognise the Congo Government, which had violated all the conditions on the strength of which, and subject to which, its original recognition was obtained."

While expressing the hope that the taking over of the territory by the Belgian Government, thus terminating the period of ownership under which the abuses had sprung up, would ultimately enable His Majesty's Government to recognize that annexation, the Prime Minister clearly indicated that this could only be rendered possible by the institution of those "vital reforms which alone can satisfy Treaty rights and the common obligations of humanity." Ten days later, there was recorded another stage in the history of Congo reform—we refer to the great demonstration at the Albert Hall on the 19th ult., when "the largest meeting-place in the greatest city of the world" was filled by representatives of all the great religious denominations in Britain. "We are met," said the ARCHBISHOP of CANTERBURY, addressing the huge assembly, "not in any spirit of self-righteousness, and certainly not in order to denounce a friendly people, a people whose principles and aims are, when the true heart of the nation is touched, as high and unswerving as our own. But we believe, or rather we know, that, in whatever way it has come about, a great wrong has been done, and is now being done, to a helpless race in a vast area of the earth, that we are ourselves in part responsible for the past, and that if that wrong be allowed to continue, by whomsoever carried on, we shall be answerable to God and man for its continuance." The Archbishop, after reminding his hearers that England, a hundred years ago, had, under the leadership of WILLIAM WILBERFORCE, purged herself of the shameful stain of slavery, and after declaring that she was "resolutely determined not to be a party, directly or indirectly, to the renewal, or the maintenance, of what is virtually a slave system embodying some jo

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the worst features of those evil days," proceeded to sketch the history of the whole question in a series of "five pictures" embracing the outstanding episodes of the Congo tragedy. Briefly expressed, these are as follow :—

(1) The Discovery, some 35 years ago, by Lovell CAMERON and H. M. STANLEY, of this vast and till then unknown land—its "gigantic range of fertile province with 5000 miles of navigable waterway giving access to its varied wealth, with people innumerable, rude and simple, but full of eagerness intelligence and promise."

(2.) The Chancellor's Palace in Berlin, 1884. Leopold King of the Belgians has thrown himself eagerly into Stanley's plans. First America and then England has made a direct agreement with that Monarch recognising what was then called "*The International Association of the Congo, founded by his Majesty the King of the Belgians for the purpose of promoting the Civilisation and Commerce of Africa and for other humane and benevolent purposes.* The other Powers joining, in what is now known as the "Berlin Convention," the "International Association" becomes the "Congo Free State," and the King of the Belgians is placed at its head, "in the name of Almighty God" so to speak, as the trustee of those European Powers for the benevolent purposes described.

(3) Brussels, May, 1885. The Lord Mayor of London with the Sheriffs and the retinue, have arrived to present, on behalf of the citizens of London, a congratulatory address "*On the great work performed in the interests of civilisation by the creation of the Congo Free State in the heart of the dark Continent of Africa.*" The addre-s went on to say: "We, the Corporation of that City, recognise in the enlightened, philanthrophic, and disinterested efforts of your Majesty, and in the bloodless victory wrought thereby, a triumph far grander than the greatest achievements of the sword. In the introduction, establishment, and spread of education and industry, and in the founding of an organized and established authority we see, under Divine Providence, the beneficent and unselfish handiwork of your Majesty." And the deputation concluded by recalling King Leopold's own words: "I have thought that it was perhaps our duty to think of others, of the disinherited who in the far-distant land are still deprived of all those advantages with which we are so abundantly blessed."

(4) A great land, whereon high hopes were set, so degraded, neglected, and oppressed that it would now take years of wise and tender governance even at the best to bring it back again, up again, to the level of what was called its barbarous condition when Stanley unveiled it thirty or forty years ago. . . . . A land governed, or rather utilised, not for the good of its inhabitants, but for the gain or profit of its so-called owners in Europe. . . . . Outrages done by native soldiers and petty agents due to the necessities imposed on them by their European masters of enforcing the production of the rubber which becomes scarcer week by week.

(5) The Albert Hall, London, filled with 10,000 persons drawn together by one common cause—that of suffering humanity, unable to help itself—aflame with zeal, and resolved, as one man, to do all in their power to wipe out this blot in the face of civilization.

The Archbishop concluded by regretting the apparent absence, on the part of the new regime, of any recognition that things have hitherto been based on a wrong system—an absence which he described as ominous. The Bishop of OXFORD, who seconded the resolution, after remarking that in 1906, two years after the Commission of Inquiry had showed conclusively—though on evidence which had never been allowed publicity—the disgraceful way in which the system instituted ten years previously was working, King LEOPOLD spoke of his share in the transaction "in a tone of self-approval, which it was hard to understand" :—

"More than twenty years ago I founded the Congo in the interests of civilisation and for the good of Belgium. To my imitative, which was indeed a double one—(laughter)—consisting as it did in the rights which I acquired in Africa, and of the use which I made of these rights in favour of my country. Belgium owes its claim to the possession of the Congo. I founded the Congo in the interests of civilisation."

Thus the King of the Belgians sought his place among the benefactors of mankind, and certainly the system he associated with himself had a look of completeness about it which would suggest that it had emanated from one master mind; but, continued the Bishop, "until that system in its length and breadth and depth had been changed, there was no secure remedy for that ghastly state of things which had moved their horror and indignation." Other speakers followed in the same strain, though not perhaps with equal moderation. The Rev. SILVESTER HORNE put the matter briefly, if strongly, when he said that "the Congo was the story of a people done to death that European financiers might flourish. No nation could know these things and be silent and remain a Christian nation." Finally, the Rev. JOHN CLIFFORD, the well-known Nonconformist preacher, moved the following resolution, which was carried by the whole audience rising :—

"That this meeting, remembering the special responsibilities assumed by the people and Government of this country in the events which led to the creation of the Congo Free State, and recalling the participation of Great Britain in the Berlin Conference of 1885, and believing that no greater danger can threaten a Christian nation than failure to abide by the moral obligations it has deliberately contracted, declares that so long as the cruel oppression under which, in violation alike of the principles of humanity and of definite Treaty obligations, the natives of the Congo have long been suffering is maintained, the people of Great Britain are bound to press forward unflinchingly their demand for a complete reform of the whole system of administration in the Congo territory."

Doubtless this important and even historic meeting was mainly instrumental in evoking from "prominent Belgians, including Ministers, Bishops and Burgomasters" the protest of which Reuter informed us telegraphically few days ago. We do not for a moment question the sincerity of the Belgian people in this matter, but is it not at least possible that they are, as a whole, ignorant of the actual state of affairs? We are indeed, compelled to fall back upon this theory, because the case for urgent and wholesale reform has been proved up to the hilt. The very fact that proposals have been introduced into the Belgian Chamber for the purpose of putting an end to the horrors is the amplest justification of the long-sustained agitation against the present condition of things. What is wanted now, however, is deeds, not words. It remains for an enlightened and fearless public opinion to insist that the process of reform is not delayed by a single hour.

THE BOOKSHELF.

The "Kokka."

No. 233 of the *Kokka* has just been issued. Its text is richer than its pictures. Professor Tei contributes the *pièce de résistance*, the 3rd part of his learned essay on "Stone Mortuary Shrines of ancient China under the Later Han Dynasty." There are also very interesting notices of Buson, Goshun and Baiitsu, good specimens of whose work are given. One of the most attractive reproductions is from a picture of Merofu Kwannon, attributed to Li Lungmien, of the Sung Dynasty. The picture is supposed to have been brought to Japan in the days of the Ashikaga, and is now in the collection of Marquis Inouye. Its most striking feature is that the artist has not attempted to impart any supernatural aspect to the portrait. He has made it the likeness of a sweet young girl, perfectly human and very lovable. It is therefore just as the legend reports her to have been when she presented herself to the sceptics inhabiting the Valley of the River Shan.

Five Years' Statistics of Japanese Banks and Companies; 1904 to 1908: the Tokyo Koshinjo.

THE Tokyo Koshinjo (Tokyo Intelligence Bureau) enjoys the highest reputation among institutions of its kind in Japan; and there is no hesitation in predicting that any statistics compiled by it would be thorough and accurate. The volume now before us gives a succinct idea of the condition of no less than 1,049 banks and companies, showing in every case all the details essential to a good working knowledge of the state of all these concerns. It must not be supposed, however, that the book is bulky because its contents are voluminous. On the contrary, it is a very handy volume, such as can easily find room on one's desk without incommoding in any degree. Evidently the authors have taken much thought for the convenience of readers, an essential point in catering for the use of busy men of affairs. It goes without saying that such a book is indispensable to every one practically interested in Japanese finance, trade or enterprise of any kind. We could have wished, however, that the names of the various boards of directors had been given. It is so necessary to have that knowledge, and the insertion of these particulars need scarcely have added anything to the bulk. It is a pity, too, that there should be so many misprints. A formidable list of errata gets on the reader's nerves. But for the rest, we have nothing save whole-hearted praise. If such a volume sees the light now for the first time, it is solely because the task of compiling it defied the competence of any statisticians unpossessed of an exceptionally far-reaching organization.

Court Life in China: Its Officials, and People

By ISAAC TAYLOR HEADLAND, Professor in the Peking University. Illustrated. New York, 1909, Fleming H. Revell Company.

A SINGLE glance at a chapter or two of this book suffices to let us know that it was not written by anyone connected with the diplomatic service; because there are statements on some pages and implications on others, which no one even remotely connected with his Government, in that he shares its responsibilities towards other States, would care to make. There may be a good many people outside as well as inside China, who suspect that the late emperor, Kuang Hsü, did not die of any natural disorder; but it would not be discreet for a diplomat to give so much as a hint at this suspicion in a printed book. We drew the reader's careful attention to the last pages of Chapter XIX, "Chinese Princes and Officials," where there are two questions: referring to the death of the late emperor, it is said, "What then are we to infer? That the Emperor was poisoned?" But the questions are not answered; and never will be, in all human probability.

Dr. Headland gives us a most readable book and if its contents become well known, the volume is sure to have a large sale, and that is always gratifying to both author and publisher, yet in this particular instance, we may justly say, the value is not entirely a commercial one. Passing by the worn-out, tiresome phrases, "exceptional opportunities never before afforded," we must admit that Dr. Headland and his wife had chances to see much of Court life in phases that came

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in a sequence rather different from what is offered to the men and women of the foreign legations in Peking as a general rule. After a careful reading of the book, we fail to see any thing in it, excepting, of course, the professional, technical experiences of physicians, which might not easily have happened to the wife of any Minister Plenipotentiary, had she chosen to put herself in the way of getting those opportunities: indeed, the prominence justly given to Mrs. Conger's intimacy with the Empress Dowager contributes the strongest colour in the whole sequence.

That readers may have an idea of the conditions in which the author lived and his right to ask a hearing from the English reading public, it is proper to tell something about him and his wife. Dr. and Mrs. Headland are both physicians, graduates of medical schools in the United States, and possessing diplomas whose value is recognized everywhere. Apparently, they went to China under the auspices of the Chinese Government; he to fill a chair in the Peking University, and she to practise her profession among the women and children of the capital. From a small beginning, Mrs. Headland's practice extended itself until she came to be almost the personal physician to the Imperial Court itself and of a great range of concentric circles widening out into the broadest parts of Peking's population. It is upon her notebooks that her husband draws most freely for his material. We see the late Empress Dowager in an aspect quite new to most of us: the story of her life, the analysing of her motives, the mystery of her character, all evince a striking and most interesting commingling of feminine observation and intuition, with a logic that is truly masculine. We learn, in ways that he who wishes to know precisely must read for himself, more of the birth, childhood and whole life of "Miss Chao," who came to be the great Empress Dowager, than most of us ever knew before. The story is not told in soft words and flattering phrases: the egoism of the Empress Dowager is just as marked as ever; the bitter hatred for the "foreign devils" is not hidden at all; the reasons which led to a radical change of heart in the latter respect are given without any attempt to make them appear phenomenal, and when the death of that remarkable woman is finally recorded, we are left quite as much amazed at her character as ever; but certainly we know, or we think we know, her personality better than ever before. The Empress' artistic ability and love of the artistic appealed strongly to the author of this book, and what he tells us of these traits tends to raise our opinion of the woman, who was such an extraordinary combination of characteristics.

"Court Life in China:" the phrase has not yet lost all its mysterious suggestiveness, and probably will not for many a long year. This book gives us numerous pertinent details of this interesting topic that we cannot find in any other work known to us, and if the opportunity to get a closer and more precise look at the Court itself came from an episode, The Boxer Rebellion, which made all people, the world over, shudder in almost breathless anxiety through the long days and trying nights of summer nine years ago, we can now look back and almost be glad that the opportunity arose. The temporary opening of the Forbidden City, and it has never again been closed in precisely the same sense of the word as before, to the inspection of the outer barbarians with camera and notebook, was seized upon promptly: perhaps it is not quite fair to make public what came to some in such a way, but it is improbable that anyone will refuse to look at the pictures of that, until 1900, most mysterious place, or read the description of apartments into which, until then, no one had been admitted from the outer world.

There is, throughout the whole book, a most pleasing evidence of a woman's influence: it is almost inconceivable that a man himself would have dreamt of giving such particulars of personal appearance, costume, coiffeur toilet accessories, table details, etc., and the suggestions of Mrs. Headland were supplemented by precise statements which only an observing, interesting woman could have made: by way of precise example, the account of a high rank Manchu lady's day, from the moment of waking in the early morning, through the most exact details of toilet, make-up, roping, ornamentation, particulars of breakfast, social duties, until her return from her daily round of formal or familiar calls, will please the most inquiring feminine reader: but it was quite unnecessary for the author, just a common man, to express his obligation to his wife: no one would dream for a moment of giving a man credit for writing such entertaining matter.

Dr. Headland prefaces each of his chapters with an apposite extract from some other book, all of them recent publications, and the titles furnish a very useful, concise bibliography. If anyone wishes to be satisfactorily informed about China to-day he could not do better than read the works from which Dr. Headland has taken his excerpts. This is, of course, not a complete process, because there are many old books which are now quite as valuable as ever, and there are some recent books that have not been mentioned, simply because it was not necessary to do so; while the work dealing with China's problems that are daily pouring forth from the presses of the West and the East are, some of them, fully as much needed to give one a comprehensive knowledge of Chinese affairs, as any that had before been written.

The photographic illustrations are nearly all fresh and add not a little to one's pleasure. The make-up of the volume is very good, the type is large and well-spaced, and we have to thank both author and publisher for this addition to our libraries. It is but right, however, if for no other reason than as a warning for the future, to note that there are many slips in the English; such as confusion between 'will' and 'shall,' improper duplication of perfect tenses, and other grammatical or rhetorical blunders which should not have escaped the careful proof-reader.

OUR RUSSIAN NEWSLETTER.

(*From Our St. Petersburg Correspondent.*)

St. Petersburg, November 17.

At the "Society for the Study of Siberia" an interesting lecture was delivered on Sunday on the subject "The Yellow Question in the Far East." The main argument of the lecturer was devoted to proving that Russia is working on mistaken lines in the Far East owing to a continuance of the policy of "following the line of least resistance". Of the two nationalities with which Russia has to deal, the Chinese and the Koreans, the latter are subjected to every kind of repressive measure, while the former, even on Russian territory and in Russian towns, have been allowed to attain a position which in practical life, though not in law, is something more than merely equality. "How else shall we explain," exclaimed the lecturer, "the not infrequent spectacle of a yellow man passing a Russian officer in uniform without taking any kind of notice, while to a Chinaman, who has acquired riches and influence by trading in Russian territory, he will bow down most obsequiously." The Chinese are masters of the commercial situation throughout the Russian Far East. On Russian territory they are permitted to carry on their secret "brotherhoods" which in China are strictly prohibited on pain of death. Thus the Russian population of the large towns, Vladivostok, Blagovesçensk etc. have not only to be content with Chinese supremacy in trade, but likewise go in fear of their lives from Chinese combined action in certain eventualities. The male population of the towns is composed of Russians and Chinese men in equal numbers. On the other hand yellow labour is essential to the existence of the Russian in the Far East. Therefore the Koreans, who are a peaceable, hard working, contented race, should be encouraged by Russia where now she oppresses them with vexatious regulations, even to the extent of forcible deportation from Russian territory. The Chinaman makes his money and returns home, but the Korean is easily settled permanently on the land.

Weight is added to the above arguments from an independent source. The gold-mining industry of the Amur Region has memorialised the Government on the injury done to its interests by the forcible deportation of Koreans, who are in all respects most desirable workers. "Peaceable, obedient and not exacting," says the document, "the Korean labourers are exceptionally cheap workmen, and a great part of what they earn remains always in the country"; therefore the memorialists beg the Government to stop all prohibitive measures directed against the yellow races, in so far as Koreans are concerned.

The midnight sitting of the Duma last Friday for the special purpose of electing officers for the coming year very strongly reminded many of those present of the "indignation meetings" of their schoolboy days. About half the Duma members, belonging to various opposition parties, declared their intention of abstaining from any part in the election of President, Vice-Presidents and Secretaries on the old ground that the "praesidium" was composed of the Right parties only, and the opposition was denied adequate representation on the body which regulated the order of business in the Duma. The Black Gang parties had all personal grievances against M. Khomiakov as President, owing to his having so frequently had occasion to call their speakers to order for outrageous conduct, including even foul and obscene language of the kind abandoned by most men in their schoolboy days. They had further a demand to press that their member, who has in his office as senior secretary, or Secretary of the Duma, given general offence all round, should not be put up for election but continue to hold his post for the life-time of the Duma. Petty party feelings and personal spite seemed to rule the entire sitting, but after the tedious process of voting, first by slips of paper, next by the ballot-box with white and black balls, M. Khomiakov was again elected President for the third time, with 93 black-balls and over a hundred abstentions. A Progressive member, formerly one of the Secretaries, was elected junior Vice-President, Prince Volkonsky remaining senior Vice-President, while the post of senior secretary, or Secretary of the Duma, was filled by an Octobrist, one of the secretaries, to the exclusion of the Black Gang member who has hitherto held the post. In a letter to the President the latter insolently intimated his intention to continue to act as Secretary of the Duma, as neither he nor his party recognised the legality of a new election. The disorder and uproar throughout this special election sitting, to say nothing of the misplaced facetiousness of about fifty members who inscribed on their voting papers all kinds of impossible names as candidates, pasquils on the Duma and the President (one of which was couched in the foul language affected by the Black Gang as being "truly Russian") and other curious particulars of this meeting inevitably carried one back to the days of school and the "indignation meetings" which most of us remember with anything but pride. It is for the present session that the Duma has reserved all the real questions of reform; its energies hitherto having been expended in the task of "keeping alive," that is, avoiding any risky conflict with the real Government of Russia. There is little hope that a

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public assembly so painfully split up on petty points of difference, to say nothing of the peevishness and personal spite, worthy only of children, which was so freely exhibited at this election sitting, will be able to present a united front in the interests of reform against the tremendous powers whose interests lean rather towards a maintenance of the ways of the good old times.

A number of arrests of highly placed officials of the Russian "Intendantstvo" has taken place in the Kazan Military District, where the inspection of the Intendant Department throughout Russia has revealed the usual story of fabulous gains amassed by these, the most unscrupulous of all the bribe-taking officials of easy-going Russia. Most of the arrested officials had evidently been warned betimes of their danger—which is also a Russian practice, and those who can (and find it worth while to) make good their stealings are let down lightly without public disgrace. In the present case the officials utilised their warnings to transfer all their real and personal property to their wives or other accommodating relatives—which is the usual practice of the Russian merchant also when contemplating a real or a fraudulent bankruptcy. It is, however, intimated that those persons will be tried on the full criminal charge applying to their misdeeds, restitution being out of the question. Men whose official salary was about 150 to 200 pounds sterling per annum, without any other resources, were found in possession of large well-appointed houses of their own, richly furnished, with stables, horses and carriages, numerous servants etc., they were members of aristocratic clubs where they lost large sums of money in gambling, and were generally regarded by the ordinary citizen as being wealthy men. A number of merchants will likewise be prosecuted for participating in the frauds practised on the State in the purchase of every kind of material equipment for the Army.

The navigation season of the port of St. Petersburg this year has been exceptionally brief. In place of the average of 210 days' navigation, the port will close this week, after only 165 days' work. The last steamers are leaving on the homeward bound voyage.

The French aviator Guiot, on a Bleriot monoplane, made a successful flight on Sunday before thousands of spectators on the St. Petersburg race-course. At a height of from 30 to 50 metres he flew four miles in six minutes; there was no wind, but a touch of frost which was severely felt by the aviator, whose hands were numbed. Yesterday a second attempt was made, but he never succeeded in rising more than a few feet above the ground; the public clamoured for their money back, and it has been arranged to return the entrance fee to all who care to apply. The attitude of the police towards aviation in Russia is causing much comment. Permission to fly is obtained with extreme difficulty, and the most stringent regulations are imposed as to the area over which an aviator may pass. The police evidently fear that the dangerous classes, the terrorists, may press the modern machines into their service, a fear which is very premature indeed as regards any of Russian nationality. The Russian explorer of the new element for locomotion has not yet passed beyond the stage of the old fashioned pear-shaped balloons, and rarely contrives to "fly" even in these century-old machines without mishaps.

The special military envoys of Japan have left St. Petersburg for Moscow where they will repeat their investigations into the military organisation, life, habits, drill, exercises, and preparations for war of the Russian Army.

It is reported that a party of Japanese government engineers in visiting the works on the new Amur Railway, provided with instruments for surveying a photographing progress. The object is believed to be to satisfy Japan of the inability of the Russian Government to complete this new railway in anything like the four or five years so freely spoken of during the debates on this subject in the Duma. M. Kokovtsev, in an address in his subordinates, the heads of departments of the Manchurian Railway, pointed that the northern railway, passing wholly through Russian territory, was absolutely necessary to the security of the Manchurian Railway, and the two together would go far to ensure the stability of Russian enterprise in the Far East.

Prince Peter Trubetskoy, leader of the Centre of the Russian Upper House, in an interview accorded to a local paper, spoke, among other matters, of the Freedom of Conscience Bill. In his opinion the Russians are not yet ripe for religious liberty, which can only safely be given them after education has done its much needed work. The Bill has been withdrawn from the Duma by the Government, nominally for minor alterations, but it is doubtful if it will become law for a good many years to come, practically on an equality with the Christian Faith.

"Brutus" continuing his articles on the "Needs of Siberia" in the *Novoe Vremja* points out that the interested wiseacres at the head of affairs discovered, when the grain-growing capacities of Siberia became known, that Siberian grain would prove a ruinous rival to European home-grown grain. They therefore killed this competition at the outset by erecting a railways freight tariff at the station of Cheljabinsk, to prevent Siberian grain coming westwards. There is practically no market in Siberia for the quantities of grain that can be and are grown there; in fact there are four producers to one consummer in Siberia. The export market would provide the necessary outlet, and in order to further this object the Perm-Kotlas Railway was built by those same wiseacres at headquarters. It is practically useless, inasmuch as the Siberian harvest is a late one, and the Northern Dvina, by which the harvest reaches the railway freezes early, so that Archangel, the port of departure cannot be reached till the year following and Russian agriculture now as from time immemorial is a hand to mouth form of industry.

OUR LONDON LETTER.

London, November 12.

On the twenty-first day of the month of October England celebrated the hundred and fourth anniversary of the Battle of Trafalgar. The twenty-fifth was Saint Crispin's Day, upon which, in the year fourteen hundred and fifteen, was fought and won the famous Battle of Agincourt. Thus two great English heroes, Lord Nelson and King Henry V., although their glorious exploits by long centuries are divided, have those exploits honoured and remembered within a few days of each other.

Upon Trafalgar Day, according to the good custom, the Nelson Column in Trafalgar Square was hung with laurels. A multitude of wreaths, chaplets and anchors were there, bays and autumn flowers. There were tributes from the Colonies and from the various branches of the Navy League throughout the Empire. Lines by Mr. Alfred Noyes:—

"Look to thy fleet, thy fleet,
The first last line, Britain,
It is thy sword, thy strength, thy shield"

were inscribed upon a great shield of evergreens sent by the London branch of the League. Victoria, Esquimault, Canterbury, N.Z., Natal, Nelson, N.Z., Tasmania, the Wanganui (N.Z.) Collegiate School, Penzance and district, the City of Oxford and other towns and communities availed themselves of the opportunity to do honour to Nelson's name.

"The daughters of the Empire"—a Canadian Society—sent an anchor of laurel and chrysanthemum. There was a wreath to the memory of Captain William Marley, R.N., who was a signal midshipman in the action at Trafalgar, and helped to run up Nelson's famous signal on that day.

A party of a hundred boys belonging to the National Navy Reserve took part in the celebrations under the command of Lieutenant Barrat.

They attended a special service at Saint Paul's Cathedral, and after the service went down into the crypt to visit Nelson's tomb, upon which were crossed the Union Jack and the White Ensign. Lieutenant Barrat, speaking, enjoined on the boys to "serve with all our hearts and soul our God, King and Country." These words they repeated, adding their "Amen."

Next the corps marched to the column in Trafalgar Square, where six of its members formed into line and bore aloft the flags making the signal "England expects that every man will do his duty." People of all classes and denominations flocked in numbers to see the display of wreaths and flowers and craned their necks gazing upward for a sight of the hero of the day, whilst good Englishmen and lovers of their country, wherever they might be, remembered Nelson.

Perhaps not many noted the passing of Saint Crispin's Day. The great fight at Agincourt and all that pertains to it are indeed remote. Regarded through the thick veil woven by the centuries, courage and the passion of patriotism, though they preserve their glamour and their colour, yet part with much of the sharpness of outline that lends a sense of reality. Though folk have forgotten the Day of Agincourt, they know well enough that King Harry fought there, but they cannot very well say why; nevertheless they honour King Henry V.; they cherish his memory with a feeling of affection and pride: he remains perhaps the most popular king that has ever reigned in England.

The truth is that the English people passionately admire a particular type of heroic character. To this type both King Henry V. and Lord Nelson conform very closely. It combines a picturesque and almost reckless daring, audacity and entire fearlessness with the more solid qualities of tenacity and patience. It has that sort of arrogance that delights in fighting against long odds, the arrogance that Shakespeare causes King Henry to put into words:—

"If it be a sin to covet honour
I am the most offending soul alive.
No, faith, my coz, wish not a man from England
God's peace, I would not lose so great an honour,
As one man more, methinks, would share from me,
For the best hope I have. O! do not wish one more. . . . . ."

It has that powerful quality of personal magnetism, which infallibly attracts and holds, and the perfectly sure instinct, the marvellous graciousness and sympathy, that made Nelson run up the signal: "England expects that every man will do his duty," and filled King Henry's encouragement to his soldiers:

"We few, we happy few, we band of brothers:
For he, to-day, that sheds his blood with me
Shall be my brother; be he ne'er so vile,
This day shall gentle his condition. . . . . ."

This heroic type is above all things the type of a man of action. The delight in pure intellect is not a national characteristic. No doubt there have been in England great idealists and great thinkers who have been justly appreciated, but neither the men nor their popularity has been typical. The people of this country as a whole set store much more by great deeds than by great thoughts, or even great principles. This national preference indicates a peculiarity of national character which is very significant, for it influences materially all departments of English national life. In England practice

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precedes theory. In many other countries the theory is first elaborated and then put into practice. In the matter of the form of government, for example, the English people insisted upon being governed in a certain manner, and when they had well established this form they called it constitutional government. The rulers of other countries have adopted constitutional government, first studying its theory and afterwards putting their knowledge into practice. Let an Englishman consider for a moment the most familiar institutions of his national life and mark how analogous has been their evolution. The education of the people, the various systems of communication, the preservation of law and order, the care of the destitute, charitable organizations of all sorts. These things all had their origin in the obscure independent actions of private individuals. They gradually grew in importance and sphere of influence, still preserving their character as objects of private enterprise, only in the last instances being sanctioned, and, as it were, taken over by the State and included in the general scheme of the theory of government.

The works of art and literature of this country have come into being in somewhat the same way, and the history of that movement known as the Romantic Revival, which took place in England and on the continent in the end of the eighteenth and the beginning of the nineteenth centuries, illustrates the point that we wish to make.

In England the new poetry, the new novels, the new essays came first, afterwards all the critical matter and philosophical, with new theories of art and of taste. Abroad, notably in France and Germany, it was otherwise; the new theories, philosophies and definitions were first promulgated, the new taste was first formed, and then the new type of work was produced. This ingrained preference for immediate and independent action, this essentially practical spirit, is a fundamental element of the British character. It is one which will give pause to Socialists bent on carrying out their idealistic reforms. John Bull is no visionary; theories of the Socialist millenium are apt to pass harmlessly over his head. When in any sort of trouble his first, best and most natural instinct is "to do something at once and to do it myself;" for the loss of this right he will be compensated by no amount of State interference and State aid.

Socialists and others have been very much exercised over the action of the Spanish Government in the execution of Senor Ferrer, who was tried at Barcelona by court-martial upon a charge of having instigated the riots which took place there last summer. The trial was not strictly private, for there were present some two hundred correspondents and two hundred and fifty of the general public. Use was made of the evidence taken before the trial, but no witnesses were called upon either side. Both Senor Ferrer and his Counsel complained that charges referring to events several years old had been raked up and that they had no bearing upon the present case.

The *Spectator* remarks: "We can only say of the trial, that, although it was in a sense public, it did not in any respect satisfy British notions of justice. It was like a public meeting at which the discussion was not as to whether the prisoner had or had not done a particular thing, but as to whether he was a good man or a bad man. Having decided that he was a bad man, the Court condemned him to death. . . We have no opinion as to the guilt of Senor Ferrer, but we do think that the Spanish Government has acted blindly. . . in allowing his trial to be plainly open to the charge of prejudice."

Other people have expressed themselves less moderately. The announcement of Senor Ferrer's execution was followed by an extraordinary outburst of public feeling in England and upon the Continent. In Rome and in other Italian cities there were strikes and riots. There were demonstrations in Lyons and in Paris very serious disorder, consisting of dangerous street fighting, shooting and wounding of policemen, burning of public vehicles and breaking of windows. The destructive mob that collected in the neighbourhood of the Spanish Embassy consisted in a great measure of persons who barely knew who Ferrer was, but this ignorance is characteristic of the movement. "The name of Ferrer is being used . . . . throughout Europe as a battle-cry for anarchism, socialism, republicanism and even liberalism. It is becoming a symbol which indicates far more than either the man's virtues or his defects warranted. It has loosed the arm of the assassin and will bring bitter passion to the ideals of the Republican."

There was held a protest meeting in Trafalgar Square, where was heard a good deal of socialistic oratory, further demonstrations being resolutely prevented by the police. Mr. Victor Grayson made a most outrageous speech in which he attacked the Foreign Secretary and the King. "Whatever happens within the next week or month," he said, "the crime lies not at the door of the people, but at the door of King Edward the VII." Mr. Cunningham Graham reproached the Labour party for their inaction, and Mr. Keir Hardie gave his contribution in the form of a letter to the *Daily News*.

"A word from Sir Edward Grey," he writes, "would have made the crime impossible." This word apparently was not spoken, therefore Mr. Keir Hardie proceeds: "Was the Foreign Secretary *particeps criminis* by his inaction in this crime which has horrified the world? If he was, what will his party say and feel and do? That is now the question. We must make sure our own skirts are not bespattered with Ferrer's blood."

Next the Socialists put a preposterous question in the House of Commons: "What action, if any, has been taken by the Government to prevent the shooting of Senor Ferrer?"

Sir Edward Grey answered: "The Government cannot depart from the rule not to interfere in affairs of the internal administration of European countries where no British subject or treaty right is involved. This rule is one observed by all European Governments in their dealings with each other."

The *Evening Standard* comments upon the incident in an amusing passage:—"Suppose Mr. Will Thorne or Mr. Victor Grayson were Foreign Secretary, and full effect were given to the notion that one nation may interfere in the internal affairs of another without direct provocation, or the right provided by treaty. Let us . . . imagine ourselves the nation which has either done something or left something undone to the dissatisfaction of France or Germany, Russia or Spain. Mr. Will Thorne or Mr. Victor Grayson receives communications from the Socialist Governments of the Continent, to the following effect:—

"The Government of Germany draws the attention of the British Government to the fact that unemployment has increased in England during the last year, and begs that such measures may be taken as will remove this blot upon the race.

"The Government of France draws attention to the loathsome conditions in which many of the London poor exist, and begs etc., etc. . .

"The Government of Spain denounces its comrades of Great Britain for gross neglect in failing to shoot the conservative member for East Blankshire for his retrogade opinions, and threatens, etc., etc.

"These examples may seem impossible, but they are logically tenable. For if the right of one country to interfere with the private concerns of another is once allowed, there is no end to the occasions and pretexts on which it might be exercised. If we protest against the execution of Ferrer, or another, any European nation is justified in calling on us to amend our own errors small or great. Establish the principle and anything may follow." War would certainly follow for one thing, and quickly too.

The *Westminster Gazette* publishes a rather curious correspondence between the Editor of the paper and Mr. George Edwards, the theatrical manager. Mr. Edwardes put on a new musical comedy at one of the theatres with which he is connected, entitled "The Dollar Princess." There appeared in the *Westminster Gazette* a notice of this production which was in the main very favourable, containing, however, a rather disparaging reference to "the book." It is said that "tiresome" was the objectionable epithet made use of in this connection. On the other hand the notice contained such expressions as "the whole thing was a roaring success. . . . As to Mr. Leo Fall's music, it is decidedly superior to that usually encountered in works of this class. . . . As to the mounting of the work, nothing more beautiful in the way of scenery, dresses and the rest has ever been witnessed even in latter day musical comedy," and so forth.

Mr. George Edwardes, however, was very much dissatisfied and wrote a letter to the Editor of the *Westminster Gazette*, of which the following is an extract:—

"I am compelled to ask your attention to what I consider is a most unfair gratuitous and unjustifiable attack upon my play and upon Captain Basil Hood, its adapter.

"As I am entitled to consider that, within reasonable limits, a newspaper may be of assistance to a theatrical manager through its advertisement columns, and as it appears to me an anomaly to advertise in one column and to be attacked in another, and as your contributor appears to have gone out of his way to try and injure me in my business by a perfectly unnecessary and dragged-in attack in a second notice—(Mr. Edwardes here refers to a notice of the "Mountaineers" at the Savoy Theatre, of which he has evidently mistaken the drift, as no allusion or reference is made to his play in it)—I have instructed the managers of my various theatres to withdraw my advertisements and to cease my connection with your journal, as it has now become a menace to me." There is a good deal more of this correspondence, but sufficient has been quoted to make clear the situation raised by Mr. Edwardes. What prompts his attitude is indeed difficult to conceive, unless it be momentary irritation and a rather unreasonable loss of temper.

A newspaper is, or should be, at once an organ of opinion and a medium of advertisement. Unless these functions are kept absolutely distinct, one and the other become useless and devoid of meaning. The whole question was brought up and discussed with some bitterness at the period of the publisher's quarrel with the *Times*, when that newspaper was placed in a somewhat delicate position on account of the advertising connected with the *Times'* Book Club.

Mr. Edwardes' action was quite unwarrantable, and probably the Editor of the *Westminster Gazette* was right in publishing the correspondence, as he has seen fit to do. If a theatrical manager is to be allowed to threaten, with impunity, the editor of a newspaper because the said editor publishes a notice for which the manager has "no use," what will become of the freedom of the Press?

Nevertheless the incident is deplorable from more than one point of view. Mr. Edwardes—there is no blinking the fact—has laid himself open to something worse than ridicule, and the public, considering the affair, cannot but be doubtful and distrustful. "Is this the first time," it will be apt to ask itself, that such a letter has gone from advertiser to editor marked "Private and not for publication." The Editor of the *Westminster Gazette* informed Mr. Edwardes at once that in a case of this kind he could not consent to be bound by any such reservation. Has every editor always been of his opinion? Meanwhile, no doubt, people are flocking to see the "Dollar Princess," in order to judge for themselves whether the "book" is tiresome or not.

A phrenologist of repute has declared that Mr. Lloyd George's head, which is remarkable for its "large language" bumps, has increased in size within recent years. The *World* has accordingly produced the following:—

Our arch-demagogue's head
Keeps on swelling, 'tis said,
And to notice the fact, none can fail;
But what is still worse,
And a far greater curse,
Is the growth of his Socialist "tail."

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DEATH OF A FOREIGN RESIDENT.

It is with great regret we have to announce the death of Mrs. Knapp, the wife of Mr. A. M. Knapp, at one time the proprietor of the *Japan Advertiser* and author of the well-known work "Feudal Japan," the sad event occurring on the 5th inst. at their residence on the Bluff. The deceased lady, who came to this country 22 years ago, had suffered from bad health for some time past, but a turn for the worse took place six weeks ago, the patient gradually sinking and passing away, as stated above. During the worst phase of the illness Mr. Knapp was absent from Japan, returning here only on the 4th inst. by the *China*.

The mortal remains of Mrs. A. M. Knapp were conveyed to their last resting place on the 7th inst. A brief service, according to Unitarian rites, was conducted at the house, 42-B, Bluff, by Dr. Clay MacCauley, a friend of the deceased, who paid a tribute to her high personal character. The hearse was then followed to the General Cemetery by Mr. A. M. Knapp and a few friends, including Messrs. E. W. Frazar, C. H. Thorn, G. L. A. Smith and Dr. L. B. Street, who acted as pall-bearers.

N.R.C. GOLFING ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the above Association was held on the evening of the 3rd inst. at the offices of the Foreign Board of Trade, International Buildings. Mr. A. J. McClure, Vice-President, occupied the chair, in the presence of some twenty members.

The minutes of the last meeting having been read and adopted, the accounts were adopted, on the motion of Mr. Marshall, seconded by Mr. Lowson.

Mr. Colchester, the Hon. Secretary, outlined the Club's proceedings during the past season and gave the results of the various competitions that had taken place. Messrs. Cox and Parr had won the Professional Pairs, prizes presented by Mr. Williamson Jones; Mr. Murray Mollison, the St. Patrick's Cup, presented by Mr. Brady; Mr. Parr, the Kobe Cup; Mr. Crockatt, the Championship of Japan, played at Kobe. The Interport match had been secured by Kobe by the smallest of margins, after close and exciting finishes. The Championship of the Club had fallen to Mr. Colchester. In May last the Club easily defeated a team from the British Fleet and also played three matches with representatives of the Hongkong Garrison during the latter's visit in the summer. One of the matches—Bankers and Brokers versus the Garrison—was won by the latter, by 4 to 3½, but the other two events the Club won somewhat easily. The competitions for the Captain's Cup and the prizes presented by the Hon. Secretary and Hon. Treasurer had not yet been completed.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, resulting as follows:—

Presidents, H.E. Governor Baron Sufu and Mr. F. R. Daniel; Vice-President, Mr. A. J. McClure; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. E. V. Hooper; Hon. Secretary, Mr. W. H. Lewis; Committee—Messrs. G. G. Brady, A. B. Lowson, E. R. Kellogg, O. M. Poole, F. E. Colchester, and D. Marshall.

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Yen.
To Balance at 30th September, 1908	438.52
To Balance transferred from working a/c	162.52
" Balance	163.19
	764.23
Cr.	
By Profit on Bar account	605.68
By Profit on Club and Ball account	158.55
	764.23

BALANCE SHEET, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1909.

LIABILITIES.	Yen.
Chartered Bank: Overdraft	1,287.51
Profit and Loss Account	163.19
	1,450.70

ASSETS.	Yen.	Yen.
Stock on hand:		
Wine	87	
Clubs and Balls	540	627.00
Furniture: a/c 1907-8	108.70	
" 1908-9	25.85	134.55
Lockers		202.40
Outstandings:—		
Bar	23.00	
Clubs and Balls	267.00	
Subscription	10.00	
Caddies	164.75	
Locker rents	21.00	486.75
		1,450.70

BAR ACCOUNT.

Dr.		Yen.
Stock on hand at 30th Sept., 1908		56.46
Purchases	Yen 1,525.50	
Less	" 251.52	1,273.98
Wages to Bar Boy, &c.		352.23
Profit transferred to P. & L. account		605.68
		2,288.35
Cr.		Yen.
Receipts		2,312.64
Add: accounts outstanding		24.00
		2,336.64
Less: a/c last year		135.29
		2,201.35
Stock of Wine on hand		87.00
		2,288.35

CLUB AND BALL ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Yen.
Stock on hand at 30th Sept., 1908	356.00
Purchases	2,278.55
Profit transferred to P. & L. account	158.55
	2,793.10
Cr.	
Sales:	
Clubs and Balls sold	1,986.10
Stock on hand	540.00
Outstanding	267.00
	2,793.10

WORKING ACCOUNT.

Dr.	Yen.	Yen.
Ground Upkeep and Wages	2,456.56	
Less: on account last year	127.70	2,328.86
General expenses		587.41
Watchman's wages		204.00
Insurance on property		50.00
Advertising and stationery		127.75
Championship Cup		61.50
Caddy chits		1,561.00
		4,920.25
Cr.		
Subscription and Entrance Fees	3,022	
Less: on account last year	40	
Locker Rents	246	
Less: on account last year	12	234.00
Outstandings:		
Subscription	10.00	
Locker rents	21.00	
Caddy chits	164.75	
Caddy chits collected	1,396.25	
Less: on account last year	50	1,346.25
Balance transferred to P. & L. account		162.52
		4,920.52

A. E. TODD,
Hon. Treasurer.

Yokohama, 30th October, 1909.

Audited and found correct,
J. REID.

LAND TAX AND PEERS.

It is most likely that the Fuso Mokuyo and Doyo Societies of the House of Peers will coalesce in the movement in favour of the land-tax reduction, whilst neither the Saiwai Club nor the Ken Kyu Society is in any way inclined to raise its voice against the bill. It appears that there is good prospect of the proposed bill passing the House by a large majority.

YOKOHAMA.

The opening ceremony of the Yokohama hall for wrestling and other performances was held on the 4th inst. The proprietor Mr. Kato delivered an opening address and was followed by speeches by the representative of Count Itagaki, Mayor Mitsuhashi, Mr. Asada, Chairman of the Municipal Assembly, the representatives of the Tokyo and Yokohama press and others. Some 3,000 persons were present.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended December 2nd are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases	—	—	1	5	—	—
Died	—	—	—	1	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases	—	—	7	6	—	—
Died	—	—	—	1	—	—

At a council of the Kanagawa Prefectural Assembly held on the 5th instant, Mr. Deguchi, a member of the assembly, presented a memorial to the Chairman. The gist of his contention was that despite the fact of a large amount of silk piece goods being exported from Yokohama, the places of production are all in other prefectures. For instance, the annual output of habutae in Fukui prefecture reaches the enormous sum of 1,500,000 *yen*, whilst most of the raw silk is bought in Yokohama. It is to be regretted that not even a piece of woven stuff is manufactured in this port. A measure for the training of experts for textile industry should be devised. It was unaminously decided that a memorial relating to the subject should be presented to the Governor.

The British tank steamer *El Lobo* arrived here on the 5th inst. from Lobitos, Peru. She has on board 5,500 tons of crude petroleum belonging to the Hoden Petroleum Company.

A number of Japanese of various occupations were gambling on the 5th inst. in an unoccupied foreign house at No. 46-A, Yamate-cho, when the Yamate police suddenly entered the room and arrested nine of the gamblers.

At the Prefectural Assembly Council held on Monday, the question of establishing a Prefectural Technical School was postponed to the next fiscal year. The re-construction of the Yoshida Bridge (commonly known as Kaneno-hashi) was passed. The cost is estimated at 172,035 *yen*.

A canvasser named Kato Ginjiro, belonging to the Kigyo Ginko of this city, has been arrested on a charge of fraud. It is alleged that he has swindled certain persons of money on several occasions, availing himself of his position as a canvasser for the above banks.

It has been decided by the Yokohama Customs authorities that, on and after the 15th instant, new sheds on the reclaimed ground will be used for storing different kinds of landed cargo. The undermentioned goods are to be put in these sheds:—Flour, flax, hemp and other fibrous substances, rice, cereals, wool, printing paper, pulp for making paper, iron, glass, feather, rattans, brooms, bark of cocoa-nut palm, etc.

It is reported that a detached office of the Yokohama Custom House will be established in one of the sheds built on the reclaimed ground of this port. The place will be called *Shinko* (new port).

At the Prefectural Assembly Council held on the 6th inst., a noisy scene occurred between members belonging to the city and those elected for the inland districts, in connection with the bill for the re-construction of the Sakawa Bridge near Odawara. The bill was at last struck out by a majority.

The N.Y.K. steamer *Chikuzen Maru*, which arrived here on the 6th inst. from Shanghai *via* Kobe, and on which were found at Kobe two dead rats infected with plague, was ordered to Nagahama on Tuesday to undergo disinfection at the instance of the Harbour Office.

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KAGOSHIMA: IS IT WORTH VISITING?

HENRY B. SCHWARTZ.

[WRITTEN FOR THE "JAPAN MAIL."]

Now that the opening of the last section of railroad has brought Kagoshima within two days of the Imperial capital, and made it possible for a traveller with only a week at his disposal to make the trip, the question arises, what is there to see in the old Satsuma capital and is it worth the expenditure of time and strength necessary to see it.

To the hasty tourist who has seen little of Japan and who knows next to nothing of her history and traditions, the answer should be no, for Kagoshima has little to show him.

Its architecture is of the simplest and plainest. Twice in recent years, at the time of the English bombardment in 1863, and again at the close of the Satsuma war, when 12,700 houses were left charred and blackened ruins, the whole city has been destroyed by fire. In the city proper, not one of the old feudal mansions remains and the ordinary Satsuma house is a mere oblong box with paper portions.

Not only is its domestic architecture thus simple and unpretending, but it has no ecclesiastical architecture of any interest. Buddhism was never regarded with any favour by the higher classes of the province and in the fifth year of Meiji in a spasm of zeal for Shintoism all the existing Buddhist temples, together with household shrines, were destroyed. The great Shinshiu temple, with the wide sweeping roof which now dominates the lower town, was built by the contributions of the faithful outside of the province and has no historic significance and no particular architectural interest.

Neither is there much attraction in the Kagoshima shops. The fires which have swept the city have destroyed most of its works of art, and a visit to a Kogoshima *furu doguya* is not likely to discover any rare treasure. "Old Satsuma" was never common and the tourist may as soon expect to find diamonds in the Kagoshima streets as any genuine old pieces in its shops. True, if you want it, it can be made for you; for there are several potteries in the city where almost any day wares may be seen set out to dry the "ageing" composition which has been applied to turn them into "genuine old Satsuma." But the stores in Yokohama have the same kind of ware and the difference in price is more than off-set by time and railway fare.

A decided drawback is the lack of good hotels. In ancient times Satsuma permitted no visitors but merchants and pilgrims, and these, even when their passports were perfectly correct, were not allowed to stay more than one night in a place and were hurried on from village to village, ever in danger of the keen Satsuma blades, until at last they were delivered across the border. Under such circumstances no very elaborate lodgings were necessary, and so it comes about that in all Satsuma these is no famous inn with a long history behind it, like many of the delightful hostelries on the Tokaido and elsewhere, and even to this day hotel accommodations, while constantly improving, are notoriously inadequate.

But while Kagoshima may have little to offer the casual tourist, to the real lover of Japan, he who has caught the spell of her scenery, or to the student who cares for history and traditions, Kagoshima offers many attractions and is well worth a visit.

Scarcely any where else in all Japan are mountain and sea brought so charmingly together. The city lies around the base of Shiroyama and the beautiful peak of Sakurajima, like an ever watchful sentinel, sits calmly in the bay before her. The unpretentious houses are hidden behind handsome stone walls, in beautiful gardens of plums and citrus fruits, and on all sides the tinkling of running water makes music, night and day.

South of the city lies the pine clad spit of land known as Temposan, while to the north the road which skirts the bay winds past Gion-no-su with its little shrine, past Ta no-Ura, where in summer hundreds of fathers makes merry, and where from Prince Shimadzu's private villa a great pine tree stretches its long arms out over the road. On past these the road winds its way: beyond the solitary pine tree with its handsome stone lantern, called for some reason, I could never certainly discover why, the Loochoo Matsu; to Iso where, just a *ri* from the centre of the town, stands the yashiki of the Shimadzu family, with its beautiful garden. The latter can generally be seen by application at the gate and is well worth a visit.

Kagoshima, like most Japanese places of note, has its conventional list of "sceneries;" but the finest bit I have seen in all Japan is not included among them It is the view from the Loochoo Matsu just as the sun is rising, with the play of light and shade on the fishing boats as they beat up the bay to Kagoshima. Near at hand lies the truncated cone of Sakurajima, its slope in shadow and its crest glowing in the morning sun. In the distance lies Tempozan and, hazily outlined on the horizon, the sharp cone of Kaimondake—the sea gate peak To see this at its best we should rise before the sun on a July morning, walk to Iso and, after a good dip in the sea, start back to town just as the sun rises over the shoulder of Sakurajima.

To the student of history these scenes have an added interest. The birth-places of Satsuma's great men have almost without exception perished in smoke and flame. Even could we find them there would be little about any of them to distinguish them from the houses we see on every side to-day. Not the four walls human hands have built, but in a peculiar sense the beauty of Satsuma's capital, the great world of nature, has been the birth-place of Satsuma's great men, almost all of whom were poets and men of sentiment even more than men of affairs.

Indeed, the loss of the real birth-places means very little; for nowhere else in all Japan was the home influence so slight. Even in the same family there was hardly any intercourse between the sexes and, scarcely less than in old Sparta, the youths were taken out of their mothers' arms to be reared by the state. This was done through the establishment of the *sha* or young men's clubs. Note that rough shed-like building, with tennis courts, a turning bar and other pieces of gymnastic apparatus about it. That is the home of the Kasuga-cho students' club or *sha*, and there are ten others like it in the city; and at least one in every Satsuma village which has a *fumoto* or *samurai* quarter. Here, as of old, the *samurai* boys of the ward make their headquarters. Here they come, as soon as school closes in the afternoon, to study or practise gymnastics until gathering darkness calls them home for their evening meal. After that they come again to study, under the direction of some of the older lads or some of the young men of the ward, until bed time. In the *sha*, far more than in their homes, their interests centre, and in the *sha* are exerted the influences which are making the Satsuma men of the future.

In such a shed as this, but under a discipline as hard as iron and as cruel as steel, Saigo and Okubo grew up side by side, and in the same *sha* in Shimo Kajiya cho, Togo and Oyama had their training, and in some such club everyone of the older Satsuma men spent his older boyhood and young manhood.

From Iso to Kasuga cho and then from Kami to Shiwo, how easily our thoughts can fly from one part of the city to another; fortunately for us when we wish to make the actual journeys, Kagoshima, while a city of magnificent distances, is blest with the very best jinrikisha and the best jinrikisha men in all Japan. Swift, strong, polite and intelligent, a Kagoshima jinrikisha man makes an admirable guide. If you ask one of them to take you to see the sights of the city, he will take you first of all to the graveyard on the hill where Saigo and so many of his companions lie buried. It is a place of constant pilgrimage and the stone steps leading up to it are worn almost in two by the feet of the thousands who every year climb the little hill. By Saigo's side lie Murata, Beppu and the other leaders and around them the hosts who fell with them. Mere boys most of them, some only 14. Linger a while here and feel the pathos of a lost cause.

Saigo's statue stands here, overlooking the bay he loved. What does his spirit think to-day as thousands gather to rejoice over the breaking down of the isolation in which he and his so long rejoiced and trusted?

From here, a few steps up a cross street to the right, brings us to the monument which marks the spot where he fell, and further up the same valley we come to the cave which formed his last headquarters, where he played *go* all the day before the last battle.

A few hundred yards down another lane, leads us past the Prefectural Hospital, which stands where his private school once stood. On the soft sandstone walls here we may see the pits made by the Imperial bullets on the day of the last fight, Sept. 26, 1878.

The wide street which stretches away four or five *cho* from here, is all that is left of the parade ground where Saigo's students used to drill. Satsuma youth drill on the same ground now, but in a different way, for here in a line stand the Middle School, the School of Navigation, the Normal School, the Grammar School and the Girls' Grammar School; while just across the street, on the site of the ancient castle, stands what was once the Zoshikwan, now the 7th Koto Gakko. At eight o'clock each morning this wide street is crowded with eager youth, bright boys and pretty girls—the hope of Satsuma.

With their bright future in our minds let us take a kuruma across the city to the City of the Past,—greater Kagoshima, the City of the Dead. The temples which once stood here have all disappeared and even their very sites are covered with the crowding graves. The great pines attest the age of the graves they grow upon, but even the serried ranks of monumental stones give no idea of the unnumbered multitudes who lie beneath them. Tradition says that when the English bombarded the city they trained their guns on this graveyard, possibly from across the bay mistaking the ranks of brown stones for soldiers or possibly desiring to inflict a greater punishment by destroying the memorials of the dead.

All I have described, and more, can easily be seen within a week's absence from Tokyo. Three more days would enable one to return by the back way, as the splendid national road from Kagoshima to Komenotsu must now be called. By making a slight digression from this road the traveller may pass through the village of Naeshirogawa in Ijuin, where the Korean potters still make the Satsuma-yaki their ancestors discovered. He can spend the night at Sendai (written Kawauchi 川内), where, if he is fortunate enough to secure the best rooms at the Takaseya, he will find the best accommodation in the prefecture. This road opens up the real Satsuma country, which is not likely to be changed and assimilated to the rest of the Empire for many years to come. In Kagoshima, if one confines himself to the principal hotels, offices and shops, one familiar with the language of Tokyo will find no difficulty either in speaking or understanding, for the people will take great pains to speak to him in the dialect he understands, but at Ichiki, where he will stop for lunch on the first day, even the inn girls will speak nothing but the language of the province.

Between Ichiki and Sendai dozens of noisy stamp mills will be seen pounding gold ore from mines belonging to the Shimadzu estate. At Sendai, the temple of Hachiman is well worth a visit, for the sake of the splendid camphor trees which cover the whole hill on which the temple stands. One of these, which tradition in some way connects with Hideyoshi's invasion, has a hollow space in the trunk in which eight Japanese *tatami* can be spread.

From Sendai it is twelve *ri* to the town of Kimenotsu, a wretched straggling village but where comfortable accommodation can be had while waiting for the steamer which connects the place with Misumi and the main line of railroad. During this part of the journey the real motive for the long basha ride is revealed, for from Nishikata almost to Agune, some four or five *ri*, the road skirts the sea-coast, giving some bits of sea scenery as fine as any in Japan, which more than atone for the discomforts of the back-door route.

November 20th.

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CUSTOMS APPEALS.

The Minister for Finance gave a decision on December 1 on an appeal lodged by Messrs. Ataka Shokai, Karaibashi Shichome, Osaka. The firm imported compound lard on which the Kobe Customs imposed 40 per cent. *ad val.* duty, in accordance with No. 47 of the statutory tariff. The contention of the importers was that, though the Kobe Customs regarded the article as one that is used as food-stuff, the same was imported only for the purpose of using it as an ingredient of soap and as a grease for counteracting friction in machinery. It was therefore to be dealt with under either No. 169 of the statutory tariff which provides for 5.80 *yen* duty per 100 *kin*, or under No. 176 of the same tariff providing for 20 per cent. *ad val.* duty. Judgment was given in favour of the appellants, imposing 20 per cent. *ad val* duty, in accordance with No. 176 of the statutory tariff.

The Minister for Finance gave a decision on December 1 on an appeal lodged by Messrs. Findlay, Richardson & Co., No. 110, Ito-machi, Kobe. The firm imported a sample parcel containing slips of paper printed with pictures and the name of the firm, on which the Kobe Customs imposed 30.70 *yen* duty per 100 *kin* in accordance with No. 333 of the statutory tariff. The contention of the importers was that though the Kobe Customs had regarded the article as an ordinary label, the same was imported only for the purpose of advertising the name of the firm, and not with the object of selling. It was therefore to be dealt with under No. 336 of the statutory tariff. Judgment was given in favour of the appellants, the article being duty free in accordance with No. 336 of the statutory tariff.

The Minister of Finance gave a decision on December 1 on an appeal lodged by Messrs. Sale & Frazar, No. 46, Harima-machi, Kobe. The firm imported "reclaimed" rubber on which the Kobe Custom imposed 20 per cent. *ad val.* duty, in accordance with No. 5 of No. 484 of the statutory tariff. The contention of the importers was that though the Kobe Customs had regarded the rubber as manufactured and not raw rubber, the same should have been admitted duty free, under No. 1 of No. 484 of the statutory tariff dealing with raw rubber. The appeal was dismissed on the ground that the article was regarded as old rubber re-manufactured.

Another decision was given on the same day on an appeal lodged by Messrs. H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf., No. 20, Yamashita-cho, Yokohama. The firm imported flax yarn on which the Yokohama Customs imposed 42.20 *yen* specific duty per 100 *kin*, in accordance with No. 216 of the statutory tariff. The contention of the importers was that though the Yokohama Customs had regarded the article as flax thread, the same was nothing but flax yarn and should therefore be dealt with under either No. 215 of the statutory tariff, which provides for 18.50 *yen* duty per *kin*, or under the conventional tariff providing for 6.52 *yen* duty per 100 *kin*. The appeal was rejected on the ground that the said article was regarded as flax thread and not as flax yarn.

HONGKONG COINAGE.

The following throws some light on a rather ambiguous Reuter's message referring to the currency of Hongkong, published in our telegraphic columns a few weeks ago:—

Speaking in the House of Commons recently Mr. Bryce, Liberal Member for Inverness Burghs, asked the Under-Secretary for the Colonies recently whether the subsidiary coinage current in Hongkong was partly British and partly Chinese; whether the Chinese coin was only accepted by money-changers at a considerable discount; whether, in sympathy, the British coin was also depreciated to an almost similar extent, to the loss both of Government and of traders; whether he was aware that the Hongkong Government appointed a committee to suggest remedies, and that the majority report of the committee recommended that the circulation of Chinese coin should be be prohibited; whether, though 18 months had elapsed, no action had yet been taken by Government; and whether the Secretary of State would instruct the Hongkong Government to prohibit the circulation of Chinese coin with a view to enabling British coin to realize its face value in a British colony.

In reply, Colonel Seely, the Colonial Under-Secretary, said:—The answer to the first four clauses of my hon. friend's question are in the affirmative. In the minority report, however, of the committee referred to, a strong opinion was expressed as to the difficulty arising out of the circulation of subsidiary Chinese coins in Hongkong, and as to the adverse effect which such a measure would have on trade between Hongking and Canton. The Governor has been endeavouring to arrange with the Viceroy of the two Kwang Provinces for the cessation of the coinage in Canton until the coins reached par, and thereafter for a restriction upon output in accordance with the actual needs of the community; and it appeared from the latest report we have received on this subject, in the summer of last year, that the Viceroy was taking satisfactory measures to deal with the matter. The Secretary of State has recently requested the Governor of Hongkong to report on the present position, and on receiving the report will consider what steps should be taken.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE WHAMFOA.

STEAMER COLLIDES WITH TUGBOAT.

The *N.-C. Daily News* states that a serious accident occurred on the River Whampoa on the night of the 1st inst., as a result of which Captain C. V. d'Huevel, of the Franco-Dutch Dredging Co.'s tugboat *Jaau*, and two members of the Chinese crew met their death by drowing. The str. *Ningshao* (Captain Bell) left Shanghai between 5 and 6 p.m. on the 1st inst. and when nearing the northern end of Astræa Channel, in the darkness, came into collision with the Dredging Co.'s tugboat *Jaan*. The cause of the collision has not yet been verified or ascertained. The bow of the *Ningshao* is said to have struck the tugboat on the port side, making a deep rend, and driving her over to the west bank of the channel, where she setrled down in shallow water. The *Ningshao* sustained considerable damage and had a large trangular cut in her plates on the bow quarter, just above the water-line. Immediately after the collision the *Ningshao* went astern and after getting free of the tugboat, anchored for the night, and steamed back to Shanghai in the early morning, arriving there at daylight on the 2nd. After discharging her cargo, she will be docked for repairs, which will not be of a very extensive nature—merely the replacing of a few steel plates. The most distressing feature of the accident is that as a result of the concussion from the collision, Captain d'Huevel, a Chinese boatswain and a member of the Chinese crew of the *Jaan* were pitched overboard and at once lost to view. During the night a thorough search was made for their bodies, and again throughout the next day, but without success. The work of raising the sunken tugboat was begun on the 2nd by the staff of the Shanghai Tug and Lighter Company. It was expected that she would be raised successfully in a day or so.

DISHONEST POSTAL OFFICIALS.

Yamada Hobi, the director of a post-office in the Goto islands, was, says the *Nagasaki Press* of the 1st inst., sentenced to two years' imprisonment at the Nagasaki Chiho Saibansho on Monday for embezzling money deposited in the post office savings' bank. In August, 1908, two pass books were handed to him by depositors in order that the interest could be entered; Yamada took advantage of having possession of the books to withdraw 51 *yen* and 59 *yen* by means of false seals, etc.

On the 17th ult. Osamune Masaru, in charge of the Torimachi post-office, Kurume, absconded with 1,500 *yen* of public money. In addition he is accused of misappropriating 800 *yen* while in charge of the post-office. He has not yet been arrested.

CORRESPONDENCE.

COMPLAINT AGAINST THE RAILWAY.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—The railway is being extended all over the country with easy facilities for travel. The line to Kobe seems to be extremely popular judging from the number of people travelling, and formerly it was a tedious and long journey either by steamer or train. The trip can now be done by express trains to Kobe in about 12 hours. On the Tokaido line there are different types of carriages—the latest kind and seemingly most in use being the long corridor carriages that are open right through. They may have their uses, but they do not appear to be so comfortable as the old type, that is, the long carriage divided into several compartments, as when they are open right through the constant changes at stations, and the movement of travellers from one portion of the carriage to another, either for dining room convenience, or some other purpose, do not admit of much quietness or rest. The officials seem to take every pains to see that the passengers are comfortable and to study their convenience; however, some of the travellers do not seem inclined to study their fellow travellers' convenience, but act in the confined space of a carriage as if they were at home in their own house. A case in point occurred one evening last week on one of the evening express trains to Kobe where an open corridor carriage with seating accommodation for about thirty persons was monopolised by some travellers with a lot of luggage strewed all over the seats and on the floor, and although there were at the time only nine passengers, some persons getting in at a station found it difficult to obtain seating accommodation, because six of the nine had turned the carriage into a sleeping compartment and were extended at full length on the seats and covered with blankets as if they were at home, in place of being in a public railway carriage. On some remonstrance from the train boy one passenger out of the six was induced to get up and let some room be made for the new comers; the other five passengers took no notice, but contented themselves with lying stretched out on the seat at full length. From friends who travel constantly to Kobe by evening express, I understand this sort of conduct on some travellers' part is a constant source of annoyance. Surely all travellers should know that when they buy a ticket it means only seating accommodation for one, and not to separately occupy the best part of four seats for sleeping purposes to the inconvenience of others, more especially when the train is crowded.

Yours truly, TRAVELLER.

WILL ADAMS' GRAVE.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—Whilst staying recently at the Kai-hin-in Hotel, Kamakura, I walked over to Will Adams' grave near Yokosuka, and I believe the many subscribers to its restoration will be glad to know that the work is progressing and that there are, at last, prospects of this lovely site being made one of the most attractive places in this neighbourhood. The grave itself has been throughly repaired and a watchman's house erected near it with two large and comfortable rooms, enclosed with glass shoji, for the use of visitors. These command magnificent views over sea and mountain, Yokosuka harbour and the men of war that are always lying there. Food is not provided, as this is not a tea house, but it offers an ideal spot for a picnic at any season of the year. A public garden is a part of the proposed scheme, and tea houses will, no doubt, then be built.

It would or difficult to find a more beautiful and more interesting walk than that from Dzushi to the tomb by way of the picturesquely situated temple of Himoji and the torpedo station at Taura, but the easiest way to reach it is, of course, by train to Yokosuka, rikisha or walk to the foot of the hill (a short mile), and thence ¼ mile walk up.

Yours faithfully, M.K.

Yokohama, December 8, 1909.

The *N.-C. Daily News*, in its issue of the 2nd inst., says:—We understand that no attempt will be made to refloat the H. A. L. steamship *Bris gavia* which is aground near the Triplets, until the next, deep tide; but there is quite a fleet of tug boats and lighters in attendance and in the meantime every preparation will be made so that everything shall be in readiness for the next effort. It is not anticipated that the vessel will suffer any serious damage, as she is aground on a mud bottom.

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CHESS.

All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor, Japan Mail Office.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week at the Club Hôtel, No. No. 5 Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 34.

WHITE.	BLACK.
1. P to K6	1. P takes KP
2. Q to B 3 ch	2. K to B 5
3. Kt to Q 6 mate	
	1. K takes P
2. Q to S sq	2. P takes RP
3. Kt to Kt 7 mate	
	1. K takes Kt
2. Q to Q sq	2. P takes KP
3. Q to Q6 mate	
if	2. Kt to B 2
3. Q to Q7 mate	
	1. K to K5
2. Q to K2 ch	2. K takes Kt
3. Q to K Kt 4 mate	
if	2. K to Q4
3 Q Kt to K7 mate	

With other neat variations.

* * *

Correct solutions received from J.S., W.H.S., and Omega.

* * *

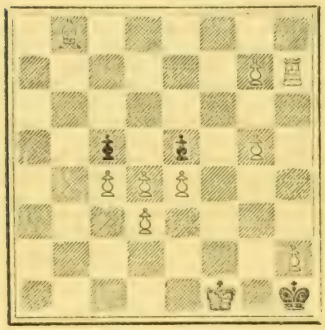
W. F. Madeley.—Thanks for your communication: your request shall have attention, next week.

* * *

PROBLEM NO. 36.

C. S. KIPPING.

Black 3 pieces.



White 10 pieces.

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN THREE MOVES.

* * *

The Yokohama Chess Club moved its quarters to the Club Hotel, No 5 Bund, on the 1st instant, where we trust much interest will be evolved in the noble game during the remainder of the present term. We learn that Messrs. Mitford and Walton have accepted Mr. Jordan's challenge for correspondence games, play to commence with the New Year.

* * *

In our Game department this week we reprint two games which earned the Brilliancy prizes at the recent Scarborough Congress. The judge (Mr Q. Hoffer) commends both games; and with regard to No. 36, remarks that it "has a first-class ending." Who says that ladies cannot play Chess!

* * *

GAME NO. 35.—Queen's Gambit declined.

WHITE. Dr. Holmes.	BLACK. Mr. F. D. Yates.
1. P—Q 4	P—Q 4
2. P—Q B4	P—K 3
3. Kt—Q B3	Kt—K B3
4. B—Kt 5	B—K 2
5. P—K 3	QKt—Q 2
6. Q—B 2	P—Q R3
7. Kt—B 3	Castles
8. R—Q sq	R—K sq
9. B—Q 3	P x P
10. B x B	P—B 4
11. P x P	Q—B 2
12. Castles	P—Q Kt3
13. B—B 4	Q x P
14. Kt—K 4	Q—B 3
15. Kt—Q6	B x Kt
16. R x B	Q—B 4
17. KR—Q sq	Kt—Q4
18. R (Q sq) x Kt	P x R
19. R x Q P	Q—K 2
20. Kt—Kt 5	Kt—K B sq
21. B—Q 6	Q—B 3
22. B x Kt	P—R 3
23. B—K 7	Q—Kt 3
24. Q x Q	P x Q
25. R—Q 8 dis ch	B—K3
26. B x B ch	K—R sq
27. R x Q R	R x R
28. Kt—B 7 ch	K—R 2
29. B—Q 5	R—R 2
30. B—Q 6	Resigns.

GAME NO. 36.—Queen's pawn game.

WHITE. Miss Taylor.	BLACK. Mrs. Houlding.
1. P—Q 4	P—Q Kt3
2. KKt—B 3	B—Kt 2
3. P—K 3	P—K 3
4. P—Q B4	Kt—K B3
5. B—K 2	B—K 2
6. Kt—B 3	Castles
7. Castles	P—Q 3
8. P—Q Kt 3	QKt—Q 2
9. B—Kt 2	Kt—K sq
10. P—K 4	P—K B4
11. P—K 5	R—Kt sq
12. P x P	B x P
13. P—Q 5	P x P
14. Kt x P	Kt (Q2)—B 3
15. Kt x Kt	Kt x Kt
16. Kt—K 5	R—K sq
17. P—B 4	B—B 4 ch
18. K—R sq	Kt—K 5
19. Q x Q	QR x Q
20. B—K B3	Kt—Kt 5 ch
21. P x Kt	R—Q 3
22. Kt—Kt 4	P x Kt
23. B x P	R—R 3 ch
24. B—R 3	R x B mate

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

THE BUDGET CONTROVERSY.

LORD CURZON AND LORD ROSEBERY.

London, December 2.

Lord Rosebery in a letter to the press refers to Lord Curzon's speech in which the latter declared that Lord Rosebery had led the army to the walls of the fortress and then abandoned it.

The ex-Premier, describing this as a fiction which may be believed in time to come, points out that he only delivered one speech on the Budget, when he went out of his way to utter a warning against the very course now pursued by the House of Lords.

THE PROROGATION.

It is understood the prorogation of Parliament will be announced on Friday.

THE TEA DUTY.

Mr. Asquith has not given notice of any amendment with regard to levying taxes and it is assumed that they will be continued to be levied as now.

The committee of the Tea Beyers' Association has the strongest grounds for stating that, whatever the result of the election, the tea duty of five-pence will be re-imposed. The customs has agreed to accept the duty during the interregnum. The Association urges all sections of the trade to pay duty and to carry on business as before.

THE CHINESE COMMISSIONERS.

The Chinese Naval Commissioners have returned to London. The ships at Plymouth yesterday were rainbow-dressed, with Chinese ensigns hoisted beside the British.

THE BRITISH BUDGET.

DISSOLUTION OF PARLIAMENT.

London, December 3.

Speaking in the House of Commons, Mr. Asquith, the Premier, said that the King had approved of the dissolution of Parliament.

PREMIER'S RESOLUTION OF REMONSTRANCE.

Mr. Asquith's resolution of remonstrance, brought forward yesterday, was adopted by 349 to 134 votes, amid prolonged cheers and counter-cheers. The House was crowded, and there was great excitement.

Mr. Asquith, after an emphatic condemnation of the Lords for their arrogant usurpation of the rights of the Commons, said that if the Liberals were returned to power their first act would be to reimpose the taxes and duties in the Budget and validate the past collections. The necessities of the State could only be furnished by borrowing under an Appropriation Act. He hoped that the ultimate irrecoverable loss would not be great, but it was obvious that in the present financial year there would be a large deficit, which would be swollen by the cost of borrowing.

The Chinese Naval Commissioners were present during the speech.

BALFOUR REPLIES.

Later.

Mr. Balfour declared that the Lords have shown a clear and sound sense of the second Chamber's duty and have done it fearlessly. He was confident that the resolution was a vindication of the first principles of constitutionalism. He asked the country to declare that the voice of the people is to be found in its elected representatives.

DATE OF THE ELECTIONS.

It is expected that the elections will take place between the 10th and 20th January next.

THE DUTY ON TEA.

A meeting of the tea trade held in London has decided to continue the payment of the duty.

THE U.S. AND NICARAGUA.

THE UNRULY REPUBLIC TO BE PUNISHED.

Washington.—The U.S. Government has handed his passport to the Nicaraguan Chargé d'Affaires, accompanied by a letter, in which the Secretary of State denounces President Zelaya as a disturber of international peace and a tyrant.

The Senate virtually recognizes the resolution against President Zelaya, though it holds both parties responsible for the injuries done to American interests.

Three warships have been ordered to Nicaragua.

NOTE RESERVE FOR THE STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

The Bank of England announces that £45,000 sterling has been set aside as the beginning of a note reserve for the Straits Settlements.

A RECORD RUN.

A submarine flotilla has made a non-stop run from Portsmouth to Dundee in 56 hours in rough weather. This is a record.

ITALIAN MINISTRY RESIGNS.

The Italian Cabinet has resigned, owing to the election committee being opposed to financial reform.

BRITISH POLITICS.

PARLIAMENT PROROGUED.

London, December 3.

Parliament was prorogued to-day by the King.

His Majesty, in a speech from the Throne, said that foreign relations continued to be friendly. He thanked the House of Commons for the liberality and care with which they had provided for heavy additions to the national expenditure due to the requirements of defence and social reform. His Majesty regretted that the provision had proved unavailing.

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THE QUESTION OF NEW TAXES.

It is officially notified that the payment of the Budget duties is optional, but persons not paying will be liable if the duties are re-enacted retrospectively. If they are not re-enacted, payment will be refunded.

GREAT STORM IN BRITAIN.

SHIPWRECKS AND LOSS OF LIFE.

Later.

A fierce gale is raging in Great Britain. The telegraphs everywhere are disorganised.

The hurricane in Britain has caused enormous damage. The Isle of Man steamer *Ellen Vanin* was driven over the Mersey Bar and split and foundered. Twelve passengers and the crew of 35 perished. The steamer *Thistle Moor* en route for Capetown foundered near Clovelly, in the Bristol Channel, and it is feared 35 men have been drowned.

CORRECTION.

London, December 3.

Mr. Balfour declared that the Lords have shown a clear and sound sense of the second Chamber's duty and have done it fearlessly. He was confident that the resolution was a vindication of the first principles of Constitutionalism. He asked the country to declare that the voice of the people was to be found in its elected representatives.

The above should read as follows:—

"Mr. Balfour . . . was confident that the country would support the action of the Lords.

"Mr. Asquith, in concluding his speech, declared that the resolution he had proposed was a vindication of the first principles of the Constitution. He asked the Commons and the country," &c.

SPEECHES BY LANSDOWNE AND CHURCHILL.

London, December 4.

Lord Lansdowne, speaking at Plymouth, emphasised the fact that the issues before the election were the Budget or tariff reform and a single or a double Chamber. He admitted that the Lords were not perfect, but the Government had boycotted the Committee of Reform, fearing it would strengthen them.

Mr. Winston Churchill, speaking at Preston, said that since the Budget had been introduced, imports and exports had increased and unemployment had decreased.

PREPARING FOR THE ELECTION.

The election campaign has been opened by a Unionist demonstration at Plymouth, where speeches were delivered by Lord Lansdowne and Mr. Austen Chamberlain. The Liberals have held a meeting at Preston, where Mr. Churchill has opened a tour of Lancashire.

THE THEFT OF NAVAL STORES AT KIEL.

The prisoners at Kiel undergoing trial for the theft of naval stores, have been acquitted.

DISSOLUTION OF BRITISH PARLIAMENT.

London, December 5.

The official dissolution of Parliament takes place on the 8th January and the elections begin on the 13th idem.

"LORDS A MENACE TO CONSTITUTION."

At a large crowded meeting in Trafalgar Square, the speakers occupying six platforms, it was resolved that the action of the Lords was a menace to the liberties of the Constitution. The meeting demanded the entire abolition of the power of the Lords to veto any Bill.

PIERPONT MORGAN AND THE EQUITABLE LIFE.

Mr. Pierpont Morgan has acquired control of the Equitable Life Assurance of New York, having assets of ninety millions sterling. This is regarded as foreshadowing a gigantic combine of banking interests.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of Princess Waldemar of Denmark.

BRITISH POLITICS.

London, December 6.

The storminess of the election fight is foreshadowed by the vigorous speeches of Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Harcourt and Mr. Winston Churchill. Mr. Harcourt, in a speech, declared that the issues are greater than those in the time of Cromwell or in the French Revolution.

Fifty speakers addressed the Trafalgar Square meeting at which "political garrotters" and "hereditary highwaymen" were the favourite epithets applied to the Lords.

Mr. Byles, Radical M.P. for Salford, speaking at the meeting, said they had got the Lords by the throat and were going to strangle them.

PREPARING FOR THE ELECTIONS

Later.

Already there are only four constituencies in England which are without Unionist candidates and only 24 without Liberal or Labourite candidates.

Later.

Preparations for the elections are being rapidly completed on both sides.

AVIATION IN FRANCE.

The French Government has ordered five aeroplanes and is about to establish a school for military aviation.

TROUBLE IN SOMALILAND.

Reuter's agent telegraphs from Aden that there are indications of trouble in Somaliland, and that the friendly natives have been again attacked.

[This message is somewhat obscure.—ED. *J.M.*]

AUSTRALIA'S NAVY.

Melbourne.—The Naval Loan Bill providing for the raising of 3½ millions sterling has passed both Houses.

AMERICAN MINISTER TO CHINA.

London, December 7.

Washington.—An eminent lawyer named Calhoun has accepted the post of American Minister to China.

THE ANTI-LORDS DEMONSTRATION.

The Liberal papers say that the Trafalgar Square demonstration is a most hopeful indication of the extent to which the country is aroused.

THE CHINESE COMMISSIONERS.

The Chinese Commissioners have inspected the Elswick works, on the Tyne.

THE CONGO.

Later.

Prominent Belgians, including Ministers, Bishops and Burgomasters, are sending to the foreign parliaments and newspapers throughout the world a protest against the attacks on the administration of the Congo, and appealing to England's love of justice and courtesy, and her respect for these qualities in others, to silence these unjust accusations.

BRITISH POLITICS.

THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION.

London, December 7.

The Liberal campaign continues with unabated activity.

Mr. Winston Churchill, Mr. Herbert Samuel, Dr. Macnamara, Mr. Runciman and Colonel Seely, all Cabinet Ministers, spoke yesterday.

The only notable Unionist speakers were Lord Rothschild, Mr. Long and Sir Robert Finlay.

THE QUESTION OF TAXES.

All the papers deny the assertion of the *Daily News* yesterday that chaos prevails at the Customs. Mr. Guillemard, Chairman of the Customs, says that the new arrangements are working with surprising smoothness.

The *Daily News* reiterates its assertion that the confusion is developing into anarchy, and instances the fact that yesterday 20,000 lbs. of tea were cleared free of duty.

SOUTH AFRICAN UNION PROCLAIMED.

London, December 8.

The Common Crier to-day read a proclamation announcing the Union of South Africa from the steps of the Royal Exchange. He concluded by calling for three cheers for the King, to which a large crowd responded. A similar ceremony took place in other cities.

THE MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

Mr. Taft's Message at the opening of Congress says that, with reference to the Far East, America will stand for equal opportunities, and scrupulous respect for the integrity of China. It refers to the danger of *likin* being hypothecated by foreign banks. It alludes to the cordial relations existing between the United States and Japan, and mentions Japan's assurance that the Convention of the 4th of last September did not contain anything inconsistent with the policy of equal opportunities.

The Message concludes by referring to the high prosperity of the United States, and expresses the belief that the country is on the eve of a substantial business expansion.

THE NORTH-BORNEO COMPANY.

ANNUAL DINNER.

London, December 8.

Mr. W. C. Cowie, Managing Director of the British North Borneo Co. presided at the Company's annual dinner. There were present 400 persons, including the Colonial Agents-General, representatives of the Colonial Office, Lords Tenterden and Redesdale and Sir J. West Ridgeway.

The most optimistic speeches were made. Mr. Cowie said investors were beginning to realise the vast possibilities of their wonderful property.

Lord Redesdale described the Chairman's figures as startling and congratulated England on what had been accomplished in North Borneo, for which they were immensely indebted to Mr. Cowie.

Agent-General Coghlan predicted that Borneo would become an important emporium for Australia and the Far East, providing an enormous field for enterprise which would not be long neglected.

BRITISH TRADE RETURNS.

A MARKED INCREASE.

Later.

The trade returns for November show increases of imports and exports to the extent of £11,700,745 and £4,190,000 respectively, as compared with the corresponding month of last year.

NEW COMMISSIONER FOR SOMALILAND.

Major-General Ernest de Brath, C.B., commanding the troops at Aden, has been appointed to succeed Captain H. S. Cordeaux, C.B., C.M.G., as Commissioner and Commander-in-Chief of the Somaliland Protectorate. The appointment implies no change of policy.

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HEAVY DEFICIT IN U.S. BUDGET.

London, December 9.

Washington.—The U.S. Treasurer's annual report shows a deficit for the current year of 34 million dollars, which has been increased by payments on account of the Panama Canal and by debt to 73 million dollars. There will be a surplus of 36 millions in 1911, but this will be converted to 12 millions through outlay on the Panama Canal. It is proposed to meet this deficit by the issue of 3 per cent. Panama Bonds and by an adjustment of the taxes now in circulation.

TARIFF REFORM IN ENGLAND.

The *Birmingham Daily Post* outlines the Unionist tariff scheme, which provides for three duties, averaging 10 per cent. on manufactured goods; raw material is to be exempt from taxation, and there will be a tax of two shillings on corn. Preferential treatment will be given to the Colonies, and those countries which are unduly penalising Great Britain are to be subjected to higher duties.

THE TEA DUTY IN ENGLAND.

Later.

The Customs House authorities announce that 109,000 pounds of tea were entered duty free on Monday and Tuesday last, but undertakings have now been given to deposit a sum equivalent to the duty thereon.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

THE U.S. ARMY.

London, December 2.

Washington.—The U.S. Army Estimates are £19,000,000 sterling.

The War Department urges legislation providing a voluntary army for actual or threatened war.

RAILWAY STRIKE IN AMERICA.

New York.—The strike on the North Western Railway threatens to involve 10,000 copper-miners.

All goods traffic in Minneapolis and surrounding towns is at a standstill.

THE FATE OF THE BRITISH BUDGET.

Mr. Asquith moves in the House of Commons on Thursday (2nd inst.) that the action of the Lords in rejecting the Budget is a breach of the Constitution and a usurpation of the rights of the Commons. He stated that the Government was prepared to receive the new taxes imposed by the Budget if taxpayers decided to pay, and would leave the regulation of the financial position until the new Parliament met.

THE GERMAN NAVAL ESTIMATES.

Berlin.—The Navy Estimates are higher than last year's and show an increase of £500,000 sterling each in submarines and guns. Provision is made for 57,170 officers and men, being an increase of 3,451.

THE U.S. AND NICARAGUA.

London, December 3.

New York.—The Government's harsh breaking off of friendly relations with Nicaragua causes much surprise.

The Secretary of State's Note describes the conduct of President Zelaya as a blot on the history of the world, and declares that the United States will hold both factions responsible for the protection of American life and property.

The U.S. Government is ready for action. There are warships at Nicaragua and 1,100 marines at Panama.

THE STRUGGLE OVER THE BUDGET.

The House of Commons has adopted the Premier's motion condemning the Lords by 349 to 134 votes.

The *Times* considers that the Premier in his speech employed partisan arguments, ignoring all national interests.

THE TIBETAN MISSION TO RUSSIA.

St. Petersburg.—The Buriat M. Dorzieff, the head of the Tibetan mission representing the Dalai Lama, declares that China has modified her irreconcilable attitude towards the Tibetans. The latter will now be able to cultivate amicable relations with the British, who are monopolizing the trade of the country. M. Dorzieff hints at the desirability of establishing permanent Tibetan diplomatic relations with Russia.

RUSSIA AND JAPAN.

London, December 4.

St. Petersburg.—The *Novoe Vremya* denies the German rumour of an impending Russo-Japanese alliance. Referring to Baron Motono's mission, the paper says that the negotiations will probably lead to closer union and to most friendly inter-communications passing on many questions.

THE U.S. NAVY.

London, December 4.

Washington.—Mr. Myers, the Naval Secretary, reports that President Taft recommends the creation of a naval reserve on the lines of the militia, formulating in the proposals battleship facilities on both coasts. It is also pointed out that there is only a solitary drydock on the Pacific coast that accommodates the latest war-vessels. The completion of a naval station at Guantanano (?), Cuba, is also urged.

THE U.S. AND NICARAGUA.

New York.—The chances that the U.S. Government will of itself undertake the punishment of President Zelaya are nebulous.

Seven hundred marines aboard a U.S. transport are aground in the Delaware river.

LLOYD-GEORGE ABUSES THE LORDS.

Mr. Lloyd-George's speech at the Liberal Club was concentrated on the Lords, whom he described as "rickety, gimcrack idols" and "mad mullahs."

This speech is considered as damaging the Liberal cause.

JAPANESE STOCKS.

London, December 6.

On the London Stock Exchange all Japanese Stocks show an advance.

TURKEY AND GREECE.

Athens.—The King of Greece has expressed to the Athen's correspondent of the *Times* that he takes a more optimistic view of the situation and desires friendship with Turkey. The King has given the Turkish Ambassador explicit assurances of the pacific intentions of Greece.

RUSSO-JAPANESE RELATIONS.

St. Petersburg.—The *Novoe Vremya* endorses emphatically a policy of friendship with Japan.

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

London, December 6.

The President's message to Congress will recommend further Federal control of the railways and enlargement of the Powers of the Interstate Commercial Commission, so as to control future issues of railway stocks.

THE BARCELONA RIOTERS.

Barcelona.—870 prisoners arrested in the July riots have been discharged, and the trials of 50 others are pending.

THE PARIS POLICE.

Paris.—The police, affirming complete devotion to their famous Chief, M. Lepine, heve requested permission to organize a professional union. The Premier, however, reminded them of the importance of strict discipline, and appealed to their patience.

THE STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, December 7.

Japanese and Russian securities are higher.

RUSSIAN MILITARY REDISTRIBUTION.

St. Petersburg.—It is stated that the Defence Committee of the Duma have secretly agreed to a special grant of one million pounds to reorganize distribution of the Army, including, presumably, the withdrawal of part of the forces in Poland behind a new line.

RAILWAY STRIKE THREATENED.

New York.—Simultaneously with the issue of the report of the National Association of Manufacturers that the country is prosperous, a great strike of railway men for higher wages is threatened.

ARMY MOTOR-CARS.

The Italian Government is asking for tenders for 600 army motor-cars.

GERMAN NAVY YARDS.

LACK OF DUE CONTROL.

Berlin.—The Secretary for the Navy, replying to Radical-Socialist interpellations in the Reichstag as to the management of the navy yards, admitted that there was inadequate control, and promised stronger supervision. The Conservatives and Centre members are dissatisfied.

SEIZURE OF GUNRUNNERS.

London, December 8.

Bombay.—British warships in the Persian Gulf have seized three gunrunners, 285 rifles, and 460,000 cartridges.

PERSIAN AFFAIRS.

Teheran.—The Persian Parliament approves of the employment of Europeans to reorganize Persia's finances.

The negotiations between the Government and the English and Russian Legations are difficult.

The Nationalists want members of smaller European countries to be engaged. The French Legation favours experienced Frenchmen, whilst the Russian insists on Russian instructors being engaged for the new troops.

THE MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

Later.

Washington.—President Taft's Message pleases the Conservative Republicans, because there is little threatening to tax their legislative energy. The Radicals are disappointed by the lack of vigorous recommendations and criticize the message as invertebrate and colourless.

TURKISH TROOPS IN PERSIA.

Constantinople.—The Persian Ambassador protests in the strongest terms against the crossing of the frontier by Turkish troops near Urumiah.

GERMANY'S FISCAL POLICY.

Berlin.—Herr von Bethman-Hollweg, the Secretary of the Interior, speaking in the Reichstag, said that Germany's fiscal policy had conquered markets everywhere and had founded a healthy, national industry, with increased wages.

LORD ROBERTS AND AIRSHIPS.

London, December 9.

Lord Roberts, speaking at the United Service Institution, urged the importance of building British military airships and pre-

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paring a Staff. The whole country, he said, was ignorantly valorous, because the people knew nothing of foreign enterprise.

ELECTIONS IN BOMBAY.

Bombay.—The elections of the members of the new Councils are everywhere proceeding with great keenness.

(RECEIVED AT THE FOREIGN OFFICE)

PRATAS ISLAND.

The indemnification for Pratas Island, namely, 130,000 *yen*, was handed over by the Viceregal Office at Canton on the 2nd instant to Mr. Nishizawa.

THE YALU CLOSED TO TRAFFIC.

In consideration of the danger from drifting ice, navigation ceased on the Yalu River from the 20th November.

("DEUTSCHE JAPAN-POST" SERVICE TO THE "JAPAN HERALD.")

EATING HUMBLE PIE.

Berlin, December 2.

The Persian Government has expressed its deepest regret as to the attack on the caravan of the Russian Consul; it also promises the punishment of the guilty brigands and repayment of all losses sustained by the Consul.

RELATIONS WITH JAPAN.

The report from Russia, which was said to be official, as to the existence of tension between Russia and Japan, is absolutely denied by the Russian Government; on the contrary it is stated that a *rapprochement* between both nations is imminent.

A deputation of Mongolian priests and representatives of the Dalai Lama has arrived at St. Petersburg, where they have been received in audience by the Tsar.

GERMANY.

The Party of the National Liberals have objected to the election of Herr Spahn, Deputy of the Centre, as Vice-President of the German Reichstag.

Count Aehrenthal, the Austro-Hungarian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Countess Aehrenthal have arrived at Berlin as guests of the German Chancellor and his wife.

Berlin, December 3.

Duke Johann Albrecht of Mecklenburg, Regent of Braunschweig, who will marry a second time on December 15th, will make during his honeymoon a trip to Siam and China, and will return to Germany viâ Siberia.

Ernst, Prince Hereditary of Hohenlohe-Langenburg, the former Chief of the Colonial Department of the Reichstag and member of the "Reichspartei," has been elected Vice-President of the Reichstag, the National-Liberals and Liberals not participating in the election by delivering blank sheets.

ITALY.

The Italian Cabinet under Premier Giolitti has resigned, owing to a protest of the Election Committee to the Tax Reform Bill.

RUSSIA.

A rumour is reported from St. Peterburg that M. Timirsajew, the Russian Minister for Commerce, will be sent to Tokyo to conclude the mission of M. Kokowtzow, Minister for Finance.

CHINA.

The representative of the Dalai Lama and Chief of the deputation of Mongolian priests, now at St. Petersburg, has announced visits of the Dalai Lama to St. Petersburg and London, to be carried out in the near future.

HIGH DUTIES AND MILITARISM.

Berlin, December 4.

An additional duty of 2½ per cent. has been laid upon all imports into New Zealand, conditionally for two years. The training of young men for military service and the defence of the country is being discussed by the House of Representatives.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Ministry communicates that the Japanese cruiser *Hiyei*, which is now cruising at Kamchatka, does so with the full consent of the Russian Government and the crew is also allowed to land for the purpose of provisioning.

The last of the steamers, built for the Russian Volunteer Fleet's Service at Vladivostock by the Schichau dockyard at Danzig, has been delivered.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to November 17th ex Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on December 3rd.

GERMANY.

Admiral Woodfort has been ordered to present to the Kaiser the Gold Medal for remembrance of the Hudson Celebration at New York.

The Governor of the Colony of New Guinea has moved his seat of government from Herbertshoehe to Simpsonshafen.

Berlin, December 5.

In the dockyard trial at Kiel, in which several officials were accused of extensive thefts and forgeries, all the accused have been acquitted.

ARABIA.

The Turks at Mecca are preparing a ceremonial reception and forming a guard of honour for the Khedive of Egypt on his trip to the holy shrine of Mohammed.

CANADA.

Some Eskimos have arrived in Northern Canada and report that a few years ago a balloon with two white men had landed near their camp. The men died shortly afterwards. This report is expected to throw light on the fate of Andrée, who has been missing since that period.

DENMARK.

Princess Waldemar of Denmark, whose serious illness was reported a few days ago, is dead.

UNITED STATES.

The loss caused by the fire in the commercial quarter of Baltimore is said to be not extensive.

THE NEW CABINET.

Berlin, December 6.

Baron S. Sonnino, formerly Minister for Finance, and Prime Minister in 1906, has been entrusted with the formation of a new Italian Cabinet. Count Guicciardini will probably take the post of Minister for Foreign Affairs, which he already held in the former Sonnino Cabinet. Admiral Bettolo is also named as candidate for this post.

KING ALFONSO.

King Alfonso of Spain is suffering from a suppurating inflammation, which makes an operation in the ears and nose necessary.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Minister for Finance, M. Kokowtzow, is mentioned as successor to the post of Russian Ambassador at Paris.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to November 19th, arrived at Berlin on December 6th.

GERMANY.

Berlin, December 7.

The order for the supply of new artillery to the Netherlands Army has been given to the Krupp firm at Essen.

Herr von Tirpitz, the Secretary of State for the Navy, speaking in the Reichstag, has repudiated all attacks on the naval administration with reference to the Kiel dockyard trial.

JAPANESE CONSULATES.

It is reported from London that the negotiations between Japan and Turkey as to theinstitution of Consular representation in both countries are going on favourably. Japanese Consulates will be opened at Constantinople, Smyrna and Salonika.

RUSSIA.

The Russian Minister for War, having returned from Livadia, states that he left the Tsaritsa in good health at Livadia. He denies all rumours of unfavourable nature.

GERMANY.

Berlin, December 8.

The gas works at the Free Port of Hamburg have exploded, by which 20 persons have been killed, and many others severely injured.

ILLNESS OF KING LEOPOLD.

King Leopold of Belgium is seriously ill, his medical advisers being very anxious as to his condition.

(FROM THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

CHINESE PRINCES IMPEACHED.

Shanghai, December 1.

It is rumoured that a certain Chinese provincial governor has impeached Princes Tsai Hsun and Tsai Tao as being incompetent in their capacity as naval and military delegates.

A GERMAN STEAMER ASHORE.

The floating of the steamer *Brisgavia*, which has been stranded since Saturday at the mouth of the Yangtsekiang, has been attempted by a cruiser and six tugboats. The attempt having failed, it is feared that the steamer will have to be abandoned.

[A telegram from the Agents, appearing in another portion of this issue, contradicts the last part of this message and states there is every prospect of refloating her.]

GIFT TO CHINESE COURT.

Mr. Soyeshima who represents Count Okuma, has arrived here. He is paying a visit to Viceroy Tuan, to whom he will present a copy of the History of the Half Century in Japan, to be forwarded to the Chinese Court.

STORM AT PORT ARTHUR.

Port Arthur, December 1.

The embankments of the salt-fields belonging to the Japan Salt Manufactory having been destroyed by the storm on the 29th ultimo, a heavy loss has been incurred. In addition, over 30 fishing boats were wrecked.

RAILWAYS IN KOREA.

Fusan, December 2.

A trial run on the Decauville railway line between Fusan and Torai extending for 5½ miles, has been conducted. The trip to and fro was accomplished in 50 minutes.

KOREAN POLITICS.

Seoul, December 4.

The Il Chin-hoi presented to Premier Yu this morning a memorial advocating the annexation of Korea to Japan, and a petition for the same to the Resident-General. It is stated that the Dai Han Kyokai, another political association, has decided to support this movement of the Il Chin-hoi.

THE BANDITS IN MANCHURIA.

Mukden, December 4.

The Hunghutsz attacked to-day the premises of a sub-contractor at Mokaho, on the Mukden-Antung line. They injured two Japanese women and carried away a large amount of money and goods.

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MACAO'S BOUNDARIES.

Shanghai, December 4.

It is reported that the Peking Government is desirous of submitting the Macao delimitation question to the Hague Tribunal.

FIGHTING IN NICARAGUA.

San Francisco, December 3.

It is reported that an encounter between the Government and revolutionary forces in Nicaragua has been going on for the last two days, and it is expected that the former will be defeated. The report published in American papers that the bodies of the two executed Americans were, in accordance with an order of President Zelaya, severed and burnt, is inflaming the general public.

The U. S. transport *Prairie* with 700 troops, which had left Philadelphia for the Panama Canal, stranded last night in the Delaware. She has not yet been refloated.

The U. S. Cabinet has held a meeting lasting five hours, and has resolved to intervene with arms. It is rumoured that President Zelaya is taking a firm attitude, depending upon the support of certain Powers.

San Francisco, December 2.

The U. S. Secretary of State, Mr. Knox, has requested the Nicaraguan representative to leave Washington, stating that President Zelaya has violated the Treaty of 1907 and disturbed the peace between the two countries, and that the diplomatic relations are broken off. A formal declaration of war is expected to be announced in the Congress on Monday. The Secretary of the Navy has ordered the *Albany* and the *Yorktown*, in the Gulf of Magdalene, to proceed to Corinto. A chartered transport with 700 marines on board, has left Philadelphia for the Panama Canal. A rumour is afloat to the effect that a satisfactory settlement is expected on President Zelaya's resigning and Secretary Knox's nominating a successor.

San Francisco, December 4.

Colonel Garademes (?) of the Nicaraguan Government forces has surrendered with some 100 soldiers under his command to the revolutionary army. The troops belonging to President Zelaya do not exceed 1,400 men; they are said to be greatly demoralized. President Zelaya will not reply to the ultimatum of Secretary Knox, but will send a representative to Washington to consult the Government authorities and the members of the Congress, in order to restore diplomatic relations between the two countries.

THE STRANDED TRANSPORT.

The chartered transport *Prairie*, which stranded in the Delaware, has not yet been refloated. The *Dixie* will replace her.

THE RAILWAY STRIKE IN AMERICA.

The strikers on the Great Northern Railway, who have decided to resist to the last, are receiving the support of the labourers belonging to all the other railways, and it is feared that the railway traffic of the whole country may become interrupted.

SEVERE WEATHER.

Antung, December 5.

Snow more than a foot deep has fallen since last night, and ice has now commenced to form in the Yalu river. The passage to New Wiju has been cut off.

ARTIC EXPLORATION.

Vladivostock, December 6.

It is reported that two ice-breakers will shortly arrive here from St. Petersburg, in order to explore the Arctic region lying to the west of the Behring Strait. The object is to ascertain if marine traffic can be established between the Far East and Europe.

TO BOYCOTT THE N.Y.K.

The Japanese traders here have come to the decision that if the Nippon Yusen Kaisha closes its branch office at this place and entrusts the business to a foreign firm, they will refuse to ship cargo in the Company's vessels.

A STRANGE APPLICATION.

It is said that M. Mihairoff (?), a Russian retired Colonel, has applied to the Supreme Court at Port Arthur for permission to defend the assassin An. The Colonel was formerly the proprietor of the *Daidoho*, an anti-Japanese paper at this place, and is also qualified to act as barrister.

QUESTIONS BETWEEN JAPAN AND CHINA.

There is a rumour that Mr. Tang Shaoi will be appointed Special Delegate at Mukden in place of Viceroy Hsi, in order to negotiate the unsettled diplomatic questions between Japan and China.

THE U.S. MINISTER TO CHINA.

San Francisco, December 6.

Mr. William Calhoun, the newly appointed Minister to Peking, was formerly sent to Cuba as special envoy just prior to the outbreak of war between Spain and America. He was also in Venezuela at the time of the Anglo-American complications in connection with that republic.

OPENING OF U.S. CONGRESS.

The 61st session of the congress was opened at noon to-day, Vice-President Mr. Sherman presiding over the Senate, and Mr. Canon, over the House of Representatives. It was decided to adjourn until the 8th, as a mark of respect to those members who have passed away since the last session. Mr. Cann, a member for San Francisco, brought forward a proposal that an international exhibition should be opened in 1915 in commemoration of the construction of the Panama Canal, and that the Government should give a subsidy of $3,000,000. Another member, Mr. Salter, proposed that the U.S. naval and military forces should be employed in restoring order in Nicaragua and in protecting the lives and property of the people. He urged the arrest and punishment of President Zelaya, who had caused the execution of the two Americans, for which, he maintained, that an indemnity should be exacted and, further, that a new republican government should be established in Nicaragua.

A LOAN FOR CHINA.

Peking, December 7.

The authorities of the Three Eastern Provinces have decided to raise a foreign loan of 7,000,000 taels. It is stated that the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation will furnish 4,500,000 taels, the Tokkwa Bank, 1,500,000 taels, and the Indo-China Bank, 1,000,000 taels.

TO PROTECT MANCHURIAN RAILWAYS.

Mukden, December 7.

The Chinese Government has stationed at Fenghungching 400 infantry and cavalry that were formerly despatched to subjugate the Hunghutsz in the Amur district. They are to garrison the Mukden-Antung line.

FAILURE OF BEAN-CAKE BROKERS.

Messrs. Yang-tai and Kiaohsu, the two largest bean-cake brokers of this place, have become bankrupt. Most of the creditors being at Yingkow and Dairen, circles here are not much affected by the bankruptcy.

U.S. PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE TO CONGRESS.

San Francisco, December 7.

President Taft's message to Congress states that the relations between America and other countries are in a satisfactory condition, being based on harmonious and excellent foundations. The arbitration agreement concluded with Great Britain was explained. The message requests the defrayment of the expenditure for the general meeting to be held in July next year, and refers to the interview with the President of Mexico. After giving the reasons why the diplomatic relations with Nicaragua were broken off, the President states that a special message will be issued as to what steps should be adopted in future.

Regarding the question in the Far East, America will continue its present policy, and has decided to participate in the construction of railways in China, as other countries have done.

In connection with the Japan-Chinese September Convention, the message says that both Japan and China have assured the U.S. Government that the Convention does not aim to exclude Americans from participating in the development of Manchuria.

The relations with the Japanese Empire, says the message, continue to be cordial. The arrangements for the co-operative control of immigration have worked satisfactorily. A new commercial treaty between Japan and America is being considered by both countries.

After referring to the deficit in the state revenue, the progress of the Panama Canal and the injunction question, the message states that naval development will be maintained, the Government proposing to build annually two first-class battleships. Referring to the prosperity of the country, and predicting a revival of business, the President proposes that postal savings banks should be established, and that the ship subsidy bill should come into existence this session. Finally, measures would be adopted to suppress the white slave traffict.

RUSSO-CHINESE RELATIONS.

Shanghai, December 7.

It is reported that the Chinese Minister in St. Petersburg has telegraphed to the Peking Government, asking for the urgent settlement of the Russo-Chinese diplomatic questions in connection with the Amur Province, Kilin, Turkestan, etc., in order to avoid future misunderstandings.

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS IN YOKOHAMA.

ACTIVITY OF ASAMA AND AKAN VOLCANOES.

At 2.17 a.m. on the 8th instant a severe shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. The oscillations lasted 37 seconds.

At 7.50 p.m. the preceding day, the doors and *shoji* of houses facing north or west oscillated violently several times. This unusual movement is believed to be connected with, if not actually due, to an eruption of Mount Asama which took place at the same hour.

A telegram from Kushiro, in N.E. Yezo, says that the volcano Akan is emitting quantities of white smoke. Fears of an outbreak are entertained.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE armoured cruiser *Yakumo*, flagship of the Reserve Squadron at Yokosuka, has been replaced by the battleship *Katori*.

BARON VON MUMM, German Ambassador to Tokyo, who has been home on furlough, returned to his post on the 7th inst.

IN the International Walking Race at Shanghai on Nov. 28, the English team were first, the Irish second, and the Portuguese third. These were the only teams entered. The winner was a Sikh,

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whose individual time was 2h. 45m. 17s.—a record time for the eighteen miles.

MR. KO, Korean Minister of Finance, left Tokyo on the 2nd inst. for Osaka to inspect the Mint.

MARQUIS KATSURA, the Premier, who has been to the Kwansai districts, returned to Tokyo on Wednesday morning.

CAPTAIN DAVIES, of the steamer *Taisang*, which is on the run between Shanghai and Manila, was accidentally drowned a few days ago at Shanghai.

MR. ARIYOSHI, the newly-appointed Consul-General at Shanghai, left Shimonoseki on the 5th instant for his post by the steamer *Yamaguchi Maru*.

ON the 5th inst. a fire broke out in the office of the Anshin-sha, a river steamer company at Niigata. The building was burnt down and several persons were injured.

ON the 4th inst. the Crown Prince inspected the Crippled Soldiers' Asylum at Sugamo, Tokyo. His Highness is reported to have expressed his sympathy with the disabled men.

H.M. THE Emperor sent Chamberlain Hojo on the 5th inst. to the residence of the late Vice-Admiral Arai, and bestowed on the bereaved family a sum of 600 *yen* and two pieces of silk.

THE Department of Communications is reported to have made arrangements for again making, on the 14th and 15th instant, experiments in wireless telegraphy between Japan and Hawaii.

THE steamer *Koko Maru* (543 tons) ran aground on the 6th instant off Nossapu point near Nemuro, No casualties are reported, but there is, it seems, no prospect of rescuing the vessel or cargo.

HIS MAJESTY the Emperor attended on the 3rd inst. the graduation ceremony of the Military University. Six officers graduated with honours, and received the rewards bestowed by His Majesty.

A LABORER whilst engaged on the 3rd inst. in unloading goods from a truck at Shimbashi Station, was knocked down by the truck, through the carelessness of a pointsman, and subsequently died.

THE Japan Hypothec Bank has issued six per cent. hypothec debentures amounting to 1,200,000 *yen*. Applications will be accepted until the 13th instant, and payment is to be made by the 15th idem.

A LONDON despatch of the 22nd ult., says that a tremendous sensation has been created by the remarkable rescue of eighty of the miners in the Cherry Collieries disaster, Illinois, after a week's entombment.

A FIRE broke out on the 1st instant in a button workshop at Shintomi-cho Shichome, Tokyo. Owing to the strong wind, 22 houses were burnt down and 8 partially destroyed. No casualties are reported.

ON the 4th instant a landslide took place at Ishiji, Kariba, Echigo province. Some 20 houses in the vicinity were destroyed, but no one was injured, the inmates having quitted the houses the preceding day on receiving a warning.

THE Dutch cruiser *Nord Brabant*, which arrived at Yokohama on the 1st inst. from Honolulu, is reported to have been in a severe storm during her voyage. Her after-mast and wireless telegraphy apparatus being damaged, she is now undergoing repairs.

ON the 2nd inst. an explosion of toy-fireworks occurred in one of the tenement houses at Takanawa Kita-machi, Tokyo. Several houses belonging to that block were more or less damaged, one girl was killed and four persons were seriously injured.

THE marriage took place on the 1st inst. at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, of Lieut. H. R. U. Cothell Dormer, Commander of the British warship *Woodcock*, to Miss M. E. Molloy, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. Molloy, of the I. M. Customs. A naval guard of honour was present and the bride's two sisters acted as bridesmaids. A reception was afterwards held at the house of the bride's parents.

SEVERAL school boys of Uraga-cho, Kanagawa prefecture, were on their road to school on Wednesday morning, when one of them, named Usui Gensho, quarrelled with another, and stabbed him with a knife in the shoulder. The wound is expected to prove fatal.

THE recent typhoon that passed over Iloilo and Cebu, in the Philippines, almost blotted out the lighthouse and its surroundings on the island of Tanguingui, off the northern part of the island of Cebu. It destroyed the house and damaged the light, and the keeper and his principal assistant were drowned.

IT is reported that the great American tourist party coming to Japan by the steamer *Cleveland* consists of 644 persons in all, including 301 ladies, 21 physicians, 4 missionaries, 2 judges and 1 colonel. The party is expected to arrive at Singapore to-day, whence it will proceed to Batavia the same day.

THEIR Majesties the Emperor and the Empress were pleased on Wednesday to bestow a sum of 800 *yen* on the families of those poor people who were either killed or injured on the occasion of the recent Onoura Colliery explosion, in Fukuoka prefecture. On the same day Chamberlain Hino was sent to the place to carry out an inspection.

THE Shinbi Shoin, a Tokyo publishing company, will hold an exhibition of various works of fine art, which are subsequently to be shown at the forthcoming Anglo-Japanese Exhibition. The public may inspect these specimens of the printer's art, during the five days commencing the 4th inst., at the Toranomon Club, Uchisaiwai-cho, Tokyo.

MR. GREEN, the U. S. Consul to Harbin, who, representing the Department of State, had been in company with the Japanese Commercial Mission in America, separated from the party at St. Louis and arrived at Yokohama on the 2nd inst. by the *Empress of Japan*. He is expected to stay in Tokyo for a day or two, when he will leave for his post.

A CLERK named Fujimaki Tokuhei, of a branch office of the Yamanashi Bank, at Katsunuma, Yamanashi prefecture, has confessed to the police authorities that he had embezzled 1,300 *yen* of the bank's funds. As the result of an examination, he was discovered to have spent 700 *yen* more for his private purposes. It is suspected that he has concealed the greater part of the sum.

DR. MORRISON, the Peking correspondent of the *Times*, who is travelling in Shensi province, has telegraphed to friends in Peking that news has reached him from his home in Australia to the effect that his brother there has been killed by a gun accident. Much sympathy is expressed among all who know Dr. Morrison on account of this sad accident, says our Peking contemporary.

WHILE H. B. M. S. *Thistle* was bound down river at Shanghai a few days ago, and when abreast of the N.Y.K. Wayside wharf, something went wrong with her steering gear and she swung across the stream, colliding with the steamer *Niigata Maru*, which was anchored close by. Neither vessel sustained any serious damage, and after the steering gear had been attended to, the *Thistle* resumed her course.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD, responding to the toast of "The Navy," at the Dolphin dinner at Bristol on the 18th ult., said that the reason why the supremacy of the sea was necessary to Great Britain was because her position among the nations was unique. "She is the head of a world-wide empire, whose frontiers are sea-frontiers, whose roads are sea roads, and whose trade is a sea-borne trade. As regards Great Britain herself, she is precisely as dependent upon sea-borne food and supplies of all sorts as a lighthouse. Every other great nation is wholly or nearly self-supporting. The trade routes of the Empire are arteries for its life-blood, and the Navy is the coat of mail that covers the arteries. (Hear, hear, and cheers.) Supremacy at sea is necessary to Great Britain alone among the nations, because upon the safety of the sea depends her life. The two-Power standard has gone, and it can only be recovered with the help of the Over-sea Dominions, but they are only beginning to realise this, and it will be five years at least before they can contribute to the naval strength of the Empire."

WE understand that a new model of the Yost typewriter has just been placed upon the market, in which the writing of the machine is brought within the view of the operator. It was perhaps the one complaint which could have been brought against this justly celebrated machine that it did not add to its numerous advantages that of visible writing. Now that this defect—if such it was—has been removed, the Yōst becomes undoubtedly the best machine on the market, unexcelled for strength and general excellence. Further particulars of this new model can be obtained, we understand, from the local agents, Messrs. L. J. Healing & Co., Ltd.

THE N.Y.K. steamer *Takeshima Maru*, which arrived at Nagasaki from Chefoo on the 5th inst. landed ten Chinese who had been rescued from the sea during the voyage. On the 3rd, shortly after noon, two junks were sighted to the south of the Shantung Promotory; as they appeared to be in distress the *Takeshima* bore down upon them and took off the crews. The junks were proceeding from Yentai to Wei-hai-wei, but owing to delays, occasioned by bad weather, had run short of water and provisions. One of the junks was laden with copper coins, "cash" to the value of *yen* 1,000, and these were also taken on board the Japanese steamer, the junks being then abandoned. On arrival here, says the *Nagasaki Press*, the Chinese and the coins were handed over to the Chinese Consulate.

AN Ahmedabad despatch of Nov. 14 gives the following particulars of the bomb outrage on Lord Minto:—Lord Minto, Viceroy of India, and Lady Minto had a narrow escape yesterday from being killed by bombs. They were driving in a street when two bombs were thrown at their carriage. A dragoon riding alongside spurred forward, and with outstretched sabre, intercepted the first bomb, hurling it some little distance into a sand heap. The second bomb struck the Viceroy's jemidar, a native lieutenant, holding an umbrella over Lady Minto, and fell harmlessly to the ground. Neither bomb exploded, as the soft sand acted as a buffer. On examination they were found to contain picric acid. Just prior to this, as the carriage passed through a street, a bomb exploded some distance away. Police and others attracted by the explosion ran up and found a man on the ground with his hand blown off. He proved to be an innocent bystander. The bomb-thrower escaped in the excitement.

THE Victoria (B.C.) *Daily Colonist* wrote as follows on Nov. 17:—Among the saloon passengers of the steamer *Empress of Japan* for Hongkong, if he can connect with the C.P.R. liner, will be James Bain, the recently retired superintendent of the Cunard line. A Winnipeg correspondent wires as follows concerning him: One of the big brains of the British merchant marine, James Bain, formerly superintendent of the Cunard line, passed through here last night on his way to Hongkong in connection with the establishment of a new steamship line upon the Pacific ocean, which is now the cynosure of interest of the whole of the great transportation companies of the world. The line will run to Victoria and Vancouver. During the course of Mr. Bain's journey across the continent it was found that it would be impossible for him to catch the C.P.R. express boat. The wires were hot with messages last night which will result in the mail boat being held twelve hours for her important passenger. Mr. Bain said that the Pacific ocean is destined to have as great a future as the Atlantic, and it is important that the British Empire should get in on the ground floor.

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NOTICE TO MARINERS.

RO-KŌ-BI LIGHT AND HAKU-GYOKU-ZAN LEADING LIGHTS TO BE SHOWN.

The Minister of State for Communications hereby gives notice that Rō-ko-bi Light on the bluff at the west side of the entrance to Ryojun-kō (Port Arthur), and Haku-gyoku-zan Leading Lights on the southern slope of Pei-yue-shan, Ryojun-kō, Kwangtung Peninsula, will be shown on and after December 1st, 1900.

RO KO-BI LIGHTHOUSE:

Position:—Lat. 38°47'37" N., Long 121°14'44" E., approximately (according to the Japanese Admiralty chart No. 358).

Construction and painting:—Iron rectangle, painted white.

Height of light:—8.7 feet from the base, and 83.3 feet above the water.

Character of light:—Group occulting white light with the following characteristic:—

Light	10 secs.
Eclipse	2 ,,
Light	2 ,,
Eclipse	2 ,,
	In every 16 secs.

Illuminated arc:—From S. 41°30' W., through W. and N., to No. 41°30' E.

Red rays between the bearings of N. 85° W. and N. 55° W., and between the bearings of N. 12°30' E. and N. 41°30' E., cover the dangers lying along the both sides of the port entrance. (The magnetic bearings taken from the sea).

Candle power:—White, 40; red, 16.

Distance visible:—White, 7 nautical miles, and red 5 nautical miles, in clear weather.

Remark:—Moju-gan Beacon is distant about 1 'mile 2 cables and about S. 62° E, from the lighthouse.

HAKU-GYOKU-ZAN HIGH LIGHT:

Position:—Lat. 38°48' 22" N., Long. 121°14' 47" E., approximately. (according to the Japanese Admiralty chart No. 358.)

Construction and painting:—Stone frustum pyramid, painted white.

Height of light:—15·3 feet from the base, and 147 feet above the water.

Character of light:—Fixed red light.

Candle power:—22.

Distance visible:—6 nautical miles in clear weather.

HAKU GYOKU-ZAN LOW LIGHT.

Position:—Lat. 38°48' 19" N., Long. 121°14' 47" E., approximately. (according to the Japanese Admiralty chart No. 358.)

Construction and painting:—Stone frustum pyramid, painted white.

Height of light:—30.1 feet from the base and 111.1 feet above the water.

Character of light:—Fixed red light.

Candle power:—22.

Distance visible:—6 nautical miles in clear weather.

Remarks:—In entering or leaving Ryojun-kō, vessels should keep Haku gyoku-zan high and low lights in one line to avoid the shoals lying along the west coast of Ogon-zan and along the east coast of Rō ko-bi.

The leading line between the high and low lights lies on the bearing of N.30'E.

The leading lights are unwatched. Should they go out by accident there may be some delay in relighting them.

THE ELECTORAL CAMPAIGN.

UNIONIST LABOUR CANDIDATES.

Manchester, November 19.

The Conservative Conference, elated by Mr. Balfour's speech, proceeded to-day to deal with the question of the election of Unionist working men to Parliament.

Mr. L. J. Maxse, editor of the *National Review*, moved: "That this conference approves the adoption of Unionist Labour candidates in suitable constituencies, and trusts that before the general election it may be possible to add to their number." He cited the case of Mr. Dumphreys, the victor of Bermondsey, as showing what could be done by the right man in the right place. Some working men candidates had, he said, already been chosen for various constituencies, and several were likely to find a place in the next House of Commons. The Unionist Party was a real democracy, with 3,000,000 electors, of whom 2,000,000 belonged to the working classes, and yet till Mr. Dumphreys was returned there had never been a Conservative working man in the House.

Mr. Chaloner declared that the workmen who were selected must not be put up to fight the hopeless seats. (Applause.)

Mr. Fox, a working man delegate, said that the working man politician was not necessarily a demagogue. "You have a working man in the Cabinet. (A Voice: "The best man in the Cabinet.") I ask you: Who is the demagogue, the working man at the head of the Local Government Board or the gentleman with aristocratic connections who presides over the Board of Trade?" The conference cheered loudly.

Other vigorous speeches were made in support of the motion, which was carried unanimously.

A resolution urging an import duty on hops and the prohibition of the use of all hop substitutes was carried amid applause.

THE "FICTION" MINISTER.

London, November 19.

The annual meeting of the National Society of Conservative Agents gave the Chief Unionist Whip the opportunity for a vigorous admonition to them to stamp out Liberal "fables" as quickly as possible. They should report these "fables" to headquarters at once. In the interest of downright straightforward politics these insidious methods of fighting should be trampled down.

In the evening Sir A. Acland-Hood and Mr. Percival Hughes entertained the agents to dinner at the Midland Hotel. There was a ripple of applause when the Chief Whip said: "There is no doubt a general election will come very soon. I do not say that because of the motion of which Lord Lansdowne—(applause)—has given notice. The House of Lords are showing now, as they have always shown, their absolute trust and confidence in the common sense and the deliberate judgment of the people of the country." (Applause.)

"The pension lie," he said, "wants careful watching, careful hunting down. (Applause.) Mr. Ure's office of Lord Advocate, which, I believe, carries with it a salary of £5,000, appears to be closed. He is now at the same salary chief of the Government Department of Political Fiction." The agents cheered loudly.

"We can put a very very plain issue," he went on, "It is this: Whether this country is going to have a policy of Socialism and living on its capital, or whether it is going to have a policy of Tariff Reform and living on its income? (Loud applause.) This Budget does nothing for the working man except to tax him; nothing for unemployment except to increase it."

PICTURES OF JAPAN.

In view of the interest always attaching to Japan, and the approach of the Japan-British Exhibition, Mr. Frank E. Beresford's pictures and sketches, at the Walker Gallery, New Bond-street, ought to attract many visitors, says the *Westminster Gazette*. Mr Beresford paints his subjects with truth, and selects them with a good deal of judgment. Perhaps his most successful effort appears in a direction in which we should have been quite willing to condone a failure. The large oil-painting of "Mount Fuji: Sunrise from Oiso" (29) is striking and impressive, as it should be. It is to be hoped that an opportunity will arise for the comparison of this with the work by old Japanese printers arriving next year. Among the small works, "A Temple Gateway—Nara" (15), with its red *torii* glistening among the trees; "Kintai Bashi" (19), and "A Bit in Tokyo" (14) may especially be referred to. Mr. Beresford also shows an able portrait of "Lady Hart" (21) in which the identity of the sitter is unmistakable.

We understand that Mr. Beresford, whose recent visit to Japan will doubtless be remembered, was very successful in the sale of his pictures.

THE VASTNESS OF AUSTRALIA.

Australia, as is well known, is a big country, but few people perhaps realise its full extent. Captain R. Muirhead Collins, the representative of the Commonwealth in London, states in the *Strand* that it is greater than one-quarter of the area of the whole of the British Empire; it is nearly three-quarters the size of the whole area of Europe, including Russia; it is about twenty-five times as large as the United Kingdom. Take another illustration. Of its six States, Western Australia alone is larger than the German Empire, France, Spain, Sweden, Norway, Portugal, Greece and Belgium combined. The coast-line of the Commonwealth is 122,000 miles. There are about 1,250,000 depositors in the savings banks, with over £42,000,000 to their credit. Friendly society funds cover over £4,000,000, and life assurance is over £107,000,000. These figures speak for themselves as to the prosperity of the people. With regard to the value of exports per inhabitant, the following figures may prove interesting: United States of America, £3 9s. 10d.; Germany £4 14s. 4d.; France £5 4s 1d.; Canada, £8 11s. 10d; United Kingdom, £8 12s.; Argentine Republic, £12 12s.; Commonwealth of Australia, £16 4s. 7d.

BABY IN AGONY FOR SIX MONTHS

Torturing Eczema Covered Head, Face, Neck, and Arms—Parents were in Despair, Fearing His Death or Lifelong Suffering—Condition was Pitiful—Baffled Treatment.

CURED IN THREE DAYS BY CUTICURA OINTMENT

"My little son's eczema started when he was seven weeks old, his head, face, shoulders, neck, and arms suddenly becoming red and rough, just the way one's hands turn if one dabbles in water a great deal. A doctor saw it was eczema, and did his best for six months, without avail. The child's condition went from bad to worse, the affected parts becoming one solid sore. He was a pitiable sight, crying nearly all the time and quite exhausting himself in his efforts to allay his torturing skin by rubbing and scratching. We were almost despairing, thinking it meant either death or lifelong suffering, but Cuticura Ointment was at last applied, and within a few hours Mrs. Cooper said she noticed a change for the better. After three days' treatment it was quite apparent that a complete cure had been effected. In a week his skin was perfectly clear. Really, I should never have believed it if I had not seen it myself. This was two years ago and my child has never had the slightest return of any skin irritation, and is now the perfect picture of health. I cannot too strongly express my gratitude for what the wonderful Cuticura has done for us. I am only too pleased to show the child to any one who calls to verify this marvellous cure. William Cooper, 246, Murchison Rd., Leyton, London, N. E., July 4, 1907."

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

Complete External and Internal Treatment for Every Humour of Infants, Children, and Adults consists of Cuticura Soap to Cleanse the Skin, Cuticura Ointment to Heal the Skin, and Cuticura Resolvent Pills (Chocolate Coated) to Purify the Blood. A Single Set often Cures. Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney; South Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Cape Town, etc; India, B. K. Paul, Calcutta; U. S. A., Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props., Boston.

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LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Saturday, December 11.

The Raw Cotton market reports some advance in quotations. As to Cotton yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece goods is quiet. In Woollens and Woollen Mixtures, the market appears to be more healthy.

RAW COTTON.

	PER PICUL.
American Middling	46.00 to 47.00
Egyptian	50.00 to 55.00
Indian Broach	34.00 to 35.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 32.00

COTTON YARN.

	PER BALE
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4 70 to 6 35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7 85
Grey Cambries—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2 8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, PER PIECE. 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Red—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mouseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.28 to 0.32
Mousseline de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0 34
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All others	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
„ „ „ 2 „	0 55 to 0.65
„ „ „ 3 „	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0 44
„ „ „ 2 „	0.33 to 0.38
„ „ „ 3 „	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

The market is quiet.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round and square	Y.3.80 to 3.85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4.30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.55
Sheet Mild Steel	6.15 to 6 30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9 60 to 9 80
„ „ Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6 60
Tin Plates, 10 lbs. I.C.W.	6.80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet.

Chester	Y.3.66 to 3.89
Victory	3 20 to 3.50
Nonpareil	— to —
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3 24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.35
Total	— to 3.39

SUGAR.

Demand continues light, and no sales are reported.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y.10 90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
„ (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change in the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
„ second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
„ second	280.00
Madras, first	—
„ second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. There have been some transactions done.

		Yen.
Gold Drop	4 sacks	10.80
Flag	„	10.60
Royal	„	10.60
Trophy	„	10.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	10.70
Lion	„	11.80
Portland	„	11.20
Premier	„	11.00
Japanese:—		
Rising Sun	6 *kwamme*	2.85
Takasago	6 „	2.78
Fuji	6 „	2.85
Pine	6 „	2.90

WHEAT.

Home prices show some advance. There are some enquiries for importations from Australia, which market is reported to be on a lower level than the American.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.60 to 5.70
Red „ „ „	5.50 to 5.60
Blue Stem	5.75 to 5.85

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet, but holders remain firm at quotations as given below.

On December 9th stocks were: filatures 31,068 bales; Re-reels, 4,580 bales; Kakeda, 1,280 bales.

Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse	V. 980
Filature—Extra No 2, Coarse	920
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	920
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	850
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	920
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	900
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	835
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	875
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	825
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	860
Re-reels—No. 1½	830
Re-reels—No. 2	800
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1	820
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	800
Kakedas—No. 2	780

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

December	Present delivery.	December delivery.	January delivery.	February delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
3rd	843	820	833	841
4th	853	832	845	852
5th	—	—	—	—
6th	859	840	852	859
7th	860	840	851	859
8th	848	831	840	846
9th	858	840	847	858

WASTE SILK.

The market is getting slightly active. Prices have somewhat declined.

On November 30th stocks were: Noshi, 10,003 bales, Kibiso, 18,655 bales; and Sundry, 10,812 bales.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	— to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	— to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	157 to 160
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	135 to 140
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	115 to 120
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	92 to 97
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium	82 to 92
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	82 to 92
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good	95 to 100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium	75 to 85
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior	65 to 75
Kibiso—Filatures, Best	127½ to 132½
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	117½ to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium	107½ to 117½
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior	80 to 95
Rereel—Fair	— to —
Rereel—Best	— to —
Rereel—Good	— to —
Rereel—Medium	— to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui:—The general tone of the market is weak, and prices for "heavies" have slightly declined. Business has been very quiet.

Kanazawa:—There has been an advance in prices for medium grades. Production is expected to increase somewhat during this month. Transactions have been limited.

Kawamata:—No change in the market. The demand continues fairly active, but prices remain unaltered.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.25	8.10	8.10	8.10	7.95
27″	8.25	8.00	7.95	7.85	7.90
36″	8.40	8.35	8.35	8.10	8 00

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.10	7.95	7.85	7.60
27″	8.10	7.95	7.90	7.60
36″	7.95	7.80	7.70	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.90	11.00	12.00	13.20
36	12.50	14.10	15.90	16.40

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of December 9th the quotation was £60.

Home markets have improved to some extent.

Refined per 100 kin	Yen 43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin	" 38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin	" 47.00—50.00
Ore	" 29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report. Only small deliveries have been made of imported stocks, which are still very large. Quotations are nominal.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	754,966
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	142,942

Delivery.	Closing Price
December	11.26
January	11.44
February	11.76

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
December	11.72	December	11.70
January	11.85	January	11.89
February	12.02	February	12.04

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*
Superior	Yen 12.20
Medium	11.20
Common	10.20
Average	11.20

TEA.

There has been no change in quotations. Total settlements at Yokohama from May 1st to November 13th amount to 87,020 piculs, against 82,241 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y. — —
Choice	— —
Finest	— —
Fine	36 — 37
Good Medium	34 — 36
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
December	127.75
January	128.75
February	129.50

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Dec. 10.

London silver ¼ higher and Bank of England rates of discount lowered to 4½ per cent., China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates close as under for the mail via Siberia.

London—Bank T.T.	2/0 3/4
— — Bills on demand	2/0 3/8 @ 1/16
— — 4 months' sight	2/0 5/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2 0 1/2
— — 6 months' sight	2/0 1/2
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	256
— Private 4 months' sight	260½
Hongkong—Bank sight per $100	87¼*
— Private 10 days, sight do	85¼*
Shanghai—Bank sight	85¼*
— Private 10 days' sight	87¼*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	154
America—Bank sight	49 3/16 @ 5/16
— Private 30 days' sight	50¼
— Private 4 months' sight	51
Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	212½
Bar Silver (London)	23 7/16

* Nominal.

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MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.		Date.
Seattle	N.Y.K.	Aki Maru 1	F.	Dec. 10
Tacoma	B. L.	Suveric	Sa.	Dec. 11
Hongkong	P. & A.	Selja	Su.	Dec. 12
Europe	N. D. L.	Goeben	Su.	Dec. 12
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of India 2	Su	Dec. 12
Europe	M. M.	Polynesien 3	Tu.	Dec. 14
America	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru 4	Sa.	Dec. 18
Hongkong	N.Y.K.	Shinano Maru	Su.	Dec. 19
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Su	Dec. 19
America	P. M.	Asia 5	Sa	Dec. 25
Hongkong	P. M.	Siberia	Su	Dec. 26
Hongkong	B. L.	Aymeric	Tu	Dec. 28
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of China	W	Dec. 29
Hongkong	O S S.	Tacoma Maru	F.	Dec. 31
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	F.	Dec. 31
Seattle	G. N.	Minnesota	W.	Jan. 5

1 Left Seattle on the 23rd ult.
2 Left Hongkong on the 4th inst.
3 Left Hongkong on the 6th inst.
4 Left San Francisco on the 30th ult.
5 Left San Francisco on the 7th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.		Date.
Europe	M M.	Tonkin	Sa	Dec. 11
America	P. M.	Korea	Sa.	Dec. 11
Australia	N. Y. K.	Kumano Maru	Sa	Dec. 11
Tacoma	B. & S.	Ningchow	Sa.	Dec. 11
Hongkong	P. M.	Manchuria	Sa.	Dec. 11
Shanghai	N. Y. K.	Hakuai Maru	Su	Dec. 12
Hongkong	B. L.	Suveric	Su.	Dec. 12
Vancouver	C. P. R.	Em. of India	Su	Dec. 12
Hongkong	N. Y. K.	Aki Maru	M	Dec. 12
Portland	P. & A.	Selja	M.	Dec. 13
America	C. R.	Amiral Oily	Th.	Dec. 16
Europe	N. D. L.	Goeben	Sa	Dec. 18
Hongkong	T. K. K.	Chiyo Maru	Su.	Dec. 19
Tacoma	B. L.	Aymeric	W	Dec. 29
Hongkong	C. P. R.	Em. of China	W.	Dec. 29
America	T. K. K.	Nippon Maru	Tu	Dec. 21
Seattle	N. Y. K.	Shinano Maru	W	Dec. 22
Europe	N. Y. K.	Tango Maru	W.	Dec. 22
Tacoma	O. S. S.	Tacoma Maru	Sa.	Jan. 1
Hongkong	O. S. S.	Seattle Maru	Sa.	Jan. 1
Hongkong	G. N.	Minnesota	Sa.	Jan. 8

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer 2,920, E. Combes, 3rd Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Shimidzu, 3rd Dec.,—Takao, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368 R., Swain, 3rd Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Glenlochy, British steamer, 2,997, E. J. Stallard, 3rd Dec.,—London via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Denbighshire, British steamer, 2,489, Barnett, 4th Dec.,—London via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

China, American steamer, 3,186, D. E. Friele, 4th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Kamo Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,284, F. L. Sommer, 4th Dec.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suevia German steamer, 2,663, Kotzte, 5th Dec.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

El Lobo, British tank steamer, 2,948, Gray, 5th Dec.,—Lobitos (Peru), Oil —Comes & Co.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 6th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fusan Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,500, Iwamatsu, 6th Dec., Taku, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, M. Machida, 7th Dec.,—Taku, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,789, K Homma, 8th Dec.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kawachi Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,782, H Peterson, 8th Dec.,—Muroran.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Henderson, 8th Dec.,—London via ports, General.—Comes & Co.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 9th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Wray Castle, British steamer, 2,717, Lightoller, 9th Dec.,—New York via ports, General.—Comes & Co.

Nam Sang, British steamer, 2,591, P. M. B. Lake, 9th Dec.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Palawan, British steamer, 2,996, C. R. Longden, 9th Dec.—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

DEPARTURES.

Erz. Franz Ferdinand, Austrian steamer, 3,843, E. Nitsche, 3rd Dec.,—Trieste and Fiume via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Konan Maru Japanese steamer, 858, T. Araki, 4th Dec.,—Osaka, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prinz Ludwig, German steamer, 5,704, F. von Binzer, 5th Dec.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 5th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

China, American steamer, 3,186, D. E. Friele, 6th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Peleus, British steamer, 4,800, T. Hannah, 6th Dec.,—Genoa, Marseilles and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Braemar, British steamer, 2,316, S. L. Saxby, 6th Dec.,—New York via ports, General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Glenlochy, British steamer, 2,997, E. J. Stallard, 7th Dec.,—Dalny, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Denbighshire, Japanese steamer, 2,489, Barrett, 7th Dec.,—London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Benlomond, British steamer, 1,752, Henderson, 7th Dec.,—Moji and Saigon.—Comes & Co.

Nord Brabant, Dutch cruiser, 4,000, van Voss, 7th Dec.,—Manila.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 7th Dec.,—Nagahama.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Wakanoura Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,556, R. Shimidzu, 7th Dec.—Takao, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hirano Maru, Japanese steamer, 5,282, H. Frazar, 8th Dec.,— London and Antwerp via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hyogo Maru, Japanese steamer, 882, K. Sudzuki, 8th Dec.,—Bonin Island, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Bedford, British cruiser, 9,800, Capt. Fitzhubert, 8th Dec.,—Swatow.

Kosai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,423, S. Tominaga, 9th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Suevia, German steamer, 2,663 Kotzte, 9th Dec.,—Marseilles and Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per R.V.F.'s steamer *Mongolia*, from Vladivostock to Tsuruga :—Mr. Takatoshi Tsuji, Mr. Nagakazu Machida, Mr. Kinkichi Nakada, Mr. Yoshimatsu Mori, Mr Kotig, Mr. and Mrs. Willner and daughter, Mrs. E. Carlyle, Mr. Lindley and daughter, Mr. Higgins, Mr. Haes, Mr. and Mrs. Beaumonts, in cabin.

Per American steamer *China* from San Francisco via Honolulu :—Mr. J. S. Burgess, Mr. W. D. Cunningham, Mrs. W. D. Cunningham, Miss E. Cunningham, Miss D. Cunningham, Miss R. Cunningham, Mrs. Sophie Eggers, Mr. K. Ishikawa, Mr. R. Kanda, Mr. A. M. Knapp, Miss A. C. Knapp, Miss A. C. Linne, Mrs. J. C. Linne, Miss Katherine Linne, Miss J. A. Manley, Mr. Hermann Meyers, Mrs. Hermann Meyers, Miss Geo. Meyers, Miss G. L. McCash, Mrs. F. G. Parker, Master Edward Parker, Master Edward Parker, Miss A. B. Slate, Miss M. Williams, Mr. Chas. Wills, Mr. J. M. Travers, Mr C. Beadon, Mr. G. C. Massie, Mrs. Youk Wung and infant, Miss Chan Kam Kean, Mrs. Chan See, Mr. Ching Yee and Mr. S. E. Chong For Kobe :—Mr. W. W. McDowall. For Nagasaki :—Miss M. E Melton. For Shanghai :—Miss Sadie Avary, Miss Alma Beck, Mr. T. C. Britton, Mrs. T. C. Britton, Master Roswell Britton, Mr. James Butchart, Mrs. James Butchart and infant, Master B. Butchart, Miss Grace Carpenter, Miss Edna Dale, Miss Louise Donald, Mr. Frank Holroyd, Miss Louella Houston, Miss A. Kavanaugh, Miss Willie Kelly, Miss Kate G. Miller, Mrs. E. H. Murray, Miss A. Newby, Mr. F. E. Stafford, Mrs. F. F. Stafford, Master Clarence Stafford, Mrs. V. St. Clair, Mr. R. L. Simkin and Dr. Gertrude Taft. For Hongkong :—Mrs. Henry Anderson, Mrs. E. M. Barton, Miss Clara H. Beck, Mr. J. M. Campbell, Miss Adelaide Clancy, Mrs. E. M. Clark, Master F. Clark, Mr. G. Cohn, Mr. Elmer B. Collins, Mr. H. J. Cushing, Mr Dear Gin Foo, Mr. A. J. Deitz, Mrs. A. J. Deitz, Mrs. T. H. Dexter, Mr. L. L. Dixon, Jr., Mr. Herbert Duthie, Mrs. Herbert Duthie, Mrs. E. G. Eaton, Mr. P. G. Engle, Mr. A. Exline, Miss R. Fair, Mr. Foug Tang, Mr. Fong Mon Ho, Mrs. A Harper, Mr. C. F. Hering, Mrs. C. P. Hering, Mr. Frank Link, S. N. Lake, Mr. Lew Yick, Mrs F. Madson, Mrs. W. T. Maffey and infant, Miss Mary Maffey, Miss Mary R. Martin, Mr. A. M. Paget, Master F. K. Paget, Mrs. C. S. Paget, Mr. Chas. A. Powers, Mrs. O. E. Reh and infant, Master Ralph Reh, Master Philip Reh, Mr. A. Reiton, Mrs. A. Reiton, Miss F. Ryan, Miss A. E. Scott, Mr. C. Sparks, Mrs. C. Sparks, Miss H. M. Steves, Mr. Tung Chung, Mrs. Tung Chung and Mr. C. O. Viers in cabin.

Per R.V.F.'s steamer *Gouverneur Jaeschke* from Vladivostock to Tsuruga :—Mr. Misnikoff in cabin; Mr. Okazaki in second class.

Per R.V.F.'s steamer *Mongolia* from Tsuruga to Vladivostock :—Mr. G. Markl in cabin; Mr. K. Kato in second class.

Per R.V.F. *Mongolia* from Vladivostock to Tsuruga :—Mr. Munnn de Schwarzenstein, Mr. Karl Bretschneider, Mr. George Romisch, Mr. Adolf Esser, Mr. Julius Strauss, Mrs. A. Dean, Mr. H. Dean, Mr. Schs. Parker, Mr. John Barr, Mr. A. Greenberger, Mr. Rogez and Mr. Nicolas Asbelef in cabin.

Per American steamer *Korea* from Hongkong via ports :—Mr. J. M. Mollison, Mrs. T. Emerson, Mr. Percy B. Denison, Mr. W. S. Read, Mr. John Struthers, Mrs. John Struthers, Capt. Rene Vandan, Mrs. C. H. Oakley, Mrs. F. E. Glayton, Miss C. Larsen and Miss L. Martin. For Honolulu :—Miss M. Walton and Mr. E. J. Lord. For San Francisco :—Mr. K. B. Archey, Miss Pearl Archey, Mr. T. P. Byron, Mr. Gilbert N. Brink, Dr. David P. Barrows, Capt. Marcus Covell, Mr. F. D. Cloud, Mrs. F. D Cloud and son, Mr. P. Delmas, Mr. M. C. Haff, Mr. J. T. Helemins, Mr. H. O. Haynor, Mr. W. G. Hartrauft and servant, Com. O. W. Koester, Mrs. O. W. Koester, Capt. T. E. Lyons, Mr. C. E. Parsons, Capt. Cecil Stewart, Lieut. F. B. Thomas, U.S.N., Mr. F. M. Woodward, Mr. G. B. Warner, Mr. Murray Warner, Mrs. Murray Warner, Mr. M. Watteeuw and Mrs. M. Watteeuw, son and maid in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Nore*, for London and Antwerp via ports :—Mr. and Mrs. T. L. Butler and Miss M. Fielding, in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oriental*, for Shanghai :—Mr. P. A. Cox, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. K. Hellems, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Reid, Mr. A. J. Reid, Mr. A. E. Fearnley, Mr. S. T. Colin, Mr. W. Wolstenholme, Mr. A. J. Shaw Hellier, Mr. O. S. Haggie, Mr. Jno E. Hope, Dr. Anry Robinson, Miss K. Robinson, Mr. L. Heintze, Mr. Woo, Mr. Qui Tun Pon, Mr. Chan Su, Mr. Cho How Tar and Mr. Cheoeg Sue, in cabin.

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 18TH, 1909.

MARRIAGE.

PIGGOT—SMITH.—At the Cathedral, Gibraltar, on December 11th, at 1 p.m, Mr. FRANCIS STEWART GILDEROY PIGGOTT to Miss JANE SMITH.

DEATH.

STREULI.—At Lyons, France, on December 14th, OTTO STREULI of the firm of Otto Streuli. (By cable.)

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

ON the evening of the 11th inst. the Swedish Minister and Mrs. Wallenberg invited to dinner at their Yokohama residence several diplomats, including the British Ambassador, the Chargé d'Affaires of the Netherlands Legation, Mr. Ishii, Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, and others.

THEIR MAJESTIES the Emperor and Empress were pleased to grant, on the 10th instant, the sum of 2,000 *yen* to the family of the late Prince Kayo.

THE accused Akiyama and Isomura, in the Japan Sugar Refinery case, who had been sentenced to imprisonment, have appealed to a higher Court.

MR. HIROYASU, President of the Bureau of Legislation, has been ordered to act for Mr. Shibata, Chief Secretary of the Cabinet, who is ill.

M. MALEVITCH, Russian Ambassador in Tokyo, repaired to the Imperial Palace on the 9th inst., and presented to His Majesty the Emperor an autograph letter from the Tsar.

COUNT KARASUMARU MITSUYUKI, who by His Majesty's special grace has just been granted the first grade of the third-class rank, passed away on the 8th instant at the age of 45.

THE Government authorities have decided to make Port Arthur a commercial port, abolishing the Naval Station there. An ordinance to this effect will be published at the end of this year.

A TAKATA (Echigo) telegram reports that snow fell in Kashiwabara and vicinity on the 9th inst. morning to the depth of over five feet. Railway traffic between Naoyetsu and Kashiwabara was delayed.

THE Hoden Oil Company has been charged with a violation of the Commercial Law. The trial in the Nagano Local Court has resulted in the imposition of fines on the defendants, ranging from 300 to 800 *yen*.

THE International Press Association of Japan will hold its annual general meeting at 6 p.m. on the 20th instant at the Imperial Hotel, Tokyo. The meeting will be followed by the usual monthly dinner and conversazione.

THE Siamese Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs arrived at Shimonoseki from Fusan on the 11th inst., and immediately left for Tokyo by train. He is expected to stay in the capital for about a month to investigate Japanese educational institutions.

THE President of the Hamburg Bank has recently contributed 6,000 *yen* towards the fund of the Red Cross Society of Japan. In appreciation of his generous donation, the Society has sent the German banker a photograph of Prince Kanin, the honorary President, in a handsome lacquer frame.

IT is reported that another large American tourist party which is coming to Japan will leave San Francisco on the 5th February next and arrive at Yokohama *viâ* Honolulu on the the 25th idem. After visiting Hakone and Nikko, the party will proceed to Kobe and Nagasaki in the beginning of March.

AN Osaka telephone message reports that on the 8th and 9th instant a clerk named Ito Akira, belonging to tha Osaka Municipal Office, and many other officials of the same office, were arrested for stealing a large amount of rice and other articles contributed towards the fund for the relief of the suffering poor from the recent conflagration.

IN the hearing of the appeal of the *Japan Herald* against the verdict delivered in the Yokohama Local Court in the libel action "W. T. R. Preston *vs. Japan Daily Herald*," appellants' counsel, after making their pleadings, prayed the Court that Mr. J. C. Hall, H.B.M.'s Consul-General at Yokohama, and Mr. Harris, Canadian Trade Commissioner, should be called as witnesses. Counsel for respondent asked for an adjournment to allow him to prepare answers to the new pleadings. The case was therefore adjourned *sine die*.

ABOUT 4.30 a.m. on the 10th instant a fire broke out in a tailor's shop at Tori Sanchome, Nihonbashi, Tokyo. Owing to the strong wind then prevailing, the flames were only subdued after reducing to ashes the Maruya bookstore and five other houses.

A RICE dealer named Hashimoto, of Ichiwara-cho, Honjo, Tokyo, has been arrested on a charge of incendiarism. It is alleged that he set fire on the 5th instant to the next house to his own, which resulted in the destruction of four buildings. He has confessed that he did this for the purpose of obtaining 1,700 *yen* insurance on his own house.

A MAN named Okazaki Heiichiro, formerly a clerk in the Mayebashi Post Office, has fraudulently obtained since June last some 10,000 *yen* from various post offices by means of counterfeited postal orders. He was arrested on the 10th instant, when attempting to draw 200 *yen* from the Hamacho Post Office, Tokyo.

MR. NABESHIMA KEIJIRO, hitherto Director for Foreign Affairs in the Residency-General in Korea, has been appointed Minister to Brussels, in place of Mr. Akizuki, who has been made Ambassador to Austro-Hungary. Mr. Abe Moritaro, late First Secretary in the Peking Legation, has been appointed Senior Counsellor of the Foreign Office.

WE have received the following communication from the Agents, Messrs. C. Illies and Co: "Confirming our last notice regarding the stranding of the steamer *Brisgavia*, we have much pleasure in informing you that according to telegraphic advices just received from our Shanghai head office, the steamer has been successfully refloated and is now lying at anchor in Shanghai"

THE *Seoul Press* of the 8th inst. says:—

We are glad to note that Lieut.-Colonel Boger, Military Attaché to the British Embassy in Tokyo, has completely recovered from his illness and has addressed, through the British Consul-General here, a letter to the staff of the Tai Han Hospital expressive of his thanks for the kind treatment given him during the past five weeks.

ON the night of the 12th instant a burglar aged about 30 broke into a shop at Chitose-mura, Minamitama-gori, Tokyo-fu, and tied up the master of the house with a piece of wire and after threatening him with a revolver marched off with 8 50 *yen* in cash On the same night the same robber stole 11 *yen* from a house about five *cho* from the above shop, menacing the inmates in a similar manner.

THE Military Aviation Investigation Committee conducted the trial flight of an aeroplane on Thursday near the Shinobazu Pond, Uyeno, in the presence of a great crowd of spectators. After several attempts, the airship, which was navigated by Lieutenant Aibara, rose to a fair height, but subsequently fell into the pond. Lieutenant Aibara, who was uninjured, succeeded in getting ashore from the Kangetsu Bridge.

THE work of protecting houses against rats by surrounding them with sheets of zinc has been in progress by the Municipal authorities here since October 27th and is still being carried on, says the *Kobe Herald*. Up to the 10th instant, 4,042 houses had thus been dealt with, and twenty-one thousand yards of sewers have been repaired with concrete. The number of men and coolies who have been employed in the work is 4,964, and 13,154 sheets of zinc have been used.

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KOREA.

Friday, December 10.

The commotion in Seoul is by no means quieted yet. Judging from the telegrams, which are of a somewhat confused character, we gather that the Il Chin-hoi and the Dai Han Hyop-hoi have been brought closer together by the efforts of their respective Japanese advisers, and we also gather that the Cabinet, in its desire to protect itself against the attacks of these political parties, has resorted to measures which show a distinctly anti-Japanese complexion. It is stated that in consequence of this turn of events, the Resident-General summoned the Prime Minister to the former's office, and warned him that unless the anti-Japanese tone of the Cabinet's proceedings was immediately altered, the Ministry would have to go out of office, whatever might be the fate of the Il Chin-hoi movement. Another rumour has it that the Premier has been seeking to enlist Buddhist aid against the Il Chin-hoi, and that the Young Men's Christian Association have turned against the Cabinet. There is perhaps a close connexion between the last two events.

Viscount Sone, interviewed by a representative of the *Jiji Shimpo*, says, in effect, that he has received no communication from the Home Government on the subject of amalgamation, and that if any such idea were entertained in Tokyo he would certainly not have been left in ignorance. He also observes that so long as public peace and good order are not disturbed, the Residency-General sees no reason to interfere in political discussions among the Koreans themselves. The Viscount is further credited with a somewhat cryptic assertion that the time will come when the Government and people of Korea will understand each other better.

It is noticeable that this commotion has thus far been limited to the precincts of the capital. Generally, anything like a political controversy in Seoul finds a vehement echo among the literati and the conservatives in the provinces, but on the present occasion there are no symptoms of anything of the kind.

Meanwhile the Il Chin-hoi, indignant that their memorial to the Throne was returned by the Prime Minister without being conveyed to its destination, have submitted it once more, and seem inclined to continue the process *ad infinitum*. As for the Metropolitan police, their Chief is said to have warned the Elder Statesmen and the party-leaders that lecture meetings and other forms of agitation must be abandoned. This is said to have had a most chilling effect on the political movement.

Count Hayashi is quoted by the *Jiji Shimpo* as approving of the idea of amalgamation. That such a step would inure to the advantage of the Koreans he entertains not the slightest doubt, and that it would be in accord with numerous precedents can easily be proved from the pages of modern history, which furnish many instances, among the latest and most successful being that of Hawaii. As for interference on the part of outside Powers, that would be justifiable only in the event of their interests being involved, and there is nothing of the kind in the case of Korea, whose foreign affairs, judiciary and the main part of her domestic affairs are already under Japanese control. The only troublesome factor is that of finance. It would be necessary to provide funds on a very liberal scale so as to secure the upper classes of Korea against loss, and so as to carry on the central and local administrations without imposing any onerous burdens upon the people. A large outlay would thus be involved. It would of course be recovered when the development of Korea had taken place, but the question is whether Japan can conveniently saddle herself with such disbursements at the present time.

It appears that Mr. Yi Yongkyu, leader of the Il Chin-hoi, is of the noble class in Korea and has for many years been a strong partisan of amalgamation. In the days of the Tonghaks, whose doings may be said to have precipitated the war between China and Japan in 1894-5, Mr. Yi was Chief of Staff to Mr. Choi, the Tonghak leader. After the war he founded a society called the Taichhon-kyo, whose platform, as its name implies, was to trust in heaven and await the course of events. This organization seems to have developed considerable strength, and it is against it that the Prime Minister has been endeavouring to enlist the services of another semi-religious association called the Chhondo-kyo, which term signifies the way of heaven. Mr. Yi Yongkyu is said to be a man of great ability and much personal magnetism.

Saturday, December 11.

Things appears to be quieting down in Seoul. In the sequel of the warning addressed by the Resident-General to the Prime Minister, a similar step was taken towards the agitators by the Chief of the Metropolitan police. He summoned the leaders of the three parties and informed them that there must be no more lecture-meetings or other incendiary assemblies. If it was desired to hold any meeting, the number of participants must be strictly limited to three from each party. These warnings are said to have produced a most wholesome effect, and the present expectation is that the three parties will unite in issuing a manifesto on the 12th inst. declaring that they are not radically opposed to amalgamation with Japan, but only that they consider the time premature. The action taken by the Japanese Authorities in this matter appears to have been very judicious, if the accounts coming from Seoul may be credited. The spirit underlying the action of the Il Chin-hoi seems to have been preserved without doing any needless violence to the patriotic feeling of the people.

It is stated that Viscount Sone will shortly leave Seoul for Japan, partly with the intention of conferring with the Central Government, and partly for the sake of his health.

There are some reasons for thinking that the Prime Minister, Mr. Yi, will not emerge scathless from this commotion. Various rumours are circulated with reference to his conduct, one incredible story being that he hired assassins, several of whom are now prowling about the streets of Seoul. These tales are doubtless published to a large extent by the Prime Minister's political enemies.

Sunday, December 12.

Telegrams from Seoul announce that the Dai-han Hyop-hoi has held a meeting and adopted a circular of comparatively moderate tone. The party does not marshal itself in definite opposition to the proposal of amalgamation, but announces that it advocates the preservation of the *status quo*, while at the same time not definitely condemning amalgamation, if the latter policy be held to conduce to the interests of the State.

According to present appearances the action taken by the Korean Cabinet in this matter is likely to become the principal object of attack, the question of amalgamation being relegated to a secondary place. The Cabinet seems to have resorted to measures which are generally disapproved.

It is said that there has been an abortive attempt upon the life of Mr. Yi Yongkyu, leader of the Il Chin-hoi, but no particulars are given. It is also said that the Christian bodies have shown considerable activity in opposing the amalgamation project, but that the prohibition of manifestoes has been enforced by the police in their case also.

The *Seoul Press* has been granted an interview by the Resident-General and has learned from him that Japan has not the slighest intention of allowing her policy to be swayed by the agitations of political parties. She is determined to keep before her two constant aims, one to win the friendship of the Korean people, the other to achieve their prosperity and happiness.

Monday, December 13.

It appears that the appreciations telegraphed to Tokyo on Sunday as to quiet having been restored in Seoul were, to say the least, premature. Monday's news indicated, on the contrary, that the public are much disturbed. All kinds of rumours are said to be in circulation, and it is even whispered that the ex-Emperor has obtained a loan of half a million *yen* from a foreign syndicate, the proceeds being destined to fan the commotion. It was definitely stated that the police had forbidden the issue of anything in the shape of a political manifesto, but if such a veto was enacted, it certainly has not been enenforced, for the gist of two manifestoes is telegraphed. The first of these documents emanates from the People's Lecture Party, and has a name which we have not previously seen applied to such a document and which may be supposed to have been devised for the purpose of evading the police veto. It is directed solely against the Il Chin-hoi. So far as Japan is concerned, the compilers of this manifesto admit that she deserves the gratitude of the Koreans for protecting them and endeavouring to promote their prosperity. The writers then go on to declare that no country is the property of one man, and that in disposing of it the voice of the people must be taken into account. The Il Chin-hoi, however, would constitute themselves the arbiters of Korea's destiny, and would sell their country in their own interests. They are to be denounced as national traitors. There is more in the same strain, but what has been already set down will convey a sufficiently clear idea of the manifesto. The other document emanates from the Tai-han Hyop-hoi, and, curiously enough, is as gentle in its tone towards the Il Chin-hoi as it is vehement in its denunciations of the Cabinet. It too sets out by statements complimentary to the Japanese, and it then goes on to say that if the happiness of the nation could be promoted by amalgamation, then amalgamation should be welcomed. But in the opinion of the compilers such a procedure is still premature, and they believe that the best plan is to preserve existing conditions. They then go on to attack the Ministry in unmeasured terms. They declare that the object of the present Ministry is to carry the country back to the days of political intrigue, when men's minds were in a state of perpetual unrest, and they accuse the Cabinet of prostituting the country's welfare to their own ambitions, disturbing international relations and undermining Korea's friendship with Japan.

It should be added that the so-called People's Lecture Party is said to have been formed under official auspices, and to be

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nothing more than a vehicle for ventilating the Ministry's views and for rousing popular resentment against the Il Chin-hoi. As for these latter, they are represented as having greatly lost heart. Many of them are alleged to have retired altogether from the scene and to be hiding in the houses of relatives or friends. The leader, however, Mr. Yi Yongkyu, seems to be as resolute as ever. He is quoted as openly declaring that the Party's petition to the Throne shall be submitted just as often as the Cabinet refuses to forward it. In pursuance of this resolve, the petition has now been presented for the third time. The Il Chin-hoi, however, does not appear to be issuing manifestoes or holding meetings. The leaders of the Tai-han Hpoy-hoi announced a general meeting for the 12th inst., but were forbidden by the police to hold it. The police, in the meanwhile, do not appear to be imposing any restraint upon the utterances of the Cabinet's partisans, who are headed by the Elder Statesmen. One of the latter, Mr. Kim, is reported as having declared at a meeting of the Tai han Hyop-hoi, on the 11th inst., that the advocates of amalgamation were national pirates, and that all loyal men should not hesitate to sacrifice their lives for the suppression of such traitors. It begins to be evident that this commotion will not be settled without some serious incidents.

Tuesday, December 14.

There are various fragmentary items of news from Korea this morning, but they suggest the idea of being merely side-eddies of a current that has passed. One story is that the ex-Emperor, acting through the agency of a Frenchman whose name is given, has succeeded in borrowing 200,000 *yen* without security from another Frenchman in Shanghai, and his Majesty intends to use the money for the purpose of sending delegates to England and France with the object of stirring up an anti-Japanese propaganda.

A little more credible is a statement that the *Dai Han Mai-Il Shimpo* blames the Il Chin-hoi for not having enlisted the sympathies of the press as a preliminary to their agitation for amalgamation. It does not seem to have occurred to our Seoul contemporary that the leaders of the Il Chin-hoi may have preferred to trust to the intelligence of the newspapers for support or condemnation of their scheme on its own merits.

The *Chuo's* Seoul correspondent openly accuses the Korean Minister of Agriculture and Commerce of having abused his official powers to promote the formation of the anti-Annexation Lecture Association and with having forced some 30 people to put up money for the purposes of the Association.

Meanwhile the Authorities are exerting themselves to restore calm. They have strictly forbidden all public meetings and inflammatory circulars, and it is said that the numbers of the latter missives hitherto seized are 3000 issued by the Il Chin-hoi, 7000 by the People's Lecture Association and 6000 by the Young Men's Christian Society.

The Il Chin-hoi are not without their sympathisers in Japan. Our readers are aware that there exists in Tokyo an association calling itself the Doshi-kai (Party of Fellow Thinkers) under the presidency of Mr. Kono Hironaka, who in foreign affairs as well as domestic is a stalwart of the stalwarts. This Association held a general meeting on the 13th instant, and adopted a manifesto severely censuring the Japanese Government for going contrary to the State policy of Japan in dealing with Korea. The document said that, on the whole, that policy had been steadily pursued throughout the Meiji era and that its pursuance had inured greatly to the benefit of Japan. But now the Government was adopting towards Korea a vacillating and temporising attitude, whose only outcome is to create in the Peninsula a feeling of unrest and uncertainty, thus encouraging plotters and agitators and tending to fan the embers of insurrection, to the unhappiness and detriment of the people of the Peninsula. Appended to this manifesto was a resolution saying that having regard to the conditions existing in the neighbouring country, no further temporising was permissible, and the State policy of Japan must be enforced at once without compromise.

During the course of the above meeting a telegram was read which had been sent to Mr. Kono Hironaka by Mr. Yi Yongkyu, leader of the Il Chinhoi. This telegram alleged that the Il Chin-hoi, before taking its recent step, had not failed to widely ascertain public opinion, and had assured itself that those opposed to the principle of amalgamation were very few. As for the accusation that the proceedings of the Party were prompted by lust of power, not by patriotism, any such statement was a baseless libel. The Il Chin-hoi were acting in the firm conviction that the course they advised would be for the benefit of their country. They had not thought it prudent to enter into the details for carrying out their programme, but they saw no serious difficulty, and it pained them greatly to find themselves the victims of misrepresentation and misinterpretation. They entreated that measures to make their motives clear to the Japanese public should be taken by the association over which Mr. Kono Hironaka presides.

This appeal on the part of the Il Chin-hoi to the Doshi-kai removes the former's project from the realm of practical politics into the field of the extremists. We have great respect for Mr. Kono Hironaka's integrity of purpose and constancy of aim, but we can not hide from ourselves the fact that he and his followers have been left behind by the tide of progress. They belong to a past age, and the measures they advocate are no longer possible in modern Japan.

The *Nippon News Agency* publishes a long document purporting to embody the views expressed by Viscount Sone with regard to the doings of the Il Chin-hoi. In this document the Resident-General is represented as accepting the whole responsibility of ordering the Korean Cabinet to return the Il Chin-hoi's memorial. His Excellency further accuses these agitators of wantonly disturbing waters that were flowing smoothly, and he hints broadly that the true motive of the Il Chin-hoi is to capture for themselves ministerial portfolios. We do not believe that this is a faithful representation of Viscount Sone's views, though it is very possible that he holds the opinions subsequently attributed to him, namely, that Japan's object is to convert Korea into a reliable and coöperative hand, instead of a disaffected arm which requires to be perpetually restrained. It is also very possible that his Excellency dates the anti-Japanese feeling in Korea from the days of Hideyoshi's expedition; that he anticipates a long interval before the seeds sown in that evil past are completely uprooted, and that he wants to teach the people to appreciate the benefits of close association with Japan before asking them to consummate that association.

Wednesday, December 15.

The Il Chin-hoi have received an unexpected accession of strength in the form of the modernized Pedlars Guild. Probably very few of our readers remember this guild, which goes by the name of the *Fuhosho* in Japan. Nevertheless it used to be the nucleus of nearly all political agitation, and that it possessed great influence could never be doubted. Nothing had been heard of it, however, for several years, and we imagined that it had ceased to exist. But this is not the case. We now read that its members reorganised themselves some time ago into an association called the Business Guild (*Shomu Kumiai*). They are said to have three-quarters of a million followers throughout the provinces, and their offices are to be found in all the country towns of any importance. The story runs that this Guild, which is now under the leadership of Mr. Yi Hakchai, recently appointed a committee of 90 members to investigate the political situation, and that the committee has decided to vote in favour of the Il Chin-hoi's propaganda. Considering that the Tai-han Hyop-hoi also has declared itself not opposed to the Il Chin-hoi's programme except on the ground of its being premature, it would seem that amalgamation finds more approvers in Korea than might have been expected. It is stated that the leaders of the Pedlars Guild, in announcing to the Il Chin-hoi their determination to support it, declared that the preservation of the Throne should be the object of every true-hearted Korean, and that for this reason they endorsed the Il Chin-hoi's policy as best calculated to secure that result. Another association calling themselves the Progressists has also signified its adherence, but this is a comparatively petty body of 3000 members.

The *Mainichi Dempo* states that an industrial society in Seoul, formed for the most part by students who have received or are receiving their education in Japan, summoned two of its members from Tokyo, and instructed them to prepare a vehement anti-amalgamation manifesto. The police, however, put a stop to this procedure as not becoming to students.

Of course, on an occasion of this kind, wild rumours are inevitable, and no one will be surprised to learn that the Cabinet is accused of hiring assassins to cut short the career of the amalgamation propagandists. Inasmuch as all the Parties appear to be opposed to the Ministry, these canards find ready credence as a means of discrediting the Prime Minister, Mr. Yi Wanyon, and his fellow portfolio-holders.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* quotes a Japanese who has just returned from Seoul as finding much fault with the procedure taken by Viscount Sone. He says, in effect, that the Resident-General failed to adopt any definite course at the moment when choice was imperative, and this failure he attributes to the fact that, owing to the seclusion in which he lives, Viscount Sone knew nothing about the amalgamation project. When the situation did become clear to the Resident General, he refrained from assuming any emphatic attitude, and contented himself with employing the Cabinet as a weapon for quelling the Il Chin-hoi agitation. This want of definiteness on the part of those who represent Japan's policy is reflected in the doings of the people, who have now split up into various factions, one advocating amalgamation, another crying for independence, and a third clamouring for protection by the united Powers.

There is at all events some light upon the horizon of Korean affairs, as we learn from

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the following items, taken from the *Seoul Press*:—

It is reported that since the erection of coast guard stations at Yosu and Mokpo and the strict enforcement of supervision by coast guard vessels the appearance of insurgents and pirates in the southern waters has almost ceased and communication is being carried on with comparative safety in consequence. Fishing is also carried on with prosperity in those waters by Korean and Japanese fishermen.

The *Keijo Nippo* prints an account attributed to Police Inspector Imamura, who recently attended the opening ceremony of the new Kunsan Police Station and the unveiling ceremony of the mounment erected at Kwangju for the military officers and men who lost their lives during the suppression of insurgents. It says that since the sweeping movement carried out by the Watanabe Brigade in South Korea, the inhabitants generally have been enjoying peace. The communications in the three provinces in South Korea, which have hitherto been impeded by insurgents, are now safe. Japanese and Koreans now co-operate in the suppression of insurgents. When Mr. Imamura reached Kaltaik road, regarded as the most dangerous place, he encountered a party of about sixty Koreans carrying bamboo spears. On being questioned, the party assured Mr. Imamura that they were going to attack insurgents. It is also recognised that headmen of villages, chiefs of towns and magistrates are working well with the Japanese for the suppression of insurgents. At present no band of insurgents is seen in those provinces and many Japanese are going to them on business.

It appears that there has been going on for some time a discussion between Korea and China with regard to money advanced by the latter for purposes of riparian work in the days when Chinese influence was paramount in Seoul, a time now 15 years remote. The discussion has finally been settled, the Korean Government agreeing to pay a sum of 350,000 *yen*.

Thursday, December 16.

The police in Seoul have interfered with the proceedings of the Business Guild and of the Progressists, both of which Parties were reported by yesterday's telegrams as having declared in favour of the Il Chin-hoi. The police are represented as taking the ground that these associations, not being registered as political bodies, have no right to interfere in political affairs. The representatives of the two associations are said to have objected strenuously to such restraint, their plea being that where the country's interests are concerned, all good citizens have a right to take part. They were finally persuaded, however, to bow to police authority.

The aspect of the present situation in Seoul is reported to be that whereas things would quiet down were no new agitating influences at work, the Prime Minister is endeavouring to utilize the situation for the complete overthrow of the Il Chin-hoi, and is resorting to various surreptitious means of exciting popular feeling against the latter. As for the Residency-General, it is said to be maintaining a perfectly impartial demeanour towards all concerned.

One of the devices resorted to is said to be forgery of telegrams purporting to come from Tokyo. This scheme is attributed to the vernacular newspaper which is run in the interests of the anti-Il-Chin-hoi party, and the gist of the telegrams is said to be such as to rouse a strong feeling of resentment against the Japanese. It is really difficult to draw the line now a-days between telegrams which are deliberately forged by a newspaper, and those which, though published by a newspaper in good faith, are fabricated by their senders. The foreign residents of Japan are not unfamiliar with both classes of bogus news.

It appears that the proposal for sending a mission of apology to Japan has not been abandoned in Korea, as was confidently affirmed a few days ago. Rumour now alleges that the mission will start shortly and that it will consist of 13 members, namely, one representative of each province.

JAPAN AND RUSSIA.

Some attention is aroused in Japan by the repeated and contradictory rumours which reach Tokyo from St. Petersburg. At one moment the story is that the two Powers are about to join hands in an alliance; the next, they are represented as being on the verge of a quarrel. It is true that such rumours are mutually destructive, but it is also true that their resulting effect is to produce a feeling of unquiet, and thus to prepare the way for misunderstanding. The *Asahi* and the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* take up this subject with considerable interest, and invite attention to the fact that the canards appear solely in Russian journals and have not found any place whatever in Japanese. The interesting question, in the *Asahi's* opinion, is to discover the origin of these stories, and our contemporary has no hesitation in indicating Berlin. The first rumour as to an alliance between Russia and Japan was evidently intended to make a rift in the lute of Anglo-Japanese friendship, and the second rumour as to bad relations is equally intended to produce that result, though by a different method, namely, by showing that in holding Japan's hand England is allowing herself to be drawn to the brink of a precipice. The *Asahi* treats the canards with contempt, as far as Japan and Russia are concerned, and declares that the two Powers have learned too much about each other to cross swords lightly in the future. The *Nichi Nichi* takes the matter more seriously, and writes in the sense that Russia believes the peace of the Far East to depend upon the relations between China and Japan, and that she is making full preparations to be ready for the contingency of a rupture between these two Empires. In fact, the *Nichi Nichi* appears to think that Russia has not abandoned her old-time policy of aggression in the Far East. We have only one comment to make, and that is, that in treating such ideas seriously our Tokyo contemporaries are falling into the very pit dug for them by the fabricators of the rumours, whoever they may be.

THE PRIVY PURSE.

Our readers are aware that the next budget will include an addition of 1½ million *yen* annually to the 3 millions hitherto appropriated for the Privy Purse. It is explained to the *Jiji Shimpo* by one of the officials concerned that this increase is absolutely necessary. Ever since the war of 1904-5, the unavoidable outlays of the Imperial Household have considerably exceeded the amount allowed by the State, and it has been found necessary to encroach upon the capital funds of the Crown. This state of affairs can not of course be continued, and one of the first purposes to which the increased allowance is destined will be to restore that capital fund to its original dimensions. There is no idea of devoting money to building purposes, although it is notorious that the dining salon in the Shinjuku Park is inconveniently small and that the Suma edifice is quite inadequate for its purpose. Then, again, if the increase of official salaries proposed by the Cabinet receives the approval of the Diet, it will of course be necessary to make a corresponding addition to the emoluments of the Imperial Household officials. Thus there are ample reasons for the projected addition to the Privy Purse.

KILIN.

The Japanese Consul at Kilin, Mr. Iwasaki, has returned to Tokyo, and has been interviewed by the *Asahi Shimbun*, which quotes him as saying that Kilin is suffering from tradal depression at present. The local authorities have shown great activity in the direction of education. They have established no less than 100 schools throughout the province, including a high dendrological institution. Several Japanese are employed as teachers. Progress in all directions is checked, however, by the absence of communication facilities. There are only some 200 Japanese settlers at present, but their number will probably increase largely after the building of the Kilin-Changchun Railway. Kilin may be said to be the treasure house of Manchuria on account of its forests and its furs, but in the development of these resources the Japanese are not yet taking any active part. The only business in which they engage to any considerable extent is that of dealing in tobacco; everything else may be said to be in Chinese hands. It has been stated that Japanese tobacco encounters a serious competitor in the article sold by the Anglo-American Tobacco Trust. But Mr. Iwasaki denies this. He says that the foreign tobacco is smoked entirely by the upper middle and upper classes, who affect something better than the Japanese brand, and thus the latter is left entirely to the lower orders. With regard to the interesting report circulated some time ago to the effect that the Governor of Kilin had invited Cantonese capitalists to establish a bank in Manchuria, the Consul says that thus far the project has not matured. Undoubtedly one great obstacle to material progress is to be found in the disordered state of the currency, but this is gradually mending. Referring to the Kilin-Changchun Railway, Mr. Iwasaki states that a society was formed some time ago with the object of raising money to build a line, so as to keep it in Chinese hands. Having failed to accomplish that aim, the society has been broken up, and the funds collected ought to be returned to the subscribers. But the promoters of the affair claim to have spent 30,000 *taels* on promotion expenses, and they had the assurance to ask the local authorities to refund that sum to the shareholders. This interesting application met with the fate it deserved.

THE SOY COMPANY.

On the 9th inst. the Directors of the Soy Company held a meeting to consider the disastrous condition of the concern. The President, Mr. Suzuki, had acknowledged his responsibility for the loss of one million *yen* resulting from the conduct of the Company's business and 400,000 *yen* owing to the use of saccharine. In satisfaction of these losses he offered to hand over the 40,000 shares held by him in the Company and also his Salt Works at Onahama. But as these properties at their present market value did not represent more than one half of the total loss, the Directors refused to endorse the compromise. As to the sum of 1,300,000 *yen* owing to the Konoike Bank, the Directors proposed to offer their united guarantee in order to induce the Bank to defer the calling up of the money. Further, it was decided to abandon the manufacture of casks and to abolish one branch of the business. A general meeting of the Company is to be held on the 27th inst. to discuss these proposals.

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CHINA.

Friday, December 10.

Telegrams from Peking indicate that diplomatic circles place no reliance upon the alleged rumour of Prince Chin's resignation. They recall the fact that several similar reports have already been circulated, and in every case they have proved false. Prince Chin certainly shares the political views of Yuan Shihkai and Tuan Fang, but for the rest his position is not to be mentioned in the same breath with theirs. The loss of his services would be a heavy blow to the Central Government.

There appears to be quite a commotion at Macao. According to telegrams from Shanghai, a body of Chinese soldiery raided the settlement and wounded several of the pro-Portuguese party. Thereafter they proceeded to levy municipal taxes and to behave otherwise as masters of the situation. The whole message is unsatisfactorily vague, and suggests much exaggeration.

It is stated that the Local Assembly of Mukden has passed resolutions for preserving the mining properties in the three Provinces and for establishing industrial schools. In pursuance of the former purpose the Assembly suggests the formation of a model mining work, capital for the purpose to be raised from foreign residents as well as Chinese subjects. As all these projects would require a considerable expenditure of funds, the Viceroy has entrusted the duty of examining them to the Public Works Taotai.

London telegraphs to the *Jiji Shimpo* that the United States has applied for cöoperation in the proposed railway from Kinchow to Tsitsihar, which apparently is contemplated by China, England and Japan in combination. The two last Powers are represented as raising no objection to America's admission, but Peking is said to be opposed to the union of so many States. A Japanese military officer is quoted by the same journal as saying that if the projected line be carried *viâ* Yaonan, it can escape passing through any considerable tract of desert country, but this would be at the expense of making a great detour. If, on the contrary, the shortest route be taken, then the line would pass so near the South Manchuria track as to fall distinctly within the definition of parallelism. In either case the commercial prospects of the road would be decidedly discouraging if present conditions continued. In twenty or thirty years it might be the means of developing enterprises, agricultural and industrial, such as would give it a *raison d'être*, and possibly its projectors might be disposed to await that result. But the route labours under two great disadvantages. One is that there is no good harbour at Kinchow; the other, that no natural attractions whatever exist, and therefore the tourist class could not be expected to travel by the line. In these circumstances Japan should use her influence to prevent the building of the road, and if she can not do that, she should at least have a share in the work, recognising that the project is prompted, on China's side, by a desire to depreciate the value of the South Manchuria Railway, and, on the side of foreign Powers, by an ambition to obtain a foothold in Manchuria.

Saturday, December 11.

The agitation in favour of adopting foreign costume and dispensing with the queue appears to be continuing in Peking. It has been taken up by Prince Yu Lang, whose representations have been re-inforced by a telegram from Prince Yi Hsiang, now on a visit to England. These men consider that the change of dynasty is a suitable time for making the above innovations, but, contrary to reports recently received, it does not appear that their suggestions have yet commanded serious respect.

There is said to be considerable commotion in Peking, owing to the resignation of Prince Tsai Tse, President of the Board of Finance, to which office he was appointed in May 1907. The reason that he assigns for his resignation is that the demands for funds on account of the Army and Navy are very large and very urgent, whereas great dilatoriness is shown in paying the taxes the proceeds of which should be devoted to these purposes. His Highness therefore finds it impossible to discharge the duties of his office. Prince Tsai Tse is well known outside China, since he was Chief of the Imperial Mission to foreign countries in 1905.

There is in Tientsin a private association formed for the purpose of investigating matters that relate to the adoption of repreesentative government. This association is said to have decided that the period of probation prior to the opening of a national assembly must be shortened, and steps will be taken to agitate in that sense.

Sunday, December 12.

With regard to the rumoured resignation of Prince Tsai Tse, Mr. Abe, who has just returned from Peking, is quoted as saying that difficulties in connexion with the finances of the Army and Navy can scarcely be supposed to be the cause. In the case of the Navy, for the increment of which it was recently decided to appropriate a sum of 12 million *taels*, the Government's loan of 5 million *taels* to the Board of Posts and Telegraphs is to be employed to meet a part of the outlay, and satisfactory arrangements have been made with regard to the rest. In the case of the Army also, means of defraying the expenditure on account of the Guards Division and on account of the building of a new Department, have already been provided. The probability is, therefore, that the Prince's resignation is due to the general question of finance, which grows more and more difficult every year in China. Mr. Abe does not think it probable, however, that the Prince Regent will accept the resignation.

Monday, December 13.

It would appear from the latest Mukden telegrams that the Chinese and Japanese police and gendarmes are coöperating in a friendly manner to guard the Mukden-Antung Railway zone against the attacks of the mounted bandits. Both sides are said to have despatched reinforcements to the scene, and we hear nothing more about the contention that the Chinese had unceremoniously solved the railway-guard question without conveying to Japan any intimation of such a purpose.

Japanese papers state that work is progressing steadily and satisfactorily at the most difficult part of the Mukden-Antung Railway, namely, the tunnel of Fuhkinglin, which is 74 chains long. It was commenced by the principal contractor, Mr. Kajima, in September last, and 134 ft. of the distance has been pierced from the western end, and 78 from the eastern. Unless some unforeseen difficulties are encountered, the contractors expect to have the tunnel finished by next November.

On the 12th inst. the Specie Bank celebrated the completion of its new buildings at Dairen. The function is said to have been very imposing, and to have been attended by some 500 persons, including all the local notables.

Wednesday, December 15.

The telegraph says that, at the instance of the Chinese Authorities, steps were recently taken to treat Hankow as an infected port owing to statements made by the Chinese local authorities to the effect that several cases of pest had made their appearance. Subsequently some doubts were thrown upon the accuracy of these assertions, and steps are now being taken to ascertain the precise facts. It is certainly curious that the pest should declare itself at this season.

Another concession said to have been made by Japan to China is an agreement to transfer to the latter's hands all electric lights outside the railway zones in Manchuria. The price at which the transfer will be effected is now under consideration. One condition is alleged to be attached, namely, that in supplying light to Japanese subjects the Chinese Authorities shall not impose higher charges than those levied by the Japanese within the railway zones.

The negotiations which have been going on for some time with regard to the transfer of the Japanese post offices in China to Chinese hands are said to be now making good progress. The commissioners of the two Powers have held a second meeting, and are said to be practically agreed upon all points, with the exception of the question of responsibility for postal matter containing valuables transmitted betweee Hsimmintun and Kilin. It is not thought that this problem will present any serious difficulty.

It is alleged that owing to the competition of the great British firms, Messrs. Jardine and Matheson and Messrs. Samuel Samuel and Co., the price of beans in Manchuria has risen to such a figure that the Chinese middlemen who contracted to supply large quantities of the staple at a future date are unable to carry out their contracts and are threatened with bankruptcy. We suspect that there is a good deal of exaggeration in these reports coming frequently from the bean-fields of Manchuria, but we produce them for what they are worth.

THE ASSASSIN.

Mr. Kurachi, Head of the Political Bureau in the Foreign Office, returned to Tokyo on the 11th inst. from Port Arthur, whither he had gone in connexion with the trial of the assassin. He has of course been interviewed, but is naturally very reserved in his statements. He denies the rumours that the trial of the assassin has yet commenced. Had the event occurred within the Empire of Japan, the preliminary inquiries could have been speedily conducted; but things do not move so swiftly in Manchuria, especially in a case of such an intricate nature. Some time must still elapse, therefore, before the opening of the court of first instance, and in the meanwhile Mr. Kurachi is of course constrained to observe strict silence. The only admission he makes is that, although the number of accomplices seems to be limited to those already arrested, the circle of persons concerned is wide. As for the rumour that the editor of a Russian newspaper in Vladivostock had applied for, and obtained, permission to defend the prisoner at his trial, Mr. Kurachi denies that permission has either been given or withheld; but he does not deny, apparently, that it has been sought.

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THE LAND TAX.

The political parties seem to be falling into line with regard to the land tax. Even ithe Daido Club is understood to explain that ts former opposition to a reduction of the tax was not radical but temporary, the argument being that funds were not available at the time. Now, however, since the Government proposes to increase official salaries, it appears that funds are forthcoming, and therefore a reduction of the tax should no longer be postponed. On the other hand, the Government is understood to contend that the increase of emoluments in the case of civil officials would be quite trifling when the economies effected by administrative reforms are deducted, and when the comparatively large sums absorbed by the military and naval officers and non-commissioned officers are subtracted from the total. The Government is willing to pledge itself in the sense of making a reduction of the tax from 1911, but it can not undertake to introduce a bill in that sense in the pending session, seeing that it might not be in its power to give effect to the measure. These arguments, however, are said to have no effect on the *Seiyu-kai*. They decline to make any distinction between civil officials and the officers of the Army and Navy, and they claim that if economies can be effected by means of administrative reforms, such reforms should be carried out immediately, without regard to any question of increased salaries. Altogether appearances go to indicate that there will be a collision between the Diet and the Cabinet on this point; but, on the other hand, it is not a crucial question, and we entertain very little doubt that a compromise of some kind will be effected. Meanwhile, as a unit of the bystanding public, we are forced to observe that the only increase of official salaries ever sanctioned by the Diet was an increase of its own salaries. These were originally fixed at 800 *yen* per annum, being nearly 300 *yen* a month for the time of the session. But the Diet subsequently raised the figure to 2,000 *yen*, an increase of 150 per cent. When there is talk, however, of adding 30 per cent. to the emoluments of notoriously under-paid officials, the Diet raises a great outcry.

On the 10th inst. the leaders of the Progressist Party held a meeting, and adopted a decision that a bill must be introduced in the next session of the Diet for reducing the tax on agricultural lands by 1 per cent. They do not propose, however, to touch the tax on urban building lands. As for the *Seiyu-kai*, their parliamentary members have not yet expressed any definite opinion, but the other section of the Party have voted that reduction of the land tax must take precedence of all other questions.

Tokyo journals now give the details of the reductions which are to be effected in the taxes from next fiscal year, according to the Government's programme. Nothing is stated except the amount of the reductions, the method of effecting them being left undescribed. The reductions are as follow:—

	Amount of reduction in Yen.	
Income tax	4,500,000	
Sugar tax	2,000,000	
Woollen fabrics	1,000,000	(from 15 per cent. to 10 per cent.)
Transit tax	1,000,000	
Sake tax	670,000	
Alcohol for manufacturing purposes.		Postponed for 3 months (?)
Business tax	1,500,000	(from 1911.)

Some of our Tokyo contemporaries publish elaborate details of the procedure adopted by the Cabinet towards the *Seiyu-kai* in connexion with the question of reducing the land tax. Without attaching much importance to these particulars, we are disposed to think that the situation is less troubled than many people seem to suppose, and that there will be no serious collision between the Government and the political parties on the question of land tax during the approaching session, at all events. The *Asahi* treats the matter at considerable length, and arrives at the conclusion that although a compromise can not be said to have been actually concluded, something very like an understanding has been reached between the Prime Minister and the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai*, in the sense that the proposed reduction will be postponed until 1911. This version says nothing about the projected increase of salaries, and of course the difficulty with the political parties is to sanction with one hand an increase of official emoluments, while agreeing with the other to leave untouched the present high rate of land tax. The *Asahi*, however, believes that the approaching session will be a replica of last session, namely, cooperation between the Cabinet and the *Seiyu-kai* as to major issues, and liberty of action as to minor questions like the Ari-san forestry affair. An important meeting was to have been held yesterday at the Maple Club by delegations from all parties for the purpose of considering the land-tax problem.

THE SOUTH MANCHURIA RAILWAY COMPANY.

The South Manchuria Railway Company held its sixth general meeting in Tokyo on the afternoon of the 11th inst. The following statement of accounts was read and adopted:

	Yen.
Net receipts for the term	1,685,866
Balance brought over from last term	1,803,399
Total	3,489,265
To legal reserve	84,293
Dividend to shareholders (6 per cent. per annum)	60,000
Special reserve	1,000,000
Bonus	150,000
Carried to next account	2'194,972

The President of the Company, Mr. Nakamura, explained that the doubling of the main track had been completed to the extent of 80 per cent., and that trains are now running over 106 miles of the newly laid road. (We imagine that this figure of 106 must be a mistake, as such a mileage does not by any means represent 80 per cent. of the whole.) As for the Mukden-Antung road, Mr. Nakamura, explained that work had been commenced on it last August and that, excellent progress having been made, the line is expected to be finished within three years. Speaking of the steamship service between Dairen and Shanghai, which is now carried on with one ship, namely, the *Kobe Maru*, the President said that in view of the increased traffic it had been decided to place another ship on this service, namely, the *Saikyo Maru*, which is to be chartered from the Nippon Yusen Kaisha for the purpose. Each ship will then make one trip per week. With regard to the Dairen Electric Tramway, a portion was opened for traffic on the 29th of September and it is expected that the whole will very soon be completed. The power station, which is capable of developing 1000 kilowatts, is working satisfactorily. He was glad to be able to report that the traffic receipts were steadily increasing. The returns showed that 8,000 *yen*(?) per diem had been earned over the entire line in excess of the takings during the previous half-year. The whole system measures 516 miles of trunk road, and 188 miles between Mukden and Antung. Stated in terms of passengers and goods, the total increased earnings with regard to the former had been 68,500, and with regard to the latter 1,268,000 *yen*.

One very important announcement made by the Tokyo press was that it has been decided to pay dividend on the Government share of the capital at the rate of 3 per cent. from next year. The Government share is 100 million *yen*, and the payment will therefore be 3 millions, which money is to be devoted, it is said, to purposes of railway construction in Korea.

We observe that there is some talk of increasing the capital of this Railway. The Company has but 23 millions in hand, and of that amount 22 millions has to be devoted to the construction of the Mukden-Antung line, so that only one million remains for working capital. In order to increase the shares, however, special legislation will be necessary, inasmuch as the law does not sanction such increase until the capital of the Company has been fully paid up.

HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER.

Mr. Jackson has much to say through the columns of the *Jiji Shimpo*. It appears that he has visited the proposed intake on the Kinugawa in company with a hydro-electric expert, and has returned to Tokyo profoundly moved by the sight that met his gaze. The enterprise is one that possesses almost heavenly endowments. When he set out for the site he was fully prepared to discount the report prepared by the Japanese committee, inasmuch as he had thorough cognisance of the fact that projectors habitually puff their own wares. But close inspection showed, to his great admiration, that the report had erred on the side of conservatism, and that the actual conditions are much better than they were represented to be. Mr. Jackson claims to have seen many of the great hydro-electric enterprises of the world, and he does not hesitate to say that the Kinugawa will rank high among the best of them. It will be easy to develop 80,000 h.p., and he confidently affirms that the income derived from the works will be fully the double of the estimate. This is the appreciation which he will take with him to tempt English capitalists when he sets out on the 20th inst. to collect the 20 millions needed.

On the other hand, in the columns of the same *Jiji Shimpo*, the projectors of the Oigawa Hydro-Electric scheme publish a long manifesto, backed by the opinions of American and English engineers who stand in the very front rank of such experts. We deem it unnecessary to reproduce this manifesto, as it contains many technical details, and as its gist alone has interest for the general public. That gist is that so far from abandoning the scheme, the projectors are determined to carry it on, inasmuch as their examination of cognate schemes for supplying Tokyo with hydro-electric power has shown them that few can compare with the Oigawa.

It is decidedly an interesting contest, and the public will sympathize with success on which ever side it lies. We apprehend that the Oigawa men will not be in any hurry. It is only right that they should wait for the issue of the Kinugawa's "heaven-endowed" facilities.

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THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

It is stated by all the Tokyo journals,—which, as usual, may be interpreted to mean the statement of a news agency—that the so-called bandits who have been lately raiding the zones of the Mukden-Antung Railway, do not belong to the Hunghutsz, but are in reality robbers called into temporary existence by the opportunities which the occasion offers. The story is somewhat obscure, but we gather that these raiders are, in truth, stone-cutters and navvies who have their habitations at inns in secluded places among the mountains. The keepers of these hostelries, who are described as gamblers and men of essentially bad character, enter into collusion with their customers and keep them posted as to the state of affairs existing in the railway sections undertaken by the various contractors. Thus when a convenient occasion arises, the stone-cutters and navvies form themselves into bands, invade the contractors' offices and make away with money and building materials, which latter are subsequently utilized for constructing houses in places expected to prosper after the railway is opened. This idea of stealing building materials suggests operations on a scale of almost incredible magnitude, and suggests also that the railway guards must be either very deficient in numbers or decidedly slow in the discharge of their duties. At all events that is the complexion now assigned to these incidents, and it is added that the true nature of the trouble having been understood, the police have effected arrests which will put a stop to any future raiding.

Seventeen Japanese contractors who are connected with the building of the Mukden-Antung Railway are said to have memorialized the Governor of the Leased Territory in the sense that a larger force of railway guards is essential for the preservation of life and property. Such a representation seems reasonable enough in view of recent events, but the document is said to contain a very disquieting paragraph, namely, that some 200 of the Chinese navvies and policemen employed in connexion with the line are really acting as spies for the brigands. Meanwhile we hear nothing more about the rumours circulated on the 14th inst. to the effect that the perpetrators of the robberies are not genuine bandits, but are Chinese navvies and innkeepers who have entered into a league to rob the Japanese contractors. It is not improbable that this story is a distorted version of the statement contained in the above memorial.

The Chinese local authorities are represented as adopting a somewhat peculiar attitude towards the question of disturbances in the zone of the Mukden-Antung Railway. They deny that the perpetrators of the outrages can in any sense be confounded with the bandits. They are really Chinese navvies in the employment of the contractors, and the reason of their rioting is that their employers have failed to pay their wages. Thus the Chinese are endeavouring to transfer to Japanese shoulders the responsibility for recent occurrences. Meanwhile the people connected with the Railway are said to have come to the conclusion that police protection is not sufficient in the circumstances, and they have approached the Governor-General's office with an application for military guards. This application is alleged to have been successful.

It will be observed that nothing more is heard of negotiations between China and Japan with reference to the problem of guarding the line, nor does it appear that any serious importance is attached to the steps said to have been taken by the Chinese as a practical assertion of their own right to do the guarding.

THE RATE OF INTEREST.

It appears that the Banks are still hesitating about a further reduction of the rate of interest. Rumour said that they had decided to unite in lowering the figure from the 11th inst., but that statement seems to have been premature. The Mitsui alone has taken the bull by the horns. The President, Mr. Hayakawa, is quoted by the *Chuo Shimbun* as furnishing statistics which clearly establish the necessity for a reduction. He explains that, in February last, the banks were paying 6 per cent. on fixed deposits, which rate they then reduced to 5 per cent., cutting down at the same time their daily rate of 0.9 on current accounts to 0.7, and their daily rate on petty deposits from 1.2 to 1. As for the Department of Finance, the figures relating to it are very striking. In April, 1902, exchequer bills carried interest at the rate of 1.4 daily. In April, 1906, the corresponding rate was 1.5; in May of the current year it fell to 1.3, and it is now 1. The Bank of Japan, however, has not yet reached the daily rate of 1.3, which was its discount figure in 1893. Turning to the private banks, Mr. Hayakawa explained that at the close of last month the banks' vaults held 34 million *yen* more than at the corresponding period of 1905, whereas their loans had increased by only 7,700,000 *yen*. Thus they have about 27 million *yen* lying idle in excess of the figure in November 1908. Meanwhile the discount rate for commercial bills is 1 *sen* daily and the rate for call money 0.6. It is obvious that the banks can not possibly afford to continue paying 5 per cent. on fixed deposits, while they are granting accommodation to the public at much lower rates.

On the other hand Mr. Mimura Kumpei, Vice-President of the Mitsu Bishi Bank, is quoted by the *Hochi Shimbun* as deprecating the idea of a reduction in the rate of interest. He seems to attach greater importance to the fact that the banks actually lose by depositors who draw more than 6 cheques a month and whose average balance does not exceed 500 *yen*. As a matter of fact, the banks ought to charge fees from such persons instead of paying interest on their daily balance. Nevertheless the banks do not grudge the continuance of this practice and it is therefore inconsistent on their part to strain now at a question of 5 *rin* of daily interest more or less. A matter of 5 *rin* per day on 10 million *yen* aggregates only 25,000 *yen* per term, and that is not an amount which should give great concern to a bank, or should impel it to hastily alter its attitude towards its customers.

We may mention in this context that Mr. Hijikata, of the Bank of Japan, expresses very optimistic views about the future of the money market and thinks that considerable activity will soon be witnessed in the realm of foreign trade. He believes also that victory will ultimately rest with the farmers who are storing their rice, in preference to parting with it at present figures. Rice is a necessity to the Japanese people, and they will be willing to pay more for it rather than do without it

DOMESTIC POLITICS.

Mr. Matsuda Masahisa, one of the best known leaders of the *Seiyu-kai*, is quoted by the *Mainichi Dempo* as making some interesting remarks about the political situation in Japan. He refers, in the first place, to the agitation fomented by the barristers against the manner of giving effect to the new criminal code. That agitation has his distinct approval, but he seems to be inclined to go further than the barristers, for he calls upon the people to impeach the Government on this account. This is difficult to credit, for certainly if the Administration made any attempt to interfere with the Judiciary, the *Seiyu-kai* would be the first to cry out. Apparently Mr. Matsuda is disposed to carry the responsibility back to the framers of the code, but he will pardon us if we remind him that the code in its present form was fully debated by the Diet, and passed *nem. con.* He is, however, on more solid ground when he insists that the imposition of over-severe penalties has the effect of increasing crime, since if larceny, for example, exposes a man to as heavy a penalty as burglary with violence, the probability is that he will choose the graver offence in consideration of the greater reward of success. As to the increase of official salaries, Mr. Matsuda's opinion is that although such a step may be essential in the case of lower-grade officials, the salaries of the upper-class officials may very well be left where they are for the present. Turning to the land tax, he insists that a reduction is essential, but he admits the difficulty of finding funds. Apparently his idea is that by leaving the high-class salaries untouched, resources can be found for reducing the land tax, by however small a quantity.

Mr. Matsuda may be said to be the actual leader of the *Seiyu-kai*, for he takes a much more active part in that function than does Marquis Saionji. Great importance therefore attaches to these utterances of his.

There has been for some time talk of Mr. Ozaki Yukio's retirement from the Yushin-kai and return to the ranks of the *Seiyu-kai*. We read that this has now been consummated, and we read further that Mr. Ozaki's example will be followed by 11 other members of the *Yushin-kai*. Such a secession from the *Yushin-kai* will reduce the latter to the dimensions of a mere coterie. But, in truth, the *Yushin-kai* was never anything more than a small cave of Adullam. It included some distinguished figures like those of Messrs. Shimada Saburo, Ozaki Yukio and Kono Hironaka, but it has never been reckoned by the public as a political party of any real importance. It is in fact a group of dissenters, for we can scarcely conceive any constructive policy which could command the effective support of this body of malcontents.

FOREIGN TRADE.

The customs returns for the first ten days of the current month are as follow:—

	Yen.
Exports	13,899,000
Imports	10,601,000
Excess of exports	3,289,000

The figures for the whole period from January 1st to December 10th are as follow:—

		Compared with 1908.
Exports	383,519,000	+30,602,000
Imports	372,080,000	−41,039,000
Excess of exports.	11,439,000	

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THE CITY IMPROVEMENTS SCANDAL.

There have been five more arrests in connexion with the charges of corruption preferred against officials and contractors engaged in the scheme of Tokyo City improvement. The persons apprehended are two contractors and three assistant engineers, and the charge is that they entered in their accounts a quantity of cement which was not used on the works. There has been a suspicion for a long time that malpractices of this kind were in vogue, and the City is to be congratulated on having at length been able to obtain tangible evidence. We sincerely trust that this may be the last of the frauds which have come to light during the past 12 months in Japan. History will certainly say that the year 1909 was a black spot in this country's calendar.

It is hard to tell how much exaggeration must be read into the comments of Tokyo newspapers with regard to the corruption which is now being exposed among the members of the City Improvements Committee and the contractors. Some of our contemporaries write as though a veritable Augean stable has been thrown open; but since the sensational element invariably prevails in all these stories, we are inclined to discount them largely. At all events there are no new arrests to report, and the only absolutely credible fact now asserted is that the confessions made by those already under apprehension are likely to lead to fresh arrests—to which our contemporaries add a rider evolved from their own imagination, namely, that great trepidation exists in the bosoms of men who are waiting to have their crimes exposed. The Mayor and the Aldermen have commenced a rigid investigation, and it is thought not improbable that an attempt may be made in the spring session of the City Assembly to hold these officials responsible for what has occurred.

The public of Tokyo has been somewhat startled by the arrest of Mr. Kawasaki Saburo in connexion with the question of municipal corruption. Mr. Kawasaki is a well known writer, and now edits a magazine. He has at his command an exceptionally attractive style, and many readers have always turned with pleasure to anything from the pen of "Kawasaki Shizan," his *nom de plume*. The charge against him, so far as we can discern, is that he undertook to obtain for a Koishikawa stone-mason a lease of a plot of ground belonging to the municipality, and that he acted in collusion with an assistant engineer. The latter claimed to have procured the necessary authorization, and the stone-mason put up the sum of 800 *yen*, but subsequently learned that the Municipality had no knowledge whatever of the transaction.

News from Osaka indicates that the Osaka Municipality is also in trouble. The cause is said to be misappropriation of money and food contributed by the public for the relief of the sufferers by the Osaka fire. Naturally, great indignation is felt in consideration of such indifference to charitable intention. Rumour alleges that the perpetrators of the frauds have made strenuous efforts to cover up their tracks, but, owing to the close scrutiny of political rivals, they failed to obtain secrecy.

Tokyo and Osaka are vying with each other as to which shall furnish the greater scandal in connexion with municipal corruption. Thus far victory rests with Tokyo in the number of arrests made, namely, 20, as against Osaka's 4. But in the quality of the crimes committed, Osaka easily takes the lead, for whereas the charges in Tokyo are limited to mere dishonesty in carrying out contracts, in Osaka they include theft, forgery, attempted murder, and other heinous counts. What renders the Osaka case particularly detestable is that the frauds were perpetrated at the expense of the sufferers from the conflagration. Instead of extending to them the relief which their charitable fellow-citizens provided, the provisions and clothing furnished for that purpose were sold to supply the miscreant pilferers with funds for purposes of riotous living.

The commotion continues in Osaka with reference to municipal corruption. On the 15th inst. the Mayor, Mr. Yamashita, and the leading officials of his office resigned *en bloc*. Happily it now turns out that the man who was supposed to have been murdered for the purpose of covering up the tracks of the defaulters, committed suicide. To that extent the atmosphere is relieved, and as no further arrests have been made, it is possible that the limits of the trouble have been reached.

PORT ARTHUR.

Saturday, December 11.

The question of opening Port Arthur to trade appears to have finally entered the domain of practical politics. The latest rumour is that the opening will take place before the close of the present year. The Port Admiral's office will not be abolished, and thus the harbour will be on the same footing as Vladivostock. Great as were the sums spent by Russia upon Dairen, a very much larger outlay would have been needed to make the port really perfect; and, whatever might be done, the great disadvantage of being open to the north wind could scarcely have been obviated. The result of this geographical formation is that the port is closed by ice for a considerable time in the winter, whereas Port Arthur does not labour under any such objection. Port Arthur, on the other hand, has the disadvantage of such a narrow entrance that two large vessels can hardly pass each other when outward and inward bound. This difficulty might be overcome, however, by cutting a canal across the isthmus which divides the port from Pigeon Bay—a project frequently mooted during Russia's occupation. At all events, the present idea seems to be that Port Arthur shall be auxiliary to Dairen. Of late, free ingress and egress have been given to junks at the former place, but from the beginning of next year ships of all nationalities will, it is said, be allowed to use the port.

Sunday, December 12.

The statement is confirmed that the naval authorities are not reconciled to the idea of throwing open Port Arthur completely to trade. They think it necessary to preserve the harbour, in part at any rate, as a naval station. So at least we gather from some remarks attributed by the *Jiji Shimpo* to an anonymous Admiral. It was never understood, however, that the fortress would be entirely dismantled, and therefore this expression of opinion is nothing new. Our contemporary's informant goes on to explain that the idea is to devote the western harbour to tradal purposes, and the eastern to naval uses. It appears that Dairen is quite inadequate for the needs of commerce. Already it can not afford nearly sufficient facilities for the movement of goods, and as the traffic is rapidly increasing, this insufficiency must make itself more and more felt.

SOME AMERICAN JOURNALS.

The great majority of the journals of the United States wrote of Prince Ito's death in a genuinely sympathetic strain and found no excuse whatever for the assassin. But that is not true of all. Notably it is not true of the *New York Sun* and the Chicago *Evening Post*. The former journal, after alleging that "Japan has played false with Korea, robbed it of its independence, filled it with Japanese soldiers, settlers and exploiters, and turned it into a Japanese province," goes on to say that when Japan thus overthrew the little kingdom,

> "the national humiliation and grief were attested by the suicide of several prominent men. In Seoul the shopkeepers put up their shutters as a sign of mourning, and in the streets the people fought desperately with Japanese gendarmes. When Min Yong Whan died a bamboo sprang up, and to the spot came thousands of patriots, interpreting it as an auspicious portent. Ito became a marked man. He could appear nowhere but execrations greeted him. The populace stoned him.
>
> "This was a violent reversal of sentiment, for the Koreans had formerly admired the Japanese as a great people who would not allow their independence to be tampered with. From emperor to peasant hatred of Japan became universal and controlling. The wonder is that Prince Ito, pursued by the vindictiveness of an entire people, escaped death for almost five years."

And the Chicago *Evening Post* has this to say:—

> "He who would denationalize a people must put aside the fear of assassination.
>
> "Some one had to fall as a sacrifice for Japan's tyranny toward Korea. Civilization will grieve that it had to be Ito, for Ito was the ablest statesman of them all; but civilization will hope that in Ito's death will come a warning that will stay the hand of the oppressor.
>
> "In the unprejudiced mind there can be no question as to the cruelties which Japan has visited upon the Hermit Kingdom. With that wonderful Oriental secrecy, which we learned to expect in the war with Russia, the truth about Korea has been systematically suppressed. Yet our own travellers have reported from the country around Seoul, Chemulpo, and Fusan scenes of human suffering comparable with those in Cuba under Weyler's rule. And that ubiquitous agent of British justice, known as the travelling Englishman, has written home to the London reviews long and detailed stories of outrage that can not be rejected or ignored. . . .
>
> "Ito has paid the penalty. We hope that in so doing he has made Japan understand that she is wrong-headedly trying to do what great Powers like Russia, Germany, and Austria have been unable to do with little Poland despite a hundred years' fight. But we fear that no moderation of the Japanese policy can be looked for. The trouble with assassination, as a weapon for freedom, is that it almost inevitably brings reprisals more cruel than the evils which it aims to avenge."

Of course these writers believe they are speaking the truth. They do not pause to reflect that Korea is open to all the world, and that the "wonderful Oriental Secrecy" can not be practised there any more than it is in Chicago or New York. Neither do they pause to think that there are scores of Christian Missionaries living here and there throughout the Peninsula who would have long ago appealed vehemently to the bar of the civilized nations if even a tithe of the things which these sensationalists assert were actually happening. As for Korean independence, one gets a little tired of hearing about it. When was Korea independent? We can not recall the time. And by and by it will be necessary to ask when did newspapers prefer to limit themselves to what they knew, rather than to create excitement by pretending to know. We shall soon be saying that such a time is not within the memory of living man.

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THE SZCHUAN RAILWAY.

The *Asahi Shimbun* has a telegram which we do not very well understand. It emanates from Ichang, and it says that on the 10th inst. the ceremony of turning the first sod of the railway from that place to Chingtu, capital of Szchuan, was performed with great *éclat*. The obscure feature of this message is the inference it suggests that this important section of the Yangtsz valley railways is to be built without recourse to foreign capital. It is true that there has been of late much talk about raising money from Chinese capitalists, but we have not heard that the effort had been successful.

Naturally a great deal of interest centres upon the rumour that on the 10th inst. the ceremony of turning the first sod on the Ichang-Szchuan Railway was performed at the former place. This Railway was planned between the local authorities of Szchuan and Hupeh four years ago, but the general expectation was that the Chuan-Han line would take precedence of it. The idea of the projectors was to dispense altogether with foreign capital. When the time came, however, for giving effect to this somewhat romantic notion, it was found that Hupeh was not in the position to put up the necessary funds. Szchuan, on the other hand, had ample resources, and it is said to have been finally decided that work shall be undertaken with money supplied by Szchuan alone, to the extent of 3½ million taels annually. The Railway is a very big undertaking. It measures 1,100 miles, and will have branches more than 100 miles long. Work is to commence at the most difficult part of the enterprise, namely, the crossing of the three sentinel hills, each 4,000 ft. high, which block the communications between the two provinces. It is not stated whether the Chinese contemplate employing their own engineers and navvies in the prosecution of the work, without any foreign assistance. If they do, and if they succeed in this notably difficult undertaking, they will have given a signal proof of competence.

JAPANESE EMIGRANTS TO SOUTH AMERICA.

Mr. Heki, Japanese Representative in Chili, reports most unfavourably on the character of the immigrants entering South America from Japan. He alleges that many of them are men without any fixed trade, with whom gambling is a business of the hour, while some of them act as hucksters, walking about with trays suspended from their necks, and selling a kind of cake. The Minister believes that unless very much greater care is exercised in selecting emigrants on the Japanese side, an anti-Japanese movement will be witnessed in South America, just as has been the case on the Pacific slope.

It is a curious question, this problem of emigration. One may postulate at the outset that in a majority of cases the desirable citizen does not emigrate. Every man prefers his own country as a scene of operations and a field for ambition. If he goes abroad and lives abroad, it is generally because he can not get on at home. That being admitted, as it must be admitted, the plain sequel is that to limit emigrants to good citizens would be to reduce the whole movement to an insignificant fraction of its present dimensions. The marvel of the age is the power of assimilation and amelioration shown by the United States in this matter. The dregs of all the populations of Europe find their way in tens of thousands every year to the shores of North America, and there, by some inexplicable process, are raised from the degraded position they occupied in their fatherlands. It is in this respect that contract labour acts a useful part in emigration, for it more or less limits the character of the emigrant, and furnishes a guarantee of his industry, at all events. The Japanese Representative in Chili appears to be thinking that some process of sifting is possible at this end, so as to save South America from having shot upon it the rubbish which has been dumped so freely in the north. We do not quite see how the proposal is to work in practice.

THE BARRISTERS AND THE CRIMINAL CODE.

The long-projected general meeting of barristers took place on the 11th inst. at the Seiyoken in Tokyo, and was attended by 250 experts, including representatives from Ryukyu and Formosa. There does not appear to have been any difference of opinion whatever with regard to the claim that the working of the new Penal Code constitutes a flagrant violation of private rights. In fact, the barristers go so far as to say that to entrust the enforcement of such a code to the present judiciary is like putting a sword into the hands of a lunatic. It is to be observed that the barristers who attended the meeting were by no means men of the second or third class. They included the most eminent figures of the Bar of Japan.

The meeting of barristers to discuss the abuses of the new criminal code was held at the Kinkikan on the 12th inst. It attracted an audience of over a thousand, and many had to be turned away for want of accommodation. Several luminous speeches are said to have been delivered, but their gist only is reported, namely, that the discretionary powers entrusted to the Judiciary under the present system are flagrantly misapplied, and that either the Judiciary must be reorganized, or the laws amended.

This question has now been taken up by the *Seiyu kai*, and it is said that the great party have drafted and will present in the next session of the Diet bills providing for the introduction of the jury system in Japan. Some details of these bills are given by the Tokyo press, but it will suffice to say that they provide for bringing the criminal and civil procedure of the country into much closer relationship with Anglo Saxon methods than the present procedure does. Of course, reconstitution of the courts of justice would be one of the necessary steps in making such a change, but that is only one of the striing alterations which would be called for.

THE COOK CONTROVERSY.

This celebrated dispute has entered a most extraordinary phase, illustrative of nothing so conspicuously as the power of money. According to Reuter's telegrams, which are supplemented by fuller messages to Tokyo newspapers, a certain retired navigator, by name Loose, and an insurance agent, Dunkle, openly confess in the columns of the *New York Times* that they supplied Cook with fabricated nautical and astronomical observations such as would be taken by an explorer on a polar journey. They make this revelation confessedly on the ground that Cook has disappeared without putting up the sum of 4,000 dollars which he had pledged himself to pay for the spurious observations. The public is bound to believe therefore that, had Cook been rich enough to pay this money, Messrs. Loose and Dunkle would have kept silence, and thus aided and abetted a villanous fraud. Can any credit properly be attached to the statements of men who deliberately write themselves down as rascals? Apart from this, there is the obvious consideration that Cook must be not only an unparalleled schemer, but also one of the clumsiest schemers ever created. He could not have failed to know that this latest device ascribed to him would assuredly be exposed, and thus from an intrepid discoverer he would sink at once to the rank of a fraudulent charlatan. Whatever may be the truth about Cook, he has at least some courage; but, as for these men Loose and Dunkle, who first deliberately become parties to a fraud and then in the most shameless manner proclaim themselves forgers because hush-money is not forthcoming, we regard them as much more contemptible sinners than Cook can be at the worst.

THE CRICKET GROUND.

It appears to have been definitely decided that Governor Sufu's plan of substituting a new cricket ground for the one now in use shall be carried out. The reason of this somewhat sudden decision is said to be the discovery that, in February last, before issuing final notice to the foreign lessees, the Governor held several consultations with the Aldermen's Council and obtained their approval of the programme. The City Assembly is naturally averse to assuming an attitude of opposition to a course already approved by the Council, and therefore it seems certain that the proposed alteration will be made. It is worth while to call attention to the date assigned for the agreement of the Aldermen's Council, namely, February last, inasmuch as this disposes finally of the hypothesis that the offer of a new ground was a concession to the foreign protest.

On the 13th inst. the specially appointed committee of the Yokohama City Assembly held a meeting at the Social Club to solve the question of the Cricket Ground. The meeting lasted 2½ hours, but no decision was arrived at. The Council adjourned for a week.

THE CHILIAN NITRATE TRADE.

Mr. John Struthers, Secretary of the Delegation of the Chilian Nitrate of Soda Propaganda, asks us to publish the following disclaimer of reports which have appeared with regard to the Toyo Kisen Kaisha and the Nitrate trade:—

Tokyo, December 10th 1909.

S. Asano Esq.,
Toyo Kisen Kaisha.
Tokyo.

Dear Sir,—After an absence of five weeks in Manila and South China I returned to Japan last night. My attention has been drawn to statements about the trade in Nitrate of Soda from Chili which have appeared in the *Hochi Shimbun* and been reproduced in the *Japan Advertiser* and *Japan Mail*. Please understand clearly that the statements referred to have no foundation whatever in facts, so far as we are concerned. Similar statements in the Osaka *Asahi Shimbun* appearing in my absence from Japan last month are equally erroneous as regards our position and actions. I am sending a copy of this letter to the four papers named.

Yours faithfully,
John Struthers,
Representative in the Far East of the Asociacion Salitrera de Propaganda, Iquique; and The Permanent Nitrate Committee, London.

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THE NEW TARIFF.

We read in Tokyo newspapers that the Tariff Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* have arrived at a decision as to the line to be taken in negotiating the tariff section of the new treaties. The account given about the terms of that decision is not very precise, but we gather that the idea is to abolish the conventional tariff altogether, and to adopt specific duties wholly as fixed without reference to treaty. With regard to the question of increasing duties, the Committee are said to have laid down three principles; namely, first, that there must be no increase of such a nature as to interfere with tradal development; secondly, that no change should be made of a nature calculated to disturb the course of commerce, and thirdly, that no step must be taken such as would be likely to provoke reprisals from foreign Powers. It is further alleged that the Committee recommend an unconditional most-favoured-nation clause. It goes without saying that luxuries should be heavily taxed, but in fixing the rates to be levied the rule must be observed of discriminating between articles that can be easily brought within the purview of the Customs and articles that can be smuggled. On the other hand, care should be taken to tax necessaries lightly, and all foreign products and manufactures which come into competition with domestic articles should be included in the schedule of high duties. Partially manufactured articles and raw materials should be taxed as lightly as possible, or even allowed to enter duty free. Articles which, though produced in Japan, have no prospect of development, need not of course be protected against foreign competition, but, generally speaking, those which are produced in this country, or which promise to be successfully produced, should be assisted by the Customs tariff.

So far as we can interpret the above decision, it points frankly to a policy of protection, which means, of course, higher prices and increased wages.

CRIME IN TOKYO.

There is beginning to be an obvious feeling of dissatisfaction among the citizens of Tokyo, owing to the frequency of crime, and the *Keizai Zasshi* publishes statistics which show that the fault probably lies with inadequacy of police arrangements. The Metropolitan police force, all told, totals 3395 men, and inasmuch as the number of houses is 331,773, the inhabitants totalling 1,468,063—to say nothing of temporary residents who aggregate 50,048, and foreigners who total 4,217—it appears that one policeman has to attend to 97 houses with 432 inmates. The case becomes even more striking when we compare the number of detective police with the task they have to perform. There are only 112 of these police, which works out at one detective to every 2,962 houses with 13,108 inhabitants. As for the number of crimes, taking last year's statistics, it appears that there were four forgeries of bank notes, 47 murders, 69 burglaries with violence, thefts 26,312, frauds 11, incendiarisms 61 and various others 3,451, making a grand total of 32,313. It follows, therefore, that each detective had to inquire into 289 cases in the year, which, allowing for involuntary absence from duty, represents something like one case per diem. It is quite obvious from the above figures, which for the rest are decidedly conservative, that the police of Tokyo are much overworked.

THE NIPPON SEIFU COMPANY.

The recently circulated rumours about the difficulties of the Kyoto Cloth Manufacturing Company do not appear to have been exaggerated. The Company is said to have debts amounting to 3 million *yen*, and bills aggregating a million, which it has no funds to meet, will mature in a short time. The Mitsui Bank is said to have discounted 470,000 *yen* worth of these bills.

The affairs of the Cloth Manufacturing Company of Kyoto are attracting a great deal of attention. It appears that the Company's bills for 2 million *yen*, discounted by the One Hundred and Thirtieth Bank and payable at the Mitsui Bank, have been dishonoured by the latter, and the Company is thus virtually bankrupt. Other bills are expected to pour in. The press publishes figures with reference to the state of the Company's finances. We learn that the paid-up capital is 3,300,000 *yen*; the debentures 1,700,000, and the reserves 1,508,000. Thus its property represents a total of 6,580,000 *yen*, but against this it has expended no less than 6,574,000 *yen* in buildings and plant. The manufactured goods and the materials that it has in its possession represent 2,700,000 *yen*, but against this latter figure have to be set secured debts of one million *yen*, and unsecured of 1,600,000. Then comes a curious item, namely, 2 million *yen* borrowed from the Directors, and this latter item, as our readers may perhaps remember, has given rise to many rumours. There remains a sum of 1,700,000 *yen* of unpaid capital, and if this were put up, the Company could be kept on its feet, its only really embarrassing liability being its unsecured debts of 1,600,000 *yen*. But the shareholders are most unlikely to put up their money, and to appeal to the law against them would be a troublesome process. It appears that the seven banks chiefly concerned have not given indiscriminate accommodation by any means, and therefore their losses will be trifling. People speak of the affair as a replica of the Sugar Company's fiasco, but it does not appear to us that the two incidents belong to the same category.

THE TOKYO RAILWAY.

The accounts which the Directors of the Tokyo Railway will submit at the next meeting of the shareholders show that the gross traffic receipts for the half-year ended Nov. 30th were 2,992,188; the receipts from electric lighting, 76,812 and the miscellaneous receipts 424,135. The net profits were 1,649,385, from which it will be seen that the operating expenses were considerably less than 50 per cent. of the gross earnings. The Directors propose to place to the ordinary reserves 82,469 *yen*; to the extraordinary reserves 92,531 *yen*; to the maintenance fund 200,000; to rewards to officers 35,000 *yen* and to dividend at the rate of 6.6 per cent. per annum 1,435,500 *yen*, carrying to the next account 23,867 *yen*.

A long statement is published by the Tokyo newspapers with reference to adjustments and extensions of the Tokyo Railway system, but it is unnecessary to produce the various place-names. All that need be said is that various lines contemplated when the three companies were working separately have been judged to be superfluous, and others have been found necessary in order to link up the various parts of the system. Meanwhile the work of construction is going on steadily.

THE ARI-SAN QUESTION.

We read in the *Asahi Shimbun* that the Government is determined to re-introduce this question in the next session of the Diet. The programme, however, is somewhat changed. The original scheme was to have been spread over a period of five years at a total outlay of 5,960,000 *yen*, whereof 1,800,000 was to be paid at once to the Fujita Company. The money was to have been obtained by floating a loan of 4,280,000 *yen* and by appropriating 1,680,000 from the Formosan revenue. This is now altered in the sense that the payment to the Fujita Company will be spread over a period of 3 years, without interest, and that the whole of the money will be obtained from the Formosan revenue, none being raised by means of a loan. The market value of the timber is also calculated at a lower rate, as the sales are expected to be limited to Formosa, whereas the original programme included South China.

With regard to this Ari-san problem, the *Mainichi Dempo* thinks that the attitude of the House towards it will depend entirely upon the amount of compensation which the Government proposes to pay to the Fujita Company. Our contemporary alleges that, according to the views now taken by the committees of the political parties, the State is under no legal obligation to pay anything at all to the Fujita Company. On the other hand, if the Government is to succeed to the property created by the enterprise of that Company and at its cost, there is evidently a moral obligation to make due compensation. The question will therefore turn upon the amount to be paid, and the problem of entrusting the enterprise to the hands of the State or continuing it as a private concern, will be relegated to a secondary place.

DESTRUCTION OF THE CELEBRATED BOOK STORE OF TOKYO.

The burning of the Maruzen Book Store on the afternoon of the 10th inst. was little short of a national calamity. For tens of years this Store has been recognised as the first in the whole East, and its enterprise was so inexhaustible that even the rarest and most expensive books were freely laid in, so that it had become an emporium of which Japan might well be proud. Since the widening of the Ginza commenced about two years ago, the Maruzen Company has been engaged in constructing a huge building with a steel frame and brick facing, and had a few months more elapsed, the books would all have been transferred to this virtually fireproof edifice. Most unfortunately, however, the calamity occurred while the books were still stored in a temporary building, and thus the whole were reduced to ashes. Many rare tomes are among the number destroyed, and several hundreds of volumes of the Century Dictionary are included in the victims. The proprietors seem to be specially chagrined at the loss of their catalogues, which represented 14 years of diligent compilation. We are disposed to think, however, that this feature of the calamity is exaggerated, for there must be thousands of copies of the catalogues in the hands of private individuals who will gladly surrender them for the use of the Store. It is stated that the insurance amounts to 160,000 *yen*, and that the policies are with the Meiji, the Yokohama and the *Nippon*. Whether this covers the whole loss we are not informed.

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THE "CHINA TRIBUNE" ON MANCHURIA.

The *China Tribune* is, in our opinion, one of the most interesting publications in China, for it bears evidence of being written from cover to cover by Chinese and is therefore a frank exposition of purely Chinese views. It propounds a novel opinion with regard to the once burning questions of the Fakumen Railway and the Lienshan Harbour:—

We are glad for China's sake that the Fakumen Railway did not materialize. It is all very well to speak about tapping the rich region lying in the north by a railway stretching from Hsinmintun. It is also very well to take away a portion of traffic from the South Manchurian Railway through a line that runs parallel to the latter in close proximity, because the South Manchurian Railway is at present not under China's control. But suppose the Fakumen line had come into existence, and would be successfully fulfilling the expectation as a competing line to the South Manchurian Line. If a railroad be laid down spending a fortune, it is a thing permanently established. It can not be removed like a piece of furniture or an ornament, when it is not needed or its service is not required any longer. Suppose, then, the railway between Fakumen and Hsinmintun would have been constructed, and the South Manchurian Railway would be returned to China, as it surely will be in time to come, what fruits will she reap? Will it be possible that China can possess two railway lines competing with each other?

Again, we are glad to hear that the Chinese Authorities have come to drop the scheme of constructing a harbour at Lienshan Wan. This port, if you remember, was to be made into a large harbour, spending millions of taels, in order to take away trade from Tairen. Engineers were despatched and surveys were made. In fact, at one time, it seemed as if the work was going to be started without a delay, but at the eleventh hour a wise counsel seemed to have prevalled and the plan was dropped.

Now, suppose this port was constructed and proved to be a successful rival to Tairen, what result will come out of it, when the latter is returned to China? A construction of this nature is not a thing of pleasure or temporary whim. It needs a pile of money to begin with, and when once it is constructed it must remain forever, and be maintained at great expense, pay or no pay.

Two birds are seldom killed with one stone. If China thinks that Manchuria is not hers any longer; that it is to remain permanently under foreign control, her proposition in the past to take away its trade was perfectly reasonable, and her future schemes in that direction will be quite justifiable. But as long as Manchuria is a part of her Empire, and it is to be returned to her some day, the policy of this nature must be said to be very near sighted, and suicidal, being equivalent of cutting her own throat. It is not only well for her to refrain herself from indulging in such schemes, which will prove in the end a white elephant to her, but it is by far more important for her to turn a deaf ear to the tempting persuasion of those, who try to sacrifice her interests for the purpose to better their own.

All that sounds like good common sense. But is it exhaustive? We think not. The Peking journal's views strike us as oversimple. After all, Chinese statesmen are as clear-sighted as any statesmen in the world. They believe—and who will say that they have no cause for believing?—that, let the situation in Manchuria mature as it may, Japan and Russia will have to be bought out eventually. From that conviction to devising means of cheapening the property in question, the interval is short.

A GERMAN OPINION.

According to Professor Delbrueck, it is absurd to suppose that in building a great fleet Germany has any idea of crushing England by sea and invading Great Britain. The Professor does not deny that the fleet has England for objective, but that objective, when analyzed, means "to check England's absorption of the East from Calcutta, if not from Peking, to Alexandria." He exposes this theory thus:—

The German fleet is not large enough and never will be large enough to be a direct menace to England, but it is nevertheless strong enough to enforce the recognition of English politicians and to have influence with them; in short, to make them reckon with Germany as of importance in the political world. That is the reason, and no other, why Germany persists in building warships. We can of course recollect the time, some thirty years ago, when Germany built no ships of war excepting a few cruisers. The power of England was then paramount on every ocean. France as well as Russia, the United States, and Japan, were compelled to bow to her will. At the present time England finds it necessary to treat all these States with the utmost consideration, and to avoid every occasion of coming into collision with them. Unless there were a German fleet at hand the whole earth within thirty years would become English. It is only twelve years ago, that England turned back the French at Fashoda. How differently she acted five years ago when she concluded a treaty with France which secured to the latter both Morocco, where English interests are extremely important, and the long disputed territory in Senegambia and Siam. Lord Palmerston once observed that Morocco was a more valuable possession than Egypt, yet England to-day has surrendered it. She has also made concessions to Russia in Persia. Of the Turkish legacy England already has the rich territories of Egypt and Cyprus, and also has access to the sea in Arabia. No one in Germany doubts that England, as the dismemberment of Turkey proceeds, will occupy the whole of Arabia, as well as Syria and Mesopotamia, and will possess an unbroken dominion from Calcutta to Alexandria. As she already has Mecca under her thumb, she is really sovereign over all Islam and could probably, if she chose, inaugurate a new califate, through which she might exercise a supreme influence over all the followers of Mohammed in every quarter of the globe. As she has extended her sway from Calcutta to Alexandria, east and west, so she may prolong it south from Alexandria to Capetown. The fourth part of the world's population is at this moment under the sceptre of King Edward and this number is day by day continuously on the increase. Who can refuse to believe that England might some day think proper to make China one of her 'spheres of influence'?

But inasmuch as Germany's fleet is in existence, all these speculations become mere idle fancies. However, the Turks, the Chinese, and the Japanese, must, like France and the United States, be treated with respect and reserve, and encouraged, under German auspices, to seek the enjoyment of independence.

It comes to this then, that Germany is supplying herself, at enormous cost, with one of the hugest and finest engines of war that the human mind can conceive, merely for the purpose of protecting the independence of Turkey, China and Japan against British aggression. England is Japan's ally. She is also the one Power in Europe which has interfered by force of arms to protect Turkey's independence. And, finally, she never acquired a Kiaochow in China. It is rather incomprehensible that she should now be arraigned as menacing the independence of those three Powers, and that her menace should be so pressing as to demand such colossal efforts on Germany's part. We are speaking to Dr. Delbrueck's text only. It is not in our thought for a moment that his views are shared by many of his countrymen.

THE HODEN OIL COMPANY.

For some time past, the shares of the Hoden Oil Company have been steadily depreciating, until to-day the scrip of the Company paying from 20 to 30 per cent. dividend stands in the neighbourhood of 60 for a 50 *yen* paid-up share. This remarkable debâcle has not attracted anything like the attention which was bestowed upon the affairs of the Sugar Company. Yet it is obvious that there must be something radically wrong with the Hoden enterprise. Even in the days of the panic in the share market, nearly three years ago, the scrip of the Company never descended below 100, and yet it is now quoted at 60. The curious feature of the affair is that nobody seems to know the exact cause of the trouble. It is understood that, in connexion with the adjustment of the Company's affairs, a dispute has been going on for some time between two of the Managing Directors, Mr. Matsubara and Mr. Watanabe, and the latter is on the point of resigning, if indeed he has not already resigned. He is reported to take a pessimistic view of the situation and to assert that adjustment is scarcely possible without measures which it would be exceedingly difficult to carry out. On the top of this comes news from Nagaoka that the case against the Directors on a charge of violating the law has been decided by the Local Court, and that fines have been inflicted of 800 *yen* in one case, 600 *yen* in ten other cases and 300 *yen* in two cases.

MORE BOYCOTTS.

The telegrams indicate that the citizens of California have decided to adopt a new measure of restriction in pursuance of their anti-Chinese policy. A Chinese settlement is to be established on an island off San Francisco, and all immigrants from the Middle Kingdom will be strictly segregated there. We presume that this restriction will be limited to men not actually in employment, but even on that hypothesis such a measure would constitute a great impediment to the coming of Chinese subjects. These are said to have petitioned the Central Government, urging in strong terms that the San Francisco project should be vetoed, but it does not appear to be in Washington's power to dictate anything to San Francisco about a matter of purely local arrangement, and a reply in that sense is said to have been forwarded to the petitioners, though, at the same time, the central authorities advised San Francisco to modify its policy. The Chinese merchants resident in the United States are said to have adopted as a last expedient the despatch of vehemently phrased letters to their fellow countrymen at home, entreating that a general boycott of American goods should be inaugurated until this harsh restriction is removed.

THE YAMANOTE RAILWAY.

The railway authorities have published the schedule of fares to be charged on the Yamanote line, which has just been converted into an electric tramway, and which is to be opened to traffic from the 16th inst. The lowest fare charged is 4 *sen*, and it increases thereafter by one *sen* for each station, until a maximum of 10 *sen* is reached. There are 14 sections, and the average fare works out at approximately 8 *sen*, or just the double of what the Tokyo Railway is allowed to charge. Yet it is stated that the Government expects to make a loss on the operation.

Yesterday the Tokyo Circular Electric Railway was opened for traffic. The Tokyo papers applaud the enterprise as conferring great convenience on the public, and it is to be observed that first and second class passengers arriving at either terminus of the railway are entitled to transfer themselves without change of ticket to the electric cars. The latter are of German manufacture, on the bogie system, and they give accommodation to 90 passengers as against the 30 or 40 who represent the maximum in the case of the ordinary cars of the Tokyo Railway. Of course, heavy baggage is not transported by the electric cars. The time from Shimbashi to Ueno is stated to be one hour and fifteen minutes.

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TOKYO NOTES.

December 10, 1909.

When an Englishman has lived for some time in Tokyo, long enough, for instance, to become thoroughly impregnated with the spirit of the place, he forgets the uses of side-walks, and strolls happily along the middle of the street. It is the tendency of our weak human nature to adapt itself, and if it is wise and prudent to do at Rome as Romans do, it is certainly natural to walk in Tokyo as the Edokko walks, and to seek safety in the middle of the road. *In medio tutissimus itis*, says the Roman poet, and it almost seems as though the Tokyo habit of mooning along the middle of the highway, regardless of side-walks and pavements, were a relic of the good old times, when travelling was not as safe as it is now, and where unseen foes might lurk in every alley, or spring upon one from the most innocent-looking of shops. The practice has other collateral advantages. If the street is narrow, the pedestrian can take in the beauties of the shop-window displays on both sides of the street at once, and this is an arrangement which must strike the philosopher as being eminently just and impartial.

But occasionally, say once a month (I have noticed the thing to-day, and I last noticed it early in November) some one at the Metropolitan Police Office awakes to the fact that sidewalks are made for walking on, and that the traffic must be regulated. Then, one morning, a policeman greets us as we go humbly and innocently to our work, happy in the consciousness that we are walking along that safe middle path which the philosophers of East and West agree in recommending to our observance: we are sternly rebuked for our propensity to conform ourselves to the ways of the world, and ordered to seek the side-walk on the left.

We obey reluctantly: there is no sense of security by the side of a Japanese street (of course, I don't mean the Ginza-dori, which is almost London). Householders are apt to put dustbins outside their houses, jinrikishas will be drawn up with their wheels in the gutter and their shafts extending in a threatening manner across our path. There are telegraph poles, and other posts supported by cut-throat wires, and there are abortive attempts at trees surrounded with iron railings.

The next morning our second nature reasserts itself, and we start off heedlessly on our old paths. The old man at the Police Office has gone to sleep again, and there is no Police Constable to raise an admonishing finger. I suppose the washed sow has a guilty feeling when she returns to the uncivilized practice of wallowing in the mire. We certainly have it, as we think of our lapse from grace. But the feeling soon wears off. In two or three days we forget our shame, and wallow in the mud with complacency, as we trudge in the wake of the ubiquitous water-cart.

* * *

There seems to be a choice of remedies for this state of things.

I. It is said (and that fact has been emphasized by the Japanese Press) that there are between twenty and thirty policemen in plain clothes guarding the lives and property of the citizens of Tokyo. Dismiss one of them, and with the proceeds buy an alarum-clock for the man at the Metropolitan Police Office who wakes up once a month to the delinquencies of the street somnambulists. *Mezame tokei* are fairly cheap.

Or, II, the motorists of Tokyo might be organised into a brigade and entrusted with the clearing of the streets. This would be an heroic measure, but very effective.

* * *

It is a matter for great satisfaction that Messrs. Maruya & Co. were fully insured against fire, so that their loss will not be so great as it might have been. But it is a great loss, nevertheless, though fortunately the new building now approaching its completion has escaped unhurt. Maruya & Co. are so distinctly the pioneers of the foreign book-trade in this country, and have so distinctly maintained the lead that they obtained years ago, that we have come to look upon them, as we do on the Mitsu Koshi and one or two others of our leading shops, as indispensible institutions. Insurance or no insurance, we are the losers: for we have lost a favourite haunt in which to hunt for Christmas gifts.

* * *

It was an excellent trick that the school girl in Aoyama recently played on her would-be ravisher. Accosted by a dissolute ruffian, and finding herself unable to escape, she feigned consent. "But," she said, "if I stay out now, they will suspect me at home and come to look for me. I will meet you again at a later hour." When the time came, she kept her tryst, but so did her father. And the young man got an unpleasant, but well-deserved, surprise. It is quite right that citizens should protect themselves and theirs against unpleasant, and sometimes dangerous, assaults and annoyances. But where are the "between twenty and thirty policemen in plain clothes" who are patrolling our city at night? Such incidents make one sigh for the proctors and bull-dogs and other (doubtless) exploded disciplinary expedients of University towns in less enlightened countries.

* * *

December 14, 1909.

A few days ago I was shown a very interesting letter written by a Japanese in America to a friend in Tokyo. It was on the iniquities of the amateur photographer in Japan. He said that when the American globe-trotter came to those shores the one desire that animated him seemed to be to get as many photographs as possible of low life in Japan. If he saw a leper or a beggar sitting by the roadside he would photograph him, if he came across a Buddhist monk of a very low type with a dirty face, a greasy and disreputable gown and *kesa*, and an ancient sun-hat, that had been white twenty years ago, on his head, he would at once deem him a suitable subject for a snapshot. Worse than that, when he got to America, not content with simply showing his photographic triumphs to his friends in private, he would turn them into stereopticon slides and exhibit them to admiring audiences who drew their own wrong-headed conclusions as to the degree and condition of Japanese civilization.

There is something in the contention. It must, undeniably, be hard for a Japanese to see the beggar and the hedge-priest held up as specimens of national life and beauty. But after all the Japanese has himself to blame in this matter. The globe-trotter and Kodak fiend are, as a rule, only in search of the picturesque, and if he does not take snapshots of the Tokyo merchant, or University Don, it is because these gentlemen have ceased to be picturesque either in their dress or in their mode of life.

* * *

During the coming Christmas vacation there will be an interesting entertainment, unique I think in the annals of Japan—the performance of a Miracle Play. It is to be a musical drama, of a religious character, both music and words having been composed by Japanese and the whole being rendered by an entirely Japanese orchestra and chorus. The subject is the Star of Hope, and it is to be given on Dec. 26 at the Yuitsukwan, Shiba Park, by the Young People's Society connected with the Unitarian Congregation which meets in that building. I believe that the first representation is to be for invited friends only, but it seems a pity that after so much trouble has been taken in preparing this piece for performance, there should only be one opportunity given for witnessing it. Perhaps the promoters will see their way to repeating the performance.

* * *

There is to be a dinner at the Imperial University on Thursday next in honour of Baron Kikuchi, who is shortly leaving Japan for a visit to England, in connection with the Exhibition. The dinner is being given by his colleagues at the University, for the Baron, though President of the Kyoto University, still remains on the Tokyo list as an Honorary Professor.

* * *

Many of our residents have invitations to view the exhibit of art objects to be sent to the London Exhibition. The exhibits may be seen in Uyeno Park, and it is well worth a visit.

* * *

In the French journal, the *Revue*, for October last, I have just been reading an anonymous article on the subject of Russian finance. The writer's contention is that Russia habitually exceeds her revenue, that the loans which she is constantly contracting do her no good, because they are too small and only serve to cover up the annual deficit, leaving nothing for expansion of industry or agriculture. What Russia wants is a large loan, big enough to float her industries and set her thoroughly on her feet with a broad road of development lying open before her. Germany would be quite willing to make the loan, but the Russian fears his western neighbour, and would not care to be indebted to a friend who would Germanize his best provinces and use his position as a cloak for acquiring political influence. France could lend the whole sum required, but it is doubtful whether the French people would have hearts wide enough for a loan of such great proportions. It could be done safely and well by a combination of French and English banks. Russia would have no need to fear either country politically, the influence which these nations would exert on Russia would be enlightened and healthy, and both countries would be very much benefited by having a strong and sound Russian Empire with which to deal.

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, December 10.

Again the tumbling down of the Oils was the feature of Friday's market. Otherwise prices were tolerably firm, being supported by news that the Bank of England has begun to reduce its rate of discount.

Saturday, December 11.

The market on the 11th inst. was, on the whole, dull. The favourable trade returns produced a momentary briskness, but it was quickly succeeded by dullness, and with the exception of the Oils no marked improvement tookplace.

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Monday, December 13.

The tone of the market on Monday was firm and in the great majority of cases prices moved up slightly.

Tuesday, December 14.

Prices showed an upward tendency in the forenoon session on the 14th inst., but discouraging news from Osaka, and the prospect of dear cotton caused a set-back in the afternoon.

Wednesday, December 15.

There is some activity on the Tokyo Stock Exchange in expectation of higher prices next spring. But the Oils continue their downward course.

Thursday, December 16.

The tone of the market was decidedly strong in the forenoon of the 16th instant, but in the afternoon there was some weakness on account of profit-taking sales. We append the quotations for February delivery:—

	Dec. 15th.	Dec. 16th.	
Tokyo Railway	67.90	68 55	+ .65
Kei-hin Railway	57.50	57.85	+ .35
Yusen Kaisha	84.90	85.15	+ .25
Toyo Kisen	16.75	16.75	.—
Tanko Kisen	35.45	35.70	+ .25
Tokyo Gas	100.95	101.50	+ .55
Tokyo Dento	94 20	94.00	— .20
Fuji Gass Spinning	101.70	101.80	+ .10
Tokyo Spinning	45.25	45.70	+ .45
Kanegafuchi Spinning	105 95	106.70	+ .75
Beer	76,70	76.90	+ .20
Hoden Oil	57.50	56.80	— .70
Nippon Oil	69.30	69.25	— .05
Rice Exchange	109.00	109.50	+ .50
Stock Exchange	164.80	165.05	+ .25

BARON SHIBUSAWA.

On the 14th instant a wireless message reached Choshu for the *Yamato Shimbun* to the effect that Baron Shibusawa is suffering from a slight attack of diarrhœa, but that there is no cause for anxiety. We can not but reflect, however, that at the Baron's age his recent labours must have greatly taxed his strength.

We are are glad to be able to state that, according to a later wireless telegram received from the *Chiyo Maru* at the office of the First Bank, the rumour that Baron Shibusawa was suffering from dysentery is flatly contradicted. The Baron is said to be in excellent health, and to have put on weight since he left Japan. The *Chiyo Maru* is expected to reach Yokohama on the forenoon of the 14th inst.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

The *Aki Maru* which reached Yokohama on the 11th inst. carried 15 men who had been seized by the Russians when they took possession of the *Tenyu Maru* on the 10th of last July. The men claim that the schooner was anchored at a distance of 13 miles from the shore of St. Paul, but they admit that one of her boats, confused by a fog, had passed within the 3 mile limit before the capture was effected. Three of the crew remain in the hands of the Russians. They are undergoing six months' imprisonment on suspicion of poaching. As for the fate of the schooner herself, it does not seem to have been yet settled. We have no sympathy whatever with men who trespass upon the preserves of other nations; but it does seem rather hard that a period of five months should be devoted to investigating and dealing with such a matter as the above.

We learn with much pleasure from Tokyo journals that Mr. Nabeshima, Counsellor of the Foreign Office and of the Residency-General, has been raised to the rank of Minister Plenipotentiary, and nominated to the Legation in Brussels. Mr. Nabeshima is one of the best known and most popular of Japanese officials, and that he will represent his country in an eminently efficient manner there can not be any doubt.

Mr. Abe, hitherto Secretary of Legation in Peking, has been nominated Counsellor of the Foreign Office.

We erred in saying, in a recent issue, that Mr. C. V. Sale had given a thousand *yen* to be used as prize money in connexion with the Japanese examinations instituted by the British Association of Japan. Mr. C. V. Sale is responsible for the idea of the examinations and it was he that drew up the course of study and started the whole thing; but to his brother, Mr. F. G. Sale, belongs the credit of donating a thousand *yen* to form a prize fund.

A statement in the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, said to emanate from the Emigration Bureau of the Foreign Office, defines the policy of the Japanese Government with regard to emigration. We gather that, with the exception of the sugar fields of Brazil and Peru, no favourable opportunities offer for Japanese labour, on the American continent. Investigations are being made in the Argentine Republic and the Philippines, but their result can not yet be predicted. As for North America, the Tokyo Government is determined to refuse passports to all emigrants who can not prove themselves to be of independent means. In a word, the policy is to encourage emigration to Oriental countries and to discourage it in the case of Occidental. The opening of Port Arthur is a step in the former direction. Commerce and agriculture should be the chief aims of the emigrants.

The Committee of the Tokyo Municipality are said to have decided upon recommending the formation of a model park in the Shiba district of Tokyo. There is already a Shiba Park which includes the mausolea of the Tokugawa Shoguns and the beautiful trees growing about them, but the present idea is to enlarge the precincts of the Park so as to make it of quite unprecedented magnificence, so far at least as Japan is concerned. Tokyo newspapers say that Atagoyama is to be taken in, and they speak of a turfed space measuring 20,000 *tsubo* for purposes of athletic sports; of a flower garden measuring 1,700 *tsubo*; of a botanical garden measuring 5,760 *tsubo*; of a purely Japanese garden measuring 3,500 *tsubo*; of a zoological garden measuring 10,000 *tsubo*; of a landscape garden measuring 3,700 *tsubo* and containing an exhibition building, as well as of other attractive features. It appears that there will not be any occasion to impose fresh taxes in connexion with this scheme. The total cost is estimated at one million *yen*, but a fund of 400,000 has already been accumulated, and additions will be made to it year by year.

The Rev. Mr. Clay MacCauley of the Unitarian Association of Tokyo, has been decorated with the Fourth Class Order of the Rising Sun. This Imperial honour was bestowed upon Mr. MacCauley in recognition of his services for the interests of Japan in more than one way as an educator and writer about this country during the last twenty years. Mr. MacCauley returned once to the United States in 1900, and during the recent regrettable war, being in his own country, he not only used his best efforts in presenting Japan's cause to the American public, but also befriended the Japanese in the United States and acted as a sincere well-wisher of this country. Mr. MacCauley returned to Japan last August and is now engaged in Unitarian work in Tokyo.

We regret to announce the death of Chevalier Luigi Casati, H.R.I.M.'s Consul in Korea, which took place on the 11th inst. at 2.30 a.m. in the Tai-han Hospital, Seoul. The deceased gentleman had spent the greater part of his career in Japan. His age at the time of his death was only 59, and he leaves a wide circle of sorrowing friends.

The Otaru Lumber Company is to hold its general meeting on the 27th inst., when, if Tokyo newspapers are to be trusted, a very disastrous state of affairs will be reported. The gross earnings for the half-year are put at 246,863 *yen* and the gross expenditures at 1,430,403 *yen*, so that the loss amounts to no less than 1,183,540 *yen*. The meeting will be asked to agree to reduce the capital of the Company from 6 million *yen* to 2,400,000.

The cotton-spinners of Japan sent delegates to a meeting held in Osaka on the 15th inst., when it was decided among other things to grant encouragement money to the extent of 1.50 *yen* per bale on all cotton yarns exported, provided that they do not exceed 20 counts; in other words, the bounty is to be limited to the coarse grades. Funds for this purpose are to be put up by the manufacturers of this particular class of yarns. It does not appear that the meeting discussed any other matter. At all events nothing else is reported.

The five principal cement companies of Japan and some of the minor ones are reported to have concluded arrangements for forming a trust, so as to rescue their business, if possible, from its depressed condition. The cessation of new industrial enterprises has hit the cement companies hardest of all, not only because the demand for their product has been lessened, but also because its price has fallen. They are said to be now planning to increase their exports to Australia and Vladivostock.

The *Official Gazette* of the 10th inst. definitely announces the transfer of the Korean railways to the jurisdiction of the Railway Board. A number of regulations are published with reference to this transfer, but they do not contain anything of special interest. The measure has long been upon the tapis and was regarded some time ago as a virtually accomplished fact.

We learn that the Viceroy of Manchuria has begun to levy a tax of 15 per cent. of their original price on Japanese goods within the zone of the Mukden-Antung Railway. Judging from the spirit shown, this system will be extended to all districts. It is said that the Japanese Government has lodged and protest in Peking.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

SOUTHERN APPROACH TO TSINGTAU.

Notice is hereby given of the existence of a rock situated on the south-eastern portion of the Haihsi Shoal. The rock is covered 8 feet at low water of spring tides.

This notice is issued on information received from the Imperial German Government at Tsingtau. By order of the Inspector-General of Customs.

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"ABUSING PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY."

IT is a common device on the part of disputants who are inwardly aware of the weakness of their own case to endeavour to obscure the issue by wholesale vilification of their opponents. We ventured to predict a few days ago, that, in the forthcoming political contest in England the line taken by the House of Lords would be deliberately distorted for purposes of party gain, and that there would be more than the usual amount of tub-thumping oratory of the Billingsgate order, coupled with frenzied appeals to class-hatred and mob-rule. The latest advices from the scene of the conflict more than justify our prediction. The fashion set by Mr. LLOYD-GEORGE at Limehouse has become, among Radical-Socialist orators, the order of the day. Mr. WINSTON CHURCHILL, for example—who alas! has quite forgotten, and forsaken, the traditions of his brilliant father—vies in misrepresentation and vilification with the demagogue of the street. In the first general election manifesto of his party—the distinction of framing which document this pushful young man had secured for himself—he asks, "Why should this small cluster of titled persons" (Mr. CHURCHILL is referring to the House of Lords) "be set up to rule over us, and why should their children rule over our children for ever?" The juvenile President of the Board of Trade followed up this insinuatory and utterly misleading appeal with a speech of the kind for which he is becoming notorious. The action of the Lords, he would have the electors believe, was only a piece of political jobbery, after all. So far from following the dictates of conscience or any sense of responsibility, they were acting in the interests of his (Mr. CHURCHILL'S) political opponents, whose "palms are itching for the seals of office," who are actuated by "sordid motives," consumed with "gluttonous haste" and "ungoverned appetite" in their headlong pursuit of the sweets of power. No doubt if anyone were to suggest that Mr. CHURCHILL was not a gentleman, the propounder of these offensive insinuations would be the first to object; yet, it may well be asked, why should language which offends the canons of good taste—leaving considerations of truth out of the question—and which would not be tolerated in private life, become a medium of abuse in the political arena? Mr. LLOYD GEORGE, however, has shown that he is not to be outdone by his able lieutenant and understudy. At the Liberal Club, a few days ago, he made a violent attack on the Lords, whose action bids fair to consign to forgotten limbo his "first instalment of Socialism." They were "rickety, gimcrack idols," "mad mullahs" and what not. The cue given by these shameless Cabinet Ministers has of course been taken up with avidity by the socialistic demagogues of Hyde Park and Trafalgar Square. At a demonstration held two days later in the latter place the tub-thumpers had a glorious time. "Political garrotters" and "hereditary highwaymen" were among the specimens of mob-oratory produced on that occasion, while a Radical M.P. and notorious Little Englander, Mr. BYLES by name, sought immortality by declaring that he, and others, "had got the Lords by the throat, and were going to strangle them." It does not appear to occur to these people that the game of abuse may be overdone, and that these violent speeches may defeat their own ends. Yet such will certainly be the result, for the hard-headed British workman, looking for some explanation of all this malevolence, will find it in the sage advice of a certain astute advocate—"*No case: abuse plaintiff's attorney.*"

In this context, we are glad to see that our Tokyo contemporary, the *Japan Times*, is not, as might have been supposed from its remarks on the 4th inst., an enemy of the Lords; and that the charge of cowardice it brought against the British Upper Chamber was merely the opinion of a candid friend. Our contemporary, however, is hardly consistent in its attitude on this question, for while contending in one portion of its article (of the 9th inst.) that the Commons possess "the *exclusive* right of deciding upon *all* questions of taxation"—the italics are ours—it says, in another, that "the Lords had every right to assert themselves in the present connection." Nor does our contemporary sufficiently credit us with the distinction we have most emphatically drawn between a Money Bill, as such, and a Money Bill embodying a number of new principles of distinctly Socialistic tendency. It is this "tacking" of Socialism on to the Budget to which the Lords and, we believe, a preponderating section of the people of England object. If this method of introducing new legislation in conjunction with the annual provision for the national expenditure were permitted, while at the same time the claim of the Radicals that only the Commons can pronounce upon it be allowed, we should speedily find England reduced to government by a single Chamber—and that a Socialist-ridden one. From such a pass—with all respect to the socialistic demagogue, be he, or be he not, "a bundle of misconceptions and confusion of ideas"—all true friends of England will pray that she be delivered, now and for all time.

GOVERNMENT COMPETITION.

IN a thoughtful article published by the *Japan Advertiser* we find the following:—

> This government policy of running in opposition to private interests is certain at some time or other to cause profound dissatisfaction throughout the country. At present the only dissatisfied persons are the shareholders of the companies which are affected by government competition, but the time will come when the people will realise the serious disadvantages of the Government taking to itself not only the functions of authority but the menial functions of trade. Carried to the lengths that the Japanese Government is rapidly going it will bring about an impossible situation, for be it noted the Government as carrier is less satisfactory than the private individual and the people have less chance of obtaining redress for wrongs.
>
> We do not know how far the present situation of the Keihin Company is due to its own mismanagement, nor can we account for the fact that the net profits for the present half-year are only about half of those a year ago, but we do believe that the Government, or the railway authorities, by their policy of running in opposition to the company and the interests that are dependent upon the company for their prosperity, are following a dangerous and useless policy, particularly regrettable because it is notorious that the Railway Board could spend its money to much better advantage in other ways.

The immediate fact prompting the above criticism is that the Railway Board contemplates running electric cars on its Tokyo-Kozu line of railway. Certainly no one can approve of the idea of officialdom entering into competition with private enterprise. But does that comment apply to the Tokyo-Kozu project? It appears to us that our Tokyo contemporary puts the saddle on the wrong horse. The competition is on the side of the Keihin Company. Everyone was surprised when the Government granted a charter to a private company to run an electric tram parallel to, and within stone's throw of, the most lucrative of the State railways. Everybody was surprised also that a private company should engage in such an enterprise, for the prospect of finding a sufficiency of work in the overflow traffic of the already existing and well-equipped railway seemed remote. Nevertheless the essay was made and it has proved fairly successful. But projectors of the tram must have anticipated from the outset that the contingency of a radical metamorphosis of the Government's line was always to be reckoned with; a metamorphosis such that competition on the part of a very mediocre tram service would be out of the question. That was in sight from the very beginning. Surely no thoughtful person can contend that because a competing line had been sanctioned the Railway Board was bound to refrain from making any improvements which might inconvenience its competitor? There is all the difference in the world, it seems to us, between the State inaugurating an enterprise to compete with a private one already existing, and the State developing its own pre-existing enterprises in the face of private competition subsequently undertaken. The latter is what appears to be happening in the Tokyo-Kozu carrying trade.

THE DEPRESSION.

THE depression now prevailing in Japanese business circles is a frequent topic of conversation and of newspaper comment. But is there much room for doubt as to the principal cause? Twenty or thirty years ago, when large sums were beginning to be spent on railway building, and especially ten years ago, when those sums had come to total hundreds of millions of *yen*, shrewd onlookers did not hesitate to predict that Japan, since scarcity of funds was her chief obstacle on the road to really great development, would severely feel, one day or other, the inconvenience of fixing such large amounts of her scanty capital. Other countries had felt it. Even the United States of America, that land of now colossal opulence, had her bad quarter of an hour

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when she carried this fixing process too far before the money market of the world opened its hands to her. Still, the railways were always an asset, liquifiable one day or another. It was plainly foreseen that so soon as Japan's hesitation to borrow abroad had been dispelled by the revision of her foreign relations, and so soon as fate had provided for her an opportunity to win a place among the great nations, she would enter the markets of the West, renew her stock of floating capital, and travel forward with fresh vigour along the road to signal development. But all that forecast has been completely falsified. Not because the markets are not there, ready to be tapped, nor yet because the country does not cry out for development. But because the asset has ceased to be available in its old form. The railways have been nationalized, and thus effectually removed beyond the sphere of private enterprise. Can there be a moment's doubt that, had the railways continued to be a field for private investment, scores of miles would have been added to the system within the past five years, funds being obtained from foreign sources? How different is the actual situation! Never since the Nippon Railway Company was formed in 1881 has there been such a suspension of railway construction as the past five years have witnessed. And of necessity the indirect consequences of this virtual cessation of public works are a state of general depression. Millions are no longer poured into the labour market; new districts are no longer opened; the value of rural lands does not appreciate; and all the bustle and excitement of productive enterprise are checked. There were good reasons for nationalization. We are not denying that. But that the collateral effects are largely responsible for the present state of stagnation and depression seems to us unquestionable.

ONE LAW FOR ME.

IT is a very interesting fact that the Railway Board, having determined to establish a service of electric cars on the Yamanote road—namely, the railway having Shinagawa for its southern terminus and Akabane for its northern—, should have chosen the sectional system of fares and should have fixed the charges so that 4 *sen* shall be the minimum and 8 *sen* the average, 10 *sen* being the maximum, while the same Railway Board rules that the Tokyo Railway Company must be content with a uniform charge of 3½ *sen* for all distances. In other words, the Railway Board treats itself more than twice as liberally as it treats a private company. What is more, even while collecting an average of 8 *sen*, the Railway Board anticipates a loss. Of course, it may be urged that the Yamanote line runs entirely through suburban districts where passengers must be comparatively few. But the Tokyo Railway also runs partly through suburbs, and is required to build many miles more of suburban track, some publicists—as, for example, the *Asahi Shimbun*—insisting that if it fails to do so, it should be incontinently confiscated. Nor is that the whole story. In preparing the Yamanote line the Railway Board has not been obliged to incur more than a small fraction of the cost of the Tokyo trams. The Board had not to purchase land; had not to construct a road-bed; had not to build any bridges; had not to lay any rails; had not to erect power-stations. The land was there already; the road-bed was there already; the rails were there already; the bridges were there already, and the power is supplied by purchase from the Tokyo Railway. This immense difference of initial outlay must be held to counter-balance the suburban disadvantage. Yet the Railway Board fixes its tariff at more than double of the price which it allows the Tokyo Railway Company to levy, and nevertheless counts on making a loss. It is a very quaint kind of justice. And it is a kind of justice very injurious to Japan's interests. Her commercial laws, being modelled after German patterns, reserve to the Authorities in every charter powers of control and even resumption which, in English and American eyes, look quite deterrent, but which are not too closely scrutinized, inasmuch as the Government is trusted not to abuse them. But how long will that confidence survive in the context of such a story as that of the Yamanote and the Tokyo electric railways? There is not, we are persuaded, a citizen in Tokyo, with the exception of a few socialist roughs, who does not feel in his own heart that an iniquity is perpetrated in this matter. The Municipal Council and the City Assembly have shown their conviction by sanctioning a rise of fare, but the Government imposes its veto; and in the next breath the same Government fixes the fare for its own lines at more than twice the figure it sanctions for the Company's lines. Justice will certainly prevail in the long run, but in the meanwhile a great deal of harm will be done to Japan's fair fame.

A NEW THEORY OF INTERMITTENT VOLCANIC ACTION.

TOO little credit, we venture to think, is given by the people of this country—and still less by visitors from other shores—to those terrestrial forces which, collectively, are productive of "volcanic action," and to the important part they have played in the conformation and physical features so characteristic of these islands. Japan's scenery is, of course, one of her most enduring assets, and she owes it, in larger measure than is generally recognized, to her hundreds of volcanoes, past and present. Indeed, looking from the past into the future, and in view of the increasing importance now attached to natural aids in the preservation of health, it is not too much to believe that this country, merely by virtue of the medicinal value of those numberless hot springs which volcanic action has bequeathed her as a legacy, will eventually enjoy a unique position among the heath-resorts of the world. In the light of these circumstances and possibilities, anything which has reference to the internal working of these primæval forces, and to the causation of the phenomena with which they are associated, cannot fail to be of interest, not less to the people of this Empire than to the stranger within her gates.

A new theory, it would seem, has recently been put forward to account for the minor and more or less frequent explosions which mark the interval, or period of "repose," between the great but comparatively rare outbursts to which every active volcano is subject. The propounder of this theory is an American professor—America is essentially the land of new theories—the same, in fact, who after the great earthquake at Messina announced that he had plotted in advance the day of that catastrophe as an "earthquake date." Concurrently, Mr. PERRET (for such is the prophet's name) foretold an eruption of the neighbouring volcano Etna, which, however, did not respond to the invitation. Disappointed, no doubt, in that direction, our prophetic professor has turned his attention to Vesuvius, and it is in connection with that world-famous volcano that the new theory has been propounded. This theory, in brief, is that the periodical minor phenomena of volcanic action are directly caused by landslides or avalanches falling from the crater-walls, which masses of débris are immediately ejected in the form of dust-clouds. These clouds, therefore, do not consist of steam, as is generally supposed, or of any volcanic gases whatever, but are simply masses of dust; and the ejecting force is not that of imprisoned steam, but that of compressed air. The professor thus elaborates his theory descriptively (we quote from the *American Journal of Science*):—

"Slips and slides are continually occurring, but the descent of a true avalanche in the present crater of Vesuvius forms one of the most impressive sights which can be imagined. Detachment sometimes takes place silently but more often with a sharp crack. The acceleration is almost equal to that of a freely falling body, as the crater walls are nearly perpendicular. Huge boulders, rebounding from the sills of lava, are projected horizontally and then descend in graceful curves, while the bulk of the avalanche, enveloped in whirling clouds, falls from precipice to precipice with the reverberating roar of thunder until it finally precipitates itself upon a talus at the bottom of the crater. Then ensues the development of a magnificent dust-cloud, fluring and torch-like at first, but it soon forms a compact cauliflower-cloud of exquisite beauty. . . The motion, both of translation and of development, is exceedingly rapid and the cloud unfolds and advances with sharply defined contours. It should be noted that we have here no vapour of water, no high temperature, and little, if any, electrical potential—nothing, that is to say, which could constitute anything like an 'emulsion,' and it would seem that all that is required for producing sharp outlines in a dust-cloud is sufficiently rapid projection against an air-cushion."

The vision of an "avalanche" descending thunderously into a crateral abyss is awe-inspiring enough, and the professor is to be congratulated upon making the most of the matter from the spectacular point of view; but we fear his theory as to the causation of minor volcanic explosions (when stripped of the verbiage in which it is wrapped) remains a quite untenable proposition. In fact, we have no hesitation in

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saying that had Mr. PERRET included other volcanoes than one in his observations, his strange hypothesis would never have been advanced. We venture to affirm, in the first place, that in no volcano subject to these intermittent explosions do landslides of any description occur so frequently, or on such a scale, as to account for them. Again, the forms of craters present certain well-marked differences which militate against the theory. While some, in particular, have walls of absolute perpendicularity, others have slopes so gentle that it is difficult to conceive of an avalanche of any description thundering down them. As to the resilient "air-cushion" idea, does it not follow, in every case save that of a mass of debris of size sufficient to cover the whole of a crater-floor, that the underlying air, so far from being compressed beneath the falling mass, and thus being in a position to assert its elasticity, would find an escape on every side? In fact, only under conditions so perfect as to cause the crater of a volcano and the descending mass of débris to approximate in mutual relationship to that of cylinder and piston, respectively—conditions, needless to say, which do not obtain in practice—could Mr. PERRET's hypothesis be for one moment entertained; and even then, is it conceivable that the "air-cushion" could develop and exert a force so great, of such eruptive violence, as to eject a vast mass of débris, in the form of finely divided dust, thousands of feet into the air? Let us take the case of two typical Japanese volcanoes—Asama and Takachiho, in the latter of which the central vent is well developed, while in the former it is not. In the case of the great Shinshu volcano (whose activities have recently asserted themselves so powerfully as to have made themselves *felt* in the Tokyo-Yokohama district—at a distance, that is to say, of nearly 100 miles), these periodical minor explosions, as evidenced by the cumulous vapour-cloud which so often graces the summit of the mountain, not uncommonly occur, for days together, at intervals of about half an hour. Would this American professor have us believe that landslides of considerable dimensions are thus continually descending into the crater? As for the great Kyushu cone, from whose central vent steam is continually ascending, though at intervals in greater volume, the sides of its crater are of such a character and so far removed from the great fumaroles of the centre, that it is virtually impossible for a landslide from the brink of the abyss to reach the vent at all. Numerous other examples showing the infeasibility of Mr. PERRET's suggestion could be adduced from the volcanoes of this country alone. But there is no reason to labour the point. The observations of many skilled vulcanologists—among whom we may mention Dr. TEMPEST ANDERSON, in particular—have resulted in a very different explanation of this phase of volcanic activity. This observer, in fact, has watched the process for hours together in the crater of the incessantly active Stromboli—another volcano the mere configuration of whose crater is sufficient to show the absurdity of the new theory. When the summit of the lava-column is actually exposed in the floor or central vent of a crater, huge bubbles can be *seen* to form on the incandescent surface. These bubbles contain, for the most part, steam, which has worked its way up from the molten reservoirs below, and when the tension increases beyond a certain point, there follows an explosion which is nothing more or less than the bursting of this bubble. When the top of the lava-column is not thus exposed, the same process is carried on through a fumarole, or fumaroles, great or small, as the case may be. No doubt, the blocking of one of these fumaroles by a mass of debris would (by inducing a greater accumulation of steam) lead to an explosion of more than usual violence; but that is a very different proposition from Mr. PERRET's "air-cushion" theory. Similarly, the contention that the vapour-clouds produced by these explosions are in reality dust-clouds can be disproved by the simplest processes of observation. They certainly do contain solid particles in suspension, but these are not "dust," derived from fallen débris; they consist of those very minute fragments of lava commonly known as "volcanic ash." In short, it is amazing that a proposition so devoid of reason should have been seriously advanced in the pages of a scientific journal. This unseemly haste to propound new theories, especially noticeable in America, cannot be too strongly deprecated. If the interests of science are to be served, it is desirable that all propounders of new theories such as the one we have now attempted to refute, should extend the process of observation in a very much greater degree than they are apparently wont to do, before taking to that of generalization.

PLATFORM WARFARE.

CONSIDERABLE importance was attached in Liberal circles to the great Demonstration held at the Albert Hall on the 11th inst., as signalizing the opening of the electoral campaign on the Ministerial side. Not only was the Prime Minister to preside in person, but arrangements were made for every Cabinet Minister to be present, in order to strengthen the appeal to the electorate. Moreover, the occasion was to be utilized to make a strong defence of the Government's financial policy, and to give some indication of the line of action they intend to pursue in the event of their being a second time returned to power. The telegraphic reports of the great meeting which have so far come to hand do not furnish us with any information as to Ministerial defence of the Budget. It is probable, indeed, that comparatively little was said upon that point, in view of the undoubted signs of the Budget's unpopularity in the country. Moreover, the bolstering up of a lost cause hardly makes the best of battle-cries. The Prime Minister has shown his wisdom, from the party point of view, in not giving his Socialistic proposals undue prominence among the issues to be decided upon, and in endeavouring, instead, to direct popular feeling against the House of Lords. The electorate, it seems, is to be asked for authority to place on the statute book an "explicit recognition" of the principle that "the Lords have no right to meddle with finance." In these words Mr. ASQUITH gives the cue to his followers. Confusion of the issue is to be the order of the day. The Socialistic tendencies, the new principles, which have been tacked on to the Budget are to be dignified with the name of "finance." A Budget which contains wrapped up in its financial provisions a first installment of Socialism is merely a Budget, and nothing but a Budget. The action of the Lords, accordingly, is to be represented, not as a protest against revolutionary schemes, but as the vetoing of a Money Bill. Mr. ASQUITH, in fact, demands the total abolition of the power of veto possessed by the Upper Chamber. Why then, it may well be asked, an Upper Chamber at all? It would be more candid on the part of the Prime Minister were he to ask the electors of Britain to say, at once, whether they desire government by a Single Chamber. Mr. BALFOUR, the Leader of the Opposition, in a Manifesto issued simultaneously with the Albert Hall demonstration, lays bare, with his accustomed skill, these hidden intentions of the Radical mind. The attack on the House of Lords, he says, is the culmination of a long-drawn conspiracy on the part of the Government for a single-Chamber Legislature, like that of Greece. But doubtless this end, like that of the complete establishment of Socialism, is to be attained on the installment plan. The British elector is notoriously averse to sudden changes of front.

In this context Mr. ASQUITH has advanced a somewhat unexpected proposition. The abolition of the Lords' veto is to be "accompanied by the shortening of the life of the House of Commons to five, or even four, years." In other words, should the Liberals once more sweep the country, the Septennial Act will be repealed. We do not think that any serious objections will be raised against such a course. Rarely has it happened, in modern times, that a parliament has outlived its allotted span. Since 1874, when a Conservative Ministry held office for six years, no Parliament has lasted for more than five, and this present Government, despite the enormous majority at its command, has proved no exception to the rule. It may be noted, however, that, previous to 1905, the Unionists had held power for ten years continuously, in two successive parliaments, the general election of 1900 only slightly reducing the large majority—152—they had obtained five years before. But here, at least, the Liberals might have gleaned a lesson.

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What was the secret of that long spell of Unionist government? Nothing more or less than fear in the British elector's mind of the possible effects of Mr. GLADSTONE's Irish policy. The will of the "predominant partner" was declared on two memorable occasions, and with no uncertain voice, on the then burning question of Home Rule. The British people let it be known that they would not tolerate the idea of granting political independence to a confessedly hostile community posted at their very doors. Yet Mr. ASQUITH has had the temerity to place an issue which has already proved so fatal to the Liberal party in the forefront of his political platform. "Full self-government in purely Irish affairs, with safeguards for maintaining the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament" is only the dialectician's way of saying, "An Irish parliament at Dublin, and—Home Rule." And here, as we believe he will find to his cost, the Liberal leader has committed a tactical blunder of the first order. Be that as it may, the battle has now been joined, and the progress of this Homeric struggle will form, for a month to come, an absorbing spectacle for the whole of the civilized world.

"ADVOCATUS" AND "ONE OF THE COMMUNITY."

ON the 24th of November there appeared in the columns of the *Japan Herald* a letter signed "Advocatus." The writer traversed the views expressed by the *Japan Mail* on the previous day, and after marshalling certain arguments which, in his opinion, established for the foreign community of Yokohama a right to the permanent maintenance of the Cricket Ground in its present place, concluded by affirming that, although many residents were not closely concerned with the fate of the Cricket Ground itself, all were vitally interested in the question whether or not the Japanese Government would observe its Treaty obligations. We did not at the time make any reply to this letter, as the need of doing so was not apparent. But another correspondent of the same journal, writing over the signature of "One of the Community," now quotes "Advocatus" with much approval, and concludes by saying:—"It is to be hoped, therefore, that the foreign community will be up and doing with a view to a unanimous protest through the Consular Board, as "Advocatus" recommends in the closing paragraph of his able letter, against any steps being taken by the Japanese authorities towards the withdrawal of the present Cricket Ground from its use as guaranteed by the standing Treaties." Apparently the foreign community are here advised to adopt a third change of attitude by repeating the protest which they formulated at the outset and subsequently withdrew. It seems worth while, therefore, to examine briefly the grounds of "Advocatus'" argument and of his supporter's approval. There is not much matter to be dealt with. The whole gist of the contention is summed up in the following clauses, the italicized portions of which are taken from the letter of "Advocatus," as quoted with strong approval by "One of the Community," and the rest is from the pen of the latter himself:—

It is another fact that a special part of the Public Garden, viz., the so-called Cricket Ground, was from the outset, i.e., "orginally" (as the Treaties say) set apart for the special public purposes of sports and athletics.

Whoever wrote these words knew what he was talking about and the withdrawal of the protest against the removal of the properties of the Y. C. & A. C., as "Advocatus" points out, in no way affected the rights originally granted to the foreign community to the use of the present Cricket Ground for sports and athletics.

We have here a very plainly stated and simple allegation, namely, that *a special part of the Public Garden, viz. the so called Cricket Ground, was from the outset, i.e. "originally" (as the Treaties say) set apart for the special public purposes of sports and athletics*; and we have a cognate allegation that "rights were originally granted to the foreign community to the use of the present Cricket Ground for sports and athletics." Looking at these propositions we are driven to conclude that neither "Advocatus" nor "One of the Community" ever consulted the Treaties to which both refer so confidently. Let us see what the Treaties really do say. First, there is the arrangement concluded on December 19th, 1864. Article I. runs thus:—

An allotment of ground already marked out on the other side of the Canal, giving a circuit of one English mile (18 Japanese *cho*) to be made and designated in perpetuity *for a parade and exercise ground for all nations*, also for a race-course for the foreign community. The ground, being now a marsh, to be filled up by the Japanese Government at their own expense, and as it is *for common occupation both by Japanese and foreigners as a place of exercise*, no rental to be claimed for the same with the exception of the outside circle destined for a race-course, for which rent shall be paid at a rate hereafter to be fixed.

The italics in the above are our own. There is not, it will be seen, the remotest allusion to "setting apart a special part of the Public Garden, viz., the so-called Cricket Ground, for the special public purposes of sports and athletics." There is no hint of any division of the space to be reclaimed. The whole of the reclaimed land was to be appropriated as a parade and exercise ground for all nations and as a race-course for the foreign community. And we may add, for the sake of accuracy, there is no mention whatever of a public garden.

But, in truth, the above Article has only academic interest for the purposes of this argument. It was formally annulled by a Convention concluded two years later (December 29th, 1866):—

The stipulations contained in Article I. of the aforesaid Convention relative to the filling in of the marsh at the back of the Okagawa Canal for a race-course, parade, and exercise ground *are hereby annulled*; and in return for this concession the Japanese Government agree to substitute the race-course now completed on the plateau overlooking Negishi Bay, and to enlarge, lay out, *and plant as a Public Garden, to be used both by foreigners and Japanese*, the site of the old Kosaki-machi, which is to be removed to the south side of the Okagawa Canal. *No rent will be charged for this garden by the Japanese Government, but the Governor of Kanagawa and the Foreign Consuls will concert measures for defraying the expenses* of preserving the grounds and maintaining order therein.

This is the Article on which, and on which alone, the alleged rights of the foreign community depend. There is not, it will be seen, the remotest allusion to "setting apart a special part of the Public Garden, viz., the so-called Cricket Ground, for the special public purposes of sports and athletics." There is no allusion whatever to "sports and athletics." The original reference to an "exercise ground" is deleted, and we find in its place a "public garden." Moreover, so little thought in there of "sport and athletics" that the Public Garden is to be "planted," the very last measure that would have been prescribed had a sport such as cricket been contemplated. "A Public Garden to be used both by foreigners and Japanese." That, and that only and nothing else, is what the Convention of 1866 provides for. Out of "a Public Garden to be used both by foreigners and Japanese" we have to construe the setting apart of the so-called Cricket Ground for the special public purposes of "sport and athletics," and we have to construe "rights originally granted to the foreign community to the use of the present Cricket Ground for sports and athletics." Nothing would please us better than to discover reasons for endorsing the views held by "Advocatus" and "One of the Community." But we can not discover anything of the kind. The Convention of 1866 constitutes the entire basis of a Treaty claim, and the Convention of 1868 cannot by any stretch of imagination be construed in the sense attributed to it by "Advocatus" and "One of the Community." Surely, to make their wholly arbitrary interpretation the foundation of a charge of treaty-breaking on the part of the Japanese Government, is flagrantly unjust. What is to be apprehended is that the Japanese Government, confronted by such a disposition to distort its legitimate obligations, will hesitate long before granting any concession whatever in the future.

THE RECENT ERUPTION OF ASAMA.

APPEARANCE OF THE SUMMIT.

According to the *Asahi*, Mr. Sasaki, the Deputy Headman of Nishi Nagakura village, near the volcano Asama, accompanied by fifteen firemen, ascended the mountain on the morning of the 8th inst. to ascertain the result of the recent eruption. He found no change in the crater itself, but the road on the south-western brim had been entirely destroyed. A huge stone, about ten feet high and sixteen feet wide, was discovered in the hollow at the foot of Maekakeyama, rather over a thousand feet from the crater. It had numerous cavities, from which flames were issuing, and was too hot to be closely approached. A large number of stones having diameters of about 6 feet were seen on the south-eastern side of the crater. The old crater, which used to have the appearance of a valley, grass growing inside, has undergone changes, and is beginning to emit smoke. The burning stones ejected from the present crater during the eruption have entirely destroyed the forest on Asahiyama. The temperature at the top of the mountain rose owing to the eruption, and all the snow, which had been lying about five feet deep on the northern side, has disappeared.

ON Tuesday a fire occurred at Toga, Minami Akita, Akita prefecture, resulting in the destruction of over 60 houses. No casualties are reported.

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THE BOOKSHELF.

Warriors of Old Japan, by YEI THEODORA OZAKI. Messrs. Houghton, Mifflin & Company, Boston and New York.

WE have had on several occasions to welcome as a talented authoress and faithful expounder of old and new Japan, Miss Yei Theodora Ozaki, and now that she addresses the public no longer under her maiden name but as Mrs. Ozaki, it devolves upon us once more to thank her for a delightful volume, expounding by practical examples the ways of the warriors of Japan and other matters pertaining to this attractive country. It should be explained to our readers, perhaps, that, by a singular coincidence—the Japanese would call it "fate"—Miss Y. Ozaki, daughter of Baron S. Ozaki, married Mr. Y. Ozaki, Mayor of Tokyo, and that the two families are not in any way related. Thus this clever writer is enabled to retain in her post-nuptial work the name on which, already before her marriage, she had conferred lustre by such publications as "The Japanese Fairy Book," "Japanese in Time of War," "Stories of Japanese Heroines" and several others. The new essay, which has just emerged from the press, is a volume of 254 pages, excellent in everything that relates to the printer's art and ably illustrated by the famous Mr. Shusui Okakura and other Japanese artists. There are prefaces by Mr. J. H. Gubbins and Mrs. Hugh Fraser; the former brief and sedate, as might have been expected; the latter—as might also have been expected—emotional and glowing with graces of diction. The chapters number ten, and the enumeration of their headings will furnish the best index to the nature of the book:—Tametomo; Yorimasa; Yoshitsune; Benkei; the Oyeyama Goblin; Kidomaru and Raiko; Plum, Cherry and Pine; Shiragiku; the Princess of the Bowl, and the story of Lazy Taro. It will be seen that history and romance are both laid under contribution, and we may add that the supernatural element with which tradition, as it grew old, invested all the salient events of Japan's remote past, is by no means wanting. The authoress has a very happy style. She never allows herself to lapse into fine writing. Her instinct is to make her subjects eloquent, independently of pen-painting; and she succeeds. All of us who can claim the pleasure of acquaintance with Japanese annals, have read the tales of Tametomo, Yoshitsune, Benkei and the other heroes and heroines whose portraits Mrs. Ozaki now draws for us, but it is certain that her pages will greatly augment our love for these ancient figures, so dear to the heart of every true Japanese. If Messrs. Houghton and Mifflin entertained any idea of bringing out this volume as a seasonable addition to our Christmas pleasures, they were wise, and are to be thanked. But the glow of the yule-log was not needed to shed any factitious light on Mrs. Ozaki's pages, and should any one imagine that "Warriors of Old Japan" is a mere adjunct of the season, he or she will, we assure them, be greatly mistaken. The work is worthy to be included among the classics of our Japanese Libraries.

Problems and Perils of Socialism. Letters to a Working Man. By J. ST. IDE STRACHEY. London: MacMillan & Co., Ltd.; Tokyo: Maruya & Co. 25 *sen.*

IN the *Spectator* of Oct. 23 there is an article dealing with the rise of Socialism in Japan. To this article there is appended an editorial note to the effect that better than suppressive measures of the Government would be education of the people through the translation of some works, such as those of Bastiat, which show the perils of socialism. This note recalls a work by the editor of the *Spectator* on the problems and perils of socialism, published in such a form that with the publication of a translation the ideas embodied therein might be brought before students throughout the country.

The letters that make up the book were actually written to a correspondent, the first two or three without any thought of publication. There is therefore in the style of the letters a directness and freedom that makes them peculiarly adapted for study as specimens of good forcible every-day English. It is just such language that the students of to-day, surfeited with the study of English books beyond their reach, need to enable them to learn how to express great ideas in simple language.

The book consists of 21 letters on such subjects as the following:—

Capital the Working Man's Server.
Socialism in Practice.
The State and the Individual.
Old Age Pensions.
What is Value?
The Lesson of the Roman Empire.

The book is printed in that large type and with that freedom from misprints which make it suitable for use as a text book in translation. It is fitted for use in a High School, or in the fifth year class of a Middle School, for the language is far more simple than much of that with which Middle School students have to struggle. Take the following as an example of the style and thought of the letters:—

"A wise Imperial administrator once said to me that he was always having admirable schemes for reform brought before him—schemes which were often not only excellent on paper, but would no doubt have been beneficial in practice. He made it a rule, however, before he began to consider them seriously and in detail to ask: 'What will it cost?' and to have a proper financial estimate made as a preliminary to any discussion of the merits. The next step was to ask: 'Where is the money to come from?' By the time these two questions had been asked and answered, prudence and common-sense showed in the majority of cases that it would be inexpedient to proceed with the schemes."

The book is of special interest at the present time. It is dedicated to Theodore Roosevelt, and the reason given for asking leave to dedicate the book to him is stated as follows:—

"You are not only one of the most convinced and most powerful opponents of Socialism living, but, what is more, you oppose Socialism for the right reasons—or, at any rate, for what I deem to be the right reasons. You oppose it because you believe that it will imperil the safety of the State, by breaking down the character of the citizens, and by drying up the sources of national wealth."

OUR RUSSIAN NEWSLETTER.

(*From Our St. Petersburg Correspondent.*)

St. Petersburg, November 30.

The third Duma, in the third year of its existence, has at length entered upon the task of genuine reform. What has been accomplished hitherto in this direction, as in the Agrarian Settlement Bill, has been merely registering and approving what has been in process of execution for years past. Moreover, the results of this stupendous undertaking will hardly make themselves plain to the ordinary citizen in the present generation. But on Friday was introduced into the Duma the Bill "On the Inviolability of the Person," which the Russian public long ago christened the "Russian Habeas Corpus." It provides that no man shall be arrested or detained for more than 24 hours without appearing before a magistrate, nor be tried before any court than that appointed by the law of the land to deal with the particular offences with which he is charged. It provides for the inviolability of the domicile, which must no longer be entered and searched without a warrant. It provides for the secrecy of postal and telegraphic correspondence. In so far it is rightly named the Russian Habeas Corpus." These clauses were originally drawn up at the great Moscow Congress before a Duma was dreamt of. They were introduced into the first Duma with additions to guarantee their due observance, but that Duma was immediately dissolved for its temerity. The same clauses reappeared in a Bill introduced into the second Duma, but the safeguards had been whittled down somewhat; nevertheless the second Duma was got rid of in like manner. Now that the old provisions have been introduced into the third Duma there is no occasion for apprehension as to the results, for the third Duma has most carefully provided for the complete exemption from the operation of this Bill of the "political police" or gendarmerie, who may, even if the "Russian Habeas Corpus" becomes law, still arrest and imprison on suspicion, keep detained for any length of time (often for years) without trial, any person whom they may choose to suspect of a "political" offence, and when they finally are pleased to try such "suspects" the court is never a court of justice in the sense of those words elsewhere in the world: it is a Star Chamber where accusation stands in lief of proof, and the "crimes" are more often committed in thought and word than in actual deed. So long as the gendarmerie continue to be responsible to no control whatsoever, as is the case at present and long has been, it is impossible for Russians to feel themselves citizens of a constitutionally governed country. They are specially exempted from the provisions of this miscalled "Russian Habeas Corpus," but the Octobrists intend to produce another Bill providing that the gendarmerie shall be subject to the Ministry of Justice and work according to recognised legal methods instead of the uncontrolled system of individual licence which produces and must therefore protect such double-dyed traitors as the spy-provocateur Azeff: and their name is legion! It is considered by the optimistic in Russia that progress has been made because the third Duma has succeeded in introducing a Bill for the liberty of the subject (if the gendarmes approve) without incurring the penalty of immediate dissolution which followed the attempt in the two previous Duma.

Russians work only for from 205 to 245 days in the year, the actual number of working days differing according to locality; the remaining 120 to 160 days are holidays, which the law and the Church maintain inviolate. They are spent by the majority of the Russian nation in vodka drinking. In the last fifty years five attempts have been made to curtail these idle days, and a sixth attempt is about to be made by the Russian Upper House. Western Europe only keeps from 58 (Switzerland) to 64 (England) holidays

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in the year. It is estimated that Russia loses annually in idleness an amount almost equivalent to the total of the huge Russian Budget, without counting the further injury caused by the intemperance and consequent crime and misery which mark these holidays.

The lady barrister who recently attempted to realise the right of her sex to plead in the Russian Courts has given the Senate occasion to pronounce definitely against women as barristers. The newspapers are interested in the side issue of what is the proper costume for a lady barrister. The men always wear the uniform of their office, if they belong to any of the departments of the Ministry of Justice; if not they appear in evening dress. The lady barristers likewise appeared in full evening toilette with a décolletage which was by many regarded as considerably exceeding the demands of the occasion. Even serious papers referred to the historic precedent of Phryne before the judges, while the Black Gang member of the Duma, M. Purishkevich, a notable anti-feminist, perpetrated another unquotable epigram on the subject.

A special Committee, under the presidency of M. Stolipin, and composed of all the Ministers, has been appointed by the Emperor to deal with the important question of the colonisation of the region through which the new Amur Railway is to pass. The Committee will send out exploring parties to study the geographical and other features of the region traversed, and will keep a representative in the Russian Far East who will be fully empowered to control the efforts of the local officials and other Government representatives engaged in developing the resources of the new country. This Committee is the most powerful appointed in Russia since the memorable committee on the construction of the Great Siberian Railway, whose president was the Czarevich, now Emperor Nicholas the Second.

The Pension Fund of the Russian Army which is made up of Government grants and contributions from officers' pay, has been declining for a decade past and is now on the eve of bankruptcy. Partly this is due to changes having been made in the conditions of service without corresponding changes in the articles of the Fund, but a special cause is found in the sudden increase of payments in consequence of the Russo-Japanese War, and the wholesale retirement of officers during the "troublous times" in Russia which followed. Henceforth it is proposed to reorganise the pension fund on the German system, payment to be made on basis calculated not according to rank but according to length of service.

Russians are watching closely the struggle taking place in the political world of England. It is recognised that any changes in the fiscal policy of Great Britain, though they might affect Russia to some extent, would not deal her a serious blow inasmuch as Russia's exports are all raw material. But it is noted with some satisfaction that another Power in Europe, whose exports to Great Britain and her colonies are entirely manufactured or half-manufactured articles, would be very heavily stricken indeed by the anticipated changes.

The press is greatly exercised with the alleged proceedings of Japanese gunboats in Russian Far Eastern waters. Along despatch to the *Novoe Vremya* from Vladivostock reports that last year the Japanese demanded and received permission for a gunboat to visit Kamchatka for the purpose of rescuing Japanese fishermen. It distinguished itself by protesting against Russian arrests of Japanese who had violated the fishing laws. This year the demand was for two gunboats, but the Russian Government gave leave only for one. This boat has been engaged in taking thorough soundings of every bay, inlet, river mouth, etc. along the coast and has sent surveying parties ashore and penetrated some way into the Hinterland. Leading natives have been made drunk and persuaded to yield up to the Japanese the entire fur catch of the season. Russian fishermen have been interfered with and isolated Russian officials browbeaten. It is even alleged that the Japanese informed the natives that "there would soon be another war, after which the territory would be Japanese and no longer Russian." The correspondent concludes his letter with the saving clause that "perhaps some of the above may merely denote a state of nervous apprehension on the part of the local inhabitants and officials;" nevertheless the *Novoe Vremya* makes his letter the text of a leader calling upon M. Izvolsky to remedy matters with all speed lest the next step be the appearance in Kamchatka of a Japanese Governor to replace the Russian rule.

M. Klemm, head of a department of the Russian Foreign Office, last night presided at the inauguration meeting of a new society for the study of the Far East and the Orient generally, under the title, "Society of Russian Orientalists." The idea originated at Kharbin, where a group of Russians interested themselves in the study of Chinese and Manchus and the life around them. The objects of the society will be to focus the labours of various similar societies scattered up and down the huge Russian Empire, with a view to spreading among the public of Russia a better understanding of Oriental peoples, and among the latter to push the knowledge of Russia and the Russians and Russian interests.

A telegram sent by the town of Vladikavkaz to the Viceroy of the Caucasus and to the Minister of the Interior, has been communicated to the legislative chambers and published. It calls urgently for military aid to save the town from the raids of armed brigands who in broad daylight enter the town, fusillade houses, plunder and murder their victims, the town being absolutely helpless—in fact, the state of things described in this telegram from the panic-stricken mayor and town councillors seems to be a very close parallel to the present condition of affairs in Persia.

An expedition which left St. Petersburg last March to survey the Arctic coasts between the mouths of the Bena and Kelima has safely returned, with the exception of a few members who will winter on the spot, to Jakutsk en route for home. The expedition has thoroughly explored and surveyed some 2,700 miles of coast-line including the mouths of no less than 160 rivers, of which the river Indigirka alone has a delta fifty miles wide, and was only prevented completing its task by the onset of winter and the polar night.

General Bekmann has been superseded as Governor-General of Finland by General Sein, who is expected to deal with Finnish questions in a less conciliatory manner than, it is alleged, has been the mistaken policy of General Bekmann. The Finns present a problem to Russia in many ways analogous to that with which England has been dealing for so long in Ireland; where the parallel does not hold is in the cardinal fact that the Finns have never fought for Russia as the Irish always do for England, and also the fact that Finland is within within 30 miles of the capital and offers no natural barrier to the ambitions of a new Napoleon.

MR. HARGREAVES' CONCERT.

The attendance at the Gaiety on Monday evening was not as good as the musical fare merited. The programme, it will be seen, presented a pleasing amount of variety, both in the instrumental and the vocal lines, which might have been expected to appeal to a wide range of tastes. Yet there was not nearly as large an audience as might have assembled—and has assembled—to witness, say, a prize-fight or a variety show. Mr. Hargreaves is to be commiserated on the Laodicean response of the community to the call of Art. Those, however, who were present will the more regret that others were not there to enjoy what was a good deal more than a mere entertainment.

To all lovers of music the programme speaks for itself. In the opening item, if we may venture upon a mild criticism, the piano accompaniment was somewhat more pronounced than it need have been—an error which, however, was not repeated in succeeding numbers. If any distinctions could be made on the score of excellence or general acceptability, the charming vocal duet by Mrs. Schmid and Mr. Hargreaves, M. Vigneti's delightful violin solo from Schumann, and the old favourites given by Mr. Hargreaves at the close of the evening, deserve especial mention; but, as we have said, a high artistic level was set at the beginning, and was maintained throughout. We venture to think that if Mr. Hargreaves were to give another concert of the same quality, there would be little room for complaint on the ground of support. The programme was as follows:—

PROGRAMME.

PART I.

1. Prologue..... To "Pagliacci" .....*Leoncavallo*
   Mr. R. Hargreaves.
2. Violin Solo .....
   Mons. Vigneti.
3. Songs ..... *a.* "Le Soupir" .....*Bemberg*
   b. "Embarquez vous" ...*Godard*
   Mr. R. Hargreaves.
4. Piano Solo..." Nocturne in F minor" .....*Chopin*
   Prof. H. Heydrich.
5. Vocal Duet..... "Noel" .....*Gounod*
   Mme. R. Schmid and Mr. Hargreaves.

PART II.

1. Songs.....From "Dichterliebe".....*Schumann*
   (*a*) Im Wunderschönen Mon at Mai.
   (*b*) Aus Meinen Thränen Spriessen.
   (*c*) Wenn ich in deine Augen Seh.
   (*d*) Ich Grolle Nicht.
   Mr. Hargreaves.
2. 'Cello Solo. (*a*) "Romance Sans Paroles".....*Davidoff*
   (*b*) "Allegro Appassionata"...*Saint-Saëns*
   Mons. Mipkow.
3. Violin Solo.....Traumerei .....*Schumann*
   Mons. Vigneti.
4. Songs..... "Who is Sylvia" .....*Schubert*
   "Drink to me only" ...*Old-English*
   Mr. R. Hargreaves.

SATURDAY'S FOOTBALL.

ASSOCIATION: Y.C. & A.C. DEFEAT S.S. "PALAWAN."

The Association match between a Club team and the P. & O. *Palawan* resulted, after some interesting play, in a victory for the Club by 4 goals to 1. The Y.C. & A C. team was as follows:—

Goal, H. C. Gregory; Backs, G. Neville and L. Watson; Half-backs, D. Neville, T. Levack, and G. N. Brockhurst; Forwards, S. R. Ford, S. H. Stanford, O. Strome (Capt.), V. A. Hearne and J. H. Tresize.

RUGBY: A VICTORY FOR "COLOURS."

In this game under Rugby rules between two Club teams, as published in our Saturday's issue, the lack of practice was evident on either side, but the play was nevertheless keen and interesting. Squire, for Colours, and Hornstein, for Whites, in particular distinguished themselves, while the others who succeeded in scoring were Buckle (2) and Mason, for the one side, and Attwell for the other. At the close of play Colours were left victorious by 16 points (2 goals, 3 tries) to 6 (2 tries.)

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE CURRENT LITERATURE.

One of the greatest authorities on Japanese ancient customs, Mr. Hirade Kojiro, has just published a book on the Vendetta in Japan which is of considerable interest and value. The work is entitled *Katakiuchi* and is issued by the Bunshōkaku. It covers about 300 pages and sells at 80 *sen* a copy. In a preface which he penned for the book, Mr. S. Fujioka bears testimony to the thorough competency of Mr. Hirade to compile a history of Japanese blood-feuds. After finishing the book Mr. Hirade was taken ill and was unable even to write a preface to the chapters he had sent to the printer. For a series of years, Mr. Fujioka tells us, Mr. Hirade has been engaged on investigations of Japanese customs. The *Nihon Fūzokushi* (History of Japanese Customs) was compiled by Messrs. Fujioka and Hirade working together, but Mr Hirade did by far the greater part of the choosing and the preparation of the material for that history. Besides this he is the author of a work called *Tōkyō Fūzokushi*. The *Katakiuchi* is divided into ten parts. Part I. consists of seven chapters bearing the following headings:—(1) Introduction. (2) The Origin of the Vendetta. (3) Rules and Customs controlling the practice. (4) The Executor of Vengeance and his Foe. (5) The Procedure followed. (6) History of the practice and changes in the mode of carrying it out. (7) The Conclusions reached. This part covers 159 pages. Part II. is wholly devoted to the publication of short histories of 25 noted vendetta cases. In no less than eight of these Edo men figure prominently in the tales. The practice was undoubtedly more prevalent during what is known as the Edo Jidai (1603-1867) than at any previous time, though, dating from the fifth century* onwards, cases of Vendetta are recorded in Japanese history. Mr. Hirade considers that the wide prevalence of this custom during the two centuries and a half when the Japanese warrior class was in danger of losing all its martial spirit and prowess served a very useful purpose. (*Mohaya sensō mo yami, bushi ga shigoku anraku ni kurashite, yūda ni nagare, daitai ni oite daraku shita to iwaneba naranu jidai de aru noni, tōji no bushido no ue kara rippa naru uruwashii kōi to minasareta katakiuchi ga aru*). It kept warlike deeds before the eyes of the nation and thus did much to check the influence of the numerous effeminating pastimes and pleasures of the Tokugawa era. In Chap. VI. of Part I. Mr. Hirade gives tables showing what an enormous number of vendetta cases there were in the Tokugawa era. The practice underwent many changes during that period. Beginning with the samurai class, it gradually spread to the peasantry. Beginning with men, it was in certain cases practised by women. Occasionally for some time the slaying of an assassin by relatives led to an attack on these avengers of blood by the relatives of the man first killed, but eventually this was condemned by public opinion. The practice of a large number of relatives and friends joining in an attack on a foe seems to have prevailed for a long time. In the famous Jorurizaka Vendetta case there were forty or fifty men who took part in the affair. Towards the close of the Tokugawa era farmers and traders figured more prominently in vendetta cases than the warrior class. This was the result of the growth of spirit, energy and independence among these classes. It was a proof that they were freeing themselves from the military oppression under which they had groaned for centuries and preparing themselves for the age during which they had to fight side by side with professional warriors.

Among the notifications issued by the Dajōkwan in 1873 was one dated Feb. 7th, which strictly forbade the vendetta on the ground that in it private individuals usurped the sole right of the State to punish certain offences with death penalties. The famous notification is given in full on p. 158 of Pt. I. of Mr. Hirade's book. The first two lines run thus:—*Hito wo korosu wa Kokka no taikin ni shite, hito wo korosu mono wo hassuru wa Seifu no kōken ni sōro tokoro, korai yori fukei* (父兄) *no tame ni shū wo fuku suru wo motte shitei no gimu to nasu no koshū* (古習) *ari.* "Murder is strictly forbidden by the State. Whereas the punishment of murderers is a public right that pertains to the Government alone, following an ancient custom, it has long been thought that it is the duty of sons and brothers to avenge the death of fathers and brothers." This notification put an end to a practice that has furnished so many thrilling stories to dramatists that it is difficult to imagine what stage-acting in Japan would be without material of this kind to draw on.

* The practice began with royalty in A. D. 456.

* * *

The daily newspapers all over the country have recently been publishing articles on the reform of the present educational system. There seem to be a large number of system-worshippers in this country, who appear to think that methods are everything and men go for very little in education. It is reported on good authority that Mr. Komatsubara is bent on making radical changes in the school system, but the measures drafted by the Department of Education can not become law till they have received the approval of two very powerful and very critical bodies. One of these is the High Council of Education and the other the faculties of the two Imperial Universities. In some quarters the total abolition of the High Schools and the improvement of the Middle Schools to a degree that shall qualify them to do the work now done by the High Schools are advocated. This, it is maintained, would enable students to enter the Universities a year earlier than they do now. The plan proposed is to add two years to the present five year Middle School course. To the adoption of this plan numerous objections have been advanced. Into the whole question we have no space to go here.

To the December *Taiyō* Dr. R. Endo contributes a long article on Middle School education, the substance of which we propose to give in as few words as possible. For the sake of clearness we retain the headings of the original essay.

I. *The evil of education made interesting.* One of the modern ideas connected with school teaching in this country is that it has to be made interesting. Some teachers do nothing but puzzle their heads as to how to make their teaching entertaining to students. The idea that nowadays everything must be rendered entertaining is not confined to school teaching. Efforts are being made to render students' boarding-houses entertaining by all sorts of devices. Undoubtedly there was plenty of room for this kind of thing both in schools and in boarding-houses, and within certain limits the movement deserves every encouragement. But in schools it is now going too far and it is getting to this, that the value of any given study is being measured by the amount of interest it creates in the minds of students. Thus knowledge in many cases is not valued for its own sake or for the sake of the uses to which it is to be put in after life, but only because it is imparted in an entertaining manner. If the power to please the mind of the learner is to be the test of the value of what is taught, then certain extremely dry subjects such as mathematics, grammar and statistics of various kinds, must be proscribed. If a student has not sufficient will-power and desire for knowledge to tackle the extremely uninteresting subjects that he has to master as a preparation for after-life, he is of no use. Higher education is thrown away on such men. The modern idea that schools are to be tested by the pleasures they provide for students in school hours is fatal to the achievement of great results. Our old notion was that the life of a student, like that of a soldier, is necessarily one that involves hardships, and most of our noted scholars were strongly opposed to surrounding themselves with comforts. They practised self-denial and cheerfully put up with all sorts of inconveniences for the sake of the end they had in view. The pampering of the taste for excitement and diversion of some kind or other that goes on in certain class rooms to-day will certainly be condemned by all level-headed educationists (*Midari ni shumi kyōiku, shumi kyōiku to iu no wa, ōi ni kangaueki mondai de arō to omou*). What we want to-day is to strengthen the will-power of students, which is certainly not equal to that possessed by the old *samurai* students of former times, who made light of the privations of a life of comparative poverty. There is much small-mindedness to be seen in all our Middle Schools to-day, and if teachers go out of their way to gratify every trifling request students may make, they will help to augment it. It is after all a very small thing whether mental food is rendered palatable by spices of various sorts or not. The condiments as a rule add nothing to its nutritive power. Of course it is too much to expect that ordinary students should ever attain to great-mindedness. Their lives are apt to be aimless and purposeless. And perhaps there is not much character-formation going on in most Middle Schools, but certainly the teachers should do their utmost to discourage the notion that pleasant and comparatively easy mental exercises are to be preferred to the somewhat unpleasant and arduous ones. It is no doubt more pleasant to read newspapers and magazines than great Chinese and Japanese authors, but the effect of the two classes of literature on the mind is as different as light from darkness. The Chūgakkō student to-day has more common sense, more fluency of speech and a better knowledge of the laws of matter generally than students had 25 years ago, but in knowledge of English, Chinese and certain other subjects he does not approach the standard reached in Middle Schools a quarter of a century ago (*Ayashimubeki wa Eigo no chikara ni oite sura! nao hijō ni ototte oru. Kambun ya sono ta no mono wa moto yori de aru*).

II. *The deficiency in Chinese Text-books.* That ability to understand Chinese and compose in it is hard to find in Middle Schools is the opinion of everybody (*Manjin no ikō dōon ni tonauru tokoro de aru*). There are no doubt many reasons for this, but one of the chief of these is the unsuitableness of the text-books now in use for teaching Chinese. They have been compiled after Western models. Readers in Europe and America are usually written by one person and consequently the grading of the various pieces so as to enable the pupil to pass easily from the simple to the complex, presents no great difficulty to the compiler. But this grading becomes an impossibility with Chinese text-books. In those now in use the first book may be compiled by one man, but in the after-books there are quotations from all sorts of works written in entirely different styles. The understanding of one is no help to the understanding of another. The capabilities of the Chinese language, its beauty of diction, its wonderful conciseness and point and many other of its qualities can only be found out by the study of a number of different authors. We are in favour of abandoning the use of short disconnected extracts and of teaching students to read long passages taken from classical writers. Entirely new kinds of Chinese text-books are called for.

III. *On hanging the pictures of great men on the walls of School halls.* This practice regarded from some points of view is no doubt commendable, but it is very doubtful whether it altogether answers the purpose for which it is done, that is, it is questionable whether it leads students to imitate only the great qualities of great men, while avoiding their weaknesses and defects. The biographies of great men all show that in some things they can not be held up as models. Socrates, though a very wise man, was careless about his personal appearance. A student when told about the latter peculiarity would be very likely to say: "Socrates was slovenly in his dress, why should I care how I dress?" When told that Mencius was an adept at sophistry, a student is apt to think that to become great he also must become a sophist. This is the sort of thing that is likely to happen at schools. Then there is another thing that strikes one connected with these pictures: the characters they represent can only be admired by a special class of mind. Students' minds differ so widely that what impresses one has no effect whatever on another, and so to expect hundreds of lads all to hold one man in admiration shows ignorance of one of the most fundamental psychological laws, according to which affinity between minds is one of the essential conditions of what is known as hero-worship.

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It seems to me that the best plan to adopt is to draw the attention of students to great men who originally came from the places where they are now living and to point out just what quality or qualities were possessed by these men. In many respects the men who have made a great reputation for themselves by some special achievements are very ordinary men. It is the commonplaceness displayed by these men in most things, while excelling in one special thing, that acts as an incentive to effort and perseverance among students. All-round remarkableness is rightly regarded by most people as too difficult of attainment. It tends to render students despondent. Familiarity with the kind of life passed by great men in their native places before they rose to fame tends greatly to arouse aspirations in the breasts of other youths.

IV. *The development of natural gifts.* This is specially important, owing to the bearing it has on character. So much of the Middle School education of to-day consists of intellectual culture only and does little towards producing boys and girls of character. Female education as carried on to-day has a refining influence on those who enjoy it, but it signally fails in giving a girl the preparation she needs for the position she fills in after-life.

V. *The evil of paying so much attention to ephemeral literature.* The time that ought to be devoted to the study of standard books is too often squandered in reading newspapers and magazines. Some young men fancy that the way to prepare themselves to be powerful politicians is to read the daily papers and little else besides, but the truth is that all the world's greatest statesman have been well versed in literature, have studied hard the best books that the world has produced. The tendency of our educational system and of the habits of modern students is all towards shallowness. The pluck to undertake big tasks and arduous mental training is sadly deficient among the youths who crowd to our Middle Schools.

Quite a new interest has been awakened among a certain class of scholars in the Chinese language. Mr. Goto Asatarō contributes to the December *Taiyō* an article on this subject entitled *Kanji Shinkenkyū no Kiun.* He says that this new movement was started about two years ago by Dr. Ichimura. It partakes somewhat of the nature of a reaction against the use of Roman letters as a substitute for the ideographs. Mr. Goto writes enthusiastically of the results to be looked for from the application of new methods of investigation to the Chinese language. He thinks that in the derivation and early forms of the various ideographs, scholars will find much food for thought. He goes into various questions connected with their origin and insists on their necessity to the Japanese.

* * *

The *Chūo Kōron* publishes a number of articles on the Seiyūkai. The views of Messrs. Tagawa, Shimada (Saburō), H. Nakamura, Ozaki, Count Okuma, Viscount Akimoto, and others are given. From Count Okuma's article we quote the following:—I am asked to say what will be the future of the Seiyukai. There is nothing more complicated than politics, and so it has happened in the past that political forecasts have more often been wrong than right. Plato said that a man needs to be a philosopher in order to understand politics thoroughly. There is much truth in this. The laws that govern the changes which take place in the political world are extremely complex and they mutually affect each other so much that to determine exactly what will result from their interworking is by no means easy. Considered as a political party the Seiyūkai has many serious defects. The members of a political party who occupy seats in the Diet certainly ought to represent the people who elect them. But this the members of the Seiyūkai do not do. They deceive the electors and follow their own selfish interests. But these electors are quite content to let things go on this way, as they are still ignorant of what constitutional government means. When Marquis Saionji was in power the Seiyūkai had a grand opportunity offered them for establishing party government in this country. But they failed to make use of it. If Marquis Saionji had to resign on account of illness, Hara and Matsuda were left. Why did not they do as Asquith did when Bannerman died—reorganize the Government so as to keep the administration in the hands of members of the Seiyūkai? Instead of that they aided the restoration of the bureaucratic form of government. What avail is the majority they command in the Diet if they make such a poor use of it? Our form of government to-day bears a very close resemblance to that of Spain. Spain has a constitution and political parties, but the curious thing is that the Government party always commands an enormous majority in the Cortes. If the total number of members of that assembly be 300, 200 of these are sure to be on the side of the Government. Though we often hear that one political party has gone out of power and that another has taken its place, this does not affect the Government majority in the least. The reason of this is that among the two hundred that form the Government majority there are a hundred trimmers, who are known as "The fine weather party" (日和見黨) *Hiyorimitō.* Conducted this way constitutional government becomes a mere farce. The despotism of bureaucracy goes unchecked. Though Spain, like Japan, can look back on a glorious history, whereas Japan is on the upward path as regards world-wide fame, Spain is to-day sinking lower and lower in the estimation of the great European Powers. This similarity between our leading political party and the parties in Spain can only be regarded as extremely inauspicious. Nevertheless the fact is undeniable. (*Hanahada fushō no yō de wa aru ga, ikani sen jijitsu ni oite waga seitō genjō wa Spain no sore ni nite oru no de aru*) It seems to me that the members of the Seiyūkai, in total disregard of the interests of the nation and in self-pleasing, go beyond anything to be witnessed in Spain. How long will it be before the nation begins to realize the actual situation? Whenever that comes about, the Seiyūkai's days will be numbered, that is, unless the awakening of the nation is accompanied by the awakening of the Party. In that case there may be a great future before it. There are, we are told, some members of the Party who perceive that in certain provinces things are in a terribly bad way (*Konnichi sude ni sukūbekarazaru konnan ni ochiitte oru yo de*), and personally they are quite concerned about it; but there the matter stops. The Party adopts no measures for bettering anything. Members of the Party were deeply implicated in the Sugar case scandals. They have been convicted of breaking the law, but how the Party regards this affair the public has not been informed. Can a party pass over offences of this kind in silence without endangering its very existence? If the Seiyūkai can be induced to mend its ways, the State will be immensely benefited thereby, that is, if it does it in time. This country is not Spain, and so it will not go on indefinitely patiently bearing the evils from which it now suffers.

Mr. Ozaki Yukio's article reads very much like an apology for the Seiyūkai. He sums up its merits thus:—The Party is well organized and it has great strength, its ramifications extend to every part of the country, it commands a majority in the House of Representatives and has begun to influence the House of Peers, and many of its members are solid men who are well versed in affairs People say that the Seiyūkai members have no definite views and no principles, but this applies to all Japanese (*Nihonjin mina shikari*). The weak point in the Party, according to Mr. Ozaki, is that it is colourless, but even this he excuses on the ground that colourlessness is a characteristic of all political parties that are applicants for power. As to its future, he is somewhat optimistic; he sees no reason why its influence should decline to any great extent.

Mr. Tanaka Hozumi contributes to the *Chūō-kōron* an article entitled *Gendai no Seinen* (the Young Man of To-day), which is worth quoting from as it calls attention to many facts which are constantly overlooked by newspaper writers and others when comparing modern young men with those of former days. Here are some of the remarks made by Mr. Tanaka in an article which covers seven or eight pages of the magazine:—I am not one of those who thinks that the students of the present day are more immoral than the students of the seventies or eighties. I hold that they are, on the contrary, much better behaved. Some thirty years ago when students found that the money sent to them by their relations was insufficient to cover the cost of debauchery, they pawned their clothes and other things and ran into debt. There were then hardly any students who kept away from pawnbrokers. (*Shosei ni shite shitsuya no mon wo kuguzaru mono hotondo naki no kwan wo tei shinu.*) If the money borrowed had been spent only on eating and drinking, it would not have been so bad, but it was frittered away on worse things than these. As regards profligacy and general self-indulgence, there was more of that among young men in former times than there is now. Comparing the students of to-day with those of former times, we find that maturity comes late and the development of common sense is much slower than it used to be. And as for will-power, it has greatly declined. This is, I think, quite indisputable. The maturity that comes late is after all not generally the great capacity that takes years to develop. The young men of to-day are as a rule so wanting in resolution that they relax their efforts before adequately developing their powers. Looking back to the beginning of the Meiji era and to the age that preceded it, we are struck with the fact that the men who figured most prominently in bringing about the revolution were comparatively young men, their ages ranging from 20 to 30 years. Itō, Yamagata, Inoue, Matsukata, Okuma all began to take a keen interest in politics at about the age of 20. Yoshida Shōin and Takasugi Shinsaku did wonders when very young men. Both of them died before they were 30. At the age of 24 or so their names were known all over the country. Of course they were no ordinary men, but in their days the early ripening of mental powers was the rule with young men, whereas now it is quite exceptional. At the age of 20 the men of those days regarded themselves and were regarded by society as thoroughly grown up and ready for filling responsible posts. Numerous were the youths who in the early years of the Meiji era went abroad at the age of 14 or 15 and returned ten years later with their heads full of new knowledge. But the Middle School student of 15 or 16 years of age to-day considers himself a child and is so regarded by his elders Even at the age of 20 when he graduates he does not lose his childishness by any means. Not one single idea concerning the world, the State or society ever comes floating into his mind even in a dream. (*Tenka kokka, shakwai ni ichinen no oyobu mono wa yume ni mo omoi-ukabarezu*). Even at a much later date, when perhaps the course at a technical school has been finished, the mind of the student is still centred on insignificant things. It is only a few very serious-minded youths that begin to plan for making a livelihood in some way or other.

It seeems an undoubted fact that one of the chief causes of the slow mental development to-day is nervous sensitiveness, combined with weakness of will. One hears a great deal nowadays about the mental distress which young men experience, and some young men regard it as somewhat of an honour to have fallen into the slough of despond. But is it not a fact that a great many of the perplexities which mar the minds of the modern young man would not exist if he had a little more common sense? For young men to be puzzling their heads over the deeper problems of life, problems which none of the greatest philosophers the world has known has ever been able to solve and to be throwing themselves into the Kegon Falls because their minds can not grasp what great minds fail to comprehend, is surely very silly. No less silly is it for a young man to succumb to disappointed love. The way in which young men take a pride in openly speaking of disappointed love and the wreckage it has caused in their lives is extremely unmanly. A man of resolution does not allow himself to be crushed by such experiences.

One of the reasons why the young man of to-day is in general character inferior to the young man of forty years ago is the fact that while

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f rmerly an enormous amount of attention was given to moral training and culture, nowadays the acquirement of knowledge and intellectual development are chiefly sought after. Learning in former times was limited to a knowledge of what Chinese books taught. But students then applied themselves diligently and many of them at the age of 20 were able to open private schools of their own. The chief object of the master of a *juku* was to develop the moral faculties of students, and these masters succeeded so well that the men they turned out by the hundred were far better equipped for life's battle than our modern students. The four kinds of influence brought to bear on young people, the influence of home life, the influence of schools, the influence of society and the influence of teachers of religion and morality, were all far more powerful at the beginning of the Meiji era than they are now. At that time the spirit of the Bushidō prevailed everywhere, and those who acted contrary to it were banished from the family hearth and from society and found no corner of the wide world where they could find shelter, so great was the control exercised by this code of morals. (*Ichi do sono memmoku wo sonzuru koto aran ka? katei mo shakwai mo kore wo irezu. Isshin no shō naru nao kore wo sansen sekai* (三千世界) *oku ni tokoro naki arisama to naru. Seisairyoku no dai, kaku no gotoshi*). The whole atmosphere which the lads of those days breathed tended towards the development of character. Hence it was that the *coup d'etat* which restored the Emperor to the throne from which he had been removed in all but name was effected so easily.

Mr. Tanaka reaches the following conclusions:—(1) The modern home has little resemblance to the homes in which our veteran statesmen passed their early days. The children in heart regard their parents as antiquated in their ways, and as altogether behind the age. The parents perceive that there is little in the way of knowledge that they have to impart to their offspring, in fact, they regard their children as greater than themselves; so they say that to advise them would be like preaching to Buddha (*Nani mo Shaka ni seppō, kunkai no yō nashi to shinzu*). (2) In society things are no better. The rarest thing to find is a man of principles and character who is qualified to become a model for young men to follow. (3) The time spent in schools compared with the hours spent at home is short and the impression made on pupils is very slight. (4) As for the religions propagated in the country, some of them are very corrupt and the others have little influence. To sum up, intellectual development, head knowledge, a certain sharp-wittedness, these we see, but young men whose wills, intellects and emotions are all highly developed, resulting in that strength of character which enables its possessor to accomplish great things, are hard to find.

THE GYMKHANA AT KAMAKURA.

This meeting, held on Sunday last at Kamakura, was favoured by splendid w ather, which attracted a large number of visitors from Tokyo and Yokohama, Sir Claude MacDonald, the British Ambassador, Mr. and Mrs. Rumbold of the British Embassy, and other foreign ciplomats being among the Tokyo contingent. A capital programme had been prepared and was highly enjoyed by all present. Eight events were down for decision, the results being as follow:—

Lantern Race for Kamakura Country-breds.—Gentleman rides from starting-point to a lady, dismounts and receives a lantern; lady lights candle, gentleman mounts and returns to starting-point. First past post with candle alight wins.

Mr. Musselman, who was assisted by Mrs. Arthur, secured first place, Mr. Hermann, helped by Mrs. Cole, being second.

Grand National Steeplechase for Kamakura Country-breds.—Distance about half mile.

Mr. Stitt was the winner, with Mr. H. Y. Irwine second.

The Envelope and Sawdust Competition for Kamakura Country-breds was won by Mrs. Cole and Mr. H Y. Irwine, Miss Williamson Jones and Mr. Musselman being second.

The Bending Race for Kamakura Country-breds was secured by Mr. Dinsdale, with Mr Spencer Smith second.

The Cigar and Umbrella Race for Kamakura Country-breds: Gentleman rides to lady and dismounts, she hands him a cigar and lights it, then hands him an open umbrella; he mounts and finishes round the post and back, cigar alight and umbrella open.

Mrs. Coutts and Mr. Spencer Smith won this event, Mrs. Spencer Smith and Mr. Henderson being second.

The Hurdle Race for all-comer Hacks, handicap by distance.—Dr. Kuehne was first and Mr. Hermann second.

The Bucket and Apple Race for Kamakura Country-breds.—A number of buckets to be placed in a row half-filled with water with an apple in each; competitors to start dismounted with no saddles, mount and ride over a hurdle to buckets and endeavour to secure an apple with his mouth whilst holding his pony, mount with apple in month, ride back over hurdle. First past post with apple in mouth wins.

This event was provocative of much mirth, several of the competitors being drenched from head to foot. Mr. Stitt secured first prize and Captain Wyatt second.

The Quarter Mile Flat Race for Kamakura Country-breeds was won by Mr. Apcar, Mr. Henderson being second.

After tiffin Mrs. H. D. C. Jones presented the prizes to the successful competitors.

The Committee was as follows:—Mr. S Isaacs and Mr. L. J. Healing, judges; Mr. A. Elked, Mr. E. O. Hermann, Dr. Kuehne, Mr. O. D. Strome, Mr. H. Y. Irwine, and Mr. J. T. Hamilton, Clerk of the Course.

On Saturday evening a special dinner was provided by the Kaihin Hotel, on the conclusion of which the guests participated in a very enjoyable dance.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

The usual fortnightly meeting of the Yokohama Literary and Musical Society was held at Van Schaick Hall on the 9th inst., when there was a very fair attendance of members. The first part of the evening's fare consisted of an illustrated lecture on 'A Few Days in Some Old German Towns," by the Rev. Geo. Wallace, whose ability and humour are always appreciated by Yokohama audiences. The second part of the programme was in the capable hands of Mrs. W. P. G. Field, and contained, besides other musical items, two quartette part-songs As the number of soloists of excellence is necessarily small, in a community like that of Yokohama, we believe that those responsible for the musical portion of this Society's entertainments could not do better than pay particular attention to this form of vocal music, always effective if correctly rendered.

PROGRAMME.

Pianoforte Solo—
(*a*) "Romance in E flat".....Rubinstein
(*b*) "Intermezzo".....Heller
Mrs. W. E. Tibbs.

Song .....".May Morning" .....Denza
Mrs. B. N. Miles

Quartette....."O, who will o'er the downs so free" .....Pearsall
Miss Blundell, Miss A. Blundell, Mr. H. E. Hayward, Mr. J. Gibson.

Recitation....."Mr. Montpelier's Recitation."
Mr. G. G. Brady.

Song....."The Beautiful Land of Nod".....Edwin Greene
Miss Alice Blundell

Song.....Two Songs from "Maud" .....Somerville
Mr. F. E. Colchester.

Quartette....."Good Night, Beloved"...Ciro Pinsuti
Miss Blundell, Miss A. Blundell, Mr. H. E. Hayward, Mr. J. Gibson.

In addition to the above, Miss Alice Blundell, whose contribution was received with much favour, was prevailed upon to sing again, and in response gave "Slumber sweetly;" while Mr. Brady, in compliance with the persistent demands of the audience, recited as an encore the hoary but ever-verdant "House that Jack built."

KOREA IN 1909.

The following article, communicated to the *Seoul Press*, appears in the issue of that paper of the 10th inst:—

It is recognised by some that, after all, the science of government, of successful government, is the science of the Finance Department of the country concerned. The main reason of China's lethargy and looseness is the absence of a stable and universal currency. The secret of the success of Western governments is the stability due to the financial foundations as built and bulwarked by the countries concerned.

This to introduce and commend the recent formation of the Bank of Korea. It means more to the success of this country than any other thing in recent progress. Law courts are absolutely necessary, police and the other needs are imperative, but the crux of the whole matter is finance, and if the distribution of money is universal and the sources of it are national, the backbone will stand and hold the body politic erect.

The establishment of the Bank of Korea puts at once the finances of this country on a firm basis and with the other reforms successfully being carried out, there is no question but that a new era politically will soon open up in this country.

A review of the reforms under way and the accomplishment of waterworks, roads, judiciary, police and, most of all, a general satisfaction with the political conditions is strongly in evidence. There is no question but that the vast majority of the Koreans approve and commend the settled conditions so apparent everywhere. Like everywhere, there is and will always be a "kicking" minority and this minority, as in all countries, has its uses. That the ultimate in national finances has not been reached anywhere is apparent to everyone, and the recent legislation in England is so fine, so proper and so just that there is no wonder there is keen opposition by the entrenched interests. Whether it wins now or not the blast has been made, and a more equitable taxation is sure to follow not only in England but in other countries. Taxation in Korea so far, there being no large or even a considerable rich class, has not been a problem. The question in England, and as it is bound to rise in other countries, will give those who have charge in Korea food for thought and they can profit by progress elsewhere.

A review of the progress of Korea made during the passing year will come from the proper sources, but we know now that it has been great in all lines. Several gold mines, including the Oriental Consolidated Mining Co. of Unsan, Pukchin, Taracol Tabowie, Kuk Sang Dong and Maibong with mines at each of these places; the Seoul Mining Co. at Suan Hikol; the German concession and mill at Pekogue Syenchun; Chiksan, with its mill and promising mines; the Italian concession above Kangkai in the far north, with Messrs. Kavanaugh and Preston opening it up; the Sakju concession, with Mr. Holloway and his associates—all these mines, with that of copper in Hamheung in charge of Mr. Weigall, there and perhaps others show what is being done in mining, not to mention several projects of importance in charge of Japanese and other mines like coal, graphite, etc. in view.

In religion the missionary societies all report large gains and increasing interest. Some of the reports have already been published by the *Press*.

Commercially the evidence all points to success. Money, notwithstanding the reports at times of tightness, is well distributed and getting more so.

With the great mass of the people satisfied and with progress in all the lines mentioned going well forward, the summary shows a most successful year for those who have charge of the general situation. No mention of advance would be proper without another allusion to the waterworks being built in various places. With the beginning of next year we will see several cities with a proper supply of pure water.

It gives us pleasure to allude to these things and to mention again the advance made by the establishment of the Bank of Korea.

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YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Yokohama Yacht Club was held yesterday evening in the rooms of the Foreign Board of Trade, at No. 74 In the absence of Mr. T. M. Laffin, the Commodore, Mr. R. Boyes, the Vice-Commodore, took the chair in the presence of some 25 members.

Mr. O. T. Gillon, the hon. Secretary, having read the notice calling the meeting, Mr. E. R. Thompson proposed, and Mr. G. G. Franklin seconded, that the report and accounts be taken as read. This was carried unanimously.

The next business before the meeting was to consider a proposal to amend Rules 1 and 36 of the Laws of the Club.

The amendment to Rule 1, which was proposed by Mr. H. A. Poole and seconded by Mr. C. Manley, read as follows:—The Yokohama Yacht Club is formed for the promotion of sailing *and motor boat racing*. The Club flag is a blue pennant with white cross and ball in the centre."

The words in italic constitute the addition to the rule.

As an amendment to this, Mr. A. R. Catto, in a few well-chosen remarks, proposed and Mr. Thompson seconded that the rule should read; "That motor boat racing under the racing rules of the Marine Motor Association of England is added to the objects of the Club."

The amendment was put to the meeting, but found few supporters, while on the other hand Mr. Poole's proposal was carried unanimously.

With regard to the addition to Rule 36, namely, "As regards motor boat racing, the racing rules of the Marine Motor Association of England for the time being in force shall be recognized," Mr. Poole moved that the addition remain in abeyance, pending the reorganization of the home Association and the probable amendment of the latter's rules.

This having been seconded by Mr. Manley, was duly carried.

The ballot for the Committee for the ensuing year was then proceeded with. Whilst the voting papers were being counted, the hon. Secretary announced that the outgoing Committee had placed the name of Mr. Fleming Day, the donor of the "Rudder" Cup, on the list of Hon. Members, an announcement that was received with much applause. He also read a letter from that gentleman, thanking the Club for the honour it had conferred on him.

Mr. A. R. Catto said the Racing Committee had arranged for a long distance race to be held next Easter, at which season the weather was more suitable for sailing than in summer. The race would extend to four days—Good Friday to Easter Monday inclusive.

The election of officers resulted as follows:—Mr. T. M. Laffin, Commodore; Mr. R. Boyes, Vice-Commodore; Mr. O. T. Gillon, Hon. Sec. & Treas.; Mr. A. R. Catto and Mr. G. W. Brockhurst, General Committee.

Racing Committee:—Over 22 rating, Mr. M. Schellenberg; 22 raters, Mr. G. Wendler; "Larks," Mr. J. Stanley Curtis.

The Chairman, having referred to the hard work done by the Racing Committee during the past season, mentioned the coming departure of Mr. H. A. Poole, which he said would be greatly regretted by all. Mr. Poole would, he was sure, carry away with him the best wishes of all the members.

The prizes and flags won during the past season were then presented to the successful competitors, the prize of the season, the "Rudder" Cup, a handsome trophy, having been secured by Mr. Laffin.

A vote of thanks to the donors of prizes, especially to the Mosquito Club for prizes for the long-distance race, and to the Chairman ended the meeting.

YOKOHAMA.

On the night of the 7th inst. a thief broke into the Club Hotel, No. 5, Yamashita-cho, and marched off with nine bottles of whisky and two other articles, valued at some 50 *yen*. The thief sold the goods for 10 *yen* to a grog-shop in Motomachi. Both the thief and the receiver were arrested on the morning of the 9th instant.

A Japanese orphan girl aged 12, who had been born in Honolulu, was sent back to Japan by the steamer *Manchuria* which arrived here on the 10th inst. During the voyage Mr. Terao, an interpreter belonging to the steamer, collected from the passengers the sum of $16 on behalf of the child who, in addition, was in possession of $45.50 left her by her deceased parents. She subsequently left for her home in Kumamoto prefecture, accompanied by a man from the same province.

On the 9th inst. a workman belonging to the Yokohama Electric Light Company, whilst engaged in repair work on an electric post at Magane-cho, was struck by a live wire and died soon afterwards.

At 2.34 a.m. on the 13th instant a somewhat severe shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. The oscillation lasted 2 minuutes and 34 seconds.

Mrs. Francis Carroll, an American resident living at No. 178, Kitakata-cho, instituted a claim three years ago against the Minister of Communications for 11,000 *yen* compensation, alleging that she suffered from nervous debility in consequence of a collision of trains at Yamakita Station. The case has at last been decided in favour of defendant in the Tokyo Local Court.

The Italian cruiser *Calabria*, which arrived here on the 13th inst. from San Francisco on her way home, is expected to stay here five days to undergo repairs.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended December 9th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	—	5	—	—	3
Died	—	—	2	1	—	2
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	1	13	11	—	—
Died	—	—	3	4	—	—

Surgeon James C. Pryor, U.S.N., Director of the U. S. Naval Hospital here, having been transferred to the principal Naval Department, Staff Surgeon E S. Bogard has been appointed his successor. Dr. Bogard arrived here on Tuesday and Dr. Pryor will leave for home on the 20th instant.

Mr. Okabe, Chairman of the Yokohama Export Silk Guild, presented a petition on Wednesday to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Agriculture and Commerce, asking them to request the French Government not to increase the duty on Japanese raw *habutae* and to lessen that on glossed *habutae*.

The two American cruisers *California* and *South Dakota* (13,680 tons each), belonging to the U.S. Pacific Squadron, arrived here on Wednesday afternoon from Manila. The former carries on board 36 officers and 834 marines, and the latter, 35 and 850.

Early on Wednesday morning a policeman belonging to the Tobe Police Station was seriously wounded at Kasumi-cho Itchome, by a suspicious-looking fellow whom he was taking to the police station. After a struggle lasting two hours, the man at length cut the rope binding his right wrist and escaped.

A storehouse pilferer named Takahashi Sadagoro, who has since June last stolen various articles valued at some 5,000 *yen*, was arrested on the 14th instant. It is alleged that he has robbed many different stores in this prefecture. He is believed to have had several accomplices, for whom the police authorities are now diligently searching.

On Tuesday evening a respectable-looking man bought a packet of tobacco for 10 *sen* at a shop at Ogimachi, Nichome, and he paid for it with a 10 *yen* note, receiving 9.90 *yen* as change. The note was afterwards discovered to be a counterfeit. It is said that the note is very difficult to distinguish from a genuine one.

THE LAW COURTS.

ACTION FOR DIVORCE.

The hearing of a petition for divorce instituted by an American, Mrs. Edmund L. Filmer, lodging in the residence of Mr. A. E. Fischer, No. 3,762, Sagiyama, Negishi, Yokohama, against her husband Mr. Edmund L. Filmer, on the ground of desertion, came up on the 13th instant in the Yokohama Local Court before Judge Nakatanigawa.

Plaintiff was represented by Mr. Ideura, who stated that his client legally married Mr. Edmund L. Filmer on the 2nd of December, 1900, at Manila. They lived together happily until the beginning of 1903, when the husband began to indulge in dissipation. During March 1904 he absconded, leaving his wife without any means of subsistence. Ever since that time defendant had not remitted to plaintiff any money for livelihood. In the meantime, plaintiff, being told by a friend of hers that defendant lived with a Mr. Fischer at Yokohama, came to Japan on the 18th July, 1907, to meet her husband. Prior to her arrival, however, defendant left Mr. Fischer's house and his present whereabouts are unknown.

Counsel Ideura argued that defendant had deserted plaintiff with malicious intent, and that as defendant had absented himself for more than three years, plaintiff could claim a divorce.

A maid-servant Mayeda Yuki, who had been in the employ of Mr. Fischer, was summoned to the Court as a witness, and on being asked by the Judge if she knew Mr. Edmund L. Filmer, she denied it, stating that defendant had lived in her master's house while she was away at Osaka on leave of absence, and that she was told of defendant after he had left her master's house.

Counsel Ideura asked the Judge to hear the opinion of Mr. N. W. McIvor, an American lawyer of Yokohama, letting him deal with the case according to American law. The Judge acceded to the request.

The hearing will be resumed on the 22nd inst.

THE BUDGET CRISIS.

THE SCENE IN THE HOUSE OF LORDS.

Westminster, November 24.

The historic debate of the Peers was marked to-night by a speech from our greatest living orator. His words were followed with thrilled attention by listeners who included representatives of the Royal Family, Ambassadors from abroad, numbers of Peeresses in the gallery, and scores of members of the House of Commons thronging the seats and standing place. No one who was present will ever forget the speech of Lord Rosebery, delivered from the middle of such a gathering.

Before the opening of the great gilt doors giving access to the Upper Chamber the lobby and the corridors were crowded with Peers, Peeresses, and distinguished strangers, keen to witness the next stage of the tremendous drama, particularly anxious to see and hear the principal actor of the evening. Within five minutes of the opening of the gates the scarlet of the benches, of the Woolsack, of the steps to the throne, even the scarlet covering the throne itself, was almost completely blotted out by the spreading tide of Peers, Privy Councillors, and bishops. Pouring through the doors of the gallery above, ladies in furs and velvets and aigrettes, relieved here and there with the sparkle of diamonds, rapidly made up an encircling line above the varied human picture on the floor below. A group of distinguished diplomats, which included the Spanish, American, Austrian, and German Ambassadors, broke the line of ladies. Just to the right of them was the Duchess of Connaught. Packed groups of members from the Lower House adjoined the line of Peeresses. Liberals. Unionists, and Labour representatives huddled together in the common effort to catch every word that rose from the Peers beneath them.

The debate was reopened by Lord Salisbury, a vigorous and downright speaker, though not so gifted an orator as his brothers, Lord Robert and Lord Hugh Cecil. While his ringing denuncia-

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tions of the Budget were being freely cheered by the Unionists, the Lord Chancellor, looking very grim and determined, watched him eagerly, as though waiting for the opportunity to pounce on him. Presently Lord Salisbury quoted the Lord Chancellor, with a comment on his words. Lord Loreburn sprang to his feet, stepped to the side of the woolsack, and interrupted. "The noble lord," he exclaimed, "has no right to impute anything to me but inconsistency." His tone was very warm. Lord Salisbury declared that he meant nothing further. The Lord Chancellor resumed his usual genial smile. "I accept that heartily," he said.

Lord Salisbury was succeeded by the Archbishop of Canterbury, who, in a moderate little speech, made it clear that he and many of the bishops would stand aside without expressing an opinion on the subject under dispute. While the Archbishop was speaking Mr. Birrell, Mr. Runciman, Mr. Burns, and Mr. Churchill, all members of the Cabinet, were standing amid the Privy Councillors on the steps of the throne.

LORD ROSEBERY.

There was a general buzz of conversation when the Archbishop took his seat, but it was stilled in a wonderful way when Lord Rosebery was seen to rise from the cross benches and step to the table of the House. He had to walk about nine paces to the Unionist side of the table, and in that nine paces absolute silence fell on the House. Here and there a Peeress leaned forward with lorgnettes or opera-glasses; M.P.'s in the gallery pressed on those in front of them. The only person in the House who seemed uninterested was Lord Crewe, the son-in-law of Lord Rosebery. With hat tilted over his forehead, he gave a casual glance at the ex-Prime Minister, and then resumed what were apparently very gloomy reflections.

Quietly and slowly Lord Rosebery began to speak, but his voice grew gradually in volume and expression. He turned his back on the Lord Chancellor and stood facing the Bar. "The situation," he said, "is by far the gravest of any in my lifetime—indeed, of the lifetime of any man born since 1832." Swiftly he came to the objections to the Budget. Then he sprang a surprise on the House by saying he could not vote for the amendment of Lord Lansdowne. Amazement was seen among the Liberals as well as among Unionists. What did it mean? Quickly Lord Rosebery explained. There was a more vital thing than the Budget, and that was the power of the House of Lords. The fate of a Budget should not be mixed up with the fate of the House of Lords.

He made a striking figure as he stood with hands thrown out in appeal, his shining silver hair emphasising the youthfulness of his face. With the earnestness of a prophet he asked the Lords not to risk the loss of power when they were so badly needed as at present. "Bills are rushed through the House of Commons with as little discussion as possible, and they are shot into this House like rubbish on a dung heap."

He flung his hands high above his head as he appealed to the Peers. Sharply he swung round and addressed the Lord Chancellor. His deep, musical voice sank almost to a whisper, then rose to a rousing trumpet-call. Never was any syllable lost. In the midst of his appeal he did not spare the Budget. "I agree," he cried, "that the Budget threatens to poison the very sources of our national supremacy. Pass the Budget, because in six months the country will, after experience of the loss and unemployment caused, return the Unionists to power. I fear the appeal to the country on an unreformed hereditary chamber, could not be more hostile than I am to the Budget, but I will not stake the fortunes of the Second Chamber with those of the Budget."

The magnetic power of the speaker over the Chamber was manifest. When he finished there was the equivalent of the sigh which signifies the relief from tension.

LORD MILNER.

Before dinner time arrived the House listened to another distinguished man in the person of Lord Milner. There could be no greater contrast to Lord Rosebery. A tall man, with a pleasantly serious face, he talks with the quiet, persuasive confidence of the master of detail who relies on his facts and seeks no aid from his personality. Nevertheless, he gets it. As Lord Milner analysed in his courteous, moderate way the figures of the Budget, the impression grew on one that it was almost impossible for this man to be wrong. He was not violent, being content to let his facts speak for themselves. "The worst of it is," he remarked, "all these bad taxes are quite unnecessary. It is perfectly possible, to my mind, to raise the whole amount by import duties."

His closely reasoned examination of the Government's financial proposals was followed with the deepest attention by the whole House.

ANGLO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

GERMAN OPINION ON HERR KAMPF'S SPEECH.

Berlin, November 25.

The speech delivered by Herr Kämpf, Vice-President of the German Reichstag and president of the corporation known as the Elders of the Berlin Merchants, at the banquet given at the Criterion Restaurant on Wednesday evening by the London Chamber of Commerce, has excited extreme surprise in this country, says the Berlin correspondent of a London journal.

Herr Kämpf, says the *Neueste Nachrichten*, thundered against the protective tariff on which the economic prosperity of his Fatherland is based. And what must his English audience have thought of a Vice-President of the Reichstag who considered it expedient to discuss in an after-dinner speech a question which is the subject of controversy in internal German politics and on which a fierce fight is raging between the English political parties?

The *Kruez Zeitung* remarks that Herr Kämpf hurled about him those platitudes of the Manchester School which science has long since recognised to be untenable. He concluded, however, like other speakers, adds the Conservative organ, by wishing for cordial relations between England and Germany, and "in this he is in agreement with the great majority of the German people."

The Agrarian *Deutsche Tages Zeitung* places a note of interrogation after Herr Kämpf's statement that the German Government is inclining to the view that it is time to remove high protective duties.

The Conservativative *Reichsbote* says the speeches referring to the relations between the two countries were all very pretty. Germany, it asserts, has never desired anything but friendly relations with England, and all that prevents such relations is the extremely hostile attitude of the English newspapers and of a large section of the public, which extends even to Government circles. Everything will be all right, it continues, when England abandons this attitude, and ceases to regard with envy the development of German industry and commerce and with mistrust the construction of the German Fleet. The German newspapers, it declares, have hitherto done nothing but ward off the attacks of the English newspapers. They have never indulged in similar attacks on England. Herr Kämpf, it says, should know that the object of the German Protective Tariff is to assure to German productions the possibility of existence side by side with those of foreigners in the German markets. "Commerce," the Conservative organ concludes, "may be the pioneer of civilisation, but only on condition that it allows the producers to develop undisturbed. Free Trade in the Liberal era was no pioneer of civilisation for German prosperity. Civilisation appeared only when Free Trade ceased and the protective tariff took German work and German commerce under its protecting wing.

The *Zeit am Mittag* considers that political tact ought to have restrained the Vice President of the Reichstag from publicly expressing such views at a moment when Tariff Reform is the subject of such heated controversy in England. Herr Kämpf, it adds, cannot be surprised if English politicians regard his remarks as interference in internal English affairs.

THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN KOREA.

VISCOUNT SONE'S ENLIGHTENED VIEWS.

Under advice of Viscount Sone, Resident-General, the Korean authorities on the 7th inst. rejected the memorials addressed to the Emperor and Premier of Korea by the Il Chin Hoi.

On the 8th inst. a representative of the *Seoul Press* was granted an interview by the Resident with regard to the political situation developed by the new move of the Il Chin Society. Among other things, his Excellency stated that he was at a loss to understand why such a wild proposal as the annexation of Korea by Japan had been advanced by the men concerned. They would be making a mistake if they thought that he would be influenced by such shallow manœuvres in shaping his Korean policy. He had already his own policy fixed, which was to develop industries in Korea, make Koreans better off and let them engage in peaceful pursuits without any fear at all times. Viscount Sone could not approve a policy of coercion. If Japan made Korea submissive simply by force and did not make her friendly at heart, it would be the same as holding a venomous serpent in her bosom. Such a policy was not consistent with safeguarding the interests of Japan for many long years to come. Referring to the proposal advanced by the Il Chin Hoi for the union of Korea with Japan, his Excellency pointed to the examples afforded by the German Empire and the United States of America. The federations of those countries had a long history and had not been accomplished in a single day. It was absurd to talk of the federation of Korea and Japan, which had each their own traditions and national characteristics. Those who advocated it should consider the fact that Switzerland still stands aloof from the German Federation. The best thing that Japan could do in Korea was to win her people over to her by giving them just and benevolent treatment and making them forget all the wrongs which they consider they have suffered in the past at Japanese hands. The Resident-General expressed a sincere hope that the Japanese of all classes would behave very prudently towards the Koreans.

NIPPON RACE CLUB.

The following is the result of the drawing for the country-bred horses, among the members of the Nippon Race Club:—

No.	Colour.	Sex.	Age.	Drawer.
36	Chestnut	Mare	3	Canuck
37	Black	„	3	Tytherleigh
38	Bay	„	3	Tandem
39	Brown	„	3	J Sonoda
40	Bay	„	3	Monte Carlo
41	Brown	„	3	N. Kawakita
42	Brown	„	3	Island
43	Chestnut	„	3	Prince
44	Chestnut	„	3	M Mitsui
45	Bay	„	3	Silk
46	Black	„	3	T. Mitsui
47	Black	„	3	James and Stitt.
48	Brown	„	4	Shigi
49	Bay	„	4	S. Minoda
50	Brown	„	4	May
51	Brown	„	3	States
52	Bay	„	3	Tatsute
53	Bay	„	3	T. Ishiura

CORRESPONDENCE.

HYPNOTISM.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—In the columns of the *Tokyo Asahi Shimbun* there is appearing a series of articles entitled "The Prevalence of Hypnotism" (催眠術の流行), in which a reporter describes his experiences when visiting the establishments in Tokyo where the practice of hypnotism, and the treatment of patients by this means, are carried on. In the words of the reporter these places are springing up "like mushrooms after the rain," and the practice is becoming widespread. The fourteenth article of the series is in this morning's paper.

In view of the fact that this practice is becoming so common, I would like to call the attention of educationalists, and those interested in human welfare, to certain points in connection with hypnotism which should be generally known. In a short article of this kind, one cannot go into the subject exhaustively;

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but in order to be brief, I will deal with some of the results of hypnotism which are either unknown, or ignored by those who dabble in this art. That certain nervous complaints or other ailments may be cured by hypnotism, I am prepared to admit; but the consequences in the case of the person operated upon, are infinitely worse than the sickness that may be (often only temporarily) removed. Unfortunately, however, these consequences are of such a nature that they are not even suspected of being attributable to their real cause. To express the matter briefly; the injury caused by hypnotism mainly consists in a weakening of the power of moral resistance. It is this power of resistance to wrong tendencies, vices, etc. which constitutes man a responsible moral being. Whether the inclination, or psychic impulse, be the indulgence of appetite, a fit of anger, a foolish action, or even the acts of suicide,. it is this power of moral resistance which enables a man to regulate his conduct and to act as a sane and responsible being. Now it is just at this vital point in man's make-up that the irreparable injury is done. Every time a person is hypnotised this power of moral resistance is progressively diminished. The effects, as they are moral rather than physical, are naturally obscure; and hence they are not usually related to their true cause. Those who have studied the subject, however, well know that in England and America it is gradually becoming recognized that distinct moral deterioration on the part of people repeatedly hypnotised is very frequently observed. Whatever their weaknesses may have been before being subjected to this process, those weaknesses are accentuated, and the person is less able to grapple with them than he was before. Even in cases where victims of alcoholism are cured by this artificial means, and a dislike for alcohol induced by suggestion, the general moral character is weakened; and at any time the craving for alcohol may again break out, and the unfortunate creatures, bolstered up by the will of another, usually fall lower than ever before.

One of the worst features of this practice is that the victims are usuallly women or children. They are used again and again by operators until they are often so morally enfeebled that a sharp word of command or even a clap of the hands may induce the hypnotic state. A person with a heart in the right place, even without an extensive investigation of hypnotism, should *feel* that this treatment of human beings is *a crime*. The heart of hypnotists, however, as of their brethren the vivisectionists, appears to be dead within them; but this is all the more reason why normal human beings should protest against this most dangerous practice. The mere fact that psychic results of so marked a nature are caused by hypnotism, and that the victim may be subjected to the will of the operator, should in itself suggest grave potential dangers. And as for the curing of sickness by this means, the danger of far more dangerous and subtle complications should be widely known. As well might one entrust a delicate operation of trepanning to a blacksmith, as allow people to be experimented on by the hypnotic practitioners who are springing up on every hand. The latter, however, loudly proclaim themselves benefactors of the race. "The Hall of Great Benevolence" (大仁堂) and similar high-sounding names are given to their pretentious establishments. The removal of moral defects and the strengthening of character which normally require strenuous efforts—efforts through which the will is nominally developed and strengthened—are to be dispensed with. According to these philanthropists, all that is necessary is a state of maudlin somnambulance and a darkened room. Some of these operators admit that there are serious dangers in connection with hypnotism; so they call their own process by another name, as for example 感應術, whatever this may mean. Others, again, maintain that great benefits result, and advocate the widespread application of the practice. One of these advocates, writing in a leading woman's magazine, recommends that women should be hypnotised at the time of childbirth, and states that he has made many experiments along these lines. In a certain middle school, one of the teachers hypnotised every student in his class. Another suggestion is that all children should be hypnotised and right conduct so strongly "suggested" that they will grow up without any moral defects. No wonder that these practitioners regard themselves as benefactors of the race!

It is indeed to be hoped that some resolute efforts will be made to check the spread of this evil, and to prevent irreparable injury being done through ignorance of the lamentable results of tampering with the hidden and most delicate springs of being.

I remain, Sir, yours faithfully, OBSERVER.
December 9th, 1909.

SANE CRITICISM.

(To the Editor of the "Japan Mail.")

Sir,—May I express my appreciation of the notice, appearing in your to-day's issue, of my Concert of last Monday.

During a residence of seven years in Kobe and Yokohama, I have not seen a press report of any artistic event so characterised by sound sense, competency of judgment and that equally rare feature, sincerity.

I can only say that it was refreshing to me to read it, and that its example can only serve to enhance the dignity of high Art as well as the traditions of good journalism.

Believe me, Sir, yours faithfully,
RANDALL HARGREAVES.
December 15th, 1909.

CHESS.

All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor, Japan Mail Office.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week at the Club Hôtel, No. No. 5 Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

Solution of Problem No. 35.

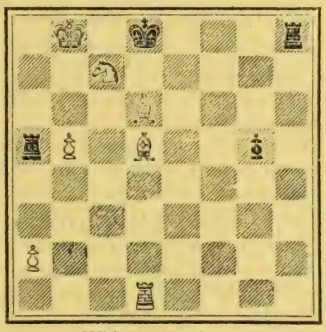
White.	Black.
1. Q to Kt 6	1. K takes Kt
2. Q to Q 6 mate	
	1. P takes Kt
2. Q to Q R 6 mate	
	1. Kt takes Q or any other move
2. Kt to Q B 2 mate	

* * *

Correct solutions received from J S., W.H.S. and Omega.

* * *

Problem No. 37.
By H. Fischer.
Black, 4 pieces.



White, 7 pieces.
White to play and mate in two moves.

* * *

Mr. Oscar Balk, one of the founders and first Secretary of the Yokohama Chess Club, is doing valiantly at Dunedin, N. Z. We take from the *Times* one of his recent games with notes by Mr. Cleland, a professional player located in New Zealand. This will be of interest to some of Mr. Balk's friends and co-workers remaining in Japan.

* * *

Game No. 37.—From the Championship Tournament of the Otago Chess Club.

Greco Counter Gambit.

White. O. Balk.	Black. G. F. Dodds.
1. P—K 4	P—K 4
2. Kt—K B3	P—K B 4
3. B—B 4	P x P
4. Kt x P	Q—Kt 4
5. P—Q 4	Q x P
6. Q—R 5 ch	P—Kt 3
7. B—Kt 5	Q x R ch
8. K—K 2	B—Kt 2
9. Kt—Q 2	B x Kt (a)
10. R x Q	P x Q
11. P x B	Kt—K 2 (b)
12. Kt x P	Kt—B 4
13. Kt—B 6 ch	K—B sq
14. R—K Kt sq	P—Kt 4
15. B—Q 5	Kt—B 3
16. B—K 4	Q Kt—Q 5 ch (c)
17. K—Q B3	P—B 3
18. P—Q B3	P—Q 4
19. Kt x Q P	P x Kt
20. B x P	R—Q Kt sq
21. P x Kt	R—Kt 3
22. B—B 6	R x B
23. P x R	B—Q 2
24. K—K 4	P—K R3
25. K—K 5	Kt—K 5
26. P—B 7	B—Kt 5
27. K—B 6	Kt—B 4
28. R—K sq	Kt—Q 3
29. B—B 6 (d)	Resigns.

Notes by Mr. R. A. Cleland.

(*a*) The reply to Q x R would be Kt x P, and if Kt—B 3, B—B 7 ch, after which Black cannot escape mate.

(*b*) Black is now a rook to the good, and should have made a much better fight; Kt—Q B3 looks more promising.

(*c*) The wrong knight.

(*d*) White makes every move tell, and has played the ending splendidly, keeping his opponent's pieces tied up to the bitter end.

* * *

We are glad to say that our Chess Editor (Mr. W. B. Mason) has returned "from the land of Sinim" and resumes charge of this column. His *locum tenens* now goes to sea, for a short voyage. *Nunc est ludendum* for him.

* * *

The Yokohama Chess Club are now fairly located in their new quarters; and some interesting games have been played during the week. Arrangements are now in progress for Championship and other tournaments. Now is the time for members of Clubs who have lost their "ground" to join in the worship of Caissa. They will find Chess "a thing of beauty and a joy for ever," a game which has nothing to fear from Treaty revision, Municipal regulations, wind or weather! Visitors to the port are welcome, also residents desiring membership, every Monday and Thursday at the Club Hotel.

* * *

Chess flourishes in Shanghai. A great contest lately took place, in which Portugal challenged "The World" and, what is more, achieved a signal victory.

TELEGRAMS.

[Special to the "Japan Mail."]

RUSSO JAPANESE RELATIONS.

Important Announcement.

London, December 15.

The following semi-official communiqué has been issued at St. Petersburg:—

There has latterly been evident in the Press a particularly nervous feeling created by rumours of a conflict which is alleged to be impending between Russia and Japan. Disquieting reports from the Far East fill the newspapers and this feeling is penetrating in a regrettable manner to wider circles. According to present reports, the effect of these rumours is making itself especially strongly felt in our frontier territory in the Far East, where, under the influence of a conviction of the inevitableness of an approaching war with Japan, which is becoming deeply rooted in the minds of the community even among representatives of the administration, the feeling of anxiety is assuming such a strained character that it reacts directly upon private enterprise, obliging business men to apply to Government organs for information as to how far the rumours current are correct, and whether commercial and industrial undertakings in the Far East may rely upon the preservation of peace. The interests of the people forbid the Government to abstain from intervention in this disturbing state of affairs and oblige it to declare categorically that all rumours of complications between Russia and Japan at the present time are absolutely unfounded. The Government has made use of the four years that have elapsed since the last war to conclude a whole series of international agreements, designed to wipe out all traces of enmity left behind by the war and to assist in the peaceful development of the political and economic relations of the two countries. From this point of view, next to the

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Commercial Treaty and the Fisheries Convention, particular importance attaches to the political Agreement of 1907, concluded with the object of mutually guaranteeing the integrity of the territorial possessions and treaty rights of the two Powers in the Far East. These acts undoubtedly contribute to the stability of the general political situation on the coasts of the Pacific, and particularly to Russo-Japanese relations, which completely lack the character wherewith certain newspapers endeavour to invest them. As regards these relations, there has been no friction of any kind since the Treaty of 1907, nor have any misunderstandings arisen. Communications which have reached the Minister of Foreign Affairs direct, as also the impressions which the Minister of Finance gained during his recent journey in the Far East, contain nothing disquieting. On the contrary, they emphatically confirm that in our relations with Japan complete mutual goodwill is to be perceived and a readiness to settle in peaceful friendly manner all questions which may arise.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

THE FORTHCOMING ELECTION.

GREAT LIBERAL MEETING.

London, December 9.

Twenty-three members of the Government, 215 members of the Houses of Lords and Commons, and a hundred Liberal candidates will support Mr. Asquith, the Premier, at the Albert Hall on Friday.

Mr. Balfour, the Unionist Leader, will issue a manifesto shortly.

The Earl of Camperdown and Baron Kesteven open the Lords' campaign at Romford and Wellingborough respectively.

THE AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

COAL ORDERED FROM THE FAR EAST.

London, December 10.

The New South Wales Government has ordered 50,000 tons of coal from Far Eastern sources. If the strike continues for ten days, orders for a further 50,000 will be placed.

THE FRENCH TARIFF.

INCREASED DUTY ON JAPANESE SILK.

Paris.—The Chamber of Deputies, discussing the customs tariff, has decided to increase the duty on Japanese unscoured silks to 33¾ francs, on the minimum scale, and 6 francs on the maximum.

THE POLITICAL STRUGGLE IN ENGLAND.

LIBERAL DEMONSTRATION AT THE ALBERT HALL.

London, December 11.

The great meeting at the Albert Hall was an enthusiastic Liberal demonstration at which the Premier, Mr. Asquith, had a tremendous reception.

In the course of his speech the Premier asked the electorate for authority to place on the statute book the explicit recognition that the Lords have no right to meddle with finance. Mr. Asquith declared that the abolition of the absolute veto of the Lords must be accompanied by the shortening of the life of the House of Commons to five and even four years.

The only solution of the Irish problem, declared the Premier, was full self-government for the island in purely Irish affairs, with safeguards for maintaining the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament.

MR. BALFOUR'S ELECTION MANIFESTO.

GOVERNMENT CONSPIRING FOR SINGLE CHAMBER LEGISLATURE.

Mr. Balfour, Leader of the Opposition, in his Manifesto to the electors, declares that the attack on the House of Lords is the culmination of a long-drawn-out conspiracy on the part of the Government for a single-chamber Legislature similar to that of Greece.

The conspirators, says the Manifesto, wish to be independent not only of the House of Lords but of the people.

Further, the Manifesto declares that no advance in the solution of the problems of the Empire will be possible till the party returned to power is prepared to press Tariff Reform to the utmost.

PEERS TO PARTICIPATE.

The campaign continues busily. The Conservative programme has been published. Nineteen peers will participate.

COTTON SPINNERS AND TARIFF REFORM.

President Macara, of the Lancashire Federation of Master Cotton-Spinners, has issued a manifesto the gist of which is that tariffs would mean national disaster.

GERMAN FINANCIAL DEFICIT.

A LOAN TO BE RAISED GRADUALLY.

In the Reichstag the Imperial Treasurer, Herr von Sydow, announced that a loan would be floated amounting to £26,000,000 sterling, the necessity for which was due to previous deficits. The loan would be raised gradually in order to prevent disturbing the money market.

The Imperial Chancellor, Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, made a notable speech in the Reichstag. He said the desire for good Anglo-German relations was now more free and general, and this attitude expressed the better relations of both countries.

THE NOBEL PRIZES.

FOR PHYSICS AND FOR PEACE.

The Nobel Prize for Physics has been divided between Signor Marconi and Prof. Karl Braun, of Strassburg.

The Peace Prize is divided between the Belgian and French statesmen M. Beernaert and Baron d'Estournelles de Constant.

THE CRETAN QUESTION.

The Cretan Pretective Powers in a Note to Turkey say that the moment is inopportune for negotiating the establishment of a definite regime in the island.

WARSHIP BUILDING.

Later.

There is rejoicing in the East End at the news that one of the new Dreadnoughts is to be built on the Thames. This will be the first large vessel to be constructed on the Thames since 1896.

THE COMMONWEALTH ORDERS A BATTLESHIP.

It is reported from Melbourne that the Commonwealth Government has cabled the Admiralty to commence immediately the construction of a battleship and cruiser.

THE SHORTAGE OF COTTON.

EXCITEMENT IN NEW YORK AND LIVERPOOL.

The report of the United States Bureau that the cotton crop is 200,000 bales below the most sanguine expectations of the "bulls" has caused a record excitement in New York and in Liverpool. Prices are soaring.

NEW ITALIAN MINISTRY.

December 12.

Signor Sonnino has formed an Italian Liberal coalition cabinet.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

THE QUESTION OF CONGO REFORM.

Herr Schoen, in the Reichstag, emphasized the good results of Franco-German coöperation in Morocco and testified to the disinterested action of France.

He declared that the Belgian Government's scheme of reforms for the Congo, if loyally carried out, would contribute to the welfare of the natives and achieve free trade in that region for all nations.

SERIOUS ILLNESS OF KING LEOPOLD.

London, December 13.

Brussels.—King Leopold is in the gravest condition. His family and the Premier have been summoned to his bedside. It is stated that he is suffering from dropsy and enteritis.

THE CAPE-TO-CAIRO RAILWAY.

The British section of the Cape-to-Cairo Railway was opened on the Congo border on the 11th inst., British and Belgians participating in the ceremony.

THE REVOLUTION IN NICARAGUA.

Later.

General Estrada, the Nicaraguan insurgent leader, has asked for American assistance against President Zelaya, who is threatening to overwhelm him. The United States Consul has given assurances to Estrada.

It is announced that the cruiser *Tacoma* has been ordered to Nicaragua.

A transport with 700 marines on board is on its way to Colon.

THE BRITISH PEERAGE.

The London *Observer* alleges that many new peerages will be created after the elections. Earl Crewe will be made a duke, Earl Carrington and Earl Granard, marquises, and Lord Winborne and Mr. Herbert Gladstone, earls.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of Professor Ludwig Mond, Ph.D., F.R.S., &c.

CHAMBERLAIN'S MANIFESTO.

TWO REASONS FOR TARIFF REFORM.

London, December 13.

Mr. Joseph Chamberlain has issued a manifesto to the electors of Manchester and Salford, in which he states that tariff reform is necessary in order that Britain may meet the competition of foreigners and bring the colonies closer together.

KING LEOPOLD IN EXTREMIS.

King Leopold will receive Extreme Unction to-day, prior to an operation which appears inevitable. His Majesty is suffering terrible pains in the stomach and is weakening rapidly.

NEW ADMIRAL FOR CHINA STATION.

Admiral Winsloe has been appointed to the China Station.

[Rear-Admiral Winsloe, C.M.G., C.V.O., who succeeds Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton, has been Fourth Sea Lord since 1906.—ED. *J.M.*]

CONCESSIONS IN ASIA MINOR.

London, December 14.

Constantinople.—An interpellation regarding the amalgamation of the British Lynch and Hamideh companies for the navigation of the rivers Tigris and Euprates led to an important but tumultuous debate in the Chamber.

The Grand Vizier announced that the Cabinet would resign unless the Government's action received the approval and confidence of the Chamber. Subsequently confidence in the Government was voted by 168 to 8 votes.

OBITUARY.

The death is announced of Sir Alfred Jones, of the well-known shipping firm of Elder, Dempster & Co.

THE FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS IN ENGLAND.

Speeches delivered by Sir Edward Grey, Mr. Masterman and Mr. Hobhouse emphasize the fact that a second Chamber to

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replace the Lords must be on an elected basis.

Later.

Mr. A. Lyttleton declares that the Government's adoption of home rule and its weakness with regard to the Navy are disastrous in view of the possibility of a European war.

Sir Edward Grey and Mr. Woolnard have emphasized the fact that it is absolutely necessary to maintain England's naval supremacy.

KING LEOPOLD SINKING.

Supreme Unction has been administered to King Leopold.

A LOAN FOR PERSIA.

Later.

Reuter's agent telegraphs from Teheran that the Persian Government has applied to the British and Russian Legations for a loan of half a million sterling.

KING LEOPOLD.

London, December 15.

The operation on King Leopold has been successful. There was no tumour, but only a simple obstruction.

BRITISH POLITICS.

The Directory of the Irish National League has decided to support the Liberals, Mr. Asquith's Home Rule declaration being deemed satisfactory.

A REFUTATION.

Later.

Prince Henry of Prussia has telegraphed to Dr. Lunn, describing as a beastly lie that a toast is drunk every night on German men-of-war to the day of the defeat of the British by the Germans in the North Sea. The Prince adds, "We honour and respect our British brother officers."

TRADE-MARKS IN KOREA.

Later.

Berlin.—An Anglo-German Convention has been concluded for the protection of trade-marks in Korea. It empowers the Consuls to prosecute their own nationals who are unauthorised to use trademarks.

RUSSO-JAPANESE RELATIONS.

An official statement has been issued in St. Petersburg denying the rumours circulated by the Russian Press that another war with Japan is inevitable. It declares that the relations between Russia and Japan are most friendly and that they have been consolidated by recent agreements.

CHINA TO ADOPT METRIC SYSTEM.

London, December 16.

Paris.—The Chinese Minister has attended the office of the International Board of Weights and Measures to take formal possession of the metric standard in connection with the introduction of the metric system in China.

KING LEOPOLD.

Brussels.—Owing to an old intestinal complaint, the operation on King Leopold was not so successful as was hoped. It appears that the condition of the King has become worse.

THE BAGHDAD RAILWAY.

Sir Ernest Cassel, the well-known financier, has gone to Berlin, in order, it is believed, to negotiate for English participation in the Baghdad Railway.

A GENEROUS BEQUEST.

Later.

Mr. Beit, the South African diamond magnate, has given £165,000, in addition to £50,000 bequeathed by his brother Alfred, to endow a Chair of medical research in London University. This provides for ten fellowships of the value of £250 yearly for three years. Any man or woman graduate of European descent is eligible.

KING LEOPOLD IMPROVING.

Later.

A Brussels telegram, dated at midnight, states that King Leopold is improving.

OBITUARY.

The deaths are announced of the Rt. Rev. Wm. Awdry, late Bishop of Tokyo, and Sir William des Voeux, a former Governor of Hongkong.

(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

CANADA PROTESTS.

INCIVILITY OF AMERICAN FRONTIER OFFICIALS.

London, December 10.

Ottawa.—The Canadian Government has formally remonstrated with that of Washington on account of the incivility of American immigration officials at the frontier ports. A warning is also issued that, owing to riotous disorders, the Law Schools will be temporarily closed.

[The second part of this message, as received, is obscure.—Ed. *J.M.*]

THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR'S SPEECH.

London, December 10.

Berlin.—The Chancellor's first speech in the Reichstag made a feature of the avoidance of controversial details in favour of large abstractions. He declared that sufficient provision had been made for the maintenance of the country's defensive forces, that the strictest economy would be everywhere enjoined, and loans reduced to the lowest limit. The popular desire for a policy of continuity and stability, at home and abroad, was impossible of fulfilment under a scheme of legislation recognizing only battle cries, radicalism and reaction.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

While admitting that all is for the moment well with the British Navy, *The Times* insists that the nation must not be lulled into a sense of false security regarding the future. The Naval War Staff is necessary, especially in connection with the decision that the colonies should participate in Imperial defence.

IMPORTATION OF WOMEN.

London, December 11.

Washington.—The Immigration Commission reports that thousands of women are annually imported and exploited for purposes of prostitution—a disgrace to American civilization. The Commission urges coöperation with foreign governments to prevent such violation of treaties.

JAPANESE AND RUSSIAN STOCKS.

London, December 13,

On the London Stock Exchange Japanese and Russian securities are dull.

RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT FUNDS.

St. Petersburg.—It is understood that the Russian Government has between forty and fifty million pounds sterling on deposit in the banks.

FRANCO-GERMAN RELATIONS.

Berlin.—The speech of the Chancellor is regarded as a substantial guarantee of peaceful relations with France.

Paris.—The pacific speeches of the German Chancellor and the Foreign Secretary have satisfied the Press. The explicit declarations concerning Morocco will, it is believed, obviate the clashing of Franco-German interests.

THE U. S. AND NICARAGUA.

New York.—The Nicaraguan situation is critical. The rebel leader has appealed to the American Consul to land sailors to protect residents at Bluefields. Seven hundred more marines are going to Colon.

PERSIA ASKS FOR MONEY.

London, December 14.

Teheran.—The Persian Government has asked the English and Russian Legations for a loan of £500,000 sterling.

THE FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Singapore.—The British policy in constituting a Federal Council for the Federated Malay States aims at strengthening the rulers in their domestic affairs and encouraging coöperation for general interests.

DEFENCE OF NEW ZEALAND.

New Zealand.—The Premier states that the new scheme for internal defence will cost £352,000 annually.

AMERICA AND NICARAGUA.

New York.—A private resolution has been introduced into the Senate, authorizing the Government to bring the Nicaraguan President to justice, because he is a tyrant, usurper, and murderer.

FRANCE AND GERMANY IN THE NEAR EAST.

London, December 14.

Paris.—Public and political opinion is beginning to be seriously concerned at the tendency of German financial policy, under the direct patronage of the Government, to compromise French interests in the Near East by the construction of the Baghdad railway.

THE PROGRESS OF THE U.S.

London, December 15.

New York.—President Taft, referring to the position of the United States as a world power, declares that the times have altered since Washington suggested that they were not looking beyond the seas. The nation was now tremendously powerful and wealthy and would not fail to discharge its duties as a member of the international community and to use its power for the benefit of its neighbours.

(Received at the Foreign Office.)

THE ITALIAN CABINET.

There has been a change of Ministry in Italy.

PROVINCIAL ASSEMBLIES IN CHINA.

The Provincial Assembly of Kansu has proposed the shortening of the interval before the opening of a National Assembly. It is sending representatives round the provinces to urge a similar course. One of these representatives, Mr. Yang, has arrived in Tientsin, and has taken the opportunity to bring the matter to the attention of the Shantung Assembly. The plan is that representatives from all the provinces should assemble in Shanghai during the 11th month (old calendar), for the purpose of discussing the matter and forwarding a memorial to the Central Government.

THE PEIHO.

The Peiho river is frozen.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

GERMAN CHANCELLOR ON THE BUDGET AND FOREIGN POLICY.

Berlin, December 10.

Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the new German Chancellor, opening the debate as to the Budget in the Reichstag with a speech concerning German internal politics, said that it was necessary for all parties to work harmoniously with regard to the im-

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provement of the Finance of the Empire. His programme, he continued, was fixed in the speech from the throne and it was therefore not necessary to lay down universal principles for such a programme. He further repudiated the idea of Germany, as would appear from the financial debate in the last session of the Reichstag, being split into two parties, and the other opinion, that Germany had fallen into a state of political stagnation. The new session of the Reichstag would, on the contrary, have a lot of practical work before it. The German nation would never allow itself to be hindered from practical work at home and abroad by party differences. A firm policy at home and abroad was Germany's only aim. Germany had won her place amongst the nations by eager and sober work, and would maintain her position in the same way.

The German Chancellor, continuing his speech in the Reichstag as to German foreign policy, said that the policy of Germany and Austria was firmly fixed and that, therefore, it was not necessary to speak of it. A full agreement, he said, was arrived at between France and Germany in the Morocco Convention with regard to the most important points of the question. Anglo-German relations had been commented upon by Mr. Asquith, the British Premier, in the House of Commons in a most sympathetic manner and he could only respond to them in the same friendly way. A part of the people had expressed themselves in an unfriendly manner as to the relations with Germany on the occasion of the Racconigi *entrevue*, but the Italian Government itself had always been loyal to the Triple Alliance. The Italian, as well as the Russian Government, had fully communicated to the German Government all points of the Convention at Racconigi. The repeated meetings between the Tsar and the Kaiser had done much to improve and define the friendly relations between Germany and Russia. The foreign policy of Germany is absolutely firm and steady, and would always remain so.

DEATH OF PROF. KAULBACH.

Professor Kaulbach, the well-known German artist-painter of Muenchen (born 1846), is dead.

THE DALAI LAMA.

It is semi-officially stated at St. Petersburg, that the report from Shanghai, according to which a secret understanding is stated to exist between the Russian Government and the Dalai Lama, was not based on facts.

TSARITSA IN GOOD HEALTH.

The *Darmstaedter Zeitung*, a newspaper closely connected with the Russian Court, states that all rumours as to ill-health of the Tsaritsa are incorrect and that, on the contrary, the Tsaritsa is in splendid health.

Berlin, December 11.

It is officially reported from St. Petersburg, that no difficulties exist between Russia and Japan and that all rumours in this respect are pure inventions.

ALLEGED NEGOTIATIONS WITH JAPAN.

Berlin, December 11.

The Chargé d'Affaires of the Japanese Embassy at Vienna has stated that the Embassy knows nothing of negotiations going on between Japan and Russia as to a limitation of Russian sphere of influence in Manchuria, as reported from Russia. All reports of aggressive aims of Japan against Russia were mischievous fabrications. The late Prince Ito went to Kharbin as a private traveller and not for concluding a secret Treaty with M. Kokowtzow, the Russian Minister for Finance.

THE NEW CABINET.

The new Italian Cabinet has been formed, Signor Sonnino being President and Minister for Home Affairs, Count Giucciardini, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Admiral Bettolo, Minister for the Navy.

GERMANY.

The declarations of Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg, the German Chancellor, in the Reichstag as to Germany's foreign policy have gained the approval of the press of all civil parties. Herr von Schoen, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, made also a satisfactory speech as to the future development and solution of the Moroccan and Congo questions. The Reichstag will be adjourned for the Christmas vacation from December 16th to January 10th.

The declarations of the German Ministers in the Reichstag as to the German Morocco policy have caused great satisfaction everywhere in France.

Berlin, December 12.

Prince and Princess Buelow, who are staying at Rome during the winter season, have been received by the Pope.

The speeches of the Chancellor and the Minister for Foreign Affairs in the German Reichstag have been received with equal favour at Vienna, Rome, Paris, St. Petersburg and London.

GREECE.

The Greek Officers' League admonishes the Government to be prudent in the settlement of the Cretan question.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to November 24th ex Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on December 12th.

TURKEY.

A Ministerial crisis is feared at Constantinople as an outcome of the shipping concession, granted to a British shipping concern in Mesopotamia.

BELGIUM.

Berlin, December 13.

King Leopold of Belgium is critically ill.

RUSSIA.

The union of the Russian North Bank and the Russo-Chinese Bank to the Russo-Asiatic Bank, which had been planned and prepared a few months ago, has been completed.

ITALY.

Count Guicciardini, the new Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs, will adhere to the Triple Alliance and at the same time promote the friendship between Italy and France.

GERMANY.

Dr. Holle, Secretary of State, ex-Minister of Education, born 1855, is dead.

UNITED STATES.

The German cruiser *Arcona*, which has taken part in the Portola celebrations at San Francisco, on her return voyage to East Asia, towed off a British sailing vessel, which had gone aground near Honolulu.

GERMANY.

Berlin, December 14.

The annual meeting of members of Parliament at the residence of the Chancellor has been held, for the first time under the new Chancellor.

Herr von Tirpitz, the German Secretary of State for the Navy, has exchanged with the new Italian Minister of the Navy, Admiral Bettolo, telegrams giving full assurances of mutual goodwill and friendship.

RUSSIA.

M. Stolypin, the Russian Premier, and M. Iswolsky, the Minister of Foreign Affairs, both regard the situation in the Far East as absolutely satisfactory.

BELGIUM.

King Leopold of Belgium has undergone a critical surgical operation.

GERMANY.

Berlin, December 15.

To-day the marriage of the Regent of Brunswick, Duke Johann Albrecht of Mecklenburg, whose first consort, born a Princess of Sachsen-Weimar-Eisenarch, died on July 10th, 1908, with Princess Elisabeth of Stolberg-Rossla has taken place at Brunswick. The Kaiser and the Kaiserin and King Ferdinand of Bulgaria were present.

HOLLAND.

The Dutch Government has withdrawn its Bill, providing for an increase of import duties to the amount of 30 per cent.

RUSSIA.

An official denial from St. Petersburg states categorically that there is not the least truth in all the rumours as to complications between Russia and Japan being imminent. Both sides are, on the contrary, willing to solve all eventually forthcoming questions by friendly agreement.

TURKEY.

The British shipping monopoly in Mesopotamia has been approved by the Turkish Parliament, by which a Ministerial crisis has been avoided.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

THE PANAMA CANAL.

San Francisco, December 8.

At a mass meeting of the business men of this place held to-day, it was decided to hold an international exhibition in 1915 to commemorate the completion of the Panama Canal. A committee was elected to make the necessary investigations.

TROUBLE IN HONDURAS.

The Government of Honduras has proclaimed a state of siege, fearing that ex-President Bonilla may regain power. He was formerly driven out of the political world by President Davila, assisted by President Zelaya of Nicaragua. It is reported that the rebels in both countries are communicating with each other.

MEXICAN MISSION TO WASHINGTON.

The Mexican Government has despatched a special envoy to Washington, in order to reach a conclusion regarding the troubles in Central America. The U.S. Government has, it is said, appointed Mr. Magoon (?), ex Governor of Cuba, to receive the envoy.

THE "BRISGAVIA" REFLOATED.

Shanghai, December 9.

The stranded steamer *Brisgavia* was safety refloated to-day.

NEW CONSUL-GENERAL ARRIVES.

Mr. Ariyoshi, the newly appointed Japanese Consul-General of this place, arrived here this morning.

TROUBLE AT MACAO.

According to a Macao telegram, a force of Chinese troops has attacked an island in Macanese waters and captured several junks. Villagers who are under Portuguese protection have also been injured. The troops have collected taxes that belong to the Government of Macao.

MR. KURACHI RETURNS HOME.

Dairen, December 7.

Mr. Kurachi, Chief of the Political Bureau, who arrived here yesterday from Port Arthur, left for home the same day by the steamer *Kagi Maru*.

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EXEMPTION OF CUSTOMS DUTY.

Seoul, December 9.

The regulations for the exemption of Customs duties at Chhyong-jin were promulgated to-day. They are to be enforced from January 1.

THE CHINESE MINISTER OF FINANCE.

Peking, December 10.

Prince Tsai Tze, Minister of the Board of Finance, is rumoured to have tendered his resignation, asking that a proper successor be nominated to deal with the present financial difficulties.

DR. COOK.

New York, December 9.

The alleged discovery of the North Pole by Dr. Cook, who has again disappeared, is now generally agreed to have been a mere fabrication. The *New York Times* has disclosed the fact that the narrative of Dr. Cook's experiences, which is said to have been sent by him to Copenhagen, had been written with the aid of the captain of a steamer belonging to this port.

PRINCE ITO'S ASSASSIN.

Seoul, December 11.

Privy Councillor Bin Eiki is said to have given 10,000 *yen* towards the funds for the defence of the assassin An.

JAPAN AND KOREA.

Mr. Kin Sokan, one of the elder statesmen, has presented a memorial to the Residency-General and the Cabinet, opposing the incorporation of Korea with Japan.

DEATH OF ITALIAN CONSUL-GENERAL.

The Italian Consul-General Signor Casati passed away this morning in the Daihan Hospital.

THE EX-EMPEROR OF KOREA.

It is currently reported that the Korean ex-Emperor is again intriguing, and intends to dispatch a special mission to Great Britain and America. He is also said to have spent a large sum of money in bribing the bandits to massacre the Cabinet ministers.

THE SPECIE BANK.

Dairen, December 12.

The Yokohama Specie Bank celebrated this morning the completion of the construction of the branch office here. Over 500 persons attended the function.

STEAMER STRIKES ROCK.

Chinnampo, December 13.

The Osaka Shosen Kaisha steamer *Fukushima Maru*, which was expected to arrive here on the 9th instant, ran on the same morning upon a sunken rock off Hakurei. The cargo in one of the holds has suffered more or less damage; but no casualties are reported.

THE ASSASSIN AN.

Two younger brothers of the assassin An left here this morning for Dairen to have an interview with An.

OUTBREAK OF PLAGUE.

Hankow, December 13.

Plague prevailing in the Chinese quarters of this town, the Consular Corps here held a conference to-day, when it was decided to ask the Chinese authorities to take vigorous measures to suppress the disease.

A POSTAL TREATY.

Peking, December 13.

In connection with the amendment of the Sino-Japanese Postal Treaty, Secretary Mr. Honda had an interview to-day with Mr. Perry, Adviser to the Chinese Board of Home Affairs.

JAPANESE TROOPS.

Phyongyang, December 14.

Four hundred recruits belonging to the Sixth Division arrived here to-day.

N. D. L. STEAMER ON FIRE.

Hongkong, December 14.

The N. D. L. steamer *Prinz Ludwig*, which arrived here from Shanghai at 7.30 a.m. to-day, cast anchor, displaying the signal of fire. The flames were got under control at 3 p.m. About 1,400 tons of cargo were burnt, including, it is said, 300 tons of raw silk. Though the exact amount of damage is as yet unknown, the losses are undoubtedly serious.

THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG LINE.

Port Arthur, December 15.

In connection with the patrolling of the Mukden-Antung railway, a conference was held to-day between Mr. Sato, Superintendent of the Police Offices at Mukden and Antung; Mr. Shirani, Chief of the Civil Administration Office, and some military staff officers. As the result of the meeting, a garrison will be established along the line.

CHINA AND KOREA.

Seoul, December 14.

The Chinese Government has asked the Residency-General to redeem the arrears of the loan secured by Korea, while she was under China's protection, for harbour works. It was subsequently agreed that the amount should be reduced to 350,000 *yen*, including interest. The redemption of the loan was gazetted to-day.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

It is telegraphed, says a Nagasaki despatch, that the large party of American visitors has left Batavia for Borneo.

Mr. Wada, Chief Manager of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition, left Kobe for England on 11th inst. by the steamer *Hirano Maru*.

It is stated that Dr. Kitazato will start for America in April next to deliver a lectu e on bacteriology at the Yale University.

It is reported that the Korean Crown Prince will return home in March next, to visit his parents. His Highness is to be accompanied by Prince Iwakura, his tutor.

King Leopold having undergone a surgical operation on the 14th instant, His Majesty the Emperor sent a telegram on Wednesday morning inquiring after the royal patient's health.

The surveyors belonging to the Formosan Governor-General's Office have ascertained the height of Mount Niitaka to be 13,075 feet, which exceeds Mount Fuji by 688 feet.

A meeting of the Central Sanitary Association was held on the 9th inst. at the Home Departm nt. The draft factory law was submitted for discussion and was referred to a committee.

The funeral rites in honour of the late Prince Kayo were conducted the 14th inst. in Kyoto. Chamberlain Higashizono proceeded thither on behalf of their Majesties the Emperor and Empress.

A Takaoka (Echigo) telegram says that the Kazanami railway tunnel, near Oyashirazu, suddenly collapsed on the 11th instant. The fate of eleven labourers who were working in the tunnel is as yet unknown.

Mr. Isaka, Manager of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, says the *Asahi*, denies the rumour that the Company will separate itself from the Pacific Mail Company, cutting out Honolulu as a port of call for Japanese steamers.

A wireless message was received on the 13th inst. at the local office of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha, to the effect that the Company's steamship *Chiyo Maru*, from San Francisco, would arrive here at 7 a.m. on the 17th inst. having on board 123 cabin, 65 second-class and 597 steerage passengers. As already reported in these columns, the Japanese Commercial Mission is returning home in this vessel, escorted by Mr. W. H. Avery, belonging to the T.K.K.

It is reported that the marriage between Princess Fumi, a daughter of the Emperor, and Prince Asaka will take place in April next. After repairs, the Takanawa Detached Palace will be given them as a residence.

A Dairen telegram, says the *Mancho*, reports that the mounted bandits infesting the Antung-Mukden railway zone, are more active than ever. The contractors working on the said line are taking measures for their own defence.

Dr. Baron Kikuchi, President of the Kyoto University, who is to delivér a lecture in the Civic Forum, New York, came up to Tokyo on Saturday. He is expected to embark from Yokohama on the 21st instant by the steamer *Nippon Maru*.

Count Komura, Minister for Foreign Affairs, gave a dinner on the 16th inst. at his official residence, in honour M. Malevitch, Russian Ambassador in Tokyo. Baron Motono, Ambassador to St. Petersburg, and others were present.

A Nagasaki telegram says that as telegraphic communication with Formosa cannot at present be restored, all messages are being taken by the steamer *Hoten Maru* once a day from Yayeyan.a to Kilun. A delay of 15 hours is the result.

On the night of the 14th instant, says an Aomor despatch, a snowstorm visited that district, re sulting in the postponement of the departure o steamers in the port. Railway traffic being obstructed, trains were delayed several hours.

A Takamatsu (Sanuki) despatch reports that a Japanese vessel anchored at Sayanagishima, Tado-gori, Kagawa prefecture, was attacked on the night of the 7th instant by three pirates, who absconded with a quantity of rice from the boat.

According to an official report of the Naval Department, the warships belonging to the U.S. Pacific Squadron coming to Japan will all arrive at Yokohama by the 18th proximo and leave there on the 20th idem for San Francisco *via* Honolulu.

The *Asahi* reports that a captain and a lieutenant belonging to a Russian Brigade of Sharpshooters stationed in East Siberia, fought a duel with revolvers on the 20th ultimo. The captain was seriously wounded. It is said that the duel originated in a quarrel between the wives of the two officers.

A Nagoya despatch reports that on the night of the 12th instant a passenger train coming from the west dashed into a goods train stopping in that station. Two wagons were derailed and three passengers were slightly injured. The cause of the accident is ascribed to the carelessness of a pointsman.

Mr. Henry Bonar, the new British Consul-General in Seoul, accompanied by Mr. Lay, acting Consul-General, called on Viscount Sone and Mr. Ishizuka on the 9th inst. Mr. George H. Scidmore, the new U. S. Consul-General, also paid calls on the Resident-General and the Director-General of the Residency-General the same day.

The New Customs Quay is now open for vessels being berthed and Capt. K. Yabe, Assist. Director of Harbour office, has been given the charge of superintending vessels lying alongside, and leaving the quay. Up till now there has been no expert as Pier Master, but henceforth Capt. K. Yabe will take charge of the Pier as well as the Quay.

In connection with the recent wholesale arrest of the officials belonging to the Osaka City Office, it is further reported that on the 11th instant the dead body of a man named Hiramatsu Tokubei was discovered in a mountain path at the eastern part of Osaka-fu. The man was the contractor who supplied labourers for the temporary store-

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house where the various goods were kept, and had charge of the key of the place. He had absconded since the arrests on the 9th instant It is believed that he was killed by some of the conspirators, who feared he might reveal matters to the police authorities.

A TOKYO message to the *Mainichi* states that the Korean census was to have been completed in the course of this month, but it has not made the expected progress owing to the prevalence of plague and the activity of the insurgents in some districts. It is now believed that the work will be finished about March next. The officials concerned estimate that the population will reach about 10,700,000 as compared with 9,280,000 at the time of the census of 1907.

THE *Seoul Press* states that a telegram received from South Hamkyong province says that during the storm experienced at the end of last month, some 1,800 persons were reported missing, 32 were killed, 72 survived, 16 vessels were destroyed, and 263 vessels were reported missing in Pukchon district. In Hemheun and Kowon districts 228 vessels out of 325 were reported missing, eight persons were killed and eight dead bodies were thrown ashore. The authorities in those districts are now busily engaged in the work of rescue.

THE census-taking throughout Korea was expected to be completed at the end of this month, says our Seoul contemporary of the 10th inst. But this is now found to be impossible before February or March next, as the work has been impeded by insurgents as well as by the prevalence of epidemic diseases in some districts during last autumn. It is estimated that there will be an increase of over 10 per cent. in the population compared with that of 1907, when it was reported to be over 9,780,000. In Seoul alone there is an increase of over 20 per cent., namely, 35,000 in population compared with that of 1907.

THE Germans have established an observatory in Kiachow. As it is a matter of great benefit and importance to the coasting trade of this country, says the *Peking Daily News*, the German Minister has communicated with the Waiwupu, in order that the Chinese Government may give encouragement and assistance to the observatory. The request of the German diplomat is that telegraphic weather reports to and from the observatory may be dispatched free of charge by the Imperial Telegraph Administration. A great amount of money being necessarily involved in this question, it is not certain whether the Chinese Government will grant the German request in its entirety.

ON the 13th instant, says a Tsu despatch, a bill for the improvement of Yokkaichi Harbour was brought forward in the Prefectural Council. The plan is to construct a breakwater and deepen an area of several hundred thousand *tsubo* in the centre of the harbour, whilst, on the other hand, utilizing the sand dredged from the enclosure to reclaim land to the extent of 75,000 *tsubo* The expenses are estimated at a little over one million *yen*. The members of the Council, however, appear to hesitate in passing the bill, on the ground that unless the railway connection between the port and Tsuraga is completed, the improvement of the harbour is hardly called for, considering the present condition of the trade.

EARLY on the 9th inst. an armed burglar broke into the Fukagawa Branch of the Mitsui Bank, at Saga-cho, Fukagawa, Tokyo. For the purpose of obtaining the key to open the iron vault of the bank, the burglar entered a room where two keepers were sleeping. One of them sprang up to attack the robber, and a fierce struggle ensued, in which the former was severely wounded. The other keeper, who joined in the combat, was also injured. During the struggle one of the watchmen wrested the weapon from the burglar and endeavoured to secure him, but the intruder made his escape. The burglar who had been stabbed, though not severely, in the neck was arrested the same morning. The injuries of the keeper who was severely wounded are expected to prove fatal.

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LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Saturday, December 18.

The American Raw Cotton market reports some decline in quotations. As to Cotton yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece goods is quiet. In Woollens and Woollen Mixtures, the market appears to be more healthy.

RAW COTTON. PER PICUL.

American Middling	45.60 to 46.60
Egyptian	50.00 to 55.00
Indian Broach	34.00 to 35.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	31.00 to 32.00

COTTON YARN. PER BALE

Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 460.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.

White Shirtings—30 yds. 36 in.	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43½-44 in. Common to Good	4.70 to 6.35
Pure Grey Shirting—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambrics—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3.20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0.45 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2.8 or 3lb 24-25 yards, PER PIECE. 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Red—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2.50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.

Flannels	Y.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.41 to 0.60
Mouseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.28 to 0.32
Mousseline de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.34
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0.50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.75 to 2.25
Cloths—All others	1.25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0.70
" " " 2 "	0.55 to 0.65
" " " 3 "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0.44
" " " 2 "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 "	0.25 to 0.30

METALS.

The market is quiet.

PER PICUL.	
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round and square	Y.3.80 to 3.85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4.30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.55
Sheet Mild Steel	6.15 to 6.30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9.60 to 9.80
" " Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6.60
Tin Plates, 10 lbs. I.C.W.	6.80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is quiet.

Chester	Y.3.66 to 3.89
Victory	3.20 to 3.50
Nonpareil	— to —
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	3.39 to 3.54
Nippon	3.24 to 3.68
Ogura	3.18 to 3.39
Total	— to 3.35

SUGAR.

Demand continues light, and no sales are reported.

PER PICUL.	
Brown Manila	Y.10.90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9.90 to 10.50
White Java	14.40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14.80 to 19.80

INDIGO.

No change in the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320.00
" second	280.00
Madras, first	—
" second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. There have been some transactions done.

	Yen.
Gold Drop..... 4 sacks	10.80
Flag ..... "	10.60
Royal ..... "	10.60
Trophy ..... "	10.60
Red Seal ..... 4 sacks	10.70
Lion ..... "	11.80
Portland ..... "	11.20
Premier ..... "	11.00
Japanese:—	
Rising Sun..... 6 *kwanme*	2.85
Takasago ..... 6 "	2.75
Fuji..... 6 "	2.85
Pine ..... 6 "	2.90

WHEAT.

Home prices show some advance. There are some enquiries for importations from Australia which market is reported to be on a lower level than the American.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.60 to 5.70
Red " "	5.50 to 5.60
Blue Stem	5.75 to 5.85

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet, but holders remain firm at quotations as given below.

On December 16th stocks were: filatures 28,74 bales; Re-reels, 4,378 bales; Kakeda, 1,078 bales.

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Filature—Extra No. 1, Coarse ... ...V.	980
Filature—Extra No. 2, Coarse	920
Filature—Yajima Class, Coarse	920
Filature—No. 1, 13-15den	850
Filature—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	920
Filature—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	900
Filature—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	835
Filature—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	875
Filature—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	825
Re-reels—Extra	—
Re-reels—No. 1	860
Re-reels—No. 1½	830
Re-reels—No. 2	800
Kakedas—GoldCup Chop Extra... ...	—
Kakedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1...	820
Kakedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	800
Kakedas—No. 2	780

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

December	Present delivery.	December delivery.	January delivery.	February delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
10th.....	856	836	847	857
11th.....	867	845	855	867
12th.....	—	—	—	—
13th.....	874	853	863	874
14th.....	867	850	859	868
15th.....	874	857	862	873
16th.....	863	850	852	861

WASTE SILK.

The market is getting slightly active. Prices have somewhat declined.

QUOTATIONS.

Noshi—Filatures, Best	—to —
Noshi—Filatures, Good	—to —
Noshi—Oshiu, Good	157 to 160
Noshi—Oshiu, Medium	135 to 140
Noshi—Oshiu, Inferior	115 to 120
Noshi—Shinshiu, Good	92 to 97
Noshi—Shinshiu, Medium...	82 to 92
Noshi—Shinshiu, Inferior	82 to 92
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good ...	95 to 100
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium ...	75 to 85
Noshi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior ...	65 to 75
Kibiso—Filatures, Best ... ...127½ to 132½	
Kibiso—Filatures, Good	117½ to 125
Kibiso—Filatures, Medium ... ...107½ to 117½	
Kibiso—Filatures, Inferior...	80 to 95
Rereel—Fair	—to —
Rereel—Best	—to —
Rereel—Good	—to —
Rereel—Medium	—to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui :—The general tone of the market is weak, and prices for "heavies" have slightly declined. Business has been very quiet.

Kanazawa :—There has been an advance in prices for medium grades. Production is expected to increase somewhat during this month. Transactions have been limited.

Kawamata :—No change in the market. The demand continues fairly active, but prices remain unaltered.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.25	8.10	8.10	8.10	7 95
27″	8.25	8.00	7.95	7.85	7.90
36″	8.40	8.35	8.35	8.10	8 00

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½″	8.10	7.95	7.85	7.60
27″	8.10	7.95	7.90	7 60
36″	7.95	7.80	7.70	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3½ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½.....	7.70	8.30	8.90	9 40
22½.....	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.90	11.00	12.00	13.20
36	12.50	14.10	15.90	16 40

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of December 17th the quotation was £61.2.5.

Home markets have improved to some extent.

Refined per 100 kin ... ...Yen	43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin ... ... "	38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin ... ... "	47 00—50.00
Ore ... ... "	29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report. Only small deliveries have been made of imported stocks, which are still very large. Quotations are nominal.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	765.391
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	136.837
Delivery.	Closing Price.
December	11.04
January	11.23
February	11.50

(Osaka.)	(Kobe.)
December ... 11.41	December... 11 60
January 11.61	January 11.65
February ... 11.71	February ... 11.76

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

	(Tokyo.) per *koku*
Superior.....	Yen 12.10
Medium	11.10
Common	10.10
Average	11.10

TEA.

There has been no change in quotations. Total settlements at Yokohama from May 1st to November 13th amount to 87,020 piculs, against 82,241 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest	Y.	— —
Choice		— —
Finest		— —
Fine	36	— 37
Good Medium	34	— 36
Medium	32	— 33
Good Common	30	— 31
Common	28	— 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market shows some activity.

Delivery.	Yen.
December.....	128.60
January.....	129.75
February	130.55

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Dec. 16.

London silver $\frac{3}{16}$ lower and China sterling quotations ⅛ lower have caused local rates on China to rule higher accordingly; sterling and Franc private paper have also advanced $\frac{1}{16}$.

London—Bank T/T.	2/0 3/8
— — Bills on demand	2/0 3/8@7/16
— — 4 months' sight.....	2/0 5/8
— Private 4 months' sight	2 07/8
— — 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons—Bank sight	256
— Private 4 months' sight	261
Hongkong—Bank sight.....per $100	88*
— Private 10 days, sight do	86*
Shanghai—Bank sight	85¼*
— Private 10 days' sight.....	86¾*
India—Bank sight	152
— Private 30 days' sight	154
America—Bank sight.....	49 3/16@5/8
— Private 30 days' sight	50¼
— Private 4 months' sight	51
Germany—Bank sight	208½
— Private 4 months' sight	213
Bar Silver (London).....	24⅛

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line	Steamer	Date
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Shinano Maru	Su. Dec. 19
Hongkong...	T. K. K....	Nippon Maru	Su Dec. 19
Seattle	N.Y.K....	Iyo Maru	F. Dec. 24
America.....	P. M.....	Asia 2	Sa Dec. 25
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Siberia	Su Dec. 26
Hongkong ..	B. L.....	Aymeric	Tu Dec. 28
Vancouver...	C. P. R....	Em. of China	W Dec. 29
Europe	M. M.....	Oceanien 3	W. Dec. 29
Hongkong...	O S S....	Tacoma Maru	F. Dec. 31
Tacoma	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	F. Dec. 31
Hongkong...	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	M. Jan. 3
Seattle	G. N.....	Minnesota	W. Jan. 5
Tacoma	B. L.....	Oceano	F. Jan. 7
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	Su Jan. 9
Europe	N D L....	Buelow	Su. Jan. 10

2 Left San Francisco on the 7th inst.
3 Left Singapore on the 14th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date.
Europe	N. D. L....	Goeben	Sa Dec. 18
Shanghai ...	N. Y. K...	Chikuzen Maru	Th Dec. 19
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Chiyo Maru	Su. Dec. 19
Tacoma	B. L.....	Aymeric	W Dec. 29
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of China	W. Dec. 29
America.....	C. R.....	Amiral Orly	M. Dec. 20
America.....	T. K. K...	Nippon Maru	Tu Dec. 21
Seattle	N. Y. K..	Shinano Maru	W Dec 22
Europe	N. Y. K...	Tango Maru	W. Dec. 22
Europe	M. M.....	Polynesien	Sa Dec. 25
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Asia	Su. Dec. 26
America.....	P. M.....	Siberia	Tu. Dec. 28
Tacoma.....	O. S. S. ...	Tacoma Maru	Sa. Jan. 1
Hongkong...	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	Sa. Jan. 1
Portland.....	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	Tu. Jan. 4
Hongkong...	B. L.....	Oceano	Sa. Jan. 8
Hongkong...	G. N.....	Minnesota	Sa. Jan. 8
Australia ...	N. Y. K....	Yawata Maru	Sa Jan. 8
Tacoma.....	B. & S....	Antilocus	Sa. Jan. 8
Vancouver...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	Su Jan. 9
Hongkong...	N. Y. K....	Kaga Maru	Su Jan. 9

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 9th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manchuria, American steamer, 8,750, A. Dixon, 10th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Ajax, British steamer, 4,478, Bruce Husband, 10th Dec.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General. —Butterfield & Swire.

Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, K. Sato, 10th Dec.,—Seattle, Wash., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irizawa, 10th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General,—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, T. Ogawa, 11th Dec.,—Uraga.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,920, E. Combes, 11th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Choshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, Yamamoto, 11th Dec.,—Tairen General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Ningchow, British steamer, 5,725, H. L. Allen, 11th Dec.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General. —Butterfield and Swire.

Elvaston, British steamer, 2,751, I. I. Courtney, 11th Dec.,—New Port News via Manila, Coal.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Goeben, German steamer, 5,151, B. Wilhelmi, 12th Dec.,—Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens and Co., Nachf.

Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham, 12th Dec.,—Vancouver, B.C., Mails and General. —C. P. R. Co.

Selja, Norwegian steamer, 2,789, O. Lie, 12th Dec., —Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.

Calabria (29), Italian cruiser, 2,492. Capt. Casanova, 13th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu.

Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, F. H. Fegen, 13th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kotik, Russian steamer, 684, M. Bitte, 14th Dec.,—Petropavlousk, General.—Smith Baker & Co.

Canton, Swedish steamer, 2.226, Nordfeldt, 14th Dec.,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., Ltd.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 14th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Polynesien, French steamer, 2,916, Broc, 14th Dec., —Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, S. Ishikawa, 14th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 15th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 15th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

California, U.S. cruiser, 13,680, Capt. Henry T. Mayo, 15th Dec.,—Manila.

South Dakota, U.S. cruiser, 13,680, Capt. James T. Smith, 15th Dec.,—Manila.

Suveric, British steamer, 4,011, Shotton, 16th Dec., —Tacoma, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

Ise Maru, Japanese steamer, 775, Tsuda, 15th Dec., —Kushiro, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, K. Asakawa, 16th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Senegambia, German steamer, 2,657, Eckhorn, 16th Dec.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

DEPARTURES.

Nam Sang, British steamer, 2,591, P. M. B. Lake, 9th Dec.,—Calcutta via ports, General.—Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853 K. Asakawa, 10th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Hiroshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,035, S. Murazumi, 11th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Sagami Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,140, H. Yada, 11th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Manchuria, American steamer, 8,750, A. Dixon, 11th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—P. M. S.S. Co.

Korea, American steamer, 5,651, Samuel Sandberg, 11th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—P.M. S.S. Co.

Kumano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,147, M. Winckler, 11th Dec.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Tonkin, French steamer, 2,327, Charbonnel, 11th Dec.,—Marseilles via ports, Mails and General.—M.M. Co.
Ningchow, British steamer, 5,725, H. L. Allen, 11th Dec.,—Puget Sound ports, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Empress of India, British steamer, 3,003, E. Beetham, 12th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—C. P. R. Co.
Hakuai Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,434, T. Irisawa, 12th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Aki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,995, K. Sato, 12th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Choshu Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,203, T Yasunaga, 13th Dec.,—Nagoya, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.
Takasago Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,065, M. Machida, 13th Dec.,—Dairen via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Selja, Norwegian steamer, 2,789, O. Lie, 13th Dec.,—Portland, Or., Mails and General.—P. & A. S.S. Co.
Ajax, British steamer, 4,478, Bruce Husband, 14th Dec.,—London, Amsterdam and Antwerp via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.
Benmohr, British steamer, 1,935, Henderson, 14th Dec.,—Vladivostock.—Cornes & Co.
El Lobo, British steamer, 2,948, Gray, 14th Dec.,—Uraga.—Cornes & Co.
Sanuki Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,789, K. Homma, 14th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Colombo Maru, Japanese steamer 2,920, E. Combes, 14th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Palawan, British steamer, 2,996, C. R. Longden, 15th Dec.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Chikugo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, F. H. Fegen, 16th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.
Taihoku Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,733, I. Sato, 16th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.
Oriental, British steamer, 3,085, A. L. Valentini, 16th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—P. & O. S.N. Co.
Suveric, British steamer, 4,011, Shotton, 16th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Dodwell & Co., Ltd.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per American steamer *Manchuria*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. M. Asakura, Dr. B. H. Birney, Mrs. B. H. Birney, Miss Marion Birney, Miss Clementine Birney, Mr. S. Inada, Dr. E. S. Bogert, Mrs. E. S. Bogert, Mr. W. G. Crawford, Rev. C. K. Cumming, Mrs. C. K. Cumming, Master W. P. Cumming, Mr. E Davis, Mrs. E. Davis, Mr. R. M. Fulton, Mrs. R. M. Fulton, Mr. W. L. Helke, Miss E. D. Hosking, Mr. B. C. Howard, Mr. S. Okawato, Mr. N. Onodera, Dr. F. E. Rogers, Mr. L. D. Sale, Mrs. L. D. Sale, Mr. S. Tachi, Mr. H. A. Wilbur, Mrs. H. A. Wilbur and infant, Miss Elizabeth Wilbur, Mr. H. B. Kay, Dr. J. T. Tanner, Mrs. E. B. Williams, Mr. A. H. Gladstone, Mrs. A. H. Gladstone, Mrs. R. Z. Olcott, Miss T. Olcott, Mr. A. Schipfer and Miss Gin Okubo. For Kobe:—Rev. N. D. Chew, Mrs. N. D. Chew and infant, Mr. A. P. Hassell, Mrs. A. P. Hassell, Master N. Chew, Rev. J. G. Holdcroft, Mrs. J. G. Holdcroft, Mr. T. Takaki, Mrs. T. Takaki, Mr. W. N. Finlayson, Mrs. W. N. Finlayson and Miss A. P. Adams. For Nagasaki:—Mr. H. F. Merrill and Mr. Shin Fwe Pond Moon Jee. For Manila:—Mr. R. M. Adams, Mr. S. M. Berger, Mrs. C. P. Bourne, Miss Florence Bourne, Mrs. F. A. Branagan, Mr. R. E. Burns, Mr. C. B. Cameron, Mr. G. L. Coleman, Mrs. H. W. Corp, Mr. T. W. Cummings, Mr. J. W. Cutten, Mrs. F. A. Edwards, Mr. S. J. Epperley, Mr. A. T. Gillespie, Mr. C. W. Guertin, Mr. R. Helm, Mrs. R. Helm, Mr. J. S. Hord, Mr. D. F. Hyman, Mrs. W. G. Masters, Dr. C. M. Mellan, Capt. A. Mertz, U.S.N., Mrs. A. Mertz, Miss Belle Murphy, Mrs. W. Quinan, Master Haward Quinan, Master Hartzell Quinan, Mr. B. B. Rich, Mrs. B. B. Rich, Col. E. B. Robertson, U.S.A., Mrs. E. B. Robertson, Judge W. P. Rohde, Mr. C. F. Samuelson, Lieut. E. O. Shairer, Mrs. E. O. Shairer, Mr. S. O. Soudder, Mr. W. Ich, Mrs A. J. Zerns, Mr. A. B. Zerns, Mr. A. B. Zerns, Mrs. L. T. Ellis, Mr. M. H. Esberg, Mrs. M. H. Esberg, Mr. F. A. Hollabaugh, Mr. J. Mc B. Sterrett, Mrs. J. Mc B. Sterrett, Mrs. E. Jones, Mr. C. W. St. Clair and Mrs. K. Lynch. For Hongkong:—Mr. F. P. Finch, Mrs. F. P. Finch, Mr. W. C. Jack, Mrs. W. C. Jack, Mr. Wong Leong, Mr. H. G. G. May, Miss Marjorie May, Mr. M. Hall McAllister, Mrs. M. Hall McAllister, Miss Ethel McAllister, Miss Marion I. McAllister, Mr. J. H. Mayer, Mr. J. Raphael, Mr. W. H. Robinson, Mr. B. Sheurmann, Mr. J. M. Simpson, Mrs. J. M. Simpson, Mr. H. J. Small, Miss Barbara Small, Mr. B. W. Smith, Rev. E. H. Smith, Mrs. E. H. Smith, Master Edward H. Smith, Miss Eunice E. Smith, Miss Helene H. Smith, Mrs. A. L. Stein, Rev. J. M. Henry and Mrs. J. M. Henry in cabin.

Per R.V.F.'s steamer *Mongolia* from Vladivostock to Tsuruga:—Mr. and Mrs. Mros, Mr. Otto Wolf, Mr. W. Dinks, Mr. A. Prochaska, Mr. T. Brandt, Mrs. Suisse, Mr. A. Hicks, Mr. Einosuke Teramoto, Mr. Shigeyuki Ikeda, Mr. Tatsusaburo Nagasaka, Mr. Tanzo Yoshida, Mr. Kichizo Nakamura and Mr. W. Camille in cabin.

By Royal Warrant to H.M. THE KING.

LEA & PERRINS' SAUCE

gives a delightfully appetizing flavour to all Meat Dishes, Fish, Soup, Game, Cheese and Salad, and assists digestion.

The Original & Genuine Worcestershire.

RAILWAY TIME-TABLE.

Leave Yokohama.	UP TRAINS TO TOKYO.	Arrive Shimbashi.
5 30 a.m.	(from Yokohama)	6 22 a.m.
6.20 „	(„ „)	7.12 „
7.00 „	(„ „)	7 52 „
7.38 „	(„ Kodzu)	8 30 „
8 15 „	(Express from Kodzu)	8.43 „
8.25 „	(from Yokohama)	9.17 „
8 47 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	9 40 „
9.05 „	(from Yokohama)	10.07 „
9.43 „	(„ Kodzu)	10 35 „
10.20 „	(„ Yokohama)	11.12 „
10.45 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	11.37 „
11.18 „	(from Yokohama)	12 07 p.m
11.41 „	(„ Numadzu)	12 50 „
12.25 p.m	(Through from Yokosuka)	1.17 „
12.58 „	(from Kodzu)	1 50 „
1.40 „	(„ Yokohama)	2.32 „
2 10 „	(„ Kodzu)	3.02 „
2.38 „	(„ Yokohama)	3 30 „
3.10 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	4 10 „
3.44 „	(from Hamamatsu)	4 45 „
4.30 „	(Express from Yokohama)	4.58 „
4.42 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	5.32 „
5.10 „	(from Kodzu)	6.02 „
5.40 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	6.32 „
6.08 „	(from Kodzu)	7.00 „
6.45 „	Through from Ogaki)	7.37 „
8.00 „	(from Kodzu)	8.52 „
8 35 „	(„ Yokohama)	9.27 „
9.08 „	(„ Kodzu)	10.00 „
9.50 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	10.42 „
10.38 „	(from Kyoto)	11 30 „
11.30 „	(Through from Yokosuka)	12.22 a.m.

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October 2nd, 1909. 13w.

"Here's to the health of every man, woman, and child in the land." BOVRIL

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"FAIS CE QUE DOIS: ADVIENNE QUE POURRA!"

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS.

No notice will be taken of anonymous correspondence. What is intended for insertion in the "JAPAN WEEKLY MAIL" must be authenticated by the name and address of the writer, not for publication, but as a guarantee of good faith.

It is particularly requested that all letters on business be addressed to the MANAGER, and Cheques be made payable to same; and that literary contributions be addressed to the EDITOR.

YOKOHAMA: SATURDAY, DEC. 25TH, 1909.

BIRTH.

BOOTH.—To Mr. and Mrs. FRANK S. BOOTH, on December 17th, at 67-A, Bluff, a Daughter.

SUMMARY OF NEWS.

THE party of American visitors left Manila on the 20th instant for Japan *via* Hongkong.

SKATING on Lake Suwa will commence on the 24th inst. The Railway Board is issuing cheap tickets.

HIS MAJESTY the Emperor has announced his intention of attending the Military Review to be held on January 8.

A FORMOSAN official report received by the Home Office says that Dr. G. Padgett Taylor, American Vice-Consul in Taipeh, dropped to the ground on his way back from hunting on the 17th instant, and immediately expired. The cause was heart failure.

IT is reported that the Korean mission of apology, consisting of seven members, left Fusan for Japan on Wednesday night.

A SENDAI despatch reports that owing to the long absence of rain, all the wells in that town have completely dried up, depriving the people of drinking water.

ON being informed of the demise of King Leopold of Belgium, His Majesty the Emperor sent a telegram of condolence on the 18th inst. to the Royal Household of Belgium.

IN connection with the Yokohama Electric Company's debentures, amounting to 1 500,000 *yen*, it is stated that the Mitsui Bank offered to subscribe for the debentures at 7 per cent. interest. It is not yet known whether the Company will accept these terms.

AN official report from Sydney says that the strike is expected to come to an end by the beginning of next month. The miners in the western part returned to work on the 21st instant and those in the southern part will also resume work in a few days.

ACCORDING to a Moji telegram, Mr. Yamanaka Juya, Principal of the Kumamoto Agricultural School, who was a passenger on board the steamer *Sabakawa Maru* on her way to that port, committed suicide by th owing himself into the sea off Suwa Bay.

THE death of Mr. Joseph Sullivan Steinhard, aged 50, took place at Nagasaki on the 18th inst. The deceased, who was well known to the foreign residents of the port as "Joe," was, says the *Press*, employed as "runner" at the Nagasaki Hotel for some time prior to its being closed.

A SEOUL despatch says that the Dai Han Society sent on Wednesday a long letter of admonition to the Resident-General, referring to the annexation question It is stated that the committee of the Society will shortly have an interview with Marquis Katsura to ascertain his views regarding the said question.

A JAVA message dated the 10th instant, says a Nagasaki telegram, reports that several Japanese there have been attacked by the natives, who killed one man and wounded another. As the anti-Japanese boycott is being vigorously prosecuted a state of siege has been proclaimed by the authorities.

Two hundred students belonging to a middle school of the Buddhist Shinshu sect in Kyoto, have been expelled from school. It is stated that they presented a petition on the 15th instant to the Principal of the school, demanding the resignation of the Manager, Mr. Kasuga, and Mr. Takamatsu, a teacher of English.

A NAGANO despatch reports that all the students, excepting those of the first-year grade, of the Nozawa Middle School at Minami-Sakuma, have gone on strike against their teachers. Though several meetings have taken place between the staff of the school and the delegates of the students, no agreement has been reached.

ON the 19th inst. the members of the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce gave a dinner at the Nihonbashi Club in honour of the members of the Commercial Mission and Consul General Mr. Mizuno, who have just returned from America. Baronesses Shibusawa and Kanda and Mrs. Mizuno were also present. Mr. Magoshi, Chairman of the reception committee, read an address of welcome, to which Baron Shibusawa replied. Various entertainments of music and dancing followed.

THE Osaka Shosen Kisha steamer *Miyasaki Maru* (726 tons) ran aground on the 20th instant off Gamo, Amabe, Bungo privince, on her way from Saiki to Hosojima. She was to be refloated the next day by two other steamers, *Yoshidagawa Maru* and *Kochi Maru*. No casualties or damage to cargo are reported.

LIEUT.-GENERAL BARON YABUKI passed away on the 16th instant at the age of 61. During the late war with Russia, he rendered valuable services to the Army as Commander of the First Division, though not on active service. After his retirement from military service, he became President of the Fuji Life Assurance Company, which he had organized.

NOT long ago, says the *Seoul Press*, mines containing mica were discovered in Tanchon district, South Hamkyong Province. It is reported that the working of the mines will shortly be begun by Mr. Kada, Mr. Ebara, and some other Japanese. For this purpose, these gentlemen will organise a joint stock company with a capital of *yen* 300,000.

THE journalists of this city held a social gathering at the Arai Restaurant, Isezaki cho, on Wednesday evening, to speed the parting year. Over fifty persons were present. Mr. Oguro, of the *Boyeki Shimpo*, gave the opening address. He was followed by Mr. Makiuchi, proprietor of the *Maicho Shimbun*, who, in an energetic speech, dwelt on the responsibilities of journalists.

A VENDOR of medicines, who was dressed like a Shinto priest, was arrested on the 19th inst. at Nagasaki. It is alleged that during the last ten years he gained several thousand *yen* by selling various has kinds of medicine containing poisonous ingredients. Over 5,000 ignorant persons in the prefecture have bought these medicines, and some 1,000 of them have lost their lives by taking the dangerous compounds.

SHANGHAI papers contain particulars of a disastrous conflagration which occurred there early on the morning of the 10th inst. It originated among some unoccupied native houses in Pootung and spread to one of the big cotton godowns in the vicinity. The building, with its contents consisting of raw unpacked cotton, was completely destroyed. The loss caused is estimated at half a million taels.

DR MORRISON, the Peking correspondent of the London *Times*, is to leave Peking on the 14th prox. on a trip across North China to Shenkan (New Dominion), thence to Europe. During his absence, says our Peking correspondent, Mr. Lovat Fraser, editor of the Foreign Department of the *Times*, will take his place in Peking. Mr. Lovat Fraser is one of the three editors on the foreign staff of the *Times*, and has been for many years editor of the *Indian Times*.

IT is stated the total amount of the estimates for Government enterprises in this country for the present year was 10,362,000 *yen*. Of this amount, says the *Seoul Press*, some 3,992,000 *yen* have already been expended during the eleven months from January to November. The particulars are as follows:—

Improvement of roads	688,000
Waterworks in Chemulpo	752,000
Waterworks in Pyongyang	370,000
Extension of Printing Bureau	38,000
Construction of Salt pans	64,000
Forestry Depot	100,000
Bank of Korea	1,982,000

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KOREA.

Friday, December 17.

The mission of apology which was to have left Seoul for Tokyo on the 16th instant has been put off till the 18th and doubts are beginning to be entertained whether it will start at all. A question is said to have arisen as to whether the message conveyed by the delegates should be compiled in Korea or in Tokyo, and as such a question, combined with the heterogenous nature of the party, is distinctly suggestive, an opinion gains ground that the project will never mature. It would be regrettable, we think, if the idea did not bear practical fruit. There was never any very urgent occasion for such a mission, nor could it have been regarded as thoroughly representative. But having once been mooted, its abandonment would be likely to produce a bad impression. Besides, there can be no doubt that the greater the number of visitors who come from Korea to Japan, the better. What is wanted is that the Korean nation should acquire a clear knowledge of what Japan is.

For the moment, attention in Seoul centres on the person of Mr. Yu Kilson, who was formerly Minister of Home Affairs, and who is now supposed to have been employed as the tool of the Prince Minister in an attempt to stir up popular indignation against the Il Chin-hoi. It would seem that this attempt has failed and that Mr. Yu has completely lost face. Another leader of the anti-Il Chin-hoi compaign, Mr. Yu I-hwan, has started on a mission to Japan, nominally as a propagandist of Confucianism, but really, it is believed, to escape the consequences of his discomfiture.

The above are all the particulars telegraphed this morning as to the movement in Seoul which has occupied so much newspaper space and attracted such a large measure of public attention during the past fortnight. Judging from the placid attitude maintained throughout by the *Seoul Press*, it seems evident that the best informed observers on the spot were never much concerned about these events. Nevertheless, when all the froth and foam are blown away, there remains, it appears to us, a solid residuum in the form of the fact that a strong party in Korea has declared itself in favour of amalgamation with Japan. Certainly it must be admitted that the times have undergone a curious change when the Pedlars Guild are found on the side of amalgamation. These are the men who in former days used to be associated in people's minds with every anti-foreign movement in the Peninsula, and their conversion to precisely the opposite view, so far as Japan is concerned, is undoubtedly one of the features of the time.

It is very difficult to foresee the time when the ex-Emperor of Korea will cease to be an object of suspicion to the public. The latest rumour about him is that he is arranging to send a secret mission to the next meeting of the Hague Tribunal, for the purpose of protesting against the amalgamation scheme. This wild story, incredible from whatever point of view it be regarded, is now positively contradicted; and indeed the ex-Emperor of Korea must feel that he has had quite enough to do with Hague tribunals for the rest of his life. There is no denying, however, that His Majesty is distinctly a pathetic figure. Stripped of all the power he once possessed, he is leading a sort of hermit existence within a stone's throw of the scenes where he was formerly the central figure, and political exigencies have augmented the sorrow of his fate by separating him from his only son. He would be more than human if in such circumstances he was not occasionally overcome by irresistible longings to recover something of his former power and dignity.

An arrest of some importance has been effected in Seoul, owing to the vigilance of the police. Five men have been apprehended on a charge of supplying small arms and ammunition to the insurgents throughout the provinces. It has long been well understood that some secret organization existed for bringing these essentials within reach of the insurgents, but all the efforts of the police to lay hands upon the offenders have hitherto proved unavailing. Substantial evidence is said to be forthcoming against the five men now arrested, and it is added that their discovery and seizure cost the police very great trouble, and necessitated most earnest investigation. The question will now be to discover whence these people obtained funds for such a purpose. That part of the inquiry may lead to interesting results.

Saturday, December 18.

The Il Chin-hoi seem to be still insisting in presenting to the Cabinet their memorial in favour of amalgamation, and the Cabinet persists in refusing to lay the document before the Emperor. Meanwhile, according to the Seoul correspondents of Tokyo newspapers, the semblance of calm which exists is more imaginary than real, and a political outbreak may be expected at any moment. Whether there is genuine cause for such apprehension, or whether we are to attribute this prediction merely to reluctance on the part of the sensationalists to abandon their role, it is impossible to say.

It is alleged that the Korean Government has agreed to China's proposal for a special Chinese settlement at Seoul, and that the agreement will go into operation from February next.

The Korean railways having been placed under the control of the Railway Board in Japan, Mr. Oya, hitherto Director of Railways under the Residency-General, has been appointed Chief of the new Railway Bureau. He is quoted by the *Mainichi Dempo* as saying that to nothing is so much importance attached by the Residency-General as to furnishing Korea with an adequate network of railways. For that purpose a sum of fully 100 million *yen* would be required, but as the finances of Japan could not bear such a strain immediately, it has been decided that for the present the work of construction shall be limited to a line from Gensan to Seoul and a line from Mokpho to a convenient point on the Seoul-Fusan road. These two lines will involve an outlay of 39 millions, which is to be spread over 11 years, and the concurrence of the Central Government has been duly obtained for submitting a bill in that sense in the next session of the Diet. Of the above total expenditure no less than 32 millions are to be devoted to the Seoul-Gensan line, which will be of the broad gauge, and the remaining 7 millions will go to the southern line. Of the two roads, the southern line is expected to be commercially better than the northern, but it will nevertheless be laid down on the narrow gauge, as political considerations do not enter into its conception. Mr. Oya speaks in the strongest possible terms of the necessity of supplying Korea with railways. He declares that the 600 miles already built at an outlay of some 80 million *yen* are quite inadequate, and that if the Diet rejects the above programme, Japan may as well abandon Korea at once to Russia or China.

Sunday, December 19.

It appears that, after all, the mission of commiseration with Prince Ito's death is to become an accomplished fact. The 13 members, namely, one from each province, were to start from Seoul on the 19th inst. Their idea of presenting an address to the Emperor of Japan has, however, been abandoned, and they are to limit themselves to conveying the document to the family of the deceased statesman and laying a wreath upon his tomb.

By way of illustrating the emotional mood into which some purveyors of news have fallen, we may mention that quite a little excitement is being caused over the alleged despatch of a certain Mr. Yi Yinsik, who is said to have been sent to Japan on a secret mission by the Korean Prime Minister. Of course this messenger, if he be a messenger at all, has been assailed by the ubiquitous interviewer, and since he evidently knows how to hold his peace, his silence is regarded as significant of something very much more pregnant than the common cause of having nothing to say. Truly, on calm reflexion, we fail to see how it matters to Japan whether a solitary Korean inquirer visits or does not visit her shores.

The celebrated Mr. Sung Pyongchun, founder, and for a long time leader, of the Il Chin-hoi, is now on his way back to Korea. He lived safely in Japan for many months, and might have lived there for ever had he been so pleased, but, like a brave and loyal man, as he evidently is, he seems determined to stand by his Party in the hour of gloom and danger. He rightly compares his own return to putting his head in the tiger's mouth, and unless the Koreans have abandoned the methods which they used to regard as legitimate political weapons, Mr. Sung is certainly courting an evil fate when he sets foot upon Korean soil at the present juncture. No doubt the Japanese will do everything possible to secure his safety, but political considerations will render it difficult to afford him any very conspicuous degree of protection.

The Il Chin-hoi do not appear to be by any means conscious of defeat. They are sending out circulars in which they claim to have the majority of people at their back and in which they warn the Government of Japan that unless some assistance is rendered to them, their countrymen will conclude that Korea can very well dispense with Japanese tutelage or aid

Seoul is evidently a veritable hotbed of sensational rumours. The newsmongers seem determined not to let this occasion slip without exhausting all its capital-making facilities.

The Oriental Colonization Society seems to have got into some trouble in connexion with the receipt of payments in kind. On the 18th inst. its offices in Seoul were surrounded by a party of 170 farmers, who showed a disposition to state their case in violent terms. They were dispersed by the police, numerous arrests being made, but as to the exact nature of their complaint nothing is stated.

Monday, December 20.

Telegrams to Tokyo say that the official inquiry into the system of local government in Korea has been concluded. The commissioners recommend that in future the office of provincial inspector, in other words, governor, shall be merged in that of resident, and that certain additions shall be made to the latter's staff. This change has been foreseen for some time, and its importance can scarcely

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be over-rated. The provincial inspector has hitherto been an official of much importance in Korea, and it has always been contended that the extortions constantly complained of by tax-payers must be laid at his door. The residents, as our readers are aware, are Japanese subjects, and thus the amalgamation of the two offices would constitute a considerable development of Japanese administrative power.

The following interesting letter appears in the *Seoul Press*:—

(To the Editor of the "Seoul Press.")

Sir,—We read in your paper, No. 860 dated the 12th. inst. that "the Dai Han Hyup Hoi will announce to-day their views on the situation connected with the recent action taken by the Il Chin Hoi on the question of the amalgamation of Korea with Japan, and the former society has resolved at a committee meeting, that the society considers the amalgamation of Korea with Japan premature, though agreeing with the idea in principle." We beg to inform you officially that the Dai Han Hyup Hoi is, in its view, strictly opposed to the said amalgamation and has never resolved such a statement at any committee meeting whatever.

We now request you to give publicity to our denial of the above mentioned report, and trust that you will do so at your earliest opportunity.

Yours truly, Dai Han Hyup Hoi.

Tap-tong, Seoul, December 15th,
Yoong Hi, 3rd Year.

It has doubtless been observed that the cultivation of cotton in Korea is one of the enterprises regarded as an important factor in the development of the country and in rendering Japan independent of Chinese or Indian supplies of this staple. We find the following in the *Seoul Press*:—

The cultivation of cotton in Korea, which has been encouraged by the authorities, is reported by the *Chosen Nichi Nichi* to be very successful. The total value of raw cotton exported during the eleven months from January to November this year amounted to over 150,000 *yen*, showing an increase of almost 200 per cent. compared with that of the corresponding period of the previous year. Nearly all of the cotton raised in Korea is exported through Mokpo. Notwithstanding the foreign trade of Korea has been decreasing since the year before last owing to the dullness of the financial conditions, the exportation of cotton has shown great activity, the amount increasing year by year. From this it will easily be understood how the establishment of the Cotton Cultivation Station at Mokpo has proved beneficial to the development of the industry.

Tuesday, December 21.

It will have been observed by careful readers of the news from Korea that frequent accusations have been preferred against the present Prime Minister on the ground that he has fomented the agitation against the Il Chin hoi. The natural supposition was that these reports emanated from politicians hostile to the Cabinet, and therefore they were largely discounted. But a telegram to the *Mainichi Dempo* suggests that his Excellency Yi has really been exerting his influence in strong opposition to the propaganda of the Il Chin-hoi, and has been exerting it in a manner calculated to cause a disturbance of good order. The telegram alleges that the Resident-General has addressed to the Prime Minister a strongly worded reprimand, pointing out that whereas it is his manifest duty to work for the preservation of public peace, his procedure with regard to recent events has been calculated to produce exactly the opposite result. This reprimand is said to conclude with a warning that unless the Premier changes his methods, it will become necessary to take definite steps with regard to him. It may turn out that this piece of news is a fabrication from beginning to end, and, indeed, we find it hardly credible that the Resident-General would have addressed such a message to the Prime Minister unless he intended the latter to resign. Still less probable is it that had such a course been adopted, publicity would have been given to it. Still, we shall perhaps be right in regarding the intelligence as a strongly confirmatory proof that the action of Mr. Yi Wan-yon has been one-sided, and that he has endeavoured to promote the agitation against the Il Ching-hoi.

Wednesday, December 22.

Telegrams to the *Asahi* and the *Mainichi Dempo* say that two of the Korean students in Japan have been arrested in Korea under suspicion of having proceeded to their own country from Tokyo with the object of assassinating the leader of the Il Chin-hoi, Mr. Yi Yongkyu. It is well known that the Korean students in Tokyo are bitterly opposed to the idea of amalgamation, but nobody supposed that they would go to the length of assassination, and the telegram will not be believed without further evidence. Meanwhile the fact is interesting that residence in Japan seems to increase the feeling of patriotism, misguided perhaps, but still patriotism, in the bosoms of all strangers coming here for education. Such has been the case with the Chinese, with the Koreans and with the Indians. It would seem that in the atmosphere of Japan there is something favourable to the growth of this sentiment; or perhaps it is that the working of free institutions, when viewed at first hand, produces a deep sense of appreciation.

In connexion with this subject of amalgamation, we read that the students of two schools in Chyongju were so excited by anti-amalgamation addresses that the police found it necessary to adopt precautions against an emeute.

Meanwhile the members of the Great Korea Association are said to be extremely indignant because the Prime Minister has taken no steps to give effect to memorials presented by them for the suppression of the Il Chin-hoi. By way of giving expression to this umbrage, the President of the Association is said to have tendered his resignation.

Evidently the amalgamation movement is by no means defunct. A meeting of journalists and others interested in promoting it was to be held on the evening of the 21st in Seoul, for the purpose of passing resolutions of a more emphatic character than those hitherto adopted by the Il Chin-hoi.

We observe that two Japanese, namely, Messrs. Ogaki Jofu and Uchida Ryohei, who are said to have been acting in the capacity of advisers to the Ii Chin-hoi, have left Korea for Tokyo. It can not be said that the reputation of these two gentlemen as publicists is calculated to add weight to any political movement with which they are concerned.

The *Nichi Nichi Shimbun*, in a leading article, undertakes to analyse the sentiment of the various political coteries in Korea towards the question of amalgamation. Without following our contemporary into all the details of its analyses, we confine ourselves to saying that the view ascribed by it to every one of these coteries in general is favourable to amalgamation. Some appland the idea frankly for its own sake; others consider that the programme has no fault except that of untimeliness, and yet others, while objecting to amalgamation in theory, regard it as inevitable in practice. We must confess that the wish of the writer of these analyses seems to be father to his thought.

It is officially reported that the preliminary examination of the assassin An was concluded on Wednesday. He will be publicly tried in the Supreme Court at Port Arthur early in January next.

THE ASSASSINATION.

There are slight discrepancies in the accounts of the heinous deed perpetrated in Seoul on the 22nd inst., but the facts seem to be that as the Prime Minister was approaching the French Cathedral at about 11 a.m. in a *jinrikisha*, a Korean, named Yi Chai-myon, sprang forward and thrust a Japanese sword into the Premier's stomach, repeating the stab from behind so that the lungs were pierced. The man was wearing foreign costume, and had his hair cut short. Some accounts say that he used a Korean sword; others, that his weapon was a Cossack spear, but as it is difficult to understand how he could have concealed the latter on his person, it is probable that a short weapon was employed. According to one story, he commenced by killing or severely wounding the *jinrikisha* man, but the more credible account is that the latter received his injury when attempting subsequently to seize the assassin. As to the manner of the seizure, there is also some difference of statement, one version being that one of the two Japanese constables who formed the escort drew his sword immediately and wounded the assassin before seizing him; another version has it that the policeman did not resort to his weapon until the ruffian had wounded the *jinrikisha* coolie in the latter's attempt to apprehend him. Some of the telegrams sent to Tokyo papers state that the Prime Minister has succumbed to his hurts, but the majority do not go further than to allege that his condition is critical. He received three wounds, one piercing the lungs; another the kidney, and the third the stomach. He was immediately carried into the Dai Han Hospital, which was founded by Dr. Sato and is now presided over by Dr. Kikuchi. The latter was quickly in attendance, and is quoted as saying that the wounded man's condition is almost hopeless.

Later accounts say explicitly that the weapon used was a well sharpened Korean short sword, and that the assassin is a man of great muscular strength. He is said to be a native of Pyongyang, but, if rumour be credible, he has evidently received a superior education, for at the moment of committing the crime he is said to have cried out "I am dying for my country." His preliminary examination by the police is said to have been very brief, as he appeared to be labouring under great mental excitement, and it was thought better to postpone his interrogation until he had become calmer. Of course, a section of the public is disposed to connect him with the Il Chin-hoi, against whom the Prime Minister is said to have resorted to very severe measures. But if any credence may be attached to the statements said to have been made by the man himself, his act was inspired by the part that the Prime Minister acted in concluding the last two Conventions with Japan. These Conventions, according to the view of the assassin, sealed the fate of the country. Further, he is reported to have stated that had he escaped after murdering the Prime Minister, his hand would have been turned next against the leader of the Il Chin-ho, Yi Yongkyu. It appears to be undoubtedly true that the assassin is a professed Christian, and that he passed several years in America. He admits that he is a friend of Prince Ito's murderer, but he is said to deny that there was any collusion between the two.

All accounts agree in stating that the event produced great excitement in Seoul, and that the Cabinet Ministers have been

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thrown into a state of considerable perturbation.

Mr. Tsurubara, formerly Chief of the Business Bureau in the Residency-General, has been interviewed by the *Kokumin Shimbun*, and is quoted as speaking in the highest terms of Mr. Yi Wan-yon's resolution and ability. He says that he has known Mr. Yi for 20 years, and that it was at the instance of that politician that the Emperor of Korea took refuge in the Russian Legation at the time of the Queen's murder. At that period, Yi was distinctly anti-Japanese, but after the war with Russia he made a complete *volte face*, and became friendly to the connexion with this country. Prince Ito fully appreciated his capacity, and in May 1907, after the Hague incident had led to the abdication of the Emperor, Prince Ito recommended Yi as the only statesman capable of forming a working cabinet at such a crisis. The Korean Sovereign asked who should be associated with Yi in this task, and Prince Ito replied that it would be sufficient to nominate Yi and leave him to distribute the other portfolios. This advice was followed, and Yi then organized the Cabinet on three bases, he himself taking the direction of foreign affairs; domestic affairs being entrusted to Cho Chung-Eung; and the relations with Japan to Sun Pyong-chung. Yi posessed a great advantage in being familiar with the English language, and being thus able to converse direct with Prince Ito, whereas the present Resident-General, not understanding English, is obliged to have recourse to an interpreter, which in Korea means that secrecy can not be obtained. Referring to the assassin, Mr. Tsurubara is represented as saying that although the foreign propagandists of Christianity do not take any part in political affairs, there can be no doubt that many of the converts embrace Christianity in the hope and expectation that they can thus establish a claim upon the sympathy and assistance of foreign Powers to secure the independence of their country. Many of them turn their eyes specially to the United States of America in this expectation.

Mr. Fumya, Prince Ito's private secretary, confirms the high opinion expressed by Mr. Tsurubara as to the altogether exceptional qualities of the unfortunate Prime Minister. Other authorities, more or less well-informed, are quoted in the same sense, and indeed we ourselves have never heard any second opinion on this subject. There has been uniformly marked applause of Mr. Yi's capacities, and should his life be now lost to his country, the fact will be most regrettable.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* quotes an official of the Foreign Office as saying that Premier Yi enjoyed the fullest measure of Prince Ito's confidence, and mainly through his instrumentality the last two Conventions with Japan were concluded. The great thing will be to find a worthy successor. That the present Cabinet can not hold together may be taken for granted. On the other hand, it would be out of the question to entrust the administration either to the Il Chin-hoi or to the Tai Han Hyup hoi, who are after all little better than mere mobs of irresponsible politicans. The Elder Statesmen, too, are not available, since their usefulness as an administrative factor has hitherto been due to Premier Yi's influence and guidance. It is very difficult therefore to form any forecast. With regard to the effect of the disaster on Japanese relations with Korea, the loss of such an able cooperator as Yi Wan-yon is unquestionably a serious blow. On the other hand, the fact that the Resident-General found it necessary to address one or two reprimands recently to Yi goes to indicate some tendency on the latter's part to choose wrong routes, and from that point of view the catastrophe may not prove so serious as it appears at first sight.

Count Hayashi is quoted by the *Asahi Shimbun* and the *Yomiuri Shimbun* as speaking with a still stronger voice about to the danger and unpracticality of further postponing amalgamation. This distinguished statesman says that the murder of Yi Wan-yon, preceded by that of Prince Ito, must be regarded as parts of a series of similar crimes which will grow more and more frequent until the present nebulous state of affairs is corrected. The Count insists that dual administrative authority has never yet been a success and never can be. To continue such a system in Korea is to condemn the people of that country to a continued state of unrest and to the constant repetition of heinous crimes. Amalgamation has got to come, and the sooner it comes, the better for all concerned. As to the unseasonableness of the time, there need not be any apprehensions on that score. All the great Powers of the world recognise the inevitable nature of Japan's final relations with the Peninsula, and no voice would be raised against her if she took the practical course of extending her undivided authority to Korea in the cause of peace, order and progress. There would doubtless be some little commotion at first among the Koreans, but things would quickly settle down. There would also be some expense, but the Count thinks that no Japanese would be found to object on the latter ground.

The *Jiji Shimpo* takes practically the same view as Count Hayashi. It says that the responsibility for the unsettled state of mind now prevailing in Korea must rest ultimately on those whose duty it has hitherto been to form and direct public opinion. The policy of the present Resident-General in the crisis recently created by the Il Chin-hoi agitation can not be acquitted of contributing to popular unrest. What with the asssassination of Prince Ito, the apparently fatal attempt upon the life of the Premier and the threats openly formulated against the leader of the Il Chin-hoi, it will soon come to this, that no statesman can be found to take a prominent part in the management of Korean affairs. The time has come for Japan to put her foot down firmly, so as to rescue her *protegée* from the present intolerable situation.

The *Asahi Shimbun* writes in an almost alarmist strain. Judging from the indifference shown by the individual Korean to his own death and the correspondingly light value he sets upon the lives of others, the *Asahi* evidently thinks that we may be on the verge of a series of grave crimes. It makes one very interesting comment, namely, that the men who resorted to assassination in Japan at the outset of the present era, were all obstinate conservatives who set their faces firmly against every foreign innovation. The Koreans, on the other hand, who employ murderous weapons have been in every case denizens of foreign countries and presumably advocates of foreign civilization. Thus the slayer of Kim Ok-kyun was a Korean student who had received his education in Paris. The killer of Mr. Stevens had studied in the United States. The assassin of Prince Ito had been a student in Russia, and now we have the Premier's murderer, who has spent several years in America.

The Japanese journalists of Seoul held a meeting on the evening of the 21st inst. and passed a resolution condemning the Il Chin-hoi's petition as not sufficiently explicit, and urging that the annexation of Korea must be effected immediately. The resolution did not employ the word "annexation." The form of diction used, according to the telegram, was "final solution" (*saigo no kaiketsu*)

The members of the Taikan Doshi-kai (Society of fellow thinkers with regard to Korea), has appointed a working committee of seven for the purpose of interviewing Marquis Katsura and remonstrating with the Resident-General. This Society is all for conclusive measures, and the nature of its action will be understood when we say that the working committee is headed by Mr. Kono Hironaka, and that it is made up chiefly of the politicians who became notorious in connexion with the Portsmouth riots.

THE AMALGAMATION MOVEMENT.

If the telegram sent by newspaper correspondents from Seoul to Tokyo be trustworthy, the amalgamation movement is by no means extinguished. Its failure to accomplish anything thus far is attributed to the somewhat frivolous methods of a portion of its supporters and to want of due preparation. These defects are now to be remedied, it is said. The question has been taken up by a wider circle of supporters, including several journalists, and the agitation will be conducted with greater determination than ever, but at the same time with more circumspection. Of course, it must be taken for granted that Japanese sentiment in the Peninsula is, on the whole, favourable to this movement, and therefore the telegrams from Seoul must be read with much caution. It may be mentioned here that a meeting of the Dai Han Hyup-hoi was held on the 18th inst., when one of the leaders of the Association urged that the Cabinet should be invited to employ stronger measures for the suppression of the Il Chin-hoi, since these must be regarded as disloyal subjects of Korea. The motion provoked opposition, however, and was not adopted. Indeed, the proposal of such a resolution is by some persons regarded as a device of the Prime Minister to create disruption in the ranks of the Dai Han Hyup-hoi, which Association is nothing if not hostile to the Cabinet.

We observe that the *Jiji Shimpo* discusses this matter of amalgamation in a strong leading article. Our Tokyo contemporary is plainly of the opinion that half measures are doomed to failure. It thinks that Japan has already gone too far to warrant any further vacillation, and that she will not only defeat her own inevitable purpose, but also impede the course of progress in the Peninsula if she palters with the question any longer. In fact, the *Jiji* frankly counsels amalgamation, but not the kind of amalgamation contemplated by Viscount Sone in the statement recently attributed to him by a news agency. The Resident-General seems to think that the amalgamation in question is of the nature of the bond existing between the parts of the United States of America or between the component sections of the German Empire. That is not at all the meaning which the Tokyo journal advocates. The amalgamation contemplated by it is of the nature of that existing between Austria and Herzegovina and between England and South Africa. Anything short of this would be utterly futile in the opinion of our contemporary, and it condemns Viscount Sone for entertaining

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wholly unpractical views, if he be rightly represented.

Of course, the importance of the *Jiji Shimpo's* accession to the ranks of the supporters of amalgamation can scarcely be over-rated.

CHINA.

A telegram to the *Asahi* from Peking says that an imposing ceremony has been held in that city in honour of the Imperial lady whose umbrage at the treatment extended to her on the occasion of the late Empress Dowager's obsequies threatened for a moment to become a political question of the first magnitude. It will be remembered that the device originally proposed as a balm for this wounded dignity was to add one or two ideographs to the Imperial lady's title, but apparently it has been considered necessary to adopt a more substantial measure. The telegram is very vague, however, and we are unable to discover whether the ceremonial just referred to may not have been concerned with the deceased Empress Dowager rather than with her survivors.

An interesting telegram comes from Shanghai to the *Asahi*. It is to the effect that, at the instance of the President of the Chamber of Commerce in that place, an association has been formed for the purpose of paying off China's national debts. This association held its first meeting on the 16th inst. and decided to start a propaganda throughout the provinces for the purpose of inducing wealthy men to subscribe money to the object in view. It is curious to find the Chinese following in the footsteps of the Koreans. The latter, carried away by a temporary vertigo, engaged in a romantic attempt to collect several millions of *yen* by public subscription, though any one of common sense could have foretold that the project would not produce more than an infinitesimally small fraction of the amount required. The result was that a certain sum of money found its way into the hands of men who did not know what to do with it, and it has disappeared nobody knows where. The Chinese have to collect many tens of millions if they contemplate any material lessening of their national debt, and only a very sanguine person can persuade himself that this Shanghai movement will not end in a fiasco similar to that which took place in Seoul.

Canton has for many years been celebrated for its gambling salons, where the great game of gambling with cash, called *fantan*, has filled and emptied many pockets from time immemorial, the only uniform gainer being the Local Government which netted a sum of about 10 million *yen* annually from the sale of licences. It was decided some time ago that these licences should no longer be granted, and the problem now pressing for solution is how to find means of recouping such a great loss of revenue. Conclaves of business men and officials are being held, and there is evidently much earnestness about the matter, but as yet nothing is stated as to available resources. China is certainly giving most unequivocal evidences of regeneration. What with the suppression of gambling, the abolition of opium and the grant of a constitution, she is fairly on her way to a much higher platform of civilization.

It is stated that the Government of China has resolved to accept the resignation of the Viceroy of Manchuria, but the general opinion is that the fact will not be published until the arrival in Mukden of the former Viceroy, Mr. Hsu, who, in his capacity of President of the Board of Posts and Telegraphs, is now on his way to Manchuria. Meanwhile the various offices in Mukden are said to be practically closed, as no business is being done while this question is in abeyance.

A rumour comes from Peking to the *Mainichi Dempo* that Lady Yu, Consort of the late Emperor Tung-Chih, has committed suicide by way of protest against the indignities she is supposed to have suffered on the occasion of the obsequies of the great Empress Dowager. This would indeed be a lamentable occurrence, and we sincerely hope that the rumour may prove unfounded.

The Prince Regent of China is said to have decided that the highest Order in the gift of his Sovereign shall be conferred on Count Okuma in recognition of the eminent services rendered by that statesman during many years in the interests of a good understanding between China and Japan, and also in recognition of the valuable work published under the Count's auspices, namely, "Fifty years of Open Japan." We may mention here that this book is said to have been perused with keen interest by high officials in China, and is believed to have exercised no small influence on their policy.

The *Mainichi Dempo* has a telegram from Mukden saying that Russian exploiters have begun to mine coal at Tapingshan, in Mongolia, and that they refuse to desist in spite of the remonstrances of the local authorities. This mine is said to have been previously worked by Chinese subjects with some success, but ultimately it was abandoned. It must be a very small affair, we imagine.

The leader of the company of bandits, who in January last raided the house of a Japanese, killed its owner and made away with a sum of 5,000 *yen*, has been arrested by the Japanese police.

There is talk of establishing a customs station at Changchun in view of the large development that trade has shown of late in that region.

The movement for the payment of the Chinese national debt by means of private subscriptions has extended to Mukden. It has been taken up by the student class in that city and a sum of 3,000 *taels* is said to have been subscribed by them. Everything must have a beginning, but in this case the beginning is ludicrously out of proportion to the ultimate object.

The Prince Regent is said to have refused the resignation of the Minister of Finance. His Highness naturally desires to be informed explicitly as to the state of affairs calling for this resignation, and he has therefore required that detailed reports shall be furnished, showing the appropriations demanded by the various Boards, and the reasons which render it impossible to comply with them.

Advantage appears to have been taken of Tuan Fang's fall from power to impeach him for corruption when he served as Viceroy of the two Kiang. But the censors who framed the impeachment were found to have proceeded on insufficient evidence, and their memorial has led to nothing except a few changes of minor officials.

There comes from Changchun a statement that an agricultural products company, which has close relations with the Taotai of that place, has failed to deliver 200,000 *koku* of beans which it contracted to supply to Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co. The result has been the presentation of a claim of 200,000 dollars by the latter firm, and until this question is settled, the price of beans is expected to remain high.

THE MUKDEN-ANTUNG RAILWAY.

Mukden telegraphs to Tokyo that the negotiations with regard to extending into the city of Mukden the Chinese railway from Hsinmintun are meeting with some slight difficulties. The first trouble is in connexion with engineering experts. It was originally intended to employ an English engineer, but the Department of Posts and Telegraphs has issued an instruction declaring it to be more expedient to entrust the work to Chinese experts only. The second and more important point is that the Chinese are pressing for the privilege of continuing their line right up to the Western Gate of the city, and thus bringing it into direct junction with the Japanese railway from Antung. Were this programme carried out, the Mukden-Antung line would become simply a feeder of the Chinese road, whereas the Japanese naturally desire to make it a feeder of the South Manchuria Railway. This latter question was understood to have been disposed of already, but it would appear to have again come upon the tapis.

It is stated by the *Asahi Shimbun's* Mukden correspondent that all arrangements for the purchase of the lands traversed by the Mukden-Antung line had been effected and the price agreed upon, so that nothing remained except the payment of the money when, owing to adverse comments in the columns of Shanghai vernacular newspapers, the Chinese Commissioners declared that before receiving payment they must obtain the explicit sanction of the Central Government. This has caused a delay, but it is not thought that any serious difficulty is to be apprehended.

THE NEW FIELD EXERCISE BOOK.

The new manual of field exercise (*soten*) for the Japanese Army has been very variously described by Tokyo journals. One of the latest accounts said that the book was based upon the experiences garnered in the South African war, and that the great object aimed at by its compilers was to educate troops in the art of skirmishing with long distances between the files and with the utmost possible utilization of cover. This analysis is now denied. Rightly or wrongly, the Japanese are persuaded that one of their strong points in fighting is the attack delivered at close quarters, and repeated again and again until success is attained. It can not be denied that the lessons taught by Japan's wars in modern times go to confirm the justice of this view. At all events, the new manual is said to be compiled on those lines. At the same time, it does not neglect the important subject of taking cover. Wherever the natural features of a country lend themselves to such procedure, it should be adopted, but the point made is that the outcome of such fighting can never be conclusive. It is useful for defensive purposes, especially where the defenders are in a minority, but for offensive warfare its potentialities are limited. We may add that the revised manuals for all branches of the Japanese service have now been completed and given out.

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THE BUDGET.

It has now become habitual, in accordance with a custom inaugurated by Marquis Katsura, to hand to each House of the Diet a copy of the Budget ten or fifteen days before the date appointed for the opening of that body. This was done on the 19th inst. Representatives of the Peers were invited to the official residence of the Prime Minister at 10.30a.m., and subsequently lunched with the Marquis in his capacity of Minister of Finance. The Peers asked no questions nor suggested any objection to the figures submitted. The same procedure took place in the case of the House of Representatives at 4 p.m., and subsequently the delegates dined with the Minister. On this occasion, however, the feeling about decreasing the land tax was reflected in the demeanour of the delegates. The *Seiyu-kai* representatives maintained silence, but the representatives of the Progressists pressed Marquis Katsura for an answer as to the Government's intentions with regard to this important subject. Marquis Katsura's reply was not explicitly definite, but it showed plainly enough that the Cabinet does not intend to approach the problem of land tax reduction until 1911 at the soonest. Marquis Katsura stated very plainly that the programme in contemplation is to effect gradual reductions of the extra taxes imposed in connexion with the War. He intimated, however, that in view of the limited resources available, this programme must be carried out slowly, and spread over a number of years. What was necessary in the first place was to correct unjust incidence, and the Government had approached the problem from that direction in the Budget now handed to the Houses.

We observe that the *Jiji Shimpo* lends its powerful voice to further the cause of land-tax reduction. It does not deny the expediency of increasing official salaries as a point of theory, but it does most emphatically deny that expediency in practice, so long as the burden which falls upon the shoulders of the great majority of the people, namely, the land tax, continues to stand at the high rate to which it was raised for the purposes of the War. In short the *Jiji* takes the line that this is not the time for increasing official salaries, and that if there are spare funds in the Treasury they ought to be devoted, above all, to reducing the burdens of taxation.

We must confess that we are somewhat surprised by the line which the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* takes at this juncture. It would seem that our respected contemporary is in a fault-finding mood. It commences by condemning the practice of handing copies of the Budget to the Houses before the latter's official opening. The *Nichi Nichi* girds at the element of secrecy involved in this procedure, and calls such doings unconstitutional, but truly, unless the object of the Constitution be to impede the progress of business, we can not discover any justice in this criticism. As to secrecy, the answer is that there is no element of concealment whatever. That is definitely proved by reference to the columns of the *Nichi Nichi* itself, where the whole Budget is published, as it is also in the columns of all the other leading journals. What has been proved by parliamentary experience in Japan is that, owing to the brief interval allowed for the session of the Diet, the time left for the Upper House to discuss the Budget is always insufficient, and this important measure has to be rushed through the Peers with indecent haste. Anything which acilitates the emergence of the Bud get from the Lower House at an earlier date is to be welcomed, and from that point of view Marquis Katsura's plan of anticipating the official opening of the Diet, and placing the Budget in the hands of the Houses beforehand, seems to us to be thoroughly practical and commendable. For the rest, the *Nichi Nichi* writes as though the Ministry should be held responsible for the continuance of tradal depression in Japan. It says, in effect, that the object of handing over to Marquis Katsura the conduct of the country's finance was because the people looked for relief from the distress which prevailed under the Saionji régime, but that hope has been falsified and our contemporary thinks that the Katsura Cabinet has lived out its legitimate span of life. We should like to ask the *Nichi Nichi Shimbun* how the stigma of failure can properly be fixed upon a Cabinet which found the State securities at a discount of over 20 per cent. and raised them to par in two years.

The *Nippon* is very severe in its condemnation. It takes the line that the Katsura Cabinet, by seeking to please every body, has pleased no one. From the Imperial Household downwards all sections of the people have been placated. The members of the Diet and the officials are to have their salaries raised, and the tax payers are to receive fragments of relief here and there, so that the Budget may be said to rain blessings on everybody. It is a case of a face that shows a beatific look to all comers, and the *Nippon* evidently does not like such universal benevolence. It directly accuses the Cabinet of attempting to "manage" the Diet in the interests of the Ministry, and it affects to find in the recent land-tax-reduction meeting at the Maple Club an evidence that these official manœuvres have failed signally.

We turn with some relief from such criticisms to the comments of the *Mainichi Dempo*, which shrewdly observes that if there is a fight between the Diet and the Government, it is because there is something to fight about. A surplus of revenue is available and the Government wants to use it for increasing official salaries, while the people want to devote it to reducing the land tax. There is plenty of room for compromise, and the *Mainichi Dempo* would greatly prefer compromise to collision, but in the meanwhile it insists upon the fact that the financial management of a State which finds itself disputing about the appropriation of surplus revenue can not properly be termed a failure.

It would really seem that the gist of the objections formulated against the Budget by a section of the people is that the policy of the Finance Minister is too conciliatory. He tries to please everybody, and he does not succeed in pleasing anybody. That is the extraordinary criticism uttered in more than one quarter. Some publicists indeed take the line that there is one notable exception to the process of placating, and that exception is the agricultural class. Thus the *Nichi Nichi* has a cartoon representing the Minister of Finance as a host who entertains a number of guests, all, with one solitary exception, having a plentiful supply of viands placed before them. The exception is the farmers. It is plain that this latter view can not be reconciled with the former, for if the Government's financial policy errs on the side of universal benevolence, it can not at the same moment be condemned for leaving somebody outside the range of its kindness. The fact is, so far as we can see, that there is a disposition to find fault, and where such a mood exists, it never lacks pretexts. No programme of finance elaborated by human intelligence could please every section of a nation suffering from the business depression which now weighs upon Japan.

THE "INAZUMA."

Saturday, December 18.

The loss of the destroyer *Inazuma* by collision with a small trading steamer in time of peace is an ignominious ending to the career of a warship which, in common with the *Akozuki*, the *Sazanami*, and the *Akebono*, distinguished itself conspicuously in the great conflict of 1904-5. The *Inazuma* was one of the squadron of destroyers which opened the War by torpedoing the Russian Squadron in Port Arthur on the night of the 9th of February, 1904. She was built at Yarrow in 1900 and her displacement was 310 tons. As she sank in 25 fathoms of water there is very little hope of refloating her. It appears that the *Kinryu Maru*, with which she collided, took off her officers and men, and then attempted to tow the destroyer into port, but the *Inazuma* broke in two when approaching the lighthouse and went down immediately. She had a crew of 40 all told, two of whom are missing, and she was under the command of Lieutenant Hotta, who was picked up unconscious and is now in hospital. Nothing is yet (Saturday morning) stated as to the cause of the collision.

Sunday, December 19.

The collision between the *Kinryu Maru* and the *Inazuma* is not yet fully explained, but it would seem that the ships were passing each other at something like right angles, for the bows of the *Kinryu Maru* struck the destroyer at a point behind the machinery room on the starboard side. It is suggested that the fault lay entirely with the *Kinryu*, but this remains to be proved. It will be observed that the collision took place at 5.30 p.m., namely, in the dark hour immediately after sunset and before moonrise.

TOKYO MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS.

Nothing more has been heard for some days about the charges of corruption preferred against certain persons connected with the City Improvement scheme. The accused are in confinement, undergoing magisterial inquiry, and it may reasonably be hoped that the dimensions of this scandal will prove to have been comparatively limited. Meanwhile there is a rumour that the Mayor regards himself as more or less responsible, and is disposed to tender his resignation. That is precisely what might have been expected from an official animated by such a chivalrous sense of honour as that which inspires all Mr. Yukio Ozaki's acts. But we sincerely hope, in the best interests of the City of Tokyo, that he will be dissuaded from going out of office. In a city of Tokyo's size, where so many important works are in progress and such large sums of money are changing hands constantly, it is beyond the competence of human management to secure absolute freedom from corruption or peculation. If anybody could impress lofty moral codes upon the citizens more effectually than Mr. Ozaki has done during his long term of office, that man has still to be found, and would, we opine, be very difficult to find. Should Mr. Ozaki step down from office, then, indeed, one of the strongest barriers to malpractices will have been removed.

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DOMESTIC POLITICS.

The Kwanto Section of the *Seiyu-kai*, which is the most important branch of the Party, held a meeting on the 19th inst. at the Kinkikan in Tokyo and passed three important resolutions. The first was, that the finances must be adjusted so as to equalize the incidence of taxation, and that the land tax must be reduced. The second, that the rights of the individual must be respected in administering the law, and that amendments of the law suitable to attain that end should be made. The third, that a positive policy must be adopted by the Government with reference to enterprises colculated to develop the country's material resources.

Dr. Hatoyama was chairman of the meeting, and all the leaders of the great Party, excepting of course Marquis Saionji, were present. Mr. Matsuda Masahisa made a powerful speech in support of the second of the above resolutions. He recalled the fact that, 20 or 30 years ago, the nation had been earnestly bent upon securing the rights of the individual, and many zealous publicists had worked for the attainment of that end. But thereafter, unfortunately, men's thoughts had been deflected towards material gain, and moral questions had fallen into more or less neglect. Happily the people had now unanimously turned their attention once more towards this great problem of individual rights. The proverb says, "despise yourself, and you may rely upon being despised by others." The result of the long want of self-assertion in the realm of individual rights had been that those rights were now virtually non-existent, as might be plainly seen from their flagrant abuse by politicians and jurists. It was a most wholesome sign of the times that the nation's thoughts had once more taken this direction. Such a revival was not to be attributed to the agency of any one man or group of men; it must be interpreted as a sign of the times, and as a manifest proof that radical reform is needed. Mr. Matsuda said that he was not without views as to the two other counts of the resolutions, but he would reserve the statement of his opinions until more time was available.

Mr. Hara Kei was the next speaker. He warned his hearers against interpreting resolutions passed by one section of the Party as views adopted by the whole. The Diet is to meet in a few days, but the steps taken by it during the present year will be mere formalities. The real debate will not commence until next year, and it is the intention of the Party to hold a general meeting in the middle of January for the purpose of determining its policy. Until that time, nothing must be taken for granted, though of course it goes without saying that the final platform of the Party will be composed of planks approved by its sections. The power of the *Seiyu-kai* can not be overestimated. It possesses a large majority in the whole House of Representatives, and it is becoming more and more approved by the people throughout the country. But there can be no hiding the fact that the possession of power brings corresponding responsibility. Every utterance of the Party as a party and every step taken by it in its collective capacity has to be carefully considered. Reduction of the land tax is doubtless a desirable measure, but the question of degree has to be carefully considered. Some politicians are calling for very large things, just as after the recent war there were many men who cried for an indemnity of 1,500 or 2,000 millions. In the issue no indemnity at all was obtained, and it is well to remember now that by excessive demands the whole cause may be prejudiced. Mr. Hara therefore invited his hearers to maintain a circumspect and conservative demeanour, until the sense of the whole Party could be taken and until the possibilities of the situation could be clearly ascertained.

Mr. Haseba Junko warned his hearers against being hurried into an incautious groove by the action of agitators who might be compared to thieves that take advantage of a fire. A party of such magnitude as the *Seiyu-kai* must never behave in a frivolous manner or suffer itself to become the vehicle of idle talk. Their political opponents were calling out for a reduction of the tax to an extent quite impracticable. The *Seiyu-kai* must not be misled by any clamour of that kind, but must carefully shape its platform in accordance with the possibilities and expediencies of the situation.

Mr. Sugita Teiichi confirmed the remarks made by Messrs. Hara and Haseba. He made no explicit allusion to the Progressists, but his speech was obviously directed against them, for he spoke with bitter sarcasm of politicians who, in time of peace, cried aloud for diminution of armaments and reduction of taxes, but who, when war broke out, demanded the most extreme achievements, and would be content with nothing less that the capture of Peking or the investment of Moscow. Every progressive nation had to make from time to time large sacrifices on the altar of its development. Japan had not shrunk from such sacrifices, and she had been amply recompensed. It was right that when her day of rest came, she should be refreshed as much as possible; but she must always remember that such seasons of quiescence might be the preludes of fresh sacrifices, and must be regarded as periods of preparation not less than of recuperation. The *Seiyu-kai* unquestionably desired to reduce the people's burdens, but they declined to have their hands forced by rival politicians who blew hot and cold with the same breath, and sought to make capital for themselves by preaching an alluring but unpractical propaganda.

It is tolerably evident from the above that the leaders of the *Seiyu-kai* have adopted the wise resolve of cutting their coat according to their cloth, and that they will not force upon the Government any crucial question about the reduction of the land tax in the approaching session.

The parliamentary representatives of the Progressist Party held a meeting on the 20th inst. and received a report from the political investigation committee. The committee advised that the Party should take for its platform a reduction of the land tax to the extent of one per cent., but this was objected to on the ground that it would yield relief totalling only 12 million *yen*. At the same time, the representatives were not prepared to advocate a more extensive reduction immediately. They considered that such a step should be proceeded by a revision of the taxable value of the land, and as that would involve a considerable time, they decided merely to adopt the principle of reduced land taxation, and to press immediately for the inception of reassessment.

On the 21st inst. a meeting of parliamentary representatives of the *Seiyu-kai* was held in Tokyo. There were about 150 present, and the chair was occupied by Mr. Sugita Teiichi. The chairman, in his opening speech, alluded to the sugar scandal and to the assassination of Prince Ito, both of which events had been spoken of as fatal to the influence of the *Seiyu-kai*. To such appreciations the simple answer was that whereas the Party had commanded only 193 votes in the last session, it would enter the Chamber in a few days with 200 members. He also announced the adhesion of Mr. Ozaki Yukio and Prof. Tomizu. The latter is known to our readers as one of the Seven Pundits who assumed such a stalwart attitude on the eve of the war with Russia.

Marquis Saionji also was present and delivered a short address. He complimented the Party on its growth and on its admirable discipline, and he called attention to the fact that many important questions, especially of finance, would present themselves for consideration in the session now about to open, and he trusted that they would be investigated and debated by the Party with a due sense of the responsibility attaching to the power it wields.

The meeting than elected Messrs. Matsuda Masahisa and Hara Kei to be managers of the Party in the House.

In a short speech acknowledging the honour paid to him, Mr. Matsuda said that all misunderstandings within the Party might be traced to want of mutual understanding between the members and the officers. He therefore begged that if a member entertained any views however seemingly unimportant, they should be communicated frankly and unreservedly to himself or his colleague Mr. Hara.

The Daido Club's parliamentary representatives held a meeting on the same day, but no great interest attaches to their proceedings, for the total number of votes commanded by them in the House is only 28. They appear to have gone to Manchuria in search of materials to construct their platform, for, in the forefront of subjects to be considered, they put the consolidation of Japanese power in the Three Eastern Provinces, the establishment of a Central Bank there, the opening of Port Arthur to trade and so forth. They also advocate the speedy construction of the Kilin-Hoiryong Railway and they consider that the Residency-General in Korea stands in need of reform. There are many other planks in the platform, but the above are the most interesting.

MANCHURIA.

There is no further telegraphic news about the state of affairs in Manchuria, but the *Kokumin Shimbun* quotes the views of an eminently well informed person on the subject. This informant states that not the finances alone but also the foreign affairs of the Three Eastern Provinces are in a most perplexing condition. The difficulties with Japan and with Russia do not stand alone: similar troubles exist between China in Manchuria and the Governments at Washington and Berlin. As for finance, the Viceroy based all his calculations on the hypothesis that certain sums would be paid in by the provinces at certain times, but this expectation has been falsified, and the resulting situation is so unfavourable that not even funds for the payment of officials are forthcoming. In these circumstances, the position of the Viceroy must have become well nigh intolerable, and that he should have tendered his resignation is only natural. But will the Peking Government accept it? Whoever fills the post at Mukden would be confronted by the same embarrassments.

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THE COMMERCIAL MISSION TO THE UNITED STATES.

Tokyo newspapers devote much editorial space to the return of the Commercial Mission whose members reached Tokyo on the 17th inst. after a protracted tour. The *Jiji Shimpo* says that what the Japanese have still to learn is the promptness and decision which characterize American men of business. This country has still one foot planted in the old times, when all undertakings were pervaded with a *dolce far niente* atmosphere, inseparable from feudal fashions. It is true that her young men now visit the United States in considerable numbers, and come back with a "high collar" breeze blowing about their ears, but they are soon absorbed into the sluggish current of their country's methods and the ancient dilatoriness is preserved. These business men, however, of mature experience and wide practical knowledge, who have just enjoyed such a unique opportunity of inspecting American men and things at first hand, may reasonably be expected to profit by the object-lessons they have received in celerity of decision and promptness of action.

The *Asahi Shimbun* recalls the time of Prince Iwakura's Embassy to the West, on which occasion the renowned Mr. Kido Koin is said to have been moved almost to tears by the overwhelming prospect of American wealth and prosperity, as compared with Japanese poverty and stagnation. A change has been wrought in Japan since that time, but in the interval the United States has grown also, and our contemporary expects that the contrast proved not less stupendous when viewed by this recent party of visitors. Baron Shibusawa and his associates can not fail to have been struck by American energy, American hard work, American simplicity and American enterprise. These business men were not idle observers. They must have been quite conscious of the fact that they represented their country on an important occasion, and being sensible of the responsibility thus devolving on them, they will certainly endeavour to make their country profit by their experiences. Thus the *Asahi* confidently hopes that they will be found to have brought back a substantial souvenir.

The *Nichi Nichi* preaches much the same sermon. Its remarks may be briefly summed up by saying that it expects the members of the Mission to take steps for practically perpetuating the impressions they garnered on their travels.

Japanese newspapers on the 18th inst. devoted column after column to accounts of the return of the Commercial Mission from the United States and of the ceremony which took place at the Tokyo Chamber of Commerce in connexion with the formal conclusion of the Mission's functions. There is in truth nothing to relate about the affair, except that the entrance to the Chamber was prettily decorated; that the Stars and Stripes and the Rising Sun fluttered in conspicuous union from all parts of the big building, and that a very large number of the merchants and officials of the capital assembled to take part in the ceremony. The delegates may have had some time during their voyage to recuperate, but even when due allowances are made on that account, their appearance did not suggest that the arduous nature of their tour had produced any serious effects. They all seemed in the best possible health and spirits. Short addresses of welcome were read by their Excellencies Count Komura and Baron Oura, and one was also read by a representative of the six united Chambers of Commerce of the Empire. Baron Shibusawa, in replying, said that the success which had attended the Mission's tour, though attributable in some degree to the labours of the members themselves, must be considered to be mainly due to the reputation Japan enjoyed and to the place she had won for herself among the nations. An address was also read from Baron Shibusawa signifying the termination of the functions entrusted to the Mission. This document spoke of the results achieved in removing the anti-Japanese sentiment that prevailed among the peoples of the Pacific slope; in making the Japanese better known to the people of America in general; in promoting a good understanding between the latter and the Japanese; in opening up new markets and in strengthening the friendly feeling between the two nations. The address concluded with a warm recognition of the hospitality and kindness shown by the American people to the Mission.

Baron Shibusawa is quoted by the *Chuo Shimbun* as saying that nothing struck him so much as the energy, decision, self-reliance, enterprise and disposition to laud their own country shown by all the Americans with whom the Mission came in contact. As to this last quality, the Baron said that its display seemed decidedly strange to men educated in accordance with the self-depreciatory canons of the East, but closer acquaintance with the Americans showed that their self-applause was quite artless, and that they were not incapable of appreciating humility in its proper place. The Baron thinks that in spite of the differences of religious belief, customs and traditions which separate the people of America from the people of Japan, the former have learned to appreciate the friendly disposition of the latter and to understand that the Japanese are prepared to take what is good wherever they find it and are determined to accomplish whatever they put their hands to. The Baron concluded by saying that when he looked back upon the incidents of his trip, he felt very much as Urashima Taro must have felt on his return from the journey to the palace of the sea king.

The *Yamato Shimbun* pokes a great deal of fun at the individual doings of some of the members of the Mission. It compares them to the countrymen who visit Tokyo with red blankets thrown over their shoulders. Our contemporary gives the names, and recounts the exploits, of certain men whose doings afforded much amusement both to their own countrymen and to the Americans. One gentleman calmly appropriated a stranger's hat, and did not detect his mistake even though the hat reached to his ears. Another astonished the storekeepers by wanting sleeve links and studs more expensive than any that they had in stock; a third fell out with his wife on the verandah of a hotel and chastised her openly; a fourth, though supposed to be a master of the English tongue, committed ludicrous blunders in interpreting; a fifth lost himself in the streets and pursued the tram cars with shouts of *oi! oi!*, and a sixth, a lady, showed such a disposition to doze after dinner that her name became a new appellation for a post-prandial nap.

The T.K.K. steamer *Chiyo Maru* entered Yokohama Harbour at 7 a.m. on the 17th inst., with the members of the Commercial Mission on board. About two and a half hours later the vessel moored alongside the New Customs' quay, while rockets were fired announcing their arrival. The members of the party, who all seemed in excellent health, soon after landed, amid shouts of welcome from an immense crowd of people. They immediately entered a shed, where a temporary rostrum had been erected. Mr. Kurusu, Vice-President of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, read an address of welcome, congratulating the members on their safe return and hoping that the mission had been successful. Baron Shibusawa, on behalf of the party, said he was highly pleased with the enthusiastic reception given the party on their return. The duties which he had taken upon himself, he said, were so great that he feared he would not be able to discharge them as satisfactorily as was expected by the general public. He would, however, shortly publish his views on what he had observed in America, and the other members of the mission would do the same according to their views.

The party were then photographed and left at about 10 a.m. in carriages for Yokohama Station, whence they proceed to Tokyo at 11 a.m. in a train specially provided for them by the Railway Board.

The leading persons who welcomed the party on board the steamer and at the quay were Mr. Mitsuhashi, Mayor of Yokohama, the members of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, and representatives of the Chambers of Commerce of Tokyo, Nagoya, etc.

THE LAND TAX.

The important meeting of advocates of land-tax reduction announced for the 16th inst. took place at the Maple Club in Tokyo on that day and was attended by about 100 politicians, including 10 parliamentary members of the *Seiyu-kai*, 12 of the Progressist Party, 10 of the Yushin-kai and 1 of the Boshin Club. These men were by no mean second-rate figures in the political world, since they included such figures as Mr. Haseba Junko, President of the House of Representatives; Mr. Inukai Ki, head of the Progressists, and Mr. Kono Hironaka, head of the *Yushin-kai*. Mr. Haseba was the first speaker. He took care to announce that his utterances must not be interpreted as representing his Party's views, since he spoke as an individual only. He then went on to say that in any circumstances the great importance of the financial measures proposed by the Government next session would have dictated most careful investigation, but this necessity became doubly imperative in view of the voice unanimously raised by the nation in favour of land-tax reduction. It would be essential that the Budget Committee should conduct its investigations with a view to satisfying the desires of the people as far as possible.

Mr. Inukai Ki was the next speaker. He said that never in his long political career had such a complete consensus of opinion been manifested with reference to any subject as was now shown in the case of land tax reduction. Generally his party had hitherto found their reform proposals opposed by the industrial and working classes, but even these classes had now declared in favour of reducing the land tax, for they clearly recognised that the prosperity of their own enterprises depended upon increasing the purchasing power of the farmers. The political parties were now confronted by a real, tangible question, which could not be relegated to the limbo of academical theories and empty promises. A definite practical end had to be achieved and they must all labour to achieve it.

No resolution was proposed for adoption by the meeting. It was doubtless felt that any step of that kind must have proved embarrassing in view of the diverse elements represented.

According to the *Asahi Shimbun*, the

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Finance Committee of the *Seiyu-kai* formulated on the 15th inst. the result of its investigations, and handed the document embodying its views to the general committee. A meeting of the latter body was to be held on the 17th inst., but the general impression was that the main lines of the document would be adopted. Those lines are, according to the *Asahi*, that a reduction of the land-tax must be effected from next year, but that the amount of the reduction cannot be determined until the Budget is actually in the hands of the Diet. As to sources of revenue to meet the proposed reduction, the idea is to take 2½ million *yen* annually from the interest saved by redemptions of the national debt; to take also a portion of the money assigned by the Government to increasing official salaries, and to obtain by various devices any further sum that may be needed.

It is to be hoped that the *Seiyu-kai* will reflect seriously before adopting the above programme. Whatever may be said as to the necessity or expediency of reducing the land tax at this juncture, it is certain that a very bad effect would be produced on the Western money market if funds destined for the reduction of the national debt were diverted at this early stage to another purpose.

We ourselves continue to be of the opinion that a compromise of some kind will be effected between the *Seiyu-kai* and the Cabinet on this important question and that no serious collision will occur.

TAXATION.

With reference to the reductions of income taxation proposed by the Government from next year, which reductions are expected to total 4½ million *yen*, we read in Tokyo journals that the method to be pursued is to increase the classes of tax payers from 12 to 22. Considerable hardships are said to result from the operation of the present system. For example, an income of 999 *yen* per annum pays 11.99 *yen* tax, whereas an income of 1,000 *yen* pays 15.00 tax. Thus a difference of one *yen* in income entails an extra payment of more than 3 *yen* in tax. Then again, increments of income, according to the present system, are added to the original income, and the total is reckoned liable to the corresponding rate of taxation. The proposed reform will provide for separate treatment of increments. Another change will be that people who earn their income by actual employment will be taxed more lightly than those who derive it from actual property.

As for the two million *yen* which is to be reduced from the sugar tax, this will be effected by increasing the grades of sugar from 4 to 6 and imposing a maximum rate of 10 *yen* and a minimum rate of 2.

In the case of textile fabrics the proposed change is limited to woollens, on which the *ad valorem* tax will be reduced from 15 per cent. to 10.

In the matter of transit tax the reduction of a million *yen* will be effected by abolishing the tax in the populous regions of the great cities.

An interesting change although small in result (300,000 *yen*), is to be effected in the succession duties. Hitherto no account has been taken as to whether the successor to a property has to support his parents and their family, or whether he merely receives a certain amount for himself. This obvious injustice will be remedied.

The proposed reduction of business tax amounts to 1½ million *yen* but can not be put into operation until 1911, as the period for collecting the tax does not coincide with the fiscal year.

The method adopted in re-adjusting the income tax in the new Budget seems complicated at first sight, but it is not difficult to understand. In the first place, the new gradation is more minute than the system now in operation. This will be at once understood when we say that whereas the number of classes now is twelve, it will be 22 under the new system. Moreover—and this is a most important point—the hard and fast limits hitherto applied are to be materially modified. For example, take the case of a man paying tax on an income exceeding 500 *yen* per annum but falling short of 700 *yen*. According to the present system, such a person would have to pay the fixed percentage on the whole amount of his income, whereas, under the new system, he will pay the rate for a 500 *yen* income up to that figure and will be charged increased rate on the excess above 500 *yen* only. The result of these amendments is that the total revenue derived from the tax will be reduced by 4,476,000 *yen*. The lowest income upon which tax is levied must exceed 300 *yen*, and the highest limit is 100,000 *yen*, upon which, as well as upon all larger sums, the possessor has to pay 26½ per cent. The above relates entirely to the incomes of individuals and not to those of corporations.

THE BUDGETARY FIGURES.

We avail ourselves of the *Japan Times'* translation to place before our readers a part of the figures of the Budget submitted to delegates of the two Houses on the 18th inst. :—

When compiling the Budget for the 42nd fiscal year the Government followed a general policy of observing proper order and regularity in figuring out the revenue and expenditure with the object of increasing the credit of the Government by solidifying the basis of finances and also of securing harmony in the working of general economy. In drawing up the Budget for the 43rd year the same policy has been adhered to, thereby to bring to completion the readjustment of post-bellum finances, and to go a step forwards to carry into execution such measures as are judged to be urgent in meeting pressing financial and administrative requirements. The more important of the proposals are as under :

To increase the civil list from 3,000,000 to 4,500,000 *yen*.

To amend the law of taxation for the purpose of equalising the burdens of the people, the law in question having been enacted to meet the wartime pressure, and to begin such amendment with the points that call for immediate action. The amendment will result in the decrease of revenue by about 10,000,000 *yen*.

To effect administrative retrenchment and to cut down the number of Government officials, within such limits as would not result in reducing the scope of undertakings for the maintenance of national defence already in progress, and thereby to secure the diminution of expenditure by 6,000 000 *yen* from the amount on the current programme.

To increase by 30 per cent. the salaries of Government officers and officials in all branches of service and also the pay of non-commissioned officers and privates, in order to meet the needs occasioned by the rise of prices of goods and by the change in the standard of currency. The increase to result in an increase of expenditure by 9 000,000 *yen*.

To put 7,500,000 *yen* to the service of reducing the national debt, in addition to the regular annual amount to be appropriated for the amortization funds, such extra available sum is to be obtained by making use of the remainder of the surplus for the 41st fiscal year after deducting such part as is required to meet unavoidable expenditure.

A general summary of the figures of the Budget is as follows :—

REVENUE.	Yen.
Ordinary revenue	488,929,564
Extraordinary revenue	45,243,143
Total	534,172,707

The ordinary revenue proper is 25,514,204 *yen*, the remainder 19,728,938 being transfered from the preceding fiscal year.

EXPENDITURE.	Yen.
Ordinary expenditure	420,980,405
Extraordinary expenditure	113,192,301
Total	534,172,706

DEPARTMENTAL ESTIMATES.

The departmental estimates in the new Budget, showing at the same time, an increase (+) or decrease (−) as compared with the current estimates are as follows :

ORDINARY EXPENDITURE

	1910—1911. Yen.	Increase or decrease. Yen.
Civil list	4,500,000	+ 1,500,000
Foreign Office	4,256,173	„ 588,025
Home „	11,611,353	„ 454,241
Finance „	200,662,191	„ 4,966,463
Army „	76,289,697	„ 3,997,925
Navy „	38,992,110	„ 3,668,938
Justice „	11,947,562	„ 594,687
Education „	7,647,920	„ 1,287,016
Agriculture and Com. Office	7,312,719	„ 251,772
Communications Office.	57,760,680	— 858,484
Total	420,980,405	+ 16,450,623

EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE.

Foreign Office	3,327,000	+ 115,000
Home „	13,773,536	„ 2,966,202
Finance „	20,726,826	„ 3,780,298
Army „	10,903,731	— 8,315,665
Navy „	37,088,708	+ 359,865
Justice „	739,516	„ 66,000
Education „	1,278,671	„ 164,244
Agriculture and Com. Office	7,435,550	„ 442,855
Communications Office.	17,918,763	— 777,927
Total	113,192,301	„ 1,119,028
Grand Total	534,172,706	+15,251,595

A similar comparison on the revenue side of the estimates is as follows :—

ORDINARY REVENUE.

	1910—1911 Yen.	Increase or Decrease. Yen.
Land tax	85,397,080	— 91,317
Income tax	27,501,644	„ 2,228,214
Business tax	25,303,507	+ 2,265,717
Sake tax	87,781,857	„ 6,253,038
Sugar Cons. tax	15,243,211	— 1,965,705
Textile Fab. tax	18 705,5 5	„ 756,681
Customs duties	45,411,327	„ 1,818,394
Transit tax	1,843,589	„ 639,479
Succession tax	1,420,536	„ 91,842
Soy and other tax	13,850,506	+ 1,097,517
Revenue stamps	24,108,159	„ 1,328,318
Gov. Business and miscellaneous	125,612,780	„ 12,284,978
Interest on deposits	7,849,822	„ 886,409
From Formosa	5,154,815	„ 1,718,346
Total	488,929,564	„ 18,575,428
Extraordinary revenue	45,243,142	— 3,322,005
Grand total	534,172,706	+ 15,243,423

THE ASSASSIN.

Two younger brothers of Prince Ito's assassin have arrived at Port Arthur, accompanied by a gendarme and a policeman as well as an interpreter. One of them is a law-student in Korea, and the other is a teacher at the Normal School in Seoul. Their object in going to Port Arthur is to render what assistance they can outside the jail to their brother who lies in prison. They do not appear to be prompted by any idea of defending his act, or of employing counsel to assist him. On the contrary, rumour speaks of them as expressing abhorrence of the crime. One of their objects is to carry home the assassin's wife and child, who are now in Mongolia.

We observe that statements are again published to the effect that the preliminary examination of the prisoner has been concluded, but such does not yet seem to be the case. The close of this year is now indicated as the earliest time for completing the magisterial work.

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MARRIAGE IN TOKYO.

The *Kokumin Shimbun* devotes a good deal of space to a wedding which has been arranged between Mr. Wu, Secretary of the Chinese Legation in Tokyo, and Miss Otomo, daughter of Mr. Izawa Shuji. Mr. Wu is probably the youngest secretary of legation in the world. He seems to have received his appointment immediately after his return from Europe whither he went to complete the education of which the foundations were laid in Japan. He is a graduate of the High School in Tokyo and also of the Imperial University, where he took his degree in law. Our Tokyo contemporary adds that he is descended from the celebrated Wu family, which was one of the three ruling Houses in China during the period between the overthrow of the Han dynasty and the accession of the Tsin. The Wu Sovereigns held the section of China stretching from Shantung to Nankin, and as they thus occupied the line of coast immediately facing Japan, China was for several centuries known in this country under the name of "Wu." Mr. Izawa Shuji, father of the bride, is a great name in the educational world of Japan, and thus, considered from the parentage on each side, the wedding is quite an event. It is to take place next April. We may mention that Mr. Wu is an excellent speaker of both English and Japanese.

The actual wedding ceremony in Japan is generally a quiet affair, only the relatives and closest friends of the bride and bridegroom being present. But subsequently what is called a *hirome* takes place for the purpose of introducing the happy couple to a wide circle of acquaintances, and this is often a very brilliant entertainment. Such was essentially the case on the 20th instant when Mr. and Mrs. R. Kondo gave a reception at their Tokyo residence to announce the nuptials of their youngest daugeter, Miss T. Kondo, and Mr. Tanaka of the Bank of Japan. About 200 guests were present, including Marquis and Marchioness Matsukata, Baron and Baroness Saito, Baron and Baroness Takahashi, Mr. and Mrs. Toyokawa and many other magnates in the business world. The entertainment commenced at 2 p.m. with a magnificent display of *No* dancing in the Japanese section of the mansion, and subsequently refreshments were served on a sumptuous scale in the foreign building. Marquis Yamagata proposed the health of the bride and bridegroom, and the toast was honoured with three lusty *banzai*. The party broke up at about 5 p.m.

THE NEW TOKYO CLUB.

Tokyo is to have a new social club, which will be built at a cost of about a quarter of a million *yen*. Great deliberation has been observed by the committee charged with the duty of making arrangements and obtaining plans. Architects of all nationalities were invited to compete in sending in designs, and the successful competitor was Mr. J. Conder, F.R.S.A., who to marked ability as an architect adds the great advantage of long experience in the East. The dimensions of this project furnish food for thought to old residents, who can remember the time when the Tokyo Club consisted wholly of a walled off section of a temple-room, so that the click of the billiard balls on one side of the partition formed an accompaniment to the chaunting of the priests on the other. Thereafter the ideas of the community grew larger, and the solitary billiard table was moved to a house in Nagata-cho, the use of which was given rent-free by the Government. Then ensued a great rise in the world. Accommodation was offered *gratis* in the fine new building—of which the same Mr. Conder was the architect—now constituting the Nobles Club (*Kazoku Kaikan*), but then known as the Rokumeikan, the only condition being that membership should be thrown open to Japanese. For many years these sumptuous quarters—they included a tennis lawn—were enjoyed, and then a time came when the edifice having been purchased by the nobles, it became necessary for the Club to change its habitat. That would probably have proved something like a death-blow had not the Government again displayed its generosity by making a grant of twenty-five thousand *yen* towards the cost of a new building, which has been occupied by the Club ever since, and which also had Mr. Conder for architect. Now, finally, the Government has placed at the disposal of the members a lot of land at Tora-no-mon, which, without this marked display of official liberality, must have been quite beyond the means of the members either to rent or purchase. Tokyo will thus have one of the finest clubs in the East.

PORT ARTHUR.

It is stated that a decision has been arrived at to build a temporary landing jetty at Port Arthur with all possible expedition. The reason given for this measure is that trade has increased so much at Dairen as to overtax the facilities available at that port, and it is found necessary to lose no time in enlisting the aid of Port Arthur. What effect the opening of Port Arthur will have upon the future of Newchwang must be an absorbingly interesting question to the merchants in the latter town; but the Japanese apparently believe that there is room for the three places, Dairen, Port Arthur and Newchwang. Certainly, whatever may be said as to differentiation in favour of Japanese merchants and Japanese goods in Manchuria—and it is to be observed that of all the complaints made under this heading not one has yet been substantiated—no one can deny that the development of Manchuria has been most striking since Japanese influence became paramount there. In Russia's time even the railway could not be made to pay, whereas its receipts have now increased so substantially that it is expected next year to give a return of 3 per cent. on the large investment of 100 million *yen* which represents the holding of the Japanese Government, and, moreover, we have now this talk of the necessity of opening Port Arthur so as to keep pace with the rapidly growing demands of trade. Of course it is quite possible that the same development would have taken place under Russian direction, but nevertheless the credit must be given to those by whose contrivance sucess has been actually achieved.

MR. OZAKI YUKIO.

Tokyo newspapers quote Mr. Ozaki Yukio as explaining the reasons which induced him to sever his connexion with the *Seiyukai* some years ago and which now lead him to re-establish that connexion. He says that when he joined the *Seiyukai* originally, the main objects of the Party's opposition were the adminstrative and financial measures of the Katsura Cabinet. The overthrow of that Cabinet was therefore a necessity of the time, and the bulk of the *Seiyu-kai* took that view, but suddenly Prince Ito, without consulting the Party, arranged a compromise with the Katsura Ministry, and Mr. Ozaki considered himself bound to protest against such arbitrary action. On the other hand, he thinks that the time has now come when every possible effort should be made to strengthen the *Seiyu-kai* for the purposes of the great reform which it will be constrained presently to take up, namely, the adoption of some measure for curtailing the power of the House of Peers. According to present arrangements, the Government has competence to dissolve the Lower House whenever the majority in that Chamber dissents from ministerial views, whereas the Upper Chamber is exempted from all such disturbances. Thus it comes to this, that if the nation's representatives as a whole object to a policy, they can be punished for contumacy, whereas the representatives of only a small section of the nation remain serene and secure. Mr. Ozaki considers that such a system is one-sided and partial, and he is determined to work for its amendment.

THE KYOTO SEIFU KAISHA.

There is an evident disposition on the part of some of the Tokyo papers to represent the affairs of the Kyoto Cotton Cloth Company in the worst possible light. The *Nippon*, for example, publishes a long list of creditors, from which we gather that the debts of the Company amount to something like 5 million *yen*, in addition to a sum of nearly 2 millions said to have been advanced by the Directors. We do not publish these details, as they are not justifiable matters for newspaper comment without much better evidence of their truth than is at present accessible. It is added that a meeting of the principal creditors will be held immediately, when they will be invited to protract the various periods of their debts' maturity.

Strenuous measures are being taken to relieve the monetary pressure upon this Company, and it is said that there is some prospect of success. Rumour attributes to the Directors an intention of seeking assistance from the Treasury, but in that they are not likely to achieve success. At all events, as we ventured to anticipate, the affairs of the Company do not seem quite so gloomy as certain journals represent them to be.

THE DIET.

The formal assembly of the two Houses of the Diet took place yesterday, and the date of the official opening is fixed for the 24th inst. Tokyo newspapers give the following analyses of the sections of the two Houses :—

HOUSE OF PEERS.

Hereditary Peers	16
Kenkyu-kai	77
Chawa-kai	48
Unattached	44
Thursday Club	52
Saturday Club	40
Fuso-kai	16
Quasi-Independents	74
Total	367

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.

Seiyu-kai	200
Progressists	63
Daido	28
Boshin	35
Yushin	44
Independents	8
Total	378

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A CURIOUS SCHOOL.

Tokyo newspapers publish an account of a school said to exist in Mukden mainly for the purpose of educating anti-Japanese sentiment. The recent boycott of Japanese goods in that city doubtless had its proximate cause in the affair of the Mukden-Antung Railway, but the seeds were sown in this school, where the principal item of the curriculum is the greatness of the Flowery Middle Kingdom, and the obligation that rests on every patriotic Chinese to minister to that greatness and recognise that superiority. Instead of teaching the languages chiefly serviceable to students whose career is to have Manchuria for scene, namely, Russian and Japanese, the only language taught is English, and the abiding purpose of the instructors is to foster anti-Japanese sentiment. In fact, the school is a political weapon of the most pernicious character, and the writers of the notice published by Japanese newspapers insist that the relations between China and Japan can never be really friendly so long as such institutions continue to sow seeds of mutual ill will.

Speaking of the boycott, we find a long account in the columns of the *Shogyo Shimpo*, from which it appears that something like a mania for the employment of this weapon has seized the Chinese in Manchuria. The pettiest pretext serves to set a boycott on foot, and to produce an outcrop of incendiary posters. It was supposed that the trouble would not extend to Newchwang, but that hope proved quite illusory, and even in Haicheng Japanese produce and manufactures are now tabood. It is said that the Chinese prefer sending their goods by cart rather than entrusting them to the railway. All this is very irrational and very extreme on the part of the Chinese, but we are obliged to infer that the Japanese themselves must have prepared the ground for the growth of such a crop of unpopularity.

NATURALIZATION IN THE UNITED STATES.

We find the following in the New York Independent :—

We are glad that A. Rustem Bey, Chargé d'Affaires of the Turkish Legation at Washington, made a public protest against the illiberality of the United States, as represented in the action of a Federal court, which has refused naturalization to an Armenian on the ground that as an Asiatic he was not "a free white person" who might under our laws be naturalized; and we do not care if this protest was contrary to diplomatic etiquette. It was right, just the same, and needed to wake our people up to the absurdity of the interpretation of the law and of the law itself. Think of it! It lets in black negroes from Africa, but shuts out Chinese and Japanese and Hindus, and has been used to shut out the Syrians, Turks and Armenians, who are white Caucasians, the Turks from Circassia itself, the land of beautiful women. Here is Turkey, backward, half civilized, whose courts we refuse to trust, protesting against the illiberality of American Courts, and justly protesting, to our shame. We are told that Attorney-General Wickersham will make an investigation to determine whether, under our laws, Turks are or are not "free white persons." The statement is laughable to report that this past week another judge has admited a Turkish subject to nationalization. It had been rumoured that the Turkish Government, which now allows Christians to enter the army, was willing that Armenians should be regarded as ineligible to American citizenship, as that would prevent young Armenians from flocking this country to avoid military service, intending to return as American citizens; but this protest shows that the Turkish Government is more concerned for the honour of its subjects than for loss to its army.

It is certainly a glaring anomaly that negroes from Africa should be admitted to citizenship of the United States while Japanese and Chinese are excluded. This is one of those laws which have long ceased to represent the sentiment of the country where they are enforced. There are no people in the world more liberal or more hospitable than the people of the United States of America, but in the early days, when they were still in their national infancy—a little group of white settlers in a vast territory where the advent of an unrestrained wave from Asia might soon have swept away all practical traces of their European origin—it was necessary and natural that they should wish to set up some barriers against inundation. The discriminatory legislation had its origin in that time of racial struggle, but it is now entirely out of date, and we have no doubt that the criticism of the *Independent* represents the opinion of the great majority of United States' citizens.

BISHOP HARRIS.

Apparently Bishop Harris has been making a tour through the provinces of Korea for the purposes of investigation. He is said to have called upon the Resident-General on the 20th inst. after his return from his travels, and to have informed his Excellency that he had everywhere found evidences of growing friendship on the part of the Koreans towards Japan. But he had failed to find any evidence whatever that the missionaries were interesting themselves in the political side of the amalgamation question. They were attending to their duties of propagandism, and were standing strictly aloof from all such problems. Bishop Harris is further represented as having added that the just and broad-minded utterances of the Japanese press in connexion with the scheme of amalgamation had evoked admiration among the missionary body.

We must be permitted to express the opinion that the part acted by Bishop Harris for some years past in Korea has been eminently calculated to promote the "peace on earth and good will among men" which it should be the main object of every Christian propagandist to assist. There is a striking contrast between the Bishop's action and that of the misguided Englishmen and Americans who have assisted to bring so much unneeded suffering on the Korean nation.

THE PROGRESSISTS AND KOREA.

A meeting took place on the 20th inst. of the political committee of the Progressists, when a number of resolutions were presented and adopted as bases for future consideration, to which end a special committee of nine was appointed, the principal figure being Mr. Oishi Masami. The resolutions may be summed up by saying that the Progressists regard the policy now pursued in Korea as too lukewarm and undecided. They think that the great objects of reform can not be satisfactorily achieved by such methods, and they even hint that Koreans are favoured by the Residency-General to the detriment of Japanese.

Of course, it is an excellent thing that the attitude and methods of the Japanese Government in Korea should be subjected to searching scrutiny, and from that point of view the criticisms of the Progressists are to be welcomed. But it can not be forgotten that the Progressists have for many years stood for a foreign policy which, in the opinion of many onlookers, would not conduce to the preservation of peace. The Korean problem is essentially one that calls for the utmost patience, and the more liberal the solution adopted by Japan, the less censure she will receive from the world.

THE FOREIGN TRADE OF JAPAN.

The following figures show the foreign trade of Japan for the 10 days ended the 20th instant :—

Exports	13,317,000
Imports	8,885,000
Excess of Exports	4,432,000

The figures for the period from January 1st to December 20th are :—

		Corresponding period of 1908.
Exports	397,427,000	+32,628,000
Imports	381,272,000	− 43,530,000
Excess of Exports.	16,155,000	

THE TOKYO STOCK EXCHANGE.

Friday, December 17.

The market on the 17th was fairly steady. Profit-taking sales had a depressing effect, which was accentuated by news of dullness in Osaka. The oils, however, emerged a little from the slough in which they had previously been sinking, and, on the whole, the feeling was tolerably firm.

Saturday, December 18.

The market was dull on the 18th inst., as is usually the case at this time of the month. The oils, however, took a sudden leap upwards and reached a higher figure than they had attained for many days.

Monday, December 20.

Dullness prevailed in the market on the 20th instant in consequence of the imminent closing of the year's accounts. The oils, however, continued to recover from their exceedingly depressed condition.

Tuesday, December 21.

The market on the afternoon of the 21st was decidedly dull. There had been some briskness in the forenoon, but news of falling prices in Osaka pulled quotations down, and the probability now is that the year will close on a very inactive market.

Wednesday, Decembar 22.

There is nothing to record about Wednesday's market. Business was virtually suspended in view of the near approach of the New Year recess.

Thursday, December 23.

There was a tolerably strong feeling in the Stock Exchange on the 23rd instant, but very little business was done and prices did not move much. We append the quotations for February delivery :—

	Dec. 22nd.	Dec. 23rd.		
Tokyo Railway	67.50	67.50		.—
Kei-Hin Railway	56.15	56.75	+	.60
Yusen Kaisha	83.75	83.85	+	.10
Toyo Kisen	16.70	16.60	—	.10
Tanko Kisen	37.00	37.00		.—
Tokyo Gas	99.95	100.30	+	.35
Tokyo Dento	93.40	94.50	+	1.10
Fuji Gas Spinning	101.00	101.20	+	.20
Tokyo Spinning	45.70	45.90	+	.20
Kanegafuchi Spinning	106.20	106.20		.—
Beer	77.20	76.50	—	.70
Hoden (Takarada) Oil	66.90	67.95	+	1.05
Nippon Oil	77.50	77.30	—	.20
Rice Exchange	108.60	108.95	+	.35
Stock Exchange	61.40	61.25	—	.15

On Tuesday night the dining-car of an up train from Kobe caught fire just after the train had left Nagoya. The arrival at Shimbashi was consequently delayed one and a half hour.

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WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY.

Fresh attempts were made on the 17th inst. to communicate with Hawaii by wireless telegraphy from Choshi, but again the experiments were unsuccessful. The messages were intercepted and answered by a man-of-war and by a steamer of unknown nationality, but there was no response from the station in Hawaii. It appears that these experiments are to be continued whenever a favourable opportunity arises.

It appears, after all, that the attempts to establish wireless telegraphic communication between Choshi and Hawaii have been crowned with a measure of success sufficient to warrant a hope of ultimate achievement. The experiments made on the 19th inst. did not lead to any satisfactory results, but on the 20th a notable discovery was made. The steamer *Korea*, which was then 2,750 miles distant from Choshi, approximately, and 550 miles distant from Hawaii, intercepted several messages from Choshi to Hawaii and was able to decipher them plainly. The apparatus on the steamer is said to be of only mediocre capacity, and there is therefore some reason to think that the comparatively small remaining interval will soon be successfully bridged.

NOTES ON CURRENT EVENTS.

A meeting of persons interested in the development of Saghalien was held on the 18th inst. at the restaurant called the Chuotei in Tokyo. The Governor of the Island, Mr. Hiraoka, made a statement explaining that it had been decided to furnish the east coast with a network of railways; to add twelve to the present number of post-offices, and to increase the local-administration offices from three to five. He spoke in a very hopeful tone of the coal-producing prospects of the Island. The estimate of quantity for the current fiscal year had been 3,000 tons, and 2,500 having already been extracted, it is evident that the estimate was not excessive. For next year the figure is expected to reach 80,000 tons. There is nothing very favourable to report about the lumber question this year, but things are expected to enter a new phase next year, when not only timber but pine-resin will probably be obtained in considerable quantities.

Mr. Oshima, Head of the Civil Government in Formosa, is quoted as referring to the dissatisfaction expressed in certain quarters at the apparent tardiness of emigration from Japan to that Island. He points out, however, that the greater part of the immediately arable lands are occupied by Chinese immigrants, and that settlements can not be effected elsewhere except under official auspices, so that much research and preparation are needed. The authorities are now maturing a plan for moving 7,360 households from Japan to the Taito region of Formosa, where favourable opportunities seem to offer.

The Hypothec Bank has announced a reduction of its rates of interest, but thus far the only other bank that has taken this course is the Mitsui.

We regret to have to announce the death of Lieut.-General Baron Yabuki at the comparatively early age of 60. This officer was a distinguished military engineer, and he gained much renown by the ability he showed in throwing a pontoon bridge over the Yalu during the China-Japan War of 1894-5. He died on the 17th inst. in his Tokyo residence at 7.35 p.m.

The ten appeals made from the decision of the Tokyo Appeal Court in the case of the Sugar scandal, were all rejected by the Court of Cassation on the 17th inst. It will be remembered also that the Public Procurator appealed against the acquittal of one of the accused, but this appeal too has been rejected.

Baron Kikuchi, who has been invited to proceed to the United States for the purpose of delivering an address before the Civic Forum, is to leave Japan to-day. A special banquet was given in his honour on the 16th inst. at the official residence of the Minister of Education, and was attended by Marquis Katsura, Prince Tokugawa and many other notables.

Court mourning has been announced for the death of King Leopold. The period is 21 days, beginning from the 19th inst. and ending on the 8th of January. Sumptuary details are published, but they differ in no wise from the ordinary custom in such cases.

Except as a matter of pure curiosity, we fail to see that any good object could be attained by ascertaining the provenance of the rumours recently circulated about imminent complications between Japan and Russia. The place chosen by perpetrators of such stories matters very little, and even if they were traced to Berlin, no sensible person would associate them with the German nation, any more than he would associate them with the Chinese people if they were shown to have emanated from Peking, as indeed the latest rumour says. There are mischievous newsmongers everywhere. No country has a monopoly of them or even a plurality. Thus when the *Mainichi Dempo's* Harbin correspondent telegraphs a belief, said to be prevalent there, in the sense that the canard about strained relations between Russia and Japan is believed in Harbin to have been prompted by a German wish to place obstacles in the way of an *entente* between those two Powers, he merely adds one more to the list of incredible sensations.

The shareholders of the Rice Exchange held a general meeting on the 20th instant. Considerable differences of opinion were developed in connexion with the non-payment of losses incurred on the occasion of the October crisis, and it was proposed to pass the Directors' statement of accounts, with the proviso that, in the event of the defaulters not making good this loss, the managing directors should be held responsible for it. The numerical majority approved this resolution, but its opponents held the larger number of shares and claimed that for that reason their voice should be paramount. This by-question led to a long discussion, but the supporters of the conditional proposal were ultimately defeated, and the accounts were passed as submitted.

The imminence of the New Year has exercised a slight effect upon the money market, and the daily rate for call money has risen about 2 *rin*. But this is thought to be only a very temporary phenomenon. The opening of January will probably see former conditions restored. Meanwhile the Agricultural and Industrial Banks have been instructed by the Treasury to reduce their rate of interest from 9 to 8½. We may mention with regard to this rate that although it seems large, it represents a system which proves exceedingly convenient to borrowers, as they are enabled to obtain accommodation in a lump sum and to pay it back by gradually diminishing installments spread over a long term of years.

The Japanese Budget for next fiscal year contains an appropriation of 83,000 *yen* under the heading of decorations for the Hague Tribunal. The explanation of this is that the various Powers have agreed to contribute for the embellishment of the former Hague Palace in which the meetings of the International Tribunal are held. Under this arrangement it has fallen to Japan's lot to undertake the decoration of one chamber, and the total expense for the purpose is estimated at 83,000 *yen*, of which the first installment, namely, 40,000, appears in the next Budget. Tokyo journals state that the plan is to cover the ceiling and walls of the room with panelled tapestry (*tsuzure-ori*), and to add a display of Japanese works of art.

All the important official functions which take place in the early days of January are to be exempt from the mourning fixed for the late King of Belgium, and thus it may be said that the period of mourning terminates at the end of December.

On the 21st inst. there was held in Tokyo a meeting of the United Business-men's Associations of Japan, and on the motion of Mr. Okada Jiyemu a resolution was adopted in favour of sending a party of tourists to Great Britain at the time of the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition. The number of this *kwanto dantai*, as the mission is called, is to be limited to 200, but as each member is to pay his own expenses, so far as we can gather, it does not seem feasible to impose any hard and fast restriction on the number.

According to certain Tokyo journals there is a somewhat troublesome dispute between the Governor-General of the Leased Territory in Kwantung and the Foreign Office in Tokyo. The point at issue is whether or not foreign affairs relating to the Leased Territory should be dealt with by the Foreign Office altogether. The Governor-General insists that they should be partly delegated to his office, but Count Komura is said to take a view entirely opposed to this, and it is affirmed that the President of the Privy Council has been approached on the subject by General Viscount Oshima who is now in Tokyo. The Minister of Foreign Affairs is said to have the full support of Baron Goto in this matter.

At 3 p.m. on the 22nd instant Baron and Baroness d'Anethan reached Shimbashi on their return from Europe. A crowd of distinguished personages assembled at the station to welcome these most popular residents of the capital. Practically the whole of the Corps Diplomatique were present.

There is talk of a ship-canal between Tokyo and Yokohama, but apparently little likelihood exists as yet of an agreement between projectors at each end. Mr. Asano seems to be the Chief promoter of the Tokyo scheme, and his idea is to associate it with the new harbour which it is proposed to build at the mouth of the Sumida. Yokohama's idea, on the contrary, is a barge-canal running parallel to the railway. The two sets of projectors appear to

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have taken off their hats to each other and parted politely. Beyond that, nothing has been done.

Tokyo papers state that the amalgamation of the General Electric Company of America with the Shibaura Company of Japan has been carried one step nearer to accomplishment, and that the lines of agreement are the same as those already described in these columns, namely, that the present capital of one million *yen* is to be raised to 2 millions, whereof the stock and plant of the Shibaura Company will be reckoned at 1,200,000 *yen*, 500,000 will be put up by the American Company and the remainder by the Japan Electric Company.

Nagoya appears likely to be included in the list of cities where political corruption has manifested irself. The details are somewhat obscure, but their gist is that out of the sum of 720,000 pounds raised on account of the water works, about 300,000 *yen* was deposited on current account with a certain bank, 100,000 *yen* of which money is said to have disappeared. Should this prove true, Kyoto alone among the four great cities of Japan will have the honour of being without open reproach.

We read in the *Shogyo Shimpo* a positive statement that the affairs of the Cotton Cloth Company are irretrievable. According to our contemporary, the Director of the Company, Mr. Kobayashi, is practically a fugitive in Tokyo, and no relief of the situation is in sight.

A TRIP TO CHIBA.

A few days ago I received, through the kindness of a friend, an invitation to go to Chiba for a meeting of the local Historical Research Society, and the invitation coinciding with the commencement of my Christmas Holidays I accepted it and went.

I took the 3.30 train from Ryogoku. At the station I met his Excellency Governor Ariyoshi, who was returning to Chiba after a couple of days in Tokyo, so I travelled with him in the same carriage.

During the first past of the journey we had the carriage to ourselves and I was able to get quite an insight into the varied interests which gather round the administration of a prefecture. The Governor told me a great many things—about the area and population and the relative size of his district as compared with other prefectures. All these I have forgotten. I never could remember figures. Then he told me about the character of the people in the district. Chiba prefecture contains the lands lying between the Yedogawa and the Tonegawa—part of it the flattest land in all Japan—together with the peninsula between the mouths of those two rivers. It corresponds to the ancient provinces of Shimosa, Kadzusa, and Bōshū. The district in the feudal times was a sort of a no man's land. There were only two or three small resident daimyōs, the rest of the territory being mostly fiefs belonging to direct retainers of the Tokugawa, who lived at Shidzuoka and were content to leave their estates to manage themselves so long as they got their rents paid with regularity

The Chiba people (I use the term for the whole district) acquired a certain independent way which was apt not to make a favourable impression upon strangers. To some it was a welcome change after the over-politeness of other parts of the country. But the Chiba people are good at heart; the one real drawback that they have inherited from the past, is the comparative scarcity of men of the old samurai stock, of the men who have been the real makers and renovators of New Japan. The scarcity of the samurai blood shows itself in the want of enterprise: whereas in other parts of Japan the fields are made to yield a double harvest, in Chiba they get but one.

Then he told me of some of his plans for the improvement of his prefecture. A dredger has been ordered, and is expected to commence operations next month on the waterways connecting the town of Chiba with the sea. This will enable tugboats with lighters to come direct from Yokohama and discharge in the town itself. It now takes ten days for imported goods to reach Chiba via Tokyo. It will then take about the same number of hours, the distance from Yokohama to Chiba being about the same as that from Yokohama to Shinagawa.

Next month, the Governor told me, he was going to open in a country village near Chiba a small exhibition of rice-bags. The Chiba people are not adepts at packing rice, the bags constantly break, and Chiba rice cannot command the same good prices as that from other districts. The Governor has therefore arranged for an exhibition of rice-packing methods and contrivances which he hopes will be productive of much good.

At Nakayama, not far from the Yedogawa—(he told me, by-the-by, that the Yedo and Tone rivers were his constant night mares),—he has organized a Horticultural Garden for the encouragement of fruit, vegetable, and flower growing, for all of which he hopes to find a ready market in Tokyo, which is not many miles distant.

There is also a project, though of this I did not hear from the Governor himself but from a young secretary of the Kenchō, who was an enthusiastic admirer of his chief, to build a railway from Chiba to Kisaradzu. The line, which will do much to develop a comparatively out-of-the-way piece of territory, is to be built entirely out of funds locally subscribed, and the project might have fallen through from technical difficulties had not the Governor had the good fortune to secure the co-operation of the military authorities. The army has a great deal to say in the affairs of Chiba-ken, which contains a great number of various military establishments.

Two military officers got into our carriage about halfway, and then the conversation turned to shooting. The birds, said the officers, had all been scared away from the neighbourhood of Narashina, ever since the war. I don't think shooting lay very near to the Governor's heart, for he presently got on to the drainage of Imbanuma, an achievement which will add very much to the cultivable area of the prefecture. The area to be reclaimed is larger than our celebrated "Bedford Level."

Presently we reached Chiba. I found that the Governor expected me to dine with him. We were waited on by his wife, a very charming and hospitable lady and had a very pleasant little dinner. At six o'clock commenced the session of the Historical Research Society, which was the object for which I had come down to Chiba.

This Society is another of the Governor's schemes for the betterment of the prefecture. It is his design to awaken the ambition of the people by calling attention to the worthy deeds of men of past ages who have done credit to the districts comprised within the prefectural limits. The meetings are held once a month, and the papers are read by some local scholar interested in the antiquities of the place. They are held in the Governor's house.

At the meeting I attended there were present about 25 men and one lady. The subject was Inō Chūkei, the famous cartographer of Japan—(I wonder if Hiersemann of Leipzig, who is bringing out an elaborate history on Japanese cartography, knows much about him),—and the paper was read by a Mr. Kaishio, Principal of the Sawara Middle School.

Inō Tadayoshi (more commonly known as Chūkei) was born at Sawara in Shimosa in the year 1745 A.D. His family had originally come from Yamato. Some had settled at Katori: but the branch from which Tadayoshi was descended had been settled at Sawara for many years before he was born and were engaged in farming and the manufacture of *shōyū* and *saké*. Tadayoshi lost his parents at seven and was adopted into the family of Jimbo. He did not, however, give satisfaction to his parents-in-law, for at the age of eleven he was sent back to his original family, and from eleven to eighteen seems to have been tossed from pillar to post amongst his relatives. At eighteen he was again adopted, into a wealthy family, and, his new father-in-law dying soon afterwards, he found himself the head of a household with considerable revenues at his disposal. From eighteen to fifty we know next to nothing about him. He was entirely taken up with the family business, and his life was uneventful. Still he cannot be said to have been altogether devoid of intellectual aspirations. Mention is made of a teacher of his, one Takahashi, whose son, on one occasion, paid a visit to von Siebold on one of his visits to Yedo, and procured from him the present of a map. This map he brought back to Sahara and the sight of it seems to have kindled in Ino Chūkei's mind a great and worthy ambition. He would become the cartographer of Japan.

He waited until he was fifty: then retired from the active headship of his family, in the year 1795, and set himself to study up his new subject. I did not realize until I saw the evidence before me what it must have meant for an old man of fifty, in Japan, in the year 1795, to commence his studies with a view to making accurate maps of the country. He had to study the subject himself and he had to train his own assistants. He had to manufacture his own books: we were shown MS. tables of logarithms which he had translated and written out with his own hands for his pupils to copy, likewise a treatise on the magnetic pole, with calculations, which he had composed himself. He had to make his own instruments. Some of these have gone to London for the Exhibition, but we were shown quite a number of surveying instruments, scales, measures, etc., all of which had been made either by himself or by instrument makers in Yedo, from designs in books. Some few he was able to get from the Dutch.

These preliminary studies occupied him for five years. In the year 1800 he was ready to begin operations. If was not easy to get permission. The Bakufu government suspected the designs of foreign powers, and looked cold on him for a while. When he had got their permission he had to combat the prejudices of the daimyōs, who saw in his proposed survey a dastardly design of the Bakufu to rob them of their lands. However, he overcame all these obstacles, and worked diligently for eighteen years, when at last his dream was realized and the whole of Japan properly surveyed.

In those eighteen years he personally visited every part of Japan, except Hachijō-shima, which he left to a pupil. We were shown a great number of these maps—among them one of the whole country made before Kyushu had been surveyed. That island alone appears as it does in the old maps of earlier centuries, the rest of the islands are all in proper scale and proportion. The work was so well done that when, in later years, a new survey was made by the Hydrographic Bureau of the Japanese Navy, most of his calculations were found to be quite correct, and Mr. Kaishio told us of a British man-of-war the *Ekudeon*—(I could not identify the ship)—which had come to Japan for a survey, but had abandoned the intention as unnecessary on examining Chūkei's work.

It gave one an idea of the strangeness of the times to see a covenant between Chukei and his five principal assistants. The assistants bound themselves by oath, and sealed it with their blood, to be faithful to their master, and not to leave him until his work was accomplished. His own rule of life was very simple. It consisted merely of three paragraphs. 1. To be truthful, obedient, and honest. 2. To show respect to superiors, consideration to those beneath him. 3. To be modest in his behaviour constantly. His maps were finished in 1819, and he died in 1821 at the age of 76.

It was about half-past eleven when I got to bed at the Matsubakan. The next morning I had a visit from a Buddhist priest, Mr. Toda Kanae, whom I had known by name for many years, and some of whose sermons I have translated into English. We had a very pleasant conversation of about an hour. When that was done, I was escorted round the town by the police and others as an honoured visitor, and caught the 10 o'clock train home, feeling very grateful to my friend Mr. Grey for having procured me such a pleasant little outing.

A. Ll.

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KING LEOPOLD II.

AS announced in the telegraphic columns in our issue of Saturday, His Majesty LEOPOLD II., King of the Belgians, passed to "the undiscovered country" on the morning of the 17th inst., at the ripe age of 74. On the previous day an operation had been performed upon the aged monarch, which it was hoped had successfully overcome the grave disorders from which His Majesty was suffering; but though a change for the better manifested itself, this unfortunately proved to be only a transitory phase of his illness, and the oldest but one of the crowned heads of Europe succumbed to heart failure in the small hours of Friday last, the immediate cause of death being embolism of a cardiac artery.

The deceased Sovereign had presided over the destinies of his country for forty-four years, having ascended the throne on the death of his father, the first LEOPOLD, on December 10th, 1865. He leaves issue three daughters—the Princesses LOUISE, STÉPHANIE and CLÉMENTINE, who, however, had been exiled from their father's presence to the last. While the children born to him of his morganatic wife, the Baroness VAUGHAN, to whom he was married in 1908, are expected to receive the bulk of the Monarch's by no means inconsiderable fortune, he will be succeeded on the throne by his nephew Prince ALBERT, who was born in 1875 and is related, by marriage, to the royal House of Bavaria.

In the course of a long and, on the whole, prosperous reign, the deceased Monarch won the affection and admiration of his subjects by the zeal with with he laboured for his country's interests. From the time of his appointment as Patron of the International African Association in the early eighties, his Majesty played a leading part, not only in the colonization of the Dark Continent, but in the furthering of Belgian interests in various parts of the world. Whatever criticisms he may have incurred in connection with the administration of the Congo since his assumption of the Sovereignty of that State in 1885, his countrymen have to thank him more than any other man for their inheritance of a vast territory in Central Africa which, when fully developed, will certainly prove a most valuable possession. To his foresight and business acumen they also owe the prominent part played by Belgian capital and industry in the development of China—a part creditably out of proportion to Belgium's position as one of the minor European Powers.

In his private life, despite the fact that he had more than his share of domestic sorrows, King LEOPOLD won for himself an enviable name for kindliness and simplicity — especially manifested on occasions when he succeeded in separating himself from the pomp and cares of State. As a linguist His Majesty enjoyed a European reputation, for he was equally at home with the intricacies of the French, German and English languages. His interest in the Far East, apart from the advancement of Belgian trade with China, was evidenced by an oft-expressed desire to visit this country,—a desire which was all but carried out two years ago. The regret of the Imperial Family of Japan that death should have intervened to finally prevent the realization of this wish, has been emphasized by the despatch of a more than usually cordial telegram of condolence from his Majesty the EMPEROR to the Court of Brussels.

THE ETHICS OF CRITICISM.

A RECENT incident which has figured somewhat largely in the English Press has drawn attention to the question of criticism in its relationship to the critic, the customers of papers and the general public. The incident in question, which came before the public in the form of a controversy between Mr. GEORGE EDWARDES, the well-known theatrical manager, and the Editor of the *Westminster Gazette*, has been described in more quarters than one as "an impertinent attack on the freedom of the Press"; but we shall place the facts before our readers and leave them to judge whether that description of the incident is correct. The facts are thus summarized in one of the London reviews:—

> The musical critic of the *Westminster Gazette*, in writing an amiable notice of a 'musical comedy' called 'The Dollar Princess,' produced at Daly's Theatre, found his patience exhausted by a perusal of the 'book,' and described it as 'tiresome.' He repeated this criticism in a more indirect form in some later remarks on a musical play at the Savoy, called 'The Mountaineers.'
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> In this article he gently contrasted the method in which musical comedy is presented at the Savoy Theatre with that which finds favour ('in costumes by Paquin and Lucile') at Daly's. Whereat Mr. EDWARDES took offence, and wrote to the *Westminster*, declaring that a critic thus dealing with his productions could only be "actuated by spite and malice,' and that as it was an 'anomaly' for a theatrical manager to be helped in his business by a newspaper in one (the advertising) column and hindered by it in another, the literary portion, he withdrew his advertisements from a journal which had become a 'menace' to him.
>
> The editor of the *Westminster*, being unwilling to give Mr. Edwardes a standing advertisemenid for it columns of his paper, when he had only pat in two in one, or to falsify the name and worth of literature in order to please an exacting customer, promptly backed his critic and published the correspondence.

Mr. EDWARDES (who no doubt by this this time regrets his hastiness) subsequently explained that he did not take action when the original notice of the play appeared, but only when a disparaging reference to the play was introduced unnecessarily (in his opinion) into the notice of another play. It was in this reference that he discovered malice. Thus, the offended manager virtually insists that an art critic must abandon comparison altogether as an aid to description—must never, for example, illustrate his ideas about one picture by reference to another—in other words, must forfeit the whole value of his experience.

This unreasonable contention, of course, does not improve Mr. EDWARDES' case, which may fairly be stated thus: (1) A producer of plays invites criticism. (2) Because that criticism is not what he evidently *expected*, he does not hesitate to bring a most offensive and injurious charge against the critic—a man whose business is criticism. (3) He follows this up by boycotting the paper in which the criticism appeared. (4) By way of "explanation," he attempts to dictate to the critic what methods he shall, or shall not, use, in arriving at his judgments. Mr. EDWARDES' action, of course, has comes in for universal condemnation in a land where freedom of opinion is specially prized. The London Committee of the Institute of Journalists has adopted the following resolutions:—

> The committee—(1) records its condemnation of Mr. George Edwardes' attack upon a recent notice of a musical comedy in the *Westminster Gazette* as a direct attempt to destroy the freedom of legitimate criticism; and its warm approbation of the stand taken by the editor of that newspaper in defence of the rights of his contributor, of journalism generally, and of the interests of the public.
>
> (2) Desires it to be known that the Institute is prepared to act energetically for the protection of all journalists who may be subjected to such attacks in the discharge of their professional duties.
>
> (3) Appreciates the action of *The Times* and other newspapers which have so strongly supported the *Westminster Gazette* in resisting the offensive assumption put forward by Mr. George Edwardes.

The *Leeds Mercury* protests vigorously against this theatrical manager's "claim to order Press notices of his plays as well as advertisements." In this affair there is involved, says the *Liverpool Daily Post*, "the interest of honest criticism of public productions, with the liberty of which no managerial interference can for a moment be allowed. . . . This is a realm in which the intrusion of no merely commercial considerations can be tolerated"; while the same journal hopes that English managers do not intend "to adopt the disgraceful methods of American syndicates in connexion with adverse criticism of their productions, as illustrated recently by the sordid spectacle of the most brilliant critic America has produced, Mr. William Winter, being practically hounded out of his position on the *Tribune* by a gang of mercenary musical comedy merchants." "If criticism is to be based on purely commercial consideration," asks a correspondent, "where on earth would the reader come in who looks for impartial and just guidance?" But perhaps the general opinion of the public is summed up in Mr. PUNCH's laconic "advice to Mr. EDWARDES, 'Don't be so silly!'"

What will occur to most people as the most significant feature of the whole affair is not the pettiness of the theatrical manager's action, but his evident belief that, because he advertised in a certain paper, that paper must therefore contain, in all critiques of his

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productions, *nothing but praise*. The doctrine is, of course, a monstrous one, and when thus bluntly put would certainly draw a strong disclaimer from every thinking man. Yet we venture to believe that this same pernicious doctrine obtains in practice to a greater extent than many a journalist would care to own. It is not an uncommon thing to find, especially in small communities, newspaper opinion existing on a purely commercial basis. It such circumstances, of course, criticism degenerates into "indiscriminate puffery." The editor of such a journal sells his birthright of freedom of speech for a very sordid mess of pottage, and drags his paper and its readers in the dust of demoralization. Precedure of this kind can not be too strongly deprecated. For flattery is immoral, look at it as one may. It is immoral, from the subjective point of view, on the grounds of insincerity, falsity and ulterior motive. It is immoral from the objective point of view—apart from the implied collusion with an untruth—by reason of the evil effects it is apt to produce, namely, vanity, love of publicity, ostentatious extravagance. It may be urged that these observations have no practical bearing. But a little reflection will suffice to show that they have. Has the head of a young girl never been turned, and her modesty destroyed, by seeing herself described in a local paper as "looking very pretty"? Has Mrs. Jones never been driven to costly extravagance in order that her costume at the next function may be a finer and more *chic* "creation" than that worn by Mrs. Smith or Mrs. Robinson? Does this not inevitably lead to a lowering of ethical standards, in that Mrs. Jones finds herself attaching more importance to mere appearances than to the essentials of true character? We come to this, then—that flattery in the Press is a particularly sordid form of commercialism: in so far as it can be called criticism at all, it is a diseased and degraded criticism—an unhealthy sign of the times. On the other hand, inasmuch as sound, sane and fearless criticism is the essence of a healthy public opinion, it must be preserved to the Press—the chief agent of public opinion—in the fullest freedom, as its greatest heritage. And this the Press alone can do for itself. It can either sell itself, and lose its liberty, or it can retain its right of speech. To conclude, in the words of one of the leading reviews (which though written of the tendencies of the modern musical comedy, are equally applicable in other directions):—"The Press must make its choice. . . . It can go on swathing the commercial drama in the pleasantly enticing phrases in which it is so easy to describe all forms of decadent art, it can make the public more and more in love with its commonplace allurement, its sumptuousness, its empty, sensual prettiness, or it can endeavour to create a more truthful and a more serious taste. If it chooses the first path, it will sooner or later fall a victim to the theatrical manager's bow and spear. If the latter, it will at least restore to journalism something of its rightful authority in the spheres of the intellect and the emotions."

TRIAL BY JURY.

WE are glad to see that Mr. Hadano, former Minister of Justice, raises his powerful voice against the introduction into Japan of a system which has long become an old man of the sea in the countries where it exists. Trial by jury has fixed itself in the affection of the British people simply because it is a fine old-fashioned feature of the judiciary; but long ago the fact came to be recognised by men of sense that whereas the guilty desire to be tried by jury, the innocent incomparably prefer a bench of judges. The Bar would be a very much more honourable institution even than it is now, and rhetorical appeals to the ignorance or prejudice of a body of half-educated men without any knowledge whatever of law would cease to be a feature of trials in Anglo-Saxon and other Western countries, if trial by jury were abolished. Very few people pause to think what trial by jury was originally, compared with what it has grown to be. At the outset a jury was in no sense an instrument for weighing the evidence in a criminal case and pronouncing upon the guilt or innocence of an accused person. Its purpose was simply to act as an exponent of local public opinion. Jurymen were asked to describe the sentiment of the outside public in a particular case. Beyond that they had no legitimate function. They were, in short, witnesses to character. By what gradual process they came to be illogically entrusted with the duty of trying and determining according to the evidence adduced in court, and by what course of events they were transformed from exponents of popular impressions into judges supposed to be entirely exempt from those impressions, no historian, so far as we know, has ever undertaken to explain. Such are the facts, however, and by some perplexing process the judicial procedure of the most civilized countries in the world has come to be disfigured by an excrescence which, however unsightly and injurious, is so sanctioned by custom and tradition as to be hard to remove. This is the system which Japan is now invited by some thoughtless agitators to introduce, the flagrantly unreasonable reason assigned being that her judges are too severe. A jury has nothing to do with the sentence pronounced by a judge. It has only to decide whether an accused person is guilty or innocent. The rest lies with the bench. Therefore the adoption of trial by jury in Japan could not in any way affect the state of affairs which it is nominally intended to remedy. Mr. Hadano does not say all this, but he points out with marked wisdom that nothing could be more extravagant than to append to a machine intended to administer justice according to the law an excrescence which has no acquaintance whatever with that law. He insists that countries where trial by jury exists have come to recognise it as an abuse, and would gladly abolish it, could its hold upon popular imagination be loosened. That Japan should import such an exotic would be, indeed, a deliberate adoption of evil.

THE BUSINESS DEPRESSION.

IT is interesting to observe how uniform are the results of free speech, the world over. There are, perhaps, no people on this earth who believe more firmly than the English do in the potency of individual effort and are readier to accept its responsibilities. Yet there are certainly no people more prone to lay their misfortunes on the shoulders of the Government. To hear them speak one would infer that they were cursed with the most incompetent and inexpert administrators conceivable. That is largely due, we take it, to the fact that organs of free speech are necessarily critical. It is essential to their profitable existence that they should establish a claim to superior astuteness, and since they can not safely make persons the *corpus vile* of their demonstrations, they fall back upon corporate bodies which have neither neck to be hanged nor soul to be damned. So a habit of abusing the Government is educated, and people do not pause to remember that, after all, they are themselves the choosers of their own servants, and that, under constitutional institutions, the government of every country is just what the nation makes it and just what the nation deserves to have. In Japan where, nominally at all events, the Sovereign still selects and appoints the holders of portfolios; where the people's representatives do not yet fully control the situation; and where there lingers some aroma of the days when the gods and the government were identical, one would be prepared for displays of a traditional disposition to exaggerate the power of officialdom; and since to this already existing proclivity there has been added a very outspoken and self-asserting press, the Government has to bear more than it deserves and much more than it can carry. Thus at the present moment there is a strong tendency to hold the Ministry guilty of producing the present business depression. Several journals and prominent politicians speak as though the financial policy of the Katsura Cabinet had followed vicious routes, leading to a diminution of the people's purchasing power or, at any rate, of their disposition to purchase. But if there be one feature more salient than an other in the present Ministry's procedure, it is that no important step has been taken without consulting the leading bankers, merchants and manufacturers, and that their advice has been followed in every possible manner. So conspicuous has this practice been that one may truthfully describe the Katsura programme of finance as the programme of the nation itself. Another point, noticeable in

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the same context, is that each phase of that programme was received with popular plaudits at the moment of its inception. No one was wise enough at the time to predict any of the dire consequences now attributed to the policy as a whole. And, it may further be remarked, no one is now wise enough to indicate where the fault has been, or precisely how existing results have flowed from these undefined causes. To foreign onlookers, however, the situation seems plain enough. It is not on the Government's shoulders but on the people's that the blame rests. Had not a rude shock been given to the confidence of investors, there is no reason to doubt that business would long ago have recovered, or, at all events, begun to recover, its natural elasticity. In the face of the fraudulent procedure that has been proved against the directors of more than one company, and in the face of disclosures said to be hanging over the heads of others, capitalists do not know where to seek safe investments outside State securities, and as for starting new enterprises, nothing of the kind is seriously contemplated. The low price of rice exercises, of course, a depressing effect, but there is corresponding gain to the consuming classes, and the story of the past shows that cheap rice in the sequel of plentiful harvests has never been primarily responsible for bad times. There will be no substantial improvement of the situation until some measure of confidence is restored in the soundness of enterprises which have already absorbed a large part of the country's floating capital, and unfortunately confidence is a plant of slow growth. The Government can not help, except by asking the Diet to approve severer penalties for abuse of trust. That will probably be done, but its results can not be immediate. At any rate, the point we wish to make is that responsibility for the depression lies, not with officialdom, but with the people themselves, and that the remedy must come from the latter, not from the former.

THE HOME RULE SPECTRE.

DOUBTLESS there are many people who believed, and still believe, that the failure of Mr. GLADSTONE to carry his Home Rule Bill in 1893, and the great majority obtained by the Unionist party at the subsequent appeal to the country on this specific question, implied the final extinction of the proposal for Irish political independence. It was rightly argued that if so brilliant a leader of men as the "Grand Old Man" could not persuade the people of England to consent to the principle of an Irish parliament at Dublin, the politician did not exist who could effect that great conversion. We believe that those who thus argued, argued aright, and that any statesman who embraces the lost cause of Home Rule for Ireland will find it a millstone about his neck which, sooner or later, will involve his own political death. Yet this heroic and thankless task of endeavouring to propitiate a pack of unprincipled and proverty-stricken agitators —for such, in brief, is the Irish question— has actually been essayed by the present leader of the Liberal party. Followers of the trend of British politics have observed, with regret, the continually diminishing part played by Mr. ASQUITH in the actual conduct of the party at present in power. In matters other than Irish, the great Liberal party is being driven, we believe, to its own destruction by certain headstrong members of the Cabinet whom the nation, as a whole, has not yet learned to trust; but to lend an air of respectability to their recklessness, the present Prime Minister is retained as a species of figure-head, and as a mask to cloak their budding Socialism. It is pitiable, therefore, to see a similar manœuvre in process at the instance of the Irish leaders. Mr. ASQUITH is put up to give a semblance of propriety in the eyes of the British elector to the proposals of Irish separatists, as Mr. REDMOND has vainly been endeavouring to do for some time past. The Nationalist leader has been at some pains to assure audiences in various parts of England that the granting of a Parliament to Ireland, subordinate indeed to the Imperial Senate, but endowed with full power over the Irish Executive, would absolutely end all Irish political agitation, and would secure to the Empire a loyal and contented province. With such innocent verbiage does Mr. REDMOND gild the Home Rule pill, and he is doubtless congratulating himself that he has succeeded, despite the *débâcle* of a decade ago, in getting a Liberal Prime Minister to do the same. It is, of course, probable that Mr. ASQUITH's recent declaration at the Albert Hall of "full self-government in purely local affairs, with safeguards for maintaining the supremacy of the Imperial Parliament" was primarily intended as a vote-catching device; but the fact remains that on an important occasion the Liberal leader has gone out of his way to proclaim his faith in the fatal creed of Irish independence. The British people are thus once more confronted with the Home Rule spectre.

What is the real character of the pill which Mr. REDMOND and his official chief thus endeavour to make palatable with sugared platitudes? It may be gauged from the lawless condition of the country whose interests Irish agitators profess to have at heart; from the terroism which prevails among that league-ridden, priest-ridden population; and from the utterances of the agitators themselves in other places that British political platforms. Let us take, as a sample of this last, the resolution passed at a meeting, held recently under the auspices of the United Irish League, to welcome the return to his native soil of Captain O'MEAGHER CONDON, the Fenian hero of 1867:—

"Resolved that as our country has never forfeited the right to be mistress of her own destinies, nor abandoned her resolve to struggle for the proud prerogative of a Nation, we hereby declare self-government to be the inalienable right of Ireland. We publish to the world the fervent tribute of our lively gratitude and most profound respect for the Irish Party and the Irish leader, and we are fully confident that, through them, Ireland will be restored to her former place—a nation among the nations of the Earth."

This meeting has been hailed in Irish-American circles in the United States as typical of the feeling prevailing in Ireland upon the question of independence. Is it not utterly inconsistent with the platitudes which Mr. REDMOND serves up for consumption by English audiences? Strenuous efforts are being made by the Nationalists to raise funds in America for what Mr. REDMOND has publicly welcomed as "the chance of a century." No less a personage than Mr. T. P. O'CONNOR has undertaken a pilgrimage to the Land of the Almighty Dollar for that express purpose. But does any American supporter of this conspiracy against the Union really believe that a Parliament in Dublin would turn Ireland into a loyal province of the Empire? Would they, when it comes to the point, disburse their gold to make yet another addition to the list of genuine British dependencies? What is the opinion of the Irish Unionists—who represent the only contented and prosperous section of the community? In 1893, when Home Rule loomed very near on the horizon, the loyalists of Ulster bought rifles, met nightly in drill-halls, and made ready to fight for their civil, religious and political liberties. They, who live in Ireland, check by jowl with the Nationalist agitator, know—better than any American aider and abettor of this anti-English plot can know—the real stat of feeling in Ireland, and what Home Rule means for the loyalist minority. We repeat, therefore, that whatever action may be taken by the United Irish League, its puppets in Liberal circles, or its moneyed supporters in America, the British elector will neither consent to sacrifice this loyalist minority, nor dare to take the risk of handing Ireland over to a band of agitators whose sentiments towards England and the British Empire are pregnant with hostility.

OUR RUSSIAN NEWSLETTER.

(*From Our St. Petersburg Correspondent.*)

CHRISTMAS SUPPLEMENT.

Russia is pre-eminently the land of magic and miracles. Alongside the observances of the Orthodox Church, which inculcate very much the same kind of faith as is required for unorthodox beliefs, the people of Russia practise magic in most of the doings of their daily lives. Necromancers, wizards, witches white and black, wise women—all are plying their profession throughout Russia to-day, their numbers very far exceeding those of the medical profession of all grades (and Russia recognises some curiously low grades of this profession), and for the most part make a better profit out of their practice than the doctor or the priest whose special provinces they boldly usurp. Even in the highest ranks of society you may meet with persons who believe, from personal experience, in "charms for toothache": indeed there is an old practitioner in St. Petersburg itself, the capital of the Empire, who reckons Grand Dukes amongst his clientèle. As for the ignorant peasantry of the fields it is difficult to say where

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their religion begins and where their pagan superstitions end: the two are almost inextricably interwoven. For the most part the Orthodox Church has in the course of centuries succeeded in assimilating the festivals of ancient heathendom, but hardly with the same degree of success as in older civilisations of the West. It is still possible at certain seasons of the year to find the ancient heathen beneath the Orthodox Russian. But a volume would be required to deal with this absorbing question: let us turn to some of the lighter customs and superstitions of the present season of the year, the three great festivals of Christmas, New Year, and Twelfth Night, or the "Christening" as the Russians call it. In Russia Christmas is by no means so great a festival as Easter, which is for Russians practically the end of a twelvemonth of sinning and repenting, and the beginning of a new life with new resolutions and new grace to—break them.

At this season of the year Russia looks her best; her vast plains covered with a pure white carpet of thick snow, the air sharp and clear, bringing pure health with every breath, since the frost is keen enough to kill every harmful germ. Nature, the monotonous, world-without-end, illimitable horizons which give to the Russian much the same feelings inspired in the British breast at sight of the boundless ocean, hushed in an elemental stillness—for the snow carpet deadens all sounds as it reflects all light, so that a Russian winter night is never dark while one star remains in the sky: trees, houses, everything washed white and clean—or looking so beneath the pall of snow; the tall red pines hung with myriad facets of snow-crystals—it is a picture of beauty that must be seen to be understood. Roads then run everywhere about an otherwise roadless land, for in Russia it is the winter frost that supplies the places less picturesquely filled in other countries by the labours of the civil—and the sanitary—engineer. After weeks of waiting for snow-roads everyone goes a-visiting his neighbours and friends in the villages, over smooth tracks marked by little branches of fir stuck into snow-heaps on either side, a necessary precaution, lest another fall of the fine powdery snow, like diamond dust, with never a flake, as in more temperate climes, should obliterate all tracks before holiday-makers set out on their homeward way, too often so heavy laden with the omnipresent vodka that only the instinct of their little horses brings them safe to their own doors again.

At such seasons fortune-telling is the universal amusement of all classes, in town and country, and the manner of it is legion, including, of course, those familiar in other countries besides Russia, the cards, wax-dropping, ring, thimble and piece of money, and the like hoary customs of all the world. The separation of the sexes is a still lingering trait of the Oriental in Russian nature, so there is usually little difficulty in getting rid of the men while the fairer sex perform their incantations. In the villages the men are busy drinking; in the towns a girl whose father and brothers happen to be out of the way will invite a score of girl friends to probe the mysteries of the future in common. In both village and town, the peasant wench and the young princess will creep quietly to the outer door and fling forth a slipper—the direction in which the toe points indicates the quarter whence the future husband is destined to come. The village girls creep out mysteriously and listen intently for any sounds to break the elemental stillness of the night: a distant mellow church bell is an infallible sign of a wedding: the far-off squeak and scrape of a laden sleigh betokens a long journey: the baying of a wolf promises a life of hardship and hunger. But sounds in a Russian winter night are few, and the girls go round to listen at windows and doors, to catch a glimpse of the future from any words they may overhear. At last they reach the grain-stores—always built at one end of the villages away from the dwelling-huts for fear of fire—and various mysteries are performed there, the nature of which is such as to require in our polite age the decent veiling of the Latin tongue. Then with song and laughter, gibes and merriment, back they all troop to their homes to pursue further investigation by the method which is still more frequently practised in the houses of the rich. Precisely at midnight the girl seats herself before a mirror before which stand a table bearing two tapers lighted: another mirror is disposed behind her head in such a way as to reflect the tapers on either side of the mirror and thus make a long corridor of lights; to the dim distance of this vista looks the girl with unblinking gaze until something born of an excited imagination and the tears that come to relieve the straining eyes appears at the end of the corridor of light, and is usually recognised for the face of the destined husband. There is another form of this divination, which requires a still higher degree of imagination: the girl sets a little table with two covers for supper, seats herself at one and waits for the spirit of her lover to occupy the vacant chair opposite. These mysteries are performed alone at dead of night, but nowadays more fun is got out of the divination by birds. In the "salon"—the great bare room with a grand piano and a bower of palms which is *de rigueur* in every Russian better-class house—are assembled a score of girl friends of the daughter of the house, who has chosen a night when all the elders are away at club and theatre. Each girl kneels down by the wall facing to the centre of the room, and before her lies on the parquet floor a little heap of grain, wheat, rye, oats,—perhaps, to make the charm more certain, a favourite ring or other bit of jewellery is buried in the heap: when all is ready a cock is brought in and set on his feet in the middle of the room. Sooner or later, amid a hum of suspense and a fire of subdued fun, the cock moves in stately fashion towards one or other of the heaps, another, a third; some he passes by, from some he picks a few grains cleanly, others he scatters about the floor: and so the divination proceeds amid a rising wave of jollity. Those girls from whose heaps he deigns to eat will marry within the year: if he scatters the heap in eating it is a bad sign for the future housekeeping, which will hardly prove thrifty. But alas for the maid before whom the wretched bird forgets his drawing room manners: such a disgrace inevitably betokens perpetual maidenhood. All classes and both sexes enjoy the fun of divining their future "fate" by asking the first person of the opposite sex they meet his or her Christian name: in the towns the practice is naturally not so common, but if less observed in the dangerous familiarity of the streets of a large town, it is fully practised at New Year by means of the latest inventions of science: you ring up any number at hazard by telephone; if a reply comes from one of your own sex you make the usual excuse that it is a "mistake of the central:" if one of the opposite sex replies, you ask politely for the speaker's Christian name—and the name given is more often than not the one least adapted to the social position of the questioner, as guessed by voice and accent. Young people in the towns get an infinity of fun out of this unconscionable interference with the proper working of a useful institution. On New Year's night there is much virtue in a cross-road, where four roads meet. At such a point the girls will, after magic incantations, call upon the spirit of their future husband to appear to them. The belief in the lucky first visit on New Year's night is universal in Russia, but in the Baltic Provinces, among the Esthonians, as among the Finns, a good deal more is made of it. Here a black cat is taken out secretly to the cross-roads, and with mystic words rolled over and over three times in the snow and brought back to the house, bringing a year's good luck with him. If a black dog "with four eyes" (that is, peculiar yellow little patches just over the eyes that give the appearance of four eyes) can be found, the magic is all the stronger. In Little Russia the "waits" under a still recognisable heathen form are a regular institution. The Church has not yet succeeded in either ousting the observance or even in substituting Christian hymns for the doggerel that dates back to immemorial ages. The belief is based on the two gods of air and earth; the latter female, the other male, and their marriage is celebrated at this season of the year. Koljada, the earth-maiden, properly belongs to Christmas Day; the air, or light, god to New Year's Day. Twelfth Night, Jan. 6th, or the "Christening" as Russians call it, is the great day when the Church "blesses the waters," and in former days the devout Russians of both sexes used to plunge beneath the ice into the newly blessed waters to recall, apparently, by this annual ceremony the vows taken at their christening. Nowadays everyone carries home a little phial of the newly blessed waters, and the religiously superstitious use it throughout the following year as a general panacea against all the ills that flesh is heir to: it is good rubbed on sore eyes; it frightens away a raging toothache; a few drops taken inwardly will cure various other troubles. There are still a few localities in Russia where throughout the Christmas weeks a special form of boxing calling "fisting" is in vogue. It is the sport which Ivan the Terrible so loved to look down upon from the Kremlin wall at Moscow. The young men of the villages, divided into two parties, form each side a "wall," that is, a line of men, facing one another. At the given signal the two "walls" rush upon one another and with whirling arms (the Russians never hit from the shoulder, but swing the arm round with an upward movement from behind) each wall strives to annihilate the other. It is a rough sport, for there is no sense of "fairplay" to prevent the stronger side after the first onset uniting, a half dozen if need be against one, to clear the ground. Soon after midday begin the "viewings," which are very literally the exhibition of the nubile maids with marked prices to the eyes of possible husbands. All morning the girls have been prinking up and emerge at length in all their finery. The poor girls walk half a dozen abreast, with linked arms, solemnly up and down the village street, enduring as best they may the ardent gaze, the premeditated indifference, or the coarse chaff of the village swains. But the richer girls contrive to procure horse and sleigh, and parade in solitary state at a walking pace up and down the same street, one sleigh after another. These daughters of the richer peasants all realise the Russian ideal of beauty, which regards quantity as rather more important than quality. The portliness of such hopeful brides is further enhanced

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by the custom of putting on, one over another, all the jackets and *shubas* (fur-lined coats) they possess, the lower edge of each being turned up to show the quality of the lining and give a glimpse of the other layers of outdoor clothes, as the girl sits solid and stolid upon a choice collection of specimens of her household linen, the embroidered, drawn-thread work, or coloured patterns of which, layer over layer, are allowed to trail behind the sleigh. It is a solemn act, this of the village "viewings," and leads to many marriages before the great fast that precedes Easter.

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE JAPANESE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

In the course of our reading we have come across numerous essays on the essential differences between Western and Eastern civilisation. It must always be interesting to European and American scholars to know what views thoughtful Japanese hold on this subject. Two of the December magazines contain articles which discuss the question from two different standpoints. Dr. K. Ukita, the editor of the *Taiyō*, was once a Christian, and by those who expand the meaning of the word Christian so as to make it include creedless philosophers of almost any school of thought, he may be considered one to-day for all we know. He is one of the writers we are about to quote. His article in the *Taiyō* entitled *Tō-Sai Bummei no Yūgō* goes minutely into the discrepancies between Eastern and Western thought. The other writer on the same subject referred to is Dr. Inoue Enryō, a well-known Buddhist philosopher and scholar. It will be necessary for us to omit much from both articles, but we will endeavour to give the gist of the two essays before us. First we shall state shortly the general view of Dr. Ukita on civilisation as it is found in the East and in the West and afterwards we shall quote what he says on the present state and future prospects of religion. Dr. Ukita sets out by discussing several of the definitions of civilisation that have been given by Western writers. With Guizot's definition, according to which "civilisation is progress, the progress of the individual and the progress of society," he disagrees. He thinks that though Japan has progressed enormously during the past 50 years, her civilisation is still even to-day in a very low stage of development. (*Waga kokumin ga imada bummei no hattatsu hanahada jōchi naru koto wo jikaku shite*, &c.) With Buckle's remark that all history is the record of two distinct processes, namely, of how man is being changed by nature and of how nature is being changed by man, Dr. Ukita agrees. Civilisation, he remarks, is closely associated with the latter process. The material world has been improved in a hundred ways. Forces that were either wasted or employed for destructive purposes only have been utilized by man. Nature has been supplemented by man. Its horses have been harnessed to man's chariot. In the region of mind progress has gone on in the same way. Man has risen above the gratification of the slow animal instincts that form part of his nature. Civilisation, then, has taken the direction of improving both mind and matter. In the Western world, in recent times at any rate, more attention has been given to the material universe and to the adaptation of its laws and forces to man's use than to the enlightenment of the mind.

One of the essential differences between Occidental civilisation and Japanese civilisation, as has often been pointed out, is the importance to be attached to the family and the state as compared with the individual. In the West more importance is attached to the individual and to individual character than to families and states. In this country men and women are imbued with the notion that everything must be sacrificed to the welfare of the family and the state. Undoubtedly neither of the views is quite correct. If Europeans and Americans carry individualism too far, we do the same with consolidation. We make too much of the heads of society and they do the same with its members. The father with us occupies too high a position, and the wife and children too low a one. We exalt certain classes of people to the detriment of other classes. The whole spirit of the age is opposed to the inequality which is created by our traditional teaching on this subject. The views of men all over the world have broadened. In early times in our country people thought highly of their own families, but had no regard for other families. But by degrees this narrow-mindedness has been replaced by broader views. The doctrine of filial piety and loyalty to superiors only as a basis of morality is not in harmony with the spirit of the present age; loyalty to special rulers or special states only is no longer deemed sufficient; loyalty to all men is now demanded. (*Chūkō no dōtoku nomi nite wa mohaya genkon no sekai ni tekigō suru koto atawazaru nari. Chūgi mo, kokka moshikuba kunshu ni tai suru chūgi nomi nite wa, jisei ni ōzuru ni tarazaru nari. Konnichi ni yō suru tokoro no chūgi wa subete no ningen ni tai suru chūgi narazarubekarazu*). In this kind of morality we are all behind. Loyalty to persons irrespective of the characters of those persons is not a safe doctrine to preach. Too much respect is shown for persons and too little for eternal verities in our ethical system.

Coming to religion, there is a wide divergence between our Oriental way of regarding it and the Occidental point of view. The real truth is that Buddhism, Confucianism and Christianity each reveals one side of truth, though Christianity claims to be the only Revelation and desires to bring all other religions into subjection to it. European Christianity is monotheistic, but in the Eastern world pantheism and polytheism prevail. So it would seem as if Oriental religious thought and Occidental religious thought were quite irreconcilable. But the difference between them is confined to the surface. Though Europeans and Americans profess to worship one God, in reality they worship many. The Roman Catholics worship the images of saints. Protestants differ as to their conceptions of the Deity, and they each worship articles of faith and are thus guilty of spiritual idolatry (*Sono shinjō wo shinsei shi suru no hei wa mukei no gūzōkyō ni hoka naranu*). Although enlightened persons recognize how superstitious all this is, the majority of people living in Western countries have not freed themselves from thraldom to tradition. It would seem as if scientific men in Europe were inclining towards the Oriental form of religious belief. At the Dublin University not long ago Francis Darwin argued that animals have souls. . . . . Not Christianity only, but Buddhism, Mohammedanism and Confucianism have seen their best days. They will undergo no further development. Neither of them commands or shows any signs of qualifying itself to command the homage of the whole world. Our view is that the many religious differences are the result of the narrow-mindedness of religious teachers. Where this is not the case, then the different forms are the result of partial views of truth. Truth is many-sided; one school of thinkers sees one side only, and to another school it is given to see quite a different side. Monotheism is good, because it shows one side; Pantheism and Polytheism are also good because they show other sides. The creeds of mankind are all imperfect and leave much unexplained that is to be seen in the universe. Neither of the forms of existing religion considered by itself can be said to be absolutely true (*Izure mo sono itsu nomi wo agete zettai shinri to wa nashigatashi*). The points on which they all agree are numerous. Though differing in name, in reality they are the same in a great many particulars. Consequently Christians and Buddhists should worship in each other's sacred buildings. Thus would they be acting in accordance with the spirit of the founders of the two creeds. All religions have much to learn from each other. Each excels in some special thing. Confucianism excels in being essentially a religion for this world and in being free from supernatural elements of any kind. Buddhism excels in explaining many of the laws and operations of nature just in the way they are expounded by modern scientists. Christianity excels in attaching great importance to fine types of individual character, to personal liberty and personal rights. Considered from a philosophic point of view, Christianity is inferior to Buddhism, but regarded from an ethical standpoint, it surpasses both Buddhism and Confucianism. This being so, when we hear foreigners praising our Bushidō, let us not be shallow-minded enough to imagine that we have nothing to learn from them in regard to ethics. Dr. Ukita at the close of his article enumerates the particulars in which Japanese art and European art can be rendered supplementary to each other to the benefit of both. But into this question we have no space to go here.

Dr. Inoue Enryō, writing in the *Tō-A-no-Hikari*, discusses in general terms the radical differences between the central principles of Orientalism and Occidentalism. He says that the main object of Eastern civilisation is peace of mind, while that of Western civilisation is bodily comfort. (*Tōyō no bummei wa kokoro wo yasunzuru wo motte moto to shi*; *Seiyō no bummei wa mi wo yasunzuru wo motte moto to shite aru*). In support of this theory Dr. Inoue cites various facts. One of the chief objects of modern science, he says, is the increase of man's bodily comforts and conveniences and the decrease of his many physical disabilities. In effecting this Occidentals have been wonderfully successful. The conditions subject to which life is passed have been improved to an astonishing degree. But when we come to discuss mental enlightenment, then it is true to say that from very early times down to the nineteenth century the East has always been ahead of the West. The six great religions of the world, Brahmanism, Buddhism, Zoroastrianism, Judaism, Christianity and Mohammedanism, all originated in the East. The Greek Philosophy which dominated the thought of Europe for so many centuries can be traced back to the Oriental ideas which Thales and Pythagoras carefully collected and handed down to posterity. Then the idealism of Hegel and Schopenhauer was largely founded on Indian thought. While retaining a certain mental superiority, all through the ages, in industry, commerce and in various handicrafts, Eastern nations have been left behind by Europeans. Peace and quietness, contentment with a simple life and a certain indifference to wealth—these have been the leading characteristics of Oriental nations. Is it the temperateness of our climate, the genial physical conditions of existence in the Eastern world, the almost total absence of the harassing competition witnessed in Western countries that is the cause of the restfulness of our lives?* Certain it is that the numerous hardships which Occidentals have had to bear have acted as stimuli to increased activity. The material civilisation which they have developed has been forced on them to a large extent by the uncongenial conditions to which they have been subjected. Amid the turmoil and strife of their lives they have found no such peace of mind as we Orientals enjoy. How long it will be possible for us to go on making restfulness of mind our principal ideal it is hard to decide. (*Shikashi shōrai ni mukatte hatashite kono anshin shugi no bunmei ga nagaku konnichi no seiryoku wo tamochi-uru ya ina ya wa ichi gimon de aru*). We have had, in self-defence, to adopt Western ways and to introduce Western appliances. But we can not but ask how long countries that boast of their civilisation will go on appealing to force for the settlement of their disputes? The time must come when wars will cease. This last remnant of barbarism will surely not be allowed to constitute a blot on civilisation to all time. Rapid communication, the commingling of races, study of each other's ways and merits by the various nations and perhaps the creation of a common language, all conduce to put an end to war. The day will certainly come when international differences will be settled by international courts and the world will be policed by an international force the object of whose existence will be to prevent

* Many foreign visitors to this country have commented on this characteristic of Japanese life. Sir Edwin Arnold, who travelled much, once observed that he found no country in the world so restful to tired nerves and overworked brains as Japan, where light-heartedness is to be seen everywhere.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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the outbreak of serious hostilities between angry disputants.

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One thing can not but strike all readers of these Summaries, that is, the number of prominent writers who advocate union between various sects, the sinking of theological differences and harmonious co-operation in educational and charitable work. It is a surprise to many that pulpits are not exchanged oftener than they are. The latest number of the *Kirisutokyō Sekai* draws attention to a remarkable occurrence in this line reported in Boston newspapers. Dr. George A. Gordon, one of the most prominent Congregational Ministers in America and a recognized leader of advanced thinkers, on Oct. 30th last exchanged pulpits with a well-known and very popular Jewish Rabbi, called Fleischer. The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* remarks that this is a new departure in the history of the two religions concerned. Only in this twentieth century has such liberality of feeling been shown by two leaders of thought. On the above-named day Dr. Gordon's Congregational Church and the Rabbi's temple were crowded to overflowing with eager listeners as the two preachers in eloquent language explained to their audiences how immensely Christianity and Judaism had benefited each other in the course of history. Dr. Gordon took for his text "Unto them were committed the oracles of God." (Rom. III., 3), and proceeded to show in what respects the whole Christian Church is indebted to the Hebrews for much of its teaching. This has not been sufficiently recognized in the past, says the *Kirisutokyō Sekai*. Jews and Christians have not fraternized with each other to the extent that their common faith renders desirable. The time has come for righting this, and the exchange of pulpits on Oct. 30th was designed to lead to a change of policy towards the Jews as far as liberal-minded Christians are concerned. Dr. Fleischer's sermon was in many ways still more remarkable than Dr. Gordon's. The theme of his discourse was "Our Common Faith," and in a most touching manner he referred to the fact that it had taken nineteen hundred years to bring Christians and Jews together in the way they were associating on that memorable day. And what cruelties had been perpetrated during these centuries! But at last the day which he had longed to see had come and here he was actually occupying a Christian pulpit. He felt inclined to say, "Lord, now let thy servant depart in peace; since he has lived to see this auspicious day!" As for Christ, he was his fellow-countryman. The religion he founded was no new one. It was all contained in the words:—"Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart and with all thy soul, and thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself." This is the essence of Christianity and the essence of Judaism, yea, more, this is that religion of humanity which all nations acknowledge and follow. Of any higher ideal than that set forth in these words it is impossible to conceive. Since it is the aim of Christians and Jews alike to live up to this ideal and thus to establish a spiritual kingdom on earth, they should work together in a most cordial way. Small-minded sectarianism should be abandoned and religious people all the world over, irrespective of creed, should fraternize with each other and together concert measures for the reform of society, for the enlightenment of the whole of mankind. In the eyes of the Almighty what difference is there between Christian and Jew, Catholic and Protestant?

Commenting on this striking incident, the *Kirisutokyō Sekai* says:—Dr. Gordon's action surprised nobody who knows him, but few expected to find a Jewish Rabbi with sufficient liberality of mind to allow of his agreeing to preach in a Christian Church. One of the most remarkable things connected with the history of religion in the first decade of the twentieth century is the almost universal antipathy to the sectarianism of past ages that is now showing itself. To Boston belongs the honour of furnishing a model for universal imitation. Pulpits are rarely exchanged in Japan. This is one of the signs that our Christianity is still in its infancy. That this practice is very seldom observed even among ministers of the same denomination is, in our opinion, a subject for regret, as it is quite sure that our congregations would as a rule welcome its introduction. They naturally feel some reserve in suggesting to ministers that they should follow this plan (*Tada sono kyōkwai no bokushi ni enryo shite, sono kibō wo happyō sezaru nomi*). Pastors should take note of this and occasionally arrange for gratifying their flocks in this respect. The way in which Sunday after Sunday they go on repeating themselves without any regard for their audiences indicates an over high estimate of their own importance. It may serve for the development of patience in the hearts of the members of the congregation, but if the necessity of providing food for their souls be considered, the action of these pastors is anything but kind. (*Shinja no nintairyoku wo yashinau ni wa teki sen mo, sono reikon no kate no tame ni omoute, shinsetsu nari to iubekarazu.*

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From month to month Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki manages to obtain from his many friends and admirers a number of thoughtful and outspoken articles on current topics. As the editors of one-man organs Messrs. Ebina, Matsumura and Uchimura have made a name for themselves among all liberal-minded Christians. The December number of the *Michi* contains several rather striking articles. Among them is one by Dr. I. Nitobe, the Director of the First High School, which deserves the attention of all missionaries and supporters of mission work. We have reason to know that the views expressed by Dr. Nitobe are those of a great many Japanese scholars. The title of the article is "Concerning the Influence of Christianity." Here is what Dr. Nitobe has to say on this subject.—It is an indisputable fact that Christians when speaking of the work they are doing give way to boasting and exaggeration. The noise which is made about something which takes place in a wee little area is such that one might think it was moving the whole world; what concerns a very small number of people is represented as affecting thousands. These untruthful reports are not written with the object of deceiving the public, they are the result of excessive religious zeal, of viewing events in a mistaken way.

Small things appear great to religious zealots. Even the cup of cold water given in the name of Christ assumes vast importance to the Christian, and there is a Buddhist saying to the effect that one drop of the water of mercy is far more valuable than the contents of a whole ocean. A certain amount of this is perhaps inevitable. But when recording actual events the public has a right to expect missionaries to be accurate. I have recently been reading a book published in America and founded on reports sent home by various missionaries called "The Social Influence of Christian Missions." There it is recorded how missionaries have gone to barbarian countries and have taught sanitation, cleanliness and what they consider to be decency in the matter of clothing, &c. The Japanese are apparently included among those who have been taught cleanliness by American missionaries, though there is a note in the book which says that, speaking generally, the Japanese are a clean people. Certainly they are both in their houses and persons cleaner than the Americans. But this is the style in which this book is written. (*Subete konna chōshi de aru*). The late Professor Jowett once remarked that one thing that Christians habitually do is to compare the best men and women they have in their ranks with the worst professors of other creeds. He spoke the truth when he said this. In order to make it appear as if they had accomplished great things, Christian ministers habitually quote exceptional cases of degradation, unenlightenment or wickedness, thereby producing an entirely false impression as to the actual moral condition of the nations among whom they are working.*

This answers the purpose of enhancing the importance of the work in which they are engaged. It is the easiest way of appealing to people in the home countries. It does not by any means imply any bad purpose in those who indulge in it, but considered from the point of view of the historian and the critic the reports to which we refer are childish and intensely comical (*jigi ni rui shi, kokkei shigoku no koto de aru*). The general public can never sanction a report that is the figment of the imagination of the writer, that is purely subjective in character. Would any sensible person dream of basing an estimate of the English nation on the statements made in an anti-English French newspaper published in Egypt? That paper carefully collects and publishes police reports concerning the wicked doings of a mere handful of Englishmen with a view of making its readers think that the English nation is wholly untrustworthy. Such pictures of Englishmen as are found in this sheet are mere caricatures of normal Britishers. Missionary reports are very often of this kind (*Senkyōshi no hōkoku mo shibashiba kore ni rui shitaru ten ga aru*). By reading such reports nobody can get to know what is the real condition of affairs in the countries which they concern.

After perusing my *Bushidō* a missionary once said to me, the Japanese you portray in that book exists nowhere in the country except in ideal. To this I replied, this applies to the Christians about whom you preach. One of the Russian officers who came here as a prisoner during the late war made the same remark to me. "This Bushidō of yours is not followed in Japan to day," said he. My reply was that though no single individual may exemplify in his life all the teaching of the Bushidō, yet that its spirit is permeating the whole nation to a considerable extent is an undeniable fact. I told my Russian friend that I had been in Russia several times but had never met a real Christian. In investigating the state of things in foreign countries, it is necessary to pass in review a very large number of facts. Nations are not to be converted to Christianity by any such tactics as those to which I refer. Misrepresentation should in all cases be avoided. Objective truths should never be twisted to answer subjective purposes. It is the duty of the missionaries residing in this country and of all Christians when describing the influence that Christianity has had on the nation to look at things impartially and to avoid inaccuracy of all kinds. Christians under the influence of spiritual excitement are too apt to take entirely wrong views of things, making light things heavy and small things great (*Jitsu no keiju daishō wo tentō shi*). It is because Christians publish such exaggerated accounts of their doings that outsiders err in an opposite direction and speak disparagingly of what they are doing, often going as far as to impute bad motives to them and to calling them hypocrites. It is the way of the world to over-estimate the importance of things which are going on before their eyes and to under-estimate that of spiritual work such as Christians are doing. Partiality and prejudice exist everywhere. Accurate observation of what is going on in the world is comparatively rare. In judging of Christian work people should take note of its spirit, aims, and methods. Even though there may not be much to show outwardly, the inward vitality of the religion of Christ is of sufficient importance to attract the attention of all open-minded observers. The gist of what Dr. Nitobe says here is that exaggerated statements bearing on Christian work do much harm to the cause the missionaries have at heart.

In the December *Michi* Mr. Matsumura Kaiseki

* In connection with this subject we call the attention of fair-minded readers to the Report of the Committee of Inquiry into the Liquor Trade in Southern Nigeria, a summary of which appeared in the *Times* a short time ago. After examining orally 175 witnesses drawn from different classes, the Committee found that the reports of Bishop Tugwell, Bishop Johnson and other missionaries on the liquor traffic and the harm it was doing constituted a serious perversion of the truth. These reports were shown to be quite baseless, and sobriety in Southern Nigeria was declared by the Committee, which was presided over by Sir MacKenzie Chalmers, to be very much higher than that of the United Kingdom. The assertion of Bishop Tugwell was that the greater number of white people at Lagos died of drink. This led to a criminal libel action being brought against the Bishop by the Lagos Chamber of Commerce, but owing to the influence of missionary societies at home the local British Government of Lagos refused to proceed with the case.—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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gives an account of several interviews that he had with the late Prince Itō and records the remarks made by the Prince on these occasions. On the first occasion the Prince said, "You seem to think that we statesmen are doing nothing for young men, but we are doing our very best, I tell you." The Prince then went on to relate how the report that he was indifferent to the interest and training of young men was started by an individual who drew unwarrantable inferences from trifling incidents in the way that is so common with certain young men. On the second occasion of his meeting with Mr Matsumura, Prince Itō said:—"There is something that you ought to be very thankful to me for. That is the clause in the Constitution which grants religious liberty to every subject of the empire. You perhaps little know what a tremendous fight we had with our opponents before we succeeded in getting that clause inserted (*Jitsu ni waga hai ga shiryoku* (死力) *wo tsukushite hantaitō to tatakai yōyaku ni shite kachi yetaru mono kumira osoraku shirumai*)

Mr. Murai Chishi, writing in the *Michi* on "The Ambition of our Sect," defines it to be the freeing of Christianity from doctrines that in the opinion of the liberal section of Protestant Christians only drag it down to the dust, only lessen its influence in the world and even contribute to its extinction. The doctrines denounced by this writer are those concerning the Trinity, original sin, the atonement as taught by St. Paul, and the infallibility of the Bible. He says that these doctrines are regarded as utterly foolish and mischievous by all advanced Christians and are condemned openly by them. Not even in a dream did Christ ever imagine that his name would be associated with such teaching, says Mr. Murai. The propagation of the above-named doctrines has done endless harm, in that it has prevented so many people from ever getting to know what was the real mind of Christ, proceeds Mr. Murai. A discerning historian once remarked that "though no man in the world is better known than Christ, no man has been so misunderstood." The work which the Protestant liberals of Japan aspire to perform is the manifestation of the real Christ to the Japanese people. As yet the Japanese world knows not in what his greatness consists. It was perhaps inevitable that the analysis of an Eastern mind by Western thinkers should fail. Certain American ministers are now telling their flocks that the Christianity which is seen through Western spectacles is not the genuine article; that only by Orientals can the religion of Christ be properly understood. A Christian orator in Chicago (Dr. Gunsaulus) has recently caused quite a sensation by propounding this theory; according to which the Christ of Europe and America is an Occidentalized Christ and the dogmas he is supposed to have taught are the invention of the logic-loving, scholastic Western mind. Christ the Orientalist, Christ the Jew, Christ the dreaming practical idealist, Christ as known to sober history, was the only real Christ. This Christ few Occidentals know or understand. The character, the ideals, the principles and the aims of this Christ we are striving to make known to our fellow-countrymen, says Mr. Murai, and we are glad to know that across the water hundreds of our fellow-thinkers are engaged in the same arduous task as we have undertaken—the task of replacing the Christ of theology by a far nobler figure—the Christ of history.

WHAT A HEATHEN JAPANESE THINKS OF PRESENT-DAY CHRISTIANITY.

[By "Bonyari," Author of "The Idle Thoughts of an Idle Japanese."]

It is my humble opinion that faith in religion of whatever creed, including Christianity, is nothing more or less than a great superstition, though harmless with sometimes lots of good. I hold all religion to be the same in principle all the world over, and that no one religion can claim superiority over the other, and if there were any difference between one and the other it must be in the manner of propagation, or in ceremony or ritual. I believe in no religion, yet believe in all religion to a certain extent; but to believe in the existence of God, the positive proof of which is so far wanting, is not a convincing doctrine to be readily accepted. It therefore follows that believing in God, as Christians would have us believe, must be considered as nothing but superstition in the highest degree. Christians assert that there must be a Supreme Being to govern and regulate all the working of the universe, which is a very likely thing even to a heathen, yet there is no convincing and undeniable proof of it. All I can say is, it is likely there is such a thing as God, if what we call Nature can in one sense be taken as such, but as to the God in whose image the human being is alleged to be made, there is no substantial proof forthcoming, beyond mere supposition and superstition. Even supposing, for argument's sake, that such were possible, the contention would seem to be losing sight altogether of the fact that the human being is made to adapt himself to the atmospheric and other conditions peculiar to this planet, whereas the God who rules the entire universe must adapt himself to all different conditions prevailing in each planet, so that the human being cannot be in His Image.

What I think is, that no man can at this stage trace the origin of the earth, nor of human and other beings, animals, trees, plants, insects etc.; nor can he foretell what will be the ultimate fate of the earth, and all living things on the face of it. As, however, to what will befall one after death, I can only conjecture that by death the body is deprived of all life, as if a candle-light is extinguished by burning itself out, leaving behind nothing whatever. Even supposing for argument's sake that the soul outlives the body and continues to exist after death of the body, it must be in somewhat a chaotic condition and quite feelingless. Without five organs, how can it feel the reward or punishment to be meted out by what Christians call the final Judge? It is my opinion that the human being is born and dies in this world and that this finishes him altogether. There can be nothing before or after death. This is, of course, the random opinion of a layman; but I will stick to it until I am shown an irrefutable and convincing proof to the contrary.

A defender of the faith in the existence of God asserts that He must exist, though as yet invisible to human eyes, just in the same way that 100 years ago there was the element of electricity as it is now, though at that time no one knew how to utilize it for telegraphs and telephones. This, however, does not in any way alter the case in point, for I hold any one who expressed disbelief in electricity at that time, to be quite right, as he was not shown the convincing proof, just as we are right in believing in it after being convinced by actual proof.

I repeat, however, that religion, though mixed up with a great deal of superstition, is quite harmless and indeed sometimes does much good; consequently the more it is believed in, the better.

As a layman, if you do no harm to other living things, even if you can do no good to them, it will be all that can be required of you, and if you can at the same time do good to others even in a small degree, which is no easy task, so much the better. Of course, any one must be free to believe in Christianity or any other religion, but before people try to induce others to embrace the faith, as in the case of missionaries, they ought to study more closely the surroundings and existing conditions, and must not drag others into the faith, the precept of which cannot for a moment be observed, if these others mean to make a living in the world, without stultifying themselves every day, nay, perhaps every hour, in their unavoidable struggle for existence, comfort or luxuries—and temptations but few can resist. What I cannot readily reconcile my self to is that church dignitaries, missionaries, clergymen, &c., allow most of their so-called believers to indulge in acts diametrically opposed to Christ's teachings; for instance, monopoly trust business stratagems, evading loss by shifting responsibility to others on the flimsiest pretext, indulging in vanity and luxury at the expense of others, concerning themselves in no way regarding the inevitable consequences on others of such behaviour. Such are the majority of people who nowadays profess to embrace the faith of Christianity. While unabashingly offering prayers in the most becoming manner in church, uttering sacred words of love, devotion, and righteousness, the moment they leave the church they immediately indulge most remorselessly in money-making devices, regardless of the ways and means for obtaining their nefarious ends. Missionaries and clergymen do not in the least complain, and the sinner thinks these are only common and usual things, and the fact that he cannot serve God and the Devil at the same time never enters his mind. The result is that the salvation so loudly proclaimed becomes nothing but empty words. How can advocates of present day Christianity defend the foregoing? If a religion is to be maintained, all its precepts must be strictly enforced, otherwise, and as it is now, all prayers are blasphemy and are not prompted by true devotion. It will thus be seen that people have, in course of time, become more and more worldly or earthly, being more inclined to enjoy the worldly pleasures, comforts and luxuries, so strongly forbidden, than to anticipate promised rewards in the next world, of the existence of which there are growing misgivings, as it is in the bourne from whence no traveller returns to tell the tale. It would therefore seem that religion should necessarily be so modified as to be adaptable to the actual requirements of the day. It is quite unreasonable, if not impossible, that religious precepts established 2000 years ago should prove suitable to the existing conditions of to-day. It is natural it should be so Jesus Christ and his apostles, eager to save the erring world of 2000 years ago, propagated doctrines best calculated at the time to accomplish the object of salvation.

When you send your sons to school, they will often become possessed of ideas much in advance of your own, the result of progress in education as compared with twenty, thirty or forty years ago, when you yourself went to school. Unless there be such a difference, what is the use of living? If so, ought not we to be ashamed to be unable to know more religiously than men of 2000 years ago, however great some of them may have been? Great discoveries and inventions have been made in fifty or one hundred years, and is it not wonderful that no greater man than the old Saints has appeared in 20 to 40 times longer time? Is it not that on account of gradual discoveries and inventions, scientifical and philosophical, that men have become gradually more and more indifferent to Christianity? And though a great man, perhaps as great as Jesus of Nazareth himself, was more than once born during the long interval that has elapsed, each successive great man did not think it worth while meddling in religion, which was gradually losing its grip over men's mind. Such great men found time too valuable to be wasted in religious reforms; and as time progressed, religion has gradually drifted into a means of earning a livelihood for certain classes. As such has it not come down to in our day?

If all the great men in past ages professed faith in Christianity, it is quite within the limits of probability that they only pretended to believe in it, in order to set a good example for lower classes to follow. The curious feature of the matter is that religious morals are better observed by the lower classes than the higher and more wealthy people. It is needless to mention that in certain ages, religions—or rather religious propagandists such as missionaries—have been used by various nations for spying out unopened or unexplored countries and also as a weapon for extracting indemnities or to acquire strategical points of land on account of missionaries who happened to be murdered.

I remember hearing a European saying to the effect that if the objects of missionaries were to propagate the Lord's gospel, there was not the least occasion for their going abroad, for there were numerous people in the immediate neighbourhood of their homes who required preaching to. It will thus be seen that religion is now made more for a living or business to earn money than anything else, as by going abroad missionaries are paid better salaries than if they stayed at home.

Thus it seems that very likely great men were not wanting, but that they were wise enough to exer- their energy in other directions for a more pract

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tical benefit, than to the fast decaying religious matters.

In any way, it would seem that if Christianity is to be maintained, something radically new must be introduced, otherwise the present unsatisfactory and stultifying conditions will continue to exist, Christianity eventually becoming, if it has not yet actually become so already, like Buddhism, a mere tool for marriage and funeral ceremonies, losing in course of time its controlling power over men's minds and morals.

I cannot help thinking that it is a mistake on the part of Christian defenders to say to unbelievers that Christ and Christianity must not be mixed up; on the contrary, I should think the two must always be associated, especially when speaking to heathens whom such defenders wish to convert; and, in like manner, if church dignitaries wish to maintain their hold on the people, such absurd phrases as "God's Only Son" &c., had better better be left out altogether. If necessary even a Second Christ should be appointed to thoroughly remodel Christianity, its precepts, rites and ceremonies, more in consonance with the existing conditions of the time. Calling forth the Second Christ will not prove as difficult a task as one may imagine, as this could be carried out in some remote part of the world, such as Thibet, Turkestan, Mongolia or in Central Africa —anywhere out of the civilized and flourishing cities.

In whatever form be the new religion (if it be forthcoming to take the place of Christianity) it should be One and One only, and not divided, as Christianity is now, into different sects, each of which is liable to enter into competition against the other.

Father John of Cronstadt, who has recently passed away, might have perhaps with advantage been proclaimed as one. It won't do for you to say that we need not mind whatever absurd legends may be current, unbelievable at this stage of the world's progress, so long as we only observe the Lord's commandments and His sacred precepts. It may do for a born fanatic but not for a rational being in full possession of common sense. It will perhaps be needless to add that those it may be desired to convert should be those whose intellect and faculty is below the average, and in order to arouse to their minds a feeling of reverence and devotion, the instrument made use of must be perfect in every way, so that such stories as "Virgin Mary" and "the Resurrection" had better be struck out in order that there be no lingering doubts in the minds of those who are to be converted. There is a story of a learned teacher, who, though of profound knowledge, led a rather loose and irregular life, and who said to his pupils, "You need not mind and must not imitate what I do; you must learn only what I teach." However, the majority of his pupils could not help getting disgusted with his daily doings, with the result that they gradually left him till at last he had no pupils.

As compared with present-day Christianity, I should think that Christian Science or "New Thought" is perhaps bestowing upon mankind far greater blessings, and I would not hesitate to advise following in Mrs. Eddy's footsteps, for she and her disciples are actually healing the sick and infirm, notwithstanding comments to the contrary.

One cannot tell what would have been the attitude of the people towards Christianity, had it not been the fact that it is the State religion of nearly all the civilized countries, the Governments of which have no choice but to stick to it, until something better makes its appearance as a substitute. This does not appear to be forthcoming, for reasons above enumerated.

To sum up, I would say that it is human nature to be ambitious; and to successfully carry out ambition, one cannot at the same time observe the precepts of religion in its present form. Unless therefore the world be altogether reconstructed on new lines, Christianity and worldly greatness can never be expected to go hand in hand.

In conclusion I must not forget to mention that there are always exceptions to everything, so that the foregoing cannot be considered as being meant to apply to all and every Christian, but simply to the mass.

P.S.—I learn from a friend who is a member of a Congregational Church, that this sect holds rather progressive views, having dispensed with the mysterious legends of the Virgin Mary, the Resurrection, God's only Son, &c., but so long as it is only a sect, and consequently merely a small portion of the Christian religion, it is not sufficiently strong to shake my conviction, especially as it has no courage to dispense with the Bible, which contains the above mysterious legends. Little notice, therefore, can be taken of the alleged progressive ideas of this particular sect. Such views being adopted by this one sect only, in such a lame manner, cannot be taken as predominating over the whole Christian religion. It must advocate its doctrine in so strong a manner as to induce all other sects to follow suit, otherwise it is a mere atom in the Christian world.

YOKOHAMA LITERARY SOCIETY.

The Christmas meeting of the above Society was held in the Van Schaack Hall on Wednesday evening last, the gathering taking the form of a conversazione. The members and their friends were received by Mr. J. P. Mollison, the President, and Mrs. Mollison. In all, some 300 persons were present and a very pleasant evening was spent.

Owing to the near departure from Japan of Mr. W. K. Vincent, who until last week was Vice-President of the Society, the occasion was taken to bid him farewell. Mr. Vincent, it may be said, leaves here for home early in January next.

A capital musical programme had been arranged and during the interval Mr. Mollison addressed the meeting as follows:—Ladies and Gentlemen: My duty this evening as President of the Yokohama Literary and Musical Society is a very pleasing and at the same time painful one. Pleasing because it gives me an opportunity of doing honour to one who has been for the last ten or twelve years in the very forefront of whatever success has been achieved by our Society as a local institution and who has also borne much —more than his fair share, perhaps—of the heat and burden of the incessant struggle that seems necessary to keep an association of the kind going successfully in an ever-changing community like Yokohama. I allude, of course, to Mr. W. Karl Vincent. (Applause.) Whenever there was work to be done for our Society Mr. Vincent was always on the spot ready and willing to do it, and his departure is going to create a gap in the Committee of Management that will be very hard to fill. It will certainly be impossible to fill as regards music, because no one knows better than the Committee, especially the Musical Committee, how time and again Mr. Vincent has stepped into the breach, often at the last moment, and by his own exertions carried through our musical programme to a satisfactory conclusion. (Applause.) Mr. Vincent has also given us highly interesting lectures from time to time, and as Vice-President for many years has proved an industrious and valuable adherent of the Society. But not to our Society alone has Mr. Vincent been an interested and valued helper. The Amateur Dramatic Club owes him a deep debt of gratitude, as all of us who remember his labours —and who does not?—in connection with "San Toy," "The Chieftain," and last, though not least, "Dorothy," can testify. (Applause.) His attendance night after night at rehearsals, in all weathers; always cheery, good-tempered and encouraging when things didn't seem to be going quite right in the choruses or with individual performers, and always ready to give up his own valuable time to private rehearsals, in order to make the performance a grand success. (Applause.) I might speak, too, of the many nights he has turned into day writing up or writing down songs to suit special voices, or adapting the score for the orchestra, and ever at work pleasantly over the multifarious duties connected with his position as musical conductor that only an intense love of his art has enabled him to carry through. (Applause.) The Bijou Orchestra is another public institution that owes much to Mr. Vincent, but they are here tonight, I am pleased to say, and I say it gratefully, and I will leave them to speak for themselves later. Turning to another and more serious side of Mr. Vincent's services to Yokohama, I am sure both the English Church, with which he was for four years connected, and the Union Church will never forget what he has done for them as Organist and Choirmaster, or the musical entertainments, cantatas, and oratorios he has got up in aid of their funds. (Applause.) Finally, if I may be allowed to introduce a personal note I would like to recall with gratitude all Mr. Vincent has done for Mrs. Mollison and myself in the production of "The Venetian Singer," "Dr. Mondschein" and other private entertainments. But I have said enough to prove the truth of what I said in my opening remarks, namely, that there is a very painful side to my duty this evening as President, in that I have to say good bye on behalf of the Society to one who has done so much for us and for the community at large. I will not, however, dwell on the sad phase of the picture, but rather express the hope, that I know is shared by all present, that in his new sphere of life our good friend Mr. Vincent may have all the happiness and all the success he so richly deserves. (Loud applause.) As a token of the regard and esteem in which he is held by every member of the Yokohama Literary and Musical Society it is my privilege this evening to ask Mr. Vincent's acceptance of this little souvenir, and when filled with fragrant English roses or the flowers of other climes I trust he will allow his memory to carry him back to the Land of the Chrysanthemum and to the many friends he leaves behind in Yokohama. (Loud applause.)

The presentation took the form of a purse and silver flower bowl, decorated with iris, on a blackwood stand, and bore the following inscription:—"W. Karl Vincent, Esq.—From the members of the Yokohama Literary and Musical Society.—December 22nd, 1909."

Mr. Vincent, who was greatly affected, thanked the President for his kind remarks, which he said he did not think he deserved. Words failed him to express his gratitude for the handsome gifts bestowed on him. He hoped that the Society would have a bright future before it and wished it all success.

Later in the evening while refreshments were being served, a second presentation, on behalf of the members of the Bijou Orchestra, was made to Mr. Vincent by Mr. C. H. Thorn, the gift being two silver vases, with iris design, in a velvet-lined case. The following was inscribed on a plate inside the case:—"W. Karl Vincent, Esq., from the Members of the Bijou Orchestra, Yokohama, Dec. 22, 1909, in appreciation of his services as Conductor."

Mr. Vincent, in suitable terms, thanked the donors for their gift.

The proceedings came to a close shortly before midnight.

Annexed we give the programme, all the items of which were capitally rendered.

PART I.

Overture ....."Bridal Rose" .....Merton.
Bijou Orchestra.

Song ....."Ho! Jolly Jenkin" .....Sullivan.
Mr. S. H. Somerton.

Song ....."Love, the Pedlar" ....Ed. German.
Mrs. J. P. Mollison.

Song....."Love has Come" .....Marzials.
Mr. W. M. Stewart.

Pianoforte Solo.
(*a*) "Wedding Day" .....Grieg.
(*b*) "Frühlingsrauchen" .....Sinding.
Mrs. Spencer-Smith.

PART II.

Waltz....."Paquita" .....Stanton.
Bijou Orchestra.

Song....."Son of Mine" .....
(Encore, "Drink to Me Only.")
Mr. W. H. Lewis.

'Cello Solo.....Selected .....
(Encored.)
Mr. Mipkow.

Recitation....."The Guide".....
(Encore, "Briary Villa.")
Mr. G. G. Brady.

Selection..."It Happened in Nordland"..V. Herbert.
Bijou Orchestra.

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A PUNJAB CHRISTMAS.

"We look before and after
And pine for what is not"
Shelley's Ode to a Skylark.

Golden are the early mornings
Keen the frosty Punjab air.
And in cantering forth together
Rightly should the world seem fair,
But it's Christmas now in England
And my thoughts will thither roam
For we bear the curse of Esau
And we call no country home.

I have watched rich sunsets linger
Over warm-hued tropic seas,
And a strange unrest has ever
Mingled with my ecstasies.
For some pale cold English sunset
Seen from some remembered lane
Has in wraith-form come to haunt me
Turning pleasure into pain.

While in that same English country
I have wandered, and once more
Felt that undertone of longing
I have known so oft of yore,
Felt the longing of the wanderer
For the vast sky-tented plain
And have heard the fierce East calling,
Calling to my soul in vain.

And I've long'd for wider visions,
Regions bleak and half-explored,
Where the Song of Peace is guided
By the quiver of the sword.
Not a land of deeds accomplished
But a land of deeds begun;
Where our sons in turn shall add their share
To what their sires have done.

Oh, we've tasted life's draught fully
And we know that it is good,
Though the wanderer's curse is on us,
And has mingled with our blood;
Though we've felt the pangs of parting
As we prattled through our tears,
While our hearts were grimly aching
At the thought of childless years.

And could we live life over
We would choose as we have done,
Though on days so near to Christmas,
In this land of drought and sun,
We may long for fogs and drizzle
And the old familiar things,
With the laughter and the bustle
Which an English Christmas brings.

Yes, it's now we feel our burden
Feel anew the wanderer's curse;
But though we sit and grumble,
We know life might be worse;
So we'll do the task laid on us
And find comfort as we roam,
For the whole world lies before us,
Though we call no country Home.

M. KIRBY.

"THE TYRANNY OF TEARS."

A large and very appreciative assembly witnessed the production, by the Yokohama Amateur Dramatic Club at the Gaiety on the 16th inst., of Mr. Haddon Chambers' four-act Comedy "The Tyranny of Tears." No doubt the audience was prepared to be enthusiastic—the long series of successes to which local Thespians can point would of itself have justified such an attitude; but even had this not been the case, the house would quickly have been won over, not only by the interest of the play but by its very able presentation. The players, one and all, went through their parts with surprising ease and finish. Indeed, what with the evidently skilful stage-management, the exceedingly pretty scenes and the *aplomb* of the participants, a casual visitor, had such been present, would hardly have realized that he was witnessing an amateur performance by ladies and gentlemen drawn from a small and remote community.

ARGUMENT OF THE PLAY.

The story turns upon the tearful tyranny exercised by a somewhat selfish and jealous wife over a strong-minded but affectionate husband. Mr. Parbury, a busy literary man, has engaged a lady-secretary, Miss Woodward, who one day is discovered by Mrs. Parbury in the act of kissing her husband's photograph. Mrs. Parbury has for years past been in the habit of getting her husband to give in to her by the simple expedient of shedding tears; but when, without giving a reason, she insists on the dismissal of the secretary (who has made herself indispensable to Mr. Parbury), the husband firmly declines. The wife leaves her home for her father, Col. Armitage's, house, but eventually, though it becomes necessary for the secretary also to leave, all ends well through the intervention of Mr. Gunning, a friend of Mr. Parbury's bachelor days, whose advances to Miss Woodward, at first repelled, are finally accepted. Mrs. Parbury is brought to a proper frame of mind, *vis-à-vis* her husband as well as the secretary, so that love and consideration take the place of petty tyranny and jealousy.

THE PARTICIPANTS.

Mrs E. C. Davis, as the fair tyrant, could hardly have been improved upon either from the point of view of histrionic ability or personal grace; while Mrs. F. W. R. Ward played her part of the lady-secretary to the life. The fond but busy husband was excellently personated by Mr. W. H. Lewis; the part of the Colonel, who despite his years was still disposed to be gay, found a skilful interpretation at the hands of Mr. F. W. R. Ward; while the difficult *rôle* of the husband's cynical friend was sympathetically rendered by Mr. W. M. Stewart. Mr. O. Strome made a most majestic menial, but several of his very important messages as to the state of feeling in the servants' hall were scarcely audible.

The full cast was as follows:

DRAMATIS PERSONAE.

Clement Parbury.....Mr. W. H. Lewis
George Gunning.....Mr. W. M. Stewart
Col. Armitage.....Mr. F. W. R. Ward
Mrs. Parbury.....Mrs. E. C. Davis
Miss Woodward.....Mrs. F. W. R. Ward
Evans.....Mr. O. Strome

Acts I, II and IV, Mr. Parbury's Study.
Act III, Garden of Mr. Parbury's House.

The stage management was in the capable hands of Mr. W. H. Lewis, and much of the furniture, which added so largely to the effectiveness of the scenes, was lent for the occasion by Messrs. Lane Crawford & Co.

During the evening the Bijou Orchestra played the following greatly appreciated selections:—

1. Overture....."Bridal Rose".....Merton
2. Waltz....."Paquita"..... Stanton
3. Selections..."It Happened in Nordland".....Herbert
4. Waltz....."Pensée d'Autumn".....M. Ellis

At the close of the play, a number of very handsome baskets of flowers were presented to Mrs. Davies and Mrs. Ward.

A repeat performance of Mr. Haddon Chambers' comedy, "The Tyranny of Tears," was given by the Yokohama A.D.C. at the Gaiety Theatre on Saturday evening. There was a fair attendance and the audience marked their approval of the clever rendering of this charming comedy by frequent and prolonged applause, all of the players interpreting their respective parts with the ease and grace that characterized the opening performance.

PUNCH ON THE WORK OF THE LORDS.

"Merrily filling up the cup" writes Toby M.P. in his diary of Parliament on the 20th ult. "Last week Irish Land Bill hacked about and returned for dead. On Monday short shrift given to Loulu's London Elections Bill. John Burns's Bill for the better planning of towns and for the housing of populations, which passed the Commons by acclaim, severely handled in the melting pot.

"'May as well be hung for a sheep as a lamb,' said Lansdowne, sharpening his claymore.

"Then in quavering voice that ill assorted with desperate intent, he trolled his battle-song:

'Come fill up the cup as full as you can;
Come call up my army of bold Backwoodsmen;
Fling wide the "No" lobby and let us go free.
For it's up with the Budget of David L. G.'"

JAPAN-BRITISH EXHIBITION.

FREIGHT AND PASSENGER-FACILITIES.

The Transportation Committee in connection with the Japan-British Exhibition, over which the Duke of Norfolk presides, is regarded as being the strongest ever formed, under the auspices of such an undertaking. It consists of the Chairman, Deputy-Chairmen, and Managers of all the principal railway companies in the United Kingdom. As the result of their recent deliberations the public will be interested to learn that the Japan-British Exhibition is to be treated by all the railway companies on the same liberal basis regarding passenger rates and freights for exhibits, as were the Franco-British Exhibition at Shepherds Bush, the Paris Exhibition of 1900, the Chicago World's Fair and the Exhibition at St. Louis.

Several of the great railway companies have already decided to place exceptionally fine exhibits in the Machinery Hall, where magnificent examples of electrical, mechanical, and civil engineering are to be shown on an even more imposing scale than at the Franco-British Exhibition.

In view of the increased traffic brought about by the "Sunny South Exhibit" in the Health and Pleasure Resorts Section of the last exhibition, an increase of no fewer than 41,000 to the various places shown, most of the railway companies represented on the Committee, have decided to support similar schemes next year for the places on their respective Lines.

It was also decided to arrange special gala days for the different great centres of commerce and industry in the United Kingdom, such as Liverpool, Nottingham, Manchester, Bristol, Leeds, Birmingham, Glasgow, Bradford and Newcastle-on-Tyne. On these occasions the Mayor and Corporation of each visiting community will be the guests of the Committee of the Japan British Exhibition.

Special gala days will also be held in celebration of the principal Japanese festivals; and from all over the country, people will be able to come to the Exhibition on these occasions on terms as advantageous as those offered during the Franco-British Exhibition.

Altogether the Duke of Norfolk has been highly gratified by the enthusiasm shown in all quarters with regard to next year's great enterprise at Shepherd's Bush, the success of which is already assured.

It may be added that the Transportation Committee referred to is composed as follows:—

Sir Charles Bine Renshaw, Bart., Sir James King, Bart., and Mr. Guy Calthrop (Caledonian Railway); Mr. C. S. Dennis (Cambrian Railways), Mr Alfred Aslett (Furness Railway); Mr. Patrick T. Caird, Sir James Bell, Bart., and Mr. David Cooper (Glasgow & South Western Railway); Sir Alexander Henderson, Mr. Willam Purdon Viccairs, and Mr. Sam Fay (Great Central Railway); Lord Claud John Hamilton, and Mr J. F. S. Gooday (Great Eastern Railway); Sir David Stewart, Mr. Andrew Bain, and Mr. Geo. Davidson (Great North of Scotland Railway); Sir Lesley C. Probyn and Mr. Oliver R. H. Bury (Great Northern Railway); Viscount Churchill, G.C.V.O., and Mr. James C. Inglis (Great Western Railway); Mr. William Whitelaw (Highland Railway); Mr. Wm. Shaw Wright and Mr. Edward Watkin (Hull & Barnsley Railway); Sir George Armytage, Bart., Mr. E. B. Fielden and Mr. J. A. F. Aspinall (Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway); The Earl of Bessborough (London, Brighton & South Coast Railway); Lord Stalbridge, the Hon. Chas. Napier Lawrence, and Mr. F. Ree (London & North Western Railway); Mr. Hugh W. Drummond and Sir Charles J. Owens (London & South Western Railway); Sir C. B. Bright McLaren and Mr. R. H. Selbie (Metropolitan Railway); Sir Ernest Paget, Mr. H. Tylston Hodgson and Mr. Guy Granet (Midland Railway); The Earl of Dalkeith and Mr. W. Fulton Jackson (North British Railway); Mr. A. Kaye Butterworth (North Eastern Railway); Mr. H. Cosmo O. Bonsor and Mr. Vincent W. Hill (South Eastern & Chatham Railway).

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"BEAUTY AND THE BEAST."

A PRONOUNCED SUCCESS.

Since the announcement of the news some time ago that the popular pantomime of "Beauty and the Beast" would be produced at the Gaiety on the 21st inst., great interest has been evinced and the subject has been the topic of conversation for weeks past, not only among the young folks but also among the older members of the community. As a corollary to this, the performance on Tuesday evening was witnessed by a large and enthusiastic audience, and although it cannot be said the theatre was crowded to excess, still the ladies and gentlemen who kindly gave their time and talents for "sweet Charity's sake," cannot but be pleased that their efforts were so keenly appreciated.

CHARACTERS:

Borgia...An Italian—a Magician—(penny plain and two-pence coloured!) cousin to Queen Poppæa......Mr. G. G. Brady

Valentine...The Prince's friend, a great admirer of the fair sex...Mr. M. Spencer-Smith

Hafiz......Gentleman at Arms to the Prince...... ......Mr. F. E. Colchester

Omar................A rich merchant........ ......Mr. G. N. Courtney

Wee Mac...A Scotch "caddie" engaged to teach the Prince golf...Mr E.W. Milne

Ali } ...Apprentices to Omar { Mr. O. Strome
Azim } { Mr. G. G. Franklin

and

Prince Orson...who is condemned, by Borgia's Black Art, to appear a Beast until a maiden loves him...Mr. A. E. Cooper

Queen Poppæa...Stepmother to Prince Orson... Miss Moore Graham

Vinaigra } Shrewish sisters to { Mrs. Eddison
Philandra } Beauty { Mrs. Lewis

Zuleika......Niece to Queen Poppæa...... Mrs. B. C. Foster

Salome............ A Dancing Girl ......Miss Dinsdale

and

Beauty.. Miss Ruse

CHORUS:

Pages.—Messrs. G. W. Anderson, N. Buckle, B. C. Foster, G. G. Franklin, M. B. Lendrum, A. G. Kellogg, D. Mass and O. Strome.

Dancing Girls.—The Misses A. Blundell, M. Cain. M. Cameron, D. Dinsdale, G. Williamson Jones, R. Kenderdine, G. Kenderdine and K. Strome.

Attendants.—Messrs. E. Eddison and A. L. Robinson.

ACT I.
(The Test)
Room in Omar's house,

ACT II.
(The Trial)
Throne Room in Prince Orson's Palace.

ACT III.
(The Triumph)
The Gardens of the Palace.

Stage Manager: Mr. G. G. Brady.
Scenery: Mr. A. Curjel and Mr. D. Marshall.
Accompanist: Miss Blundell.
Properties: Mr. T. Harrington and Mr. V. Palmaroli.

The facility and ease with which the different players performed the parts assigned to them showed the painstaking care they had taken to render the piece as perfect as possible. Those who could not attend at the opening night should not fail to see the repeat performance this evening. In fact, this fascinating piece would bear repetition several times.

Miss Ruse, of Tokyo, who made her first appearance before a Yokohama audience, acquitted herself remarkably well in the somewhat arduous part of *Beauty* and charmed the audience by her singing. She is the possessor of a sweet voice which has been well trained and all her songs were sung in a highly artistic manner. Miss Moore Graham, as *Queen Poppæa*, gave a clever interpretation of the part allotted to her, the naïveté of her acting furnishing some pleasant surprises. The characters of *Vinaigra* and *Philandra*, the envious sisters of *Beauty*, were carefully and successfully portrayed by Mrs. Eddison and Mrs. Lewis, while the small but interesting roles of *Zuleika*, niece to the Queen, and *Salome*, a dancing girl, were admirably filled by Mrs. Foster and Miss Dinsdale.

Mr. Brady's appearance as *Borgia*, the Italian magician, was the signal for an outburst of loud applause. His inimitable impersonation of the character greatly amused the audience, who showed their appreciation by recalling him time and again. His many jocose allusions to popular happenings tickled the house immensely, and his topical song on local events, with the refrain "Balmy Yoko," was cleverly rendered. The character of these topical verses may be gathered from the following:—

We've several local papers, to tell us of our capers,
And prattle of our "dinners" and our "chic-est" thing in dress.
But of the day of reck'ning, when Woodruff comes a beck'ning
With chits and bills voluminous, they're careful to suppress.
Now at our festive dances, I could mention some instances,
Your wife, they say, outshone herself, with diamonds in her hair.
It surely spoils your pleasure, when you know your darling treasure
Was laid up with the *measles*, and unable to be there.

To save us from perdition, The Alex-Chapman Mission,
Came speeding to our village with its trumpet's clarion call.
Each night there congregated, the unregenerated,
In numbers vaster even than attend St. Andrew's Ball.
But well as they succeeded, I think what's really needed,
If we want our little hamlet to be good and sweet and pure,
Is to stop the daily rattle, of the female tittle-tattle
And bar all ladies' tiffins as the very surest cure.

The part of *Prince Orson* was taken by Mr. Cooper, who with his commanding presence made an excellent Prince, and whose well trained and pleasing voice was heard to great advantage during the evening. The other performers also filled their allotted parts with conspicuous ability.

The chorus of pages, dancing girls and attendants formed a very effective tableau, and the dancing of the ladies was very prettily and engagingly rendered.

A striking and lively scene took place when a party of suffragettes entered with banners waving and adorned with various devices, Votes for women, &c. and the struggle between the valiant lady-bearer of one banner and a typical English "bobby," was true to life.

At the close of the performance a cry for the Authoress, Mrs. G. K. Dinsdale, was made, and that gifted lady appeared on the stage and gracefully bowed her acknowledgments.

It is not often that the Gaiety stage has presented such an array of flowers and bouquets as were on this occasion offered by the admiring audience to the fair participants in a performance that had held every onlooker entranced from beginning to end.

RUGBY FOOTBALL.

On the 18th the Y.C.& A.C. travelled to Tokyo with a weak team to play Keio Gijiku on their own grounds. This being only the second game of Rugby this season, and having had no mid-day practices as in former years, the men were out of condition and the play was, at times, very ragged. However, in spite of these disadvantages, which for the sake of Yokohama's reputation in Rugby Interport matches, it is to be hoped will soon be overcome, the team put up a very good game and gave promise of much better things later on, if there are any facilities at all for playing Rugby football.

Having lost the toss, Bowden kicked off for the Y.C. & A.C., who had the sun in their eyes. The Yokohama men soon rushed the ball almost to the Keio goal line, but the defence was too good. In a short while Keio worked back again and began a well-sustained bombardment of the visitors' line, which finally resulted in a very fine drop goal by one of the Keio centre three-quarters. The ball was passed to him neatly from a scrimmage, and being well protected he had sufficient time to take a nice drop kick, giving his side a lead of four points, much to the delight of the many partisans on the touch lines.

Nothing daunted by this unexpected score only twelve minutes from the start, the Yokohama men again attacked and several times seemed like scoring. Especially so when a scrimmage was formed almost on the Keio goal line, but the right half back, instead of passing out to his three-quarters, tried to dive over. He was frustrated by the ever-watchful and extremely active opponents, and what might have been a chance to score, was lost for the time being.

Keio again attacked with a long punt down the ground, which the visiting full-back failed to catch. This brought the game very near the Yokohama line and it seemed almost certain that Keio would cross it. Good defensive work, however, by Deveson, who was specially noticeable throughout the game for being where he was most wanted, and by Bowden, Hearne and others, kept the line intact, and half time arrived without further score.

During the first portion of the second half, Keio again did a great deal of attacking, but were unable to complete their efforts. Hornstein relieved with some good kicks, and Vincent, also, seemed to be more sure of his punting than in the first half. Yokohama now appeared to get a fresh lease of life, and attacked continually. Neville gained considerable ground, and passed to Gorman, who made more before he was hurled into touch. Across the ground again went the ball, the forwards working very hard and being better together than earlier in the game. Squire made a futile effort to drop a goal, and Hornstein raced to touch it down, but it crossed the dead ball line before he could do so. From the drop out Keio gained ground for a time, but Hornstein again relieved with a good run and kick, and the attack was once more kept up, but to no avail. The Keio line was kept intact, although they had to touch down several times in defending it. Just before time was called, Keio instituted a counter attack, but the fine defence work of Deveson, and the four three-quarters, well backed up by the hard working forwards prevented the homeside from scoring a try. So a well-fought match ended in a victory for Keio by four points to nil. Mr. Matsuoka of Keio University ably carried out the duties of referee. After the game, the visitors were entertained to refreshments, and Bowden proposed the health of the Keio team which was given musical honours. It is hoped that the return match will take place in Yokohama during January, if the grounds can be obtained.

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS.

Early on the 19th inst. on the arrival of a special express train from Shimbashi at Inari Station near Kyoto, an engine attached to the rear of the train was set free, while the rest moved on slowly towards Kyoto. Suddenly, however, the engine just disjoined dashed into the brake van of the train, destroying the van and the hindermost sleeping-car. A conductor received a severe bruise on the head and was stunned. Several members of the Commercial Mission recently returned from America were among the passengers, but they met with no worse fate than to be thrown out of their seats. No casualties are reported among the other passengers. The train arrived at Osaka one hour late.

At 1.10 p.m. on the same day a goods train had hardly left Kyoto Station for Nara, when it collided with another coming from Nara, owing to the carelessness of a pointsman. The engine of the Nara train was derailed and three wagons were overturned. No casualties occurred.

Another derailment of three wagons of a goods train from a similar cause occurred on the 18th inst., near Ikebukuro Station, on the Yamate line, in Tokyo. Traffic was not restored until several hours had elapsed.

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NIPPON RACE CLUB.

The annual general meeting of the Nippon Race Club was held on the 20th inst. in the Grand Hotel. In the absence of the President Sir Claude MacDonald, Dr. Wheeler, the Vice-President, took the chair. There was a fair attendance of members, among whom were Dr. Wheeler, Messrs. H. Blum, F. H. Bugbird, A. R. Catto, A. J. Cornes, E. C. Davies, A. J. Easton, F. L. Elliott, A. Elked, O. T. Gillon, J. H. Hastings, T. Hayama, E. O. Hermann, G. Hood (Secretary), S. Isaacs, H. D C. Jones, E. Makino, D. Marshall, H. Mori, A. J. McClure, W. Schopflocher, S. Stern, R. M. Sterling, and A. M. T. Woodward.

On the motion of Mr. McClure, seconded by Mr. Cato, the report and accounts as presented were taken as read.

In answer to a question from Mr. McClure regarding the renewal of the lease of the race-course, Mr. Isaacs said the new lease contained two important alterations: the time had been reduced to five years and the rent had been increased 50 per cent.,—from *yen* 750 to *yen* 1,125. The Committee had interviewed Baron Sufu in order to secure the lease on the same terms as before. The matter was still in abeyance, but should the Committee's efforts prove abortive, the Club will have to accept the new terms.

Mr. Isaacs said that with reference to the forthcoming meeting of the Club, no promise whatever had been received from the Baseikyoku as to whether they would do anything for the Club or not. The idea seems to be that a subsidy will be passed to enable racing to be continued, in which case the Club will look to the Baseikyoku to give a subsidy so as to allow the Club to continue to race such horses as they possess at present. In the report it is mentioned that interviews were held last year with the officials of the Baseikyoku. Though they had promised a certain amount of support to the Club they refused to give it, on account of the Club's not racing with any new country-bred horses. It was found almost impossible to secure any country-breds of a class that would give satisfaction for racing in Yokohama and therefore the Club had been compelled to carry on the meeting with the funds of the Club and without any assistance from the Baseikyoku. Owners of horses had been put to very heavy expense: 10 *yen* as entrance fee, 5 *yen* acceptance fee and 30 *yen* for each win in the Champions, while, on the other hand, the prizes had been greatly decreased in value. If the Club should not get any assistance from the Baseikyoku at the next meeting, it is to be hoped that the new committee will do their best to reduce the expenses of the owners as much as possible.

A discussion then took place regarding the raising of the subscription of the members of the golfing association. It was decided to leave this matter in the hands of the new Committee.

The next business before the meeting was the election of the new Executive Committee.

The Chairman proposed that the number be reduced from seven to five, the former number having been found to be too many. He said that Mr. H. D. C. Jones had withdrawn from the Committee, Mr. Tegner was going home next January, and Mr. Cox had already left Yokohama.

This was duly seconded and carried.

The election resulted as follows:—Messrs. K. Mori, F. L. Elliott, S. Isaacs, F. H. Bugbird, and K. Fischer.

Mr. Easton then moved that the Club place on record its deep regret at the loss of one of its oldest members, in the person of the late Mr. D. Robison, whose death occurred a short time ago in the South of France. He was not only a member but also an active one, and had always taken the keenest interest in the training of his own horses. Mr. Easton was sure that all the members felt that by his death the Club had lost a good friend.

This having been seconded, was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks to the Chairman and to the outgoing Committee brought the meeting to a close.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1909.

The Committee have the pleasure of submitting to the Members of the Club the Report and Statement of Accounts for the financial year ended November 30th, 1909.

His Majesty The Emperor graciously honoured the Club by presening prizes for both Spring and Autumn Races. His Imperial Highness The Crown Prince attended the Autumn Meeting, and His Imperial Highness Prince Fushimi the Spring Meeting.

New lots of Country-bred Horses and China Ponies were subscribed for and raced at the Spring Meeting. Owing to inclement weather the second 2 days' racing was twice postponed. At this Meeting the Baseikyoku kindly granted *yen* 4,000 for prizes and presented a further sum of *yen* 1,000 as special prizes.

At an interview with the officials of the Baseikyoku shortly after the Spring Meeting, they expressed a desire that the Club hold a Meeting in the Autumn, and to this end a promise of assistance was given. At a subsequent interview during August, *yen* 3,000 was kindly offered, on the condition that races were provided for a new lot of Country-bred horses. As time was too short, the Autumn training Season being close at hand, and the Committee could not see their way to secure a suitable lot, the Autumn Meeting was held entirely at the Club's expense; no assistance of any description was given by the Horse Improvement Bureau.

To enable racing to continue throughout the year without unduly diminishing the fund so prudently accumulated during the past 20 years, owners have been involved in very heavy expense, while prizes were necessarily small. Gate money furnished a mere fraction of the working expenses.

The Committee opened a subscription list for Country-bred horses during October, *without guarantee*. Eighteen names were sent in and 18 well-bred horses have been personally selected by a special representative of the N. R. C. sent from Yokohama, and purchased from the Government and other Breeding Establishments in and around Sapporo. The fact of 18 members among whom it is gratifying to find so many Japanese names having signified their willingness to buy these animals without any guarantee of races being provided in the Spring, clearly demonstrates the keen interest of the members of the N. R. C. in the Country-bred horse.

A Gymkhana was held on the Race Course during July, which attracted a large attendance and proved most enjoyable. A number of visitors from the Hongkong Garrison competed and carried off several of the prizes.

RE LEASE.—Through the kind offices of His Excellency Governor Baron Sufu, the lease of the Race Course, which expires in February, 1910, will be renewed. The Lease is promised in the course of a few days.

The Committee regret that, owing to the reduced financial condition of the Club, they did not feel justified in donating any of the funds towards charities, as has been the custom in past years.

Strict supervision has been kept over working expenses during the year, and the accompanying Statement of Accounts shows that these have been reduced to a minimum.

The thanks of the Committee are due to those gentlemen who, as Stewards, did much to promote the success of the Spring and Autumn Meetings.

In accordance with Rule 10 the Executive Committee now retire.

THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

ABSTRACT FROM MEMBERS' REGISTER.

November 30th, 1908.

Full Members	164
Subscribers	233

November 30th, 1909.

Full Members	140
Subscribers	226

INVENTORY.	Yen.	Yen.
To Valuation at Negishi		150,000.00
„ Grand Stand, Dining Room, Coffee Room, etc. as last inventory	35,600.00	
„ Paddock Stand as last inventory	13,600.00	
„ Paddock Stables as last inventory	13,600.00	
„ Hack Stalls, Iron Rails, Machinery House, Momban's House, Hospital, Motor Roller, Number Board etc. as last inventory.	23,800.00	
„ Safes, Starting Gates and Sundry Furniture	9,400.00	
„ Horse Clothing, Saddles and Fittings	4,000.00	
	100,000.00	
Less depreciation on Buildings etc. transferred to Profit and Loss Account...	20,000.00	80,000.00
		230,000.00

WORKING ACCOUNT.

1909. DR.	Yen.	Yen.
To Subscription Country Bred Horses of Spring 1909		86.35
„ Suspense Account—New Country Bred Horses		6,600.00
„ Prizes. — Spring Meeting 17,600.00		
Less Donated by the Baseikyoku... 4,000.00	13,600.00	
„ Prizes. — Autumn Meeting	9,475.00	23,075.00
„ Expenses at Spring and Autumn Meetings		4,016.54
„ Rent of Course from 1st April 1909 to 28th Feb. 1910		687.50
„ Fire Insurance Premiums		1,524.69
„ Salaries, Rent of Room, Registration, Taxes, etc.		5,095.04
„ Wages, Upkeep of Course, etc.		2,672.44
„ Repairs to Fences, Roads and Buildings		249.65
„ Printing, Advertising and Stationery ...		348.13
„ Sundries		462.82
„ Appropriation for Property Account ...		20,000.00
„ Appropriation for Track Account		10,000.00
„ Fixed Deposit with Banks...	30,000.00	
„ Balances at Banks		
" Current Account		
H. and S. Bank Debit Balance ...	8,338.59	
International Bank Credit Balance...	4.29 8,334.30	21,665.70
		96,483.86

1909. Cr.	Yen.	Yen.
By Balance brought forward from last account including amounts appropriated for improvements of Property Account, etc.		67,729.68
„ Members' Subscriptions, Entrance and Absentee Fees		5,805.00
„ Registration of Names and Colours...		16.00
„ Entries.—Spring Y.5,950.00		
„ Autumn..... 3,950.00		9,900.00
„ Gate Money, Sale of Books, etc.—Spring	898.50	
„ Gate Money, Sale of Books, etc.—Autumn	585.80	1,484.30
„ Rent of Stalls, Jockeys' Licenses, etc.—Spring ...	1,062.50	
„ Rent of Stalls, Jockeys' Licenses, etc.—Autumn..	687.00	1,749.50
„ Interest received		3,734.52
„ Subscription China Ponies.—Spring 1909		4,923.68
„ Sale of Saddlery, etc.		1,143.18
		96,483.86

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

1909. Dr.	Yen.
To Amount written off Buildings and Racing Accessories	20,000.00
„ Loss incurred on Working Account...	16,063.98
„ Balance forward to next Account.....	10,479.27
	46,543.25

1909. Cr.	Yen.
By Balance brought forward from Last Year	46,543.25
	46,543.25

E. & O. E.

Yokohama, 30th November, 1909.

Subscriptions and Vouchers duly examined with the Books and found correct.

A. B. LOWSON, Auditor. F. L. ELLIOTT, Hon. Treasurer.

HOCKEY.

A game of Hockey was played on the 22nd inst. at noon on the Cricket Ground, between two Y.C. & A.C. teams captained by Messrs Sharman and Foster respectively. Mr. Sharman's team won easily, by five goals to *nil*, the goals being scored by Messrs Hayward, Sharman and Mason. For the winners, Sharman and Neville played the best game, and for the losers Farnsworth & Drummond.

After the game the election of Captain and Vice-Captains for the season took place, and resulted as follows:—Mr. B. C. Foster, Captain, and Messrs. L. C. Sharman and A. W. S. Austen Vice-Captains.

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YOKOHAMA.

The Commanders of the U.S. cruisers *California* and *South Dakota* paid a visit on the 16th inst. to the U.S. Consulate-General, Vice-Consul-General Mr. Babbitt returning the call in the afternoon. The two Commanders made a formal visit yesterday to Governor Sufu and Mayor Mitsuhashi.

Governor Sufu paid a visit to the Belgian Consulate on the 18th inst. to express his condolences on the death of King Leopold.

On account of the frequent reports of schoolboys fighting or wounding one another with knives or similar weapons, the Prefectural authorities have instructed all the schools in the prefecture strictly to forbid their scholars carrying any sharp weapons with them on their way to school or on the play ground.

The Italian cruiser *Calabria*, which left this port on the 19th inst. for Shanghai, will revisit Japan after staying in Chinese waters about two months.

A counterfeit 10 *yen* note was again discovered on the 18th inst. in a tobacco shop at Hatsunecho Nichome. It is alleged that a respectable-looking man paid 50 *sen* for a packet of tobacco with the note, receiving 9.50 *yen* as change.

At 9.59 a.m. on the 20th instant a fairly severe shock of earthquake was felt in Yokohama. The oscillations lasted for two minutes and twenty-six seconds.

The health returns for Kanagawa prefecture during the week ended December 16th are as follows:—

	Small Pox.	Dysentery.	Typhus.	Diphtheria.	Scarlet fever.	Plague
Yokohama—						
New cases ...	—	1	2	7	1	1
Died	—	—	—	2	—	—
Other Districts—						
New cases ...	—	—	7	8	—	—
Died	—	—	2	1	—	—

BASEBALL.

AMERICAN NAVAL MEN DEFEAT JAPANESE.

On the Cricket Ground on the 19th inst. a baseball team from the American warships in port met the All-Yokohama Baseball Nine, a team consisting of Japanese. When play began shortly after 1.30, there were many spectators present, among whom were several ladies. A good match was witnessed, but the naval men proved too good for their opponents, whom they eventually defeated by 7 to 3.

Now that the ground has passed out of the keeping of the local Athletic Club, it may not be impertinent to ask who authorised the levying yesterday of 20 and 50 *sen* admission to the field and grand stand respectively. Posters were displayed notifying these charges, but nothing was stated as to the disposal of the gate-money, whether it was to be devoted to local charities or not Some explanation on this point seems desirable.

CALENDARS.

We are reminded once more of the close of the year by the receipt of calendars of all sorts and conditions, pleasing and effective for the most part.

The Palatine Insurance Company, Ltd., of Cornhill, E.C.—for whom Messrs. S. Isaacs & Co are the local agents—sends us a handsome wall-card, on which the days of 1910 are shown week by week in bold white figures on a blue ground. Messrs. Otto Reimers & Co., agents for the Royal Insurance Co., have issued a large and very effective card bearing a monthly calendar, while the "Lancashire," now merged in the "Royal," are favouring their clients not only with a similar wall-calendar but with a neat "blotter." The funds of this Company, whose head offices are at Liverpool, amount to nearly £15,000,000. The "Lancashire" is represented at this port by Messrs. Cornes & Co.

"CONTRADICTING OVERSEERS."

It is well known in China that when the work of translating the Prayer Book into Chinese was commenced, an honest attempt was made to translate into that language the words "Protestant Episcopal." When, however, the natives were asked the meaning of the Chinese characters used for these words, they called them "Contradicting Overseers." It was wisely decided to cut those characters out and forget them; and thus the Church in China has been saved from being branded "The Teaching Assembly of the Contradicting Overseers."

Somewhat later, an attempt was made to distinguish the Anglican Communion from other bodies, in the title of a periodical in which the Chinese character for "Ancient" was used. That character did not, however, take its place in any official document as the distinctive name of the Church, and the one and only name that is actually in use is the same as that in the Creed, namely, "The Holy Catholic Church."

The proof of this fact is to be found in the document in Chinese published in the August number of the *Spirit of Missions*, and may be verified by the testimony of any one of the many intelligent Chinese who are now in evidence in American colleges. There are, for instance, quite a respectable number of the graduates of Saint John's, Shanghai, in Harvard. Let any one of them, without paying any attention to the translation upon the page in question, re-translate the title anew, literally, from the original, and it will be seen that the only term used for the Church are the characters 聖公會 "Holy Catholic Church," and the only limiting terms are the names of the countries where the Church is situated.

What is true of China is equally true of Korea and Japan; there is only one name for the Church, and that is the Holy Catholic Church.

THE LAW COURTS.

ACTION FOR DIVORCE.

The hearing of the case in which Mrs. Edmund L. Filmer petitioned for divorce from her husband, Mr. Edmund L. Filmer, was resumed on the 21st inst. in the Yokohama Local Court.

Mr. N. W. McIvor, whose opinion on the case was to be heard in the Court, could not attend on account of illness. Plaintiff's Consul, Mr. Ideura, strated that, according to inquiries made at the office of Mr. McIvor, in the case of a husband deliberately deserting his wife for a period of more than three years the wife could claim a divorce, in the State of California, and that the American Common Law prescribes that an action for divorce should be dealt with under the laws of the place where the husband had last lived for more than a year. Mr. Filmer had lived in Manila for less than a year, though formerly he had resided in California for a long time.

Counsel Ideura asked the Judge to summon Mr. McIvor to the Court to state his opinion regarding the case. The Judge acceded to the request.

The hearing was adjourned until January 17.

FIRES.

On the night of the 15th inst. a fire broke out in a glass manufactory at Nishisekiya-cho, Minami-ku, Osaka. Owing to the strong wind, 50 houses were entirely and 30 partly destroyed.

Another fire occurred on the same night at Ishioka machi, Ibaraki prefecture, resulting in the destruction of 98 houses.

A serious fire occurred at Nirinsho, Formosa, on the 13th inst., when 85 houses were burnt down and 61 head of cattle were killed. The damage is estimated at some 10,000 *yen*.

On the 21st inst. shortly after nine p.m. fire broke out in the house of Dr. F. O. Wolf, dentist, at 3829 Tate-no-yama, Negishimachi, overlooking the former Rifle-range. Owing to the difficulty of obtaining a water supply, the building was practically destroyed. The outbreak originated in an upstairs room, from a carelessly made-up fire, and the flames spread so rapidly that practically nothing was saved.

NOTICE TO MARINERS.

CHINA SEA:—LANGSHAN CROSSING.

Notice is hereby given that the following changes in aids to navigation marking the Langshan Crossing have been made:—

ALTERATION IN BUOYAGE.

The North Bank Bnoy is now moored in 48 feet at low water of spring tides. From the Buoy, Fushan Pagoda bears N. 77° W., distant 5.9 miles.

The Vine Point Lower Buoy is now moored in 48 feet at low water of spring tides. From the Buoy, Fushan Pagoda bears S. 72° W., distant 2.4 miles.

The Vine Point Buoy is now moored in 36 feet at low water of spring tides. From the Buoy, Fushan Pagoda bears S. 28° W., distant 2.4 miles.

The Waterman Bank Buoy is now moored in 60 feet at low water of spring tides. From the Buoy, Fushan Pagoda bears S. 22° W., distant 2 2 miles.

A black Buoy, named the Waterman Bank Upper Buoy, has been placed to mark the western side of the channel about half-way between the Waterman Bank Buoy and the Upper Crossing Buoy, and is moored in 54 feet at low water of spring tides. From the Buoy, Fushan Pagoda bears S. 11° W., distant 3.6 miles.

NORTH TREE BEACON SHIFTED.

The North Tree Beacon has been shifted 1.7 mile S. 16° E. from its former position. From the Beacon, Langshan Pagoda bears S. 78° E.

All bearings given are magnetic.

THE CRICKET GROUND.

The cricket ground question is at present at a deadlock. In the meantime the ground, with the buildings and lawns, having been handed over to the prefectural governor by the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, the same was formally received on the 20th instant by the local authorities. The ground is to remain in the custody of the prefectural government until it is transferred to the city as a portion of the park. There is, however, a strong movement in favour of retaining the ground intact.

The Committee meeting arranged for the 23rd inst. to arrive at a decision on the Cricket Ground question, did not take place on account of the insufficient number of members present. It is reported, says the *Boyeki*, that a petition for the preservation of the present ground has been presented to Governor Sufu bearing the signatures of over 280 foreign residents of this port, besides Japanese.

A MONSTROUS SEA TURTLE.

The *Excursion Journal*, published quarterly by T. Minami and Sons' Tourist Agency, Tokyo, gives an interesting photographic reproduction of the scene of pulling up out of the sea a monstrous sea turtle caught on the 30th of August last in Kusuga-Ura near Yokosuka, at the entrance of Tokyo Bay. The turtle measured 6½ ft. in length, over 10 ft. around its body, and 4 ft. around its neck, with fins over 3 ft. long. It weighed more than 70 *kamme* (584 lbs.), and its age was alleged by the fishermen to be more than 600 years. When it was exhibited to the public, it attracted very large crowds of visitors, owing not only to its extraordinary size, but also to common belief that the turtle and the crane are lucky signs of long life and prosperity.

The capture of such a monstrous turtle is regarded by many as a happy sign of peace and prosperity of the Empire. Formerly the turtle was regarded by superstitious people, especially by fishers, as a messenger of the Sea God, and when they caught a big turtle, they used to hold a feast in which the turtle was entertained with *sake* and, after some religious service, it was returned into a these.

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RENEWAL OF LEASES.

The lease of the ground (6,933 *tsubo*) rented to the Ladies' Lawn Tennis and Croquet Club, expiring on the 31st instant, Mrs. Syme Thomson, President of the Club, has applied to Governor Sufu for a renewal of the lease. It is reported that the request will be granted, though the term is not as yet fixed.

The ground leased for the use of the Yokohama Amateur Rowing Club, which expired on the 30th ultimo, has been again leased for three years, ending on the 30th of November, 1912.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

THE Austrian cruiser *Panther*, 1,500 tons, arrived at Nagasaki on the 17th inst. from Chingwantao, North China. She will remain in the southern port about four weeks.

THE voting for captain and vice-captains for this season has resulted as follows:—Mr. L. C. Sharman, captain, and Messrs. N. Buckle and A. G. Kellogg, vice-captains.

MADAME CHAUVIRE of the French Church, superioress of the Orphanage of St. Paul de Chartres died at Seoul on the 16th inst. The deceased lady was in her 63rd year.

ON the 20th inst. two wagons of a goods train from Shimbashi were derailed at Higashi-Kanagawa Station, owing to an obstruction on the line. No casualties are reported.

VISCOUNTESS TANI passed away on the 19th inst. She was the wife of Lieut-general Viscount Tani, who commanded the Imperial army at Kumamoto Castle in the time of the Satsuma Rebellion.

SOME 160 labourers belonging to the Fuji Railway Company have gone on strike as a protest against the action of Mr. Suzuki, President of the Company, whose resignation the men demand.

ON the 21st instant, Barons Murakami and Sotomatsu, and Messrs. Omori Shoichi, Adachi Tsunayuki, and Sawayanagi Masataro were nominated by His Majesty members of the House of Peers.

AN Imperial Ordinance referring to the uniform of the Railway Board officials was promulgated on the 20th instant. It is, however, stated that the prescribed rules need not be followed for the present.

AN Utsunomiya despatch reports that on the 17th inst. an omnibus from Shiobara on its way to Nishi-Nasuno, fell into a ravine, the horse having become uncontrollable. Two passengers were injured.

IT is reported that Mr. J. R. Kennedy, Tokyo correspondent of the U.S. Associated Press, fell off a horse while riding on Wednesday afternoon He sustained slight injuries, which, however, will confine him to his house for several days.

HIS MAJESTY the Emperor sent on the 19th inst. a telegram of congratulation to the Russian Imperial Household in remembrance of the anniversary of the Czar's christening. Chamberlain Niwa was also sent to the Russian Embassy to express congratulations.

"THE United States Navy is able to make the proud boast that, in the new battleship *North Dakota* it possesses the fastest Dreadnought in the world," say a cablegram. We (remarks *Punch*) do not like this hint that Americans would ever boast about anything, and it is sure to cause irritation on the other side of the Atlantic.

GERMANY, it appears, is now subsidizing not only ships, but automobiles. It pays about £430 to owners of automobiles of a certain class, with the understanding that in cases of war within five years the Government may seize these machines for military use. The £430 almost pays for the machine, and the chances are that it will never be called for by the Government.

A RUMOUR is afloat that three Annamese followers of the deposed ruler of Annam, who were some time ago ordered to leave Siam in accordance with a protest from the French Government, have left either for Japan or China *viâ* Singapore. The French Consul in Yokohama, according to instructions from his Ambassador, is watching the vessels coming from that quarter and is being aided by the Japanese authorities.

ON the 20th inst. Mr. Jno. W. Hall offered for sale at his auction rooms the property known as No. 42A, Bluff, comprising, as per title-deed, 410 tsubo of land, with a two storeyed six-roomed dwelling-house, servants' quarters, and stables, etc., belonging to Mr. H. J. Neville. Bidding began at *yen* 8,000 and rose slowly to *yen* 9,900, at which figure the property was withdrawn. There was a scant attendance.

ON and after the 1st January, 1910, a direct exchange of Money Orders will be established between Japan and Peru. The amount of the orders is to be expressed, in both directions, in francs and centimes, and will be converted by the paying office into the currency of the country of destination. The maximum amount of each order is 1,000 francs and the fee is to be charged, on the part of Japan, at the rate or 10 *sen* per 50 francs.

A FORMOSA telegram reports that on the 14th instant two police-inspectors belonging to the Taito Office, who went out on an exploring expedition towards the central mountain range, were killed on the way by a native interpreter. It is stated that the interpreter suddenly went mad and cut at them with a sword. Four Japanese followers also were wounded, in struggling to seize the murderer, who was at length shot dead by one of the native gnards.

THE Huchow correspondent of the *Shanghai Times* reports the sudden death from spinal meningitis of Mrs. Pilley, wife of the Rev. Edward Pilley, of the Southern Methodist Mission at Huchow on the 8th instant. The deceased, says the correspondent, was a sweet and womanly woman, a true friend, an exemplary mother, a devoted wife, a real missionary. She leaves four little children, the youngest but eight months old. Before her marriage Mrs. Pilley was for two years a missionary in Kobe, Japan. She loved the people of the East, and to their welfare had devoted her life.

ACCORDING to the latest returns issued by the Bureau of Mining Affairs the numbers of the men of different nationalities engaged in the mining industry in Korea are, says the *Seoul Press*, as follows:—

Japanese	303
Koreans	102
Japanese and Koreans in company	11
Englishmen	4
Americans	7
Japanese and Americans in company	6
German	1
Italians	2

The following are the number of persons engaged in alluvial mining:—

Japanese	95
Koreans	40
Japanese and Koreans in company	17
Englishmen	1
American	1
French	1
Italian	1

AN interesting little incident, says the London *Truth*, enlivened the last voyage of the P. and O liner *Macedonia* down the Red Sea. One evening a number of male first class passengers sat down to dinner in their shirt-sleeves. Their example was followed, as bad examples generally are, until about twenty men in the saloon had removed their coats. The captain sent a message round inviting them to put their coats on again The majority took the hint, but at one table the men replied that as the ladies at their table had no objection to their sitting in their shirt sleeves, they saw no reason for complying with the captain's request. By way of emphasizing their views, they proceeded in the same garb to the music saloon after dinner. The captain then issued a notice that as such behaviour was not only disrespectful to all others assembled in the same apartment, especially ladies, but would not be tolerated in any club, military mess, or hotel, he had given orders that any one appearing in the saloon in future improperly dressed should be removed.

A STORY is told of the Rothschilds to illustrate the strict obedience which they at all times exacted from their employees, high and low. They once had an agent in New Orleans, a young and alert fellow who kept his eyes and ears open. According to *System*, they telegraphed him to sell their cotton holdings on a specified day. Believing that he had better information on the local market than his employers, he held the sale over four days and netted an extra profit of $40,000. He promptly notified the Rothchilds of his achievement and forwarded the bonus. The Rothschilds returned the amount intact with a cold note that ran: "The $40,000 you made by disobeying our instructions is not ours, but yours. Take it. Your successor sails for New Orleans to-day."

THE YOKOHAMA YACHT CLUB.

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

The annual report of the Yokohama Yacht Club for 1909 is a voluminous affair, reflecting great credit on its compilers. As it is too long to give *in extenso* in these columns, we make the following excerpts from it:—

ABOVE 21 RATING.

The average number of starters in races for this Class during the past season compares very favourably with previous season' records. In spite of this fact, however, the racing during the season in this Class can not be considered as being very successful. There are at the present time, upon the Register of the Club, six large cutters, and it is much to be regretted that for most of the races only two of these, and sometimes only one, started. The races were sailed by boats of various sizes and the racing was therefore without interest What can be done by handicapping to increase the interest of such races was done, and on the whole fairly successfully, the "percentage" system employed during the last part of the season being very successful. The *Mary* carried off nearly all the honours, winning the Record Flag, the Handicap Point Prize, and four presented Cups. This boat also won the *Rudder* Cup, and her owner is to be congratulated on an exceedingly successful season. The *Asagao* also did well, being second in the Club Time Points Competition, and winning the American Ambassador's Cup. The Racing Committee sincerely hope that next season will see the *Mary*, *Kingfisher*, *Maid Marion*, *Nereus*, *Aborigine* and *Riever* racing against each other. With such good material available it is a pity that race after race should be started with most of the boats lying at their moorings.

The race for the "Rudder" Cup, sailed under the management of the Club, brought out only five boats, which can only be considered as an exceedingly poor result, when it is remembered that this race was open to all yachts in Japan, and that upon the Yokohama Yacht Club Register alone there are nine boats capable of sailing the Hashima course. The *Mary*, although carrying away her topmast, won the race, by a few minutes of handicap time, from the *Valkyrien*. Crews and owners taking part in this race all agree that they had an excellent time, and it is to be hoped that the proposed long distance race during next season will be better supported than the one under notice.

22-RATERS

The racing among the 21 and 22 raters has been very keen, productive of good races and close finishes, but the smaller yachts, with the exception of the *Jenetta* and *Windspiel* did not turn out.

A radical departure was made in the conduct of the races, all of them being sailed by handicap. The Champion Flag for the yacht making the most points on the Club time and a valuable prize to the one making the most points in handicap. The Handicap Prize was taken, as in the larger boats, by the yacht gaining the Champion Flag, which goes to show that handicapping does not prevent consistent good sailing from winning its share of races. The handicapping was based for the first race on previous times and thereafter a penalty of 5 seconds for every win was imposed. This method worked excellently, as the first half dozen races were won by 2 to 3½ minutes each, the last six having only about 1½ minutes on the average between first and second boats.

There were two wins by 9 seconds, one of 34 and one of 39 seconds. Followed up, this method of handicapping should prove an excellent way of bringing the boats down to a good close basis.

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LARK CLASS

The season has again been as successful as in the former years of this, the Club's most go-ahead Class. The regulations governing the racing in this Class have been gradually perfected, leaving little to be done further in the way of improvement in this respect. The Class runs itself now, and as long as there is an active Lark owner on the Racing Committee, there will be no danger of its losing any of the great propularity it has always enjoyed.

BOATS.—All except Nos. 8 and 9 of the 16 Larks on the register last year were again entered. No. 8 has been in Kobe all season, winning most of the races it was allowed to enter, so that the Kobe Club is said to be intending to bar it from racing against their poor slow dingeys. It is to be hoped that she will therefore find her way back to Yokohama soon. No. 9 has been owned at Negishi, and consequently too far away to take part in the season's races. The new Lark No. 17, built at Cook's yard, was found to be very much slower than those made at Morita's yard, owing to a lack of fullness at her how, thus causing her to dive and giving her an impossible lee helm. She was taken to Chuzenji early in June and did not reappear on tho Club register thereafter. Nos. 2 and 7 had new white sails towards the latter part of the season; Nos. 4 and 14 had new English red sails. The general opinion is that the locally made sails are faster than the English ones, but that they do not last so long. The hulls are in excellent condition and good for many years yet.

OWNERS.

There were none of the original owners remaining in the class this year. Many of the boats changed hands. A tendency is shown of non-racing members owning the boats, and getting them raced by experts.

RECORD POINTS AND CHAMPIONSHIP.

Norman Brockhurst gets this with 55 points out of a possible 95. Stone a bad second with 40. The next boat was No. 2 with 31. . . . As recommended by last year's Committee, one record point was given for every boat finishing.

ANALYSIS OF RACING DURING 1909.

With the exception of the Wednesday races, the Club programme provided for 22 regular races, with one special race, making 23 in all. This year was quite exceptional in the history of the Lark Class, inasmuch as not one race had to be called off on account of weather, although the last race was spoiled through the wind blowing too strongly. 12 of the races were sailed without handicap and 11 with handicap.

INTERPORT SAILING RACES.

For the first time in the history of the Yacht Club, an Interport Race was arranged between the Yokohama Larks and the Kobe dingeys. The contest was "best two out of 3 races." The Yacht Club sent down to Kobe Larks Nos. 3 and 10, sailed by Brockhurst and Charlesworth. The result was in favour of Yokohama, each of our boats winning a race. Kobe comes up next spring for the return match, when it is hoped the dingeys will take the back seat which is theirs as far as speed goes.

COURSES.

This year all fixed courses were abolished, and a course chart board hung at the Y.A.R.C. Club, on which the day's course was traced immediately before the start of each race. This enabled the Committee to lay courses after knowing what direction the wind was blowing. This was found an immense inprovement on the old system of fixing courses some days before the races, when, as like as not, the course proved to have no windward work in it.

WEDNESDAY MID-WEEK LARK RACES.

These mid-week races have been as popular as ever, the average starters being 11 as against 10 last year. The racing during the season was very keen.

The thanks of the Club are due to the donors of handsome prizes, viz.: The Commodore, Honorary Secretary, A. Andreis, E-q., L Cotte. Esq., Messrs. Arthur & Bond, and to the Owners of the *Kingfisher*, *Asagao*, *Valkyrien*, *Jenetta*, and the American residents for the usual Fourth of July prizes, and Messrs. O. T. Gillon & Co. for the "Mumm" and "Black and White Cups; also to the local Press for kindly reporting the races.

BALANCE SHEET, 1909.

	Yen.
To Brought forward from 1908	421.55
„ Subscriptions 115 @ *yen* 3.00 ea	345.00
„ Registration fees	129.00
„ Part cost of starter, sendo and Repairs, &c. paid by Mosquito Yacht Club	85.90
„ Racing a/cs. Lark class	178.00
„ „ „ other classes	63.00
Total	1,222.45

Cr.		Yen.
By Starter's fee		75.00
„ Starter's subscription to Y. A. R. C.		18.00
„ Sendo wages		66.00
„ Cartridges, repairs, buoys, &c.		54.77
„ Postages, messenger, sundries, &c.		41.15
„ Printing and advertising		201.85
By Lark Class prizes		153.00
„ Record and cash prizes other classes		137.00
„ Collector's commission		14.04
„ Subscription to Lloyd's Register		10.30
„ Rent of room for Meeting 1908		10.00
„ Subscription to "Yachting & Boating Monthly"		7.50
„ Freight of Larks to Kobe		15.71
„ Outstandings 1908 Written off		23.00
„ Cost of pennants	Y. 13.80	
„ „ „ Dixon, Kemps and Helmsman's Handbooks	104.30	
	118.10	
Less Sales	41.50	
Balance remaining	76.60	
Racing a/c oustanding	15.00	
Cash in hand	303.53	
Balance to next year	395.15	395.13
Total		1,222.45

Compared with vouchers and found correct.

A. R. CATTO.
O. T. GILLON, Hon. Treasurer.

RACING RECORD FOR 1909.
OVER 22 RATING.

	Places 1st.	and	Cups.	Points Club Time	Points Hand	Remarks.
Mary	5	4	Jenetta, Valkyrien (2), Rudder Cup & Black & White Cup.	39	33	Champion Flag and Handicap Prize.
Maid Marion	2	4	Commodore's Cup.	18	19	
Kingfisher	1			14	12	
Naniwa	2	2	Hotel de Paris Cup.	13	19	
Cygnet	1	2	Hon. Sec.'s Cup.	10	14	
Asagao	2	2	American Ambassador's Cup.	21	18	
Nereus	—	—				
Aborigine	—	1				

22 RATERS.

Yachts.	Starts.	Finishes.	Points on Club Time.	Points on Handicap.
Valkyrien	11	10	7	15
Elsa	9	8	20	26
Edna	11	11	43	42
Pele	8	6	18	19
Winsome	12	12	35	31
Sunbeam	11	11	28	24
Jenetta	6	5	3	4
Windspiel	8	6	3	5
Kathleen	1	—	—	—

Yacht.	Points for Mumm Cup.	Presented Prizes.	Club Prizes. 1st.	2nd.
Valkyrien	1½	—	—	2
Elsa	4½	2	1	2
Edna	2	1	3	1
Pele	4½	1	—	1
Winsome	6½	1	2	3
Sunbeam	2	1	1	—
Jenetta	1½	1	—	1
Windspiel	—	—	—	—
Kathleen	—	—	—	—

CUP WINNERS.—22 RATERS.

Edna.—Takes the Champion Flag, Handicap Prize and American Residents' Cup.
Elsa.—Kingfisher and Asagao Prizes.
Pele.—Prize presented by A. Andries, Esq.
Sunbeam.—Kingfisher Prize,
Jenetta.—Commodore's Cup. Re-presented and won by Maid Marion.
Winsome.—Mumm Cup.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THE DEPRESSION IN TRADE.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—Marquis Katsura (Prime Minister and Minister of Finance) recently asked a meeting of bankers and leading business men for their opinions as to the causes of the prolonged depression in this country, seeing that trade had for some months past improved in the United States and in Europe.

The newspapers have reported the replies said to have been given, but in none of these are stated—for what reason I fail to understand—those causes which are undoubtedly the two principal, namely, High Taxation and the Imperial Rescript on Thrift.

The high taxes established at the time of the war have not been removed, thereby curtailing the purchasing power of the people and crippling the country's power of production. The effect, too, of the Imperial Rescript has been most unfortunate. Economy in fruitless expenditure with a view of spending wisely is a very different precept to the inculcation of universal and misdirected parsimony.

I have travelled this year through a considerable part of the Empire and my long residence in this country has given me the opportunity of discussing these questions with officials, business men, and agriculturists of all sorts and conditions. The conclusion I have come to is, that until the average individual puts aside this misdirected parsimony and until he is relieved of his heavy burden of forced expenditure, either by a reduction of taxation or by a fall in price of the necessities of living, we shall not see in Japan that recuperative power to recover from the existing trade depression which is already manifesting itself in other countries.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully, M.K.

CHRISTMAS CHEER FOR 20,000 FACTORY GIRLS.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—During the Christmas and New Year holiday season, I hope to help in entertaining not less than 20,000 factory girls and children, and I hope it may be made possible for each one to receive a little gift.

There has not been much direct response from newspaper appeals, probably because most of the readers do not realize that others are not helping. Gifts of cards, toys, or Christmas tree ornaments and boxes of cosaques would be most acceptable. One of the best writers of children's stories has volunteered to print a special edition of stories for half the popular price. This means that if 100 *yen* were forthcoming, much delight could be given the children. Three hundred *yen* are also required for the cinematograph picture outfit. Even a very small donation will make a great many happy. For instance, I should like all the ladies who have donated dolls to know that they still remain a constant delight, as they are taken in rotation to the various factories. With warm thanks to all friends who have given their time and loving thought, besides contributions to the cause,

Yours truly, M. HOLLAND.

13, Kawaguchi, Osaka, December 17.

THE CORNER-STONE OF THE CHRISTIAN CREED.

(TO THE EDITOR OF THE "JAPAN MAIL.")

SIR,—There are Christians and Christians; such there were in the times of old. Christ is quoted as saying; "other sheep I have which are not of this fold." Later on there were some who followed Paul, some who followed Apollos, some who followed Cephas, and others who followed Christ; since when, down though the long weary centuries of Christian propagandism, division and contumely over doctrines and scripture interpretations have characterized the church. But all over the world the members of the Christian Churches celebrate, as each winter returns, "the feast of Christ's birth day"—we call it Christmas—yearly they rejoice over his birth from the Virgin Mary. The belief in this is the very corner stone of their creed.

Stories of gods born of virgins are to be found in nearly every age and country. There have been many virgin mothers, and Mary with her child is but a recent version of a very old and universal myth. In China and India, in Babylonia and Egypt, in Greece and Rome, "divine" beings selected from among the daughters of men the purest and most beautiful to serve them as a means of entrance into the world of mortals. There is little doubt that a large majority of intelligent men are aware of the innumerable errors in the Christmas feast, but these errors are, for prudential reasons, kept in the background. In other words, the ministry is tinctured though and through with hypocrisy to an extent that would shock the laity, if known.

Now Jesus was not of the house of David, but was

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the son of an obscure Jewish maiden. He was poor and lived upon alms. He was hooted and persecuted by the Jews, who ought to have known the character of the Messiah predicted, and was finally condemned as a malefactor and put to death. So if the prophecies called messianic are correct, the "Deliverer" has not yet appeared, which the Jews believe. It is nowhere declared in the Bible that Jesus' mother was descended from David, and it is expressly declared—Matt. 1: 18-25—that Mary's husband, Joseph, was not the father of Jesus; yet through Joseph the genealogy of Jesus is traced to David.

It is plainly stated in the verses cited above that Jesus was the son of the Holy Spirit, but in the genealogy no spirit is mentioned.

So I concluded then, and still think, that the best and only way to study the Bible is to study it scientifically, rather than take the opinions of unlettered layman as well as ignorant priests upon it. Correct scientific investigation, giving man a knowledge of real causes and results, is of vastly more benefit than petty sermons, false prayers of preachers, hallelujahs, and saying mass or counting beads.

Preachers may call me a skeptic, but to my ears it has a quaint and not unpleasant sound. The unscientific Bible study as a help to religion is invaluable. The spirit of fearless investigation is abroad and reason will be heard, while the lazy and superstitious will piously quote the words of Pope Peter (so called) "as new born babes desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby."

Y. AUYAMA,
Representative, New Religious Society,
London.

CHESS.

All communications to be addressed to the Chess Editor, Japan Mail Office.

The Yokohama Chess Club meets on Monday and Thursday in each week at the Club Hôtel, No. No. 5 Bund, from 5 p.m. to 11 p.m.

Visitors to Yokohama, and Officers of ships (whether Navy or Merchant service) who are Chess-players, are welcome to use the Club during their stay in this port.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM NO. 36.

WHITE.		BLACK.
1.	P—Kt 8=Kt	1. Q B P x P
2.	Kt—R 6	2. K x P
3.	Kt—B 5, dis: mate	
	if	1. K P x P
2.	R—Q B 7	2. K x P
3.	R—K R 7, dble ch. mate	

* * *

Correct solutions received from Omega, J.S., W.H.S., and "G.B."

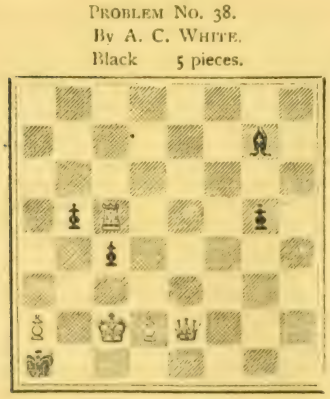
* * *

TO CORRESPONDENTS:—W.E.W. (Bangor). Letter and copy "Chess Bulletin" most welcome.

H.B.W.—Thanks. Your solution to No. 36 won't do. If BP x P white cannot then play R to B 5.

* * *

PROBLEM NO. 38.
By A. C. WHITE.
Black 5 pieces.



White 5 pieces.

WHITE TO PLAY AND MATE IN THREE MOVES.

* * *

GAME No. 38.—From the British Federation Championship, played at Scarborough. Notes by Mr. L. Hoffer.

FROM GAMBIT.

	Jacobs. WHITE.	Atkins. BLACK.
1.	P—K B4	P—K 4
2.	P x P	P—Q 3
3.	P x P	B x P
4.	Kt—K B3	Kt—KB3
5.	P—K Kt 3 (a)	P—K R4
6.	P—Q 4	P—R 5
7.	B—Kt 5	P xP
8.	P—K 4	B—K 2
9.	B x Kt	B x B
10.	B—Kt 2	P x P
11.	Q—Q 3	Kt—B 3
12.	P—B 3	B—R 5, ch
13.	K—K 2 (b)	B—Kt 6
14.	QKt—Q 2	B—B 5
15.	QR—K B	B—Kt 5
16.	Kt—B 4	Q—K 2
17.	Kt—K 3	B x Kt
18.	Q x B	Castles QR
19	R—B 2	KR—K
20.	P—K 5	P—B 3
21.	K—B (c)	P x P
22.	Kt x RP	B—K 3
23.	B x Kt	P x B
24.	P x P	R—Q 8 ch (d)
25.	K—Kt 2	B—Q 4 ch
26	Kt—B 3	R x R
27.	K x R	Q x P
28.	Q x Q	R x Q
29.	K—Kt 2	R—B 4
30.	K—Kt 3	R x Kt ch
31.	R x R	B x R
32.	K x B	K—Q 2
33.	K—Kt 4	K—K 3
34.	K—B 4	K—B 3
35.	P—B 4	P—Kt 4, ch
36.	K—Kt 4	K—Kt 3
37.	P—B 5	K—B 3
38.	P—R 4	K—Kt 3
39.	P—Kt 3	K—B 3
40.	P—Kt 4	P—R 3
	Resigns	

(*a*) This is the least favourable variation in an opening which cannot boast of any entirely satisfactory continuation.

(*b*) The alternative would be 13. K—B, B—Kt 6; 14 QKt—Q 2, etc. He is trying to escape with the King over to the Queen's side, but is given no time for it.

(*c*) The King has been brought with commendable ability into comparative safety but that is all; the game cannot be saved.

(*d*) Atkins now reduces the game with a few strokes to a simple pawn ending and wins easily, White's moves being all compulsory.

* * *

The championship match between Dr. E. Lasker and Carl Schlechter appears to be practically a certainty and, according to advices from abroad, the games will be played in Vienna, Munich, Berlin and St. Petersburg. Three thousand roubles are said to be the price bid by the enthusiasts of the Russian capital for the last six games of the contest.

TELEGRAMS.

(REUTER'S SERVICE.)

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

London, December 17.

The Chinese Naval Commissioners have left London on their way to France. There was a guard of honour at the station, where the Chinese Minister, Mr. McLeavy Brown, Sir Robert and Lady Hart, and many others bade them farewell.

Admiral Sah, interviewed by Reuter's correspondent said that Prince Tsai-hsun and all the Commissioners were much gratified at the hospitality they had received in England. He had no doubt that the Chinese Government would profit greatly in reorganizing its navy by what the Commissioners had learned in England. There was no question at present, the Admiral said, of placing any order for ships.

Prince Tsai-hsun, before leaving Dover, telegraphed to King Edward thanking him for his kindness and the splendid reception accorded the Mission.

A DENIAL FROM RUSSIA.

The *Novoe Vremya* has been authorised to deny the report that the Russian and Japanese Governments are negotiating for the annexation of Korea by Japan.

KING LEOPOLD PASSES AWAY.

King Leopold died at 2.35 this morning.

BISHOP AWDRY NOT DEAD.

The news of the death of Bishop Awdry is incorrect.

THE CRISIS IN ENGLAND.

Mr. J. Chamberlain has written a long preface to a book called "Tariff or Budget" by Mr. J. E. Garvin. It appeals to the workmen of England "to stand by the Peers, who are standing by them in this national crisis."

THE IRISH PARTY AND THE BUDGET.

Mr. Redmond, the Irish leader, speaking at Dublin, said that Mr. Asquith's declaration "is Ireland's greatest chance this century of tearing up the infamous act of the Union."

ZELAYA RESIGNS.

President Zelaya has resigned the Presidency of Nicaragua.

THE NORTH POLE CONTROVERSY.

London, December 16.

New York.—Mr. Osborne, the Secretary of the Arctic Club, has announced that Captain Loose on the 10th December verbally confessed that his affidavit was false from beginning to end.

Later.

Captain Loose absolutely denies retracting his affidavit, though he was offered a bribe to do so.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

London, December 17.

The Chinese Naval Commission has concluded its visit to England. It will tour the continent and thence go home via Siberia.

The Commissioners were much interested in the naval colleges to which Chinese students will be sent. It was made clear that China did not contemplate ordering ships at present.

Later.

The Chinese Naval Commissioners have inspected St. Nazaire.

THE LATE KING LEOPOLD.

London, December 18.

The cause of King Leopold's death was embolism.

The King's will fills a volume and leaves to "my children 15,000,000 francs received from my father."

The newspapers quote the King's Chaplain as saying that his late Majesty was secretly married to Baroness Vaughan at San Remo in 1908, by whom he had two children.

It is alleged that the Baroness was alone present when the last sacrament was administered.

Later.

Brussels.—Two doctors were present at the death, which was unexpected. King Leopold was quiet during the evening, but woke at 2 a.m. and said, "I am choking, doctor." Morphine was injected, but was unavailing. The funeral will take place on Wednesday.

THE OPIUM TRAFFIC.

London, December 18.

The Master of Elibank, replying to a deputation from the Society for the suppression of the opium traffic, read a telegram from the Colonial Office saying that the traffic in Hongkong and the Straits Settlements had been largely reduced and would be suppressed in Ceylon if the present policy was continued.

The Master of Elibank further declared that Viscount Morley, Secretary for India; Earl Minto, Viceroy of India; Sir Edward Grey, Foreign Minister; and Earl Crewe, Colonial Secretary, representing the nation as a whole, had undertaken, as far as India

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was concerned, to extinguish the traffic in a decade if China's co-operation was effectivet

THE POLITICAL CAMPAIGN IN ENGLAND.

Eight Cabinet Ministers and eleven peers participated in in the political campaign las evening.

The Rt. Hon. John Burns, President of the Local Government Board, speaking at Battersea, made a fierce attack on the House of Lords. The Minister was shouldered and carried homewards, the crowd cheering wildly. Lord Cromer, speaking at Sheffieid, urged free traders to suppots the Unionists and save the empire from disruption.

ACCIDENT TO P. & O. STEAMER.

London, December 19.

Whilst the P. & O. steamer *China*, with many passengerson board bound for Australia, was being towed from the Tilbury Docks yesterday, she collided with the pier head. She has extensively damaged her stern and rudder, necessitating her going into dry-dock. The Company has arranged for the passengers and mails destined for ports beyond Marseilles to go by special train to Marseilles and sail thence in the Company's steamer *Persia*, the Company paying for any necessary hotel accommodation.

THE POPE CONFIRMS MARRIAGE.

Pope Pius himself has telegraphed that the late King Leopold and Baroness Vaughan were married.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

President Fallieres has given a luncheon in honour of the Chinese Naval Commissioners.

BELGIUM'S NEW MONARCH.

London, December 20.

Brussels.—The new King takes the title of King Albert the First.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

M. Briand, the French Minister of Justice, and the Chinese Naval Commissioners have exchanged visits.

PORTUGUESE CABINET RESIGNS.

Lisbon.—The Cabinet has resigned. The successors will probably consist exclusively of Progressists.

THE AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

Sydney.—The strikers in Southern and Western Australia resume work to-day.

HEAVY SNOW-STORM IN ENGLAND.

London, December 20.

A blizzard is raging in the North of England and Wales, the snow averaging a foot in depth.

THE LATE KING LEOPOLD.

PRINCE ARTHUR TO REPRESENT KING EDWARD.

Prince Arthur of Connaught represents King Edward at the funeral of King Leopold.

THE WILL TO BE DISPUTED.

Later.

At the instance of the members of the Belgian Royal family, a French magistrate has seized Baroness Vaughan's chateau at Balincourt, pending developments.

Princess Louise, eldest daughter of the late King, has notified the banks that she will oppose the payment of deposits in the names of King Leopold and Baroness Vaughan.

THE DECEASED MONARCH'S WIFE.

Later.

Baroness Vaughan has arrived at Paris.

LONDON'S REGISTER OF VOTERS.

The new register has 12,030 fewer votes in London than the present register. This is attributed largely to removals due to improved communications.

THE BRITISH NAVY.

ORDERS PLACED FOR THREE "CAPITAL" SHIPS.

London, December 21.

The Admiralty on Saturday placed orders for two super-Dreadnoughts and one battleship cruiser. The vessels are to be laid down immediately, and to be completed in 1912.

BIG FIRE AT CLAPHAM.

JOHN BURNS TAKES PART IN RESCUE WORK.

A fire has destroyed the premises of Arden (?) Hobbs, a draper's shop at Clapham. It originated in the Christmas decorations. Some 350 employés fell into a panic and jumped from the windows. Three were killed and many injured. It is feared there are bodies in the débris.

Later.

By the fire at Clapham an acre of buildings were destroyed in two hours. The firemen behaved heroically. Mr. John Burns, M.P., who resides near by, commandeered the soldiers and sailors who were on leave, and organized them into a bucket brigade which directed and assisted in tearing down the inflammable decorations. He proceeded thence to a Liberal meeting. The audience were amazed at his mud-splashed and smoke-begrimed figure. The meeting was adjourned immediately.

DR. COOK'S RECORDS

CLAIM NOT PROVED.

London, December 22.

The Copenhagen University authorities having examined Dr. Cook's records of his Polar expedition, state that these contain no proof that he reached the Pole.

DIPLOMATIC CHANGES.

Mr. Fletcher, Secretary of Legation at Peking, has been appointed Minister to Chili; Mr. Jackson, now at Teheran, is appointed to Cuba, and Mr. Charles Russell to Persia. Mr. Peter Joy becomes Consul-General at Cairo.

FRESH CRISIS IN GREECE.

London, December 23.

A fresh crisis has arisen in Greece.

The new Minister for War, in introducing the Army Reorganisation Bill, denounced ex-Minister Theotokis (formerly President of the Council and War Minister), who quitted the Chamber with his supporters, demanding the resignation of the Minister for War.

The latter resigned, but subsequently withdrew his resignation on pressure from the Military League, which threatens a dictatorship if Theotokis should reappear in the Chamber.

THE JUDGMENT OF COPENHAGEN.

DR. COOK'S DEFICIENT RECORDS.

It is reported from Copenhagen that the University report shows that no original documents were submitted. There were only copies, which contained no astronomical records, only results. There were no elucidatory statements showing the probability that observations were really taken. The records of the journey are equally lacking in details.

LORD KITCHENER IN AUSTRALIA.

Lord Kitchener has arrived at Port Darwin.

THE LATE KING.

London, December 23.

The funeral of King Leopold has taken place with great pomp.

OLD-AGE PENSIONS IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Balfour, the Unionist leader, in a message to the *Daily Mail*, says that if the Conservatives are returned to power, the old-age pensions will certainly be continued,

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

The Chinese Naval Commissioners are now visiting Toulon.

CHIEF OF RUSSIAN POLICE ASSASSINATED.

Later.

St. Petersburg.—The Chief of the Secret Police, Colonel Kaross, has been blown to pieces by a bomb. He was enticed into a flat and the explosion followed.

It is supposed that the assassin is a man named Voskessemsky, who rushed out of the house and was arrested.

FLOODS IN SOUTH OF ENGLAND.

Disastrous floods have taken place in Devonshire. There have been numerous wrecks along the coast.

BATTLE IN NICARAGUA.

DEFEAT OF GOVERNMENT FORCES.

General Estrada, the insurgent leader, has defeated the Government troops completely. Six hundred men of both armies were killed and wounded. Nineteen hundred of the Government troops surrendered to the insurgents.

(RECEIVED BY THA "HOCHI SHIMBUN" AND PUBLISHED IN AN EXTRA ON WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON.)

ASSASSINATION OF KOREAN PRIME MINISTER.

ASSASSIN AN EDUCATED KOREAN.

Seoul, December 22, 1.30 p.m.

The Prime Minister, Yi Wan-yon, has just been wounded by an assassin.

(RECEIVED IN ANOTHER QUARTER.)

The Prime Minister was wounded by an assassin and expired at 1.40 p.m. The murder is supposed to have been committed by one of the Il Chin-hoi.

(RECEIVED BY THE "ASAHI SHIMBUN.")

Seoul, December 22.

To-day the Prime Miuister attended the memorial service of the late King Leopold at the French Cathedral. As his Excellency was about to re-enter his carriage in front of the Patent Bureau, a Korean sprang forward, and seizing him from behind, stabbed him in the lungs and in the stomach. The Premier's condition is grave. The assassin was at once arrested. He proved to be a Korean who has spent some years in the United States of America.

(RECEIVED AT THE "YAMATO SHIMBUN.")

RIKISHAMAN ALSO KILLED.

Seoul, December 22, 1.47 p.m.

Yi Wan-yon has just now died.

Yi Wan-yon was wounded in three places a *jinriki*-drawer also was killed. The assassin was a Christian who had lived in America.

(RECEIVED BY THE FOREIGN OFFICE.)

THE AUSTRALIAN COAL STRIKE.

Sydney.—The strike continues. The arbitral tribunal opened to-day. The *Nikko Maru* arrived to-day and discharged her cargo without any trouble. The Government of the Colony, acting through its commercial agency in London, has ordered 75,000 tons of Japanese coal.

(RECEIVED AT THE NAVAL DEPARTMENT.)

A VESSEL SUNK.

At 5.10 p.m. on the 16th inst. the steamer *Kinryu Maru* collided with the destroyers *Inazuma* and sank. The place was in the vicinity of Cape Ohana, 4 miles from Hakodate, and there were 25 fathoms of water. One first-class warrant officer and one second-class are missing. The *Akebono*, with the survivors on board, left Hakodate for Ominato on the morning of the 17th inst.

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(By Special Arrangement with the "Tokyo Asahi Shimbun.")

EULOGY FROM THE "TIMES."

London, December 16.

The *Times* military correspondent has received from an unknown friend in Japan copies of the first number of the "Yamato-damashii Magazine." The *Times* fully describes the objects of its contents and appreciates the compliment of publishing such an unique work in English, but says the magazine is far from satisfying all the desires which must exist for closer communication between the British and Japanese fighting services. It, however, revivifies some sympathetic figures which will help to restore touch between the two peoples which has been partly lost since the war, owing to the prevailing ignorance of the Japanese language.

LABOUR UNION AND STEEL CORPORATION.

New York.—The Labour Federation has virtually declared war against the Steel Corporation, alleging that the latter underpays its workmen and prevents attempts at organization.

CHINESE AND JAPANESE SECURITIES.

On the London Stock Exchange Chinese and Japanese securities are being supported.

GREEK AFFAIRS.

Athens.—The Government has introduced a measure into the Chamber, designed to terminate the long crisis in the currant trade.

POLITICS IN GERMANY.

Berlin.—Three Radical groups in the Reichstag will shortly unite under the title of the Radical Peoples' Party.

THE UNREST IN THE NEAR EAST.

London, December 17.

Sofia.—The Minister of the Interior has informed the Chamber that the Macedonian leaders and bands were expelled, because they extorted money, counterfeited notes, and were blackmailers.

FRANCE AND MOROCCO.

Paris.—The Sultan of Morocco has accepted the principle of the French demands to redress the grievances by the negotiation of a loan to pay the French creditors.

MILITARISM IN GERMANY.

London, December 17.

Berlin.—The Prusssian Minister of War has issued an order that a healthy military spirit among school children should be fostered. The order has been denounced by the Socialist organs as an interference with democratic efforts to bring up the youth of the country in an intellectual atmosphere.

THE CHINESE NAVAL MISSION.

The Chinese Naval Commissioners have gone to Paris.

King Edward, in a message, said he hoped they had enjoyed their visit.

London, December 18.

Paris.—The Chinese Naval Commission are now visiting St. Nazaire Dockyard. They were specially interested in the turbines. They are going to Toulon, and will afterwards attend a reception given in their honour by President Fallieres and M. Picard, the Minister of Marine.

THE LATE KING.

Brussels.—King Leopold died of embolism.

The State funeral will take place on Wednesday.

King Albert will take the Oath of Accession on Thursday.

The newspapers declare that the late King was a genius, with exceptionally large ideas.

HONOURS FOR RUSSIAN MINISTER.

London, December 20.

St. Petersburg.—The Tsar has appointed M. Isvolsky to the Council of the Empire, in addition to all his present offices. This honour is regarded as a special mark of the Imperial confidence in him.

CHOLERA IN RUSSIA.

The cholera is increasing in Moscow.

"YAMATO DAMASHII."

A SUGGESTION FROM "THE TIMES" MILITARY CORRESPONDENT.

London, December 20.

The *Times* Military Correspondent being overwhelmed by applications for the magazine entitled "The Spirit of Japan" (*Yamato Damashii*), has requested the author to join with the *Times* Book Club in undertaking an agency for Europe.

GERMAN LABOURERS IN BRAZIL.

Berlin.—Many German labourers working on the railway in the Mamore district of Western Brazil have returned home, owing to the intolerable conditions there.

MR. ROOSEVELT.

Paris.—Mr. Roosevelt has been elected member of the Academy of Moral and Political Sciences.

U.S. PROSPERITY.

New York.—As evidence of the prosperity of the country, £1,500,000 has been remitted abroad for Christmas since the 1st inst.

GERMAN CLAIMS AND INDUSTRIES.

London, December 21.

Berlin.—Hamburg shippers have appealed to the Chancellor to support the claims for mining concessions from Morocco, for the furtherance of the shipping and iron industries in south German towns. The Chambers of Commerce are urging the Government to construct a railway shortening communication with the North Sea coast.

WOMEN INCOMPETENT TO PLEAD IN COURT.

London, December 21.

St. Petersburg.—The Senate has decided that women are incompetent to appear as barristers. The Court of Appeal has ordered the disbarment of Madame Freischutze.

THE KHEDIVE AT MECCA.

Mecca.—The Khedive was present at a service held at the Prophet's Mosque. The tens of thousands of pilgrims present made a most imposing spectacle. The Khedive was everywhere ovated.

INDIAN COUNCIL ELECTIONS.

Dacca, East Bengal.—The Council elections show a marked preponderance of Mahomedans. There has been deliberate abstention of Hindu electors, with the idea that the Government will nominate Hindus, thus defeating the object of the reform scheme.

UNIVERSITY'S VERDICT FINAL.

New York.—The verdict of Copenhagen University against Cook's polar claim is regarded as final. It is stated that Cook has gone to Norway.

CANADA AND THE EMPIRE.

Ottawa.—The leader of the French-Canadian movement urges that if Canada is asked to give money and blood for the Empire, she should have a voice in its diplomacy and foreign policy.

THE CRISIS IN GREECE.

London, December 23.

Athens.—In consequence of the statement of the Minister of War, representing that the Military League had found the army to be in a ruinous condition, the Opposition has joined the Government in demanding the resignation of the Minister on the ground of insults. The manifesto by the League suggests that the Deputies are trying to stop military reform, and appeals to the patriotism of the public. It is generally thought that the League contemplates the abolition of the Chamber.

Athens.—The deadlock continues. The Military League insists on maintaining the present Cabinet. Two sections of the Opposition have resolved not to attend the Chamber while the Minister of War remains in office. King George is intervening in the cause of peace.

("Deutsche Japan-Post" Service to the "Japan Herald.")

GERMANY.

Berlin, December 16.

The German Crown Prince has met with an accident while automobiling, but fortunately escaped without injury.

Dr. Backhausen has been re-elected Burgomaster of Bremen and Dr. Pauli has been elected President of the Senate.

Prince Heinrich of Prussia has sent a telegram to Dr. von Lumm, Privy Councillor of Finance and member of the directorial committee of the Bank of Germany, in which he describes the statement of several English papers, that anti-English toasts are often drunk in the German Navy, as a hateful lie.

GREAT BRITAIN.

The Anglo-German Committee for furthering mutual friendship condemns very vehemently the attacks on Germany by the Socialist leader Blatchford.

RUSSIA.

The Tsar and Tsaritsa, with their children, will return from Livadia to St. Petersburg on December 27th.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to Nov. 26th ex Yokohama, arrived at Berlin on Dec. 15th.

KING LEOPOLD.

King Leopold will have to undergo a second surgical operation.

GERMANY.

Berlin, December 17.

Duke Regent Johann Albrecht of Braunschweig and consort will embark on the Nord. Lloyd steamer *York* on December 30th and probably go directly to Singapore, from where they will go on a visit of two weeks to Siam. In March and April they will visit Java and Sumatra and afterwards go to Kiautschou, from where they will return to Europe via Dalny and Siberia. Other places to be visited are not yet fixed.

The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* contradicts the misinterpretation of the transfer of Vice-Consul Dr. Daumuller from Kharbin to another post by the Russian Press and states that it is in no way caused by the last Russo-German incident at Kharbin.

The union of the three German Liberal Parties of the Reichstag to a big German Liberal Popular Party has at last been decided upon.

DEATH OF KING LEOPOLD.

King Leopold of Belgium died at 2.30 o'clock this morning from heart failure and general weakness. The Kaiser has sent a telegram of cordial sympathy to the successor to the Belgian throne.

RUSSIA.

M. Iswolski, the Russian Minister for Foreign Affairs, denies officially the insinuation of the Press, by which he is made to have spoken about German intrigues against Russian policy in the Far East. He, on the

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contrary, states that the attitude of Germany towards Russia has always been friendly.

RUMOURS AS TO THE HEALTH OF THE KAISER.

Berlin, December 18.

The London *Morning Post* has a telegram, according to which the Kaiser will again go to England in January next for treatment of his old throat disease. This report is officially contradicted, the state of health of the Kaiser being, on the contrary, excellent during this winter.

MONTENEGRO.

The Press of Montenegro has a communication that the King and Queen of Italy with an Italian Squadron will pay a visit to Prince Nicolaus of Montenegro at Antivari in August next. A Russian Squadron with Grand-Dukes Nicolaus and Peter on board will be present at Antivari at the same time.

RELATIONS WITH AUSTRIA.

The Italian Ambassador at Vienna has communicated to the Foreign Office the successorship of Count Guicciardini to the post of Italian Minister for Foreign Affairs. He further says that Count Guicciardini will maintain and improve the friendly relations now existing between Italy and Austro-Hungary. A similar communication has been made at Berlin by the Italian Ambassador.

Berlin, December 19.

Signor Sonnino, the new Italian Premier, speaking in the Italian Chamber, said that the Triple Alliance was not only a guarantee of peace, but also a safeguard of Italian interests.

SIBERIAN MAILS.

Siberian mails, with dates up to December 2nd, arrived at Berlin on December 19th.

BELGIUM.

Prince Heinrich will attend the funeral ceremonies at Brussels as representative of the Kaiser and Grand-Duke Salvator as representative of Emperor Francis Joseph.

RUSSIA.

The Budget Commission of the Duma has granted a credit to the Government for carrying out the necessary reorganisation of the Army.

M. Giers, until now Russian Minister at Brussels, has been nominated new Russian Ambassador at Vienna.

GERMANY.

Berlin, December 20.

Grandduke Michael Nicolajewitch, the grandfather of the German Crown Princess, born in 1832, is dead at Cannes. Crown Princess Caecilie has gone to attend the funeral ceremonies.

Clara Ziegler, the once well-known great German dramatic actress, born in 1844, is dead at Muenchen.

PORTUGUESE CABINET CRISIS.

The Portuguese Cabinet has resigned.

DR. COOK.

The London *Morning Leader* reports that the examination of the documents of Dr. Cook has resulted in a statement, according to which the reaching of the North Pole by by Cook must be declared as *not* proved.

REGENT'S TRIP TO THE ORIENT ABANDONED.

Berlin, December 21.

It is reported from Braunschweig that the trip of the Regent and his newly-married consort to Siam and the Far East has been given up owing to medical deliberations on the state of health of the Duchess.

THE STATUS QUO IN THE PACIFIC.

The German and British Governments officially deny that they have been informed by the Dutch Government of the latter's fears for the maintenance of the *status quo* in the Pacific.

THE POLAR CONTROVERSY.

No definitive decisions as to the Cook affair are yet forthcoming.

THE DISQUIETING RUMOURS.

Berlin, December 22.

The *Koelnische Zeitung* states that alarming news as to the situation in the Far East is sent from Russia every day, but that the German Press without exception contradicts it as not based on facts with regard to the attitude taken by Japan during the past few years. The *Norddeutsche Allgemeine Zeitung* states also that this news is emanating from the *Novoye Vremya* and is wholly unfounded.

BULGARIA.

The visit of King Ferdinand of Bulgaria to St. Petersburg has been postponed to the end of 1910 owing to the formation of the Balkan Alliance.

ROUMANIA.

M. Bratiano, the Roumanian Premier, has been wounded by an assa-sin, but his wounds are not regarded as serious.

RUSSIA.

Russia will erect four new radio-telegraphic stations in the sea of Okhotsk.

The Chief of Police at St. Petersburg has been killed by a bomb.

DENMARK.

Dr. Cook has disappeared. It is stated by the University of Copenhagen that his diary does not contain any proof of his reaching the North Pole.

PORTUGAL.

The *Westminster Gazette* reports that King Manuel of Portugal will go to Austria in 1910 for the purpose of seeking a consort.

GREECE.

The situation at Athens has again become serious. Reserves have rejoined the colours.

(From the "Asahi Shimbun.")

KOREAN AFFAIRS.

Seoul, December 15.

It is reported that General Okubo visited the Resident-General to-day and held a secret conference which lasted three hours.

A COURT FUNCTION.

Peking, December 16.

The ceremony of conferring a certain honorary title upon the Empress Dowager was celebrated yesterday, Princes of the Blood and nobles being present at the function.

CHINESE CUSTOMS STATIONS.

As the result of the opening of Chientao, the Chinese Government has decided to establish the principal customs house at Honchun and a branch at Lungchingtsun.

BARON UCHIDA.

San Francisco, December 17.

Ambassador Baron Uchida arrived here this morning. Consul Mr. Nagai gave a luncheon in honour of the Ambassador, inviting the Governor, the Mayor, the President of the Chamber of Commerce, and several other leading persons of this city, when extempore speeches were delivered by the Baron and others. In the afternoon the Ambassador received a deputation from the Japanese residents. The members of the Chamber of Commerce entertained the Ambassador at a dinner the same evening. He is expected to leave Washington to-morrow morning.

TO GUARD ANTUNG-MUKDEN RAILWAY.

Dairen, December 18.

In connection with the activity of the Hunghutsz along the Mukden-Antung railway, the authorities at the Kwantung Governor-General's Office have decided to establish a detached police office at Honkeiko and Keikwanzan on the 20th instant.

DELIMITATION OF MACAO.

Shanghai, December 18.

The Portuguese Delimitation delegate at Macao left here last night for Peking *via* Hankow.

THE VICEROY OF MANCHURIA.

It is stated that the Peking Government has accepted the resignation of Mr. Hsi, Viceroy of Manchuria. The news will be made public after the arrival of Mr. Jo Seisho at Mukden.

CONSUL-GENERAL KAWAKAMI.

Dairen, December 19.

It is reported that Mr. Kawakami, Japanese Consul-General at Harbin, will leave there for home on the 21st instant to recuperate his health.

THE BEAN TRADE.

Dairen, December 19.

Some five or six thousand tons of beans and other cereals are daily brought here from the interior, so that the freight returns have been about 50,000 *yen* a day since the 10th instant. Though the bean market has recently shown a somewhat irregular advance, the general aspect of exports to Europe is far better than last year. Ninety thousand tons are at present accumulated here.

CUSTOMS STATIONS IN MANCHURIA.

Mukden, December 20.

As a large amount of beans and other cereals have lately been exported from Changshun, the Wai-wu-pu, with a view to establishing a Customs-house there, has communicated with the Viceroy of Manchuria, and the latter has now ordered the Governor of Kilin and the Taotai of Changshun to make the necessay investigations.

A PATRIOTIC MOVEMENT.

The Chinese students here have jointly applied to the Chinese Loan Redemption Society established at Tientsin, offering to contribute 3,000 taels towards the funds of the Society.

JAPAN AND KOREA.

New York, December 22.

A telegram from Russia reports that Japan is preparing to incorporate Korea. The U.S. Government seems to credit the report, but does not intend not enter a protest.

CHINESE FINANCES.

Shanghai, December 22.

According to a Peking despatch, Mr. Tsai, Minister of Finance, has asked the Prince Regent to accept his resignation. The reason, it is said, is that he is not able to administer the department on account of the heavy calls from different quarters.

THE DEATH OF THE BUDGET.

END OF THE HISTORIC DEBATE IN THE LORDS.

Westminster, December 1.

The great debate in the Lords ended last night says the Parliamentary correspondent of the *Morning Post*. By 350 votes to 75 the Second Chamber adopted Lord Lansdowne's amendment. Thereby it declared its conviction that it is not justified in giving its consent to the Finance Bill until that revolutionary measure has been submitted to the judgment of the country. The debate has extended over six nights, and an unusual number of the most conspicuous men in the House of Lords have pronounced their views. Last evening there were several striking utterances, perhaps the most interesting being those of the

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Archbishop of York, Lord Curzon of Kedleston, Lord Cawdor, and Lord Crewe.

If interest in the discussion languished somewhat on Thursday and Monday it showed a marked revival last evening. When the Archbishop of York went to the table at half-past four o'clock to make his contribution to the debate there were few vacant seats on the floor of the House, while the steps of the Throne and all the galleries were thronged with spectators. The Duke of Connaught was again in his place on the cross-benches. The Duchess of Connaught had a seat in one of the Peeresses' Galleries. In the side gallery to the right of the Throne were to be seen the Grand Duke Michael of Russia, who has been present almost every evening, and Countess Torby. Mr. Burns and Mr. Lyttelton were among the Privy Councillors in front of the Throne.

ARCHBISHOP OF YORK'S MAIDEN SPEECH.

It was the Archbishop of York's maiden speech in the Lords. He made the not surprising confession that he spoke in the circumstances with some diffidence, adding that his diffidence was increased by the fact that he was unable to adopt the attitude indicated by the Archbishop of Canterbury. But if Dr. Lang was diffident he showed no indications of nervousness. The speech was clear and well delivered in the placid manner one associates, though not always accurately, with the pulpit. Dr. Lang never had to search for the right word, and every sentence penetrated to the remotest corner of the House. He made his position clear at the very outset. "I could not," he affirmed, "conscientiously refuse to give my vote on an occasion so important, and I feel compelled to give it against the amendment of the noble Marquis." The Archbishop of York, as one standing apart from both parties, deprecated the tendency towards heated controversy observable in the country. He attributed the tendency to be "conciliatory in the House of Commons and inflammatory in Limehouse" largely to the tendency of the Celtic temperament to respond to its environment, but said a heavy responsibility had been incurred by those who had treated great problems with a levity and recklessness unworthy of their high position. At the same time he thought that those who listened to the voice of reason could not but tremble at the consequences of the action about to be taken. The effect of the amendment in his opinion would be "not only greatly to endanger the claim of the Lords to control legislation, but to disturb that balance of the estates of the realm which the orderly government of this country demands."

LORD CURZON.

Lord Curzon immediately followed Dr. Lang. He was to have spoken last week, but was too ill to attend the House at the time arranged. The speech certainly had not suffered from this enforced delay, for it was one of the most brilliant Lord Curzon has ever delivered at St. Stephen's. He began by craving the indulgence of the House if his strength did not prove adequate to the strain to which it was being put, but when he warmed to his subject he threw off all traces of ill-health. His voice rang like a bell through the debating Chamber and he spoke with even more than his usual energy and force. It is impossible in the space available to deal with half the points made by Lord Curzon, but a few may be picked out. He warned the House that if it passed the Budget there would be more not less unemployment and distress, and there would also be a lowering and not a raising of the standard of social life. Referring to the intolerable inquisition that would be introduced by the land tax proposals, he affirmed that the Budget would set a veritable "Old Man of the Sea" on the shoulders of all respectable classes in the community.

Ridicule was thrown by Lord Curzon on the suggestion that the amendment had been forced on Lord Lansdowne by an unruly force of Peers led by Lord Milner and himself. "That story," he said, "rather reminds me of the Lord Advocate at his best." A hearty laugh greeted this sally. The laugh was succeeded by a cheer when Lord Curzon went on to point out that even if the Lords took Lord Cromer's advice and passed the Bill they would not escape the struggle feared by the dissentient Unionists. "We are," he remarked, "committed to it in any case." Having spoken of Lord Rosebery as having delivered the first blow, and a smashing blow, in the campaign, Lord Curzon observed that the impression produced on the Opposition by the Liberal ex Premier's speech of last week was as though some great commander had left them in the breach after he had taken them up to the walls and personally fired the powder train. Dropping into colloquial language—a rare thing with him—Lord Curzon declared that to take Lord Rosebery's advice and to subject the country for another six months to the "miasma" of which he had spoken would have been "playing it rather low down" on the people of the country. "Your surrender now," he said, "will mean that nothing will stand any longer between the people and the House of Commons. You will be committed to a single Chamber Constitution."

Lord Curzon denounced the Lord Chancellor's statement that no Liberal Government would ever again accept office without obtaining guarantees that the recent action of the Lords would not be repeated as the announcement of a revolution incomparably greater than any which could possibly arise from the reference of the Finance Bill to the people. "It commits the Liberal Party," he showed, "to the destruction of the veto of this House and of the ancient equipoise of our Constitution," and he described it as a direct invasion both of the privileges of the Lords and the prerogatives of the Crown. His reading of the announcement was that the Government proposed to break up the ancient Constitution of the country in order to render the House of Commons supreme.

Perhaps the most striking part of Lord Curzon's fine speech was contained in a passage that came almost at the end. Admitting that it was quite likely that the Lords were at the commencement of a long and arduous struggle and that the component parts of the Constitution might emerge in an altered form, he stated that there were some on the Unionist side who would welcome that consequence. "That we should have a Second Chamber in this country, a reformed House of Lords, possessing elements of strength denied to ourselves, and supplementing that strength from sources to which we cannot turn, is," he said, "an aspiration which is dear to the hearts of many who sit in this Chamber. I hope it will be reserved to the party to which I belong, should the opportunity ever occur, to carry such aspirations into execution." The Unionists greeted with cheers this pronouncement in favour of House of Lords reform.

Contrary to the custom in a big debate, the House did not suspend the sitting for dinner. The attendance, of course, diminished for a time, but as the end of the discussion approached every place on the tiers of benches to right and left of the Woolsack was filled, and the galleries became densely crowded. The open doorways as well as the seats were occupied by interested auditors. Several ladies were glad to find seats on the floors of the galleries, and the heads of others were to be seen between the gilded pinnacles of the Throne.

LORD CAWDOR.

Lord Cawdor, to whom was entrusted the task of winding up for the Opposition, went to the table soon after a quarter past nine. He has always been a vigorous speaker and he was not less vehement than usual. A fighting speech is expected in such circumstances. Lord Cawdor is a "first-class fighting man" and he made a first-class fighting speech. He asserted on behalf of the Lords the right it has always admittedly possessed of rejecting every tax laid before it by the Commons. He warned the House that if it passed the Bill it would destroy for ever all the power of the Second Chamber, and he urged it to do right and let the consequences take care of themselves. Lord Cawdor's utterances were punctuated with Unionist cheers, and the plaudits were warmly renewed when he brought his remarks to a close.

LORD CREWE CLOSES THE DEBATE.

A quarter past ten was being chimed from St. Stephen's Tower when Lord Crewe, the Ministerial Leader, rose to say the last word for the Government. He spoke with rather more than his usual animation and with all his well-known skill as a graceful phrase-maker. He began by describing the amendment as one which "is the absolute negation of precedent" and which "flouts all usage." The members of the Opposition, he remarked, being convinced that what they regarded as a revolutionary Bill justified revolution on their part, were forming themselves "not into a Committee of Supply, but into a Committee of public safety to refuse supplies." Turning to the question of land nationalisation the Colonial Secretary informed the House that the subject had never been discussed by the Government. He expressed the opinion, however, that the notion that the whole of the land of the country would ever be owned by the nation was as "remote and fantastic as anything which can be found in the novels of Mr. Wells." While fully agreeing that there was no question of the power of the House to reject a Finance Bill Lord Crewe applied to Lord Lansdowne's amendment language once used by the late Duke of Argyll—"a substantial violation of the established usages between the two Houses of Parliament." If, he said, it was claimed that the Lords had the power to force a dissolution on a Budget whenever they pleased, such a claim involved something like a burlesque on representative government. He warned the Unionist majority that in "tearing up ancient charters and removing venerable landmarks" it was "making a most tragic blunder." There had in recent times, he contended, been a very real encroachment by the Lords on the powers of the Commons. "After to-night," he said, "the two Houses will barely be on speaking terms."

Lord Crewe ended by repeating in somewhat different language the statement which attracted so much attention when made by the Lord Chancellor over a week ago. Alluding to the Liberal course of action after the election, he said, "Whether we sit there"—pointing to the Opposition side "or here, we must, after the action your Lordships have thought fit to take to-night, set ourselves to obtain guarantees—not the old guarantees, sanctioned by the course of time and enforced by accommodation between the two Houses, but, if necessary, guarantees fenced about and guarded by the force of statutes which will prevent that indiscriminate destruction of our legislation, of which your work to-night is the climax and the crown."

THE DIVISION.

It was just after half-past eleven when the Lord Chancellor put Lord Lansdowne's amendment. The procedure adopted is similar to that employed in the Commons. The original motion was: "That the Bill be now read a second time." Lord Lansdowne proposed to leave out all the words after "that" and to insert: "This House is not justified to giving its consent to this Bill until it has been submitted to the judgment of the country." The question put was: "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question." Those who voted "Content" were therefore against Lord Lansdowne's amendment. The supporters of the amendment voted "Not content." The crush in the House was so great owing to the unusual number of Lords present that it took over a quarter of an hour to clear the House. Another ten minutes or so elapsed before, with the benches again filled, the figures could be made known. The numbers were:—

For Lord Lansdowne's amendment.....	350
Against	75
Majority against the Government..	275

The Lord Chancellor's announcement of the result of the voting was received by the Opposition with cheers, with which some laughter was mingled.

OUTSIDE THE HOUSE.

ANOTHER "DEMONSTRATION" FIASCO.

There was another "demonstration" outside the Houses of Parliament last night, but it was even more of a fiasco than that of Thursday last, when, it will be remembered, the "men of London" were invited to meet in Parliament-square and show by their presence their indignation against the action of the House of Lords. About

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a thousand people, mostly youths, assembled on that occasion and indulged in cheering and singing; but last night the crowd never numbered more than four hundred, and the proportion of irresponsible lads was still greater. As early as eight o'clock parties of youths gathered in the square. They were kept moving by the police, and an hour later were confined to the west side. Here they amused themselves by cheering for first one politician and then another, and so little concerned were they with the side they belonged to that the Leader of the Opposition was acclaimed as heartily as was Mr. Lloyd George. At half-past eleven the police authorities decided to clear Parliament-square entirely. The task offered no difficulties, and in three minutes the square was empty. To the rather faint strains of what is termed the "Land Song" part of the crowd marched to, and was kept in, the Broad Sanctuary or in Great George-street, while some fifty were collected at the end of Westminster Bridge. The figures from the Lords were expected every moment, and the cheering, which retained its indiscriminate character, became less frequent as the minutes went by. Big Ben had struck twelve before the result became generally known. Then there was some booing and a little cheering. The crowd remained for some time at the three places in which the police had permitted them to congregate, and they gave further vent to their feelings as the Peers drove by. But it would be a stretch of imagination to describe the proceedings as a hostile demonstration on a scale deserving of attention.

FEELING IN THE CITY.

In the City the feeling was perfectly calm as the hour approached for the rejection of the Budget. That this would be the fate of the ill-starred measure has been regarded as a foregone conclusion for some time past; indeed, from the start the City has never wavered from the opinion that if the Budget could not be thoroughly amended in the Commons it would be the duty of the Lords to insist upon its being submitted to the judgment of the country. There can be no doubt, of course, that the prolonged discussion and uncertainty have had a restraining effect on business, and the prospect of at least two more months of unsettlement is naturally not very welcome. But it is the lesser of two evils, and the City is quite prepared to put up with any temporary loss and inconvenience for the ultimate good anticipated. As to the threatened disturbance to the national finances caused by the rejection of the Budget, no alarm whatever is felt. Several methods have been suggested by which the gap between now and the assembling of the new Parliament can be bridged with a minimum of loss to the Exchequer, and even if the Government do not avail themselves of all the means at their disposal the difficulties created should not prove insurmountable. In any case the City takes a very cheerful view of the risks in that and in other directions.

LLOYD GEORGE OPENS THE CAMPAIGN OF ABUSE.

PERSONAL ATTACKS ON THE LORDS.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer at the National Liberal Club on the 3rd. inst. "out-Limehoused Limehouse" in the opening speech of what bids fair to be "a Lloyd George election."

Mr. Lloyd George scorns the ordinary conventions of political warfare. Limelight was prepared to welcome his arrival at the club in the shape of "Three cheers for Lloyd George and the people," but the Chancellor made this illumination seem very pale before he finished. There was a single reference to Mr. Asquith's "great speech" in the House of Commons. For the rest, it was Mr. Lloyd George's fiery onslaught—his and his alone.

It was a long, carefully prepared oration, full of bitter taunts and unexpected attacks which will provide material for Liberal speakers throughout the election. None of the broad appeal, none of the courteous interpolations of respect for the motives of an opponent, but just a pungent stream of abuse.

"What a body is this House of Lords!" declaimed the Chancellor, with deprecatory bows to the Liberal Peers who happened to be sitting at the table. Their only qualification as legislators was the fact that they were the first-born of persons who had as little qualification as themselves. The House of Lords had as much claim to respect as broken bottles stuck on a park wall to keep out poachers! Lord Lansdowne was forced into the trap against his better judgment, and being in he thought he might eat the cheese rather than leave it for the taste of any other mouse or rat.

All this and much more of the kind roused the National Liberals to tumults of laughter and applause.

We give below some specimen extracts of the Chancellor's oratory.

THE SLAUGHTER OF THE BUDGET.

I have come here to-day, said Mr. Lloyd George, not to preach a funeral oration. (Cheers.) I am here neither to bury nor to praise the Budget. If it is to be buried it is in the sure and certain hope of a glorious resurrection. (Loud and prolonged cheers.) Its slaughter has raised greater, graver, and more fruitful issues. We have got to arrest the criminal ("Hear, hear." and applause.) We have got to see that he perpetrates no furth r crime. ("Hear, hear.") For the sinister Assembly which is more responsible than any other power for wrecking popular hopes has in my judgment perpetrated its last act of destructive fury (Loud applause.)

They have slain the Budget. The schemes of which it was simply the foundation would, if they had been allowed to fructify, have eliminated at least hunger from the terrors that haunt the workman's cottage, and yet here you have an order of men—blessed with every fortune which Providence could bestow on them—grudging a small pittance out of their superabundance in order to protect those who built up their wealth against the haunting terror of misery and despair. They have thrown it out, and in doing so they have initiated one of the greatest and gravest and most promising struggles of modern times. (Cheers.) Liberty owes as much to the fool-hardiness of its foes as it does to the sapience and heroism of its friends. (Cheers.)

ASSIZE OF THE PEOPLE.

At last the cause between the Peers and the people has been set down for trial in the great assize of the people, and the verdict will soon come.

We are told that this great nation is unfit to make its own laws, to control its own finance, and that it has to be placed, as if it were a nation of children or of lunatics, under the tutelage of some other body. And what body? Cheers and a Voice: "Rub it in.") Who are the guardians of this mighty people? Who are they? (Pointing to the chairman, Lord Carrington, amid laughter and cheers.) The majority are simply men whose sole qualification is that they are the first-born of persons who had just as little qualification as themselves. (Loud laughter.) Is this nation to be a free nation and become a freer nation? ("Hear, hear.") Or is it for all time to be shackled and tethered by tariffs and Trusts and monopolies and privileges? That is the issue, and no Liberal will shirk it. (Applause.)

The insolence of that Assembly has grown by impunity. It is purely a branch of the Tory organisation. It is just as much a Tory organisation as either the Tariff Reform League or the Coal Consumers' League. (Laughter and applause.) They are separate and distinct parts of the same great mechanism of destruction. Carlyle once said: "It is wonderful how long a rotten institution will hold together so long as it were handled firmly." (Loud cheers.)

"RICKETY GIMCRACK IDOLS."

Mr. Balfour yesterday taunted us with making speeches about the House of Lords and passing resolutions. I agree that if we left it there we should justify every gibe that has been flung at us. ("Hear, hear.") You cannot with menacing speeches cast down even the most rickety and gimcrack of idols. You must handle them a little more firmly. (Laughter.) The time has come for unflinching and resolute action; and for my part I would not remain a member of a Liberal Cabinet one hour unless I knew that the Cabinet had determined not to hold office after the next general election unless full powers are accorded to it which would enable it to place on the Statute Book of the realm a measure which would ensure that the House of Commons in future can carry not merely Tory Bills, as it does now, but Liberal and Progressive measures, in the course of a single Parliament, either with or without the sanction of the House of Lords. (Cheers).

ATTACK ON OPPOSITION PEERS.

Who is really on the other side? Lord Curzon—there is no mistake about him. Not a very wise or tactful person, but what I would say about him would be this: I think he would be less dangerous as a ruler of the House of Lords than as a ruler of India. For further particulars apply to Lord Kitchener. (Laughter.) And if you want any more information you might apply to Lord Midleton. (Laughter.)

Then there is Lord Milner. They are both very clever men. But they are that class of clever men with every gift except the gift of common sense. (Laughter and cheers.) Now look at the two proconsuls. Lord Cromer, the man who found his province devastated by his Government, desolated by war, and left it a land of abounding, smiling prosperity. ("Hear, hear.") The other (Lord Milner) found a smiling land, prosperous, leaping into great wealth, and left it after years of mismanagement and miscalculation a scorched and blackened desert. His is a peculiar genius for running institutions and countries into destructive courses. ("Hear hear.") There is the man who threw out the Budget.

"D—— THE CONSEQUENCES."

"D—— the consequences" is his motto. War will only cost ten millions—someone said 220 millions. He would say "D—— the consequences." Tariff Reform would produce thirteen millions a year, and would help every trade and industry! You go to him and say, "No, it won't produce five millions. It will ruin and embarrass half the trades of the land." He will say, "D—— the consequences." ("Shame.") Here you are raising millions of money for the poor; you will have to put off for a couple of years looking after the unemployed and the sick. Never mind the consequences. That is the spirit—("Shame")—the temper, the genius, which has rejected the Budget.

How long is Britain going to be ridden down by this sort of rule? Not an hour later than the next general election. (Cheers.)

Mr. Lloyd George proceeded to attack Unionist journals, such as the *Observer* and the *Daily Mail*, in a similar vein, and declared, finally, of the Lords: "We got'em at last, and we don't mean to let them go till all accounts have been settled."

PROROGATION OF PARLIAMENT.

THE KING'S SPEECH.

Parliament was prorogued on Dec. 3 till January 15, but that date is only a formality, and the best informed opinion is that the dissolution will take place at the end of the first week in January.

The King's Speech was read by the Lord Chancellor in the House of Lords. It runs as follows:—

MY LORDS, AND GENTLEMEN,

The official visit which his Majesty the King of Portugal has paid to me, on the occasion of his accession, has afforded to the Queen and myself great pleasure, and has consolidated and strengthened the bonds of friendship which have so long and happily united the two allied nations.

My relations with foreign Powers continue to be friendly.

The difficulties which unfortunately arose in South-Eastern Europe in the autumn of last year have happily resulted in a practical solution and in the maintenance of peace, while the constitutional régime in the Turkish Empire continues to make satisfactory progress.

Subject to certain reservations made by my Plenipotentiaries at the time of signature, I have ratified such of the conventions which resulted from the Peace Conference held at The Hague in 1907 as do not require municipal

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legislation in the country to give effect to their provisions.

Arbitration conventions and agreements with Germany, Sweden, Norway, Switzerland, and Portugal have been renewed for a further term of five years. Others, which are about to expire, are in process of renewal.

INDIAN REFORMS.

A measure for improving Indian administration by enlarging the numbers and extending the functions of the various Legislative Councils has become law, duly supplemented by the necessary regulations.

Early in the coming year the Councils will have been constituted, and will undertake the burden of their new responsibilities.

I look with confidence for their loyal co-operation with my appointed officers in the tasks of Government, thus furthering the moral and material progress of my Indian subjects, and strengthening the foundations of my Empire.

SOUTH AFRICAN UNION.

I have, with the greatest satisfaction, assented to the Act establishing the Union of South Africa, which embodies the united wishes of the Parliaments of the four constituent Colonies.

This fruit of the success which has attended the grant of free institutions to my new Colonies is, I am assured, a matter of cordial congratulation throughout my Dominions.

I cannot doubt that union will add to the strength of South Africa, and I pray that its people may be blessed in the years to come with growing prosperity and lasting concord.

EMPIRE DEFENCE.

The important conference which met in July last for the exchange of views between my Government and the Governments of my self-governing Dominions beyond the seas upon the subject of naval and military defence has been of great mutual advantage, and as the outcome of its deliberations it may confidently be expected that the stability of my Dominions will be preserved and their unity promoted.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS,

I thank you for the liberality and care with which you provided for the heavy additions to the national expenditure due to the requirements of imperial defence and social reform.

I regret that that provision has proved unavailing.

MY LORDS, AND GENTLEMEN,

An Irish Land Act has been passed which by relieving local funds from liabilities arising under previous Purchase Acts and by increasing the administrative area and the resources of the Congested Districts Board, will, I sincerely hope, conduce both to the general welfare of the country and to a permanent improvement in the condition of the occupiers of small holdings in the west of Ireland.

HOUSING.

I have watched with interest the progress of a measure, which has now been placed upon the Statute Book, for facilitating the housing of the working classes and for strengthening the law dealing with the sanitary conditions under which they live.

This measure also contains long needed provisions for controlling the development of towns, with a view to securing not only improved sanitary conditions but also amenity and convenience.

LABOUR EXCHANGES.

I have given my assent to a Bill for the establishment of Labour Exchanges, which will, I trust, be an important step towards the better regulation of the labour market and a foundation for further measures for dealing effectively with some of the evils of unemployment.

The measure which has been passed for the constitution of trade boards in certain industries will, I hope, with judicious administration, prove a valuable boon to a specially helpless class of workers.

OTHER ACTS.

I anticipate beneficial results to agriculture and to the rural industries of the country from the measure for the economic development of the United Kingdon and for improvement of roads.

I have had pleasure in assenting to a Bill to give effect to a treaty which secures the full benefits of the French law of workmens' compensation to British workmen injured in the course of their employment in France

Important Bills have also been passed dealing with trawling in prohibited areas, the consolidation and amendment of the law relating to assurance companies, the suppression of gambling on loss by maritime perils, and the amendment of the Electric Lighting Acts.

I thank you for the zeal with which you have discharged your arduous and protracted labours, and I pray that they may be rewarded with the blessing of Almighty God.

In view of the approach of the end of the year says the *Kobe Herald*, the local Police authorities have been taking special measures to prevent the commission of robberies, burglaries and petty thefts. On Monday night five smart detectives, wearing various disguises, were sent into various parts of the city, with the result that many thieves were arrested. Two of the detectives, however, aroused the suspicions of the police, as they were carrying large packages, with the result that severe fights ensued, the men rolling over and over on the muddy roads before the mistake was discovered.

EYES TREATED AT TWO HOSPITALS

For Over a Year, but Baby Girl Grew Worse—Mother Followed Friendly Advice and There Has Been No Return of Disease for Three Years.

ONE BOX OF CUTICURA MADE PERMANENT CURE

"When my little girl was a few months old, her eyes began to get sore. Thinking it was from her teeth, I was in hope of their getting better, but as they did not improve, I decided to get medical advice. I took her to the —— Hospital at —— for about twelve months. The doctors there were most kind and attentive and did all they could for her, but her eyes seemed to get worse. The doctor then sent me in to the —— Hospital. I had only attended that institution a short time when a Mrs. Todd stopped me on the street and told me that Cuticura Ointment had cured her boy and advised me to try it. I commenced using it that very night. The cure was marvelous. Her eyes soon began to get strong and they are now as healthy as if there had never been anything the matter with them. The cure was completed with less than one box of Cuticura Ointment. My little girl was then not three years old. She is now six and we have never had the least trouble with her eyes since. I trust this letter may be the means of others being cured as my little girl has been. Mrs. F. Phillips, Grafton St., Waverly, Sydney, N. S. W., Aug. 3, 1907."

Complete external and internal treatment for every humour of infants, children, and adults consists of Cuticura Soap to cleanse the skin, Cuticura Ointment to heal the skin, and Cuticura Pills (chocolate coated) to purify the blood. A single set often cures.

Send to nearest depot for free Cuticura Book on Treatment of Skin Diseases.

Sold throughout the world. Depots: London, 27, Charterhouse Sq.; Paris, 5, Rue de la Paix; Australia, R. Towns & Co., Sydney, &c. Africa, Lennon, Ltd., Capetown, Natal, etc.; Potter Drug & Chem. Corp., Sole Props.

LATEST COMMERCIAL.

IMPORTS.

Saturday, December 25.

The Raw Cotton market shows some improvement, though spinners are as yet only reluctantly paying present high prices for their immediate wants. As to Cotton yarns, there is little change in the market. The market for Cotton Piece goods is dull. In Woollens and Woollen Mixtures, the market is dull, stocks moving slowly.

RAW COTTON.	PER PICUL.
American Middling	46.00 to 47.00
Egyptian	51.00 to 56.00
Indian Broach	36.00 to 37.00
Chinese (Old crop)	—
Chinese (New crop)	32.00 to 33.00

COTTON YARN.	PER BALE
Nos. 2/60, Gassed	260.00 to 270.00
Nos. 2/80, Gassed	330.00 to 350.00
Nos. 2/100, Gassed	420.00 to 46 .00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.	
White Shirtings—50 yds. 36 in	5.40 to 9.30
Grey Shirtings—45-46 yds. 43¾-44 in. Common to Good	4 70 to 6 35
Pure Grey Shirtings—46 yds. 44 in. Ordinary to Good	6.40 to 7.85
Grey Cambries—46-47 yds. 44-45 inches	7.00 to 11.50
Prints—24 yards, 30 inches	3 20 to 3.70
Cotton Italians	0.25 to 0.35
Cotton Venetians	0 43 to 0.70
Turkey Reds—2 8 to 3lb 24-25 yards, PER PIECE. 30 inches	1.90 to 2.25
Turkey Red—3.8 to 5lb, 24-25 yards, 32 inches	2 50 to 3.65
Velvets—Black, 35 yards, 22 inches	10.50 to 15.00
Victoria Lawns, 12 yards, 42 inches	1.30 to 2.40
Flannelette	0.15 to 0.30
Cashmere	0.80 to 0.90

WOOLLENS AND WOOLLEN MIXTURES.	
Flannels	Y.0.52 to .67
Union Italians	0.37 to 0.60
Mouseline de Laine,—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Common to Medium.	0.28 to 0.32
Mousseline de Laine—120-140 yards, 30-32 inches Good to Best	0.32 to 0.34
Cloths—Pilots, Presidents, and Union, 54 to 56 inches	0 50 to 1.50
Cloths—Army Cloth	0.50 to 2.25
Cloths—All others	1 25 to 4.25
Blankets—Assorted, per lb	0.80 to 0.90
Wool Australian—No. 1 per lb	0.60 to 0 70
" " " 2 "	0 55 to 0.65
" " " 3 "	0.45 to 0.55
Wool, Tientsin—No. 1 per lb	0.40 to 0 44
" " " 2 "	0.33 to 0.38
" " " 3 "	0 25 to 0.30

METALS.

Owing to high prices on the home markets dealers are endeavouring to fill their requirements from the Government Foundries.

	PER PICUL.
Iron or Mild Steel, Bar, flat, round and square	Y.3.80 to 3 85
Iron or Mild Steel, Plate	4.20 to 4 30
Sheet Iron	5.40 to 5.55
Sheet Mild Steel	6 15 to 6 30
Galvanised Iron Sheets Corrugated	9 60 to 9 80
" " Flat	10.80 to 11.00
Wire Nails, Ordinary assortments	6.30 to 6 60
Tin Plates, 10 lbs I.C.W.	6 80 to 7.00
Pig Iron, No. 4 "Redcar"	2.09 to 2.15

KEROSENE.

The market is dull.

Chester	Y 3 66 to 3.89
Victory	3 10 to 3.30
Nonpareil	— to —
Sumatra	2.94 to —
Borneo	— to —
Hokuyetsu	2.96 to 3.45
Nippon	2 95 to 3 60
Ogura	2 90 to 3.30
Total	— to 3 30

SUGAR.

Business in imported Refined is entirely absent.

	PER PICUL.
Brown Manila	Y 10 90 to 12.40
Brown China	—
Brown Java	9 90 to 10.50
White Java	14 40 to 17.40
White Refined (German)	15.50 to 18.90
" (Hongkong)	14 80 to 19 80

INDIGO.

No change in the market. Some transactions have been done in artificial dyes.

Calcutta first	Y.240.00
" second	200.00
Java, first	320 00
" second	280.00

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Madras, first	—
,, second	—
Artificial "horse and lion" brand	2.00
Artificial "Kenshin"	2.05

FLOUR.

Prices remain unchanged. No new business is reported.

		Yen.
Gold Drop.....	4 sacks	.....10.80
Flag	,,	.....10.60
Royal	,,	.....10.60
Trophy	,,	.....10.60
Red Seal	4 sacks	.....10.70
Lion	,,	.....11.80
Portland	,,	.....11.20
Premier.....	,,	.....11.00

Japanese :—

Rising Sun.....	6 *kwamme*	.....2.85
Takasago	6 ,,	.....2.80
Fuji.....	6 ,,	.....2.80
Pine	6 ,,	.....2.90

WHEAT.

Home quotations are still out of the reach of Japan millers.

	Yen.
White Walla Walla, 100 *kin*	5.60 to 5.70
Red ,, ,, ,,	5.50 to 5.60
Blue Stem.....	5.75 to 5.85

EXPORTS.

RAW SILK.

The market is quiet, but holders remain firm. On December 23rd stocks were: filatures 29,672 bales; Re-reels, 5,287 bales; Kakeda, 1,321 bales.

Mixture—Extra No. 1, Coarse ... ...Y.	960
Mixture—Extra No. 2, Coarse	910
Mixture—Yajima Class, Coarse	930
Mixture—No. 1, 13-15den	860
Mixture—No. 1½-2, 9-11den	920
Mixture—No. 1½-2, 10-12den.	900
Mixture—No. 1-1½, 13-15den	835
Mixture—No. 1½-2, 11-13 den	880
Mixture—No. 1½ Shinyeisha	825
Reels—Extra	—
Reels—No. 1	860
Reels—No. 1½	835
Reels—No. 2	805
Tsedas—GoldCup Chop Extra... ...	870
Tsedas—Veiled Woman Chop No. 1...	815
Tsedas—One Horsehead Chop No. 1½	795
Tsedas—No. 2	775

QUOTATIONS ON THE EXCHANGE.

December	Present delivery.	December delivery.	January delivery.	February delivery.
	yen.	*yen.*	*yen.*	*yen.*
.....	864	853	854	865
.....	869	855	860	869
.....	—	—	—	—
.....	869	866	860	870
.....	865	855	8 8	866
1	866	—	859	866
.....	866	850	859	866

WASTE SILK.

The market is steady. Stocks offer very little price. On December 10th stocks were: Noshi 10 piculs; Kibiso, 6,300 piculs; and Sundries, piculs.

QUOTATIONS.

Kushi—Filatures, Best	—to —
Kushi—Filatures, Good	—to —
Kushi—Oshiu, Good	—to —
Kushi—Oshiu, Medium	—to —
Kushi—Oshiu, Inferior	—to —
Kushi—Shinshiu, Good	92 to 97
Kushi—Shinshiu, Medium...	88 to 92
Kushi—Shinshiu, Inferior	82 to 87
Kushi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Good ...	95 to 100
Kushi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Medium ...	75 to 85
Kushi—Bushiu, (or Joshu) Inferior ...	65 to 75
Taso—Filatures, Best ... ...127½ to 132½	
Taso—Filatures, Good ... ... 117½ to 125	
Taso—Filatures, Medium ... ...107½ to 117½	
Taso—Filatures, Inferior...	80 to 95
Mayu—Fair	—to —
Mayu—Best	—to —
Mayu—Good	—to —
Mayu—Medium	—to —

HABUTAE.

Fukui :—The general tone of the market is much firmer.

Kanazawa :—There has been an upward tendency in prices. The demand for Europe and America has become more active.

Kawamata :—No change in prices. The demand continues fairly active, and the market is very firm.

"PINE-LEAVES" MARK. (FUKUI.)

Inches.	6 *me.* Yen.	6½ *me.* Yen.	7 *me.* Yen.	7½ *me.* Yen.	8 *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.40	8.10	8.20	8.30	7.95
27"	8.50	8.10	8.10	7.90	8.05
36"	8.50	8.45	8.35	8.25	8.15

"GOLD" MARK. (KANAZAWA.)

Inches	4½ *me.* Yen.	4¾ *me.* Yen.	5 *me.* Yen.	5½ *me.* Yen.
22½"	8.30	8.15	8.10	7.65
27"	8.20	8.00	7.90	7.60
36"	8.00	7.90	7.75	7.60

KAWAMATA.

Inches.	3 *me.* Yen.	3¼ *me.* Yen.	4 *me.* Yen.	4½ *me.* Yen.
19½.....	7.70	8.30	8.90	9.40
22½.....	8.20	9.00	9.80	10.30
27	9.90	11.00	12.00	13.20
36	12.50	14.10	15.90	16.40

COPPER.

According to a London telegram of December 23rd the quotation was £61.7.6.

Home markets have improved to some extent.

Refined per 100 kin ... ...Yen	43.50—45.00
Bessemer per 100 kin ... ... "	38.50—40.00
Electric refined per 100 kin ... ... "	47.00—50.00
Ore ... ... "	29.50—33.00

RICE.

There is no change to report. Only small deliveries have been made of imported stocks, which are still very large. Quotations are nominal.

	bags.
Domestic rice in Fukagawa	783,099
Foreign rice in Fukagawa	133,871

Delivery.	Closing Price
December	—
January	11.26
February	11.60

(Osaka.)		(Kobe.)	
December ...	—	December...	—
January	11.69	January	11.67
February ...	11.80	February ...	11.81

RICE AT WHOLESALE: STANDARD PRICE.

(Tokyo.)	per *koku*
Superior.....	Yen 12.10
Medium	11.10
Common	10.10
Average	11.10

TEA.

Quotations are nominal. Total settlements at Yokohama from May 1st to November 13th amount to 87,020 piculs, against 82,241 piculs at the corresponding date last year.

QUOTATIONS.

Choicest ... ... Y.	— —
Choice	— —
Finest...	— —
Fine	36 — 37
Good Medium	34 — 36
Medium	32 — 33
Good Common	30 — 31
Common	28 — 29

COTTON YARN. (OSAKA.)

The market is weak.

Delivery.	Yen.
December.....	—
January.....	129.50
February	130.40

EXCHANGE.

Yokohama Dec. 24.

London silver $\frac{1}{8}$ higher, China sterling quotations not yet received and local rates unchanged, closing as under for the mail via Siberia. To-morrow the 25th and Monday the 27th all the Foreign Banks will be closed.

London	Bank T.T.	2/0 3/8
—	— Bills on demand	2/0 3/8@1/16
—	— 4 months' sight.....	2/0 5/8@3/16
—	Private 4 months' sight	2 07/8
—	— 6 months' sight	2/1
Paris & Lyons	—Bank sight	256@1/2
—	Private 4 months' sight	261
Hongkong	Bank sight .....per $100	88¼*
—	Private 10 days, sight do	86¾*
Shanghai	—Bank sight	84½*
—	Private 10 days' sight.....	86*
India	—Bank sight	151¾
	Private 30 days' sight	153½
America	—Bank sight.....	49½@5/8
—	Private 30 days' sight	50¼
—	Private 4 months' sight	51
Germany	—Bank sight	208½
—	Private 4 months' sight	213
	Bar Silver (London).....	24¼

* Nominal.

MAIL STEAMERS.

NEXT MAIL IS DUE

From	Line.	Steamer.	Date.
Seattle	N.Y.K....	Iyo Maru	F. Dec. 24
America.....	P. M.....	Asia 1	Sa. Dec. 25
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Siberia 2	Su Dec. 26
Hongkong...	B. L.....	Aymeric	Tu Dec. 28
Europe	M. M.....	Oceanien 3	W. Dec. 29
Hongkong...	O. S. S....	Tacoma Maru	F. Dec. 31
Tacoma.....	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	F. Dec. 31
Vancouver...	C. P. R....	Em. of China	F Dec. 31
Hongkong...	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	M. Jan. 3
Seattle	G. N.....	Minnesota	W. Jan. 5
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Tango Maru	Th. Jan. 6
Tacoma.....	B. L.....	Oceano	F. Jan. 7
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	Su Jan. 9
Europe	N. D. L....	Buelow	M. Jan. 10
Portland.....	P. & A....	Rygja	Su. Jan. 9
America.....	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru	Sa. Jan. 15
Hongkong...	T. K. K....	Chiyo Maru	Su Jan. 16

1 Left San Francisco on the 7th inst.
2 Left Hongkong on the 18th inst.
3 Left Singapore on the 14th inst.

NEXT MAIL LEAVES

For	Line	Steamer.	Date
Europe	M. M.....	Polynesien	Sa. Dec. 25
Hongkong...	P. M.....	Asia	Su. Dec. 26
Shanghai ...	N. Y. K...	Kosai Maru	Su Dec. 26
America.....	P. M.....	Siberia	Tu. Dec. 28
Tacoma.....	B. L.....	Aymeric	W. Dec. 29
Hongkong...	C. P. R....	Em. of China	F. Dec. 31
Europe	N. D. L....	Buelow	Sa Jan. 1
Tacoma.....	O. S. S. ...	Tacoma Maru	Sa. Jan. 1
Hongkong...	O. S. S....	Seattle Maru	Sa. Jan. 1
Portland.....	P. & A....	Henrik Ibsen	Tu. Jan. 4
Europe	N. Y. K...	Kamo Maru	W. Jan. 5
Hongkong...	B. L.....	Oceano	Sa. Jan. 8
Hongkong...	G. N.....	Minnesota	Sa. Jan. 8
Australia ...	N. Y. K....	Yawata Maru	Sa Jan. 8
Tacoma.....	B. & S....	Antilocus	Sa. Jan. 8
Vancouver...	C. P. R....	Em. of Japan	Su Jan. 9
Hongkong...	N.Y.K....	Kaga Maru	Su Jan. 9
Hongkong...	P. & A....	Rygja	M. Jan. 10
Hongkong...	T. K. K...	Tenyo Maru	Su. Jan. 16
America.....	T. K. K...	Chiyo Maru	Tu. Jan. 18
Seattle	N. Y. K...	Awa Maru	W. Jan. 19

LATEST SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS.

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, W. W. Greene, 17th Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

El Lobo, British steamer, 2,948, Gray, 17th Dec.,—Uraga.—Cornes & Co.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 17th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,992. R. D. Owen, 17th Dec.,——Swansea and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Konan Maru, Japanese steamer, 858, T. Araki, 17th Dec.,—Wakamatsu, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 17th Dec.,—Nagahama, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M.Deguchi, 18th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Hands, 18th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, A. G. Stevens, 18th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Prometheus, British steamer, 5,582, G. Moir, 18th Dec.,—Dairen, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Prinz Sigismund, German steamer, 1,844, D. Lenz, 18th Dec.,—Australia ports, Mails & General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Oanfa, British steamer, 5,876, W. C. Lycett, 19th Dec.,—Tacoma via Victoria, Mails and General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Fukuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,997, R. Ikawa, 20th Dec.,—Keelung via ports. General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,960, K. Kawara, 20th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails & General —Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Takeshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,199, S. Tominaga, 20th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368 R., Swain, 20th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

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Yeiko Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,219, T. Sato, 20th Dec.,—Keelung via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon, Swedish steamer, 2,582, Paulsen. 21st Dec. —Copenhagen, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

Vandalia, German steamer, 2,641. Karberg, 21st Dec.,—New York, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Sithonia, German steamer, 4,239, Brehmer, 21st Dec.,—Hamburg via ports, General.—C. Illies & Co.

Sakata Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,369, T. Noguchi, 21st Dec.,—Tairen, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Amiral Olry, French steamer, 3,578, Privat, 21st Dec.,—Antwerp via ports, General.—Chargeurs Reunis.

Sicilia, British steamer, 4,174, W. C. Watkins, 22nd Dec.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—P. & O. S N. Co.

Pinna, British steamer, 4,100, Fairfield, 22nd Dec., —Peru, Oil.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Yeboshi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,992, B. Kon, 22nd Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Awa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,912, A. Keith 22nd Dec.,—Antwerp and London via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tenshin Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,580, J. Salter, 22nd Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Benledi, British steamer, 2,509, Alex Webster, 23rd Dec.,—London via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Glenturret, British steamer, 3,026, R. Webster, 23rd Dec., — London via ports, General. — Jardine, Matheson & Co.

Idomeneus, British steamer, 4,299, R. A. Tillotson, 23rd Dec.,—Glasgow and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Bullmouth, British steamer, 2,607, Powell, 23rd Dec.,—Singapore, Oil.—Rising Sun Petroleum Co.

DEPARTURES.

Wray Castle, British steamer, 2,717, Lightoller, 17th Dec.,—New York via ports, General.—Cornes & Co.

Kageshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,372, T. Arakawa, 17th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Canton, Swedish steamer, 2,226, Nordfeldt, 18th Dec.,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co., Ltd.

Goeben, German steamer, 5,151, B. Wilhelmi, 18th Dec.,—Bremen and Hamburg via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Riojun Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,980, Wm. Wade, 18th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Tosa Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,610, Y. Nomura, 18th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Prometheus, British steamer, 3,583, G. Moir, 18th Dec.,—Marseilles, Havre and Liverpool via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Calabria, Italian cruiser, 2,492, Capt. Casanova, 19th Dec.,—Shanghai.

Chikuzen Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,458, R. Wada, 19th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha

Chiyo Maru, Japanese steamer, 7,265, W. W. Greene, 19th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Prinz Sigismund, German steamer, 1,844, D. Lenz, 19th Dec.,—Sydney and Melbourne via ports, Mails and General.—H. Ahrens & Co., Nachf.

Benten Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,668, M. Deguchi, 20th Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yamaguchi Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,059, J. Hands, 20th Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Oanfa, British steamer, 5,876, W. C. Lycett, 20th Dec.,—Hongkong via ports, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Konan Maru Japanese steamer, 858, T. Araki, 20th Dec.,—Kobe, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Mikawa Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,853, K. Asakawa, 21st Dec.,—Formosa, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,437, A. G. Stephens 21st Dec.,—San Francisco via Honolulu, Mails and General.—Toyo Kisen Kaisha.

Tango Maru, Japanese steamer, 4,627, C. Christiansen, 22nd Dec.,—London and Antwerp via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Orestes, British steamer, 2,992, M. H. Torrible, 22nd Dec.,—Java, General.—Butterfield & Swire.

Amiral Olry, French steamer, 3,578, Privat, 22nd Dec.,—San Francisco, Mails and General.—Chargeurs Reunis.

Shinano Maru, Japanese steamer, 3,960, K. Kawara, 22nd Dec.,—Seattle, Wash. via Victoria, B.C., Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Kasuga Maru, Japanese steamer, 2,368, R. Swain, 23rd Dec.,—Shanghai via ports, Mails and General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Nippon, Swedish steamer, 2,582, Paulsen, 23rd Dec.,—Copenhagen via ports, General.—Samuel Samuel & Co.

El Lobo, British steamer, 2,948, Gray, 23rd Dec.,—Muroran, Cornes & Co.

Takeshima Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,199, T. Kuwabara, 23rd Dec.,—Otaru via ports, General.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Yeijo Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,538, T. Ogawa, 23rd Dec.,—Hakodate.—Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

Fukuoka Maru, Japanese steamer, 1,997, R. Ikawa, 22rd Dec.,—Katsuura, General.—Osaka Shosen Kaisha.

PASSENGERS.

ARRIVED.

Per Japanese steamer *Chiyo Maru*, from San Francisco via Honolulu:—Mr. J. Ando and servant, Mr. M. Aoki, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Avery, Mr. M. Doi, Mr. and Mrs. K Fukui and infant, Miss K. Fukui, Master I. Fukui, Mr. N. Fujiye, Mr. J. R. Geary, Mr. R. Hara, Dr. R. Hara, Mr. T. Hayasaka, Mr. H. Hibiya Mr. K. Hiraizumi, Mrs. Z. Horikoshi, Mr. and Mrs. Honig, Miss A. Honig, Mr. and Mrs Thos. Hearling, Mr. K. Ishikawa, Mr. H. Iida, Mr. R. Iiri, Mr. M. Ikeda, Mr. K. Inoshita, Mr. M. Ito, Mr K. Iwahara, Mr. S Iwaya, Mr. T. Kadono, Mr. S. Kageyama, Mr. K. Kameda, Mr. K. Kamino, Mr. T. Kamiya, Baron and Baroness N. Kanda, Mr. T. Kato, Mr. and Mrs. I. Kawaguchi, Mr. T. Koike, Mr. S Komura, Dr. T. Kumagae, Mr. K. Kubota, Mr. P. G. Koop, Miss L. I. Laughlin, Dr. W. N. Lemmon, Mr. T. Machida, Mr. G. Masaoka, Mr. M. Masuda, Mr. K. Matsukata, Dr. T. Minami, Consul-General K. Midzuno, Mrs. K. Midzuno and servant, Miss K. Midzuno, Miss S. Mizuno, Mr. S. Morioka, Consul R. Menant, Mrs. R. Menant, Mrs. H. Menant, Mr. W. Natori, Mr. B Nakano, Mr. K. Nedzu, Mr Nishiki, Mr. J. Nishimura, Mr. B. Oi, Mr. K. Otani, Mrs. E. W, Poore, Mr. and Mrs. J. Carter Reid, Mr. and Mrs. W. Rudgear, Mr. H. B. Rogers, Mr. H. Sakag chi, Mr. S. Satake, Baron and Baroness E. Shibusawa, Mr. A. Shito, Mr. Arthur Slingsby, Mr. K. Soda, Mr. T. Shiraki, Mr. S. Takatsuji, Mr. K. Taki, Mrs. T. Taki, Mr. S. Tamura, Mr. S. Uyeda, Mrs. Mrs. M. Nobuwake, Mr. S Watanabe, Mr. T. Watanabe, Mr. T. Watase, Mr. S. Yamada and Mr. T. Yasui. For Kobe:—Miss Laura Hastings, Mr. Mr. R. Kafuku and Mr. K. Nozaki. For Shanghai:—Mrs. T. L. Blalock, Mr. A B. Hykes. Mrs. Hykes and infant, and Consul General S. S. Knabenshue. For Hongkong:—Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Adams, Mr. J. Q. Adams, Mr. H. Otley Beyer, Mrs. J. D. Champlin, Dr. R. W. E. Cole, Mrs. M. S. Gallin, Miss H. A. Ganahl, Mr. R. J. Harrison, Mr. Geo. Hayes, Mr. C. Kenneth, Mr. C. Kenneth, Mr. R. M Mickle, Mr. H. L. Marker, Mr. E. J. Murphy, Mr. T. Pait, Miss M. G. Weed, Mr. G. Welborn and Mrs. Welborn, in cabin; 65 Passengers in second class; 591 Asiatic steerage.

Per R.V.F. steamer *Mongolia* from Vladivostock to Tsuruga:—Mr. A. Wilm, Mr. G. Tomonaga, Mr. B. Kaneko, Mr. E. Gartner' Mr. C. Kiehl, Mr. H. Bassett, Mr. A. Atkins, Mr. Mitchel and Mr. W. Green in cabin.

DEPARTED.

Per British steamer *Palawan* for London and Antwerp via ports:—Mr. H. B. Waterworth, Mr. N. H. McDougall, Mr. Weyranch and Mrs. Reymann in cabin.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—Mr. F. Lu Rue, Mrs. F. King, Lt. Col. G. A. Pagan, Mr. and Mrs. Bent, Misses Bent, Mrs. Avery, Mrs. Denham, Mr. E. J. Freeman, Mr. Lon Kar Yue, Mr. Jo King Sang, Mr. & Mrs. Chue Wa Kung and infant, Mr. Cheong Lip Ming, Mr. K. H. Yu, Mr. B. H. Wong, Mr. Chan Ting Hin and Mr. Yue Ming Chun in cabin.

Per Japanese steamer *Chiyo Maru* for Hongkong via ports:—Miss Laura Hastings, Mr. R. Kafuku, Mrs. T. L. Blalock, Mr. A. B Hykes, Mrs. A. B. Hykes and infant, Mr. W. P. Adams, Mrs. W. P. Adams, Mr. J. Q. Adams Mr. H. Otley Beyer, Mrs. J. D. Champlin, Dr. R. W. E. Cole, Mrs. M. S. Gallin, Miss H. A. Ganahl, Mr. R. J. Harrison, Mr. K. Nozaki, Consul Gen. S. S. Knabenshus, Mr. Geo. Hayes, Mr. C. Kenneth, Mr. R. M. Mickle, Mr. H. L. Marker, Mr. E. J. Murphey, Mr. T. Pait, Miss M. G. Ween, Mr. G. Welborn, Mr. W. W. Campbell, Mrs. W. W. Campbell, Mr. W. A. Hirst and Mr. H. Nakano in cabin.

Per R.V.F.'s steamer *G. Jaeschke* from Tsuruga to Vladivostock:—Mr. A. Kantor, Mr. A. Poole Mr. N. Almasor, Mr. N. Derjavin, Mr. and Mrs. Sokolinikoff and child, Mr. Yaunalksen, Mr. O'Neil, Capt. Bitte and Mr. A. Onorato in cabin; Mr. Ryabokon in second class.

Per Japanese steamer *Nippon Maru* for San Francisco via Honolulu:—Miss L. Blount, Mr. E. H. Burch, Mrs. F. E. Clayson, Mr. J. A. Cockburn, Mr. G. Dearmond, Mr. J. Hunt, Mr. A. W. Jackson, Mr. C. A. Jameson, Mr. R. Kamikawa and native servant, Mrs. Katsu Kamikawa, Mrs. Kaoru Kamikawa, Baron D. Kikuchi, Dr. C. P. Knight, Mrs. C. P. Knight and infant, Miss G. Larsen, Bishop W. S. Lewis, Mrs. W. S. Lewis, Mr. J. Mirandes, Mr. H. Robertson, Mr. F. A. Thompson, Mr. T. W. Trimble Mrs. T. W. Trimble and infant, Dr. D. F. Vail, Mr. S. G. Waden, Mrs. S. G. Waden, Mr. Carl Smith Mr. C. G. Abrahamsen, Mr. Eric Tjader and Master T. Matsuzawa in cabin.

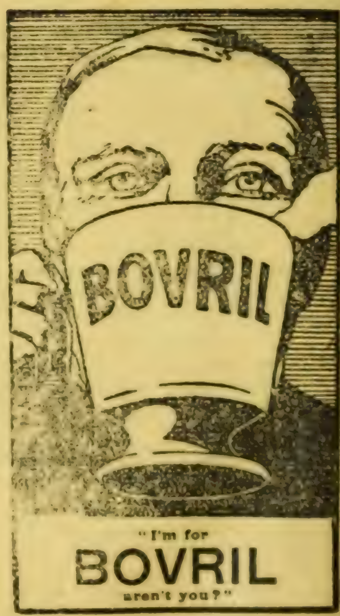
SILK SHIPPERS.

Per British steamer *Oriental* for Shanghai:—

	Raw Silk. France.	Douppioni S'k. France	Waste Silk. France.	England	Fra[nce]
Pila & Co.	105	—	5	—	—
L. Mottet	10	—	—	—	—
Jardine Matheson & Co.	96	—	—	10	18
Sulzer Rudolph & Co..	173	—	—	—	—
C. Eymard	20	—	10	—	—
Otto Streuli	10	—	10	—	—
Nabholz & Co.	5	—	—	—	—
Varenne & Co.	59	—	—	—	—
Jewett & Bent	15	—	—	—	—
	493	—	25	10	18

Per British steamer *Palawan* for London and Antwerp via ports:—

	Raw Silk. France.	Douppioni Silk. France	Waste Silk. France	Tri[illegible]
Jardine, Matheson & Co	—	—	54	15
Bavier & Co.	—	—	185	—
Cl. Eymard	—	—	125	—
Total	—	—	3[illegible]4	15



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October 2nd, 1909. 13

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THE SEMI-CENTENNIAL OF PROTESTANT CHRISTIANITY IN JAPAN.

A large audience that nearly filled the Y.M.C.A. Hall greeted the opening of this interesting and important conference at 9 o'clock on Tuesday morning (5th), when it was called to order by the two chairmen, Rev. K. Kozaki and Dr E. R. Miller. On the platform was an impressive array of veterans in service, who have been eye-witnesses of much, if not all, of the history and transformations of the past half century in Japan. There were Honda and Inagaki and Kozaki and Murakami and Ogawa and Okuno, also Ballagh and Davison and Greene and Imbrie and Miller and Thompson, each and all of whom stand for some good and great work in the upbuilding of the Kingdom of God here in the Far East.

After the usual introductory services of hymn and Scripture and prayer, and a beautiful rendering of the Te Deum by a choir of twenty voices, all young ladies of the Aoyama Gakuin, the Rev. Dr. J. H. Ballagh gave the opening address, which was an historical review of what God has wrought in Japan during the past fifty years. He traced the various obstacles that stood in the way of the entering and the spreading of Christianity in the early days, and how they were removed in a speedy and marvellous manner. Among the outside obstacles thus removed were the incubus of slavery in the United States, which was lifted as the result of the Civil War; and the difficulties of travel, which were overcome by the great advance in transportation facilities about that time, through trans-continental railways in America, and trans-Pacific steamships in place of the slow sailing vessels.

Of the domestic obstacles were the strongly entrenched Buddhist sects; the dangerous practice of wearing swords by the *samurai*; and the dual government, with its partisan jealousies that were the source of constant alarms. These were, however, done away with so quickly and easily that Minister Townsend Harris was led to exclaim at the final overthrow of feudalism, "What hath God wrought."

It required years to overcome the old prejudice against the word "Christian," but happily that has been accomplished by means of the unselfish lives and devoted labours of many of that name during all these years, and we cannot fail to be optimistic in regard to the future of Christianity in this Empire.

Bishop Honda of the M. E. Church followed with an address that was also largely historical, in which he unfolded the great changes that had come about in Japan because of the entrance of Christian missionaries. This was done by asking ten questions and replying to them. These questions had to do with the probable attitude of the Government toward Christianity, freedom of religion, social progress, home life, female education, philanthropic work, and other items, had not Christianity been introduced just at that critical period in the history of Japan. In view of the actual great results that have followed, one can hardly fail to see the hand of God in bringing in the vitalizing force of Christian life just at that critical juncture.

A number of shorter addresses then filled out the morning programme. Mr. S. Murakami, joint Editor with Rev. O. H. Gulick of the *Shichi Geppo*, the first Christian paper published in Japan, and who for thirty-five years has seldom failed to preach two sermons every Sunday, spoke modestly of his conversion in 1872, and of some of the stirring events which he had seen and had been a part of. The venerable Dr. David Thompson brought forth some interesting reminiscences of the days when the edicts against Christianity were the best known laws in the land, and of how two or three present to-day had been tried, fined and reprimanded by the court for conducting a Christian funeral service.

Rev. A. Inagaki spoke of the great walls of opposition that had been broken down in these years, and also of the mountains that are yet to be levelled and the valleys to be filled up in the next fifty years in preparation for the coming of the Kingdom of God.

Among the greetings that came to the conference was one from Dr. Hepburn, whose message was I. Cor. 15 : 58; and one from Bishop Williams,—these two being the only surviving members of that little group that began work here fifty years ago.

The afternoon session, described on the programme as a "Public Celebration," was opened with a prayer by Bishop Ingham of England that breathed the spirit of broad fellowship and of deep loyalty to Christ and His Church.

The first of the two historical addresses of the afternoon was by Rev. K. Kozaki, who, after paying his respects to such characters as Col. Clark and Capt. James who brought over, and exerted a strong Christian influence from without, and Count Soejima and Viscount Aoki who brought back a Christian faith that they had found abroad, and exerted a strong influence from within, proceeded to describe the general cause of the growth of Christianity in Japan, by dividing it into five periods: 1. From 1869 to 1872, that is, from the coming of missionaries to the forming of the first Church, at Yokohama, the Pioneer Period; 2. Seed Sowing Period, to 1882; 3. Sprouting Period, to 1889; 4. Period of Eclipse to 1900; 5. Development Period, to the present. The old superstition that Christianity is antagonistic to the national life and spirit is practically gone; all classes, from the Emperor down, have been touched and affected by the new thought and life that Christianity has brought in, and it is hardly too much to believe, in view of the past, that another fifty years of unremitting effort will make Japan a thorough-going Christian nation.

At this point Count Okuma was introduced, and received a great ovation. He said, in brief, that he was glad of this opportunity to express a word of hearty congratulation to those who were assembled to celebrate this semi-centennial of Christian work in Japan. Though not himself a professed Christian, he confessed to have received great influence from that creed, as have so many others throughout Japan. This is a most important anniversary for the country. It represents the work of one whole age in our history, during which most marvellous changes have taken place. He came in contact with, and received great impulses from, some of the missionaries of that early period, particularly from Dr. Verbeck, who was his teacher in English and history and the Bible, and whose great and virtuous influence he can never forget. Though he could do little direct evangelistic work then, all his work was Christian, and in everything he did his Christ like spirit was revealed. The coming of missionaries to Japan was the means of linking this country to the Anglo Saxon spirit to which the heart of Japan has always responded. The success of Christian work in Japan can be measured by the extent to which it has been able to infuse the Anglo-Saxon and the Christian spirit into the nation. It has been the means of putting into these fifty years an advance equivalent to that of a hundred years. Japan has a history of 2500 years, and 1500 years ago had advanced in civilization and domestic arts, but never took wide views nor entered upon wide work. Only by the coming of the West in its missionary representatives, and by the spread of the Gospel, did the nation enter upon world-wide thoughts and world-wide work. This is a great result of the Christian spirit. To be sure, Japan had her religions, and Buddhism prospered greatly; but this prosperity was largely through political means. Now this creed has been practically rejected by the better classes who, being spiritually thirsty, have nothing to drink

While extending congratulations upon the advance made thus far, he prayed for still greater effort and advance in the future and such advance as should be manifest in lives of lofty virtue of the Verbeck kind. To teach the Bible was all right, but to act it was better. (*Riron yori okonai*). Japan is well advanced in scientific knowledge, but head and heart are not yet on a level. Profession and conduct ought to go together. Only thus can evangelistic work be counted a success.

Rev. Dr. William Imbrie followed with the second historical address on the programme. This was delivered without notes, and in Dr. Imbrie's best style, and was an inspiring portrayal of the wonderful series of events crowded into this short span of half a century,—the advances and the reactions, the joys and the disappointment; but in all of which God was manifestly present teaching his Church and the nation that He was reigning. An interesting array of statistics showed the growth of the Church and its cognate institutions; but statistics can tell only a small part of the story. The Christian spirit is pervading the newspapers and current literature, and the Christian world-view is becoming the common property of all.

The way has been prepared, but a stupendous work remains to be done. There are great philosophical and moral systems now antagonistic to the Christian system to be met, and great social and moral obstacles to be overcome. Toil and time are needed. The evangelization of Japan is not an act but a process; not a work to be done by a single charge, but by a long siege.

At a Reception given in the evening, a special treat was prepared for those who braved the inclement weather, in the shape of informal addresses by Rev. Dr. Arthur Smith of China, and the Rt. Rev. Bishop Ingham of England, formerly of Sierra Leone.

Dr. Smith spoke upon one form of development of Christian Mission in China, viz., co-operation. A dry theme, one might think, for a social gathering. But the speaker was Arthur Smith, and under his inimitable treatment, with the broad politico-historical background which he sketched with deft fingers and limber tongue, interspersing great dramatic incidents with minute, mirth-provoking sallies, his story assumed all the interest of romance as he unfolded the efforts and advances and retreats and successes and disappointments and the final great triumph of the principle of cooperation in educational and evangelistic work among the many and diverse Christian forces that are working for the spiritual regeneration of that great Empire.

Bishop Ingham also spoke upon the same general subject of cooperation, and with an earnestness and sincerity and eloquence that was impressive.

The sessions of Wednesday were presided over by Dr. S. Motoda and Dr. J. C. Davison, and were devoted to Christian Education and Christian Literature, ten addresses being given upon the first topic during the forenoon, and six upon the second topic in the afternoon.

Dr. A. Pieters spoke upon the impression made on the general life of Japan by the graduates of private Christian schools. By producing statistics and individual names of many who have done conspicuous work he conjured up an interesting and convincing array of facts to show that while the results are far below the ideal there is no cause for disappointment. In church and evangelistic work not only, but in journalism, in authorship, in education, in business, in official life, in charitable work, in Young Men's Christian Association work, in Temperance work, in hymn writing, in the Salvation Army, and in many other departments, the character which these men acquired through their education in these schools has made a lasting impression upon the higher life of Japan.

Dr. K. Ibuka, speaking of the future of Christian Education in Japan, made a strong and logical plea for a great Christian University, when the students from the lower schools can go on and complete their education in a Christian atmosphere, when the name and character and spirit of Christ are honoured and exalted. As Christians we ought to demand such a university for the training of our youth; and as Christians in the East we owe it as a duty to the Christian West, with which we are coming into such close contact, to meet it nearly on the level.

Dr. T. Harada spoke on Theological Schools and the Training of Christian workers, with especial reference to the next fifty years. He criticized the present methods as unsatisfactory. The number of sectarian schools was too great; there is a lack of unity in methods: the equipments are inadequate; the financial foundation is weak. What is needed is cooperation among the sects for establishing a Christian university with fully equipped Theological department, where not only prospective preachers, but laymen also, may study the best there is in religion and morals. And there

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should be a long preparatory course for those who are aiming for the Christian ministry.

Mr. N. Fukuda made a plea for Christian parents to consecrate their children to Christian work.

Mr. M. Matsumoto urged a broader course in the Theological School, with more of comparative religion, sociology, philosophy and ethics; also opportunity for wider elective courses for the students, in order for which a Christian university was a necessity.

Prof. E. W. Clement would have Christian schools provide distinctive features which, while not necessarily competing with Government schools, would prove attractive to a greater number of students.

Mr. J. Imai urged thoroughly scientific methods in training theological students, but not so severely scientific as to cause them to forget their great object. A spiritual art department is needed that shall teach the public to depict, and in themselves reflect, the image of Christ.

Rev. F. N. Scott spoke of the inadequacy of present Christian education methods, with special emphasis upon the lack of higher courses above Middle School grade where Christian boys can go and complete their education in a Christian atmosphere. To let these boys go to the ordinary Higher School, which is not only non-religious but often anti-religious, just at their time of adolescence,-the most important period of their lives, is often fatal to their moral life.

Dr. K. Sasao thought the best way to begin on a Christian university would be to establish a Medical School, and send out into society a company of Christian, sympathetic doctors, who would work for mankind and not for money.

Then would come, in order, a Theological School, which should give a thorough training in English and German, with the latest and best thought.

Rev. C. H. B. Woodd emphasized the advantages of Mission Schools of the Middle School grade, on the Government basis and with the ordinary privileges granted to such. Religious teaching and training was at no disadvantage in such a school.

Christian Literature was the topic for the afternoon, and brought out six very interesting addresses on as many different aspects.

Mr. E. Kashiwai gave an interesting survey in historical order of the general output of Christian literature, from the first year of Meiji down to the present time, dividing it into two periods, from Meiji 1 to 20, and from 20 to the present, and suggesting that the third period begins from this Conference.

Dr. S. L. Gulick presented a strong and able paper upon Our Problems and Places in Christian Literature. He put great emphasis on the importance of such literature in the Christianization of Japan. By means of this we are to meet and grapple with the old systems of religion and philosophy which, while containing large elements of truth and beauty, are yet diametrically opposed to our Christian conception of Ultimate Being. Here is the final battle ground. And while we believe that the Christian conception of the conscious, personal, Heavenly Father will ultimately triumph, it will be only after a long struggle in which we must be prepared to give and take.

It is necessary to prepare for this great undertaking. And to do this it behoves us to empty ourselves of our narrow sectarianisms, for which the Oriental has no use, and to present universal ideas which are in the truest sense catholic. We need here, almost more than anywhere else, true cooperation; and we can have it in spite of differences in doctrine and organization. We do not want to engage in guerilla warfare, but in a great and victorious campaign in which all work together. Only in union and cooperation is strength and victory.

The kind of literature desirable and necessary must be *Christian*,—Christo centric and Christo-basic. It must be evangelical,—insisting on the importance of individual Christian experience, and the consequent transformation of the heart and life. It must also emphasize the importance of social transformation. Christ came to save Society as well as the individual. It must be loyal to the Bible as the word of God. It must be modern. Three hundred years of science have transformed our ideas of many things. We have a new heaven and earth in science, philosophy, psychology and other things, and Christianity must be presented here in terms of current thought. It must be irenic towards other faiths, gladly acknowledging whatever is good and true and beautiful in them, and try to fulfil, not destroy them. It must be broad, Catholic, non-partisan, and we must have that spirit among ourselves. No one writer or school or denomination can express all the truth. We want great freedom in our cooperation. We need a strong, well-organized, well-financed, single Christian Literature Committee as a part of equipment for work in these coming years.

Other speakers were Messrs. K Uzaki, G. Braithwaite, N. Kato, U. Bessho, and a paper by Prof. Muller, read by Rev. S. E. Hagar.

In the evening the Hall was packed to its utmost capacity, the great audience listening for several hours to the eloquent presentation of the subject, The Influence of Christianity on Ethical and Religious Thought and Life, by Rev. D. Ebina and Dr. I. Nitobe; and The Influence of Missionaries on the Education and Civilization of Japan by Prof. R. Fujisawa of the Tokyo University, himself an old pupil of Dr. S. R. Brown.

(Second Part.)

Thursday the 7th was "Woman's Day," and both platform and audience room were occupied by ladies, only a small sprinkling of men being in evidence. The discussions for the morning were upon the two topics Evangelistic Work and Educational Work, while the afternoon was devoted to Social Reform. Miss J. N. Crosby together with Mrs. K. Yajima were the presiding officers at the former session, and Mrs. K. Komoto and Mrs. C. H. D. Fisher at the latter.

Miss E. Talcott read a paper on Bible training for women, with a brief sketch of the training schools that have increased in number from the first one established at Yokohama in 1881 by Miss Pierson, to the twelve now in existence. In these are 142 women students, but the supply is far inadequate to the demands, which come not only from all over this country but from Korea, Manchuria, the Loo-choo and Bonin Islands and from Hawaii.

Mrs. C. W. Van Petten, also on the same subject, emphasised the need of the best training and scholarship for these women, who ought to have at least an equipment equal to that given by the Government Girls' High School, with of course special training in Bible study and in music. In their work for the churches they should be well supported, should be allowed a quiet room for their own living and study, and should be given full sympathy.

Mrs. T. Honda and Miss J. M. Hargrave read papers upon Church Work, with special reference to the relation of the Bible women thereto. These modest workers are, as Miss Hargrave pointed out, the right hand of the pastors and missionaries, and no church is fully equipped for work without them. The standard of the schools for training these workers is constantly improving, but there is need for a Christian university which shall have in it a department for this special training.

Miss C. B. De Forest presented the subject of Sunday School Work by Girls' School Pupils, and told of the more than forty schools whose pupils are engaged in this kind of service. Of the 303 Sunday Schools that look to this source for their supply of teachers for the 15,000 scholars enrolled, 173 are run entirely by this means. This kind of work is not only good for the neighbourhood where the Sunday School is located, but is good for the girls also, giving relief from the *ennui* of dormitory life, vent to their enthusiasm, opportunity for Christian service, and practical study of psychology of the child mind. Evangelistic Work among non-Christians was the subject of a talk by Mrs. Inagaki, in which she impressed the importance of visiting the homes, and the equal importance of preparation for this work by Bible study, prayer, and the presence of the Spirit of Christ.

Mrs. G. P. Pierson followed upon the same topic, and pointed out several ways of how *not* to do this work, as well as giving some practical suggestions for doing it successfully. Success is not gained by lecturing about God and sin and such topics; assuring the hearer that conversion is a slow process; and asking him to take time to think over what he has heard. The work must be done by a positive preaching of the gospel, in the full Spirit of Christ, and after much prayer in preparation.

Under the general subject of Educational Work there were five papers presented, the first being one prepared by Miss N. B. Gaines on Mission Schools. The history of these schools shows they have always had high ideals, and usually a good grade. Since the Government has taken up female education it has set a standard which must be recognized. Unless Mission Schools can keep up to this in every way they ought to close their doors and go out of business. But they must keep up this standard not only, but get Government recognition, otherwise both pupils and teachers are at a disadvantage—practically have no standing in educational circles in Japan. They ought to offer not only all that the Government schools offer, but also give Bible teaching and a consequently higher grade of teaching in practical morality and individual purity.

Miss Wakiyama of the "Glory Kindergarten," Kobe. had an instructive paper on the history and growth of the Kindergartens in Japan, and spoke of the great Christian influence which they have exerted, both directly and indirectly.

Miss G. Philipps spoke about work among students in non-Christian girls' schools, and the efforts that are being made for them through the means of Christian boarding houses, Girls' Associations, Bible classes, and various forms of work, both organized and unorganized.

Miss S. A. Searle discussed Mission Schools, particularly from the point of their Christian influence upon the girls not only while they are students but after they have graduated and settled into society as home-makers or teachers in schools. Thursday afternoon, on the general topic of Social Reform, Mrs. C. Kozaki spoke upon Temperance, Rescue Work, and Work for Factory Girls, stating the reasons and the great necessity for these three kinds of effort, and the especial responsibility of Christian women to engage in it.

Miss G. Baucus treated of Literature, in the production of which she has given her whole time for the past fourteen years; spoke of the kinds, both translations and original, that are needed now, and the attempts being made for supplying this for Sunday Schools, the home, and general evangelization.

Miss U. Hayashi had the subject Hospitals, Orphanages and Creche, and while speaking particularly of such work in Osaka as she was practically interested in, referred to the wide work of charity throughout the land, of which about seven-tenths is done by Christian people. Women are particularly fitted to engage in the above forms of service.

Miss Strout, representative of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union, spoke on her favourite theme. She showed that the Society which she represents has not simply temperance for its object, but social reform as well, and is active in all lines of reform work, publishing many books that show up the evils of society. Temperance work is to-day making a deep impression upon the educational, business and professional world.

Miss M. F. Denton spoke of Five Decades of Woman's Work in Japan, and gave an interesting historical survey of the advancement of Japanese women during that period.

Friday evening saw the men back on the platform again, and continuing the ladies' afternoon subject of Social Reform. Mr. Thwing of Hawaii presented the subject of International Reform, and was followed by Dr. S. Motoda, who outlined the history and the general programme of social reform in Japan in all its various departments and ramifications.

Mr Yamamuro, representing the Salvation Army, gave an earnest and eloquent account of the fundamental work which that organization is doing among the "submerged tenth" in the name of Christ.

Bishop M. C. Harris spoke upon the great mo-

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tive for this sort of work,—the Christ-like compassion for all the sorrows and sufferings in the world.

Hon. T. Ando spoke of the constant growth of the temperance movement as one of the great evidences of the power of Christianity in Japan during these 50 years.

Friday, the 8th, had for its morning topic, The Pastor and the Church; for the afternoon, The Work of the Evangelist; and for the evening, The Influence of Christianity on Civil and Religious Liberty.

Dr. Y. Hiraiwa spoke of the work of the Christian minister in its two great departments of preaching and pastoral work. These two together, in right proportion, constitute evangelism. The history of this sort of work in Japan may be divided into two periods, that from Meiji 1 to 23 being the Missionary Age, or the period of Foreign Christianity; from Meiji 24 to the present, the Domestic Age, or period of Japanese Christianity. And these two periods taken together might be called the Preaching Age,—largely a time of advertising the new religion; while from now on there will come the Pastoral Age, when the real work is to come of gathering up results, nourishing the half-formed Christians and developing them into a body that shall more truly represent their Master. As the first epoch was devoted more or less largely to apologetics and explanations through sermons and newspapers and magazines for the enlightening of those who looked upon Christianity as "the evil sect," during the coming epoch, since the new doctrines have been generally and generously tolerated and in a way accepted as good and not evil, the great work of the minister will be to instruct and nourish the faith and life of the growing Christian body. For the pastor, of course, learning and eloquence are desirable, and our schools must see to it that he gets the best that is going; but nothing can take the place of sincere, Christian character moulded by the Spirit of God. With this character, and with this long and patient training he may become what he ought to be,—a teacher, counsellor, inspirer, and spiritual leader in his community. For his work does not end with simply giving instruction in Christian teaching. He is to give the Christian heart and spirit to his people; to raise up a Christian body in which Christ himself shall be reproduced; to stand in his pulpit and preach not only, but to go into the humblest homes as the true shepherd and lead men into the very image of Christ; to emphasize not only public worship but family prayer; to connect the home with the church and the Sunday School in a vital way, and produce a body of believers who shall be fruitful in every good work, and who shall act as good leaven in the whole community.

Rev. S. Tada also emphasized the necessity for more thorough and systematic pastoral work, which would largely save the great leakage of the past years, which has been the source of much disappointment as well as cause for criticism, and real hindrance to the work. The pastor must try to get the people into more regular church-going habits; must organize his church into a body of workers who will take large responsibility for the evangelization of the community and not let their minister do all the work; and must keep up a high-toned pulpit, when the worshippers will find their own best thoughts and aspirations adequately expressed in the sermons and prayers not only, but will find themselves constantly linked to the eternal through intelligent and spiritual and uplifting Bible instruction.

Rev. M. Uemura had some criticisms upon those pastors who are so much engaged in working to make their church independent, or spending so much time on social reform, in other words, so interested in "serving tables," that they have no time to preach the Gospel. Yet this is the real, main work of the pastor. Great advance has been made in knowledge in the past years, and many pastors have kept up with the advance who yet as pastors—preachers of the Gospel—are doing nothing. We are getting more teachers than pastors. "Human nature suffers from the passion to be instructed." We are suffering today from instruction-fever (*kyōun-byō*). What is needed is the spirit that hates sin and loves God. We want a revival there, and it will only come by preaching the Gospel. It is high time to get to work.

Rev. G. Kawai said the pastor's work is to make men who worship God in spirit and in truth, in love and in fear. The mission of the church is to bring men into the atmosphere of spiritual experience. Decorum in the church is important; prayer meetings and family prayer are also of great importance. Members of a family who grow up in this sort of atmosphere will come naturally to a proper reverence for God.

Rev. R. E. McAlpine, in a paper on Public Worship, showed the necessity for this outward expression of the inward feelings of reverence, and the importance of having a proper and lofty object of worship, lest the act degenerate to degrading forms such as have been common in lands where God the Heavenly Father was not known.

Rev. I. Iyota, on the subject of Preaching, said it was a divine art; that the preachar should be full of his subject, should remember that he represents Christ, and should be filled with the spirit of Christ.

Dr. G. F. Draper followed on the same subject, which he described as not an intellectual or rhetorical but a spiritual exercise with a supernatural element. The preacher's power is his spiritual personality vitalized by prayer. One cannot preach well unless he prays well. The Gospel is still the panacea for all spiritual ills, and is the message for the present age as for the past. In presenting this the preacher has no right to alter the message. He wants the message to alter the hearers. He must study his message, and be himself a saturated solution of the Gospel. He must know The Book. It may be well to know many books, but he must know the one. This is the prime essential in preparation. He must be tactful in presenting the truth, honest in expressing his convictions, and efficient in his service. An insurance agent is esteemed by his company not for his ability to write reports and make out tables of statistics, but to get new men. So the preacher.

On the subject of Work for the Individual, Rev. T. Ishiguro said it was necessary first to know one's self, and then the other man. To be able to present God's mercy to one who is not yet really seeking it, there must be great sympathy, without which there is no success; strong will, to prevent being turned aside by general conversation from the main object; much prayer, which is a great help to strengthen the will; and Christian magnanimity, that will put the worker on a level with all, and prevent any seeming condescension.

Rev. D. Norman followed on the same subject, and said the pastor should be as great in individual work as in pulpit work. We are ambassadors of Christ, represent him to individuals, and must always take him for our example in this kind of work. Psychology teaches that to get into close contact with a man we must get down into the sub-conscious plane of his habits and temptations. To do this requires much tact and common sense and courage. Our message is a great one, but to make it effective there mus be a real man behind the message.

Rev. T. Ukai spoke, and a paper prepared by Dr. D. A. Murray was read, on the Sunday School. The former gave a historical account of the rise and growth of this work, with reference to the books and other publications that have grown up around it, and the work of the Inter-denominational S.S. Committee.

The latter was concerned with some of the hindrances and the helps met with in prosecuting this work.

Rev. S. E. Hager, on the subject Financial Independence, described an independent church as one that is self-supporting, self-governing and self-propagating. Such churches should assume a responsibility for helping the weaker ones to devise methods for attaining financial independence.

In the use of mission money much care and wisdom are needed, that it may not become a hindrance to a church's development, and in general it should be used only for work for which the mission is directly responsible.

The work of the Evangelist was presented at the afternoon session, first by Rev. J. Watase. In reviewing the evangelistic work of the past fifty years, while finding much to be thankful for, he found much also that should cause all to make a serious self-examination before proceeding further. He read 1 Cor. 3:10-15, and wondered how much of the work of these past years had been "wood, hay, stubble," and how many of the builders would find that they were "Saved, yet so as through fire."

Also, 1 Cor. 9: 22-27, and wondered how many of those who had preached to others would find themselves "rejected"—"cast away." As Christ sanctified himself "for their sakes" so must we sanctify and purify ourselves for the sake of those whom we hope to reach and help in the coming years.

Rev. T. Kawai spoke on City Work, and held up Paul's work at Ephesus as a proper example to follow (Acts 19). He was first filled with the Spirit, and then "reasoned daily in the school of Tyrannus,"—not once a week, but daily "for the space of two years" This is the sort of *taikyo dendō* that will bring results.

Rev. S. Ogata followed on Country Work, speaking of the special delights of this sort of work, the special temptations country people are subject to, the best means of meeting this class of people, and the great importance of bringing the gospel to the farmers, who form such a large and substantial element of this agricultural nation.

Dr. A. D. Hail characterized Country Work as both a duty and a problem which ought to be tackled immediately, and with tactful persistence, and made intensively extensive. Such work is needed by the church to keep it active and prevent its being thrown on the defensive; and it is needed by Japan now as never before, since a generation of modern education has undermined old ideals, and old faiths have fallen. The problem lies in the inadequacy of the workers, and the unfortunate distribution of what there are. About six-sevenths of all the missionaries are massed in ten large cities, and five-sevenths of the native workers are similarly located. One-third of the missionary force resides in Tokyo and Yokohama. There should be more workers and a wiser distribution.

Rev. A. Sugawa spoke on Church Music, giving some samples of how hymns should and should not be sung.

Rev. D. Hatano told what, in his opinion., was necessary for making Shūchū Dendō (concentrated evangelistic work) successful, emphasizing the need of careful preparation, and the making of the Church the centre of the work.

Rev. K. Kiyama urged a continuance of the good old Taikyo Dendō (evangelistic campaign) methods, but suggested that hereafter this be done not by one denomination alone, but by all the churches of the locality in co-operation.

Rev. K. Yamamoto, on Work for Young Men, gave as the two objects of the Association work, to get the young men to living right, and to get them to be active Christian workers. He spoke of the many difficulties in the way of the first, and the attempts that were being made to overcome them; and of the close relation they are trying to keep to the church and get the young men interested in a life of service.

Rev. F. C. Briggs spoke in place of Capt. L. W. Bickel, who could not be present, and told of the work in the islands of the Inland Sea which Capt. Bickel has carried on for the past ten years with his vessel *Fukuin Maru*. There are nearly four hundred places on his calling list, twenty regular preaching places, and about a thousand children gathered in the various Sunday Schools.

In the evening the Hall was packed to its limit with a fine audience that listened for over three hours to three most interesting addresses,—Rev. K. Tomeoka on Christianity and Eleemosynary Work; and Dr. J. H. De Forest and Hon. S. Shimada on the Influence of Christianity on Civil and Religious Liberty.

Mr. Tomeoka said the three great ways by which Christianity is impressed upon a country are by evangelistic and educational and eleemosynary work. They are the three Christian sisters, and they must walk together equally. One cannot be neglected without loss to all. After defining eleemosynary work, he proceeded to speak of

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sixteen departments into which it is divided, and which constitute the programme of those engaged in this work,—such as salvation of the poor, child-saving, work for fallen women, for beggars, for deaf and dumb, orphans, insane, idiots and lepers; prison reform, temperance work, and others. Recent Government statistics tabulate 258 places of charitable work, of which 112 are characterized as "uncertain principle" (*fumei shugi*), 81 are Buddhist, and 52 are Christian. In view of the relatively small number of Christians in Japan this is a good showing. And it is undoubtedly true that they have the best-equipped institutions.

Dr. De Forest said the love of liberty is a deeply implanted instinct in the human race Every nation that exists owes its being and continuance to this. The same is true of every religion that exists. Christianity lays special emphasis upon the word and the idea of freedom, and Christian people have held to the principle more tenaciously than any others Particularly since the Reformation and the rise of Protestantism in the sixteenth century has this principle been pressed to the front, until it has now come to be the common property of all people. Disgraceful and atrocious things have happened in Christian, freedom-loving countries, such as persecutions and wars. But it will be found in the last analysis that this was simply the working out, in an intense way, of the great idea of liberty; and men came into conflict and offered themselves in sacrifice for that which each one believed at the time in all conscience was right. And by these conflicts they gradually worked out a real freedom, the most priceless possession of any nation.

An impartial reading of the world's history will show that the countries that have taught and practised liberty are the ones where Christianity is most widely spread. A further examination will reveal that this idea came directly from Christ, who, while not using the words human rights and such-like of modern phraseology, taught great things that were full of meaning, such as that God is Father of all mankind, that he has created all, loves all, and in his eyes all have equal rights.

Japan has entered into this spirit of freedom to a certain extent, but all classes of the people are not yet fully practising it. It is a priceless possession which must be maintained at all cost. Her mountains and seas may perhaps be a defence from invaders; but to preserve true liberty within her borders, if history teaches anything it teaches that no true and lasting stability and progress is possible without the help of Christ's teaching and spirit. May Japan receive this, and all the blessings that go with it.

Mr. Shimada, upon the same topic, said that when Christianity first came to Japan there was practically no such thing as freedom. The word *jiyū* was invented by Mr. Fukugawa considerably later to express the idea.

At the time of the promulgation of the Constitution in 1889 the speaker said he was in London, and the *Times*, in publishing this news, printed only the two articles of the Constitution relating to civil and religious liberty, and commented upon these as the greatest boon that had been conferred upon our people. In Europe, where liberty has been won by struggles and great wars, they value it first of all; while we, to whom it came so easily, do not seem to appreciate its value fully yet. We would if we knew it all.

He then proceeded with a long and elaborate and instructive historical address, showing how Japan gradually came into contact with, and received influences from the Western nations, and how and why the restrictions against Christianity were finally removed. He spoke most thankfully of the work the early missionaries did in interpreting the West to Japan, and the later ones in helping with their sympathy during the trying periods of the discussion of extraterritoriality and treaty revision.

Saturday, 9th, the morning session had for its topic the work of the Missionary in the Past and in the Future. Rev. H. Yamamoto spoke sympathetically of the past they had had in educational, social and evangelistic work.

Rev. J. G. Dunlop spoke of their work for the future, believing that there would be work for them here for a long time to come. The forces ought to be increased 25 per cent., if not doubled. They should be men and women with good mental and educational equipments, of course, but above all have the Spirit of Christ. They should continue in educational work as heretofore, but should plan to do more in language study and in direct preaching and individual work.

Rev. K. Tsunajima's idea of the work of the missionary, past, present and future, was always one and the same,—to be a preacher—teacher—spreader of the Gospel. But before prophesying, he must, like the prophet, have heard the Lord speaking. Then he will speak what he has heard, earnestly and effectively. He hoped to see the twenty or more different Missions here in Japan get closer together in the future, and hoped they might soon raise a fund for a general evangelistic campaign in which all should have a share.

Rev. T. H. Haden also believed there was still a great field for missionary work here for a long time to come, in view of the nature of the work that confronts the church, and the great obstacles to be overcome. He stated the situation graphically by statistics thus: In a population of 51 millions, there are 70,000 Christians. As against 288,000 Buddhist temples and Shinto shrines, there are 1675 Christian churches. Against 216,000 priests, there are 1,391 Christian workers, men and women. While one Christian worker is seeking to win one convert, there are 156 on the other side trying to hold him. With all these organized forces against it, together with the present-day materialistic spirit, the Christian Church needs all the help it can get from every source.

Bishop Y. Honda favoured the continuance of the missionary in work here, and wanted him to come in such close contact with the Japanese that they shall forget he is a foreigner; also to become a spiritual leader and teacher, leaving the work of managing the church organization in the hands of the Japanese. And he would like to see more of the missions unite.

Rev. M. Nemura said that God is one, and the work is one, and we want to talk and think together with no idea of rivalry or competition in work. As the allied armies marched upon Peking under different flags, yet all marched together and worked in harmony, so the churches and the missions can work, separately and yet together. There is plenty to do, and we want to humbly repent for any failings in the past, and buckle down to hard work for the future.

Dr. J. D. Davis, who was the last speaker, said that when he came to Japan 35 years ago there were only ten baptised Christians in the country Now Christianity is favourably received everywhere, the Emperor contributes money to Christian work, there are 600 churches with 70,000 members, and 100,000 children in Sunday Schools; and there are Missionary Societies for both home and foreign work. With all this capital to start out with on this second half century, how shall we measure the future?

As missionaries we realize that we are not now the organizers or directors or leaders in the work. The Japanese must do that, but we can co-operate. We can pray for new labourers to enter the field, be on the look-out for them and help train them for their work. We should realize the importance of united work, and labour for federated union in educational, evangelistic and publication work.

We should unite in declaring our faith in the great fundamental principles of Christianity. And we should pray unitedly for the quickening of the Holy Spirit. Such an influence would solve all our difficulties.

A series of resolutions was then passed, and the Conference was closed with the benediction pronounced by Rev. Dr. E. R. Miller.

On Saturday afternoon the members of the Conference were the guests of the Hon. R. Hara, who gave a garden party at his beautiful residence at Goten-yama, where fine weather and music and sports and refreshments and general sociability made a delightful close to this great and historic gathering.

The only further gathering that was on the programme was the Sunday afternoon Sermon and Communion Service, with Rev. T. Miyagawa and Rev. Y. Ishiwara to officiate. H.B.N.

The resolutions adopted by the Conference at its closing session were to the following effect:—

1. A resolution of thanks to His Majesty the Emperor for having granted the Constitution, by which religious liberty was guaranteed; and to the people of this land for the many favours the missionary bodies have received in these past fifty years.

2. A resolution of thanks to the Missionary Societies of the West for their fraternal greetings to this Conference, and for their constant sympathy during the past; also, of special greeting and fraternal love to Dr. Hepburn and to Bishop Williams.

3. A resolution acknowledging the great value of the work done by the higher Christian schools in the past, but expressing the conviction that the time has come for establishing a great and high grade Christian university, and calling upon the churches of the West, and upon all friends, for sympathy in this project.

4. A resolution urging the necessity of a closer alliance among the various evangelical churches, and expressing the hope that a Federation of Churches may be organized soon and put into practical operation.

5. A resolution expressing a feeling of the inadequacy of the present Christian literature in Japan, though recognizing the value of much that has been produced; and calling for co-operation among the mission bodies in producing a literature of high excellence; and appealing to friends in the West for assistance in this work.

6. A resolution expressing gratitude for the work of the Young Men's, and Young Women's, Christian Associations, and urging the extension of their plans and work so as to touch the mercantile and other classes more closely.

7. A resolution calling for the formation of a Christian Museum for preserving documents, books and other articles of interest, that would show the history and development of Christianity in Japan.

8. A resolution expressing sympathy with the suggestion made to this Conference by a company of responsible physicians, looking towards the establishment in Japan of a great Christian Hospital.

9. A resolution expressing willingness and desire to unite in special evangelistic work (*taikyo dendō*).

10. A resolution of thanks to the Young Men's Christian Association for the use of their building and all the facilities for this Convention; also, to the Committee that planned this Convention and carried it through with such success.

The following paper was adopted by the Conference:—

While the Government and people of Japan have maintained a general attitude of cordial friendship for the United States, there has sprung up in some quarters of the latter country a spirit of distrust of Japan. There have issued from the sensational press such exaggerated and even false rumours concerning the "real" and "secret" purpose of Japan as to arouse a suspicion that even war was not unlikely,—a suspicion that was largely dispelled by the cordial welcome given by Japan in the fall of 1908 to the American Fleet and the delegation of business men from the Pacific Coast.

Both in connection with the embarrassing situation created by the proposed legislation in California regarding Japanese residents and the attendance of Japanese children in the public schools; and in connection with the problem of Japanese immigration into the United States many articles appeared in the American sensational papers, revealing profound ignorance of Japan, and creating anti-Japanese sentiment. In spite of this irritation the press and the people of Japan, as a whole, maintained a high degree of self control. Nevertheless they were often reported as giving vent to belligerent utterances, and making belligerent plans. Trivial incidents were often seized on and exaggerated

In this day of extensive and increasing commingling of races and civilizations, one of the prime problems is the maintenance of amicable international relations. Essential to this are not only just and honest dealings between governments, but also, so far as practicable, the preven-

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tion as well as the removal of race jealousy and misunderstanding between the peoples themselves. Indispensable for this purpose is trustworthy international news. False, or even exaggerated, reports of the customs, beliefs or actions of other nations are fruitful cause of contempt, ill-will, animosity and even war. If libel on an individual is a grave offence, how much more grave is libel on a nation.

Therefore we, American missionaries residing in Japan, would respectfully call the attention of lovers of international peace and good-will to the above-mentioned facts and considerations, and would urge the importance of receiving with great caution any alleged news from Japan of an inflammatory or belligerent nature; and of seeking to educate public opinion in the United States so that, in regard to foreign news, it will cultivate the habit of careful discrimination.

Miscellaneous Notes

The Conference was honoured with messages of greeting and congratulation from Premier Count Katsura representing the Government; also from the Minister for Education, the Governor of Tokyo-fu, and the Mayor of Tokyo shi, each of whom sent a representative to the first session of the Conference.

The British Ambassador, Sir Claude MacDonald, also sent a letter; and a representative from the United States Embassy was present.

Greetings were received from a number of the home Boards in America.

The music during the Convention was in the charge of Rev. G. Allchin, leader, and Rev. E. S. Cobb, pianist; while a number of the missionaries added to the pleasure of the company by solos and quartettes, and several choirs of young ladies from Girls' Schools of the city assisted in this way.

Each morning session began with a half hour of devotional exercises, well attended and deeply spiritual. The leaders were Rev. S. Yoshikawa, Mrs. H. Ibuka, Rev. W. P. Buncombe and Rev. J. Takano.

The full text of the resolutions adopted by the Semi-Centennial Christian Conference, held at Tokyo, Oct. 5-10, is as follows:—

I.—This Conference assembled to celebrate the Semi-Centennial of the Planting of Protestant Christianity in Japan, renders to Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, most hearty thanks for all His manifold favours to the nation; and in particular it praises him that it was the mind of his Majesty the Emperor to grant the Constitution in which is guaranteed freedom of faith.

II.—During these fifty years, in obedience to the Great Command of our Lord Jesus Christ, and after his own example, the Churches of Christ in the West have brought to Japan the gospel of eternal life. For this the conference gratefully acknowledges indebtedness, and earnestly asks of them the continuance of their labour of love until the time of the firm establishment of the Churches of Christ in Japan. It also prays that they who have so richly given may be themselves most richly recompensed.

III.—In the wisdom of God, there are nations called of him to especial service in the world; and to such such a service it seems evident that he has called Japan. The Conference therefore prays, and asks the Churches in the West to join with it in constant prayer, that the nation be enabled to make its calling and election sure, and that the Churches of Christ in Japan may be seen as lights in the world.

IV.—The Conference most cordially thanks the Boards and Societies of Foreign Missions of the Churches in the West for their fraternal greetings. It also expresses its gratitude for their unfailing sympathy during so many years; and prays that they may ever be given the guidance of the Holy Spirit for the right performance of the duties committed to them.

V.—The Conference with deep feeling sends its fraternal love to Dr. Hepburn and Bishop Williams; and prays that the God of all comfort lead them to their journey's end in peace, and at last bring them to the Eternal City with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

VI.—The Conference gladly recognizes the great value of the work done in the past by the higher Christian schools; but it also observes with apprehension that their resources do not now enable them to maintain an equal place with the best government institutions of corresponding grades. In the interests of Christianity in Japan this is a matter for grave concern. The future of Christian education depends upon a better equipment of the present Christian schools. That is essential; but still more than this is necessary. A Christian University worthy of the name should be established without delay. The Conference therefore earnestly presses these needs upon the attention of Christian friends both in Japan and in the West.

VII. — The various evangelical Christian Churches of Japan have for many years been loosely associated in co-operative effort under the name of the Evangelical Alliance. But the developments of the last few years have made it increasingly urgent to bring about a firmer and more effective form of co-operation, and have led to the proposal to transform the Evangelical Alliance into a Federation of Churches.

In view of these facts, we Christians in this Semi-Centennial Conference assembled, deeply realizing the need of such a Federation of Churches, unite in hoping that it may soon be consummated, in order to make possible fuller and more fruitful co-operation among the various denominations.

VIII.—Resolved, that this Conference, recognizing the great importance of the Sunday-school as a factor in and an agency for the extension and upbuilding of the Kingdom of God, hereby expresses approval of the movement to coordinate all Sunday-school effort by means of a National Sunday School Association, and recommends the existing organization for Japan to the sympathy and support of the churches and missions and of individual believers.

IX.—This Conference, while fully recognizing the excellence of much of the Christian Literature already produced in Japan, is strong in the conviction that the present agencies for its production are quite inadequate to needs which are clear and pressing. The conditions now confronting the Christian movement in Japan imperatively call for Christian literature of various kinds and of high excellence. The agencies now required, however, can hardly be created by any one denomination; and relatively large funds will be needed to carry out well considered and comprehensive plans. The Conference therefore earnestly commends the matter to the attention of Christian friends both in Japan and in the West.

X.—This Semi-Centennial Conference recognizes with deep gratitude the specialized service rendered by the Japanese Young Men's Christian Association Union and the Japanese Young Women's Christian Association Union, as the representatives of all the churches, in evangelizing and training for service the young men and young women of Japan, and urges these associations to extend their efforts especially among the student, the mercantile and the industrial class.

XI.—Whereas, as a matter of interest and for future historical purposes, it is important to form and preserve at some suitable place, a collection of documents, books, photographs and other articles relating to the history of Christianity in Japan, Resolved, that a Board of Curators, consisting of five persons, be appointed for this purpose, by this conference, and that this board be both self-governing and self-perpetuating.

XII.—The following resolution was adopted in compliance with a petition signed by nine Christian Japanese physicians:—

Although there are in Japan many forms of charitable work, and although in consequence of the remarkable progress of medical science in Japan, the number of hospitals is very large, yet the fact that there is as yet no well-equipped Christian charity hospital is greatly to be regretted.

Recognizing the importance of such a hospital, we commend the proposal to establish such an institution to all persons who sympathize with its object. (Signed by Shoho Kawakami, Chin Nishi, Shigeo Osada, Kennosuke Wada, Kijiuro Watanabe, Keiku Tajuchi, Sankei Asami, Junkichi Kimura and Iga Mori).

XIII.—Resolved, that the heartiest thanks of this Conference be extended to the chairmen, vice-chairmen, members of the various committees and to the other friends, who have, by their generous and pains taking services, helped to make this Conference a success.

XIV.—Resolved that this Conference express its grateful appreciation to the Tokyo Young Men's Christian Association, for putting the hall and other conveniences of their building and the services of their staff at the disposal of the Conference.

THE INFLUENCE OF CHRISTIANITY ON CIVIL AND RELIGIOUS LIBERTY.

An Address by Rev. J. H. DeForest before the Semi-Centennial Conference.

The love of liberty is deeply implanted in human nature everywhere, and appears more or less in the history of all progressive peoples. There never would have been any Greece and Rome, nor Switzerland and England, nor China and Japan, but for this love of civil liberty that made possible the rise and progress of those peoples. And I may say with equal conviction that there never would have been any such Buddhism and Christianity as we now see East and West, nor any great system of morality like Confucianism but for that love of religious liberty which inspired prophets and sages of old, and which has filled the history of mankind with much of its noblest heroism. Liberty is natural to man.

If we pause a moment to define these terms, we find that civil liberty means the absence of outward compulsion, a denial of slavery in any form, and of arbitrary acts of governments. It also means such forms of representative government as give expression to the will of the people in common laws and in common protection and provides equal rights in the pursuit of well being.

Religious liberty also means the absence of any outward compulsion either by state or church. It is the right of every one to believe and worship as his own conscience directs, without having any dominion over the faith of others. It therefore includes toleration of, and respect for, the beliefs of those who differ from us. No definition is at all complete which does not emphasize the necessity of high morality to make it work.

If now we ask which of these two forms of liberty is of prime importance, the unhesitating reply is, religious liberty stands first and foremost. For the religious spirit in man is at the bottom of all progress, and is the greatest force under the skies. All the governments of the world, ancient and modern, came into existence and power through the religious spirit more than through any other forces. So that in just the proportion that religious liberty prevails, in that proportion is civil liberty sure to be found; and even though civil liberty stands preeminent in certain historic crises, unless it has the warm support of religious liberty, it has no permanent place in national life.

With this brief introduction, you will see that I do not intend to claim that Christ is the only teacher of human freedom; and as for the Christian church as a whole, everybody knows that it has at times used every effort to suppress both religious and civil liberty. Nay, even to-day, we must confess with sorrow that the vast majority of Christians are under religious systems that do not tolerate religious liberty, while the governments of those lands are in some cases little better than despotisms, and in others not over friendly to civil liberty. Just in proportion as that form of Christianity which we call Protestantism prevails, so do men and women and children breath the air of freedom.

With all the e limitations, I yet believe that the teachings of Christ are the greatest and best of all the forces that make for human freedom. Though he never used the words civil and religious liberty as such, yet he taught something far deeper and more precious, truths that include liberty of body and soul. He taught that men are made on a great plan, in the very nature of their Father God, to be his children, like him lovers of righteousness and truth, to be perfect as the Almighty Father in Heaven is perfect. He taught that men are made for universal brotherhood, in which the strong shall help the weak, and oppression shall give way to loving service. His greatest direct word on liberty was, "The truth shall make you

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free." Only know the truth about God, how he loves all men East and West, how great a plan he has made us on, how great our destiny, and it naturally follows that we must have "the glorious liberty of the sons and daughters of God." This is grand! Here I fully believe is the greatest and best of all the forces that are lifting humanity into its rightful dignity and power. Whatever oppositions to liberty there may have been in Christian lands it still is conspicuously true that no other lands can show such glorious achievements in liberty as does the Christian west, and under no other religion have the problems of liberty been so splendidly developed, though by no means fully solved.

But right here it is necessary to meet this objection:—If Christianity stands for this principle of universal liberty, why has the church, through long ages, so often repressed this love of liberty, persecuting its advocates even with fire and sword? And why have Christian governments so often stamped out in wars and rivers of blood the attempts of their subjects to gain civil and religious liberty? And why have Christian nations defended and practised until recent times that gigantic evil of human slavery?

The answer is not difficult, nor need it be discouraging. Christ indeed did not give civil and religious liberty to men. What he did was something far better, he gave such a glorious view of the greatness and value of men as impelled them to seek for liberty as their right. He inspired the idea and left men to work it out. I must emphasize the fact that liberty has to be worked out. It is not something into which communities and nations can jump at one step, but is something that every community and nation must work out through ages of experiment, and often through ages of bitter opposition, and even by whole generations of wars. Liberty costs blood, precious blood, rivers of blood. All the great blessings that have come to us of this twentieth century cost the blood of countless noble men and women of previous centuries. At the very summit of these stands the Founder of our religion, whose blood was shed for us and for the whole world that men everywhere might be free from sin and superstition and thus made fit for the glorious liberty of the sons of God. And following in his divine footsteps, time would fail us to even mention the names of those who, in age after age, in all the lands where the teachings of Christ have taken root, have stood for the fulness of liberty, no matter what the cost.

Yes, there have been bitter, prolonged, brutal persecutions of individuals; massacres of whole communities; and wars that amaze and shock us as we read of the horrible battles and butcheries that the Christian church authorized and Christian nations carried on for ages. Even in Protestantism, where the love of liberty is strongest, there have been wicked strife and hateful quarrels, not only over creeds, but even over the manner of celebrating the two precious sacraments, baptism and the Lord's supper. These greatest sins we humbly confess. We and our fathers have sinned, against the teaching of our Lord and against his spirit of love and sweet toleration.

Yet we may still hold up our heads in glad thanksgivings and praises. For in no other history is the spirit of civil and religious liberty so conspicuous, so powerful and so victorious as in the very church that tried to suppress it, and in the very nations where these long and bloody struggles took place. As I said above, it takes ages to work out the problem of liberty. If liberty were simply a matter that concerns the individual, you or me, we should know just what we want. I want to make my own creed; I want to do as I please anywhere and everywhere. This is simple individual liberty, and the savage who has a whole wilderness to himself has this individual liberty. But what is it worth? Only liberty in a society that is bound together by common customs and common law; where families have to combine together for common safety; where nations grow up into power; where knowledge increases; where human intercourse widens; where human wants and desires multiply and conflict with one another; where standards of living widely vary; where peoples of different races and religions mingle; only in this exceedingly complex environment, where the liberty of every other person is the liberty that Christianity strives for.

In working out this grand universal problem in all its profound complexity could our fathers have avoided clashings and strife? In those ages when people sincerely thought that salvation depends on belief in a definite creed, was it not an experiment worth trying, to force men to accept that creed even by persecution and death? When Christian rulers sincerely felt that civil liberty would produce anarchy, were they not justified in trying to stamp out this dangerous love of liberty? You see, the problem of liberty in society, of progressive liberty in progressive society is one of the most complex problems that the human race has to solve. It has taken experiment upon experiment; it has cost untold treasures of precious lives. And now at last in this twentieth century we are only beginning to see the light of liberty illuminating the world. The vast problem of human liberty is only in the beginning of its solution. It will take ages upon ages yet before the divine message that Christ brought shall have won all nations and races to the universal practice of liberty working in love.

This will be better understood if we briefly glance at two great stages in the history of liberty in connection with the Christian church.

1. When the Roman Empire fell, there was no other power capable of reducing to political order the heterogeneous tribes and communities of Europe, and so it naturally became the work of the church to restore order, subdue lawless barbarians, govern the peoples, and to punish the disobedient. Thus gradually the political power of the Popes increased until it became nearly absolute. The Popes claimed all power on earth, temporal as well as spiritual, and in support of this claim they controlled armies, made and unmade kings, and claimed authority over men's faith and reason.

In this long struggle of more than a thousand years, and it is not yet ended, we need to remember sympathetically that (1) There never was any other religion that has had such a mighty political power through so many centuries and over such progressive peoples as Christianity has had. (2) There never was any other religion that has had such a noble line of leaders as are the Popes of the Roman Catholic Church. (3) During all these ages, the Church conserved the spirit of reverent worship, made universities and libraries, developed the most inspiring music, erected awe-inspiring cathedrals, made possible the growth of cities and the expansion of commerce, and ameliorated something of the barbarities of war.

Yet it relentlessly suppressed the rising spirit of liberty, persecuting all departures from the faith, punishing heretics with death, dethroning rulers who resisted the papal claims, and establishing the Inquisition, whose horrible work constitutes probably the greatest crime against liberty the world ever knew. Then came that Christian reformation with its hosts of liberty loving heroes, whose hearts were all aflame with the light and life of Christ. They saw that the problem of religious liberty must be worked out by free and independent churches on the one hand, while that of civil liberty must be worked out by the growth of free and independent nations. The efforts of these saintly men were felt in every land of Europe, bringing on new struggles for political freedom from the bondage of the Church of Rome. And fortunately the nations more and more reduced the temporal power of the Pope, until within your memory and mine, the last trace of political authority was wrested from the Papacy. In September 20th, 1870, Victor Emmanuel entered Rome as King of Italy, and thus only 49 years ago, one of the greatest steps in working out human liberty was accomplished, the temporal power of the Popes was ended. And I must add that the great Roman Catholic Church, which we must not forget is our Mother-church, is all the better and richer in her spiritual power for having lost her political authority over the nations of Europe.

2. The second great step in the progress of liberty is what is called the separation of Church and State. This in itself, as you all know, is one of the most complex problems of all history, and is only partially solved even in the most progressive of Christian lands.

When the protest against Papal authority swept over Europe the great reformers wanted to bring in universal liberty, but they found that they still had to work out the problem by experiment upon experiment. They knew no better way than to establish some form of Protestantism as the state religion, and thus they perpetuated many of the evils of the Papal system, where the Church used civil power to enforce conformity, and where the State used the Church as a political tool. Liberty indeed gained a long forward step by the work of the reformers, but how imperfectly the problem was solved is seen from such facts as that Calvin felt impelled to aid in the death of Servetus; and the established Protestant Church of England shed far too much precious blood in trying to enforce conformity, and thus drove from her shores many bands of noble men and woman whose love of religious liberty brought joy and hope to many nations. Even our Pilgrim Fathers, who are justly called the founders of the United States, could not at once shake off the traditional methods of past ages in which the Church used civil authority to enforce correct belief. But they splendidly helped to work out the problem, and at last for the first time in history, a nation was born with a constitution that recognizes no State Church, but maintains that all men are equally entitled to freedom in religious beliefs.

This is one of the most conspicuous landmarks in the history of civil and religious liberty, and it has had untold influence for good upon large sections of the various peoples of Europe. President Eliot, whose weighty words on this subject cannot be gainsaid, says that among the great contributions "which the United States have made to civilization is their thorough acceptance, in theory and practice, of the widest religious toleration." Conspicuously this Constitution of liberty aided the French people to throw off their despotism in that Revolution whose glories and horrors about equally divide the attention of historians. It has weakened the power and authority of the State churches of Europe. It has been a constant encouragement to that growing section of the English people who feel the perils to liberty from an established church, until now half of the population of Great Britain is outside the State Church, and the free and independent churches have at last won such national influence that for the first time at the coronation of an English King, a delegation of leading dissenters was graciously received when Edward VII ascended the throne.

Do not misunderstand me. I do by no means claim that the people of the United States of America have of themselves worked out this ideal of the civil and religious liberty and made it the hope of millions of people of Europe. Rather I would bow in profound gratitude to the great reformers of Europe and their numerous followers, who made the greatest and longest and most bloody sacrifice while working out in their unfavourable environment this problem of universal liberty. It was their efforts that inspired and enabled the people of the American Republic, in their more favourable environment, to embody in their constitution, and put into larger practice before the world, the best results of the heroic labours of all the lovers of liberty in Europe.

If now you ask why we of the United States do not enter into full and complete practice of civil and religious liberty, I reply again, we have to work out a larger solution than has been possible as yet. We have given freedom to millions of slaves; we fought some of the world's bloodiest battles in part to set the negro free. But the problem of complete liberty in society, with people of a different colour and a lower type of manhood has not yet been ideally worked out on a large scale, and it threatens to take some generations to come before this world work is done.

Then again, the overpopulated nations of this Eastern hemisphere have tried to enter our wide continent, where tens of millions from the crowded sections of Europe have come to enjoy our liberties and to share citizenship with us. Our fathers, in their gratitude over their new expansion of liberties, sent a call through all the world for

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all who were oppressed and in poverty, to come and make America their home. But as soon as thousands of labourers from China and Japan began to enter, the doors were rudely slammed in their faces; and even for those who have entered, and by long years of successful enterprise are worthy of citizenship with us, our hard and shameful laws now say, No Asiatic can become a citizen of our Republic.

This coming together of the great East and the great West, with different languages, religions, and standards of living, has brought new and many complexities into the problem of world liberty, and made its solution far more difficult than our fathers ever dreamed of. Race problems, economic problems with strikes and boycotts, sociological problems, sanitary problems, the position of woman and the problem of divorce, educational problems, military necessities, governmental problems and international problems,—these and many others all combine to make the problem of universal liberty probably the most delicate and difficult one with which mankind has to deal.

There is no doubt however as to the mighty influence of Christianity upon this complex world problem. It is the only religion that has furnished a base broad enough and strong enough to enter with hope and courage into the very heart of this world problem. It alone has a doctrine of man that makes despotisms and slaveries and oppressions of every kind ultimately impossible. It alone has a doctrine of God Almighty, whose love of men everywhere East and West is commensurate with his power, and who made men to work for, and to extend everywhere the glorious liberty of his own divine nature.

But ages of ages of experiment upon experiment in various environments are necessary in working out the progressive stages of human liberty. We of this century are only beginning to see the light of liberty breaking over all nations. And wherever it breaks and men persistently push forward for freedom, it is because the spirit of the Lord is there. Outside of Christian limits and influences we see no well sustained movements for wide liberty anywhere in the history of man. The powerful religion of Buddhism, by its teaching of universal compassion, and its emphasis on the universality of moral law, has done much for the progress and civilization of the East. Confucianism, with its noble teachings of duty, and its lofty ethico-political system has given social order and peace through centuries and millenniums in a wonderful degree to the millions of Asia. These systems, being a part of God's providence in educating the East, have nourished the spirit of democracy, and have greatly helped to prepare the people for civil and religious liberty. Yet they, in themselves, have never inspired the people with the hope of universal liberty in society. Indeed, the very word liberty never gained a place in the religious and political literature of the East. I do not think it is too much to claim that it is only in the Christian atmosphere that this word has become precious; only in Christian prose and poetry that it has become immortal; only in Christian sculpture that the figure of liberty towers with raised torch illuminating, as fast and as wide as possible, this world of human beings: Only in connection with Christian morality has it gained the foremost place in human progress.

If now we inquire how Japan, without accepting Christianity could in one generation accept and put in practice these two priceless liberties which cost our ancestors ages of sacrifice, the answer is two fold:

(1) The love of liberty is a part of human nature everywhere, but it grows and thrives in some environments better than in others. Mountainous Japan, Insular Japan this is the environment that naturally feeds the spirit of independence. The Alps helped the growth of liberty in Switzerland. The insular position of Great Britain is a factor in the strong spirit of national freedom that characterizes her people. But mountains and islands alone can never breed true liberty. It takes large numbers of men of a high moral quality, men who have learned that great spiritual lesson of self sacrifice for the good of others, to make true lovers of liberty.

(2) And this brings us to the second factor in Japan's attitude towards liberty. We have only to look over the history of this progressive nation, and catch the spirit of her great moral and religious leaders, and see how willingly sufferings have been endured and life itself surrendered rather than submit to tyranny; and we shall easily discover their power to welcome the liberties of the West. One of the first things that attracted the earnest attention of thoughtful Japanese was the government of Great Britain with its Parliament, and the government of the American Republic with its Congress. That the people had authority in the government of the land appealed to them, not as to men who wanted to shake off a despotism so much, but as to men who were naturally ripe for larger and responsible liberty. I well remember 30 years ago, when being entertained in a wealthy farmer's house, having my attention called to a picture conspicuously hung up, of the British Parliament, concerning which the farmer said, "That's the kind of government we want." I remember also how rapidly the pictures of the favourite Western statesmen, Washington and Gladstone, found an honoured place in the homes of the common people.

As an illustration, let me mention Dr. Niisima, who founded the Doshisha. He was a living embodiment of the wide love of liberty among the Samurai, and his dying words were, "The object of the education of the Doshisha is not theology, literature, or science in themselves; but that through these, men of great and living power may be trained up for the service of *true freedom* and their country." And that this is a native thought in the hearts of Japanese is shown by its quotation by Japan's Ambassador, Baron Takahira, at the unveiling of Niisima's monument in Amherst, Mass. His Excellency there said that Niisima's purpose was not simply to teach theology, politics, science, etc., but to make "men who will be devoted to their country and who will love true liberty"

But I would not base Japan's love of liberty on the career of a few individuals. Rather would I refer you to the rapid and comparatively orderly rise of the Liberty Party in this land, headed by responsible leaders, a number of whom were arrested and cast in prison for a time, and even an attempt was made to assassinate the leader of this party. Patrick Henry's "Give me liberty or give me death" had no more thrilling effect upon the colonies of America than Count Itagaki's words had all through Japan—"Itagaki may die, but liberty never dies."

In a soil like this so richly prepared by geographical position and by ages of high moral and spiritual training, it was natural that contact with the liberty loving nations of the West should give a mighty impulse to the formal acceptance of civil and religious liberty here. Japan already by her excellent constitution, and by her immediate practice of liberty in representative government, in open courts of justice, in education, in religion, and in literature, has added immensely to the world's force of civil and religious liberty. China, with her 400 millions looking forward to a constitution, feels this influence. Russia, with her new Douma, has been awakened to liberty more by Japan than by the nearer nations of Europe. India with her National Assembly has taken new courage and life, for the stand Japan has so successfully taken. Young Turkey sees the light of liberty in this Far East and says hopefully, "If Japan can do it we can." An alliance, twice made with liberty-loving Great Britain, has strengthened the cause of liberty as well as of peace throughout the world.

We of the West, missionaries from many lands, take this 50th anniversary occasion, not merely to congratulate Japan, but rather to congratulate ourselves that we have a religious liberty here that is granted by no other great non-Christian nation, and which, I am sorry and glad to say is everyway better than that which some Christian governments allow. That we missionaries are free to go the length and breadth of this land with our Gospel message, under a constitution guaranteeing the same civil protection as Japanese subjects have, under one common law with them, is the first instance of this kind in the history of Christian missions.

And we missionaries, representatives not only of the churches of the West, but to some extent of the liberty loving nations of the West, we take this anniversary occasion to thank H.M. the Emperor, and his large-minded counsellors, and the 50 millions of Japan, for the courage and strength they have brought to the whole world by their power and will to take and to put into fairly successful operation these two essentials of modern civilization, civil and religious liberty. Japan, we know, is grateful to the West for all the material and spiritual blessings we have been able to give her. But the West is no less grateful to Japan for joining us in alliances and friendship for the practical solution of the world liberties.

As I said before, these problems that have been practically solved in certain localities or even in nations, have now got to be solved for universal use. Liberty among the millions of the East must come to mean the same as liberty in the West. And not till the great nations of the East join those of the West in highest moral purposes for universal peace and righteousness, can liberty come to her own everywhere among the children of men. And since Japan is the first great Eastern nation to throw her growing influence on the side of political and religious liberty, we here on this anniversary day bring our glad thanksgivings to the government and people of this Empire. We want it known throughout the length and breadth of this land; we want it published in every paper and magazine that we and the people whom we represent are profoundly grateful to Japan for the vast help she has brought to the sacred cause of human liberty throughout the world. It is too often said—"Japan owes all her progress to the West." She does indeed owe much to the West, and has always most sincerely recognised that fact. But by her success in adopting constitutional liberties, and thus casting in her lot with the progressive forces of the world, she has laid us under large obligations, so that we must frankly acknowledge that the West owes Japan a debt of profound gratitude and we here to-day want gratefully to recognize this debt.

In conclusion, let me raise the question,—How much has Christianity directly aided Japan in the adoption of civil and religious liberty? To this I reply that I do not care to claim anything for the 50 years' work of hundreds of Western missionaries here. We are not here to make any claim for ourselves, or to ask any recognition of any little work we may have done. But we do want to ask this great and friendly nation to take into careful consideration the historic fact that I have already emphasized, that the rise and growth of safe liberties in society has hitherto taken place only where the teachings of Christ have set forth the greatness and value and dignity of men and women and children. And the question is,—Can Japan successfully nourish these precious fruits of Christian teaching without taking the mighty source from which they come in all their fulness? The East has a strong basis of morality in which liberty may somewhat prosper, but history seems to teach that it takes a new type of spiritual morality to nourish with success the liberty that belongs to the sons and daughters of God

Look again at Niisima's life. When he first heard of American institutions, his great longing was for political liberty. He writes in wretched English that, nevertheless, is all aflame with the idea of freedom. Speaking of the United States he says, "I wondered so much as my brain would melted out from my head, picking out President Free school, machine-working, etc. And I thought that a governor of our country must be as President of United States. And I murmured myself that—O, Governor of Japan! why you keep down us as a dog or a pig?" His great thought was how to secure political institutions for Japan under which the knowledge of all the world would be free for all his countrymen.

But when he reached America, the one overpowering thought that from that time dominated his life, was the universality of God's love as revealed through the cross and resurrection of Christ. He then discovered what so many discerning men of the West have so clearly seen, that true freedom in all its greatness

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and glory and service comes only where Christ is known,- only where his life is wrought in men's lives, making them worthy of freedom. And then he worried no more about political liberty, but longed to establish a college that, while opening up the knowledge of the world, should bring to his pupils that type of morality which comes from the living Christ in the hearts of his followers. He knew that the liberty men ought to have would hardly be safe except as men knew and loved the God who made his children for liberty.

This one Japanese Christian scholar, I venture to think, is a type of his great nation which has taken political liberty first, but which will surely find that police and armies and education without religion are not the best safeguards for liberty. It is not enough to have a constitution that guarantees civil and religious liberty. There must be also a people with that type of morality that come only from willing faith in Him who is the life and light of the world, the Saviour of men, the revealer of that exalted truth that makes men free.

A LAW CASE AT KOBE.

SIMON, EVERS AND CO. *v.* M. FUJII.

In the Kobe Chiho Saibansho, on the 7th inst., the hearing was resumed of the action brought by Mr. A. H. Hansen, representative of Messrs. Simon, Evers and Co., Kobe, against Mr. Fujii Matabei, a dealer in manure, of Hiogo, asking the Court to order defendant to pay plaintiff *yen* 51,407.74, and at the same time to take delivery of 572½ tons of fish manure, and also to pay certain storage charges. Mr. Ota appeared for plaintiff and Mr. Kusaka for defendant.

Mr. Ota applied for leave to withdraw the case and the Court asked Mr. Kusaka if he agreed to that course being taken. Mr. Kusaka said he could not do so, as he was informed that plaintiff was preparing to claim damages against his client. The Court then asked Mr. Ota if he would proceed with the case, to which he replied that he would not, as it was his intention to withdraw it. Thereupon, Mr. Kusaka asked for judgment for defendant by default of plaintiff.

Judgment was reserved until the 11th instant.

In the Kobe Court on the 11th inst., judgment was given by default of plaintiff in the above action. Plaintiff's claim was dismissed with costs

THE TOR HOTEL, LTD, *v.* HAGIWARA.

In the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on the 8th inst., the hearing was commenced of an action brought by Mr. Chr. Holstein, Director of the Tor Hotel, Ltd., Kobe, against Mr. Hagiwara Otomatsu, of Kobe. Mr. Yamashita, of Messrs. Crosse and Yamashita, appeared for plaintiff, and Mr. Sano for defendant.

Mr. Yamashita asked the Court to order defendant to surrender to plaintiff 6 tsubo of land forming part of the residential lot of 39 tsubo 1-go 1 seki, located at No. 50 Yamamoto-dori, 3-chome, Kobe. The piece of land claimed, which is otherwise described as 6 bu of forest land, forms a triangle with its base extending for 24ft. along the northern side of Yamamoto dori. Counsel also asked that defendant should be ordered to pay the costs of the proceedings.

In opening the case, Counsel said that plaintiff, in June, 1907, purchased from Shimidzu Masu and Ishii Hiozo, who are not concerned in the case, the 6 bu of forest land (now described as 6 tsubo of residential lot), at No. 49, Yamamoto-dori, 3-chome, and some other lots. Nevertheless Tanimoto Kaichi, the previous owner of the above-mentioned land, unlawfully added the said 6 bu of forest land to the lot of 39 tsubo, 1 go, 1 seki of residential land at No. 50, Yamamoto-dori, 3-chome. Plaintiff requested Tanimoto to surrender the said lot, and, as he failed to do so, plaintiff was obliged to sue him on July 9, 1908. Plaintiff, however, lost his case on account of insufficiency of evidence, the judgment being given on March 1 last. Plaintiff appealed against the judgment and the case was pending in the Osaka Appeal Court. In the meantime Tanimoto, taking advantage of the plaintiff's not having taken provisional legal measures to prevent the assignment or sale of the land, sold it to defendant on April 6 last in conspiracy with defendant. The present proceedings were consequently now brought.

Mr. Sano, for defendant, asked the Court to dismiss the claim with costs. He stated that, although plaintiff alleges that 6 bu of forest land owned by him has been included in 39 tsubo 1 go 1 seki of residential land at No. 50, Yamamoto-dori, 3-chome, which defendant purchased from Tanimoto Kakichi, who is not concerned in the suit, the lot at No. 50 bought by defendant was originally entirely separate from the forest land in lot No. 49. Not only was the plaintiff's contention incorrect, but the defendant had never heard that the previous owners of the land had taken in the forest land in lot No. 49 and added it to No. 50. Counsel further stated that the 6 bu of forest land owned by plaintiff was purchased by the Hotel during the year 1907 from Ishii Hiozo, who is not concerned in the suit, and the latter bought it in April, 1897, from Tada Toyokichi, who is also not concerned in the case. The forest land previously owned by Tada and now owned by defendant is on the northern side of the main road running east to west and close to the land in dispute. It and the road on its south formerly formed one lot of land. When the new road was made in 1888 or 1889, the southern portion of the said lot was converted into roadway and the other portion was left on the south of the road. This was acknowledged by Ishii and Tada. As it was stated that when Ishii disposed of the 6 bu of forest land in dispute to plaintiff, the parties concerned entered into the transaction on the understanding that the land to be sold lay on the north of the above-mentioned road, plaintiff must be well aware that No. 49 was not included in the residential lot No. 50. Counsel concluded by saying that although plaintiff alleged that defendant purchased the No. 50 residential lot on April 6, 1908, in conspiracy with Tanimoto (the previous owner), the fact was that when defendant purchased it he did not know that the land was in dispute. Defendant was therefore much aggrieved by plaintiff's having taken legal provisional measures to prevent an assignment or sale of the land.

Mr. Yamashita submitted Exhibit A 1, which was a copy of a map of the land in dispute and its surroundings, at the Kobe City Office, the map being itself a copy of the original at the Kobe Tax Office.

Mr. Sano said that when the nature of a lot of land is altered, as when forest land is made into a residential lot, or when a new road is constructed, the city officials usually did not actually examine the land, so errors were frequently found in the maps at the City Office. Counsel therefore contended that the exhibit could not be fully relied upon.

Mr. Yamashita applied for leave to call as a witness an official of the Kobe Tax Office. Mr. Sano asked the Court to obtain the Court records concerning the former action with regard to the same land. Both applications were granted, and the case was adjourned until the 20th instant.

JUDGMENT IN CLIFFORD-WILKINSON TANSAN COMPANY *v.* MUR.

In the Osaka Court on Saturday morning, judgment was delivered on the appeal by Mr. R. B Byles, representing the Kobe branch of the Clifford-Wilkinson Tansan Mineral Company, Ltd., against the judgment given in the Kobe Court in the action instituted by the Company for the annulment by the Court of the decision given by the Kobe Ku Saibansho granting Mr. J. M. Mur power to sell certain property at Takaradzuka by a compulsory auction The judgment was in favour of respondent, the appeal being dismissed with costs.—*Kobe Herald.*

A SHANGHAI telegram to the Osaka *Mainichi* (quoted by the Kobe *Herald*) reports that on Tuesday, 4th inst., Field-Marshal Lord Kitchener inspected the Shanghai Volunteers, including some Japanese, on the drill ground. Afterwards he was entertained at a banquet by the Chairman of the Municipal Council, when Rear-Admiral Teragaki, Commander of the Third Japanese Squadron, and Mr. Ukita, the Acting Japanese Consul-General at Shanghai, were among the guests. Lord Kitchener was to leave Shanghai on the 6th by train for Nanking.

BIG FIRE AT KYOTO.

It is reported from Kyoto that at about 3 a.m. on the 6th inst. an alarming fire broke out in the yard of a grocery owned by a man named Mochidzuki Mototaro, in Gion-machi, Kyoto. The fire was discovered by a servant, and almost immediately the grocery was enveloped in flames. As the street contains several licensed houses, many people assembled and a scene of much confusion ensued. Firemen were quickly on the spot, but the flames had got a strong hold and were assisted by a breeze, with the result that a large theatre, the Minamiza, was soon in danger. Great efforts were made to save this building, as it was feared that if it caught fire the outbreak might develop into a conflagration such as that at Osaka, and these were eventually successful. The flames, however, spread northward, and five licensed houses and nine other premises were completely destroyed, while three others were badly damaged. The fire was at last got under control at twenty minutes past five. It is stated that the scene was a most remarkable one, girls running out of the houses in their night clothes, rushing wildly up and down the the street, while in some cases people left their houses without any clothes at all. Great numbers of pillows, "futon," etc., were thrown into the gutters and were carried away by the stream, piling up into a mass when the lowest point was reached. The outbreak is believed, says the Kobe *Herald*, to have been caused by a heap of shavings in the grocery yard having caught fire from sparks from the chimney of a bath-house.

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"FROM NATURE TO GRACE."

A Sermon preached in Winchester College Chapel on Sunday, July 4th, 1909.

By WILLIAM AWDRY, DD., late Bishop in South Tokyo; formerly Second Master of Winchester College.

My subject shall be the development of Christian character from youth to old age, or, as St. Paul would more tersely express it, "Growth in grace." We will trace this growth in grace in the case of St. Peter. No doubt there are other lines along which men may grow from promising boyhood to ripe old age in Christ, but I know of none in which the steps and nature of this growth are seen so beautifully, and I am sure St. Peter's story has lessons for us all, very precious lessons, which do not lie quite upon the surface.

Forgive a personal word about the reasons for this choice of subject. Last Tuesday was St. Peter's Day, the fourteenth annivesary of my Consecration to be a Bishop, which the world regards as the highest rank and dignity that a minister of God can be raised to, but the man himself (if he has any fitness for the office) feels to be the heaviest burden, the most appalling responsibility, that can be laid upon him. The anniversary, therefore, brings searchings of heart. Has the soul in the sight of God been withering away while in the world's estimate the man has been growing and advancing? There is great reason for fear and for self examination.

Again, there is much to stir my heart when speaking to you here. Fifty years ago I was as one of you boys, preparing within these walls for the struggle of life; forty years ago I was a master here with a "career" just beginning. Now, to you who are beginning life I speak as one who is ending it. Approaching the threescore years and ten, if we measure by time, I am in fact almost certainly within a few months of death, growing daily weaker, already on the shelf, this earthly life as completely a retrospect for me as for you it is a prospect. What shall old age say to youth, the life ending to the life beginning? Surely nothing could be more appropriate than to trace the experience of a life which was marked by continuous growth? What sort of end followed upon the young manhood of the Apostle of whose career we have such vivid sketches in the New Testament, and what were the steps in this progress? I shall take five texts, a pair and a triplet, but I will be very brief on each group of texts.

The pair is:—*Luke* v, 8, "Simon Peter, when he saw it, fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord," with *John* xxi, 7, "When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he girt his coat about him—and cast himself into the sea," to be with Jesus the more quickly. Both belong to St. Peter's early life while in company with the Master, and they are not more than three years apart. The effect of suddenly feeling our Lord's more than mere human presence was absolutely opposite in the two cases.

The triplet is:—*John* xiii, 37, "Lord, why cannot I follow Thee even now? I will lay down my life for Thee." *Acts* xii, 6, "When Herod was about to bring him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains." *John* xxi, 18, 19, "When thou girddest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest; but when thou shalt be old, thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee, and carry thee whither thou wouldest not. Now this he spake, signifying by what manner of death he should glorify God. And when He had spoken this He said unto him, Follow Me."

But before comparing these texts we must recall to our minds what sort of man Peter was by nature before Grace (*i.e.*, the Spirit of God moving in his soul) had done its work upon him.

Look at his simplicity and honesty of heart—going often to the extent of unwisdom, of speaking out what stirred in his inmost heart before giving himself time to think. By way of one instance out of several remember how at the Transfiguration he put Moses and Elijah on the same level with the Master, and said "Let us make three tabernacles; one for Thee, and one for Moses, and one for Elijah; *not knowing* what he said."

Or again, look at his self-confidence. Here, out of many examples, we will take two, in both of which his words show that though he had already acknowledged Jesus to be the Christ the Son of God, and was in spirit, when he gave himself time to think, utterly loyal to his Master, yet his words clearly express his thoughts that in some points he "knew better" than that Divine Master. For remember how when the Lord spoke of His coming rejection and death, Peter thought of it only as the outcome of a fit of depression, and said "Be it far from Thee, Lord, this shall not be unto Thee." And later, on the eve of the Passion, when Peter professed his readiness to go with the Master to prison or to death, and the Master answered by "I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day until thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest Me," Peter replied, "If I must die with Thee I will not deny Thee." He thought he knew himself better than the Master knew him; and his conduct during the rest of that evening showed that so far as *courage* went, which he supposed would be the virtue required, he had not overrated himself. It was intelligence, not bravery, that was it fault.

For the third and last trait of Peter's natural character, of which I want to speak, is his heroic courage. It is strange indeed that Peter's three fold denial should often be ascribed to lack of courage. Why, his presence in the High Priest's palace at all, and that just after the scene in Gethsemane, was such an act of valour as well to deserve the Victoria Cross, and that he should still have stayed in the hornets' nest to be recognised a second and yet a third time, at the very least doubled and trebled the courage of the act.

Twelve men only, and these twelve deeply depressed, as well they might be, in spite of all encouragements, by the thoughts, scenes, and talk of the evening, now tired and sleepy also, with only two swords between them. (It suggests curious thoughts that in such a peaceable law-abiding company there should have been even these, when they heard and misunderstood our Saviour's words about buying swords.) At all events Peter had possessed himself of one of those two swords with the full intention of being as good as his boast that "though he should die with Him he would not deny Him," and that "he was ready to go with Him either to prison or to death." Then see him in the garden. A man of peace, probably unskilled with a sword, striking single-handed straight at the head of the first man he could reach in the "multitude" that came "with lanterns and torches and weapons," and all this under the Paschal full moon which would make recognition easy. And yet within an hour, or two hours at most, he is in the High Priest's palace, trying indeed to avoid recognition, yet staying on even when twice recognised, and even then going only out of the crowd and firelight into a less conspicuous place. It was surely the Lord's look, and the sudden perception that he had blundered, and that his sins, his lies and oaths, were giving pain just where he had used them in the hope of giving help, that sent him out of that dangerous place broken-hearted. Not cowardice, surely, but misplaced self-confident audacity which insisted on trying to rescue the Son of God by violence, trickery, and sin, was his fault. We must not interpret a single act of a man by supposing it to spring from a motive which is dead contrary to the most salient feature of his whole character.

And now having seen the nature of the natural man, we may shortly trace his growth from nature to grace, from sinner with noble natural dispositions to saint with those dispositions under full control, and directed not by self-will and ambition, but by self-effacement and submission to the will of God.

The first couple of our five texts show Peter under similar conditions doing directly opposite acts, and at first sight we should perhaps have expected that those acts would have been reversed; that in the first instance he would have been drawn *to* Christ, but in the second case he might not unnaturally have shrunk back. In both there is the same eager unconventional forwardness, the same tendency to speak and act before thinking, which we have seen to be characteristic of him. Both occurrences were in the boat close to the shore of the sea of Galilee in the early morning, when, after a night (the most favourable time) had been spent by the experienced fishermen in fruitless fishing, yet in full daylight, on the Landsman's bidding, they had cast their nets and found them full of fish. The first time our Lord was in the boat with them; the second time He called to them from the shore. The first time was not indeed before He was known to Peter, but before Peter had been called from his secular calling to the Apostleship; the second time was after the Resurrection. The first time Peter, so far as we know, had no special sin upon his soul; the second time the threefold denial was fresh in mind, certainly not five weeks old, and his express restoration to favour *followed*, did not precede his act. Yet the first time the effect of the draught of fishes upon Peter was to make him say "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man," whereas the second made him so impatient of delay that, leaving the fish, the work, and the comrades, he dashed into the water and swam those hundred yards to get to Jesus, yet not forgetful of reverence, for he first encumbered his swimming by clothing himself.

There is something here to be explained, but the explanation is both simple and profitable. No doubt on the first occasion Peter already knew Jesus to be different from other men, holy, the Prophet and the Christ whom the Jews were to expect, knew himself to be a sinful man, yet he had not realised the full meaning of this; he had not realised the immense difference between them. Simple, and "without guile," he had very little prejudice of fixed conventional ideas to prevent his seeing instantly, in his astonishment at the more than human knowledge or power, and close relation to God, implied in the draught of fishes, that he was out on the water in the immediate presence, in the same little boat, with One incomparably greater and better than himself; and in recognising Christ he recognised himself by contrast. The vision of our Lord's Divinity, however imperfectly realised, brought home to him the vision of his own unfitness for such a presence, just as a beggar, who found that he had been talking familiarly with a king, would at once become conscious of his own dirty face and ragged clothes, or as Isaiah, immediately on seeing the vision of Jehovah in the temple, cried out "Woe is me! for I am undone, because I am a man of unclean lips, for mine eyes have seen the King, Jehovah Sabaoth." And observe that when the vision of God had brought home to each the overwhelming sense of his own sinfulness, then, and not till then, Isaiah and St. Peter alike received the call to devote his life to God's ministry; to the one, "Go and tell this people, etc," to the other, "Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men."

My young brothers, just preparing to enter upon the great service of God in the world, whether that service is to be in the Christian ministry strictly so called or not, you must know God if you would know yourselves, and by learning, through the knowledge of God, your own insufficiency, you will have taken the first step towards fitness for the service.

Peter's was a noble nature, and I could wish you, in this early stage of your life, to be such as he was when first he met our Lord, always with good intention, and blundering rather by over eagerness than shrinking through over caution. But before the Lord left the disciples, St. Peter was to go through deeper experience which would take him forward another step. He went on, often generously blundering, but always patient of rebuke and profiting by it; and having learnt in this progress a still deeper sense of his own sinfulness and mistakes, he came to know his own need of a Saviour and a Guide close at hand. Hence, after his terrible fall in the High Priest's palace, instead of saying "Depart from me, for I am a sinful man," he rushed to Christ from the boat through the water just for the same reason which before had made him wish to shrink away. Had his sense of his own sinfulness or of Christ's holiness and Divinity become less? No. His sense of both had grown, but his sense of the need of and longing for the Saviour had grown in a far

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higher degree. May it be so with each of you as you grow older and richer in experience.

We come now to our triplet of texts. In the first of these we find Peter eager, excited, restless to strike a blow for Jesus, and by dying in His cause to save Him; and in the end Peter did die for Him as a martyr, but first Christ must die for Peter. How strange it must have sounded in the Saviour's ears when Peter said "I will lay down *my* life for *Thy* sake," knowing as He did that, though Peter's profession was genuine, yet He Himself would die for Peter the next day, and Peter for Him not till forty years later. Yet it must have been heartwarming to our Lord, in that night of sorrow, to hear those words of honest zeal, loyalty, and love, and to see across the great fall of that night the great triumph towards which that fall, with the great repentance which followed, became, by the grace of God, one of the longest steps. "Thou canst not follow Me now, *but thou shalt follow Me afterwards*," and "When thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren," must have been words full of comfort to the Saviour's burdened heart.

A few years—about fifteen—have passed, and Peter, restored to be the leader and shepherd of Christ's flock on earth, is a middle-aged man, not less in love and zeal than in those earlier days, but grown greater in sense of responsibility, and in distrust of his own unaided wisdom and strength, and therefore more accessible to guidance. He, as the leader of the Christians, is to be put to death the next day to please the populace, who would jeer at him as he went to death as they had jeered at his Master. A dungeon floor was not a comfortable bed. A chain on each arm attached to a soldier did not make it more comfortable, and the thought of next day's scene would not be conducive to sleep, yet "the same night Peter was sleeping." What perfect peace of mind must his have been. In fact the hoped for day, when he might follow Christ indeed and lay down his life for Him, seemed at last to have come. How different this inward peace of soul was from the excited hopefulness with which he had rushed to seek death some fiteen years before But his time was not yet come. We know how he was rescued from prison and from the death for which he must have longed, and how he accepted the deliverance, and dutifully reported to the assembled Christians in strict secrecy what had happened, and "went into another (unknown) place" that he might bear his burden once more till God Himself should loose it from his shoulders. Here, surely, is further growth in grace—in that grace of patience, the latest won of all the graces, without which a man is not yet "perfect and entire, lacking nothing."

For twenty five more years Peter carried his burden, and then came to pass what the Master had foretold on that memorable morning on the shore of the sea of Galilee, when he had the charge of Christ's flock restored to him forty years before. You will remember the passage—the last of our five texts, "Verily, verily, I say unto thee, When thou wast young thou girddest thyself, and walkedst whither thou wouldest; but when thou shalt be old thou shalt stretch forth thy hands, and another shall gird thee and carry thee whither thou wouldest not." Then follows St. John's comment, "Now this he spoke, signifying by what manner of death he should glorify God, and then the Lord added the words "Follow Me." Now clearly this "Follow Me" is taken by the evangelist to mean not *only* in the manner of thy life, but also in the manner of thy death, for it appears that St. Peter died by crucifixion like his Master, only, as tradition tells us, thinking himself unworthy to die as his Saviour died, he was, by his own desire, crucified with his head downwards. It was more usual, we are told, to crucify by tying to the Cross than, as in our Lord's case, by nailing The expression "another shall *gird* thee," coming after "thou shalt stretch forth thy hands" upon the cross bar of the cross, suggests that probably St. Peter was *tied* to the cross. But however this may be, the point of our Lord's words is plainly this: When young thou didst love thine own way; ready, nay, eager to die, thou wouldst have chosen the manner of thine own death in My cause, and wouldst have chosen a glorious manner of dying, as, for instance, in battle; but when thou shalt be old, full grown in the ripeness of Christian character, thou wilt not *choose to die* ("they shall carry thee whither thou wouldest not"); still less wilt thou wish to choose the manner or time of thy death and rush into it in self-confidence and self-will; but thou wilt give thyself freely to the death ordained for thee ("*thou* shalt stretch forth *thy hands*");

"Content to live yet not afraid to die."

This, then, is the picture given by our Lord of a Christian's perfect growth in grace. First (as in our first two texts) it is a growth from unconsciousness, or semi-consciousness, of sin in self to such a consciousnees of it in contrast to God's holiness as breeds a holy fear, and a shrinking from the presence and the all seeing eye of God. And then onwards to a deeper knowledge and hatred of sin which drives the penitent *to* God, at whatever cost of pain, for salvation. And also (as in our last three texts) this growth in grace is from self-confidence and self choosing of our conduct, in life and in death, and an ambition that it may have something showy and glorious about it, through calm-readiness to serve either in life or death, just doing that which, according to God's Providence, lies before us, to a final patience and complete union of our wills to Christ, so that self and earthly things have disappeared, and God's Will has become to us all in all.

Such was the way in which the Lord Himself, in His life on earth, "grew in wisdom as in stature," and was gradually "made perfect (*i.e.*, brought to the completeness of all that human nature could be) by the things which He suffered."

My young brothers in Christ, when, probably before this year is ended, my earthly life comes to a close, may I be found to have thus grown in grace! If it be so, I am very sure that the lessons learnt within the walls of the School and of this Chapel will have had a large share in bringing about this blessed result; and may you all, from this day to your lives' end, go steadily forward in this same path, and follow St. Peter as he followed His Divine Lord and ours.

INTERPORT CRICKET.

THE FIRST DAY'S PLAY.

Tuesday, October 19.

The annual encounter between teams representing Yokohama and Kobe commenced yesterday under favourable conditions of ground and weather, save that, for the first half-hour of play, the skies were somewhat overcast. Special interest attaches to this year's contest, for reasons into which we need not enter here. From another point of view, as several of the best players are not available on either side, the issue is held to remain in greater doubt than is usual, even with the game of glorious uncertainty. The pavilion was suitably decorated for the occasion with appropriate flags and mottoes, and the teams took the field as announced. Mollison's place in the Kobe eleven being filled, at the last minute, by MacNaughton.

At 10.20. Yokohama having won the toss, Hardman and Hearne faced the bowling of Nicoll and Weekes, the former taking the Settlement end. Only a single had been notched, however, when the first wicket fell, Hearne being clean bowled by the last ball of Nicoll's first over. Hardmann and the newcomer, Deveson, then carried the score by careful play to 23, when the latter, stepping to the off to play an inbreaking ball from Nicoll, was clean bowled on the leg side. At 28 his partner fell a victim to the same bowler, whose skilful varying of pitch and length was manifestly puzzling the local batsman. The first really good stroke of the match was made by Bousfield, who cut a loose ball from Nicoll beautifully to the boundary; but with the fifth ball of the same over the bowler had his revenge. Bousfield's wicket falling to a swift "yorker." Indeed, the over proved a costly one for the local team, as Cox, the newcomer, was completely beaten, first ball, by a very pretty baler. Foster, the Yokohama captain, filled the vacancy and endeavoured to stop the rot by steady forward play, ably seconded by Edwards who, contrary to his wont, was piling up a list of singles to his credit. Early in his career Foster survived an appeal for l.b.w., and an over later, returned a short length ball hard to Nicoll—a difficult chance. A little later, again, he narrowly escaped being stumped off a slow ball from Weekes, but eventually lost his wicket in attempting to "pull" a fast delivery from Nicoll—six for 49. More than half the Yokohama wickets were thus down, and the half century had not been reached. Squire joining Edwards, the latter, opening his shoulders, endeavoured to force the game, and made several fine drives, two of which were saved from the boundary by smart fielding. At 59 Kobe made a second change in the attack, Stephens going on at the Pavilion end in place of Weekes. The new bowler's short-pitched deliveries seemed for a time to encourage the local batsmen, and there appeared to be prospect of a stand, when a poor stroke to cover brought about the dismissal of Squire, 61—7—5. Gregory joining Edwards, who was still playing an excellent game, the score was raised to 73, when a good-length ball from Nicoll just disturbed the new comer's wicket sufficiently to remove the off bail. With the advent of Buckle, Kobe made their third change of bowling, but still the honours fell to Nicoll, who captured Edwards' wicket, with the score at 85, the veteran Interporter returning an easy ball to the bowler. Edwards' score of 28 had been compiled by safe yet spirited play, and Yokohama's first essay would have been a poor affair without it. His successor, Duff, failed to add to the total—another victim of Nicoll—and the Yokohama innings thus closed, within ten minutes of noon, for the very moderate score of 85.

After an interval of 15 minutes, Kobe went in to bat, the attack being entrusted to Edwards and Foster, the latter from the Pavilion end. Both bowlers seemed to have a weakness for the leg side, with the result that the Kobe batsmen, Green and Weekes, were at no time in difficulties. The score rose steadily, principally by dint of boundaries to leg, till, at the luncheon interval, the visitors had put together 39 without the loss of a wicket.

On the resumption of play, Weekes was dismissed for 28, l.b.w., to Squire, who had relieved Foster. Kobe's first wicket thus fell at 45, rather more than half of Yokohama's total score. The rest of the side did not, however, fulfil the promise of the start. Praes and Stephens were clean bowled by Squire, and Lucas by Foster; while Green was finely caught by Edwards at mid-on, the last mentioned batsman having taken an hour to compile his carefully played 23. Ellerton being dismissed for 0, the figure for six wickets stood at 79. Wilson and Nicoll succeeded in carrying the score beyond the Yokohama total, but the latter was caught at short-leg immediately after. At 93 Crane was cleverly caught by Deveson at cover, and, the remaining two wickets realizing 4 runs only, the Kobe innings closed at 3 o'clock for 97—a dozen to the good.

THE SECOND INNINGS

Yokohama, going in to bat a second time at 3.20, made a precisely similar start to that in their first venture. Deveson was caught and bowled by Nicoll after Hardman had made a single, the telegraph announcing, as in the first innings, 1—1—0. Squire and Hardman took the score to 17, the latter and Bousfield, by play of a livelier character, raised it to 40, while Hardman and Edwards made the best stand of the innings, the score reading 63—4—7, when Edwards was caught by Green. Shortly afterwards, Hardman's fine innings of 47 runs, faultlessly compiled, was brought to an end, Cox failed a second time to "break his duck." Hearne was clean bowled for 2, and Gregory was caught at leg for 7, the score standing at 73 for 8.

Stumps were then (4.30) drawn for the day.

The feature of yesterday's play was the remarkable bowling of Nicoll, who performed the feat of capturing all the 10 wickets of the opposing side, at the extraordinarily low cost of 2.9 runs a-piece. On the Yokohama side, the excellent batting of Hardman and Edwards deserves special mention, while Squire is to be congratulated on his capital analysis of 6 for 23.

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Thursday, October 21.

The Interport Cricket match, postponed on Tuesday owing to the heavy rain, was resumed yesterday morning, in fine but cold weather. There were a large number of spectators and they were amply rewarded by witnessing one of the closest finishes in the history of Interport cricket in this country, our Kobe visitors suffering defeat by the narrow margin of six runs.

At close of play on Monday Yokohama were 61 runs to the good, with 2 wickets in hand. Play was resumed yesterday morning at 10.20 o'clock, and Yokohama were all out at 10.35 for 93, Buckle making a very useful 13. Kobe were thus left with 82 to win.

Kobe went in to bat at 10.50, Green and Weekes facing the bowling of Squire and Foster, the latter from the Settlement end. With the score at 4 Weekes was badly missed at point off Foster—a mistake which might well have proved fatal. The two batsmen then played sound cricket and several "fours" followed, including a very pretty late cut by Weekes off Squire. The first wicket fell at 19, Weekes being finely caught on the boundary off Foster's bowling. Green and Wilson then carried the score to 50, the former, after opening his account with a series of singles, scoring 12 in three boundary hits. At this point it seemed probable that Kobe would pull off the match; but at 50 a great change came over the game. Wilson was clean bowled for 13, and then, Squire going on again, this time at the Settlement end, bowled Green and Stephens with successive balls, without any addition to the score. Squire failed to do the "hat-trick," Braess knocking the last ball of a very fine over for 2. At 60 Braess was cleverly taken at the wicket by Duff off Foster, and the seventh wicket fell at 65 Ellerton being clean bowled by Squire. Off Foster's next over, Nicoll and Crane scored 10, which brought the score to 75, amid great excitement. At this point, however, Crane was brilliantly caught at mid-on by Foster off Squire—a right-handed running catch—and the shout of applause which accompanied this timely feat showed the tension of the game. Kobe, with two wickets in hand now required only 7 runs to win. Without addition to the score, however, Foster bowled Ross with a "shooter," and with the first ball of the next over Squire brought the match to a conclusion at 12.35 amid a scene of great excitement by clean bowling Nicoll: 75—10—6.

The two bowlers were carried shoulder high off the field, and the 25th Interport Cricket Match thus ended in a victory for Yokohama by the narrow margin of 6 runs, the seventh successive victory of the northern port.

YOKOHAMA.

FIRST INNINGS

K Hardman, b. H. R Nicoll	17
A. G. Hearne, b. Nicoll	0
B. Deveson, b. Nicoll	6
P. E. Bousfield, b. Nicoll	8
W. D. S. Edwards, c. and b. Nicoll	28
P. A. Cox, b. Nicoll	0
B. C. Foster, b. Nicoll	8
E. L. Squire, c. Braess, b. Nicoll	5
H. C. Gregory, b. Nicoll	2
N. Buckle, not out	3
C. M. Duff, b. Nicoll	0
Byes	6
Leg-byes	2
Total	85

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M	W.
H. R. Nicoll	95	29	3	10
J. Weekes	42	23	—	—
S. Stephens	36	16	—	—
H. E. Green	12	9	—	—

2ND INNINGS.

K. Hardman, c. and b. Nicoll	47
B. Deveson, c. and b. Nicoll	0
E. L. Squire, c. Weekes, b. Nicoll	1
P. E. Bousfield, c. MacNaughton, b Green	8
W. D. S. Edwards, c. Green, b. Weekes	7
P. A. Cox, b. Nicoll	0
B. C. Foster, c. Ross, b. Nicoll	3
A. G. Hearne, b. Nicoll	2
H. C Gregory, c. Ellerton, b. Weekes	7
N. Buckle, hit wicket, b. Weekes	13
C. M. Duff, not out	1
Extras	4
Total	93

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.	Av
H. R. Nicoll	90	31	2	6	5 16
H. E. Green	36	25	0	1	25
J. Weekes	54	33	1	3	11

KOBE.

FIRST INNINGS.

H. E Green, c. Edwards, b. Squire	23
J. Weekes, l.b.w., b. Squire	28
W. Braess, b. Squire	5
C. J. Lucas, b. Foster	8
S. Stephens, b. Squire	9
H. R. Nicoll, c. Hearne, b. Foster	2
M. Ellerton, b. Foster	0
V. B. Wilson, not out	14
R. G. Crane, c. Deveson, b. Squire	2
W. Ross, b. Squire	1
H. C. MacNaughton, b. Squire	0
Byes	2
Leg-byes	2
Wide	1
Total	97

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.	W.
Edwards	20	18	—	—
Foster	96	51	2	4
Squire	85	23	7	6

2ND INNINGS.

H. E. Green, b. Squire	19
J. Weekes, c. Bousfield, b. Foster	13
V. B. Wilson, b. Bousfield	14
C. J. Lucas, c. Hardman, b. Foster	5
S. Stephens, b. Squire	0
N. Braess, c. Duff, b. Foster	7
H. R. Nicoll, b. Squire	5
M. Ellerton, b. Squire	3
R. G. Crane, c. Foster, b. Squire	5
W. Ross, b. Foster	0
H. C. MacNaughton, not out	0
Extras	4
Total	75

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	B.	R.	M.O.	W.	Av.
E. L. Squire	73	21	2	5	4.2
B. C. Foster	66	30	2	4	7.3
W. D. S. Edward	30	9	2	—	—
J. C. Bousfield	30	22	2	1	11

THE INTERPORT DINNER.

On Tuesday evening the Kobe visitors were entertained by the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, in the United Club. Including the guests, some sixty people sat down to dinner, shortly before eight o'clock. The Chair was taken by the President of the Y.C. & A.C., Dr. E. Wheeler, who was supported by the Captains of the two cricket teams, Mr. C. J. Lucas and Mr. B. C. Foster, as well as by Messrs. J. P. Mollison, W. D. S. Edwards and M. B. Lendrum, who occupied the Vice-Chairs. Among other veteran Interporters there were present Mr. C M. Duff (who has taken part in every one of the twenty-five annual encounters between the two ports) and the Right Rev. Bishop Foss, of Osaka, who had played in some of the earliest of the games.

The band of the *King Alfred* was present and enlivened the proceedings with some admirable selections while the following *récherché* menu was under discussion:—

MENU.

Zakouska.
Crème à la Romaine.
Sawara Grille, Sauce Tyrolienne.
Vol-au-Vent Toulouse.
Mousse de Foie Gras en Belle-Vue.
Contre Filet Bœuf Duchesse.
Bécassines Rotie sur Canape.
Salade Financière.
Pouding Diplomate à l'Abricot.
Glacée Vanila.
Patisserie Assortie.
Fromage Trappiste.
Dessert.
Café.

The Toasts were then taken in hand, the Chairman first proposing "The Rulers of our Respective Countries," which was received with acclamation, and then, The Kobe Cricket Club." To the guests of the evening the Y.C. & A.C. President extended the heartiest of welcomes and hoped that there would yet be many occasions like the present one, so valuable for keeping alive the love of sport and for furthering feelings of good relationship between the two ports. (Applause).

The toast having been drunk with enthusiastic musical honours, Mr. C. J. Lucas replied on behalf of the Kobe team. After thanking his hosts for their hospitable welcome, he remarked that the match in which they were all so interested was by no means finished—(hear, hear)—but they hoped to win it to-morrow. He referred to the bad weather which had postponed the match and hoped that the next day would be favourable, so that the game might be finished, as some of the team wanted to return to Kobe soon. He concluded by calling upon all present to drink to the health of the Y.C. & A.C., coupling with the toast the name of Mr. Murray Duff, who, he said, had played in every Interport match since the inauguration 25 years ago.

The toast having been enthusiastically honoured, Mr. C. M. Duff then made a suitable reply, referring modestly to the part he had played in the long series of Interport contests. He stated that there were some very interesting matters connected with the present Cricket Ground which could be related on this unique occasion, but he would only state that the Cricket Club, the Amateur Athletic Association, and the Football Club were amalgamated in the year 1884, twenty-five years ago, under the name of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, and he sincerely hoped that the future might be as bright, if not, brighter than had been experienced in the past. He was sure that all would be interested to know that the first Honorary Secretary of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club, Mr. A. Livingston Robinson, who signed the first lease of the ground granted by the Kencho to the Club, is at present residing in Yokohama.

The toast of "the 25th Anniversary" was then proposed by Mr. J. P. Mollison, who made some interesting remarks as to his reminiscences of bygone contests, as far back as the 'seventies. Turning to the question of the lease of the cricket ground, Mr. Mollison remarked upon the almost historic value of the present Cricket ground, adding that while pessimistic feelings seemed to prevail in some quarters as to the future of the Ground, he did not share those feelings. (Applause.) Though the matter was still in a sense *sub judice*, it was in the capable hands of Sir Claude MacDonald, and he, the speaker, had great hopes that the influence of the British Ambassador would so far prevail upon the Authorities as to lead at least to some arrangement similar to that in existence at Kobe. (Applause)

The speaker then proceeded as follows:—"Having now disposed of what may be called the formal or business part of my speech, if you are not tired of listening to me, I may be pardoned perhaps for recalling some of the incidents connected with the earliest in erport matches. The very first as most of you know took place in the year 1884, and was more of an outing of enthusiasts captained by my dear old friend Arthur Groom than a serious cricket match. In the first place it was played on the 12th November in pretty cold weather, which our team guarded themselves against by wearing heavy sweaters marked with the broad arrow known to the world as the emblem of anything but freedom, with peaked Pierrot hats to match. In the second place, Yokohama could only send a scratch eleven, four of whom had scarcely even seen a cricket bat, whilst two were visitors—or as we shall call them now, globe-trotters, with a very limited knowledge of the game, although one of them, Latham, could bowl a bit judged by, the score which I am able to hold, thanks to the usual source of all such information Duff, in my hand. In fact only Groom, Duff, Griffiths and Kenny, the last named of the Consular service, were cricketers, so that the result was a foregone conclusion. But they had a right good time and enjoyed the first taste of Kobe hospitality that has ever become proverbial. An incident is recorded of Kenney, but the truth of which I do not vouch for, and if true it must have been in the 2nd innings after tiffin. Anyhow rumour says that when he was declared out he took off his hat to the umpire, laid down his bat and executed a catherine wheel all the way from the wicket to the Pavilion.

"The second match in 1884 was a more serious affair and with Walkinshaw, Edwards, then in

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the first flush of his youth, and rightly named the Demon, Duff, Abbott, Groom, Walford and myself, we went again to Kobe and took a glorious revenge for our defeat in the previous match.

"My own last appearance in Interport matches was in 1891 when I was just 47 years old, and it is with no little pride that I look back to my scores of 28 and 20 on that occasion. Since then I have always taken a warm interest in the Interport matches, and, as you can understand, the active part taken in them of late years by my son Murray has helped to keep my sympathy keen. I am sorry business prevented him getting up this year to do battle for Kobe, but as I told my friend Lucas yesterday it looks as if they did not require his services.

"But I must draw my ramblings to a close, and in doing so I raise my glass to the memory of Yokohama and Kobe cricketers who have passed away and drink to the continued welfare and prosperity of the Yokohama Cricket and Athletic Club."

Bishop Foss then replied to the Toast. He said that he had been told he was an "old sport," but as there were some things popularly connected with "old sports" which were not in his line (laughter), he was afraid the description was hardly correct. (Laughter.) However, he yielded to none in his admiration for the game of cricket (applause), and though he supposed he had arrived at an age when he ought to be "put on the shelf" (laughter), he still looked back with interest on his former Interport experiences. He remembered, for example, missing a catch on a certain important occasion (laughter), though he subsequently got his revenge with the ball (hear, hear). He joined with the proposers of the toast in expressing the hope that a mutually satisfactory arrangement would be arrived at with respect to the Ground. (Applause.)

Mr. B. C. Foster, in a humorous speech, then proposed, "The Umpires, Scorers and all who have kindly assisted." He thought it might possibly have occurred to the umpires in view of the anniversary, to give 25 balls to the first over, or something of the kind. (Laughter.) He had been compelled, he feared, to press into his service several of those who had "kindly assisted," but he hoped they did'nt mind. (Laughter.) Had it not been for them, perhaps, the evening would have fallen flat (no, no,), but now that it was nearly at an end (no, no,), he was sure the whole company was grateful to them (Applause.) Both Mr. A. J. Cornes and Mr. F. W. Mackie made humorous replies, Mr. Mackie remarking that if he had given Nicoll, who had bowled so remarkably on the previous day, an over 25 balls in succession, he would not like to say what might have happened to the Yokohama team. (Laughter.)

Mr. W. D. S. Edwards then proposed "The Press," upon whom they depended for the records of these Interport matches (cries of "What about Duff?"). He was of the opinion, however, that the local evening papers had not given as good accounts of the games played during the season, as they had done in the past, and had therefore failed to act as an incentive to the extent they had done formerly. (Cries of "Oh!")

Messrs. A. W. Sheriff and Ball, replying to the toast, demurred to Mr. Edwards' criticisms, maintaining that they had given the games in question the amount of space they deserved (Oh!), and that they went in general upon the principle of "a fair field and no favour." (Hear, hear.)

The intervals between the speeches were enlivened by songs from Messrs. W. H. Lewis, G. G. Brady, A. E. Cooper, M. A. Darling, G. G. Franklin and J. Nelson, which were given and received with *éclat*.

Shortly before midnight the proceedings terminated with the singing of Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem.

CRICKET AND TENNIS.

On the afternoon of the 21st a pick up game was played, in which several of the interporters took part. The band of the flagship *King Alfred* played a selection of music during the afternoon.

TOKYO LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY.

At the opening meeting of the new Session on Monday, the 18th inst., the Committee present the following report for 1908/9.

MEMBERSHIP.—The total membership showed an appreciable reduction on the previous record. Subscriptions were paid by 110 members only which compares with 1907/8 and 165 in 1906/7. The average attendance also fell much below the members of any past year.

HALL.—The Committee taking into account the views of the most regular attendants as to the merits of various places at which the Society could hold its meetings, recommended removal to Miss Tsuda's hall, the only practical offer which came before their notice. This change, however, did not induce a larger attendance, but, on the contrary, the numbers decreased, possibly owing to the fact that the situation is not sufficiently central, and a return to the Hall of the Methodist Publishing House is therefore recommended.

A synopsis of the Lectures is attached and the hearty thanks of the Society are tendered those who assisted at the meetings.

ACCOUNTS.—These are appended and show a balance of *yen* 3.79 in hand, after making a further payment of *yen* 225 on account of the piano. In all *yen* 675 has been paid to the Rev. H. M. Landis on account of purchase and interest, leaving due the sum of *yen* 276 59.

H. ST. GEORGE TUCKER, President.

CASH ACCOUNT 1ST OCTOBER 1908 TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 1909.

	Dr.	Cr.
		Yen.
Balance from last year		16.62
Subscription Account 1907/8		18.00
" " 1908/9		270 00
Tokyo Choral Society for Hire of Piano		20.00
Bank Interest		6.17
Hire of Hall	72.20	
Fire Insurance Piano	2.50	
Meeting notices, advertising, Sec. and Treas. petties, etc	27.30	
Rev. H. M. Landis, further on account Piano	225 00	
Balance as per Bank	3 79	
	330.79	330.79

E. & O. E

TOKYO LITERARY AND MUSICAL SOCIETY PROGRAMME FOR SESSION 1908-09.

Oct. 12, 1908.—Business meeting and paper by Miss Hyde, "Witty, Wise and Otherwise."

Oct. 26.—"The Monroe Doctrine," Prof. Albert Bushnell Hart. Music by Misses Seymour, Cahusac and Ballagh, Messrs. Poole and Walker.

Nov. 2.—Recitations by Prof. Fulton of Ohio Wesleyan University; Paper by Mr. E. B. Clarke on "Gensai Murai."

Nov. 18.—"The Canadian Rockies," Mrs. Schaffer.

Dec. 7.—Illustrated lecture on "Constantinople and Athens," Rev. George Wallace.

Dec. 21.—Tableaux from "Pride and Prejudice" with readings by Miss Schereschewsky; Christmas Glees.

Jan 18, 19-9.—Musical Programme by Mrs. Woodrough Mrs. Bray Messrs. Howells and Misses Moore and Howells

Feb. 1.—Milton Tercentenary. Readings from "Samson Agonistes."

Feb. 15.—"Some Phases of Insurance for the Masses," Prof. E. H. Vickers. Music by Miss Sweet and Mr. Caldwell.

March 1.—"A Visit to Formosa," Dr. W. W. MacLaren.

March 15.—Illustrated lecture on "Present Day Progress," Prof. F. P. Purvis.

April 19.—Poe Centennial. Paper by Miss Thompson, with appropriate music and recitations.

May 2.—Lecture on Armenia by Rev. Mr. Bowdon.

A MYSTERY OF THE SEA.

The mystery surrounding the disappearance of the Blue Anchor line steamer *Waratah* has, it is believed, been solved at last. The missing liner, it may be remembered, left Durban for Capetown on July 26th, having arrived from Australian ports. This is a two days' voyage. The *Waratah* was seen the day after she left Durban by the *Clan MacIntyre* of London, and a few signals were exchanged. On July 28th there was a heavy storm with squalls of hurricane force and a very heavy sea. According to the captain of the Clan liner the waves rose "in a wall-like formation," being driven by the gale against the current. The *Waratah* was due at Capetown that day, but though a whole fleet of vessels have been searching for her not a trace of the ship has been seen. She had 300 persons on board, most of the passengers being Australians who were proceeding to London.

A Manila dispatch of the 20th ult. appearing in American papers now says:—

That the British steamer *Waratah*, with 93 passengers and in all 300 souls on board, caught fire and blew up at sea 160 miles from Durban on July 27, leaving not a vestige to explain her doom, is believed to be the solution of the mysterious disappearance of the big Blue Anchor liner and her passengers and crew. The report which affords the foundation for this accredited belief reached here to-day when the British steamer *Harlow*, Captain Bruce, out of Newport News June 14 for Port Natal and Manila, made port and stated that on July 27 last, more than 100 miles from Durban, she passed a steamer afire. It was impossible to make out the name of the steamer and the *Harlow* shifted her course to go to the stricken vessel's assistance. Before the *Harlow* got within speaking distance however, the burning craft was thrown into the air in fragments by a terrific explosion. She sank immediately, and not a vestige that would fix her identity was picked up.

Shipping men here have small doubt that the burning vessel sighted by the *Harlow* was the unfortunate *Waratah*. The hour and the location agree with what should have been the *Waratah's* position, and it is taken here as only too probable that the Blue Anchor liner perished as the *Harlow* describes.

THE BLOODY "FOURTH."

During the celebration of five national birthdays from 1903 to 1907 inclusive says Mr. H. West, in the *Forum*, 1,153 persons were killed and 21,520 were injured. Of the injured, 88 suffered total, and 389 partial, blindness; 308 persons lost arms, legs or hands, and 1,067 lost one or more fingers. The following list of casualties refers to July 4th, 1909:—

New York.—Five killed, 197 injured by fireworks, 82 injured by pistols, 23 injured by cannons, and 3 injured by torpedoes; also 116 fires started by explosives. Notwithstanding this list of victims, one of the most prominent New York papers remarked that New York had broken all records for a safe and sane Fourth of July.

Philadelphia.—Five dead, 3 fatally injured, 8 seriously injured and 420 painfully injured; 80 fires.

St. Louis.—Four dead, 205 injured.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—Four dead.

Pittsburg.—One dead, 295 injured; fire loss, $50:00.

Memphis, Tenna.—A crippled newsboy burned to death.

Wheeling, W. Va.—One dead, 50 injured.

Buffalo.—Fifteen children injured, 40 fires.

Boston.—One hundred and ten persons injured.

Toledo.—Boy's left hand necessarily amputated and a fifteen-year-old boy blind for life.

Kansas City.—One death from lockjaw.

Elmira, N. Y.—Two deaths from lockjaw.

Woonsocket, R. I.—One dead and a dozen persons injured.

It is not surprising that a movement is on foot in the States to suppress rowdy methods of celebrating the national holiday.

A FIRE broke out on Sunday afternoon in the Azuma Leather Factory at Nakanogo, Honjo, Tokyo. After destroying the nine buildings in the compound covering some 200 *tsubo*, the fire spread to an adjacent factory, where a dormitory for female employees was totally burnt down and a portion of the roof of a workshop was partially destroyed. No casualties are reported. The damage suffered by the two factories is estimated at some 50,000 *yen* and some 12,000 *yen*. The buildings were uninsured. The cause of the fire is as yet unknown.

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THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF JAPAN.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND REPORT.

LECTURE BY CONSUL-GENERAL HALL.

The annual general meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan was held at the British Embassy, Tokyo, at 4 p.m., Thursday, Dec. 9. The President, H.E. Sir Claude Macdonald, occupied the chair. The minutes of the last meeting, having been printed, were taken as read. The annual report of the Council, and the Treasurer's report duly audited, were read and approved; both of these reports are given in full below. The Society then proceeded to ballot for the Officers and Councillors of the Society for the ensuing year, with the result given below. The Chairman then called on Mr. John Carey Hall to read his paper on "Dazai on Buddhism," which is printed hereafter. After a vote of thanks for the hospitality of the Embassy for this meeting, the Society adjourned.

ANNUAL REPORT.

The Council of the Society has held ten meetings during the year, on the following dates, namely, Jan. 20th, March 3rd, April 7th, May 5th, June 2nd, June 16th, Sept. 29th, Oct. 20th, Nov. 10th, Dec. 1st and 9th.

And there have been seven general meetings, upon dates and with subjects treated as follows:

Feb. 17th.—"The Dog and the Cat in Japanese Superstition," by Dr. M. W. de Visser;

March 24th.—"The Active Volcanoes of Japan," an illustrated lecture, by E. Bruce-Mitford, F.R.G.S.;

April 21st.—"The Study of Things Japanese: Scope, Aim, Methods," a lecture, by Rev. Arthur Lloyd, M.A.;

May 19th.—"European Paleoliths and Japanese Survivals," a lecture, by Dr. N. Gordon Munro;

June 16th.—"Journal of the Perry Expedition to Japan," by Dr. S. Wells Williams;

Oct. 20th.—"Japanese Chronology," by Ernest W. Clement, M.A.;

Nov. 20th.—"A Japanese Funeral," a lecture, by Rev. Arthur Lloyd, M.A.; and

Dec. 9th.—"Dazai on Buddhism," by John Carey Hall, Esq., I.S.O.

The membership of the Society has been increased by the addition of the following persons: E. Bruce-Mitford, F.R.G.S, Yokohama; Rev. Joseph Dahlmann, Tokyo; Miss Mary E Denton, Kyoto; Rev. S. L. Gulick, D.D., Kyoto; Frank M. Gunther, Esq., Tokyo; Leland Harrison, Esq. (non-resident), Peking, China; E. M. Hobart Hampden, Esq., Tokyo; E. J. Libeaud, Esq., Tokyo; C. K. Marshall-Martin, Esq, Yokohama; Thomas McCloy, M.D., Tokyo; Rev. R. D. McCoy, Tokyo; Miss C. J. Neely, Tokyo; Rev. A. W. Place, Tokyo; Arthur J. Price, Esq., Yokohama; C. H. Rastall, Esq., Kobe; John Reilly, Esq., (non-resident), Salem, N.J., U.S.A.; Rev. W.G. Seiple, Ph.D., Sendai.; Bishop Sergius, Tokyo; Prof. Frederick Starr, Sc.D. (non-resident), Chicago, Ill., U.S.A.; Miss Mary Stowe. Tottori; Miss Flora E. Strout, Tokyo; Rev. E. H. Van Dyke, Tokyo; Carl von Fallot, Esq., Etajima; Lieut. A. Voskressensky, Tokyo; Post Wheeler, Esq., Tokyo; W. Wrchovsky, Ph.D. (non-resident), Vienna, Austria; Mr. C. J. Arnell, American Embassy, Tokyo; Rev. W H. Elwin, Tokyo; W. A. de Havilland, Esq., Tokyo; Rev. W. E. Lampe, Ph.D., Philadelphia, Pa., U.S.A.; and Rev. R. M. D. Shaw, Numazu.

Of these John Reilly, Esq., and Prof. Starr have become life members.

There have been no membership losses by death and only a few by resignation and careful revision of the list.

The total membership is 379.

The personnel of the Council has changed once through the retirement of R. S. Miller, Esq., on the eve of his recent departure from Japan, and the election of Rev. D. C. Greene, D.D., LL. D. to fill the vacancy thus created.

The following issues of the Transactions have appeared since the last annual meeting, namely, of Parts III. and IV. of Vol. XXXV. (for the year 1907), thereby completing the work of this volume, which had been generally retarded by the printing-house fire of two years ago; and, further, of the whole of Vol. XXXVI. (for 1908). The latter consisted of three Parts, two of which were printed at the office of the *Box of Curios* Co., and one at that of the *Fukuinsha*. This division of work within the limits of one volume was made necessary by the departure from Japan in September of Dr. M. W. de Visser, whose paper on "The Fox and Badger in Japanese Folk-lore" constituted the whole of Part III. The proofs of this paper were read by the author during the summer, while the printing of Part II. was also in progress. The irregularity of page numbering between Parts II. and III. of this thirty-sixth volume is much to be regretted; but it could not be avoided under the circumstances.

A substantial beginning has been made on the volume for the current year, No. XXXVII. Part I. which will contain the four papers and lectures of from February to May, already mentioned, being nearly completed. Its issue may be expected by the first of the year or very soon thereafter. Part II. will consist of the paper read in June on "The Perry Expedition," and of the second lecture by Prof. Lloyd. Mr. Clement's paper on "Japanese Chronology" is now in the press, and will be issued as a Supplement. Volume XXXVII. will also contain a republication of the Constitution and Bye laws, Catalogue of Transactions, List of Members and of Exchanges and Thirty-year Subscribers, all as amended or revised to date. In view of the long delays experienced in connection with the printing of Vols. XXXV. and XXXVI. it was decided to hold this matter over for issue with the Transactions of the current year.

The Council feels quite gratified that it is able to report the undertaking of a special publication outside of its regular Transactions. It has been so fortunate as to secure the right to publish Vols. I. and III. of Murdoch's "History of Japan." It will be remembered that Vol. II. was published as a private venture a few years ago, and that it became recognized at once as authoritative. Vol. I. is now in the press and is expected to be out in April, 1910: Vol. III. is still in the author's hands. Vol. I will be on sale at the regular price of 10 *yen* net, but with a reduced rate of 9 *yen*, post free, to all who remit on or before May 1, 1910. And one copy will be furnished to any member of the Society at the special price of 5 *yen*, post paid. This "History of Japan" in 3 volumes is, without doubt, the standard work on this subject.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

The transference of the Society's stock of Transactions to Messrs. Kelly and Walsh last April has relieved your Librarian of a considerable amount of heavy work, for which relief he is profoundly grateful.

The exchanges and books received from time to time have been duly acknowledged at the monthly meetings. Consequently, no detailed list need now be given. A handsome donation of valuable books from F. V. Dickins, Esq., Seend, Wilts, England, seems to call for special mention.

A Catalogue of the Books in our Library has been prepared by the Librarian and circulated among resident members. Several consignments of scientific books have been sent to the Library of the Keiogijuku University.

Should it be the pleasure of the Meeting to continue the present Librarian in his office, he would esteem it a pleasure if members would from time to time give him suggestions as to books which it may be desirable to acquire for the Society's Library. He is glad to be able to report that during the past year the Library has been more used than in any previous year within the limits of his official memory.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR LLOYD,
Hon. Lib.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30TH, 1909

Receipts.		Yen.
Balance Nov. 30th, 1908		3,376.98
Subscriptions-Resident members		659.86
do Non-resident members		190.65
Subscriptions-Life members		259.00
Entrance fees		100.00
Thirty-year subscriber		35.00
Interest on deposits		150.08
Transactions sold	227.41	
do Law Assn. of Philadelphia	9.24	
Transactions F. V. Dickins	24.30	960.95
Insurance premium returned		24.50
Payments.		
Corresponding Secretary's petties		10.00
Recording Secretary's petties		35.00
Librarian's petties		272.42
Treasurer's do.		43 10
Transactions printed	1,063.88	
" Law Ass'n. Phila.	9.24	
" F. V. Dickins	25.00	1,098.12
Postage on Transactions		273 46
Lecture—illustrated		15.00
Rent		315.00
Insurance		96.18
Exchange		.58
Balance forward		3.598.16
		5.757.02 5.757.02

The stock of transactions now held for the Society by Messrs. Kelly and Walsh of Yokohama is insured for *yen* 10,000, which sum represents the value of the transactions in stock taken at one-half of their list prices.

The Library of the Society is also insured for the sum of *yen* 4,000, so that the total property of the Society is about *yen* 17,598.16.

On the Books of the Hon. Treasurer there are 379 members, divided into the following classes.

Honorary	6
Life	144
Ordinary	229
Total	397

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. SWIFT, Hon. Treasurer.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY.

The following persons were elected officers of the society for the ensuing year:—

President.....H. E. Sir Claude Macdonald, G.C.M.G., K.C.B., G.C.V.O.

Vice-Presidents... For Tokyo.—Prof. E. H. Vickers. For Yokohama.—J. C. Hall, Esq

Corresponding Secretary.....Rev. Clay MacCauley.

Recording Secretaries ... For Tokyo.—Rev. C. F. Sweet. For Yokohama.—W. B. Mason, Esq.

Treasurer.—Prof. J. T. Swift.

Librarian.—Prof. Arthur Lloyd, M.A.

Members of Council.—

Prof. M. Anesaki	Rev. A. F. King.
Rev. J. Dahlmann, S J.	R. J. Kirby, Esq.
Galen M. Fisher, Esq.	Rev. E. R. Miller.
J. Mc. D. Gardiner, Esq.	Prof. F. P. Purvis.
Rev. D. C. Greene, D.D, L L.D.	Rev. H. St. G. Tucker.

BOOKS, ETC., RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING.

Acta Soc. Sc. Fennicæ, xxxiii, xxxiv.
Hydrographische Untersuchuegen.
Wasserbewegungen.
Forhändliger, vols. xlviii, xlix, l.
Finlands Naturoch Folk, vols. 64, 65, 66.
[The above all from the Acadency of Sciences of Finland.]
Oesterrichische Monats-schrift, June-Oct., 1909.
Royal Society of Edinburgh, vol. xxxix.
Royal Dublin Society, Sc. Proc., xii., 14-23.
" Ec. Proc., i. pt. 16
Royal Soc. (London) A. 83, A. 559.
" B. 81, B. 550.
American Philosophical Soc., vol. xlviii.
Geol. Survey of India, xxxviii, 2.
American Geog. Soc., Oct., 1909
Geographical Journal, Nov., 1909.
Laboratory of Marine Zoology, Concarneau I.
American Chemical Journal, xii, 3, 4, 5. 6, xlii, 1.
American Journal of Philology, xxx., 1, 2.

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John Hopkins University Studies, xxvii., 1-6.
Life of Cyrus Hall McCormick, 2 vols.
Kyoto University Kalendar, 1909-10.

"DAZAI ON BUDDHISM."

Mr. HALL said:—Many causes have of late years concurred in attracting the attention of European scholars to the study of Buddhism. The large place which that religion occupies in the lives of the millions of China and Japan, and other Far-Eastern countries; its highly philosophical character; the beautiful art, pictorial and glyptic, for which it supplies the *motifs*; the lofty spirituality and saintly life of its founder, and the numerous points of resemblance between his doctrines and those of the founder of Christianity, all combine to excite curiosity and to solicit our sympathetic examination of so remarkable a system. The publication of the Sacred Books of the East, supplemented by the labours of the Pali text Society, has placed the means of study almost at first hand within the reach of the ordinary reader; and as a consequence there is a growing appreciation of Buddha's character and religion amongst liberal-minded people in Western Europe and America. This is as it should be, and it is to be hoped that the comparative study of religions will soon be deemed of sufficient importance to be admitted into our older English universities.

There is, however, another side to the picture. The West, which is only beginning to make the acquaintance of Buddhism, sees as yet only its good points. But it has its defects also; and these have been found out, in due time, by every country that has had a few centuries experience of its working. Why it disappeared, nearly 1000 years ago, so completely from the land of its birth is a historical problem which has not yet been worked out. From India it passed into China about the date of St. Paul's captivity at Rome, and after flourishing for some centuries under various short lived dynasties, its weak points were discovered and exposed to view in one of the most celebrated of Chinese State papers eleven centuries ago. From China it passed into Korea in the fourth century, and from Korea it was carried into Japan by Korean missionaries in the sixth century A.D. and from that time to the present it has been the predominant religion of the whole of the Japanese nation from the palace downwards. Here it has had no antagonistic scheme of thought to contend with In the arena of popular favour till the commencement of the 17th century; when the orthodox Confucian doctrine was introduced by the Tokugawa Shoguns for the enlightenment of the upper classes; and it was consequently cultivated assiduously by the feudal gentry and literati. So stimulating was this new Chinese influence to minds satiated with Buddhistic beliefs, that, in the Japan of the eighteenth century, the great fundamental questions of philosophy and ethics were discussed with as keen a relish as in contemporary France, and with a metaphysical abilitity and acuteness not perceptibly inferior. At first, the Japanese adherents of Confucianism, throughout most of the seventeenth century, were quite satisfied with the othodox interpretation of it as established by the great Chinese Scholastic Chu Hsi, some six centuries previously; but as their acquaintance with the ancient sources became more extensive and exact, they perceived that the original views of the Chinese Sages had become mixed with other ingredients, imported mainly from the Indian religion, and there arose in Japan a school, amongst others, of Confucian Puritans, in whose eyes the orthodox system of the Chinese literati was nothing better than a degenerate heterodoxy. Some of the ablest and most learned scholars Japan has ever produced belonged to this sect of Confucian reformers; and it is to the estimate of Buddhism, published in 1736 by one of the most eminent authors of the school, and one of the best known to us of this Society, Dazai Shuntai, that I now beg leave to introduce my hearers. As his object was to demonstrate the superiority of primitive, or pure, Confucianism over both Shinto and Buddhism, as well as over the amalgam of Confucian ethics with Buddhist metaphysics which had been elaborated in China by Chu Hsi and his predecessors under the Sung dynasty, Dazai's review of Buddhism amounts practically to an indictment of it, both as a philosophy and as a religion. In the little treatise from which the present paper is an excerpt, entitled *Bendō Sho*, ("The Ways discriminated") he contrasts the two Ways or Systems of belief Shinto and Buddhism which at that time competed with Confucianism in Japan, very much to the advantage of the latter. His treatment of Buddhism is of, course, much more respectful than his castigation of the pretensions of Shinto. As for Bushidō, he never even mentions it; probably because that so-called Way or System was as yet in the womb of time, a concept reserved for the mythopœic imagination of a later day.

DAZAI'S STRICTURES ON BUDDHISM.

Buddhism is the doctrine of Shaka. Son and heir of King Jobon (*i.e.* Pure-rice, *Suddhodana*) king of Magadha, one of the kingdoms of India, Shaka in his youth was called Shitsuta (*Siddhartha*, desire accomplished). He took the lady Yashutara to wife and had by her a son named Ragora (Rahula); but at the age of nineteen he became converted, went forth from home and studied the Way (*i.e.* moral philosophy) Though the eldest son of the king, and as such entitled to the royal succession, he did not care about it, but, abandoning both parents and wife and child, he went forth from home and retired from the world; his notion being that to dwell amongst mankind was, in a sort of way, to be fettered or manacled. Intent only on individual freedom, he looked upon the feelings and desires of this transitory world as a painful disease, and sought, by getting loosed from them, to attain tranquillity of mind. "Leaving home," as he called it, meant going away from his parents' house and entering hills and forests, making oneself like a fleeting cloud or running water. Those who study the Way (system) of Shaka are called monks (clergy, *religieux*.) Inasmuch as Shaka's Way was to discard kingly rank and become simply an individual, those who cultivate this Way do not take up any occupation, either as officials or farmers or artificers or traders. Having neither prince over them nor retainer under them, the relation of ruler and subject has, for them, no existence. As they have already abandoned the parental home, they have no parents; and since they renounce wives, they have no children of their own; which means that for them the relation of parent and child is non-existent. As they have no sexual intercourse, they have not the relation of husband and wife. Not having parents, they have not the relation of elder and younger brothers. Keeping aloof from the world and not mixing with men, they have no friendships. Since they do not follow the callings of the professions, farming, the handicrafts or trade, and so have no means of earning food and clothing, they make an occupation of begging. By begging I mean keeping themselves alive by obtaining something to eat from other people, as the beggars of our own day do. Inasmuch as the clergy have a rule that none of them is to have a home or labour at producing food, what the clergy in old times used to do was to take a bowl and go out and stand at the cross-roads; and then people from the houses in the neighbourhood would bring them the leavings of their meals and put it in the bowl for them. Sometimes also people would dispense fresh food to them, by way of performing alms-giving. As the food put in the bowl was only enough for that day's subsistence, they would go back and eat it, and then come again in the same way next day. Neither would they make clothes for themselves to wear. As the people of India are fond of cleanliness and detest anything dirty, it is their custom to throw out on the dung-hill any garment that has been worn by sick people, or the dead, or women in child-birth, or that has been singed by fire or stained by liquids or dirtied in any other way whatsoever. It was these thrown-away vestments, clouts and pieces of cotton or silk that the first Buddhist clergy picked out from people's middens and took away and washed them in bean suds, and when thus cleaned, sewed the pieces together, regardless of whether they were embroidered or printed, damask or gauze, cotton or silk. It is from this circumstance that the two designations of Buddhist monks from their dress, *funketsu* and *na-i* are derived. Being made up from things which had been thrown away and had therefore no owners, these vestures were adopted as th every best that the clergy could have for their regulation costume. When the very surplices were made from clouts picked out from dunghills, needless to say, it was the same with the other garments.

The Buddhist clergy, moreover, having no fixed place of abode, took shelter from wind and rain in the shade of trees or under bridges, or went into caves to sit meditating. Regarding empty space as their only dwelling, like floating clouds or running water, they do not remain in one place; and this they do on system.

Well, the learning they pursue is not in touch with the sentiments and wants of the world, aiming mainly at intellectual enlightenment. Though the feelings and desires of man are without number or limit, they specially fix upon three, covetousness, anger, and stupidity, which they call the three intoxicants that poison the mind; and these they employ various devices to eliminate. The eye, ear, nose, tongue, body and mind they designate as the six roots of sensation, which are soiled by what they call the six (sorts of) dusts, viz. form, sound, smell, taste, touch and perception. As these six dusts are outside of us, being the world with which we are in contact, the Buddhists call it the exterior region; we Confucianists call them outer things. But, to continue, when man's six roots of sensation come into relation with the six dusts, all sorts of feelings and desires are aroused, in accordance with the kinds of objects; and the mind's becoming concerned in this manner is what they call vexation. When the slightest vexation is aroused the mind becomes darkened, or, as they term it, there is non-illumination. When the Buddhist novice first of all goes forth, he recites the passage:—"He who putting aside kindness enters into impassiveness is the true recompenser of kindness." This means nothing less than that a man who disregards the immense kindness of his father and mother and enters on the Buddhist Way of impassivity is in reality requiting the kindness he received. As he has already relinquished his parents, he has done with the feeling of affection. Having no conjugal tie, sexual feeling is forgotten. Since he has made mendicity and sponging upon others his occupation, his mind is not drawn away by having to work for his food and clothing. As he has neither house nor property, he has no apprehension about floods or fires, thieves or robbers. As he does not remain settled in one place, he has no feeling about holding on to a piece of land. Hiding himself away in hills and woods, he does not mix with the world and so does not come across the region of the six dusts. And as he has thus no contact with the region of the six dusts, the six roots of sensation are in no way soiled; and this is what is called Purification of the six roots.

Again, inasmuch as man is an animal, man's mind is likewise a very lively thing; and even when it is debarred from contact with the outside world, all sorts of feelings and desires are incessantly arising in the mind itself from within. These the Buddhists call disorderly thoughts, disorderly fancies. The human mind is just like a child; if it has not a toy of some sort to keep hold of or to play with, it is always getting into mischief. Hence, in order to prevent these disorderly thoughts from arising, the Buddhists practise sitting in meditation. There are various modes of sitting in meditation. That called Breath-counting Contemplation consists in sitting at ease in a quiet room and counting the inhalations and exhalations of the breath. Whilst thus engaged in counting the breathing the mind is not free to wander as it likes, and so disorderly thoughts are prevented from springing up. Another mode is that called Impurity Contemplation, which consists in recalling vividly to the imagination the foulness of the human body. This is the theme of Su Tung Po's poem, The Nine Mutualities. This imaginative exercitation is resorted to for the purpose of eliminating sexual inclinations. Another mode is Moon-disk Contemplation, gazing fixedly at a disk of the bright full moon suspended in front of the devotee's breast. This is done in order to get rid of unenlightened annoyances; the idea being that though at first the moon-disk's brightness is merely on the

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breast it will, through the gazing, make its way through into the breast, and so the mind will become as the full moon. Indeed there is a tradition that some of the ancients, owing to the accumulated efficacy of moon-disk contemplation, were able to read books in the dark without a lamp. Then there is also the Water-concept Contemplation; the dwelling on the thought that one's whole body will melt away and become water; the idea being that as the human body is a confection made up out of the four great impermanents, earth, water, fire and wind, it must ultimately be annihilated and revert to the great void. In addition to the foregoing modes, some practice the severely serious contemplation of the Jodo Sect (*i.e.* the Pure Land Sect) and others the contemplation of the physiognomies of the Bodhisatvas.

The one purpose of all these various modes of contemplation is to tranquilize the mind and prevent disorderly thoughts from arising, so as to get rid of unenlightened vexation and attain to *Bodhi*.

This term *Bodhi* is a Sanscrit word, which is rendered in Chinese by *Chioh* (conscious perception). This *Chioh* (in Japanese pronunciation *Kaku*) means the same as *kaku-go*, conprehension; in the Japanese vernacular *satoru*, (to perceive, to be conscious of). By perceiving they mean that out of the multitude of matters of the world by which man's mind is bewildered, it distinguishes and intelligently apprehends some one or another as being certain. Their notion is, as I have above explained, that the six dusts clog with dirt the six roots; the mind is drawn away and excited by its feelings and desires; we become enamoured of beautiful forms and pleasant odours, and through enjoyment of them comes vexation and unenlightenment; covetousness and lusts and anger are aroused, and lead on to the commission of theft and murder; and so the thoughts are made untrue by specious phrases and lying suggestions, to the injury of ourselves and others. In view of this state of affairs, the Buddhists betake themselves to the practice of asceticism, their idea being that as it is the six dusts that bring pollution on one's personality, it is well to keep aloof from them, and not to allow the mind to concern itself in the slightest degree with worldly affairs, so that the mind and body may attain to the state of being always like a polished mirror or pellucid water; and that is what they mean by perception. It is, in effect, the same thing as is known amongst the various branches of the Contemplative Sect as the Great Awakening. To use an illustration, suppose a man has been bewitched by a fox. He goes wandering over moors and hills feeling amused and pleased, when all of a sudden he comes to his mind again and perceives "There now, I was bewitched by a fox." Thereupon his mind becomes steady, and the things that formerly gave him pleasure are now subjects of regret to him. So it is with Buddhist Awakening (apprehension, conviction); and they do not go astray again. A person whose mind has been opened by this awakening conviction is called a Buddha. This is originally a Sanscrit word, which in Chinese is translated, one who is aware. To have reached this stage of conscious perception is regarded as the highest degree of moral attainment. Buddhism, therefore, is a system which aims only at individual enlightenment; and in teaching it to others all that it seeks to do is to illuminate the intelligence of each adherent.

In Buddhism, moreover, there is both the Greater Vehicle and the Lesser Vehicle, the Five Times and the Eight Teachings, and so forth; which are all set forth in over five thousand volumes of Sutras, with their multifarious disquisitions on the various rules of the system. Hence the founders of its sects in after times had a wide range to choose from in setting up their various schools to instruct people of the world. Even at the present day each sect has its own specific doctrine; and though there is considerable variety as regards depth or shallowness, they all come to much the same thing in the end, being neither more nor less than theories of mind-methods. But as the ignorant lower classes cannot easily comprehend such theories, the clergy give them formulas to repeat or Sutras to chant, and tell them that if they practise these they will each become a Buddha. That, however, is only a pious device for enlisting their interest; the real teaching of the system is that it is only through meditation and apprehension of the mental norm that one becomes a Buddha. As for becoming a Buddha merely by intoning the Sutras or fixing the mind on Buddha, there is positively no such doctrine.

The Way of the Learned (i.e. Confucianism) is the Way of the Two Sovereigns (*Ti*, *i.e.* Yao and Shun) and the Three Kings (*Wang*, *i.e.* the founders of the three ancient dynasties, Yu the Great, T'ang the Successful, and Wen Wang) the cultured king who founded the (how dynasty). The Two Sovereigns and the Three Kings were all Sage Emperors in ancient times, so their Way is comprehensively styled the Way of the Former Kings. This Way of the Former Kings is for the government of the whole empire. Buddhism as set forth in its five thousand and odd volumes, though it seems a vast, all-embracing system, is not a way for governing the empire. It is only for the government of the solitary individual mind. As I have already said, the Buddhist churchman has neither lord nor vassal, neither father nor child, neither wife, nor brother, nor friend. As he is a being without either country or family, he has nothing to regulate but himself. To compare this Way for regulating the isolated individual with the Way of the Former Kings for regulating the empire, as if they were on the same level, is, I submit, a great misapprehension.

The Way (Path) of the Buddhists makes mendicacy the proper way of getting a livelihood: to earn it by engaging in any of the occupations of the gentry, the farmers, the artisans or the merchants is pronounced to be a heterodox mode of living; and is, under the designation of "Nourishing the body by a heterodox mode of life," is expressly forbidden by one of the "Fifty-eight Prohibitions of the Boddhisatva." Nevertheless, the Buddhist churchmen of the present day are not true mendicants. What they call "Holding out the bowl" (*i.e.* begging from house to house) means that they take a bowl, go into the town or market, get some hulled rice, take it back and cook and eat it. The Buddha's rule prescribed that the food begged should be any cooked food whatsoever, to be eaten just as it was given. The boiling of fresh rice was not allowed. As regards clothing, too, the rule was that it was to be made of patches and rags discarded as rubbish: but the churchmen of to-day are clothed in fine silks and gauze, embroidered and figured. And whereas they ought to be dwelling in caves, and sitting under trees or upon rocks to do their meditations, they now-a-days reside in large monasteries and have young slaves to wait upon them, and do not know what it is to have the trouble of gathering fruits or drawing water themselves. Especially in the case of the wealthy and high-born churchmen dwelling at the great temples are the food, dress, style of living, carriages, horses, servants and followers all copies of those of kings, princes and nobles, reaching to the highest pitch of grandeur, dazzling the eyes of the beholder.

When the churchmen of these latter ages thus forget the law of Buddha and behave in a manner not different from lay folk, they no doubt consider that they are only fulfilling their original aim; but, as viewed from the standpoint of Confucianists, the present day Buddhists are all accepting the Way of the Former Kings. Why do I say so? Although Buddha's law ignores the relation of lord and vassal, as soon as a Buddhist cleric of the present day becomes the incumbent of a temple he gets slaves to wait upon him; and when he rises to be the abbot of a monastery he keeps a retinue of menials and followers and does his best to emulate the style of a nobleman or the lord of province. In substance this amounts to the same thing as establishing the relation of lord and vassal. Although Buddha's law is silent on the subject of parental and filial relationship, the Buddhist clergy of the present time call their pupils their religious posterity, and imparting the law to them they describe as bequeathing to them the law; thus treating the law as if it were descent by blood. All this comes to much the same thing as paternity and sonship. The supporting of their pupils as if they were their sons, and the transmitting to them of their temples and the making over to them of their property and valuables, all this is the counterpart of what people of the world do when they make assignments of their lands and houses and family estates. And just as this is virtually being fathers and sons, so amongst the pupils the more advanced are called by the others their religious elder-brothers, (literally *law*-brothers) and the more backward are styled younger-brothers in religion; which is simply an acceptance of the Way of elder brother and younger-brothers of the Confucian teaching; and the practice of the pupils calling the teacher's elder and younger brothers in the law their uncles in religion and the teachers calling the pupils of their religious brothers their religious nephews, is simply making the connection in the law the bond of a family system of relationship, analogous to the connection by actual blood relationship. Though Buddha's law puts an end to family ties, the fact that such a custom has spontaneously come into existence is in itself a manifest proof of the impossibility of really putting an end to the ties of family. Again, the Buddhist clerics have the custom of a crowd of them sociably assembling together in one place and there pursuing their studies in company: this they call a synod of the same association; but in reality it is a practising of the way of friends. So that the Buddhists have, in principle, four of the five human relationships established by the way of the Sages, viz. those of lord and vassal, of parent, and child, of elder brother and younger brother, and of friend and friend. The only one which they have not got is that of husband and wife. And even in that they have not always been deficient; for in these later times there are Buddhists who marry wives; and even in China there are what are called clerics of hearth and home. How much more impossible, then, is it for them to be devoid of that love of man for woman which nature has implanted in us, as in every living creature, male and female, that is born. Not the most exalted prelate, not the most saintly abbot, when he beholds the lay affection between husband and wife, can help a feeling of envy in his heart, short of his attainment of Buddhahood. Moreover clerics, although they live in monasteries, receive grants of estates from princes, and others receive glebes and stipends and thus, in reality, enter into the relation of vassals towards their patrons. And amongst these there are some who are appointed by the governments as the financial and administrative heads of their respective sects, over which they, in turn, exercise control, and thus become, in effect, officials of the State. As for the rest, whether they are or are not incumbents of parishes, they are all subjects of the State, and should not be allowed to be exempt from the common law of the country.

To sum up then, we must say that the churchmen of the present day are one and all subjects of the sovereign; and that those of them who receive official salaries are the same as magistrates and officials. Moreover, in their celebration of Buddhist services, they observe a fixed ritual appropriate to the various occasions; in other words, they make use of ceremonial. Bells, cymbals, conchs and drums are made use of very frequently; in other words, they employ music. Without ceremonial and music the Buddhists simply could not hold their services. Although they profess to have abandoned this world and to be a peculiar people apart, and not to be subject to the same laws as the common folk, and though they object to being classed with the gentry and commonalty, nevertheless the clergy of the present day gradually become assimilated to the rest of the people, in no degree different from the gentry and commonalty and equally with them amenable to the ordinary laws of the country. This is what they themselves call a decline of the faith in the latter ages, but it is simply an inevitable result of the ordinary working of the way of the world. If the Empire or the nation were to reject the Way of the Sages, they could not be governed for a single day. If any one, from the Son of Heaven down to the day-labourer, were to withdraw from that Way, they could not, for a single day, maintain their position. Buddhism, in spite of its lofty pretensions and spacious theorizings is, after all, nothing

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more than a way for governing the mind and setting the individual at ease; it is not a way by which the state or the nation can be governed. Its Clergy, however erudite or intellectual they may be, can not be entrusted with the functions of political government. On the contrary, they are responsible to the administrative authorities, and their proper rank in the social scale is below, not above, that of the gentry and commoners.

ADDRESS BY GOVERNOR OF THE BANK OF KOREA.

The following is a full translation of the address made by Dr. M. Ichihara, Governor of the Bank of Korea, on the occasion of the celebration of the opening of its business on Saturday last.

Your Excellencies and gentlemen:—

The Bank of Korea held its inaugurating general meeting on October 29, and having concluded the transference of business, buildings, employees and so forth from the General Branch at Seoul of the Dai Ichi Ginko and its other Branches and Detached Offices in various cities in Korea between November 21 and 23, opened business on the 24th of the same month. Accordingly with the desire of announcing it I have ventured to ask your presence at this meeting, though it was with great concern that I did so, in view of the cold weather. It is a great honour for the Bank of Korea that in spite of the severity of the season and the little time you can spare you have favoured us with your presence. On behalf of the Bank I beg to thank you all with all my heart.

The establishment of the Bank of Korea was not an affair of any sudden motive, for the idea was first conceived several years ago. It was carried into effect about the beginning of summer this year. In former days, under order of the Japanese Government and by virtue of a contract with the Korean Government, the Dai Ichi Ginko performed the function of the central bank of this country. The authorities concerned, however, concluded that in view of the remarkable progress and development which has recently been achieved by Korea in her institutions and civilisation, it was not proper to leave the business of the Central Bank of Korea in the charge of the branch of a private bank. They therefore opened negotiations with the Dai Ichi Ginko for the return of the privileges granted to that bank by virtue of Imperial Ordinances and the rescinding of contracts made for issuing bank notes, as well as for dealing with affairs relating to the National Treasury While on the one hand, under the earnest guidance of Their Excellencies, the late Prince Ito and Viscount Sone, Resident-General, the authorities concerned made great efforts, on the other, Baron Shibuzawa, President of the Dai Ichi Ginko, with his characteristic fair-mindedness and unselfishness, responded to the negotiations, with the result that the important and great problem, which was pending for years, was satisfactorily solved in June this year.

Since the establishment of the Residency-General, everything in Korea has assumed a new feature. The general policy of administration is now fixed, laws and institutions have generally been perfected, and the safety of life and property, which is most essential to the development of civilisation, has been made secure. It is now high time for Korea to undertake the development of industry in order to augment her national wealth. In order to attain this object there is nothing more urgent and important than arranging the extension and unification of the organ of monetary circulation side by side with the extension and adjustment of the organ of communications and traffic. For this reason the Government has established the Bank of Korea as the central organ of monetary circulation in Korea. The Government has taken up 30,000 of the shares of the Bank, freeing the Bank from the duty of paying dividend on those shares until it may be able to pay a dividend of 6 per cent. per annum to other shareholders. Moreover the Government, anticipating the difficulties the Bank may experience at the initial stage of its business, has advanced the Bank a sum of 1,200,000 *yen* free of interest, to be paid back by annual instalments. It has also conferred on the Bank the privilege of issuing convertible bank-notes to the amount of twenty million *yen* on a security reserve. And to crown all, the Government has guaranteed to the shareholders at large a dividend of 6 per cent. per annum for five years from the founding of the Bank.

Inasmuch as the present condition of Korea is such as I have mentioned in the above and the protection extended to the Bank by the Government is so great as just said, I need scarcely say that the responsibility of the Bank of Korea is extremely onerous. The salient points of the duty of the Bank are clearly stated in its regulations and association articles. Of these I believe the most important is the guarding and protection of the conversion system, which accompanies the privilege the Bank enjoys of issuing bank notes. There is nothing more important and essential to the commercial development of a nation than the existence of a healthy currency system. It is really a most fortunate thing that Korea, whose system of currency was in a chaotic state in former times, has in recent days arrived at the stage when its adjustment is about to be completed. I think that it is the duty of the Bank of Korea permanently to maintain this happy state of things under the guidance and direction of the Government. It may appear to be a very easy affair to issue a piece of paper and make it take the place of gold cash, but it is no easy thing to cause it to maintain the same value as the gold money whatever the condition of the time or place of its circulation may be. I think that in proportion to the greatness of the privilege of issuing bank notes, the duty of the Bank of Korea in this direction is correspondingly great.

Next to this duty in importance comes the duty of undertaking the dealing with affairs concerning the money belonging to the Treasuries of Japan and Korea, and the flotation and redemption of national loans. It is provided that the Korean Government shall deposit free of interest the money belonging to its Treasury. In return for this, the Bank of Korea must deal with all affairs relating to the Treasury free of charge, advance money to the Government at a low rate of interest in case of need, and also establish branches or detached offices at appointed places even though in the face of certain loss.

Next in importance comes the business of an ordinary bank. Although the Bank of Korea is an organ aiming at the development of industries and the augmentation of national wealth, yet at the same time the Bank takes upon itself the task of the central organ of commercial money circulation. As is clearly expressed in its regulations and association articles, the Bank aims at facilitating the circulation of capital needed for commercial enterprises. This is the natural outcome falling to a bank, which enjoys the privilege of issuing convertible bank notes and bearing the duty accompanying it.

A central bank, taking the examples of other countries into consideration, should be in its character the bank of banks. It should aim at facilitating general monetary circulation and at developing commerce by rendering assistance to other banks through rediscounting commercial bills and taking other measures, and should rarely engage in dealing directly with private individuals. In the time of transition, such as Korea is now passing through, it is inevitable that the Bank of Korea should have to engage in individual transactions in cooperation with other banks. I venture to believe that to do this is advantageous both to the Bank as well as to the general public.

Viewed from the standpoint of a bank issuing convertible bank notes, all fixed loans must be strictly avoided. Such a bank must avoid advancing money on the security of immovable property, especially when the loan is of long duration. Only in a country like Korea, where marketable bonds are still scarce and commercial organs are imperfect, it may be possible for the Bank for the time being occasionally to make loans of short duration on the security of immovable property for facilitating the circulation of commercial capital. But I must say that this will be done only when it is simply unavoidable. Stricter care must be taken concerning loans of duration to public bodies.

As the Bank of Korea will adopt the policy I have briefly stated it will never take up an attitude of competing with its confreres engaged in the business of general commercial monetary circulation, much less with other monetary organs of special sorts. The Bank hopes to contribute its share directly or indirectly to the development of commerce and industry by extending as much assistance as possible to its Japanese and Korean confreres in Korea, and by cooperating with them. I trust that they will entertain a similar view and work in harmony with us. Korea has been notorious for the exceedingly high rate of interest prevailing in her domains. In recent years, following the increase and adjustment of monetary organs, a welcome tendency has appeared towards its decline. Unless, however, it declines more and more until it reaches the same rate as that ruling in Japan and Western countries, it is impossible to expect the full development of industries in this country. It is my earnest hope that reliable banks will increase in number year after year in future, that capital needed for commerce and other enterprises will become abundant and bring about the natural decline of the rates of interest, and that the time will soon come when the Bank of Korea will be able to confine itself only to the functions of a genuine central bank.

This, however, is merely an expression of hope for the future. For the present, my colleagues and myself, having been appointed to the Bank of Korea, venture to express our sincere hope that under the guidance of the superintending authorities and the support of your Excellencies and gentlemen present, as well as of the general public, we may be enabled to fulfill our respective duties and attain the object of the establishment of the Bank. I beg again to thank your Excellencies and gentlemen for the honour your have given us by your presence at this meeting.

ARREST OF A POWERFUL INSURGENT LEADER.

STORY OF HIS CAREER.

A report from Kulei district, South Chonla-do, says that an insurgent leader named Yu Pyong-hong was recently captured by the police at his home in Chongchon, Machonmyon, in that district. He was, says our Seoul contemporary, subsequently sent under guard to the Local Court on charge of disturbing the peace of the country. This man is a number of a family of *Yangpan* (nobility) and is 27 years of age. In 1907, with the declared intention of recovering the national prestige of Korea by overwhelming the Residency-General and the annihilation of all the Japanese in the peninsula, he drew up a violently worded manifesto and, by exciting the inhabitants of South Chonla province, gathered about seven hundred followers and five hundred fire arms. Making a mountain called Lasan in the district of Hampyong their base of operations, they made frequent appearances in Tanyang, Lyong kwang, Changsong, Changpyong and Kwangju, burning down Japanese houses and generally molesting the inhabitants of those districts. They encountered Japanese troops ten or more times. In these engagements a number of Japanese soldiers, including a Lieutenant, were killed by the powerful insurgent band. The year before last Kim Keuichai, one of Yu's lieutenants, and over one hundred followers were killed during an engagement at Yongheung, in Changpyong district. Yu himself sustained severe injuries on this occasion, and the remnants of his followers dispersed. Yu, after recoving from the injuries, joined hands with another leader of insurgents named Yang Sang-keui. A quarrel subsequently occurred between the two leaders, culminating in a duel in which Yu was wounded in the shoulder and right arm. Since then and up to the time of his arrest he has been in concealment in his own home.

THE training vessel *Taisei Maru*, of the Tokyo Mercantile Marine School, which left here in July last on a voyage to South America, arrived at Valparaiso on the 7th inst.

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MONTHLY SUMMARY OF THE JAPANESE RELIGIOUS PRESS.

Is virtue on the decline in the schools of Japan? Are the students to-day taken as a whole more wicked than those of former generations? By what standard is the conduct of students to be judged? Who is there that possesses sufficient data to go on in deciding such questions as these? Yet numerous are the writers who affirm that in modern Japan among all young people morality is in a bad way. This, too, is the opinion of the present Minister of Education and of certain high officials in that Department. The remedy for the low state of morals on which the authorities rely is the issue of orders to school teachers instructing them to insist on reform among the students. The leaders of various Christian sects, from their different points of view, have much to say on this subject. They all agree in holding that neither Imperial rescripts nor Departmental Orders will prove sufficient to guide the minds of students and incline them to virtue. The *Seikyō Shimpō* (Greek Church) in a recent article entitled "The Decay of Virtue and Materialistic Education" goes into the whole subject. It is quite confident that it is only on the surface that modern Japanese are more virtuous than their pre-Meiji ancestors, that in belief, integrity, friendly feeling towards each other, affection and modesty there has been a tremendous falling off. Why the revolution which ushered in the Meiji era should have affected morality so badly it is hard to say, observes the *Seikyō Shimpō*. It was in the first place a political change only. But it did not stop with politics. The old educational system was abandoned and the European and American materialistic principles were adopted unreservedly. Our present educational system is wholly secular and materialistic, and it is responsible for the indifference which students show to all moral questions. When boys attend natural science classes they are taught that man is no more than a high-class animal, that his mind is a product of the material brain and has no existence apart from matter. These and many similar ideas that are put into the students' heads by their teachers are quite subservient of morality and religion alike. Modern science as it is taught in our schools is responsible for the decline of morality, and this the Department of Education should recognize.

The last number of the *Seikyō Shimpō* which has reached us gives the following report of conferences held between certain of the Greek Church priests and certain Protestant Episcopal clergymen. The object of these conferences, which began to be held last summer, is to encourage general friendliness and the study of each other's teaching. The first meeting held was attended by Archbishop Nicolai, and the second by Bishop Sergius and a few Japanese pastors belonging to the Greek Church. On Oct 25th a meeting of representatives of the two Churches was held at Saint Andrew's House, Tōkyō (as reported in the *Weekly Mail* of Oct. 30th). On that occasion the Rev. C. F. Sweet stated very clearly what are the radical differences in the doctrinal teaching of the two Churches. The elaborate way in which Mr. Sweet set forth the doctrines of his Church might have made some people think that he proposed that the Greek Church Christians should adopt the Protestant Episcopal standard. But he probably did not intend what he said to be understood in this way. The remarks that fell from his lips made one thing perfectly clear, and that was that union between the two Churches is absolutely impossible. Whatever the Conferences being held may result in, they do not signify anything like an alliance or union between the Churches. It is well that this should be understood by the general foreign and Japanese public. It would be most unfortunate, too, if these friendly conferences were interpreted as a kind of demonstration (*shii*) got up by the two bodies concerned for the sake of making an impression on outsiders. The movement is not designed to influence outsiders in any way. It arose from a desire on the part of certain members of both Churches to show sympathy and brotherly love to each other. Their study of each other's teaching is not to be regarded as a prelude to, even if it can be looked on as investigation designed to test the practicability of, union later on. This we trust is quite clear to everybody. (*Mushiro itchi, rengō no deki-uru ya ina ya no kenkyūkai tomo iubeki mono naru koto wo akiraka ni seraren koto wo hossuru nari.*)

The *Seikyō Shimpō*, in one of its editorials, calls attention to certain comments on the present state of the Greek Church in Japan, made by a Russian newspaper correspondent after paying a visit to this country. One thing that he said was that ex-pastors and ex-evangelists, on taking to secular callings, have given up their belief in Christianity and become immoral. This is a proof that in serving the Church they only had their own pecuniary interests in view, that their faith was not real from the very beginning. Some of these men, it is asserted, go as far as to ridicule the members and tenets of the Church they have left. Mr. Ichikawa Kisaburō's reply to this is in substance as follows:—The charges made are too sweeping, and the writer of the article in question fails to note the fact that among those who have renounced holy orders there are some who still retain their belief in Christianity and who are living Christian lives. These men show plainly that in abandoning their profession and taking to secular work they had no desire to sever their connection with the Church. They simply regarded themselves as unfit for the holy office they had previously filled. It is not for outsiders nor for those of us who still stick to our posts as ministers of the Gospel to judge these ex-pastors harshly. Each of them is responsible to his own conscience and to God in this matter. There are instances of course where the abandonment of office in the church has been followed by thorough apostasy. Such cases can not but cause great grief to us all.

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Mr. M. Sawayanagi, a very keen observer of the spirit of the age and a most reliable authority on the trend of current thought, contributed to the November number of the *Shin Kōron* a somewhat scathing article entitled *Reproof of National Vanity*, of which the following is the gist:—Our success as a nation hitherto has been largely owing to a faculty that we possess which enables us to imitate other countries in things where they excel, thus making up for our defects. (*Chō wo tori, tan wo oginau*). Beyond the possession of this assimilative faculty, we have nothing as a nation that when regarded impartially is sufficiently developed to bear comparison with the achievements of the Great Powers of the World. (*Sono hoka ni oite wa ikani kōhei naru handan wo kudashite mo, kokumin no chōsho to iu monō wa sekai no rekkyokokumin ni hi shite mada hakki serarete oranai no de aru*) While this is so, since the Russo-Japanese war the spirit of humility has given place to national vanity, and in recent years one has constantly heard defences of some of our greatest weaknesses and defects. It can not be said that at present we are only introducing into this country from the West what is designed to prove lastingly beneficial to us. We are in some things mixing dross with the gold and, instead of enriching ourselves, are adding to our poverty. . . . . Take the recent movement in favour of a revival of interest in Chinese learning. Can this be regarded as a step forward? Is there anything new that we have to learn by further study of the Chinese ideographs? Did not our ancestors centuries ago extract from the Chinese mine all that it was capable of yielding in the way of genuine metal? This is a retrograde movement and seems to show lack of discernment of the comparative value of things on the part of those who have backed it.

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In the November *Shinjin* Mr. D. Ebina says that Christianity in Japan has just entered on the third stage of its existence. During the first stage authority rested with the Pope of Rome; during the second stage, that is, during the past fifty years, the Bible has with Protestants been the nominal authority, but since for its interpretation the exercise of man's reasoning powers is required, in reality, the final appeal has been to reason. During the next fifty years Christianity in this country will be more and more rationalized. When men talk about the guidance of the Holy Spirit they refer to a mysterious influence. What is the Holy Spirit? Does it differ from man's reason? Not when explained in a broad sense. That reason should be regarded as wholly intellectual in nature and not a faculty by which we can judge of things moral and spiritual, is an untenable theory. The sanctified intellect of the Christian is to him the Holy Spirit, his one guide in life. Relying on this, each one of our Japanese Christians will in future develop the creed in his own way. What form our Christianity will take is not quite clear. I can not but regret that the Unitarians, the Universalists and other liberal-minded sects should possess no power to spread their teaching. This lack of ability to propagate their doctrines is not, however, to be attributed to the confidence they place in reason, but to other circumstances. The Christianity of the future will certainly be evolved from the Christianity of the past. The fittest of existing doctrines and forms will certainly survive.

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To the *Nihon oyobi Nipponjin*, Dr. Miyake Setsurei's organ, Dr. J. Takagi, formerly editor of the *Gokyō*, contributes an interesting article entitled *Kirisutokyō no shizen-teki Soyō* (the Naturalistic Essential Elements in Christianity). We furnish an epitome of the views expressed by this Christian theologian. What is known as the teaching of the Christian Revelation makes clear to us certain mysteries connected with nature and our own existence in the world. It explains to us natural phenomena and numerous events connected with our lives. It throws light on the war between virtue and vice, on the conflict which takes place in every human breast between man's higher and lower nature, and on the true significance of life and death, and it explains those moral laws which so seriously affect the destiny of nations, determining their rise and fall. Beyond this it does not go. It is not its province to tell us of the existence of transcendental laws nor to add to that knowledge which we acquire by the study of ordinary laws a knowledge of superhuman and supernatural law (*Sukoshi mo, kono ten ni oite, wa seisho no tsutome wa yo ni chōyetsu teki, hōsoku ari to nō koto wo gojin ni shirashimen to suru koto ni arazu; mata tsūjō no hōsoku ni motozukite shōzuru tokoro no chishiki ni chōningen-teki, chōshizen-teki chishiki wo fuka sen to suru koto ni mo arazu*) The Bible simply aims at enabling us to take in the moral and spiritual meaning of the world in which we live. The experiences that the Bible records are the ordinary experiences of life. When St. Paul wrote:—"For I delight in the law of God after the inward man: But I see another law in my members warring against the law of my mind, and bringing me into captivity to the law of sin which is in my members. O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" he was only describing a struggle with which all virtuous men are familiar. Passing from individual narratives of experience to the history of nations, the narratives of Biblical history are just like those found in ordinary history (*Seisho no uchi ni ki suru rekishi teki monogatari mo, seisho igwai no rekishidan to hitoshiku*). We are taught that God is governing the world according to moral laws, that righteousness will prevail in the end, that vice and self-indulgence sap the energy of nations and bring about the destruction of States. This accords with the experience of mankind and is no more than an embodiment of that experience. Then, take the teaching of Christianity respecting the incarnation, which is always thought of as being so full of mystery, there is nothing in it that transcends human experience. When we speak of the divine nature in man, we are only referring to a certain characteristic of men of superior character. The fact is that in the essential elements of what is known as Christian supernaturalism there is nothing that transcends man's thoughts. Regarded from one point of view the occurrences form a part of our experience; they are natural occurrences that reason has no difficulty in explaining.

Considered, then, from one point of view, Christianity is like all other religions, it has no existence apart from human experience; it does not

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transcend man's thoughts*. So, drawing a line between the natural and the supernatural in Christianity is rather out of date with theologians (*Konnichi no shukyōgakusha no torazaru tokoro*). Still it goes without saying that there is a manifest difference between the two. Dr. Takagi concludes by observing that Christianity should not oppose nor seek to destroy other religions, as they have much in common with it. Neither should other religions show any hostility to Christianity. Religious teachers should together seek for new knowledge and together strive to regenerate the nation.

* * *

Scepticism in Japan to-day—its Origin and its Cure is the title of a thoughtful editorial published in the November number of the *Koe*. Since the writer is undoubtedly a devout orthodox Christian, his testimony concerning the present tendency of thought in Japan should carry weight with all unprejudiced readers of these Summaries. What he admits, he admits with evident pain. The Japanese are of course far more intimately acquainted with the views held by the majority of their fellow-countrymen than we foreigners can possible be. If the opinions of leading Christians, Buddhists and philosophers in this country are to be pronounced unreliable, as they sometimes are by narrow-minded newspaper correspondents, then all attempts to ascertain what are the religious views of the Japanese people must be abandoned as utterly fruitless.† As for ourselves, however, we shall go on attaching importance to the statements of earnest-minded and thoroughly sincere Japanese scholars on the burning religious questions of the day. And here is what the editor of the *Koe* has to tell us on Japanese scepticism and what in his conception is the best remedy for it. The power of scepticism throughout the country is something tremendous. It prevails almost everywhere. There is nothing new in scepticism. No age has been without it, but ages of transition such as that through which we are now passing are specially conducive to its wide prevalence. There is at present a great conflict going on here between the new and the old. No country in the world has ever been invaded by so many new thoughts, philosophical, scientific and religious as have entered Japan during the short space of half a century. That bewilderment and dire confusion should result surprises nobody. European nations have often been greatly affected by a rapid influx of new ideas, but the hold that philosophy and religion have on the minds of Europeans has always checked the progress of scepticism among them. But here the old beliefs, moral and religious, have lost their power over the mind, which drifts hither and thither at the mercy of every wind and every current. When we see how numerous and how contradictory are the doctrines, theories and opinions with which this country is inundated to-day, when we examine the books that are in circulation, or listen to the lectures that are given in schools, we are not surprised that people should be growing up sceptics. Let us picture to ourselves for a moment the position in which a young man finds himself in Japan to-day. If he is serious-minded, he will certainly desire to determine which of all the doctrines that are taught is the most reliable. According to the persons to whom he applies, he will be told something entirely different and contradictory. What certain Christians will tell him about the deeper mysteries of their religion will be in direct opposition to what he will hear from others. If he encounters an agnostic, he will be informed that it is a mere foolish waste of time to be exploring the regions of mystery, the unknown and unknowable land for the exploration and mapping out of which we human beings lack the necessary intellectual equipment. "Be content," say the agnostics, "with the solid knowledge founded on experiment and experience which science can yield." By other authorities he will be told that all the various phenomena and forms of matter in the universe have come into existence spontaneously as a result of the working of the laws of matter, and that they do not imply the prior existence of a conscious Being. According to this theory every man was spontaneously generated as a result of the working of the laws of matter. But another set of thinkers will contradict all this and assert that there exists a Supreme Being who governs the world, man included, asserting His will whenever He pleases. Him man must serve as a Lord and love as a Father. These assertions concerning the existence of a personal God apart from the universe will meet with a flat contradiction from the Pantheist, who will confidently affirm that we and God alike form a part of the universe and know no separate and independent existence. Supposing that a young man is anxious to come to a definite opinion on morality, and that he begins to make inquiries as to the theories that are held on the origin and nature of moral law, some to whom he goes will tell him that moral law is higher than man and higher even than God, that it consists of those eternal verities which can never be changed and which exist quite independent of man; others will affirm that moral law only exists for the benefit and happiness of mankind in this world of ours and has no authority beyond what man gives to it. It would be impossible to set down here all the contradictory notions on morality and religion which any reading man meets with in modern Japan. Letting alone abstract questions, suppose that a young man desires to interpret the meaning of human life, to determine what course he himself should follow, what attitude he should adopt to all that is going on around him, he will find it no easy matter to do this. Such inquiries are almost sure to end in distress and embarrassment.

Is education or society generally doing anything to dispel the universal scepticism of the nation? It seems to us that education as it is carried on in this country to-day is the enemy of belief. It worships what is new and takes delight in upsetting what is old without regard to truth or error. Things are no better in our modern literature. Numerous are the writers who take delight in propounding new theories and in attacking all that their forefathers were wont to revere. We have lecturers on philosophy who do little else than show how theories have been set up by certain Western philosophers only to be knocked down by other teachers. As for a taste for objective truth, it does not exist. All the leaders in our philosophic world are in favour of subjectivism which means that each man is to be a standard to himself, is to be the slave of his own ever varying emotions. This prevalence of subjectivism is one of the chief causes of our universal scepticism.

If the prevailing scepticism were regarded as a serious complaint calling for special treatment by our scholars, the situation would be more hopeful than it is. But the fact is that the minds of the learned are permeated with agnosticism. Religious knowledge and belief such men treat with indifference or contempt. They claim that the mysteries which constitute the chief source of religion are incapable of being tested or comprehended by man's intellect, and that therefore they may be disregarded as having no bearing on human life. By such men religion and morality are represented as only credible and reliable when made thoroughly scientific, that is, when founded on experiment. Agnostics view the prevailing scepticism with profound satisfaction, seeing in it a prelude to the creation of a thoroughly rationalistic form of religion and morality. What we Christians regard as the darkness of night, they consider to be the early morning rays of a sun that is destined to flood the world with its light.

When we come to consider what remedies can be applied to the existing scepticism, we find that one of the greatest obstacles to its removal is the attitude of three distinct sets of scholars to this question. (1) There are men who, like the Greek sophists of old, glory in the prevalence of doubt, who regard it as one of the strongest proofs of the extent to which man's intelligence has developed in recent times. They boast do these agnostics that man's intellectual power has never been so great as it is to-day—in this pronouncedly sceptical age. (2) There are scholars who desire to be free from all moral restraints of any kind, and who see that a state of opinion which holds up moral law and religion to ridicule and favours the notion that nothing is binding, leaves them free to gratify their low desires. (3) There are the indifferent and the idle scholars, a very numerous class, whose one desire it is to take things easily, who are averse to puzzling their heads over any of the knotty questions of philosophy, religion or morals. But outside these three classes of scholars there surely must be some who desire to leave the dark regions of doubt and reach the land of certainty. To these we desire to offer the following counsel. Cultivate a love for truth and search for it sincerely and resolutely. Do not allow yourselves to be deceived by sophistry. Some of the most plausible of theories have turned out to be untrue. No life is complete unless the feelings and the will as well as the intellectual faculties are developed. The development of the whole man must lead to the formation of a strong faith in certain fixed principles. A man who has no belief is exposed to a thousand perils in this world of ours. Give up trying to solve life's problems by merely thinking over them. Seek for their solution where alone it can be found, in the Revelation which God has given to man. Peace of mind can only come to those who in all humility sit at the feet of the world's greatest teachers.

* * *

The *Kirisutokyō Sekai* in one of its editorials goes minutely into the question of the regenerating influence of Christian literature on the Japanese people. The first thing it draws attention to is the way in which Christian teaching has been brought to the notice of students of English and German in Government schools. It then refers to the good work done in the same line for many years by such magazines as the *Rikugō Zasshi*, the *Jogaku Zasshi*, the *Kokumin no Tomo* and the *Shinri*, and to the power wielded by such writers as Kitamura, Kuniki, Miyazaki, Tokutomi, Nakamura (Keiu) and Kinoshita, years ago, and to the respect which is felt to-day for religious thinkers like the late Dr. Ōnishi and Mr. Tsunajima and a number of survivors like Messrs. Matsumura Kaiseki, Uchimura Kanzō, Yamaji Aizan and Doctors Anezaki, Ukita and Nitobe. But alas! as regards Christian literature, the golden age has already gone (*Oshimubeshi! ōgon jidai wa sude ni sugisutta*), says the *Kirisutokyō Sekai*. The literary territory that, as a result of the prowess of certain writers, we once occupied, says the *Kirisutokyō Sekai*, has in recent years been rapidly falling into other hands. The leading novelists, verse writers, essayists, critics, and review-writers of the present day are nearly all anti-Christian. Perhaps at no time during the Meiji era has the Christian literary world been in such a very forlorn condition as it is to-day. (*Konnichi hodo Kirisutokyō bundan no rakubaku wo kiwamete oru jiki wa arumai*). What is the reason of this? We are not disposed to attribute it to the decline of the influence of Christianity. For is it not true that Christianity is growing to be more and more firmly established in our midst? We must look for the cause elsewhere, and we have not far to look. The far-reaching influence and unparalleled success of the Naturalistic school of writers in recent years has cut the ground away from beneath the feet of Christian writers. Before Christians were even aware of what was going on, this attack upon their rear proved disastrous to the cause of Christian literature. But the truth is that this naturalistic movement in literature is no ordinary movement. It has given a most wonderful impetus to literature. There has been nothing like it in the past 50 years. There are no doubt among the Naturalists certain low-class writers who have done the cause much harm, but this does not alter the fact that the leaders of the movement are not only deeply in earnest and most sincere, but men whose abilities command respect throughout the literary world. It is true that their hatred of hypocrisy and make-believes of all kinds has carried them too far, has made them treat their own moral convictions with the same

* *Tō no shūkyō to onajiku, gojin no keiken wo hanarete sonzai suru mono ni arazu; mata gojin no shisō ni chōetsu suru mono ni arazu.*

† If the articles written by leading religious teachers in this country are devoid of religion, where in Japanese literature, we ask, is religion to be found?—(WRITER OF SUMMARY.)

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indifference they have shown to the moral creeds professed by others. Their works are almost altogether devoid of moral tone and idealism. But in our opinion they will not stop where they are now. Their present cry is *Return to nature*, but they will soon change it for "Give us true religion." Naturalism is not the last stage that our literature will reach, and we are among those who think that in this country at no very distant date literature and religion may join hands and work together for the enlightenment of the nation. Unless Japanese literature can be permeated with Christian thought, no grand future awaits it. If it never rises higher than the pessimism and the naturalism which now characterize it, it will never qualify itself to rank with the foremost literatures of the world.

ACTING-CONSUL CLOUD'S MISREPRESENTATIONS.

On the receipt recently of press despatches, giving a résumé of an official report on the trade conditions in Manchuria, ascribed to Mr. Cloud, Acting-Consul of the United States at Mukden, we took occasion (vide the *Japan Times*, Dec. 1.) to point out errors of judgment and other inaccuracies contained in the said document, making unjust reflections on the conduct of this country. We have since collected information on the subject more fully than we were in possession of then, and the result is that we find ourselves quite justified in the ground we took at the time. We give below a summary of what has led us to this conclusion.

To begin with the statement credited to the Acting-Consul, he says in effect: The amount of goods imported to supply the needs of the leased territory (Kwantung) as compared with those imported into the whole of Manchuria is extraordinarily large,—so that they could by no possibility be all consumed by the inhabitants of the territory. A majority of these goods is smuggled into the interior of Manchuria, and in consequence of this the Japanese merchants, as against other foreign merchants, occupy a position of great advantage. In looking over the Chinese Customs Returns for 1908, it is seen that the total value of goods directly imported from foreign countries into Manchuria at Tairen in the course of the said year footed up to 17,205,936 taels. Of this amount 4,645,079 taels worth found their way into the interior by the rail, and it follows that 12,570,857 taels worth remained within the boundaries of Kwantung. But the population is very sparse in the leased territory, and it is inconceivable that this large amount of goods was all consumed by the local people. Hence it may be assumed that the greater portion of it was smuggled from Kwantung into the interior by the rail.

So far the consular statement.

Now it should be remembered that the year 1908 was one in which the South Manchuria Railway Company went in all earnest into the work of widening and doubling its tracks, with the result that it had to import an enormous amount of railway materials. Furthermore, it was in the same year that various industrial enterprises, started in Kwantung, made progress by leaps and bounds. The Consular report entirely overlooks these facts, together with another important fact, namely, that the principal articles of importation mentioned in the Customs returns were precisely those for which there is the least demand in the interior of Manchuria, and therefore we can only take the conclusions arrived at by the Acting-Consul as the result of extremely careless investigations and as a piece of presumption. That this assertion of ours is well borne out by facts will be seen from the following particulars:

1. It was in December 1907 that the S. M. R. Co. started importing into Manchuria its materials of construction in order to commence the work of widening and doubling its tracks. The work was at its height throughout 1908. The amount of money which the company spent in the course of the same year for the purposes of the reconstruction and also for gas and electric works which form part of its business, totalled 15,470,000 *yen* in round numbers (99 per cent. of this amount representing articles imported from America.) A part of this amount also represented materials left over from the previous year, but it was very small, and by far the greatest portion represented goods imported in the course of the year named. It must not be forgotten that by virtue of the treaty in force all these articles were privileged to enter Manchuria free of duty.

2. In Manchuria, outside of Kwantung province, the people are still adhering to their old ways in all lines of industries, while works newly started by Japanese are very few in number. On the contrary, all the large machinery-worked industries are situated in Kwantung, and for this reason the quantities of materials for factory construction consumed in the leased territory are very large. To give an example, the Onoda cement factory alone made use of 580,000 *yen* worth of building materials in 1908, and all these were imported. The quantity of materials put to use for similar purposes within Kwantung during the same year was indeed not small.

3. Japan's policy regarding Manchuria is to simultaneously develop the ports of Tairen and Yingkow, each according to its peculiar needs and possibilities. It should be noted in this connection that Yingkow, by reason of its situation and for other reasons, is the most important port for the importation of foreign goods suited to the interior of Manchuria. If, then, the greater part of the articles imported at Tairen, as above stated, were recently smuggled into the interior by rail, Yingkow must needs have felt the effect. But the Customs returns show that the imports there (at Yingkow) were as numerous as ever. Last year, indeed, the port showed a conspicuous increase in its imports, which amounted to 15,000,000 taels against 10,000,000 taels of the year before. The imports at Tairen had always been less in amount that those at Yingkow, last year alone making an exception, when the former's figures exceeded that of the latter with some suddenness. As will be seen at once, this sudden increase of imports at Tairen did not represent the goods destined for the interior of Manchuria, but was the result of a large importation of materials for railway and other industrial purposes. Is this not proof positive that there was an extraordinary growth in the demand for materials for industrial purposes in Kwantung last year?

4. Nor must the fact be overlooked that no small quantity of military supplies is being imported at Tairen to supply the needs of our troops guarding the S.M.R. These military supplies are given the privilege of free entry by the existing treaty. When they enter the port of Tairen the Customs-house is notified of the fact and then they are stored in the military warehouse in Tairen, to be taken out from time to time and forwarded to guards stations outside of the leased territory, according as need for them arises. In consequence of this, these imported military supplies do not appear in the Custom returns, which enumerate only such goods as are landed at Tairen, destined to be conveyed into the interior by rail. The circumstances attending the final disposal of these supplies should therefore be counted as one of the factors contributing towards making large the disparity between the amount of goods imported into the leased territory and that of goods finding their way into the interior by rail. According to calculations of the War Office, these supplies, which include rice, wheat and barley, fodder, and materials for clothing, annually amount to 1,500,000 *yen* or about 1,200,000 taels.

It goes without saying that all the above observations can be proved by figures. Furthermore, the Chinese Customs returns for last year are full of imperfections. For instance, they fail to give in detail the import prices of various groups of goods passed. What is significant, therefore, is that even in the light of these statistics so imperfectly compiled, there is enough to sustain the statements we have made, as the analysis of the goods imported at Tairen and those sent out of the leased territory of Kwantung would show, that is, such an analysis as the returns enable us to make. The articles are roughly classified as materials for ndustrial purposes on the one hand, and as simple articles of consumption on the other. They compare in value as follows:—

MATERIALS FOR INDUSTRIAL PURPOSES.

Items.	Imported at Tairen (in Taels.)	Sent out of Kwantung.	Presumably consumed in Kwantung. (in Taels.)
R'y. materials (exclusively those imported from the U. S.)	5,797,433	—	5,797,433
Lumber	1,116,057	133,189	982,868
Iron and other metals	822,563	219,646	602,917
Machinery	872,763	—	872,763
Cement	294,327	—	294,327
Coal	121,330	—	121,330
Total	9,024,423	352,835	

FOOD MATERIALS.

(Including a part of military supplies.)

Rice	976,667	414,085	562,582
Flour (American)	546,617	152,076	394,541

SIMPLE ARTICLES OF CONSUMPTION.

(Most liable to be smuggled.)

Cotton threads and piece cottons	1,013,359	1,175,479	—
Tobacco	342,784	222,176	120,608
Saké	544,683 (boxes)	218,486 (boxes)	326,197
Matches	186,546 (picul)	207,701 (picul)	— (picul)
Soy	33,731	14,305	19,426

The above figures are only illustrative of the principal items given in the Customs returns; but it will still be seen that the greatest portion of the imported articles, namely about 70 per cent., was made up of materials for industrial purposes, nearly the whole of which were to be put to use in Kwantung. As to food materials, a much larger portion is consumed within than outside of Kwantung. But, when it is remembered that the figures include those for military supplies, nothing out of the common will be found in the proportions Then, respecting simple articles of consumption, for which there is the largest demand in the interior, and in respect to which, consequently, there is the largest possibility of smuggling, the returns show that cotton goods, which occupy the most important place in the list, were sent out of the leased territory in quantities far in excess of those imported into the territory. Of other simple articles of consumption, it is seen that the proportions are quite appropriate. Where, then, are those articles or goods which find their way into the interior through smuggling, as the American Acting Consul alleges? It is difficult even to imagine the grounds on which Mr. Cloud bases his assertion, if, indeed, he had any grounds at all.

It is easy then to see that the large discrepancy between the total amount of imports at Tairen and that of the goods sent out of Kwantung leased territory is solely responsible for such suspicions as are entertained by Mr. Cloud. Those suspicions should therefore vanish as soon, as it is understood that this discrepancy was the result of the rise and progress of railway and other industrial works last year. Moreover, Kwantung being an exempted territory, the importers must state the full prices in their invoices. But they know that when their goods leave the territory duties must be paid on them, and it is only human nature that they should give somewhat reduced prices in their invoices when re-importing them into the interior. And some allowance should also be made in this respect when comparing the total valuation of goods imported at Tairen with that of goods sent out of the leased territory.

In any case, we have shown by figures and facts that the suspicions of smuggling are wholly groundless, so that no further refutations are needed. It may be added, however, that very strict rules are observed in passing goods through the Customs-house, and it is practically an impossibility to do any smuggling at all. Our conclusion, then, is that the report of the American Acting Consul was the result of *not* having carefully studied the true facts of the case, and of having arrived at an arbitrary conclusion by merely referring to the figures given in the Customs returns for the total quantity of imports at Tairen and for that leaving the leased territory, without ascertaining the causes which are responsible for the disparity between those figures.—*Japan Times.*

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FUKUZAWA'S MORAL CODE.

(The following, which has not been translated into English before, has just been done for the Keiogijiku with a view to sending to the Anglo-Japanese Exhibition.—ED. *J.M.)*

It is a point about which there is a perfect unanimity of opinion throughout the realm, that it is incumbent upon every native-born subject of the Japanese Empire, without regard to age or sex, to pay homage to the Imperial House that has reigned throughout the ages and to show gratitude for its gracious favour that has accrued to us from its many virtues.

But when we ask the question how, in these days, and in what manner, the men and women of to-day should order their conduct in society, we find that as a rule such conduct is regulated by various systems of moral teachings which have been handed down from past ages. It is fitting, however, that moral teachings should be modified from time to time to keep pace with the progress of civilization, and it is but natural that a highly advanced and ever advancing society, such as we find in the world to-day should be provided with a system of morals better suited to its needs than the antiquated teachings already mentioned. It is for this reason, we venture to think, that it has become necessary to state anew the principles of morals and rules of conduct, individual as well as social.

1. It is the universal duty of man to raise his personal dignity and to develop his moral and intellectual faculties to their utmost capacity, never to be contented with the degree of development already attained, but ever to press forward to higher attainments. We urge it, therefore, as a duty upon all those who hold the same convictions as ourselves to endeavour in all things to discharge their full duty as men, laying to heart the principles of independence and self-respect, as the leading tenets of moral life.

2. Whosoever perfectly realizes the principle of independence, both of mind and body, and paying due respect to his own person, preserves his dignity unblemished,—him we call a man of independence and self-respect.

3. The true source of independence of life is to eat one's bread in the sweat of one's brow. A man of independence and self-respect should be a self-helping and self-supporting man.

4. Strength of body and soundness of health are requisites of life. We should, therefore, always take care to keep mind and body active and well, and to refrain from any action or course of life likely to prove injurious to our health.

5. It is man's duty to live out the whole of his allotted span of life. To take one's own life, for whatever reason, or under whatever circumstances, is an unreasonable and cowardly act, altogether abominable and entirely unworthy of the principle of independence and self-respect.

6. To realize the principle of independence and self-respect demands nothing short of an audacious, active and dauntless spirit. It requires a combination in a man's character of courage with fortitude.

7. A man of independence and self-respect should not be dependent upon others for the determination of his own conduct. He should be intelligent enough to think and judge for himself.

8. To treat women as though they were inferior to men is a barbarous custom. Men and women belonging to a civilized society should love and respect one another as equals, each sex realizing its own independence and self-respect.

9. Inasmuch as marriage is one of the most serious events in human life, great caution should be observed in the choice of a partner for life. All human relations have their origin in marriage, in the loving and respectful cohabitation, till death comes to separate them, of husband and wife, neither of whom should interfere with the independence and self-respect of the other.

10. Such husbands and wives maintain towards their offspring a relation which is both full of hope and natural, since there are no extraneous elements introduced into the family and since parents and children are wholly and exclusively each the other's own. The love that binds them together is sincere and pure, and the keeping of this love unimpaired is the foundation of domestic happiness.

11. Children, also, should be trained to become persons of independence and self-respect, it being the duty of parents to take charge of the proper bringing-up of their children so long as they remain in infancy. Children, for their part, should yield due obedience to their parents, and make every effort to fit themselves to become persons of independence and self-respect when the time comes for them to step out into the world.

12. The ideal person of independence and self-respect deems it incumbent on himself to go on learning even to his old age, and never to allow either the development of the intellect or the cultivation of the moral character to slacken or cease.

13. Society having both individuals and families as its units, it should be borne in mind that the foundation of a healthy society is to be found in the independence and self-respect of the family as well as of the individual.

14. The only way in which social life can continue is for each individual to keep unimpaired his or her own independence and self-respect as well as that of others. This may be done by respecting the rights and happiness of others at the same time that we seek our own happiness and protect our own rights.

15. To harbour re-entment and to seek revenge is another barbarous and cruel practice, a relic of the dark ages. We should employ only just and upright means for clearing ourselves from shame or vindicating our honour.

16. Every man should be faithful in the discharge of the duties of his vocation. He, who, regardless of the importance of the trusts committed to him, neglects his responsibilities, is unworthy to be called a man of independence and self-respect.

17. Treat others with trustfulness. If you trust others, they will trust you in return. It is this mutual confidence alone that can enable independence and self-respect to be realized in ourselves or in others.

18. Courtesy and etiquette are necessary to the continuance of social life. They should be observed strictly, and yet with moderation.

19. It is an act of humanity, and one of the highest of human virtues, to strive to extend to others that love which we feel for ourselves, to lighten the burdens and promote the happiness of our fellow-men.

20. Humanity should not be limited towards human beings only. It should prevent men from treating animals with cruelty, and make them refrain from needlessly taking the lives of fellow-creatures.

21. Since a taste for art and literature elevates the character as well as delighting the mind, and since it contributes indirectly to the peace and happiness of mankind, its acquirement should be deemed an object of the greatest importance for human life.

22. Wherever there is a country, there is a government. It is the duty of the Government to administer the country, to establish and maintain military power, to protect the people of the land, and to guarantee to the individual citizen the inviolability of life, property, honour and liberty. In return for these benefits, it is the duty of the citizens to give military service and to contribute to the expenses of the nation.

23. If citizens are under obligation to serve in the national army and to pay their share of the national expenses, it is also, naturally, their duty and privilege to have a voice in the legislation and a right to control the governmental expenditure.

24. Citizens of Japan, of either sex, should never forget their supreme duty to maintain their national independence and self-respect against all foes, and at the sacrifice of even life and property.

25. It is the duty of every citizen, not only to obey the laws himself, but to see that others obey them likewise, for this is necessary for the maintenance of the peace and order of society.

26. The number of nations in the world is by no means small, and they differ from us in religion, language, colour and customs. Yet they are our brotners. In our intercourse with them there should be no partiality, and no attempt at swaggering or boastfulness Such conduct only leads us to despise other people and is wholly at variance with the principle of independence and self-respect.

27. It is the duty of the men living to-day to improve the civilization and happiness which they have received from their forefathers and so to hand them on unimpaired to their posterity.

28. It is natural that men should be born into the world with varying degrees of intellectual and physical strength. It is the province of education to increase the number of the wise and strong, and to diminish that of the weak and foolish. In short, education instructs men in the principle of independence and self-respect, and enables them to form plans for putting the principle into practice.

29. Those who share our convictions, whether men or women, will do well to lay these teachings to heart. They should also strive to spread them throughout society at large, and thus to advance, hand in hand with the whole people, towards the state of greatest happiness.

THE ERUPTION OF TENERIFFE VOLCANO.

Madrid, November 19.

The volcanic peak, Pico-de-Teyde, the Peak of Teneriffe, in the island of Teneriffe, which has been inactive for the past 200 years, has suddenly broken out into eruption through three craters which have opened in the base of the mountain.

Strong earthquake shocks preceded the eruption, which threatens a large zone, embracing three villages whose inhabitants fled in panic to the coast.

Several steamers went to render assistance to the fugitives, and the authorities are themselves taking active measures of relief.

Later.

An official despatch from Teneriffe, dated November 21, 12.40 p.m., states that the Mayor of Icod has telegraphed as follows: "There has been no further development in the situation here. The inhabitants are calm, and are returning to their homes. The explosions and tremors have ceased. Lava, however, continues to flow abundantly from five craters, a fresh one having opened. Some engineers have left to observe the eruption."

The chief of the Red Cross Society has made a visit to the affected district, and says that the explosions are occurring more frequently than yesterday, and immense quantities of lava more voluminous than ever are being projected from four craters and are pouring down from a height of 1,500ft. to 1,800ft. Food has been sent to the inhabitants of Santiago, who have nothing to eat.

A latter message from Garachico, dated November 21, 11.30 p.m., said that two of the craters had been united owing to the intervening crust falling in, and the volcano appeared to be gaining in fierceness, great masses of lava slowly advancing down the slopes. Another crater was only throwing out smoke. The authorities have taken steps to deal with any catastrophe.

THE MOVING LAVA STREAMS.

Madrid, November 22.

The following official telegram of yesterday's date has been received from Teneriffe:—

"It is reported from Garachico that the stream of lava which is moving down the Santiago Valley has traversed one kilometre (over half a mile) during the last twenty-four hours. The second stream is moving more slowly and advanced only 300 yards last night. This stream is also travelling towards the Santiago Valley. The northern villages consequently appear to be safe for the present."

Tsuzuki Yasukuni, the armed burglar who broke into the residence of Mr. Naito Katsuzo, at Nakayamate dori, 7-chome, some time ago and severely wounded him, was sentenced at the Kobe Chiho Saibansho on Saturday to ten years' imprisonment. This was the punishment asked for by the Public Procurator.

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